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The Observer

By the students

For the students

Vol. 114 NO. 6 | November 14 - November 20, 2019



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'Free the student press'



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer

Read more on Page 8

Affordable housing coming to Ellensburg

Will Ortner
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 6 at 4:30 p.m., the Ellensburg City Affordable Housing Commission (ECAHC) met at Shaw-Smyser Hall to discuss new applications for new housing developments. The ECAHC wants these housing developments to be considered affordable housing in the city. This could lead to more CWU students and families renting their houses.

The ECAHC meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month to discuss new developments for affordable housing. The committee is formed by seven community members who listen to companies pitch affordable housing options.

This Wednesday, the committee met with three different housing companies to hear their pitches on their affordable housing units. The committee first heard from Katie Glahn of Crytyl Enterprises. Glahn started by explaining how the company has changed its business mission with its houses.

Five years ago Crytyl switched their mission to create more affordable housing in Ellensburg. Glahn said she did her

own research to have a better understanding of how they could help the community she said according to the meeting's agenda minutes.

Glahn continued by showing her company's plan to provide affordable housing for Ellensburg locals. The houses would have a purchasing price of \$165,000 with a \$972 payment per month.

Crytyl Enterprises provided a plan that showed they were working with the city to make sure that their housing properties were affordable for everyone. The report finished with the claim that it would take construction one full year to be finished, and Glahn showed a 3D model of what the houses would look like.

Former CWU student and Ellensburg local Seth Mattix talked about how important he felt it was to find housing that wouldn't break the bank.

"It's a top priority. If you can't find somewhere affordable to live, what are you going to do? You can't go to school if you don't have somewhere affordable to live," Mattix said.

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Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

FASA members practice a traditional dance called Tinikling. This dance imitates the "tinik" birds avoiding the bamboo traps that Filipinos made in the jungle for food.

Mabuhay at CWU

Pilar Cuvas
Staff Reporter

For some students on campus, events like Mabuhay will feel like a space to share and appreciate Filipino culture. For others, Mabuhay may even feel like a tiny piece of home.

On Nov. 14 from 5-7 p.m. in SURC 137A and 137B, Mabuhay will be hosted by the Filipino American Student Association (FASA).

According to the CWU website, FASA is meant to incorporate Filipino heritage on campus by hosting events,

traveling to other universities and weekly meetings with workshops.

Performances at the Mabuhay event will include Tinikling (bamboo dance), Maglalatik (coconut dance) and Himig ng FASA (melodies of FASA).

According to Cuvas, the following food will be served at the event: Lugaw (rice pudding), Pancit (rice noodles) and Lumpia (egg roll). The caterer of the event will be Lutong Pinoy, a local Filipino restaurant.

Continued on Page 6

Editor: Nicholas Tucker

Ellensburg celebrates and remembers

Mariah Valles

Online Editor

Contributions from CNW

On Monday at 11 a.m. the Ellensburg community gathered near Pearl Street to commemorate veterans for their service. People waved flags and cheered as veterans passed by on foot and in World War II-vintage military jeeps and trucks.

Donald Bechard served in the Navy from 1964-68. For him, attending the parade serves as a time of reflection.

"It just brings back a lot of memories," Bechard said. "Just life on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier ... it wasn't fun."

A girl scout handed Bechard a card. While the card didn't have any words, it made him feel appreciated.

"When we came back from Vietnam, we were not appreciated," Bechard said. "In fact, you didn't even want to tell anybody that you were coming back from Vietnam."

Today, when he walks outside, Bechard thinks differently.

"I'm just proud to be what I was," he said.

After completing bootcamp, the Navy sent Bechard to aviation electronics school for a year. He learned a variety of things including radar systems and how to repair them and about electronic warfare systems.

Bechard and his wife Sheril have both children and grandchildren. Bechard has one grandson in particular who is interested in learning about his grandfather's time in the military.

In 1967, while stationed at Barbers Point Hawaii Operations, Bechard's flight crew was selected to fly around Australia and New Zealand for the 25th celebration since the 1942 Battle of the Coral Sea.

This was one story in particular Bechard shared with his grandson.

In regards to the parade, Bechard was happy to see young people participating.

"It's good to see the ROTC kids here ... and the old guys like me," he said.



Photos by Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer

(Above) Over 200 people turned up to show their support during the Veterans Day Parade on Monday. (Bottom left) CWU Army and Air Force ROTC cadets march in uniform at Ellensburg's Veterans Day Parade. (Bottom right) About a dozen military vehicles, mostly World War II trucks and jeeps, drove in the parade.



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Editor: Nicholas Tucker

Nov. 5 election results

AJ St. John
Staff Reporter

Voter turnout came out to 42.28% in the city of Ellensburg, according to the Kittitas County Auditor's office. Out of nine districts, the Ellensburg district had the second lowest percentage of ballots returned.

Mayor Bruce Tabb, who ran unopposed, will be serving another term as Mayor of Ellensburg. In the Legislative District 13 State Representative Position 2, Republican Alex Ybarra won with 68.05% of the votes over Steve Verhey. Nancy Lillquist, who prefers the Democratic Party, lost County Commissioner District 1 to Cory Wright by 38.43%. City Council Position 6 was a competitive seat between Stacey Bankston Engel and Matt Anderson. Engel, whose affiliation is non-partisan, won with 54.4% of the votes. Another seat with competition included City Council Position 7, between Tristen Lamb and Kristin Ashley, where Lamb led with 61.15% of the votes. Ellensburg School District 401 Position 1 went to Meg Ludlum with 61.87% of votes over Mark Manning.

Referendum Measure No. 88

Washington state narrowly rejected Initiative 1000. Initiative 1000 was passed in April, it was about the practice of affirmative action. According to Cornell Law School, affirmative action is a policy, defined as a set of procedures that eliminate unlawful discrimination among applicants. While the referendum passed in King County, Kittitas County shot the initiative down. Washington state lawmakers passed I-1000 in the spring, after a signature campaign brought the referendum where voters repealed the affirmative action measure. Before, in 1998, Washingtonians banned affirmative action by vote which has served as a meter for opinions about the state of equity and discrimination, according to The Seattle Times.

Initiative Measure No. 976

The topic of Initiative 976 is taxes and transportation, which happens to also be a state statute. Voters that approved the initiative agreed to limit the annual license fees for vehicles weighing under 10,000 pounds to \$30. According to BallotPedia, the initiative also includes base vehicle taxes on the Kelley Blue Book value, as opposed to the 85% of the manufacturer's base suggested retail price. BallotPedia mentions I-976 is the repeal to the authorization for certain regional transit authorities, like the Sound Transit, to add motor vehicle excise taxes. Excise taxes are taxes paid when purchases are made on something specific, for example, highway usage of trucks. Kittitas county passes I-976 while King County plans to sue over the limit of taxes on car tabs.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 8200

Voters approve amending the constitution, providing more power to state government regarding natural catastrophic events. This resolution gives the state the ability to enact other measures as may be necessary during periods of emergency resulting from a catastrophic incident or enemy attack, according to the Washington votes website.

CWU alumni Nancy Lillquist, candidate for County Commission, started work in the City Council. The county commission looks over public health, land use, oversee day to day activities, among many other things.

"Only 12% of registered voters ages 18-24 voted compared to 60% of 60 and older" according to Lillquist's field manager, Karen.

Tabb mentions that if students vote, collectively, they can have an impact. Locally, Tabb mentions that students can

have a voice in many issues, for instance, the police force and environmental consumption. Voting was how students could get incorporated with the Ellensburg community, according to Tabb.

Lillquist mentioned that by not voting, you allow the older generation that has a different view point and needs to make decisions for you.

Freshman Sofia Hernandez, a registered voter, planned to vote for the presidential election, but didn't know about the county which is the reason she didn't turn in her ballot.

Hernandez registered to vote at CWU to pet the goat, but she choose not to vote for candidates that she did not have a strong holding for. She had strong opinions about the people eligible to vote but do not.



Photo courtesy of the Retain Cory Wright campaign
Cory Wright (left) with his daughter and campaign manager Laura as she announces the results of the general election. This was followed by his victory remarks.

County Commissioner District 1		
Candidate	Vote	Vote %
Cory Wright <small>Prefers Republican Party</small>	7,472	59.14%
Nancy Lillquist <small>Prefers Democratic Party</small>	5,133	40.63%
Write-In	29	0.23%
Total Votes	12,634	100%

Referendum Measure No. 88		
<small>*Multi-county race. Results include only Kittitas County</small>		
Measure	Vote	Vote %
Approved	4,283	35.39%
Rejected	7,820	64.61%
Total Votes	12,103	100%

Initiative Measure No. 976		
<small>*Multi-county race. Results include only Kittitas County</small>		
Measure	Vote	Vote %
Yes	8,036	64.37%
No	4,449	35.63%
Total Votes	12,485	100%

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution - Senate Joint Resolution No. 8200		
<small>*Multi-county race. Results include only Kittitas County</small>		
Measure	Vote	Vote %
Approved	6,723	55.48%
Rejected	5,395	44.52%
Total Votes	12,118	100%

Editor: Nicholas Tucker

The affordable housing rush

Continued from Page 1

Mattix also mentioned that Ellensburg housing was much more affordable than it would be if the students were going to school in Seattle.

The second presentation came from Habitat for Humanity. Jared Vallejo gave the committee a brief explanation of how the group had helped serve the community over the past 10 years.

The Habitat group put in two applications for 18 unit housing projects that would be city-owned on Bender Street and Water Street. The project would take around seven years to be fully completed and would need volunteers from the community to finish the build. According to the group, the project could possibly be sped up.

Habitat for Humanity would first break ground in September 2020, and they claim that they already have families that are lining up to live in those houses. The third application would be for duplex type housing that would maximize the housing possibilities for multiple families.

The last group to present to the board was HopeSource. Susan Grindle and her

team suggested the city invest in a HopeSource property. The company's primary goal is to get people off of the streets and into permanent housing.

The company currently owns 207 housing units and looks to have 500 units in the next three to five years. The company currently owns most of its housing downtown.

All of these companies were putting in place affordable housing for Ellensburg locals primarily. This doesn't typically help the CWU students find affordable housing for themselves. However, there are some apartment buildings in Ellensburg that many CWU students have lived in the past few years.

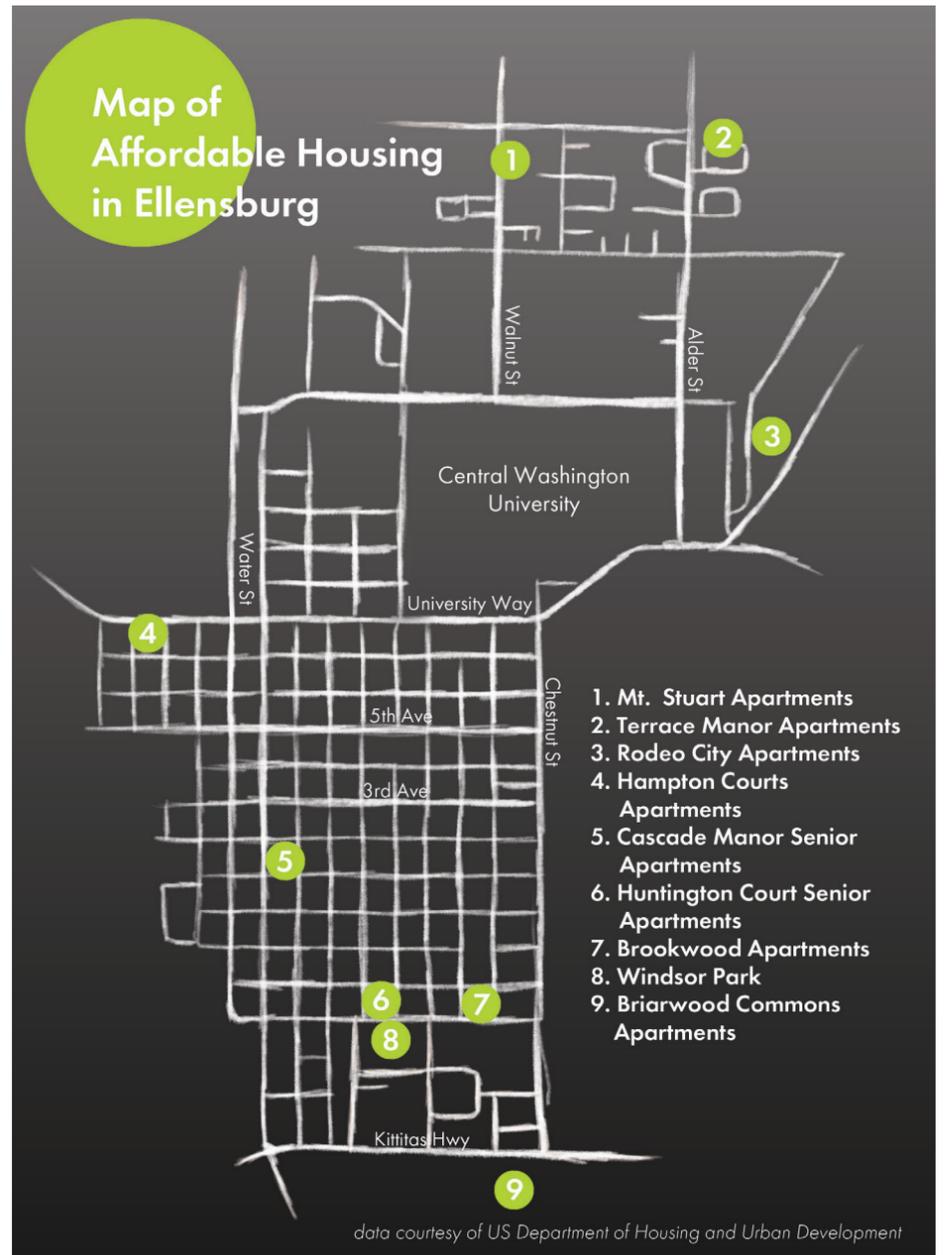
CWU freshman Tucker Meeker talked about how new housing options mixed with established housing options have made Ellensburg affordable for people enrolled in school.

"With the new addition of Central Park apartments and off-campus living locations like Brooklane [Village] are helpful for college students moving out of the dorms and are pretty affordable as well," Meeker said.

While this ECAHC might have contained more information for Ellensburg locals about affordable housing, it can be important for CWU students to be on the lookout too.



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

How to choose your major

Matt Escamilla

Staff Reporter

After completing general education requirements, students are tasked with picking a degree. Ian Morris, a program coordinator in the career services department, said if students aren't sure what they want to pursue, an aptitude test can bring clarity.

"We can do an aptitude [test] and say here are the things you seem to enjoy that might resonate well with you, and here are the things that might be red flags and have you thought [about] the role that these [red flags] have in this career," Morris said.

Morris also said picking a degree that fits your potential job aspiration is important how ever things happen in life.

"I myself am a humanities major. I graduated in anthropology and I decided I wanted to work in tech, so I aggressively started teaching myself tech skills and now I work as a data consultant. I didn't have that degree. I didn't have that formal background, but it didn't prevent me from pursuing that career path," Morris said.

A few tips Morris brought up for students is informational interviewing. A student would interview someone in their profession of choice, say business management.

Morris said to talk with them about their job and what a typical day looks like for that individual. A conversation like that can

reinforce a student's beliefs about the job or help students realize they may need to change degree programs. An exploratory internship is another tip Morris brought up. Morris knew he wanted to work in education, however, after taking an internship at a Montessori school he was happy he didn't spend four years studying elementary education. Morris realized he needed to switch to another area of education.

"Picking the right major early on will really help streamline the path you want to go on, but I also don't think that its life or death if you pick the right major right now because that's really just a piece of the equation," Morris said.

Morris also said choosing a minor can set an applicant apart from the competition because it's a specialized niche that uniquely brands that particular applicant.

Daniel Beck a biological sciences professor, is also the director for the center for Latino and Latin American studies. With the current issues we have in the world today, understanding different cultures is necessary.

"It's important to get outside of your comfort zone and learn about people who are different than you. Cultures that might be different than yours, that's what college is all about," Beck said.

Marna Carroll, the director of the Native American studies minor, is not only trying to gain exposure for the minor but



Kyle Wilkinson/The Observer

also hopes students realize the minor can be used in different areas.

"I [was] just talking to a former student yesterday who recently got a position working with a group advocates for the Indian Child Welfare Act," Carroll said.

Carroll also said, students in the science field, specifically environmental science, should look into the program because some of the biggest employers in the state are Native American tribes.

Currently, the American Indian studies program has 14 students enrolled, Carroll hopes to have 20 students in the minor by end of the year. Once again she mentioned that the minor crosses over with many departments like anthropology, sociology, environmental science and resource management.

Morris said employers are also seeing the value in specific areas of expertise while also realizing how important it is to value different perspectives and opinions of other cultures.

"Those kinds of minors really create unique opportunities for people who want to work in those communities or with those audiences to brand themselves in a way that makes them specialized to work with that community or audience," Morris said.

According to Morris, the best advice to students is to think broadly about what field they want to go in. Your degree may not end up being the career an individual thought they would have. The program that a student chooses should provide useful skills that apply to that student's chosen career.

Editor: Nicholas Tucker

Make-your-own major

Amy Morris
Staff Reporter

A new program called liberal studies gives students the opportunity to create their own degree with the classes they choose. The major and the minor are already in the catalogue and students can start signing up for them this quarter.

Scott Robinson, the associate dean of arts and humanities, said the liberal studies program was started because there were a lot of students who didn't complete a degree at CWU and needed a way to come back and do so. This major is also for students who change their major several times and need a way to graduate in under five years.

"I think it is a great option for a lot of students. I don't think it is great for everybody," Robinson said. "There are certain students who have career paths they want to follow that are not here, but we have the components of those degree programs."

A lot of upper division classes do not reach their capacity for students which leaves room for students at other college campuses to take them. There are also many students that are taking the non-profit certificate and have an idea of what they want to do career wise, but there is no major for them, according to Robinson.

Arts management, music therapy and deaf studies are all career paths liberal studies majoring students have taken interest in. This new new major

makes up for some programs the CWU does not yet have.

Helen Nguyen is a junior majoring in apparel, textiles and merchandising and interdisciplinary studies for social sciences. She likes interdisciplinary studies because it allows her to grab classes from different courses and combine them to gain the knowledge and skills that she wants.

"The interdisciplinary studies ... really allows you to focus more specifically on what you want to do instead of doing a major that is going to kind of give you the broads of a lot of different careers," Nguyen said.

There are three classes and an added component that are specific to this program. Introduction to liberal studies, a career preparation course and a capstone class. The non class component specific to this program is academic research. Students who take introduction to liberal studies develop goals that they want to achieve in this program and career goals. Students then create a curriculum that helps them achieve those goals. The rest of the classes in this program come from any liberal art classes the students chooses.

There are three different programs for liberal studies. The large plan is 65 credits, the small plan is 45 credits and the minor is 30 credits. If a student is in the small plan they either have to have a second major or a minor from a different department.

By completing the liberal studies

major, students also complete liberal arts PLUS, which is a program associated with the career exploration component. In liberal arts PLUS, instructors help students identify competencies and skills that students have developed in their classes. Critical thinking and problem solving, oral and written communications, teamwork and collaboration, digital technology, leadership, professional and work ethic, career management and global international fluency are all skills students learn in liberal studies.

Liberal arts PLUS helps students identify the skills they have developed, how to articulate them to future employers and how to put it on their resume.

"We have been saying in the last few years in the College of Arts and Humanities that when people say what can you do with a degree in arts and humanity? Anything you want," Robinson said.

Nationwide liberal studies graduates find entry into fields such as business, marketing, government, social service agencies, criminal justice, nonprofit and health and welfare.



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

Jamie Gilbert, a communication professor, said the benefit of a liberal studies degree is that it allows students to explore their interests in multiple majors. Students can also pair liberal studies with another major and diversify their degree.

"Companies now don't want to hire people who just have one specialty. Companies want to see the interdisciplinary perspectives and interdisciplinary skills," Gilbert said. "Sometimes they need to have you do more than one job, and if you have a variety of skill sets, that is what they are looking for."



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Editor: Mary Park

Cardio or dance, Group X Fitness has it all



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

The Recreation Center offers many Group X fitness classes that range from Zumba, Barre, Pound and more.

Tapanga Krause

Staff Reporter

Whether you're into cardio or dance, Group X Fitness has the class for you. Monday through Friday in Recreation Center 287, instructors lead students through a set workout that caters to every student's skill level.

Classes offered include yoga, barre

(which incorporates ballet and pilates to help with balance), Zumba and many others.

Graduate student in law and justice, Emileo Guevara explained why he likes the full-body circuit class.

"It's better than going by myself," Guevara said. "Because I have someone directing me on what to do."

Full-body circuit challenges the body by incorporating dumbbells, medicine

balls and other exercise equipment giving your entire body a workout. Shantyle Black, a CWU student and Group X Fitness instructor, explained what her favorite part about the classes is.

"There's so many different skill levels," Black said. "And it's really fun to create a workout that everyone can do."

This is Black's first quarter teaching the class on her own, last year she shadowed a class for personal training. The Recreation Center asked Black and a few others if they would be willing to teach the class, and Black agreed.

CWU student Karyn Meraz participated in the Zumba class that Group X offers. She chose the class because it's fun and entertaining and you still get to work out.

"I like dancing," Meraz said. "And Zumba is a great way to incorporate that."

Meraz likes the class because she gets to burn calories and the instructor keeps her engaged.

Senior and IT Administrative Management major David Lin is the instructor for the class, and like Black, this is his first quarter teaching the class on his own. Lin teaches the students a set workout which includes simple, easy-to-follow cardio infused dance moves like side steps and plies.

Lin started the class with a warm up routine and as the class progressed the workouts became more intense. Afterwards, he began the cool down process.

"When you're cooling down," Lin said. "It's very important to stretch [the muscles] out, to loosen them up a little."

This prevents any injuries and allows the muscles to relax so they don't hurt as much the next day.

When asked if they would recommend these classes to others, the participants answered "yes" and "absolutely."

Meraz said that she would recommend the Zumba class to anyone that wants to learn the movement. She said Lin is very encouraging, and you can go at your own pace. If you don't know the movement, that's okay because no one is going to make fun of you for it, according to Meraz.

Lin said Zumba incorporates a lot of diverse dancing and music styles. He likes that the diversity can bring students together.

"Diversity itself is just curiosity," Lin said. "I try to unite students with different kinds of culture and different kinds of music."

Black said that her favorite thing about the students that come through her class is the fact that each student is different, both in skill level and life. According to Black, what makes this fun is they can all come together and work out.

Whether it's Zumba or full-body fitness, the students said that they really enjoy the way that the class is structured, and they like how encouraging the instructors are. Meraz and Guevara recommend these classes to others for those reasons.

Black also mentioned how much she loves seeing the progress that the students make.

"Seeing everyone have fun with it is the best part about it," Black said.

Mabuhay, a 'home away from home'



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

FASA members practice a traditional dance called Tinikling. This dance imitates the "tinik" birds avoiding the bamboo traps that Filipinos made in the jungle for food.

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Corsilles said that one of the employees at Lutong Pinoy is a big part of the FASA organization.

"Her name is Marrietta and she provides a lot for us, especially for our events," Corsilles said. "This shows our values, our hospitality and our family aspect. She is not related to us, [but] we call her auntie anyways."

FASA member Deanna Corsilles

is a senior and law and justice major. Corsilles mentioned that Mabuhay is similar to "welcome back" in translation.

President of FASA Ione Causing is a senior majoring in language and literature. Causing said the event will be free and open to everyone.

"Mabuhay means to educate and celebrate. I don't think we have a lot of events that show our presence as Filipinos," Causing said. "The prominent thing about this [event] is it means we can share our culture and our culture is basically built

on food and sharing. We try to show people that you can embrace our culture and you can eat our food. We share it because that's what our values are."

Toni Pridemore, a sophomore and computer science major, mentioned what the Mabuhay event means to her.

"[Mabuhay] is like a sneak peek to our event, Barrio. We have performances, culture and food there as well," Pridemore said. "I love sharing our culture on campus with everyone. I feel really comfortable and the people of

[FASA] have made me feel very welcome. It really helped me settle in rather than feeling alienated."

Causing mentions how she feels about sharing Filipino culture with others. She also adds what she wants students to know about Mabuhay and FASA.

"I feel that sharing Filipino culture should be a quarterly occurrence," Causing said. "People tend to forget about organizations around school. I think it's cool to celebrate and embrace [the culture] with other people. We want [students] to know that you don't have to be Filipino to go to FASA or Mabuhay."

Corsilles said it's important to share the Filipino culture with CWU students, staff and the Ellensburg community.

"I know the Filipino community here isn't that big," Corsilles said. "And [Mabuhay] is like showing a home away from home."

Chloe Manigo is a sophomore film production major who moved from Alaska to Ellensburg.

"I felt very out of place here in the beginning. I am from Alaska and there was a small tight-knit group," Manigo said. "Like [Corsilles] said, [FASA] was like a home away from home. And it gave me the ability to make friends and become a better person. Everyone here is so nice and I just want to dedicate a lot of time to them."

Causing shows her message to those who wish to attend Mabuhay. She also mentions her final thoughts on the event.

"I want guests to feel with a sense of belonging. And I want [guests] to feel welcome and know we are here with open arms," Causing said.

Editor: Mary Park

Stray cats neutered for new owners



Meghan Rochelle/The Observer

Emma Carrasquero-Bryant plays with a cat named Mowgli. The Ellensburg Animal Shelter takes in stray cats to be neutered by local veterinarians for a fee.

Jackson McMurray & Mary Park
Staff Reporter & Scene Editor

Ellensburg, much like most cities in the United States, has a problem with stray pets. Domesticated homeless animals, cats especially, are very often unhealthy in the wild, and they reproduce quickly if they are not spayed and neutered.

Nancy Hoffman, an independent volunteer, is one of the many people working to do something about it. She dedicates her time to trapping stray cats in town and

transporting them to clinics where they are neutered and vaccinated.

"I get off work at 5 p.m., and I come home and I do cat stuff, and at about 7 p.m. I get to sit down," Hoffman said.

According to Hoffman, a female cat can come into heat as young as 3 months old and can have as many as three litters a year, each producing up to six kittens. One unsupervised and unneutered cat can produce as many as 18 new unsupervised and unneutered cats annually, each of which can start having their own litters

after three months.

People reach out to Hoffman when they encounter a stray cat, and Hoffman will trap it and take it to a neutering clinic free of charge, but she will only do so if the people calling the cat in are willing to take the cat in after it has been processed.

"Trap, neuter, return," as Hoffman describes, is a process of capturing stray cats, spaying and neutering them, vaccinating them, marking their ear to show that they have been vaccinated and neutered, and returning them to their environments, or in Hoffman's case, to their new home with a person.

Hoffman makes a pilgrimage with a van full of 20 stray cats every month to the Feral Cat Project in Lynnwood, Washington, an organization that has, according to their website, neutered and vaccinated more than 6,000 cats in 2019 alone. The Feral Cat Project charges to neuter pet cats, but will do strays for free.

It's not a perfect system though, according to Hoffman. Her monthly appointments at The Feral Cat Center are booked solid for the rest of the year.

"All of the people who have been contacting me and other rescue volunteers in the county are having problems getting these trap-neuter-return cats altered, because you just can't hold on to them forever."

Hoffman, along with some other volunteers, have booked the entire Lynnwood clinic for Nov. 18, hoping to collaborate and get 40-50 homeless cats neutered in one day.

"We are specifically going to be trapping cats for that clinic," Hoffman said. "Tomorrow we're getting together to figure out how many traps we have, how many holding cages we have, where we

need to trap, how many volunteers we have to do the trapping. We need to fill those spots, because otherwise I've taken them away from other rescues who could use them."

According to Hoffman, the only true solution is to neuter your pets.

"Here in the Kittitas Valley the income level is such that people can't afford to spend \$150 to neuter their [pets] ... so they just don't do it," Hoffman said.

Hoffman advises that if you find yourself with a litter of kittens on your hands, rather than giving them away to friends or family, who may or may not opt to have them spayed and neutered, offer them to a no-kill shelter instead. There, they will be neutered and vaccinated as part of their processing.

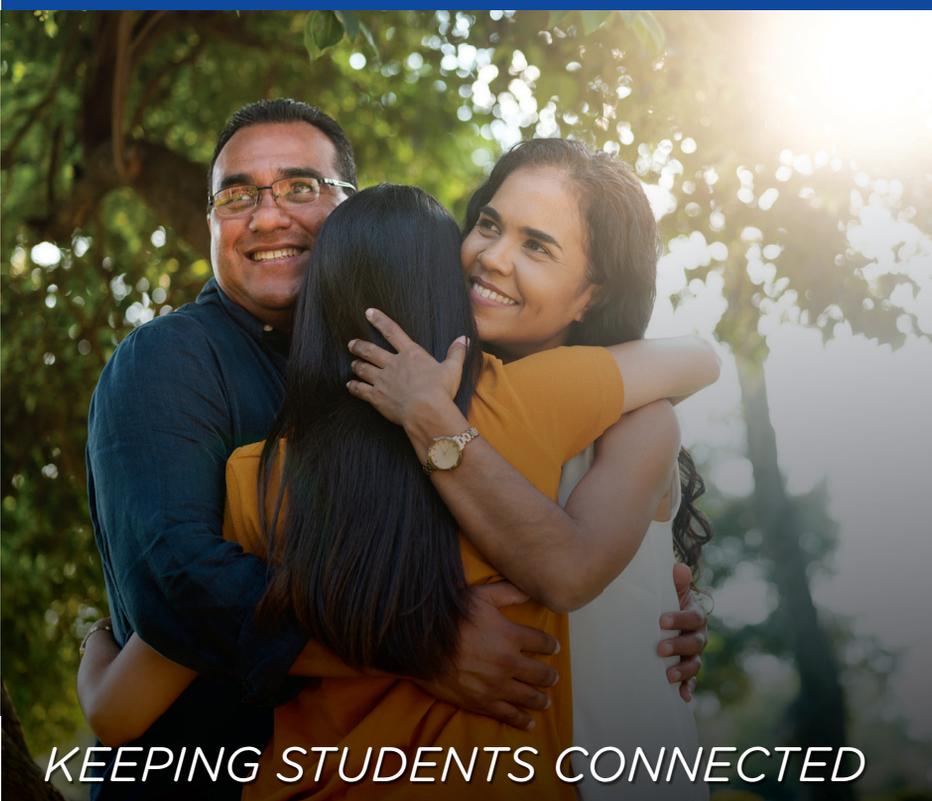
"Here in our community everybody can say 'well, I can always find them a good home,'" Hoffman said, putting "good home" in air quotes. "But just because you find them a good home doesn't mean they're gonna get spayed and neutered."

Ellensburg Animal Shelter manager Paula Hake said although the shelter is not directly involved with Hoffman and the Feral Cat Project, they do take in stray cats.

Hake said if a stray cat isn't spayed or neutered, it is taken to contracted local veterinarians and new owners can pick up their newly licensed and neutered cats for a fee.

"If you just see a cat in the street, it may live in the area and it may not be a stray ... knock on all doors in the neighborhood before you decide it needs to be taken to a local veterinarian to check for a microchip," Hake said. "Also call us, we have a lost and found list so if someone's missing a cat, they might have called us that [it's missing]."

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EASTBOUND



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North Bend Premium Outlets
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CWU Ellensburg Starbucks
1:35P • 4:05P • 6:35P • 9:05P • 11:35P

CWU Ellensburg Starbucks - 908 E. 10th Ave.
North Bend Premium Outlets - 461 South Fork Ave SW



Following the P

Story by The Observer Staff | Photos by Kyle Wilkinson | Design by Aiden Knabel

On Nov. 7 the university released a statement following an editorial made by The Observer on Nov. 6 discussing content regulation and administrative censorship.

“CWU leadership has spoken with the ASCWU president, who is scheduling a forum with student media to discuss these issues,” the statement said. “We are looking forward to an open and honest dialogue on the issues brought forward by student media.”

On Nov. 12 ASCWU President Jasmin Washington sent a calendar invite for Monday, Nov. 18. The notice was sent to Vice President of Public Affairs Kreiere Jackson, Dean of Student Success Gregg Heinselmann, Associate Dean for Health and Wellness Shawnté Elbert, Assistant Director of Athletics Communications Caleb Dunlop, the official student government emails, The Observer’s Editor-in-Chief Cassandra Hays, News Editor Nicholas Tucker, Senior Sports Reporter Austin Lane and Online Editor Mariah Valles.

The notice says that while ASCWU was not present for the meeting in April, they drafted questions for the upcoming meeting to “maintain a healthy dialogue.”

One condition that The Observer had moving forward was that all meetings would be recorded. This is to be sure that all parties are held accountable.

“As a team, ASCWU felt that it would be inappropriate for recordings to take place,” the notice said. “ASCWU would like to ensure that the dialogue is honest/transparent and allowing recordings can hinder many people from sharing valuable information.”

Washington continued by saying that while recordings won’t be permitted, all parties involved can take “detailed minutes.”

“If one party chooses to not be present for the meeting a resolution will be created without the,” the notice said. “ASCWU encourages that both parties attend this meeting to let their voices be heard and for an honest conversation about steps to move forward.”



Protest...

Protest and Response

On Nov. 6 The Observer released a story titled, “The Observer stands for a free and unregulated press.”

Student journalists and supporters stood outside of Lind, Bouillon and the SURC protesting against administrative content regulation and censorship, according to The Observer’s Facebook page. Protesters handed out newspapers, chanted and talked about the story released yesterday.

The university released a statement on Nov. 6 regarding the recent events with student media.

“Central Washington University in no way censors its students,” the statement said.

“As part of this learning and teaching opportunity, on occasion, we have requested that the topics or subjects of an interview be provided in advance in order to allow the person being interviewed an opportunity to prepare informed answers. The intent is not to require that all questions be submitted in advance but rather to offer some context for the interview so the person being interviewed can provide informed responses,” the statement said.

Later in the statement, the university said CWU leadership has spoken with ASCWU President Jasmin Washington who is scheduling a forum with student media to discuss the issues.

Student government posted a statement on Facebook and Twitter.

“The Associated Students of Central Washington University officers work to represent all students equally and fairly and to ensure that their voices are heard,” the statement said. “ASCWU respects and appreciates that student media has exercised that voice.”

In the statement, the university said they requested topics or subjects in advance, but The Observer has screenshots published on cwuobserver.com showing administrators requesting questions.

How you can help

There have been multiple instances where people have asked how they can support us in this time.

One way to help is by sharing our stories both by word of mouth and on social media. Sharing our stories helps spread the message further.

Another way you can help is by writing letters to administration. It’s been suggested to send letters to the Office of the President.

If you choose to take this route, we’d love to have them emailed to us also at cwuobserver@gmail.com.

If you’re considering donating to student media, it’s important to note that you must go through the CWU Foundation. You can learn about exact procedures at cwu.edu/foundation.

The Observer would like to thank the community for their support.

Updates to this story will be posted on cwuobserver.com.



Editor: Mary Park

On top of Baldy Mountain



(From left) Tonya Morrey, Alaina Thomas, Jessica Meier and Ren Miyazaki stand at the top of Baldy Mountain, where climbers can have a view of the Ellensburg and Yakima Valley. On a clear day, climbers can see Mount Stuart and Mount Rainier in the Cascade Range.

Mary Park

Scene Editor

If you want a panoramic view of the landscape around Ellensburg and the Yakima Valley, you can drive south on Canyon Road for 15 miles to Big Pines Campground next to the Yakima River. But to get that view, you'll have to hike up more than 2,000 feet.

On Nov. 9, OPR hosted a day hike on Baldy Mountain.

Two OPR trip leaders Tonya Morrey and Alaina Thomas met the two participants at 9:45 a.m. at the OPR office.

The morning downpour was outside of the predicted weather forecast, but the five of us were ready to head out.

"Only thing you can't control is the weather," said Morrey, who is also a program manager at OPR. "I like to play by ear, I like to make sure that all of the participants are comfortable, so I'm not trying to put anyone in a situation that they really don't want to be in."

Wearing wool, dry fit layers and hiking shoes, the group got into OPR's Chevy Suburban and left on a 30-minute drive to Baldy Mountain.

Morrey said while many people might prefer to go hiking in the Cascade mountains where there's a lot of trees,

she enjoys bringing people to places they wouldn't expect to see a great view.

"I think there's a lot of hidden beauty in Ellensburg and Central Washington that people may have to look a little extra hard for," Morrey said. "We're in the shrub steppe ecosystem and I really admire it and think it's beautiful."

Ren Miyazaki, an exchange student from Japan who participated on the trip, shared that back home, he has hiked various areas such as Mount Ryokami.

"I like hiking," Miyazaki said. "[It's] very exciting."

Jessica Meier, a senior student in supply chain management who enjoys being out in nature, said she is excited to see the view from the top of Baldy Mountain.

At 10:30 a.m., with the Suburban parked close by, each person grabbed a pair of trekking poles and walked towards the gate that marks the starting point of T.P. Jim trail.

According to the Washington Trails Association website, there is a more moderate trail than the steep climb of the T.P. Jim trail.

We hiked the less steep trail, taking breaks in between to catch their breath, tie shoelaces or drink water.

During each break, we looked back down at their starting point, where the

Suburban looked smaller and smaller.

At a few spots on the mountain, there were weather-beaten wooden boxes filled with rocks, which, according to Morrey, were old fence posts that the first people who found grazing areas on the mountain had set up.

As we progressed higher up the mountain, the slope became steeper. Conversations were less frequent and our breaths grew harsher as hikers navigated through the sagebrush and tumbleweed, trying not to trip on the loose

rock and soil.

Approximately 12:01 p.m., we arrived at the top of Baldy Mountain, where we ate our packed lunches. After finishing our clementine, dried mango and spicy Pringles, we made our way back down.

Morrey mentioned it's important to be cautious of slipping on the loose gravel and instructed the group to take small side steps and use the trekking poles to keep balance.

The journey down the mountain took less time than the climb and we landed back on the ground at around 1:45 p.m.

On the ride back to the campus, Miyazaki and Meier talked about the rewarding experience of seeing the view.

"A big [reward] is just seeing how far you've actually gone," Meier said. "Because it's kind of crazy to think that I was up at the top of that."

Thomas shared that the view from the middle of the trail was the most impactful for her.

"I liked how you can see the river, the view from not all the way at the top," Thomas said.

Morrey said that although the hike itself might feel strenuous, the view from the top is worth it.

"I feel like every time I'm in the act of hiking, you're just walking up a giant mountain and it's not that enjoyable. It's always like a workout," Morrey said. "And I'm doing it and [thinking] 'why do I like this?' But then, you get to the top and it's always so rewarding to see the view you achieved through your hard work."



Mary Park/The Observer

(From left) Alaina Thomas, Ren Miyazaki, Jessica Meier and Tonya Morrey hike up Baldy Mountain on Nov. 9. A round trip on the trail is a 5-mile hike and offers a 2000-foot elevation gain.

College of Arts and Humanities

THIS WEEK

15 - 23

Stupid F*ing Bird**, by Aaron Posner
7:30 p.m., Milo Smith Tower Theatre - Nov 24 @ 2 p.m.
Contemporary, and very funny remix of Chekhov's
The Seagull.

17

John Pickett, chamber and solo piano with
Joseph Brooks, Jeff Snedeker, Daniel Lipori and
Scott Erickson
3 p.m., McIntyre Hall

20

Wind Ensemble Concert
7 p.m., McIntyre Hall

21

Art Historian: Dr. Adair Rounthwaite
4:00 - 5:00 p.m., Randall Hall, Room 117
Dr. Rounthwaite is a specialist in contemporary art, with
particular interests in performance, audience participation
and the relationship between art and urban space.

Dec. 3

Percussion Ensemble
7 p.m., McIntyre Hall

Dec. 4

Mariachi Del Centro Recital
8 p.m., Recital Hall

Information and tickets

cwu.edu/arts/events



College of
Arts and Humanities

Editor: TyYonna Kitchen

'Doctor Sleep' can stand on its own

Jackson McMurray
Columnist

You don't need me to tell you that "The Shining" (1980) is something of a sacred text when it comes to the horror film genre, and making a sequel to it seems, on paper, about as good of an idea as making a sequel to the Mona Lisa.

As impossible as it seems, this is the task the makers of "Doctor Sleep" (2019) have been given. It's a thankless project, but "Doctor Sleep" threads a couple of very tricky needles and manages to be not only an acceptable sequel, but a truly singular and exciting story in its own right.

The most important needle director Mike Flanagan needed to thread was simply that of source material. When Stanley Kubrick was adapting Stephen King's "The Shining" for the big screen, he famously did so fairly inaccurately.

The novel features many more horror setpieces than the fairly restrained film does, including living topiary animals and a supernatural wasp attack. The most important deviation though, is that the novel ends with the overlook hotel's boiler exploding, reducing the building to rubble.

Stephen King's novel "Doctor Sleep" is obviously a sequel to his own version of "The Shining," building on many of those book-exclusive ideas, so that begs the question: Should this movie be a sequel to "The Shining" or an adaptation of "Doctor Sleep?"

In execution "Doctor Sleep" manages to have its cake and eat it too. It follows the plot of the book fairly closely, except for when the book contradicts the movie

continuity, in which case the events are adjusted, sometimes drastically. Just in the trailer you can see Ewan McGregor exploring the Overlook Hotel, which simply no longer exists in the canon of the source material.

"Doctor Sleep" is a tightrope walk, balancing not just influences of Kubrick and King, but also constantly teetering between reverence and imitation of Kubrick's masterpiece, and having its own filmic identity.

"The Shining" has perhaps the most iconic visual language of any film ever made, so not resorting to imitation except for a few special occasions shows a tremendous amount of restraint on Flanagan's part. "Doctor Sleep" feels much more modern, much more mainstream, complete with complex drone shots and CGI supernaturalism.

Rebecca Furgeson, who plays the role of Rose the Hat, the whimsically-dressed leader of the True Knot, gives a broad scenery-chewing performance that would make Kubrick roll in his grave.

It's the kind of decision that sets the film apart in audiences' minds from its predecessor. That performance would never have flown in "The Shining," but in "Doctor Sleep" it's effective and believable.

Another movie released this year, "Joker," has such a deep devotion to its inspirations that it comes off as pathetic, like a baby sibling imitating their older brother. "Doctor Sleep" could have easily fallen into this same problem, it could have just dressed up and pretended it was a Kubrick movie, tried to imitate the inimitable, but it didn't, and the movie stands on its own two feet because of it.

For most of the movie, the story is such that you could almost forget its Shining connection. In terms of characters, plot, and theme, the two stories couldn't be more different.

"Doctor Sleep" tells the story of an older, recently sober Dan Torrance, (played by Ewan McGregor, giving his best performance in recent memory) who is still haunted (literally) by the tragedy at the overlook. He inadvertently forms a psychic connection with a young girl named

Abra, who is even an even more powerful psychic than Dan.

At the same time, an evil group of pseudo-immortal beings called "The True Knot," members of which have such over-the-top names as "Crow Daddy" and "Snakebite Andi," are tracking down, torturing and killing children who shine in order to extend their own lives by consuming their power.

Both versions of "The Shining" are about abuse and violence and the habit evil deeds have of sticking around long after they're committed, but "Doctor Sleep" doesn't seem to be bothered with such earthly problems.

Thematically, the movie has more in common with Stephen King's "Pet Sematary" (1989 and 2019) than it does with "The Shining." It's an upsetting and existential story about fearing death and the grotesque lengths that people will go to in order to stay on earth for as long as possible.

At the end of the day we shouldn't be asking whether "Doctor Sleep" is better than "The Shining." Not only because we all already know the answer to that question, but also because it does a disservice to the movie and what it's doing.

It's not trying to be better than "The Shining." It's not trying to be anything other than a great story in its own right. It uses "The Shining" as a springboard, but uses it to tell a story that is, at its heart, completely different and completely worth telling.



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

Christmas is way too long

Will Ortner
Columnist

Well, it's that time of year again when I complain about Christmas. Yup, I'm the jerk that complains that we play Christmas music too much and for way too long. Now I'm back to complain about how long we celebrate Christmas, and please, if you believe that we don't celebrate Christmas enough, just remember you're wrong.

We celebrate Christmas way too early. Christmas is still over a month away, and when I walked into a local grocery store, I saw Christmas decorations up already. It's like we already forgot about the fact that Thanksgiving still hasn't even happened yet.

Thanksgiving is a time to be thankful, and you get to spend the day with your family. Yet, we continuously overlook this holiday for a day of presents. Thanksgiving gets treated like a second-class holiday, like flag day or something. The minute that Halloween ends, everyone immediately starts their Christmas celebrations only to pause for 12 hours so that they can stuff turkey down their mouths, then it's back to Christmas shopping on Black Friday.

The over the top fascination with Christmas needs to stop until, at the earliest, after Thanksgiving. We don't need a two month long Christmas. Each month gets their own holiday, and each holiday should be celebrat-

ed accordingly. In October, we celebrate Halloween; in November, we celebrate Thanksgiving. In December, then and only then, should we celebrate Christmas. When we jump right to Christmas, we diminish how important Thanksgiving actually is.

Thanksgiving in my family is when everyone went to my parent's house and spent time catching up on the past year. We bonded over food and laughter as we shared everything that we had gone through. Memories of funny stories from the past were always shared while everyone sat around the table eating turkey. When we spend all of November building up to Christmas, it cheapens how wonderful Thanksgiving is as a holiday.

I also believe that we have cheapened the meaning of Christmas by contin-

ually celebrating it for two months. Without getting into any religious aspects, Christmas is meant to be a day where families come together and celebrate. By putting all this pressure into the holiday, we make it more about the presents we get than the true meaning of the day.

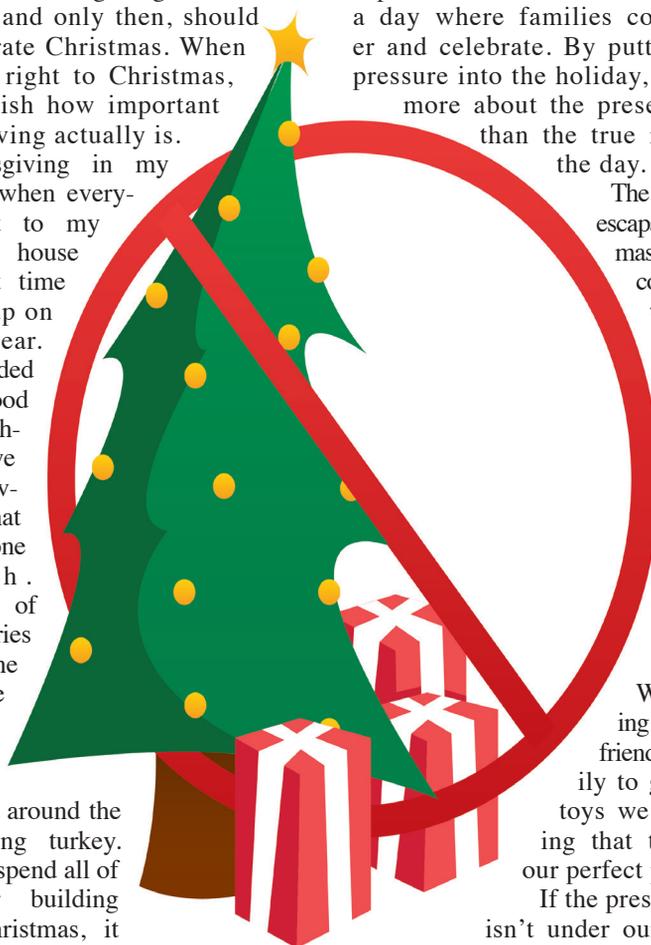
The two-month escapade of Christmas causes many companies to work in their best deals of the year. We naturally see the advertisements from these companies and instantly want those toys. We start leaving hints for our friends and family to get us these toys we want, hoping that they get us our perfect present.

If the present we want isn't under our Christmas tree, it typically ruins at least a portion of our day. Then we spend the rest of Christmas trying to figure out how we can get that present so we can

show it to all of our pals. This is not what the holiday is for.

Look, I understand I may seem like the Grinch when it comes to how I celebrate the Christmas holiday. I do believe that if you take a break and celebrate each holiday in their individual months, and treat Christmas as a family holiday, you will get the most out of this holiday season.

Graphic by Teagan Kimbro



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Editor: TyYonna Kitchen

Discover University and the Sims 4 hate train

TyYonna Kitchen
Columnist

The cries for a university based Sims 4 expansion pack should now end. For the five years the game has been out, simmers have been threatening the game's developers and whining about their sims' lack of education. One might think that with the expansion pack's upcoming release fan's of the game would stop crying and get excited. This only kind of happened.

After Discover University was officially announced, the developers held "The Sims 4 Discover University Deep Dive Livestream" on Twitch. This livestream covered what people were buying if they chose to buy the latest Sims 4 downloadable content (DLC). From the Create a Sim selection to basic gameplay, the developers wanted to show off the much anticipated university DLC.

The livestream began with excitement, and developers that were hosting the stream were donning some graduation gear. There were tons of fans typing quickly and showing their excitement with emotes, crazy punctuation and a lot of "OMG."

It didn't take long for comments like, "the sims 4 more like the sims {snore}" and "this stream is the most awkward sims stream ever :((" to pop up. Now, I will say that everyone is allowed to say and do whatever they may like. I even chuckled when

I saw the first comment. However, calling the developers boring, lazy and awkward is not the way to go.

They are not professional Twitch streamers. They develop a game that they want to share with an audience. They are not used to everyone asking questions at the same time and spamming the comment section with the word "laundry."

The Sims community can become even more noticeably childish on Twitter.

When the game developers, or Sim Gurus, announce any sort of news, simmers take it upon themselves to attack strangers under the coveted shroud of anonymity the internet provides.

"We didn't ask for this," "where are cars?" and constant comparisons to past games take over the comments. People get nasty and even started a #StopEAabuse tag on Twitter. This didn't ever become a full fledged "movement," but it shows how delusional some people are. No one is forcing people to buy DLC.



No one is being abused by the Sims 4 team or anyone else so that they have to play a video game. The people spreading this negativity should take a long look in the mirror and try waiting a few weeks before buying any new content. They are the same ones complaining because they bought disappointing DLC the day that it is released.

There are people in this gaming community that believe that shouting what want and throwing tantrums will make sure that their voices are heard. However, what this will probably result in is the breaking down of the Sims developers. That would mean no Sims 5 and not much more work on the Sims 4.

I have my own personal gripes with the Sims 4. The bad skin tones, the loading screens that pop up when crossing the street and the constant overpricing of lack luster DLC are at the top of my list. However, at-

tacking people who are just trying to do their jobs is never okay. Sometimes people need to either calm down and work with developers or move on to a new game.

I believe that after years of selling content that lacks gameplay, the Sims 4 could finally become a more playable game. Simmers just need to give it a reasonable chance. There is a difference between constructive criticism and whining every five seconds. If you want to be a big baby, you can go and make your own game.

The Sims 4 Discover University will be available on Nov. 15 for \$40. However, anyone that is familiar with past DLC releases should wait, I know I will. The Sims 4 does have a history of being a gameplayless game, but that doesn't give consumers the right to harass and badger developers.

The same people that buy the DLC right away, are the same ones being disappointed. Sit back, relax and wait for the honest reviews of the You-Tuber LGR. There is no need to buy something the day that it is released. There is always time to buy DLC, and waiting may get you a discount.

Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

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Editor: Nick Jahnke

Sports opportunity off the field

Austin Lane

Senior Sports Reporter

According to CWU's website, there are over 135 majors offered at CWU. For students that are interested in sports, there are multiple options for choosing a major that pertains to sports in some fashion.

One sports major that is offered at CWU is sport management. Sport management breaks down into three different specializations. These include coaching, recreation management and sport business.

"Things are more specialized. I think that is a big reason why there is such an emphasis on preparing students for the sport industry specifically," Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor Sean Dahlin said.

In the past, students that wanted to work in the sport industry didn't have specific sports degrees to choose from. Dahlin said many of them would major in business or communication. With the increased interest in sports over the past couple decades, more jobs in the sport industry have been created and thus, so have specialized degrees within the field of sports.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), coaches and scouts

will see a 13% employment growth between 2016 and 2026. BLS also predicts that agents and business managers of artists, performers and athletes are expected to see a growth of 5% to 9% during that same time.

According to Forbes, the sports market in North America is expected to reach \$73.5 billion in 2019, up from its \$60.5 billion value in 2014.

With the increase of interest in sports, Dahlin also sees an increase in the passion in students majoring in sports as well.

"On the academic side, I think it's

pretty clear that that's the case," Dahlin said. "A lot of universities are saying that if you start a sport management program, a lot of students are interested in doing that major, minor or master's degree, whatever it may be."

Another sports major that is offered at CWU is physical education and school health. Associate Chair and Assistant Professor Brian McGladrey believes teaching sport degrees to students matters because sports continue to be more important in society.

"From the following of profession-

al sport leagues, to the purchasing and wearing of apparel associated with sport, to engaging in activities that are sport related ... sport has its place in the fabric of our society," McGladrey said.

According to the CWU Physical Education, School Health and Movement Studies pages, the department is dedicated to empowering CWU students through lifelong learning, the advancement of knowledge, and community engagement.

"My number one goal as a professor is to have students leave a class at the end of the quarter in some way different than when they started," McGladrey said. "That difference can be a result of increased knowledge, different perspectives or philosophies based on the knowledge they gained or having been exposed to the philosophies and perspectives of others."

Another sports major offered at CWU is dance. Sports minors that are offered include athletic training, dance performance, dance teaching, coaching, physical activity and recreational programming and sport business. Sports master's programs offered include Master of Science Health and Physical Education and Master of Athletic Administration Specialization.

Learn lifting & climbing at Ladies' Night

Aeryn Kauffman

Staff Reporter

CWU Recreation is hosting an event specifically aimed at women who want to improve their fitness.

Ladies' Night will take place this quarter on Friday Nov. 15 from 6-8 p.m. in the Recreation Center. The SURC weight room and climbing wall will be open for the event. Recreation Center staff will be on duty to help with proper lifting form, climbing tips and questions about fitness. The Wellness Center, Peer Nutrition Education group and campus police will also have tables at the event to answer questions about body image, self-defense, healthy eating and much more.

Fitness and Health Coordinator for University Recreation Hannah Allen said the Peer Nutrition Education group is a group of nutrition students overseen by a registered dietitian. The group will be there to answer specific questions students have about diet and healthy eating.

"They can even do one-on-one sessions, like coaching with students about nutrition, which is really cool," Allen said. "The Wellness Center will have a table, [and] campus police will have a table talking about women's safety and RAD trainings."

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) system is "is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women," according to the RAD website. No prior self-defense knowledge is required.

Allen said the target audience is female because women are an underserved population in the weight room.

"We're just hoping to reach out to those who might not feel comfortable in the weight room," Allen said.

Personal trainers will be scattered throughout the weight room for assistance. Climbing staff will be available at the climbing wall to assist new and seasoned climbers alike.

Climbing Wall and Challenge Course Coordinator for University Recreation Logan Scully said the staff will offer belays, which is where a staff member will manipulate the end of the rope so the climber can climb to the very top of the 50-foot wall. This will ensure climber safety.

"You can see if climbing is for you. You can talk about gear, try on different things and meet people that climb so we can cultivate that sense of culture and get more people climbing," Scully said.

Associate Director of Operations for University Recreation Michael Montgomery said there have been efforts at getting more women to come to the Recreation Center, such as incorporating more Group X classes.

You can see the efforts in the advertising, as well. Banners and posters of women working out and playing in sports adorn the walls of each area of the Recreation Center. Montgomery said women tend to participate more in Group X classes. Scully said there are many women involved in climbing, as well. There are about an equal number of CWU male and female sports teams and sports clubs, but women's attendance in the weight room is still low.

"For the 2018-2019 academic year, average daily usage was approximately 62% male, 36% female ... These numbers show why we see a need for Ladies' Night," Allen said.

One theory for low female attendance in the weight room is fear of gaining too much visible muscle mass.

"A 'stereotypical' woman is lean and petite ... whereas lifting weights can give the idea that you're more masculine," said a female CWU Physical Education and School Health (PESH) major.

According to Fitness magazine, this idea is simply not true. Testosterone is the major hormone aiding muscle growth, and women naturally have far less testosterone than men.

This is one of many myths surrounding women and weight lifting, which prevents women from the multitude of benefits weight lifting offers. These include "increased bone density, better balance, coordination, agility, power and mobility," and many others, according to Fitness magazine.

Ladies' Night was traditionally an annual event, but it will now be offered quarterly. Female students can get the facts and hopefully find some support in the gym.

Graphics by Teagan Kimbro

Editor: Nick Jahnke



Austin Lane/The Observer

The CWU Swimming Club is classified as a college club swimming team that competes at the regional and national level. The club practice two to three times a week with a flexible level of commitment, according to their website.

Swimming culture lives on at CWU

Austin Lane

Senior Sports Reporter

The CWU Swimming Club hosted the Wildcat Invite, its first swim meet of the school year last Saturday. Swimmers from both the CWU and Washington State University (WSU) swimming clubs met at the CWU Aquatic Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. WSU won the meet by a combined score of 722.5 to CWU's 604.5.

The club is one of the 12 sports clubs offered to students at CWU. Evan Luttrell, president of the club, said the club is important to campus because of swimming's importance in the state.

"The culture of swimming is very prominent, especially in the state of Washington," Luttrell said. "Having a swim club, since we don't have a team,

is very important and helpful for those that would like to continue that culture."

The club kicked off the meet with a huddle and a loud "cats on three" chant as parents watched from the overwatch above the pool. Over the past year, the club has seen an increase in student participation. Camden Rimby, Student adviser for the club, said the increase is exciting to see as it gets more students involved on campus.

"Last year the program was pretty small. We've quadrupled in size over this school year, so we're really excited to see the growth and the numbers that we've had," Rimby said. "It's allowed us to put on more events like this and get more of the swimming community involved so that the swim team can be successful moving forward."

Maya Lawson-Rivera, the club's

vice president, said after she graduated high school she felt lost and didn't know what to do. The swimming club gave her a chance to ease the daily stress of life in college.

"I have a lot of fun being able to get out of the house and take a break from homework and real life," Lawson-Rivera said.

Luttrell and Lawson-Rivera's message to the team is straight to the point.

"Our main goal is to work hard and better ourselves physically and mentally, but most importantly just have fun," Luttrell said. "Nobody's doing swim because they have to, they're doing it because they think it's fun, so that's the message Maya and I push out to the team."

CWU won the first event of the meet, the mixed 200 yard medley relay, by less than a second. CWU also com-

fortably won the mixed 400 yard freestyle relay by over 20 seconds. Individually, Cameron Quick won the mixed 100 yard freestyle and Colten Ellson won both the mixed 100 yard backstroke as well as the mixed 100 yard individual medley. The event that had the most participants was the mixed 50 yard freestyle. Colten Ellson took second in the event and Ben Brick took third for CWU in the 18-swimmer race. WSU beat CWU in the female category 212.5 to 149 and won the male category by the slimmest margin possible, 296 to 295.5.

The club is open to swimmers of all skill levels and meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the CWU Aquatic Center. Those interested in joining the club can contact them at CWUSwimTeam@gmail.com.

Editor: Nick Jahnke

Opinion: marching band is a competitive sport

Samantha Cabeza
Staff Reporter

Marching band is an activity that is competitive, physically exerting and time consuming and yet it is still not recognized as an actual sport.

Personally, as somebody who has competed in the South Florida Winter Guard Association and played bass and quad drums, I have to say that marching band is definitely a sport. I marched at football games, spent my weekends during the winter competing and practiced for hours outside of school trying to achieve the perfect run through, the perfect fulcrum and the perfect "Imperial March".

The hours put into practices could match the amount of time a soccer player puts into their practice time, trying to achieve the perfect kick. You have to build up not only the mental capacity to memorize songs and music, you have to build up the physical stamina to carry heavy drums and to be able to complete a routine without feeling like you're going to pass out. Every band kid has "just one more time!" engraved in their brain.

Marching band could also be considered a sport because of the competition behind it. Drum Corps International (DCI) is one of the biggest competitions in the world and is watched by thousands every year. A close friend of mine, Sebastian Pierre, marched as a bass drum

player for the Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps.

When I asked him about how they judged them based off of their show, he said that the judges sectioned the scores in three sections: general effect, music

and visual.

"There were subsections for brass, and percussion in music, as well as composition. Basically, the difficulty, musicality and how much was achieved difficulty the program could achieve. Color

guard was a subsection of visual as well. The averages of each score combined to a final score and if there were any penalties they subtracted from the score," Pierre said.

DCI competitors spend months practicing by themselves and in camps with other competitors.

"Once you get a spot, you are expected in a few weeks to know the music extremely well and play it well at away camp," Pierre said.

The expectations for musicians and marchers are high especially during half-time shows and competitions. The competition marching band entails is no joke. The physical excursion that a show puts you through it liberating, exciting and completely worth all of the long hours put into practicing for a performance.

Football has rules, plays and practice that all leads to a performance. Marching band and drumline follow the same routine and should be considered a sport by all who doubt that it is "too easy" or "not enough".

I have the utmost respect for football, soccer, baseball and other competitive sports players. Now that I no longer compete, I recognize how much that marching band changed my mind and my whole body by teaching me discipline, technique and physical endurance. Hopefully one day marching band and drumline could be appreciated by all as a sport.



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

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CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX institution.
For accommodations, e-mail :DS@cwu.edu.

Editor: Mariah Valles

HYPE

WHAT'S HAPPENING

ALL WEEK

19th Holiday Extravaganza

The Center for Leadership and Community Engagement needs volunteers for Holiday Extravaganza. Volunteers will assist K-5 children at the 30 different tables with winter-themed crafts and activities. T-shirt registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 22.

22nd Annual Giving Tree & Stocking Stuffer

Fulfill a donation request for those who deserve more during the holidays through the Giving Tree. Stocking Stuffers provide the opportunity to donate smaller items such as small toys, art supplies, gloves and other items. Gifts are due Dec. 4.

Register for Winter Classes

Registration has begun! Meet with your academic advisor and check your student account for holds before registering. Learn more at cwu.edu/registrar.

THURS. NOV. 14

Mabuhay

5 – 7 p.m. • SURC 137 • Free
Celebrate and learn about Filipino and Filipino-American culture at this event featuring free food, performances and more.

Undiscovered Feminists of Washington

5:30 p.m. • Dean Hall Lobby • Free
Writer Mayumi Tsutakawa presents five "women warriors" in the arts and journalism. Drawing on her own experience as an activist and writer, Tsutakawa explores how these women inspired others and changed our state and our society.

Warren Miller Film

7 p.m. • SURC Theatre
\$14 CWU students/\$17 non-students/\$17 GA day of • Pre-registration recommended.
This fall come see Warren Miller Entertainment's 70th annual snow sports film "Timeless," presented by Volkswagen. Doors open at 6 p.m. Film starts at 7 p.m. There will be door prizes!

Campus Activities Presents:

Fall Open Mics

7:30 p.m. Sign-up, 8 p.m. show • 1891 Bistro
Come showcase your talents at Open Mic!

FRI. NOV. 15

Ladies Night

6 – 8 p.m. • Recreation/Climbing Wall • Free
Gain confidence with weight training, bouldering, and top-rope climbing at this drop-in event. Discuss women's health and safety with various campus departments, and win prizes while you participate.

NOV. 15 - 24

Stupid F##king Bird

Nov. 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 • 7:30 p.m. cwu.edu/tickets
Nov. 24 • 2 p.m. • Milo Smith Tower Theatre
In this irreverent contemporary, and very funny remix of Chekhov's "The Seagull," Aaron Posner stages a timeless battle between young and old, past and present, in search of the true meaning of it all.

NEXT WEEK

International Education Week

International Education Week will have daily events that will celebrate and bring awareness to international education.

SEOs

Wildcats, take time to fill out your anonymous instructor evaluations (SEOs) this quarter! Feedback is important to your instructors and helps them develop class curriculum and more.

Don't miss CWU's film tours and theatre productions!

On sale now at cwu.edu/tickets

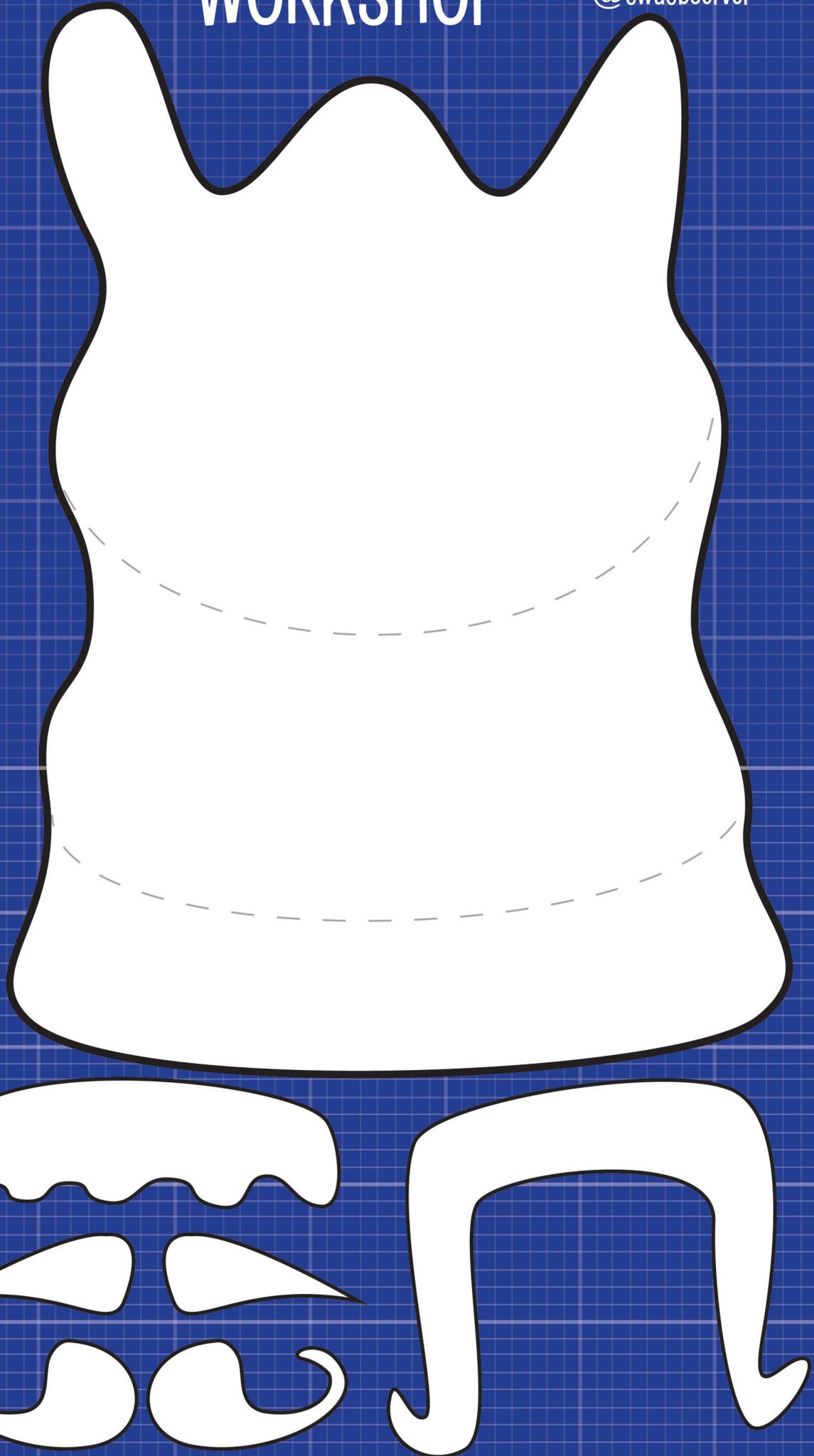
"Stupid F##king Bird" a CWU Theatre Production

"Holiday Inn" a CWU Theatre Production

"Banff Mountain Film Festival"

BUILD-A-BEARD WORKSHOP

Step 1: choose your 'stache
Step 2: choose your beard length
Step 3: color your new facial hair
Step 4: cut out your beard and stache
Step 5: tag us with your new-do
@cwuobserver



NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

During No Shave November, participants give up shaving for the month. According to no-shave.org, it's in order to promote conversation and raise awareness about cancer. The goal is to embrace hair which many cancer patients lose, "and letting it grow wild and free."

#CWUHYPE

