

CUB offers alternatives to boredom

Nathan Gwinn

The Summer Evergreen

The major gathering place for WSU students is the Compton Union Building, located right in the middle of campus.

"The basic purpose of the CUB is to provide the equivalent of a community center for the campus," CUB Director Tim McCarty said. "We're constantly trying to improve our service."

McCarty and his staff work to make the CUB an welcoming place for all students.

"Our job is to draw people to the CUB," he said. "People need a place to communicate and share ideas. One of the ways they do that is talking over food -- a meal. That's why we offer the food service."

"But we're constantly looking for new things to provide people to help them communicate. We want people to come in here and stay later than we're open. That would be a good problem for us to have to solve."

A normal day during the school year brings 12,000 to 13,000 people together in the CUB. The peak time for the crowds is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"That's pretty typical usage," McCarty said, "but we're an unusually busy union. There are very few, if any, that are bigger. The CUB is a very large union for the size of our campus."

Recent changes to the CUB include a free cybercafe in the Lair that students can use to socialize over the Internet. Equipment can be checked out at the CUB Information Desk. The idea was proposed through the student's union board. The Graduate Professional Student Association came up with and sought funding for the idea.

McCarty wants other students to become involved on the union board.

"I'd like to see students from off campus, students not involved in ASWSU and students involved in multicultural groups on the board," he said. "We have continuous input from students on the union board -- they have policy-making authority."

McCarty said a more diverse board would mean better representation of the students' needs.

"A college union should be a dynamic place because the campus is a dynamic place," he said.

So what's in the CUB? Most of the space on

the first floor of the CUB is devoted to dining. Midday meals are available at the Lair and the CUB court, while more snack-oriented food is at the CUB Market. Sweet Sensations sells espresso nearby.

Also located on the first floor are the CUB Auditorium, Compton Union Gallery, Information Desk, and Clevenger Lounge.

The auditorium, which seats up to 585 people, is used for lectures, Fine Arts classes, and \$2 films on weekends. The CUB recently acquired a state-of-the-art digital video projector, a new 35-mm film projector and a surround sound system similar to the Lucas THX systems.

The ground floor contains a small post office and several businesses. The CUB Games Area features a bowling alley, dozens of billiard and Ping-Pong tables, and a video arcade. Nearby is Taco Bell and its large eating area.

Below the ground floor lies the basement. Here students can rent sports equipment at the Outdoor Recreation Center, including tents, rafts, canoes, ski equipment, backpacks and rollerblades.

Down the hall, the GLBA program enhances diversity by providing WSU with

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Tim McCarty,
CUB Director

social awareness and a safe and affirming place for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered students, faculty, staff, and their allies. The program includes an office, library and student lounge and features films and guests speakers.

The basement is also home to Butch's Den, a venue for ASWSU's Coffeehouse, which features live bands, open-mic nights and free coffee twice a month. The rest of the basement houses a busy student computer lab and free meeting space for the CUB's 250 recognized student organizations.

The CUB's ballroom, capable of holding 1,000 people, is located along with more meeting rooms on the second floor. CUB Room 232, where the ASWSU Senate meets weekly, is being refurbished to allow videotaping of meetings to be broadcast on Cable 8.

More offices to serve students occupy the third floor. The ASWSU executive and senate offices are located here, as well as the GPSA, Residence Hall Association, the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils, and KZUU student radio.

The Student Leadership center, located across the hall from the ASWSU offices, sponsors a leadership colloquium in the fall and the WSU President's Award in the spring, as well as other leadership training workshops for residence hall elected officials and other student leaders.

Activities and Recreational Sports also has an office on the third floor. This organization's employees serve as advisors to ASWSU, in addition to planning and overseeing intramural sports, aerobics classes, and the Outdoor Recreation Center.

Hotel guest rooms make up the fourth floor. The CUB has 30 rooms where regents, alumni, parents and important university guests stay comfortably, McCarty said.

McCarty urges incoming WSU students to check it out early in the semester. "Come on up and hang out at the CUB!" he said.

See you there.



THE SUMMER EVERGREEN/ERIN JOHNSON

The Outdoor Recreation Center located in the CUB basement rents out equipment for summer outdoor activities like rollerblading, camping, and rafting. The ORC also coordinates various trips for people who enjoy the outdoors.



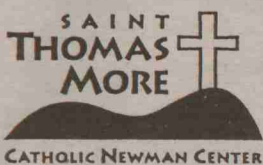
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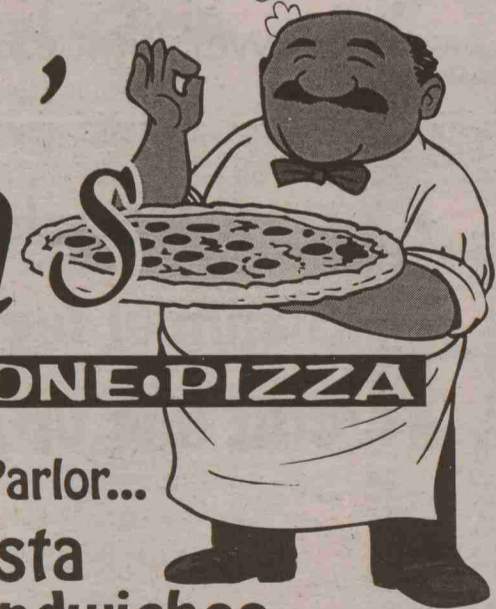
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