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The Observer

Central Washington University

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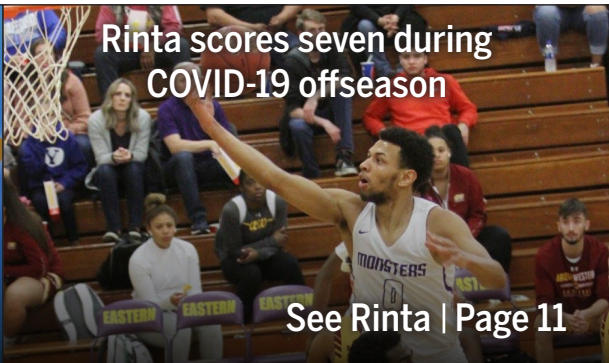
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The Observer

By the students, for the students

Fall quarter plans announced

Bailey Tomlinson
News Editor

President James L. Gaudino announced tentative plans for students to return to campus in fall in a series of emails to the student body. These plans are designed to remain flexible to accommodate changes in public policy and new information over time.

"The plan seeks to balance two critical goals: safeguarding the health and safety of our community and offering the high-quality learning, living, and working environments for which Central is so well known," Gaudino wrote. "The result is a plan to invite students back in the fall, with practices that will apply in Ellensburg as well as University Centers and teaching sites."

Fall quarter will be accelerated, beginning Sept. 9 and ending Nov. 24. Classes will not be held on Veteran's Day.

"The goal of the schedule is to complete the quarter ahead of a forecasted increase in flu and Covid-19 cases and to avoid the logistics of students leaving campus and returning following the Thanksgiving holiday," Gaudino wrote.

Students will have an opportunity to choose between classes offered in person, online or a combination. Professors will be responsible for determining the modality that will best accommodate the content of their courses, though they are encouraged to work remotely, Gaudino wrote.

"Deans and chairs have been working with faculty to record these choices so they can be presented to students when they reg-

ister for classes," Gaudino wrote. "Our new and returning students will be encouraged to develop a schedule that conforms to their learning style and personal needs."

The plan also proposes a series of distancing measures that can be adopted to fit various spaces around campus.

"Until a vaccine is available, physical distancing is a crucial factor in reducing the spread COVID-19. Central will follow the practice of requiring all employees and students to remain six feet or more from one another," Gaudino wrote. "When that is not possible, the use of masks will be required. These rules will apply inside and outside of buildings."

Class schedules will be designed with social distancing in mind, being scheduled for more days and times than they are traditionally offered. They'll also be held in spaces that are not traditionally classrooms. Furniture will be rearranged in recreational and academic spaces when necessary to promote social distancing. Spaces that provide face-to-face services such as stores and counseling will be reorganized or moved online.

Planned social distancing measures also address movement around campus.

"An analysis is underway to map significant pedestrian pathways and to mark them with appropriate signage to help promote physical distancing. Special attention will be given to portals to popular locations," Gaudino wrote.

Masks will be required for all students and faculty in any situation where social distancing is not possible. Health-related exceptions to this rule are permitted.



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

"CWU will provide cloth face masks to all students and employees. Students who enter classrooms or gathering places without masks, or remove them after entering the classroom, will be asked to mask immediately or leave," Gaudino wrote.

Additional sanitation efforts will also be employed. Sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer

will be made available around the university.

"All of us must join together to keep one another safe ... Most of us view our freedom to act and speak freely as a positive attribute of academic life," Gaudino wrote. "I believe that should remain so, but with an important caveat: we must now act in ways that protect others from this dangerous virus."

Feet photos to graduation photos: making money during the pandemic



Photo illustration by Mariah Valles/The Observer

Samantha Cabeza
Staff Reporter

During the pandemic, there is a wide array of jobs students have flocked to in order to make an extra income. Many students need extra money due to losing their jobs or not making as much. Some job descriptions require students to take their socks off and pull out a camera.

Dani Flores, a sophomore majoring in graphic design, works for The Hype, but on the side, she edits pictures of her friend's feet.

"My roommate introduced this to me," Flores said. "When the whole feet-selling business started, my friends and I would always joke around how we were going to make an account [on a website] to start selling the photos."

One day, Flores and her roommates were stressing about school and money during the pandemic. One of her roommates made an account on an adult entertainment website and realized the pictures were actually selling successfully.

Department of Education changes Title IX policy

Mitchell Roland
Senior Reporter

When students eventually return to campus, one major change they will find is a change in the processes around sexual misconduct allegations.

The Department of Education recently announced sweeping changes to Title IX rules at colleges and universities, which must be implemented around the country by Aug. 14. The rules, implemented by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, outlines how allegations of sexual misconduct and assaults are handled on campuses around the country.

Several CWU administrators, including CWU's IX coordinator and the head of rights and responsibilities, said the changes will give more fairness and equity to the process.

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Kittitas County issues masking directive

Bailey Tomlinson
News Editor

Cloth face coverings that cover the nose and mouth will be required in Kittitas County beginning May 23. They will be required when indoors, in confined public settings and when unable to maintain six-foot distancing outdoors, as announced in a Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) press release.

Businesses in Kittitas County are required to post signs advising patrons to wear cloth face coverings.

Some individuals are exempted from the directive, such as children under two years old, deaf individuals, individuals advised by their health provider of health risks related to wearing face masks and individuals who have trouble breathing with a

mask or who cannot remove them on their own. Children under 12 years old do not require a mask unless supervised by a guardian.

“Cloth face coverings may include cloth face masks, scarves, bandanas or other materials recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),” the release read.

Cloth face coverings are adequate, and people will not need to wear N95s or similar respirators to comply with the directive unless directed to do so by their medical provider.

The release cites scientific evidence that wearing cloth face coverings prevents the spread of coronavirus in moisture generated from talking, sneezing, coughing and breathing. When enough people do so, it becomes an effective means of stopping the spread of the virus.

Kittitas County COVID-19 Update as of May 26

- 79 confirmed cases
- 40 recoveries
- 88 pending tests
- 0 deaths



Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

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Changes to title IX go into effect

Continued from Page 1

Staci Sleigh-Layman, the executive director of Human Resources and the Title IX coordinator at CWU, said rules established during the Obama administration were “victim-centered”, and these rules aim to treat both sides fairly.

“I think the overriding concern in the past has been ‘how do we protect the complainant?’” Sleigh-Layman said. “This person that’s been through this horrendous thing.”

These previous rules were designed to ensure an accuser’s dignity, prevent any retaliatory behavior in their classes and prevent intimidation. However, Sleigh-Layman said these rules also raised fears of accused students being “railroaded through a system” and not given due process.

“These changes right now are really in response to that concern,” Sleigh-Layman said. “These new changes give a lot of credibility and due process and equal kind of attention to the person accused as well as the person coming forward.”

The intent of the new rules is to treat both sides equally.

“I think what these rules do now is they try to balance that concern, and so they put in place a process that seeks to provide due process for both sides,” Sleigh-Layman said.

In the previous rules, parties did not have the ability to cross-examine each other during a hearing. This was done to try to limit harm done to accusers during a hearing.

“Processes in the past have tried to limit the number of times that a victim has to tell their story and relive that,” Sleigh-Layman said.

However, under the new rules, both the accused and the accuser can cross-examine in a hearing. The parties are not able to conduct these cross-examinations themselves; these will be done instead

by trained advisers. Joseph Bryant, the executive director of student rights and responsibilities, said the school is responsible for ensuring students have advisers in these meetings.

“If someone doesn’t have an adviser to do that or the adviser refuses to do that, we as a university have to provide a trained adviser to do cross-examination,” Bryant said.

Currently, CWU does not have a process in place for trained advisers who can conduct the cross-examination. Bryant said this is one of the things they’re working through.

“We don’t have those individuals right now, or individuals trained to do that,” Bryant said.

Another change in the guidelines is that CWU must first get a firsthand report to begin an investigation.

“It’s clearly defined that it has to be reported by the complainant themselves, or by the Title IX coordinator,” Bryant said. “Before, if we got a third-party report from a coach or a faculty member or a roommate, that may lead to the preliminary of a formal investigation.”

Bryant said under these new rules, a third-party allegation cannot lead to an investigation. There were also changes to how the investigations themselves are conducted.

Under the previous rules, CWU operated with a single investigator model. This meant that Sleigh-Layman was solely tasked with overseeing the investigation as well as deciding.

“These new regulations are pretty clear that you have to have a separate investigator from the decision maker,” Bryant said.

Under these new rules, there are several new people in the process who were not previously involved. Other than the separation of the investigator and decision maker roles, there must now be a person who does the initial outreach, an adviser for each student and a person to hear a potential appeal.

Bryant said each of these people must

be “very intentionally and thoroughly trained” on Title IX as well as other rules and regulations.

While the new rules allow for an informal resolution, Bryant said there is fear the new rules and additional people involved could slow the process down.

“It has the potential of making the process go longer, because there are some set timelines in there, and pieces that weren’t required before,” Bryant said.

After the preliminary investigation, each party now has 10 days to read the report and make critiques and recommendations to the investigator. From there, the investigator will write a final report and there will be another 10 days before a decision is made.

Bryant said this would be a minimum 20 extra days that were not in the previous process.

“I think the concern it has is that things like elongating the process could have a chilling effect on people reporting cases of sexual harassment or sexual assault,” Bryant said. “This process could extend over the majority of the quarter.”

While the school is still determining how to proceed, a potentially major change in the rules is who on campus is required to report allegations of sexual misconduct.

Under the previous rules, employees who were determined to be “responsible employees” were required to report all allegations of sexual misconduct to the Title IX director. At CWU, every staff and faculty member was designated as a responsible employee. Under the new rules though, only “officials with authority” are required to report allegations.

In the new rules, all K-12 employees were designated as officials with authority. However, there is ambiguity about who an official with authority is on a college campus. Sleigh-Layman said CWU is still investigating whether the change in wording will reduce the number of people who are required to report allegations.

“I’m not sure that ‘responsible employees’ is the same as ‘official with authority,’” Sleigh-Layman said. “A faculty member probably doesn’t consider themselves somebody that’s in authority.”

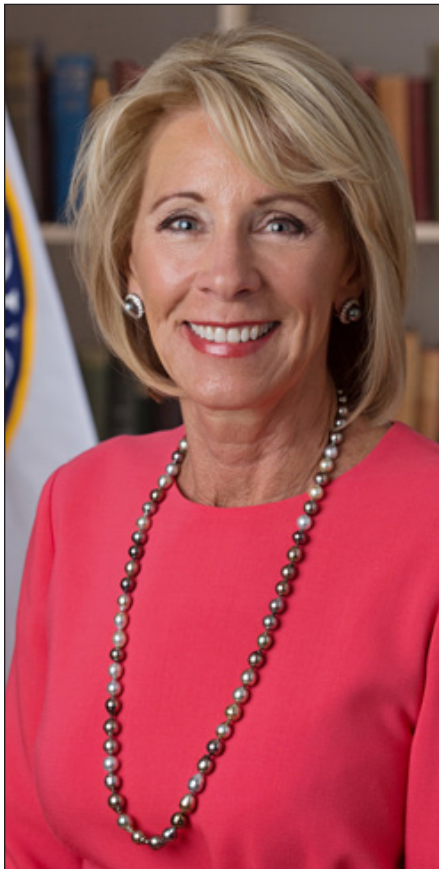
The change in wording could mean staff and faculty may not have the same reporting responsibilities they had before. If a faculty member learns of a sexual assault allegation, they may not be required to report it to the Title IX coordinator like they were in the previous system.

Bryant said CWU’s goal is to determine reporting requirements by the Aug. 14 deadline. This way, the university can inform all staff and faculty who is and isn’t required to report allegations, and how they can report.

One thing that will remain the same is the standard of evidence.

Under the Obama era rules, the threshold for evidence was lowered to 51%. This meant a hearing had to determine the allegation was more likely to have happened than not. Under the new rules, schools have the option of keeping this standard or raising the bar to “overwhelming evidence.”

Whichever standard a college or university chooses, they must use that standard for all investigations, not just those



U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos
U.S. Department of Education

that involve a Title IX investigation. Bryant said CWU has no plans to raise the threshold for evidence.

“There’s no conversations or plans from anyone on the Title IX committee or other administration on us having a higher standard than we have always used,” Bryant said.

Colleges in the state are also waiting from the Washington State Attorney General’s office on how to proceed. Sleigh-Layman said the hope is these guidelines will hopefully allow the new rules to be implemented uniformly at all universities in the state. The guidelines are expected by the end of June, which will allow CWU to finalize their procedures before the August deadline.

Originally passed in 1972, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act aimed to eliminate discrimination based on sex at all educational institutions. From ensuring schools offer the same number of sports for males and females, to regulating the process around sexual misconduct.

Bryant said these guidelines will help ensure that CWU follows both the new federal regulations as well as existing state laws.

“We also have to comply with the state’s Administrative Procedures Act,” Bryant said.

With classes remaining online for summer quarter, Sleigh-Layman said the chances of a report of sexual misconduct on campus during the transition period is relatively low.

“This is the only time I’ve said this, but not having students on campus for summer is a good thing for this,” Sleigh-Layman said.

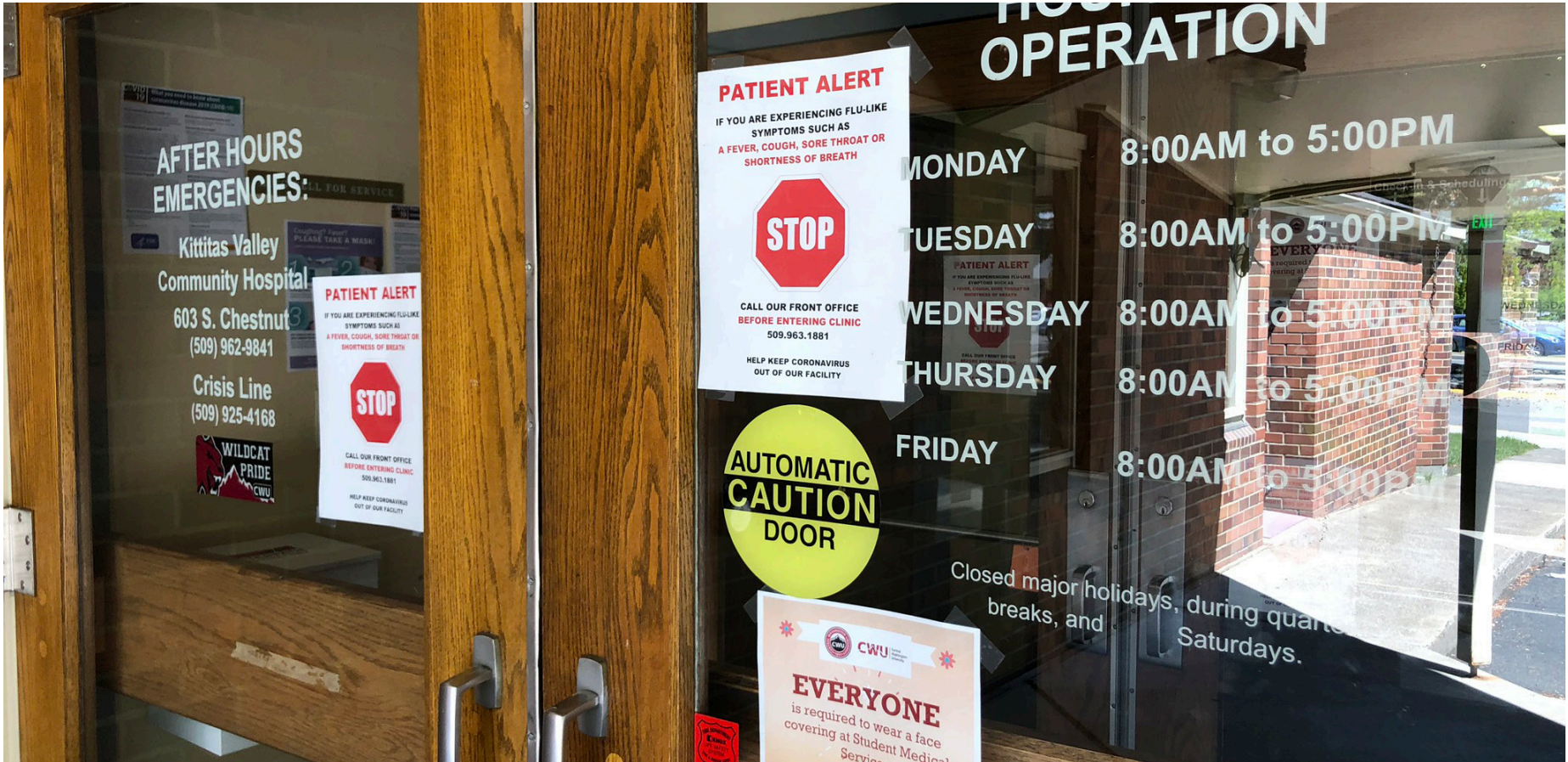
Sleigh-Layman said this will allow the university to fully review and implement the new rules before students return to campus in the fall.

“We’re still getting educated on what that all looks like,” Sleigh-Layman said. “I think that the whole world of Title IX is kind of up in the air at the moment.”



U.S. Department of Education

SMaCC offers telehealth services



Takashi de Leon/ The Observer

The Student Medical & Counseling Clinic has requested patients to call and make appointments before visiting in-person, and stopped accepting non-patient visitors.

Ty McPhee
Staff Reporter

CWU has partnered with the company Timely MD to use its program Campus. Health to give current full time students access to telehealth care for physical and mental needs.

Those who are in need of these services are able to get them through Campus.Health, where they can register with the use of their school email. The coupon code CWU2020 is what’s needed to ensure that the service provided isn’t charged.

This tool is mainly for students who aren’t currently living on campus and unable to access the Student Health and Counseling services for their mental and physical needs. Students who wish to still use the campus facility will need to instead call in.

“Medical staff cannot cross state lines so that’s why we had to find an option for our students,” Associate Dean of Health & Wellness Shawnté Elbert said. “Those students who are either overseas or not in Washington were the students who were targeted most for this program to ensure

that they would get the care that they need while still attending the university through virtual means.”

Elbert said one of the biggest take-aways from the changes was continuous support for students through this program throughout the year, including during breaks from school. The current contract only lasts through spring 2020, but an addendum may be made for it to continue into the summer.

“My hope and my goal is to have something that starts from the time students come to the campus in the fall that will continue then to the end of spring quarter this time next year,” Elbert said. “They would get it over every break, it will be continuous, there will be no break in access.”

As of May 25, Elbert is trying to get the addendum added to the current contract to ensure this support extends into the summer quarter for students who need it.

Those who are living either locally in Ellensburg or still on campus are still able to utilize the Wellness Center. The current average of students visiting the Wellness Center per day is between eight to 12 students.

Instead of filling out a form online, stu-

dents will speak with someone to schedule their appointment and go over a questionnaire to assess the level of urgency needed for the students’ care and whether they show symptoms related to COVID-19.

“They’re not swamped, and they’re able to stagger them enough to clean the

rooms and turn them over in a predictable way,” Elbert said.

Off-campus students can register for a Timely MD Campus.Health account with their CWU email, and they can use code CWU2020 when they visit to ensure they receive services for free.

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CARING & CONFIDENTIAL

The career fair is held virtually this year

Gabriel Lizama
Staff Reporter

Kristen Paton, the Career Services event coordinator, is the driving force behind the spring virtual career fair. Paton has experienced running the career fair for two years.

However, this year took an unexpected twist, but it didn't stop Paton from connecting students to employers.

According to Paton, over the course of a week, students were given the opportunity to interview with 63 different companies and representatives that included graduate programs.

Paton said students would attend scheduled hours with a company and get to chat via live-text with different representatives.

"It was great to see that we were able to connect students with employers even though it is not the same as an in-person career fair," Paton said.

Paton said the attendance this year was lower than the ones held previously.

Paton said during these times students have a lot to think about and she is looking for new ways to help benefit students.

Paton is taking this year's career fair as a learning lesson to build a different platform that is better for students to interact with.

Paton said based on the feedback received from students the career fair team is looking to provide virtual tours of companies and possible Zoom meetings.

Paton said employers enjoy the opportunities given to talk to students and want

to keep their connections strong.

"We genuinely want to know what type of opportunities that students want to see," Paton said.

Shawn Murphy, a senior recreation and tourism management major, tries to build as many connections as possible through attending different events.

Murphy attended his first career fair in person.

"I was looking for a new way to connect with different employers and get exposure to new job opportunities," Murphy said.

Murphy believes it's important to network because it provides helpful insight on what employers are looking for in particular career fields.

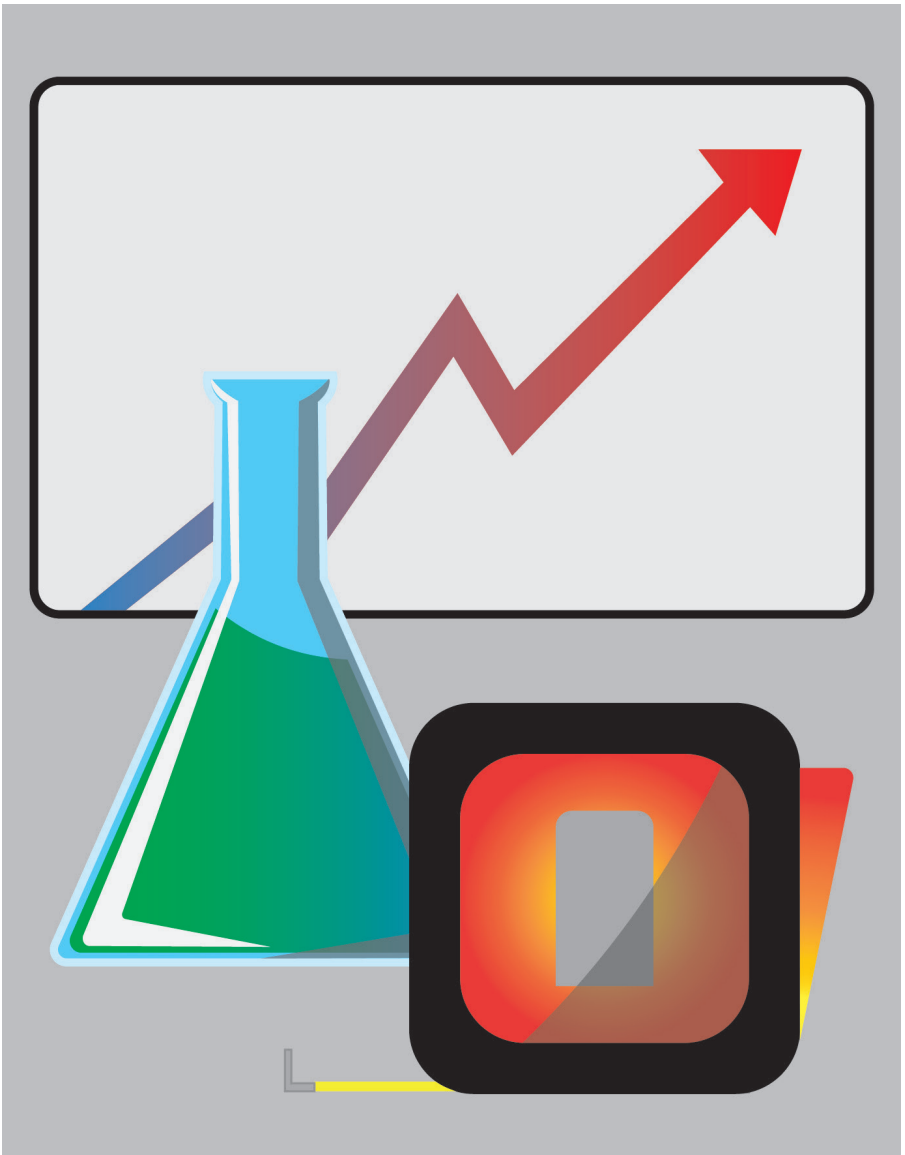
Murphy's favorite part about networking is connecting friends with potential employers and at the same time building stronger relationships.

Connor Wonderly, a master's student majoring in law and justice, believes if CWU offered an interactive learning experience with professionals, the career fair would be more attractive.

Wonderly said being able to gain a perspective from someone who has been in a particular field allows students to build a better picture of the field and ask clarifying questions.

Wonderly said a Zoom call or platform that allows people to connect with employers and presenters is more beneficial than having a text-only chat.

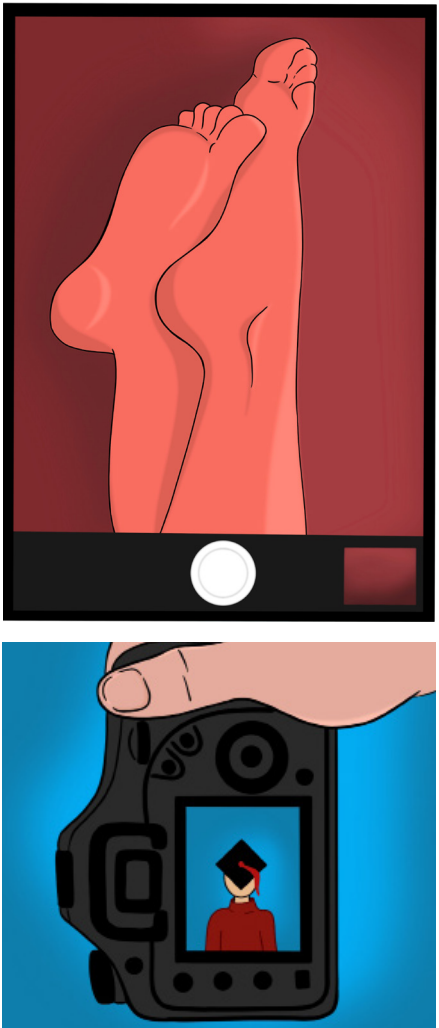
Wonderly said he would prefer to learn from professionals' experiences that have been successful in their field.



Graphics by Riel Hanson

Feet photos to graduation photos

How students are finding nontraditional work during the pandemic



Continued from Page 1

Her roommate consulted her and asked if Flores could try to make the images look more appealing to those purchasing the photos.

Flores came up with the idea to draw doodles around the feet to make them look cuter and edited them to make them brighter and more of the focal point in the image.

"This isn't the first time I am doing this job either," Flores said. "I could make \$80-100 a week, so that's why I'm doing it."

Other students are using their talents for more traditional jobs, like photography.

Zahn Shultz, a senior film production major, does freelance photography and videography.

He is currently using his talents to take graduation photos for seniors.

"Since I'm a senior, I want to continue my freelance work while also getting a real job," Shultz said. "I don't plan on slowing down with my freelance work, because I want to pick up more jobs after I finish school."

Shultz said he wants to utilize what he has been learning in school to make money off his work.

"I am tailoring my services to what is in demand right now, such as graduation photos, as well as offering content in niche markets such as automotive [photography]," Shultz said.

Shultz said his freelance work makes him decent money and he tries to keep his rates competitive.

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A CHANGE FOR COMFORT



Written by Karina Severino



Designed By Bekah Blum



May 27, 2020

Staying at home all day can be frustrating for students, especially when they have to work from home. Students have been finding new ways to make this situation easier by rearranging their homes and making their living spaces more comfortable.

Alexis Harkrider, a sophomore music performance major, found a way to do so.

"I moved a few plants into my room," Harkrider said. "When I'm sitting and doing homework, I can look around and remember that it's okay."

Gardening has been helping Harkrider deal with having to stay at home all

day. She has a space at the Wildcat Community Garden where she gardens. This hobby has helped her feel more relaxed and gives her something to do with her extra time.

Harkrider has also sectioned out her room to create a more organized atmosphere for her to feel comfortable while she is doing work.

"I have my space where I do all my school work and have all my Zoom meetings," Harkrider said. "My bed is my space to relax and rest. Then, there's my space where I practice music."

Being at home all day can start to become frustrating after a while. A tip Harkrider has is to declutter everything to make a more welcoming and comfortable environment.

"Just because everything is already overwhelming, you don't need your space to be overwhelming," Harkrider



Photos Courtesy of Alexis Harkrider



“Try to surround yourself with things that make you happy.”

– Alexis Harkrider, a sophomore music performance major



said. “And try to surround yourself with things that make you happy.”

Pilar Cuevas, a senior public relations major, took a similar approach. She purchased a desk to bring into her room and make herself feel more comfortable while she is doing schoolwork from home.

“I focus more in a school-like setting,” Cuevas said. “By imitating a school environment in the tiniest bit, my mind doesn’t feel like ‘hey, I’m at home, I just need to rest,’ and I get more work done that way.”

Putting pictures up on her wall of friends and things she likes is another change Cuevas made to her room. Cuevas moved back home and said that having those pictures up on her wall reminds her of her old dorm. She said it makes her feel more motivated to want to do her schoolwork.

Cuevas said she doesn’t like being inside all day so sometimes, she will go outside and sit on her porch for a while just to get some fresh air and relax.

Carmen Luthi, a sophomore law and justice major, said scented candles have helped her feel more re-

laxed at home. Luthi said being cooped up at home can be very stressful. Having candles has not only helped her relieve her stress but they also allow her to feel more focused whenever she is doing school work.

“Having those candles makes me feel more like, ‘okay I’m in the vibe now,’” Luthi said. “I’ll also sometimes put on some relaxing music to make me feel less stress and help me retain my focus while I’m studying.

Luthi has made a couple of changes to her living space to make herself feel more comfortable while being at home. She said she has moved some things around and cleared up some space to help her feel more productive.

“The biggest thing I did was I cleared out my desk,” Luthi said. “I needed a place to do my homework and even though I didn’t use it a lot before, I use it so much more now.”

Clearing out her desk has really helped Luthi focus more while she is doing homework. Luthi said that clearing out her desk and having that space for work helps her feel more organized.



Community and competition are formed completely online with intramural esports



Graphic by Riel Hanson

Joseph Stanger
Staff Reporter

After a long day of Zoom meetings, work and other responsibilities, it's finally time to relax, talk to some friends and play some video games.

CWU introduced esports to the intramural sports program two years ago, and as of winter 2020, the completely free program is offered entirely online.

"We have [games] just for students to connect with each other and play, and we also have the opportunity for gamers to enter in their scores and go towards tournament play if they choose to," Intramural Sports and Special Events Coordinator Shana Kessler said. "But it's based on the participants to make that move."

The games offered with structured leagues are "Madden," "FIFA," "2K," "Super Smash Bros.," "Fortnite" and "Rocket League." The games offered without structured leagues or tournaments are "Overwatch," "League of Legends," "Apex Legends," "Animal Crossing" and "Minecraft."

The program currently has 85 students actively playing. Thirty-one of

these students are also confirmed registered players on IMLeagues, a website where gamers can log their scores and potentially advance to tournament play.

"It's been nice to add this virtual component," Kessler said. "Our Discord server is very lively, with students connecting with each other and giving each other tips on how to improve their gameplay."

Discord is a free voice, video and text chat app primarily used by gamers as a means of communication during multiplayer games.

Before the pandemic caused CWU to cancel in-person classes and events, Lakdeep "LD" Singh, a sophomore business administration major, worked as a referee for the intramural sports program.

Now, without any sports to referee, Singh has become one of the moderators for the intramural esports Discord server.

"I've gone into some of the Discord channels and put my [info] on there," Singh said. "I've actually had quite a few people hit me up and say, 'hey, you play this game. If you want to run it sometime, feel free to let me know.'"

Even though the emphasis is on competitive gaming, Kessler said bringing students together is also an important

aspect of online intramural esports.

"They're still connecting with each other and having that opportunity to play with other students that they might not otherwise know," Kessler said.

Francisco Graciani, a clinical physiology major, is another student who actively participates in the intramural esports program.

He has been helping to develop and manage in-person tournaments for the program since it began.

"The last two years we've been doing esports in some capacity," Graciani said. "But we only just started really doing

esports, player versus player, this year."

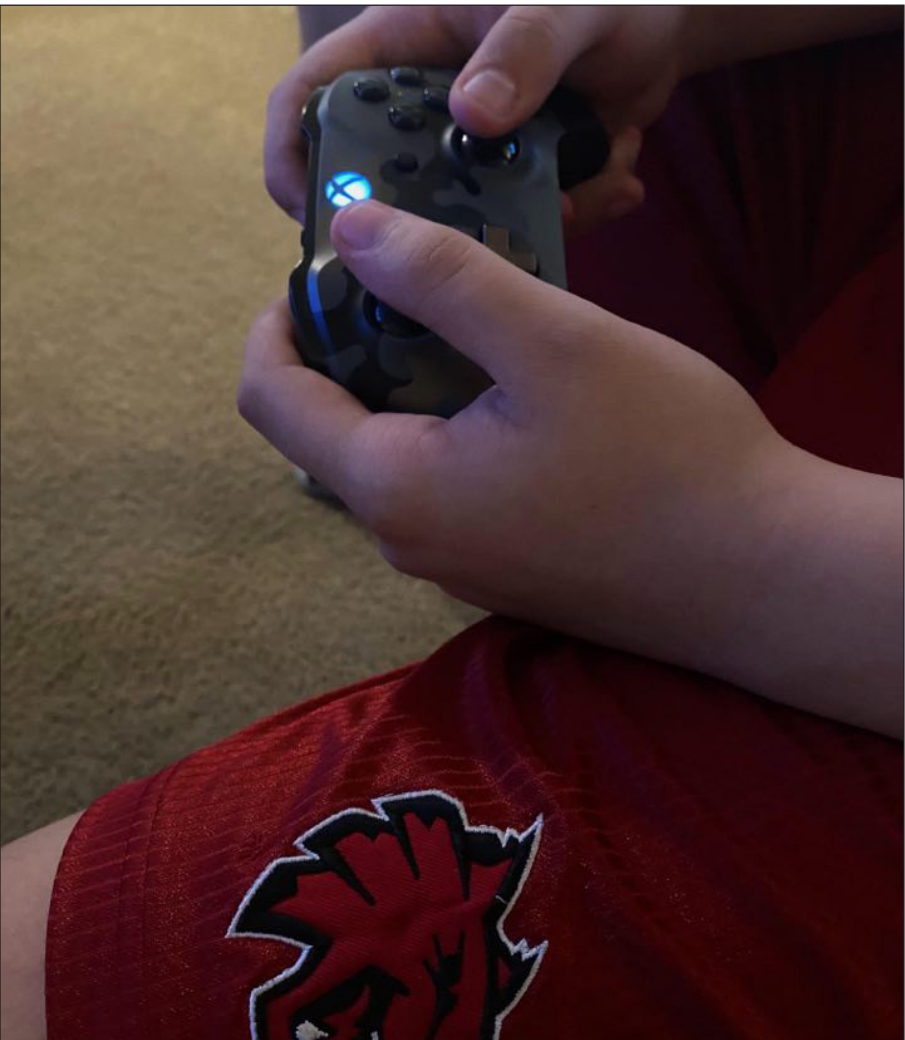
Esports, and competitive gaming in general, has become an incredibly popular form of entertainment over the last decade. In 2019, at a major tournament for the game "Dota 2," the winning team received over \$34 million dollars.

According to Kessler, some states have been adding varsity esports programs to colleges and high schools.

"I think it's such a cool thing," Kessler said. "The way that the esports community has really rallied around this idea of esports being a valid opportunity to engage [with others] and play has been really cool."



Photo illustrations by Mariah Valles/The Observer



Stop hiding behind shame and learn to love criticism!

“When I reflect on my college career at CWU, I see feedback rooted in everything we do.”

-Gabriel Lizama, Columnist

Gabriel Lizama
Columnist

I remember moving to CWU as a freshman, graduating high school with honors, earning different accolades and having a strict plan for success that I knew would always work. Was I right? Definitely not! These were all thoughts of a young ambitious adult about to meet the cruel reality that success is a rollercoaster.

If there is one thing that I wished I watched sooner, it would be the podcast by Adam Grant, *WorkLife* with Adam Grant: How to love criticism.

Adam Grant talks to Ray Dalio, an American billionaire, about what makes his company successful. He states that feedback is a step in the right direction.

“Owning up to not knowing all the answers is important and accepting it,” Dalio said.

Throughout my college career, feedback has been vital to my success and development.

When someone provides you feedback, there is a reason. It may not be the thing

you were looking for, but that is the valuable part. The thing you least expect should be considered because if one person thought it, another person probably was thinking the same thing.

Feedback is a new lens for you to view ideas and projects. It helps you build relationships and different ways to connect with people. If you do not learn from feedback, you are bound to repeat mistakes and not grow from them.

When I reflect on my college career at CWU, I see feedback rooted in everything we do. Showing up on the first day of classes, everyone knows it's syllabus day. Included on that syllabus is office hours for questions, which is one of the most important ways to get feedback one-on-one.

On my first math test I took in statistics, I received a 37%. I studied all night. I had no clue how I got a terrible grade. After going into office hours, the professor pointed out a simple error that could be fixed. This was my first lesson and brought my atten-

tion to knowing where to receive feedback.

One thing Grant fails to mention is when to listen to feedback. Everywhere a person goes, feedback is required, but it ties back into a simple phrase: lead by example. If the person providing feedback is saying you should show up on time but does not show up on time, what use is that feedback?

This is something that needs to be considered in any

case. The goal of feedback is to grow towards reaching a goal, and keeping that in mind is what will benefit you as a person to achieve.

What I encourage you to do is take a step back from viewing feedback as a hindrance to growth but an opportunity to be better. Even if the information provided does not seem relevant at the time, it is vital to be mindful of the feedback in the event it occurs again.

Graphic by Teagan Kimbro

Lethal removal of wolves is necessary for the environment

Jayce Kadoun
Columnist

Lethal means of removing wolves from areas in Washington where they are a problem are justified because they save livestock and wolf population numbers increase regardless of the amount killed. Some conservation groups want to stop the killing of wolves in the state but fail to realize the negative impact the animals have on the environment.

Since 2012, state officials have only killed 31 wolves in Washington, and the number of wolves has been steadily rising despite this. A report done by the state indicates there were at least 145 wolves here at the end of 2019 compared to 126 wolves at the end of 2018. If you look at the numbers from the years prior to 2018, it can be seen that similar trends exist. In just the past year, there was an 11% growth in wolf counts.

As wolf packs become more widespread and strong in numbers, the amount of incidents with ranchers and livestock will go up. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) investigators found that 14 cattle were killed by wolves last year, and another 11 cattle were confirmed to have been injured by wolves. It was also discovered that four different packs were involved in at least one confirmed livestock death.

The work the WDFW is doing to keep wolves in check right now has helped keep the balance, and conservation groups need to see why a wilderness run by wolves is not a healthy one.

I have witnessed firsthand the impact of an unchecked wolf takeover. In 2018, I travelled to British Columbia for a week-long backcountry elk hunt. During the hunt, we travelled over 20 miles a day on horseback with local guides in

search of elk herds. We encountered only one herd in a week's time, but what we did see and hear on a daily basis were wolf packs and evidence of the damage they can do.

Elk carcasses and wolves were a common sighting, and the behavior of the elk in relation to howls in the distance was a tell-tale sign that they feared the wolves. The guide service that took us on the hunt has since stopped all hunting operations due to the lack of elk in the area. They say it's directly related to wolves.

Cattle deaths make the news and are a good indicator of the problems wolves cause, but the destruction wolves cause deep in the woods, where people don't see them, adds to those problems.

Conservationists are concerned with the lives of wolves and it gives them tunnel vision when it comes to their views on the state lethally removing them. They focus on human impact, and they don't see how the animals they want to protect are destroying the other creatures around them.

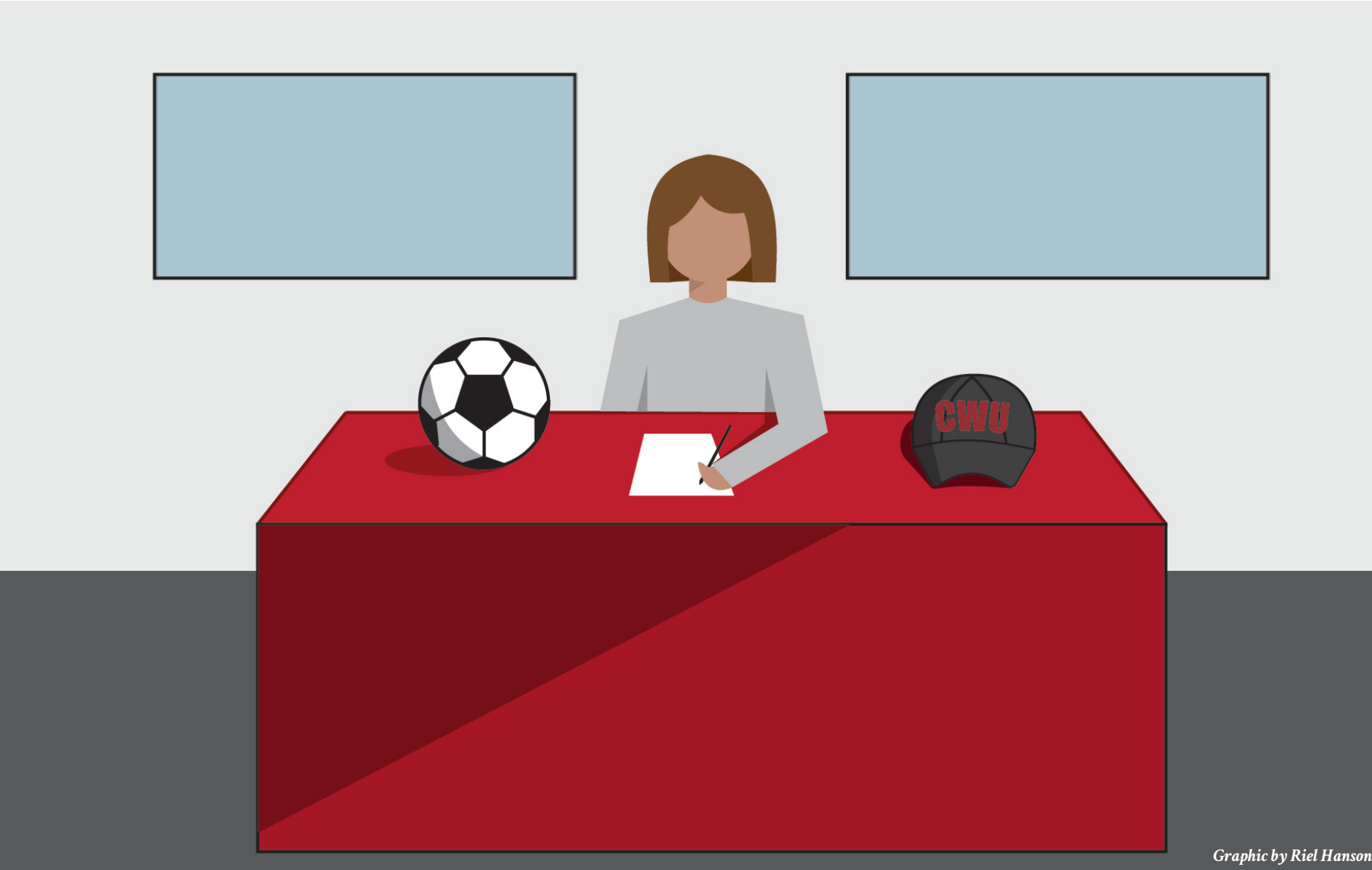
Some groups want the wildlife commission to require livestock producers to use non-lethal deterrence methods for wolves. Their hopes for these methods are that they will prevent conflict between the predators and livestock. While this may help ranchers some, it does not address the issue that less wolves would be removed. If they weren't, domestic animals would continue to be killed and wild animals would disappear from the backcountry, just like the elk did in British Columbia. Ranches and native animals alike would be ravaged.

To those who have not picked a side on the issue, consider the damage wolves are capable of doing. Don't fall for what these conservation groups are saying. Tell the state that lethally removing wolves is the right thing to do.



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Women’s soccer adds five new players



Graphic by Riel Hanson

Holly Hunter
Staff Reporter

CWU Women’s Soccer added five new players to the roster for the upcoming season. Aleah Washington, Maggie McBroom, Payton Lindell and Morgan Fischel are all incoming freshmen. Jayme Woodfil is a transfer athlete with one year of eligibility left.

“We were looking to bring more competition in and we were fortunate that we had been following a number of these players,” head coach Micheal Farrand said. “We were fortunate that a lot of teams missed on them a little bit. They were a little bit late in terms of development but they were fantastic and fun additions for us.”

Jayme Woodfil, a senior transfer from Dallas Baptist University (DBU), has already competed at the level of competition Farrand is looking to get his team to.

“[Woodfil] actually played not this year but two years previously in the final sweet 16,” Farrand said. “[She’s] an older player, competitive great teammate and a girl who we just thought already knows what it’s like to compete at that level, and that’s what we’re chasing.”

Woodfil is a 5-foot-7-inch forward from Texas. In her freshman year at DBU Woodfil played in 20 games, starting in seven of them. She was tied for fourth on the team with three goals that season. In her sophomore season, Woodfil played in 23 games and made three starts. That sea-

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I remember telling my dad that I was actually upset how much I liked it because I wish I could’ve been here sooner.
- Jayme Woodfil
Transfer athlete

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son Woodfil played a season high 49 minutes in a game against Texas A&M Commerce and scored her first goal of the year.

Woodfil is looking forward to spending some time in the Pacific Northwest exploring a new school and playing some soccer.

“When I got in contact with CWU, I was excited about the opportunity. A few weeks later I was on campus and it felt like home. I remember telling my dad that I was actually upset how much I liked it because I wish I could’ve been here sooner. I’m super excited to be a part of the CWU Women’s Soccer team and can’t wait to compete next season,” Woodfil said in a press release on Wildcatsports.com.

Farrand said Woodfil is someone they really look forward to having on the team this fall.

“Woodfil is the girl we’re excited to have because of her previous playoff experience in the sweet 16 and she worked really, really hard to get here,” Farrand said.

Aleah Washington, a 5-foot-8-inch forward, played varsity all four years for Ferndale High School. During her time in high school, Washington was named offensive MVP twice. She helped the team advance to their first state in school history where they advanced to the quarterfinals.

“[She’s] a super athlete, she plays pretty much every position through the back line to the front,” Farrand said. “She’s playing as a forward now and is a very physical, strong athlete, so I think she’ll add to the competition and the talent.”

Maggie McBroom is a defender from Vancouver, Washington. She played for Hudson Bay High School and during her senior year she was named to the 3A Greater St. Helens All League team. McBroom was awarded first team all league honors both her junior and senior years.

“I chose [CWU] because it has the right academic programs for me, as well as a great team environment where I can challenge myself and grow as a player,” McBroom said in a press release on Wildcatsports.com. “I can’t wait to join my teammates this fall.”

Farrand got to see McBroom play at the Pacific Northwest (PAC) soccer tournament back in January.

“She plays as defensive midfielder and we need to bring a little bit more depth into that role behind Paige Devine, and develop somebody that can play that position and compete,” Farrand said. “She scored a stunning goal at the PAC tournament from about 30 [yards] out. That was a fun goal, she’s a good player.”

Payton Lindell is a 5-foot-6 inch defender who played all four years for Washougal High School. Lindell received a varsity letter all four years of her high school career.

Farrand said the coaching staff had seen her earlier, but Lindell originally committed to play at Concordia University. When Concordia announced the school would be closing for good, Farrand reached back out to recruit Lindell to play for CWU.

“[Lindell] is one player on that roster we wanted to try and get back,” Farrand

“
I love the small-town college feel of Ellensburg and how it is different from anything I have ever experienced coming from California.
- Morgan Fischel
Transfer athlete

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said. “She’s an incoming freshman as a defender and she’s actually really good.”

Lindell said she ended up choosing CWU because it’s closer to home for her and because she likes the atmosphere.

“They have many different majors to choose from [at CWU] and the soccer program is competitive,” Lindell said in a press release on Wildcatsports.com.

Another new recruit is 5-foot-8-inch defender from California, Morgan Fischel. She currently attends JSerra Catholic High School, but she only played soccer there until her sophomore year. Fischel played for the Pateadores Development Academy, which is a U.S. soccer development academy.

Farrand recruited Fischel because the program was looking to add some depth in the defender position.

“We followed her career a little bit and were able to get her up here for a visit,” Farrand said. “She’s going to add to the back line where we actually need to fill some gaps.”

Fischel chose CWU because it was the right size university she was looking for and it was in the area where she was planning to attend college.

“I love the small-town college feel of Ellensburg and how it is different from anything I have ever experienced coming from California,” Fischel said in a press release on Wildcatsports.com. “I felt as if I would fit best in the soccer program at CWU because I really like Coach [Farrand] and Coach [Kroger]’s style of play and how they have continued to succeed in growing the program every season.”

Rinta signs seven during COVID-19 offseason

Rey Green
Staff Reporter

CWU Men’s Basketball is preparing for next season after going 17-11 in 2019. CWU’s recruiting class features four freshmen and three junior college transfers.

“The spring recruiting season got flipped upside down, like most of our world,” head coach Brandon Rinta said. “It was very challenging not being able to have actual face-to-face contact and not having them on campus.”

Rinta said CWU Men’s Basketball staff had to adjust during this process and approach recruiting differently. Rinta mentioned there were a lot of FaceTiming and Zoom calls in order to show recruits what CWU has to offer for them.

The basketball staff has been giving recruits virtual tours and sending pictures and videos of the campus and facilities at CWU.

The four freshmen coming to CWU are Kyson Rose, Colby Gennett, Gaige Ainslie and Jalai O’Keith.



Photo courtesy of Collin Kelley

Collin Kelley is a 6-foot-7-inch forward transferring from Eastern Arizona College (EAC) to play for CWU in 2020. Head coach Brandon Rinta signed two players from EAC last offseason.

Rose is a 6-foot-8-inch center from Kamiakin High School. Rinta said Rose is a skilled center who has the ability to shoot and pass at a high level.

Gennett is an athletic 6-foot-4-inch wing from Post Falls High School. Gennett has been prepped to play college ball because he was well coached, according to Rinta.

Ainslie is a mobile 6-foot-8-inch forward from Central Catholic High School. Rinta said Ainslie has a nice all around game.

O’Keith is a versatile 6-foot-5-inch guard who can also play forward. O’Keith is a great facilitator on the wing, according to Rinta.

“I’m very excited about these young men. They all come from good high schools who play good competition,” Rinta said. “All these guys will play at a high level.”

For the transfers, CWU added two combo guards. David Thompson is a 6-foot guard transferring from Santa Clara University and CJ Hyder is a 6-foot-2-inch shooting guard transferring from Fresno State University. Both players played together at Mt. San Jacinto College.

“Both guys will play some point guard and off guard for us,” Rinta said. “They should be able to have an immediate impact for us.”

Another transfer added into the class was Collin Kelley, a 6-foot-7-inch forward from Eastern Arizona College. Rinta said he is another versatile forward who can pass, shoot and play de-

fense. Kelly has a long wingspan and is very athletic, according to Rinta. Rinta also mentioned Kelley has a good understanding of the game and a high basketball IQ.

“Kelley can really help us defensively and rebounding wise because he is so athletic and so long,” Rinta said.

With the campus being closed, recruits could not visit CWU, which changed the recruiting process.

“It’s been difficult because you can’t get the players to see the campus in person and they can’t meet their future teammates face-to-face,” Rinta said. “It’s been a tougher adjustment, but every recruit has been understanding.”

Hyder said CWU was the first school to reach out to him once he entered the transfer portal.

“I really like where the program is headed. Coach Rinta has expressed how dedicated he is to developing the program and developing his players,” Hyder said.

Hyder said the recruiting process was difficult because he couldn’t visit any schools. When he first steps on campus, it’ll be the first time he sees CWU in person. It will also be his first time in Washington.

The 2021 recruiting class will be on campus starting in the fall if school has in-person class sessions.

Opinion: Court ruling is the latest sign the NCAA is dying

Mitchell Roland
Columnist

During a press conference at 2014’s Final Four in the glamorous Cowboys stadium in Arlington, Texas, UCONN basketball player Shabazz Napier described “hungry nights,” where players on the team literally couldn’t afford to eat. That same year, NCAA President Mark Emmert made \$1.9 million.

While you might wonder what organization could be so cruel, “hungry nights” were just the latest in a long line of heartless decisions by the NCAA. The NCAA once found Utah Men’s Basketball head coach Rick Majerus to be in violation of amateurism rules after Majerus took one of his players to lunch when one of his players’ parents died. UNLV basketball player Chris Richardson missed games after he bought a used mattress from a UNLV assistant coach. While Richardson paid for the mattress, the coach had rented a truck to help Richardson transport it.

The NCAA added a nail to their coffin this week, and their demise can’t come soon enough. In what seems like a no-brainer, a federal court recently ruled that colleges and universities can in fact provide their student athletes with class materials.

On May 18, a federal appeals court ruled

against an appeal from the NCAA regarding a case from March 2019. In the original decision, a judge ruled the NCAA could not forbid schools from providing education materials to students.

You may think: why would the NCAA care? For example, if Clemson University bought a running back on their football team a laptop so he could study, who cares?

The answer is simple: it hurts the NCAA. While the May 18 ruling was related specifically to educational material, this is the continuation of a larger movement. Even when it’s a baby step, the NCAA fights the advancement of athletes’ rights with every fiber because they know they’re losing power day by day.

The NCAA’s days are likely numbered as more and more people realize the flaws of their business model. The judge noted the narrow scope of the May 18 decision; howev-

er, the NCAA’s troubles go far beyond it.

Several states are working on laws that go directly against the NCAA. California, for example, recently passed a law allowing student athletes to sell their likeness for endorsement deals or any other use. The law also forbids the NCAA from punishing student athletes for accepting compensation. Multiple states are working on similar legislation.

The NCAA has faced several lawsuits in recent years due to their rules that forbid players from accepting any compensation for their services.

Former UCLA basketball player Ed O’Bannon led a class action lawsuit against the NCAA in 2014 for his likeness appearing in various video games that the NCAA received money from. While technically the players in the game were fictional, the virtual athletes had eerily similar attributes and resemblance to real life players.

The NCAA lost that 2014 lawsuit, and a judge ruled that players were entitled to compensation for appearing in the game. But rather than accepting the decision and paying the athletes, the NCAA ended production of the popular NCAA basketball and football video games.

The NCAA has gone to great lengths to try and convince people that student athletes aren’t employees and therefore shouldn’t be compensated.

However, there is simply too much money in college athletics to believe that the athletes are amateurs. In 40 states, the highest paid public official is an athletic coach at a college or university. The 15 largest stadiums in America are all college football venues. The men’s basketball Final Four is annually played in a professional football stadium, where 90,000 fans pay hundreds of dollars to watch athletes who are not compensated beyond a potential scholarship.

More and more people are realizing how morally corrupt the NCAA is, and the May 18 ruling is just another example of how their pretend notion of amateurism is shattering. While this ruling was a small victory for athletes, sooner or later the NCAA will be forced to end the charade of amateurism in college athletics.

“The NCAA’s days are likely numbered as more and more people realize the flaws of their business model.”
- Mitchell Roland
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BORED IN QUARANTINE?
US, TOO. HERE'S SOMETHING TO DO.

MOVE FROM YOUR BED
TO YOUR COUCH

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