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The OBSERVER

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CWUObserver



RAVE SCENE IN THE 'BURG

PAGE 8/9

FOR THE DOGS

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED FOR
OFF-LEASH DOG PARK
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GOING TO THE MAT

CENTRAL WRESTLING HOSTS
REGIONAL TOURNAMENT
PAGE 15

Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

The OBSERVER

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by the students & for the students of CWU

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WHAT'S UP AT CWU?

Th	2-27	Nite of a Thousand Saxophones, Mdntrye building 7 p.m.
F	2-28	Annie Get Your Gun, McConnell Auditorium 7 p.m. Pie Day with 88.1 The 'Burg and CWU Hype Street Team, 11 a.m. CWU Men's Basketball vs. Montana State Billings, 7:30 p.m.
Sa	3-01	CWU Women's Basketball cs. Saint Martin's, 5:15 p.m. Men's Rugby vs. Eastern Washington University, 1 p.m.
Su	3-02	Men's Lacrosse vs. Gonzaga, 12 p.m.
M	3-03	Monday Movie Madness: Frozen, 7 p.m. Chamber Orchestra Concert, Mdntrye building 7 p.m.
T	3-04	Wind Ensemble Concert, Mdntrye building 7 p.m.
W	3-05	Family Literacy Night at CWU: Free Books, 6:30 p.m. How Social Media Could Get You a Job... or Lose You One 4 p.m. Symphonic Bands Concert, Mdntrye building 7 p.m.

CORRECTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S ISSUE

- In last week's article, "Real Hope act passes in Wash.", we referred to Sen. Janéa Holmquist Newbry as a representative instead of a senator.
- In last week's article, "Wildcats again go winless on the road," we misspelled senior guard Ally Schmitt's last name as Schmidt.

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Late snow arrival surprises Central students

Resorts on the pass are hopeful about the end of the season

BY COLT SWEETLAND
Staff Reporter

This winter, Ellensburg and the surrounding region did not receive snow until mid-January, which caused some concerns for students at Central.

Tom Potter, a graduate assistant at Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR), said that snow usually arrives in December and the resorts begin to open around that time.

"Winters have been progressively getting later and later, and everyone kind of panicked when there was no snow," Potter said.

According to Potter, the mountains currently have plenty of snow on the ground, so now is a good time for students to go out and enjoy it.

"Even though there is snow at the mountains, when there is no snow in Ellensburg, people aren't really in the winter mood," Potter said.

There are plenty of trips going out to the mountains, now that students have realized the snow is back, according to Potter.

"Our ski bus has been very popular," Potter said.

According to Potter, there was not really an impact on hours getting cut back from employees at OPR.

Devin Dykes, a senior environmental studies major and a trip leader at OPR, said that he had more time to go skiing at other resorts that opened on time, since there weren't many people signing up for excursions at OPR until the snow finally arrived in

Dykes said.

Dykes said that the snow is back at the resorts, and students should get out and have fun.

"If students are going in the back country, they better be careful," Dykes said.

There have been deaths at Stevens Pass and at Crystal Mountain in the past few days, Dykes said, so it's important for students to be careful

expected to start working in early to late December, but did not start work until mid-January when the resort opened.

"I was hoping to use the money towards my senior project and some new snowboarding gear, but of course with the late season I had to live the life of ramen for a bit," Johnson said.

It is difficult to find work in Ellensburg, and since Johnson works with his best friend, he didn't want to get tied up in another job and lose his position at the resort.

"I wanted to get new equipment and get better at snowboarding this season," Johnson said.

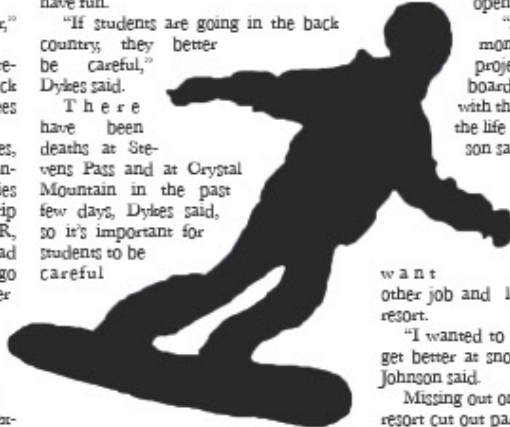
Missing out on a month of work at the resort cut out part of Johnson's expenses, but he also said that having weekends to do homework and have down time was nice.

"Our hours have gone from about zero to 20 hours per weekend, which has kind of gotten in the way of schoolwork but helps with the bills," Johnson said.

By the end of the week, it is predicted that the resorts will be at 100 percent capacity, Potter said.

“When there is no snow in Ellensburg, people aren't really in the winter mood.”

—Tom Potter
Graduate assistant at OPR



when they go out.

"I think more from a personal level people have been impacted because they want to go ski deep powder, and there hasn't been much of that until now," Potter said.

Aaron Johnson, a Snoqualmie Pass chair-lift operator and an electrical engineering tech undergrad, said that he had

Central reacts to MyCWU

BY JACK JOHANNESSEN
Staff Reporter

The portal update from Wildcat Connection to MyCWU resulted in mixed reactions from staff, students and faculty.

MyCWU was released Jan. 27, 2014, and was intended to be more customizable and user-friendly than its predecessor, Wildcat Connection.

Gail Farmer, a change manager in Human Resources, said in a past interview that MyCWU is a major component within a series technology infrastructure projects, known as Improving CWU Applications and Technology (ICAT).

Jim Schwing, computer science department chair, said he had a two-fold reaction.

"It is absolutely the way [we] need to go, but I have concerns with the interface as it now stands," Schwing said.

Schwing said he has had issues with finding certain things on MyCWU, and it is only kind of customizable.

According to Schwing, there are functions on MyCWU that are now buried in menu after menu.

Schwing thinks users should have the ability to bring frequently used but hidden folders to the front page instead of having to navigate through all the menus.

Schwing also said MyCWU's security measures are adequate, but felt that the warnings concerning logging off were unnecessarily severe.

"They do as good a job anybody does from a security point of view," Schwing said.

John Anvik, assistant computer science professor, expressed the same issues with MyCWU as Schwing: tools that were the focus of Wildcat Connection that are now hidden on MyCWU.

"I'm not really happy with it," Anvik said.

Anvik said MyCWU has new names for certain files. For example, Safari is now called Campus Solutions. Anvik was confused by this at first and would have liked to know these new terms before having to use MyCWU.

Jill Hernandez, a Human Resources Information Systems (HRIS) manager, said there are online guides, like solutions, request forms and training for students; staff and faculty at their disposal in case there is confusion regarding certain aspects of MyCWU.

Anvik also said he thought the switch from Wildcat Connection to MyCWU was abrupt. Hernandez, on the other hand, thinks the timing was right to re-launch MyCWU.

"It is a good way to introduce [MyCWU] to students before fall," Hernandez said.

There is mixed sentiment from students regarding MyCWU.

"It's new, but pretty good," Trent McFarlane, a senior computer science major, said.

McFarlane said MyCWU is easier to use than Wildcat Connection was. Once the user has figured out how to use the new system, it is not very difficult to navigate.

Deepinder Bajwa, a senior computer science major, said his experience with MyCWU is mixed. It was difficult for him to find information at first.

Bajwa also said having to close the browser to be fully logged off seems like a security risk. Other students simply have had trouble adjusting to the change.

"I was used to Wildcat Connection and Safari," Brian Aras, a senior economics major, said.

He also thought MyCWU was difficult to navigate at first; however, Aras thinks closing the browser to be completely logged off is a good security measure.

DOG PARK



DIAGRAM COURTESY BRAD CASE

NEW PLANS The new dog park is planned to go in on the west end of 5th Ave.

New off-leash park proposed

BY JOHN JORDAN
Staff Reporter

City of Ellensburg Parks and Recreation Director Brad Case proposed a new idea to the Ellensburg City Council for Rotary Park.

This idea includes an off-leash dog park and an approximate cost of the plan. The plan is to build a fence in a corner of the park, where a dog will be able to run free without running away or bothering others in the park.

Figuring out how to get the off-leash park idea funded is Case's next objective.

"There is no budget authority right now, but estimated costs will probably be around \$130,000 after amenities," Case said.

Some of the amenities include grass maintenance, shelter, and bag stands for picking up after your pet.

Case finds this off-leash park to be a good idea because not only will it keep dogs safe from running away, but it will make it easier for others to enjoy the park as well.

"A concern is that not everyone wants to be around dogs off their leash," Case said. Some have complained about off-leash dogs, notifying authorities of the issue.

Central Washington Senior Joe Mills feels that the off-leash dog park is a great idea for Ellensburg's Rotary Park.

"It's a great spot to take your dog because you don't have to worry about them running off," Mills said. Mills explained that he uses that particular park often to get his dog some exercise.

"The two acre space that rotary park will offer is definitely a big enough area for people to enjoy without having space issues," Mills said.

Winegars moves Main Street location to University Way

BY MIKAILA WILKERSON
Staff Reporter

The Winegars located on 7th and Main Street will be moving its location to Jerrol's so that the business can have the opportunity to expand in growth.

Kori Winegar, the business owner, said that the inside of the new Winegars will be twice the size of the inside of their current location.

"We've always wanted to grow and get a little bit bigger," Winegar said.

Winegar explained that they could not expand their current location.

After Winegar had talked to Rolf Williams, the owner of Jerrol's, both owners decided in favor of moving Winegars next to Jerrol's so that the business would be able to expand like they had wanted to.

"We and our team are just super excited about the possibilities between the two, and the sort of unique things we will be able to bring the community," Williams said.

Meanwhile, the Winegars located on

University Way and Alder will not be closing down and will remain available to the public.

The new Winegars is going to be attached to Jerrol's and will consist of two drive-up windows with a speaker system, and a one-thousand square foot meeting room, which will be located in the back.

The business's new building will also have a lot more seating available for customers.

“We and our team are just super excited about the possibilities between the two, and the sort of unique things we will be able to bring the community.”

**-Rolf Williams
Owner of Jerrol's**

"It'll be easier to find because everyone knows where Jerrol's is at," Ashlee Winther, a junior majoring in art education and special education, said.

According to Winegar, the business is also looking into serving sandwiches and possibly soup.

Jerrol's used to be a soda fountain that served food.

Winegar said that the biggest complaint from their current location is about the slowness of their drive-thru.

"We're addressing that to the best of our ability, and we'll have a speaker system so you can place your order and then you can pay for your order and then you can pick up your order," Winegar said.



CAMILLE MEADOR/OBSERVER

BUSINESS AS USUAL The Winegars location on University Way will not move.

Winegars has sold its building on 7th and Main Street, but Winegar said the woman who bought it has not yet said what she is going to do with the building.

According to Winegar, they are hoping to begin building between May and June, and the goal is to have the new Winegars opened by August.

"I feel like it's a smart move because it's within walking distance of the school," Katy Kjelland, a senior who's majoring

in elementary education and special education, stated.

Winegar said that the size of the new building will be one of the benefits of moving to a new space.

Another benefit is the new meeting room, as Winegar said that it was a need within the community to hold events.

"I think the possibilities with having a one-thousand square foot meeting room is going to be a lot of fun," Williams said.

Two winners will be announced
March 8!



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Central students get involved

CLCE experience helps students connect with community

BY AARON KUNKLER
Staff Reporter

The Center for Leadership and Community Engagement gives Central students the opportunity to get involved in the Ellensburg community.

"We see that it is essential for students to get engaged and get practical experience in and out of the classroom," Manuel Rodriguez, director of the CLCE, said.

According to Rodriguez, this is one of the driving forces behind the center's philosophy.

Through various programs, students at Central are offered the chance to get their hands dirty and make a tangible difference.

By partnering with various organizations around town, such as the Youth Center, Fish and Wildlife, the FISH food bank and various other community organizations, students have the ability to get involved and give back to their community.

There are other benefits as well, according to Rodriguez.

"It's the networking; it's enhancing their resume," Rodriguez said.

In addition, it offers students the ability to make connections with various non-profits, government and community organizations, not only in Ellensburg but in the

surrounding area.

Kim Jellison, Program Manager for the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, says that there are various programs and activities occurring year-round.

One of the upcoming events she's excited about is an annual clean-up of the Yakima River, roughly coinciding with Earth Day, on April 19.

She says that there are usually around 120 volunteers which participate.

Other events include Unheard Voices, and upcoming fundraising event on May 15th at Alder Street Park for the Kimitas Search and Rescue team. The event will feature musicians from the college and Ellensburg communities.

"We want [students] to get involved and to give back to their community," Jellison stated, mirroring Rodriguez's senti-

ments.

On the other side of the campus-community relationship are people like David Hurn, Youth Center and athletics programs coordinator for the Ellensburg Youth Center.

Located at 406 E Capitol, the center serves around 25-35 kids daily.

Hurn graduated from Central and has been working at the youth center since 2008.

"You can talk to everyone downstairs. All of them are related to Central," Hurn said, referencing the staff.

Hurn said that various Central student organizations come in to help regularly, and their efforts are appreciated by the community organizations.

For example, the Nutrition Club comes in twice a month to help out, as does SALT and various other organizations and individuals.

“We see that it is essential for students to get engaged and get practical experience in and out of the classroom.”

-Manuel Rodriguez
Director of CLCE

"Some people do it because it's required of them, but a lot continue to do it because they want to," Hurn said.

Hurn believes that the youth center is an invaluable resource within the Ellensburg community.

"Essentially, our entire goal is to offer a safe, positive place for kids to belong," Hurn said.

Getting involved may not be as daunting as it may sound. College is busy for everyone, between assignments, tests, social obligations and just some well needed rest. Sometimes the thought of giving up even more time may seem overwhelming to a full time student.

These problems may not disappear after college, though. Perhaps now is the time to begin engaging in the community, and developing skills that are and will be necessary now and in the future.

The Center for Leadership and Community Engagement is always available for interested students to come and get a feel for different areas where they could lend a hand.

With over ten-thousand students at Central, the possibility for communal and personal improvement is nearly unlimited, especially if all students helped to pitch in.

"We want to see everyone get involved," Rodriguez said.

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On taking my dog to an off-leash dog park



BY NICK TERREL / ASST PHOTO EDITOR

Your dog has not experienced a party until they have been to an off-leash dog park with hundreds of other dogs. I myself am a proud owner of a 15-month-old Malamute, Maia.

Being from Seattle, we go back to my parents for holidays and weekend visits. When we do, we hit the Magnuson off-leash dog park at least once a day.

Since opening in 1999, it has become Seattle's largest fully fenced off-leash dog park. It consists of a total of nine acres that leads down to the shores of Lake Washington. This is actually where my dog learned to swim, by watching other dogs swim to fetch balls from the water.

Since I have a large-breed dog that requires a minimum of a three-mile walk a day, taking her to the dog park to play is an awesome way to wear out my ball of energy.

Off-leash dog parks are also a great way to see how certain breeds act. It's also a good way to determine what kind of dog fits your lifestyle before letting a four-legged friend into your life for the next decade or more.

I have taken my dog to off-leash parks ever since she was a couple months old, and I have never had a problem with her or another dog getting into a fight, nor have I ever witnessed one.

When I'm about a mile away from the park, Maia begins barking and jumping around in the car, knowing where we are going. It really is one of the best feelings, knowing that I am going to be looked at like a god for the rest of the day.

Getting my dog out to a park to play with other dogs is worth the wet and stinky

smell that stays in the car for days. Also, going to the dog park exhausts her, so she falls right asleep when we get home.

No matter what time of day it is, the park is always filled with a variety of different breeds of all different sizes.

I understand that there have been incidents of people throwing meat filled with poison in off-leash parks, trying to make dogs ill. To tell you the truth, that has never crossed my mind.

Off-leash dog parks aren't places that you drop your dog off and leave for a few hours. I always have my eyes on my dog so I don't see how the could get sick.

Even without an off-leash dog park, living in Ellensburg and getting outside time with my dog isn't an issue.

I go to Rotary park almost every other day to let her run off in the big fields, but since the park has a law to always have a leash on your dog, it is hard to get other people to let their dogs run free and play.

I think it would be a major benefit for dog owners in our community if there was a designated off-leash dog park in Ellensburg for many reasons.

One reason would be that I wouldn't have to worry about my dog going after any squirrels, birds or deer if she is in a fenced area.

Another would be that I wouldn't have to risk getting in trouble with the law for not having my dog on a leash.

There are times that I don't want to walk around the neighborhood or hike up the ridge when there are cold temperatures and high winds in the 'Burg. Maybe I just want to bundle up with a cup of coffee and talk to other dog owners while our dogs run, jump, dig and slobber on each other.

Lastly, it is a great place to meet girls. So I say, who lets the dogs out?

Or maybe not

I'll never take my dog to any dog park



BY JAMIE WINTER / PHOTO EDITOR

I see your dirty looks and overly cautious behavior, but maybe your dog is the problem, not mine. Being a very proud mommy of a Rotweiler comes with a certain level of awareness of how others view my baby. I know my Rott, Boomee, will not become aggressive towards anyone or another dog, but he will react when confronted — especially when another dog is being aggressive towards him.

Do not sit there and tell me your dog just doesn't like mine and I should remove him because he is making your dog uncomfortable. I have owned six Rotts in my life — never have they acted aggressive — so stop and think before you ask me to remove my dog.

Off-leash dog parks pose problems and no one ever seems to recognize them until it's too late. There is a high level of risk associated with attending any dog park and even more with off-leash dog parks. Owners often forget to keep their dogs up on vaccinations or even properly deal with socialization issues.

Illness can spread fast in dogs and they can often be sick before the owner even realizes there is a problem.

Parvo is a common problem among many young dogs (Rotts have an especially weak immune system to it.) Parvo leads to deaths every year because young dogs are exposed to the disease and not properly vaccinated against it. They then go on walks or attend dog parks and spread it unknowingly. Once parvo is in the ground or in your house it takes more than six months for it to die, making a park particularly dangerous once one dog has been there with parvo, even once.

Dog parks are meant to provide an opportunity to socialize your dog with other dogs, but it should not be the first thing you do when you bring a puppy or adult dog home. It is a scary and intense situation for them and you just threw them in expecting them to be fine. Some dogs are very far from fine.

I have heard the horror stories of people taking their dogs to off-leash dog parks and seeing them be attacked for no good reason or even having seen their dog turn to aggression for no reason. I know I would be an absolute wreck if I saw my dog be attacked or attack another dog.

The fact of the matter is dogs are like children: Not everyone is going to get along and you can't just expect them to.

Unfortunately, the sad but true story is that if a dog were to attack my Rott, he would be the first ordered to be put-down because he is the "bully" breed and there is little to nothing I could do about it once the decision is made.

I love my dog like he is my child, and I would never put him or myself in a situation where I would risk losing him, so that means no dog parks.

I know not everyone is irresponsible with their dogs, but I'm not risking his safety for something as trivial as a chance to run free with other dogs. If he wants that, we go visit my parent's property where they have four Rotts of their own, two of which are my puppy's parents.

I only want the best for him and that means being well aware of the potential risk that can come with his breed and the perception of it.

Until people can stop judging my dog on his breed, or until more controls and restrictions are associated with dog parks, he will not be allowed anywhere near them.

SEE RELATED STORIES ON PAGES 3 AND 10

In the mind of Mia: To be a Disney Princess or not



BY MIA PATTERSON / COPY DESK CHIEF

Ever since I was little, I always dreamed of becoming a Disney Princess.

The leading ladies whom I looked up to were both thin and beautiful. Their gowns were stunning, and

they could generally hit notes that I could only dream of.

As time went on, I would tell people that my dream job was to be a Disney Princess and that I was attending college for a fallback career, just in case the Disney Princess thing didn't quite work out.

Yes, I am well aware that I will never be an actual Disney Princess. However, the idea of being royalty, having a kick-ass singing voice and having a handsome soul mate sounds quite enticing.

Yet, over time as I matured, I have come to realize that there are more negative underlying tones throughout Disney

films than I had realized at the ripe age of 10.

The sexism and the lack of strong female Disney characters and princesses was brought to my attention almost as soon as I set foot on campus three years ago. Until then, I had never realized just how weak the women of Disney were in the classic Disney films.

Take the older movies such as "Beauty and the Beast," "Snow White," "Sleeping Beauty" and "The Little Mermaid" and compare them to the more recent Disney releases such as "Brave," "Frozen" and "Princess and the Frog." The similarities lead me to believe that Disney storylines generally carry weak feminine characters throughout their animated classics.

I am incredibly guilty of watching the movies and listening to the music, not to mention that I go to Disneyland any chance that I can. But after analyzing the different films from a young scholar's perspective, I am a bit disgusted in not only

the weak roles that these females tend to play, but also the lack of educational development they exhibit.

Prime examples of the lack of strong feminine characters include, but are not limited to: the term "damsel in distress" (Hercules), meeting your one true love (almost every Disney movie), the women of Disney having to change their character to impress their crush ("The Little Mermaid," "Beauty and the Beast," etc.), and my personal favorite is the end where they "lived happily ever after" because the prince saved the princess.

I believe that everyone should watch a Disney movie at one point in their life, keeping in mind that yes, there are underlying tones of race and sexism and cultural discernment. But Disney represents so much more on the grand scale of things.

To me, Disney represents childhood and laughter; Disney represents family and friends; and Disney represents who I am.

Disney is something that has always been there for me growing up, and it al-

lows me to relate to that which is non-existent, yet something that I am proud to be a part of.

When I was younger, I was raised on Disney movies, and now I repeatedly tell people when they are stressed and need a break to go home and watch a Disney movie. I've watched the movies, sang along with them and darn near cried with them.

Disney has played a major role in helping me define myself for the kind of princess I would want to be, not the one that society thinks I should be.

I don't care if you love or hate Disney, and I don't wish to sway your views.

I only wish to stress that you can still be a Disney princess, and a great one at that, without having to bow down to the negativity that has been swarming Disney films and Disney as a whole for some time now.

Don't give into the temptation of the negative connotation my friends — stand strong and break the norms.

Be your own Disney princess, as I will continue to strive to be mine.

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CRITICS CORNER

Movie Review: Snow on Tha Bluff

“Either you gonna be the one doin’ it, or it gonna get done to yo ass.”

BY SPENCER BAKER
 Staff Reporter



“Snow on tha Bluff” is the most exciting and “real” documentary I have seen in a long time.

The movie follows Curtis Snow, a

real life drug dealer, in a part of Atlanta that people call “the bluff.”

Most of the movie is Snow and his crew standing outside their apartments talking about whose drugs and money they’re going to steal next.

Once you get past the cryptic English that the crew uses, and all of the horrible things that Snow is doing, you can’t help but to think to your self, “I really like this Snow guy.”

The camera work in this movie is not great because it is one of Snow’s crew members following him around.

Soon after Snow robs his first victims of all of their money and drugs, Snow goes to see

his baby mamma to give her some money for their child.

Snow seems to have a good relationship with his baby’s mama. During the conversation they have together, you see that this is not the only child she has. She is standing outside with about five other kids including Snow’s.

I surely hope that Snow’s baby mamma is running a day care, although I don’t

believe that she is.

Chris Knittel, the producer of this movie, marketed it in a whole new way: Knittel would put clips of the movie on VHS tapes and put them around town covered in dirt and blood for people to find. These tapes had no markings or back-stories attached to them.

Knittel would also send these envelopes, with no return address, to police of-

fices and government officials. He called this “Operation Stir Up Shit” and that is exactly what it did.

After the movie came out Snow survived an attack from a man with a box cutter. Snow was also featured in TI’s music video. Gucci Mane referenced Snow in one of his songs and Killer Mike released a song named after the movie.

The biggest rapper to say something about the movie is B.O.B. He said that his “F*** Em We Ball” mixtape is based on this movie.

On the surface, this movie seems just like a shoot em’ up gangbang flick, but really once you watch it, you realize that it is not these peoples’ choices to live in these situations.

My favorite quote from the movie is “either you gonna be the one doin’ it, or it gonna get done to yo ass.”

“Snow on Tha Bluff” is deeper then one may think and has a very strong social message about living in these tough neighborhoods and that not everyone that lives there is a scary psychopath.

Overall, I highly suggest watching this movie. You will not be disappointed.



Movie Review: Blue Jasmine

“I don’t think I can take it. For some reason, my Xanax isn’t kicking in.”

BY CAMILLE BORODEY
 Assistant Scene Editor



Due to the recent abuse allegations against “Blue Jasmine’s” writer and director, Woody Allen, Cate Blanchett’s chances of winning best actress may be slightly

tarnished, which is a shame (for her not, Allen) because Blanchett delivers a tour de force performance as a woman on the verge of cracking at any second.

Blanchett plays Jasmine, a spoiled New York socialite, who moves to San Francisco to live with her working class sister, Ginger (Sally Hawkins).

Trying to get her life together, Jasmine begrudgingly takes a job as a receptionist at a dentist’s office and begins taking online classes so she can become an interior designer.

Jasmine is possibly the most dislikeable protagonist in any film of 2013. She’s extremely snobby and self-centered, and she also constantly belittles Ginger’s boyfriend, Chili (Bobby Cannavale). “You choose losers because that’s what you think you deserve, and that’s why you’ll never have a better life,” Jasmine tells Ginger.

Upon arriving at Ginger’s apartment,



Jasmine can barely hide her discontent for the small place. “It’s got a casual charm,” Jasmine remarks in a condescending tone. Even though she is completely broke after her ex-husband is sent to prison, Jasmine still insists on wearing designer clothes, which are usually a shade of white or beige, and she flies first-class.

Throughout the film, Jasmine reflects on her relationship with her ex-husband Hal (Alec Baldwin), a wealthy businessman. While Hal showers her with jewelry and other expensive gifts, Jasmine turns a blind eye to the fact that Hal is clearly a crook. Hal’s scheming even played a part

in the demise of Ginger’s first marriage.

Even though Jasmine has a classist attitude, Allen still makes viewers feel sympathy for her. She may be very selfish and delusional, but Jasmine is also suffering from mental illness, and she often talks to herself in public. It doesn’t help that she numbs her pain by constantly mixing prescription pills with alcohol.

Blanchett is stunning in her role. Jasmine is a very dramatic person, but Blanchett’s performance never feels like too much. She portrays Jasmine with a variety of emotions. One moment she is happily basking in her own glory and the

next she is a drunken mess, mumbling to herself about her cheating ex-husband.

The film’s heart lies in the relationship between Ginger and Chili. Jasmine cannot seem to fathom how her sister Ginger, who bags groceries for a living, would ever want to be with Chili, a mechanic. Although their relationship is threatened when Ginger has a brief affair with a man she meets at a party (Louis C.K.), Ginger and Chili’s love prevails. Their relationship may not be perfect, but the couple proves money isn’t a necessary factor for maintaining an endearing relationship, a concept Jasmine cannot seem to grasp.

I’m also pleased to see Sally Hawkins receive an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress. Hawkins is a very underrated actress and always a delight.

Allen is no stranger to writing movies about neurotic characters, but “Blue Jasmine” may be his most heart wrenching film. Jasmine is not a horrible person, but a woman in denial of her own mental illness.

“Anxiety, nightmares and a nervous breakdown, there’s only so many traumas a person can withstand until they take to the streets and start screaming.” Jasmine tells her nephews when they question her mental state.

Sex, Drugs and Techno

BY AARON KUNKLER
Staff Reporter

Feb. 8 was a cold one. Layer upon layer of snow kept tumbling down in Ellensburg, but at A State of Bass, it was a different story.

Electronic Dance Music (EDM) is safely assumed to be the country's hottest musical trend right now. With artists like Daft Punk rapping charts and garnering Grammys, it makes sense that rave music and culture would be working its way into Ellensburg. Trapped Production brought their game face with the latest Ellensburg party, treat-

ing the willing to hours of nonstop bass-heavy music.

Held at the fairgrounds, the thumping kicks could be heard across the parking lot, but most else appeared normal.

Inside, it was a different story. With the house lights off, the spacious room was illuminated by an array of multi-colored lights and lasers while multi-colored circles and geometric patterns played across every wall. A side stage was occupied by a girl spinning a neon hula hoop; guys with LED tipped finger gloves concert their hands into all kinds of tracer-filled shapes.

On the main stage, go-go dancers flail

their bodies to the rhythms the DJs spin from the platform, centered in front of a crowd of party-goers moving to the beat.

One song breaks as the sub woofers kick in; the crowd slows. A robotic voice starts talking, and the bass and leads of the song begin to gain momentum.

Go-go's start revving up, and the crowd matches the energy. Suddenly there's dead silence, then the track drops, the crowd explodes into a sea of movement, and the cycle begins again.

Going to a rave now days, it's hard to imagine that EDM hasn't been in the foregrounds of popular music for longer than

it has been.

Local DJs remember a time not too long ago, when there was nothing but the smallest of dance scenes in Ellensburg. Hashim Elberier, a local DJ and producer known as Oujo, as well as a student at Central, is one of the longer running acts in the valley. As an EDM artist and jazz musician, he enjoys a broad range of music.

"I honestly don't have a favorite genre," Elberier said. "I'm great at House, but I love all music."

There's an immense selection of genres within electronic music. Genres such as Hardstyle, to Dubstep and House, Trap to

Central students discuss EDM scene

BY CHELSEA ALEAGA
Staff Reporter

Picture hundreds of young, sweaty and spiced people dancing for hours to music loud enough to burst eardrums. That's exactly what a night of being lost in Electronic Dance Music (EDM) feels like.

It's no secret that in the past few years, EDM events and festivals have taken over the music scene. Bringing the right group of people to one location, who all love the same music, is said to be an unforgettable experience.

Donna Steffensen, senior exercise science major, is an avid event and festival-goer and EDM junkie.

With so many upcoming events such as Coachella, Life in Color and Paradiso to attend in the next few months, Steffensen cannot get enough.

"These events bring people together," Steffensen said. "So many people laughing, dancing and hugging; it's incredible."

The EDM scene has a lot of speculations of heavy drug usage, but drug use is a huge part of other music scenes as well. With the death that occurred at last year's Paradiso Festival, the drug speculations only got stronger.

"People began to notice drugs were involved with the scene," Hannah Baumeister, senior and sociology major, said. "It has begun to turn into a scene entirely revolved around drugs instead of around music and love. That's where it's going wrong."

Baumeister first started listening to EDM as a freshman. She met many different groups of people by getting into the scene. She's even made lifelong friends, and she thinks people are in the scene for the wrong reasons.

"For those who are only going for the

drugs, they need to find a new scene," Baumeister said.

Even with all the speculations and misunderstandings about the scene, it's obvious that EDM is a type of music for people to have fun to.

"It's a time and place where we can all reunite and let loose and truly connect," Trevor Schultz, undeclared junior, said. "It's about music, love and mutually respecting your fellow human beings."

Schultz grew up playing video games and was always fascinated by the electronic sounding soundtracks.

"I have a theory that because our generation grew up while video games were becoming popular, it plays a huge part in shaping our interest for electronic sounding music," Schultz said.

Chris Hashimoto, senior and exercise science major, was not a fan of EDM when he first listened to it.

"I'm heavy into rap and R&B," Hashimoto said, "but after my first event, I haven't looked back."

Hashimoto reluctantly bought his ticket



styles of both Rap and EDM.

"I love the bass," Steffensen said. "I feel like the bass in trap music is 100 times heavier and more fun."

Apart from the people and the music, event and festival marketers know how to sell to their market.

"The fact that these events look so big and expensive makes us think it will be worth our time and money," Jason Feller, senior GIS major, said.

However, Feller thinks that companies like USO are marketing their events for younger audiences.

"I see myself growing out of the scene pretty soon," Feller said. "Each time I go to a festival, the people look younger and younger. I see these festivals as a good opportunity to have fun and let loose while I'm still young."

Going to festivals and events seem to be the hip thing to be attending nowadays. Schultz thinks everyone wants to be a part of the mainstream.

"I think a lot of people try to fit themselves into the scene just to be cool. People just want to fit in and be a part of something popular," Schultz said.

It seems as if EDM is just a trending music genre, but in actuality, it's a worldwide phenomenon. Music festivals overseas are a even bigger deal than in the U.S.

Past all the speculations and rumors, EDM is the type of music that can bring the most diverse groups of people together to have fun. It's all about having fun, enjoying the music and making memories.

Knowing the subgenres

BY SPENCER BAKER
Staff Reporter



Many people do not know the difference between all of the sub-genres of EDM. There is House, Dubstep, Trap, Drum&Bass and many more genres that all compile to make EDM.

House music is probably the most popular sub-genere right now. What gives house its specific sound is the steady bass that hits every 128

beats per minute (BPM). House makes you want to jump up and down waving your arms in the air.

Most of the "pop" music that is coming out today is very similar to house music, for example the song "Wake Me Up" by Avicii, or anything on the radio by David Guena. For other great house producers, check out Tiesto, Benny Benassi or Zedd.

The next most popular genre is Dubstep, known for its dirty synths at 70 BPM.

It makes you want to bang your head and rock to the slower, more drawn out synths compared to house. Skrillex is the producer that brought Dubstep to the general public with his massive hit, "Scary Monsters" and "Nice Spites."

Other Dubstep producers to listen to are Dr. P, Dasik and Zedd; Dead.

The most recent explosion of a genre in the EDM scene has been Trap. Trap was brought into the general public by the song "Hadem Shake" by Baauer. With the 30 million "Hadem Shake" videos posted to YouTube every day, it is almost impossible to not hear that song.

Trap sounds like a hip-hop beat without the rapper. There are no real set BPM with trap, but the dead give away that it is a trap song is the quick, very tight rolls of snare drums and high hats. Many of the producers will sample hip-hop songs in their trap songs.

Other trap producers are, Flosswada-

mas, Brills and Jakayl.

The final sub-genere of EDM is drum 'n' bass. Also known as D'n'B, it sounds like very fast Dubstep.

The genre is characterized by very fast break beats. The BPM stays between 160 and 180 and has a very heavy bass and sub-bass lines.

Drum 'n' Bass has not had a huge breakout into the general public but artists to listen to are Noisia, Ran DMT and Pendulum.

EDM is very popular right now and people need to know just exactly what EDM consists of. It is not a straight forward genre and has many influences on all kinds of music.

ology: The rise of EDM

Drum&Bass were represented at A State of Bass.

Jeppack Brigade is a Seattle-Ellensburg based duo, which has played shows ranging from house parties to events in Seattle and produces original music. Comprised of Andrew Jenkins and a DJ, Coco, they laid down a heavy set at the show.

"Jeppack Brigade is bass music therapy for your enjoyment," Coco said.

Coco expressed excitement over the direction that EDM and their personal involvement with it has taken.

"The goal is, within the next few years, to be well known not just in Washington,

but across the Northwest," Andrew said.

Aleks Kimball-Moreno, known as Owlz, graduated from Central in 2012 and is currently based out of Bellingham. He is well known in the Ellensburg music scene, and he has strong feelings about his favorite type of music to spin.

"You wanna listen to the best genre of music ever? Listen to D 'n' B!" Moreno said.

All of them remember the small group of DJs and EDM fans that helped dance music reach the lofty position it currently holds in popular culture.

The first event held outside of house

parties was called "Where the Wild Things Are", and since its meager beginnings, it's enjoyed widespread success.

Even clubs around town like 301, which traditionally has played hip hop, has gotten on board. Arguably this is due in no small part to the effort made at 88.1 The 'Burg by hometown heroes Chris Pearce, known as Acropora, and Will Jones.

Pearce has been producing music for years, and working at the station for around five, tirelessly promoting EDM and generating interest.

"People were very open, they absorbed it very quickly," Pearce said about recep-

tion around Ellensburg.

It's evident the energy that dance music and events hold. Party-goers danced all night, right up until the lights came on around 2 a.m.

As the crowd began filtering out, the often unsung champions of the night, the security team, kept a watchful eye, ensuring the event ended as safely as it had begun.

Anyone looking for something a bit more involved to do on the weekends should keep their ears peeled for upcoming raves and maybe take up the local talent on their offer to provide some bass therapy:

Inside Look: Central EDM Producers

BY MARIA HARR
Staff Reporter

Alex Kim

Alex Kim, a junior in the clinical physiology major, started as a DJ before producing his own Electro-house and progressive house music.

Inspired by artists like Mar Z and Porter Robinson, Kim says he likes sharing EDM music with different people.

"I want to be able to establish my sound and make music people genuinely enjoy," Kim said. He suggests people try going to EDM events, even by themselves, as attendees are generally very friendly.

Kim is happy that the scene around EDM has gotten as big as it has. He thinks it is unfortunate that people always associate EDM with drugs and huge partying.

"Drugs shouldn't be only associated with [the EDM scene]. They're in all types of music," Kim said. "EDM festivals promote peace and love."

Chris Pearce

Known as "Chris the Producer," the host of Electropolis on 88.1 The Burg, Chris Pearce, has been enjoying EDM since the early 2000's.

As the programming coordinator at The Burg, Pearce hears all kinds of different music while working, which helps him create his own music. Inspiration for him for any particular song comes from other successful artists in the genre. When Pearce is listening to music for pleasure, he listens to music very different from EDM.

"I have a hard time focusing on one sub-genre because I appreciate all types of music," Pearce said.

Depending on what mood he's in, Pearce makes music ranging from House to Electro-house or drum and bass.

"Without a focus on vocals, EDM is an international language. Everyone is hearing the same thing," Pearce said.

Pearce's show, "Electropolis," airs from 10-12 a.m. every Friday.

Jacob Kostenick

Hearing EDM on the Internet and from friends, Jacob Kostenick found it a music style he truly enjoyed.

"I liked it so much, I'm really passionate about it, so I make it now," Kostenick, a computer science junior, said.

He prefers trance, a sub-genre of EDM that is more melodic, but rarely likes anything under 134 BPM. Kostenick says a lot of trance is getting slower nowadays, which he doesn't like, despite movements to keep it faster and not let the faster style die out.

Despite his love of the music, Kostenick isn't as much a fan of the EDM scene.

"I'm only really into the music," Kostenick said, adding that he doesn't attend festivals or clubs because they don't usually play what he likes. "I feel like a lot of people who say they like EDM don't necessarily like the music, but they like the idea of what it represents, like raves."

Right now he's working on getting better at what he does before sending out demos to the labels of his dreams, Silence Shore Recording or Vendace Records.

Alex Silvi

With years of producing hip-hop under his belt, film and video junior Alex Silvi came across Dubstep, a subgenre of electronic dance music, (EDM) and he switched his focus.

"I wasn't even sure [Dubstep] was a thing," Silvi said.

Silvi's creative process starts with drums. Having been a drummer for 12 years, he wants to make sure the drums are perfect.

After his EDM start with Dubstep and Trap, Silvi now enjoys making relaxing, chill music that's around the same speed as Dubstep.

At the moment, Silvi has many unfinished projects, which he feels is due to a perfectionist attitude towards his music.

"I'm just really picky. I want everything to be perfect," Silvi said.

Silvi thinks most of the money producers and DJs make is through shows and festivals, and he isn't very worried about selling his music. Silvi says he wouldn't be mad if someone downloaded his work for free, "as long as they're listening to the music."

He has plans to DJ his own music at shows and festivals once he's built up a solid set-list.

"I just wanna make people dance; make people feel the music," Silvi said.

Jackson Halford

Psychology sophomore Jackson Halford saw the opportunity to make EDM on his own time and decided to jump in and start producing it himself.

"It wasn't a life changing decision," Halford said.

Instead, he just decided one day to start. His work is very spontaneous; Halford says he'll get a drum pattern or simple lead and just start creating.

"[Creating] isn't really a process," Halford said. "Creative flow kind of just happens."

Halford started by making Dubstep but recently has been making house and electro-house.

He says Dubstep is not as formulaic and allows for a good deal of freedom in sounds to use and patterns one can make.

With the advent of EDM's popularity, Halford thinks it's great that it's becoming something many people are listening to. On the flip side, he sees where popularity is bringing in bandwagoners who make "cookie cutter" songs for easy money.

Halford feels that when the hype over EDM stops, the music will start to get better.

Halford makes many songs without sharing them, just for the experience of it, and finds it hard to ever consider a song complete.

"Once you're truly 'done,' you'll look back on it and think, wow, that's awful," Halford said.

For full listings of upcoming Seattle EDM events, visit <http://emeraldcityedm.com/>

Students juggle pet and school responsibilities

BY JUSTIN MERRELL
Staff Reporter

It is relatively common for students to own pets. On a warm summer day, students will walk with their dogs through campus, and all through the year they will fill their social media profiles with pictures of their pets.

Being a college student and a pet owner can be a balancing act. Managing class schedules, homework, part-time jobs, and a social life, all while caring for a pet, is a complex formula.

"It's a challenge owning a pet in college," Nicole Mickelson, senior psychology and sociology major, said.

Mickelson brings her family dog Duke, a three-year-old Black Lab/Gordon Setter, to school with her for months at a time.

Mickelson notes that the companionship and unconditional love that animals provide can help students forget about the trials and tribulations of college.

Additionally, having a dog can add structure to a student's day — although the responsibility is a double-edged sword.

"It can be stressful," Mickelson said. "Especially because Duke's so big, and we have such a small apartment...I'm definitely thinking about him when I'm in class."

Mickelson feels it's unfair to leave him waiting around all day, so she alleviates

her anxiety by coming home in between classes to let Duke out, play fetch and eat.

Dogs also require space, a luxury most college students do not have and Mickelson encourages future dog owners to 'ratio' the size of their dog to the size of their place.

A strain student pet owners can face is cost. According to senior physics major Austin Stone, pet food isn't cheap and visits to the veterinarian are expensive.

Another complication Stone faces is scheduling his day. Students

may have to give up certain social aspects of their life in order to care for their pet.

"You essentially have to plan around your dog," Stone said.

Stone manages school, a part-time job, and his dog Pepper, a blue heeler/Australian shepherd but feels the experience has made him a more organized person.

He advised students aspiring to own a pet to make sure they have the time to care for their animal. Stone also warned the time and effort required may detract from study hours for school.

Stone said it is challenging, "especially because my major involves a lot of homework hours and a full weeks schedule, but it's been a really rewarding experience."

Stone felt a leashless pet park would be beneficial for the community. With a high

amount of student pet owners around campus, the park would provide a great place for fellow owners to socialize and let animals play.

"It would be really cool [to have a leashless pet park]," Bryce Todd, senior recreation and tourism

major, said, "especially for students with bigger dogs that need to get out, run and release their energy."

Todd lives with three roommates and Mack, a bulldozer of a pug, where the additional support of roommates takes most of the stress out of owning a pet.

"These last few years I've been really wishing there was a dog park," Mickelson said, "because there aren't many places in Ellensburg to take dogs and let them play off their leash."

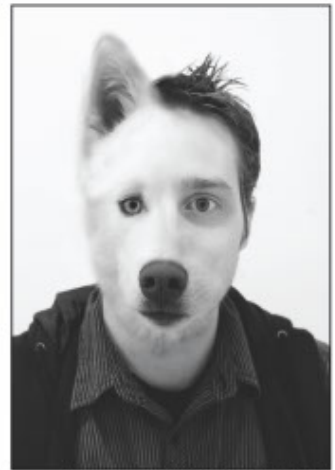


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JAMIE WINTER



It can be stressful ... Especially because Duke's so big, and we have such a small apartment...I'm definitely thinking about him when I'm in class.

-Nicole Mickelson
Senior psychology and sociology major

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Professor wants to honor historic team

BY RACHEL CHARLTON
Staff Reporter

The date is April 17, 1896. Nearly 500 spectators have crowded into the University of Washington's Armory Hall to watch the second-ever women's intercollegiate basketball competition between the women from the University of Washington and Washington State (Ellensburg) Normal School.

Despite being held in Seattle, many Ellensburg residents made the trek over the mountains to watch the game. UW's student publication, the *Pacific Wave* wrote of a "lively crowd" with both Ellensburg and Seattle spectators cheering on their respective teams. UW's chant however, was credited with rousing the defending team to renewed efforts, resulting in a 2-1 win over visiting Ellensburg.

The UW women played two more games that year, both shutouts, against Seattle Athletic Club (14-0) and the YMCA (16-0).

Nelson Pichardo, a sociology professor at Central, became intrigued with the history of women's sports at Central after learning of this game between Ellensburg Normal School and the University of Washington. Pichardo's interest increased as it became apparent that this important piece of history that put Central on a national level was unbeknownst to nearly everyone on campus. Even a book on Central's history, "By Teaching We Learn," failed to mention the revolutionary game.

"Naturally, I found this fact of interest, but what amazed me was that there was no institutional memory of this," Pichardo said. "No one on campus knew anything about this. Given our unique contribution to the history of women's sport, I felt that it was something that ought to be remembered and celebrated."

Not only does this revelation in Central sports history show just how far women athletics has come since the 1896 game, but it also puts Washington State Normal School in the national spotlight for the advancement of women in sports.

Prior to Title IX, the federal law that gave women the right to participate in sports on a plane equal to that of men, women's involvement in sports was extremely restricted.

During the 19th century women took part in "activities" rather than "sports." Purely recreational, these activities were non-competitive and often had no rules. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, women began forming clubs that emphasized a more athletic and competitive atmosphere. These efforts were opposed frequently by both men and women who felt that women shouldn't be involved in sports.

Senda Berenson of Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, is credited as being the visionary to bring basketball to women in 1892. The game itself, however, had been invented the year before by James Naismith of Springfield Massachusetts's YMCA School, who needed a game for men to play during harsh winters to release pent-up testosterone.

Men worried that women's participation might lead to "nervous fatigue" if the games became too strenuous. In agreement, Berenson made specific rules to lessen the possibility of women becoming fatigued or un-ladylike during a game.

As per Berenson's rules, women participating in a game of basketball could not snatch the ball away from an opponent



PHOTO COURTESY OF CWU LIBRARY ARCHIVES

BALLERS The 1903 Washington State Normal School (now Central Washington University) women's basketball team poses for a team picture. This is the earliest picture Central has of the women's basketball team.

or hold the ball or dribble for more than three seconds. Berenson also divided the court into three sections and required that players stay in their assigned areas. These rules would hopefully prevent young ladies from losing their grace and dignity and self-respect. Another rule was a required center jump after each score.

Basketball quickly spread across the country to colleges and universities alike, but was limited to women as an intramural activity.

The first sanctioned women's intercollegiate sport competition was originally a tennis tournament between Bryn Mawr and Vassar colleges. The tournament was canceled, however, as the Vassar faculty did not yet approve of women participating in competition between institutions. Basketball

then, by fault, was the first women's intercollegiate sport.

Preceding the Ellensburg vs. UW game by two weeks, Stanford had beaten University of California-Berkeley 2-1 on April 4 to claim the winning title of women's first intercollegiate contest.

Stanford had challenged the Berkeley team to a game to which Berkeley agreed to only under certain requirements. Under Berkeley's conditions, the game was held at a neutral (indoor) site: San Francisco's Armory Hall and only women were allowed to be in attendance.

Typical of the era, the women wore black serge pleated bloomers, white mid-dy blouses and black elkskin-soled shoes

while still sporting school colors.

The game consisted of two 20-minute halves with coaching only allowed during halftime. At the end of the first half the score was tied 1-1. Before halftime, however, one of the baskets had fallen and two repairmen were sent in to reposition it. Upon the arrival of the men, the Berkeley team reportedly screamed and retreated to a corner while the Stanford women paid the men little attention.

It was after a Berkeley foul that Stanford made the winning free-throw, upping the score 2-1.

After the game great interest and enthusiasm was generated by both those in attendance and from the media. It was after this ground-breaking game that basketball was felt to be an entirely appropriate activity for young women. The favorable newspaper coverage and the behavior of both teams during this first game allowed women to continue participation in the sport.

In the weeks that followed the Ellensburg vs. UW game, newspapers reported that the teamwork of the university was "far superior" to that of Ellensburg, although the Normal School's "goal throwers" were undoubtedly more accurate in their work. Ellensburg's flaw, it was determined, was their inferior field work that limited them to one goal.

As recorded in the April 22 issue of the Ellensburg *Localizer*, one of Kittitas Valley's newspapers prior to the *Daily Record*, stated, "The game was very exciting from start to finish...Our girls were at a disadvantage in many respects, but, nevertheless, played a fine game."

Debate between the teams had delayed the start of the game as it had to be determined which ball would be used and which rules would govern the game. The Ellensburg team was used to practicing with a lighter ball and played by the Ladies Rules of 1896, while the University women used the YMCA rules of 1892. In the end, Ellensburg agreed to play with a ball that was over regulation weight. The large Amory Hall also inhibited Ellensburg since they practiced in a smaller gymnasium (the basement of Barge Hall) and had not yet learned how to pass the ball, as is normal in larger settings.

Basketball continued to sweep the Kittitas Valley. A decade and a half later, according to Ellensburg's *Normal Outlook*, a student publication that ran from 1899 to 1914, it appeared that, "The whole school—barring a few exceptions—was divided into teams and that some of these were playing continuously—nights and Sundays excepted."

Unfortunately, the 100th anniversary in 1996 of the Ellensburg vs. UW game went unnoticed. In an effort to celebrate women's sports history at Central, Pichardo has a plan in motion to commemorate the next big milestone.

"I have been trying to organize a celebration of the 120th anniversary of the game in 2016. I broached this idea to President Gaudino, and he concurred that this was worthwhile," Pichardo explained. "I invite anyone on campus who would like to further this goal to contact me. Since we are already scheduled to play UW in the 2016 preseason, I thought it would be a neat idea to recreate the game and celebrate how far women have come in sport."

"Naturally, I found this fact of interest but what amazed me was that there was no institutional memory of this. No one on campus knew anything about this. Given our unique contribution to the history of women's sport, I felt that it was something that ought to be remembered and celebrated."

-Nelson Pichardo
Sociology Professor

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Central looks to sneak into GNAC tourney

BY CHACE DAVY
Staff Reporter

After winning six of eight games and sitting in fourth place in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference, the Central Washington University men's basketball team took a turn for the worse, losing four straight and falling to seventh in the GNAC.

Their most recent loss, featured on ROOT Sports, was a thriller against in-state rival Western. With the game tied at 91 and just 2.6 seconds left on the clock, Western guard Richard Woodworth sank a half-court shot as the buzzer sounded to end Central's bid for an upset.

With just two games left in the regular season, a lot needs to go right for the Wildcats to gain a berth in the GNAC tournament.

Central needs both teams that have not clinched a playoff spot ahead of them in the standings, Montana State Billings and Western Oregon, to suffer at least one loss in the final week of the regular season.

The Wildcats need to win both of their remaining games to end up in a tie in the GNAC standings.

They're certainly going to have a shot at making that come true when they play against Billings in the last game of the season on Saturday.

"We have to play like every play is a game-winning play," freshman guard Marc Rogers said.

The Wildcats' game tonight is at home against the No. 13 nationally ranked Seacrest



AMBER WOOD/OBSERVER

INSIDE POSITION Senior forward JB Pillard III lays the ball in against Simon Fraser earlier in the season. Pillard is averaging 14.4 points and 8 boards on the season.

de Pacific University, which boasts a 13-3 GNAC record.

Containing a top-scoring attack, such as the one that SPU has, is going to be big in coming out victorious on Thursday.

One of the keys to success against SPU

will be limiting its offensive rebounds, which is something that SPU has done very well over the course of the season.

SPU heads to Ellensburg fresh off of an overtime loss against Montana State Billings, one of the teams that Central is

competing against for the last spot in the GNAC tournament.

"The biggest thing we have to do is put two halves of basketball together," head coach Greg Spading said.

Spading was referring to their recent games against both Alaska Anchorage and Alaska Fairbanks, in which the Wildcats held a double-digit lead at halftime and watched it slip away in the second half of play.

The Wildcats have remained confident in themselves, despite the current losing streak. Central is looking to give SPU back-to-back losses for the first time since Jan. 4, when they lost to both Western Oregon and Saint Martin's in a three-day span.

"We have to take it one game at a time," senior guard Mark McLaughlin said.

Thursday's game against SPU is going to be a black out. Fans attending are encouraged to wear all black to the game.

Saturday's game against MSUB is senior night, and the coaches and players are encouraging everybody to show up and support the seniors on this year's squad.

The final two games are going to be very special for McLaughlin, who, earlier this year, became the fastest player in GNAC history to reach 1,000 points. This week is going to be McLaughlin's last games as an eligible Central basketball player.

"I'm just gonna go out there and give it everything I've got," McLaughlin said.

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SOFTBALL

Central's five game streak ends in Calif

BY JULIA SANDERSON
Staff Reporter

The Central Washington University women's softball team ended its five-game winning streak this past weekend, going 2-4 in California.

The Wildcats went 1-1 against Holy Names, 0-2 against Dominican and 1-1 against the Academy of Art, bringing their overall record to 7-4.

The Wildcats played each team twice over the weekend, playing Holy Names first. Central split the double header, winning game one 6-1 and losing the second 4-3.

The game two loss was the Wildcats' first loss of the season.

During game one, senior pitcher Maria Gau improved her pitching record to 3-1, giving up just one run during seven innings. Gau struck out six batters and walked just two.

"I think our strengths were pitching. Maria was really consistent," head coach Mallory Holtman-Fletcher said.

Freshman outfielder Sammy Morris and senior second baseman Jill McDaniels were strong offensively in game one against Holy Names. Morris was 2-2, driving in a runner with an RBI single in the fourth inning. McDaniels had a run scoring double in the third inning, where the Wildcats added three runs.

Freshman pitcher Kiana Wood started the second game. Wood struck out nine

batters and surrendered five walks, the last of which scored the winning run for Holy Names.

"It was a bit rough at the beginning, but I feel like our team was able to bond more," Wood said. "The seniors were positive and helped us to think about what was next."

The Wildcats then travelled to San Francisco and faced Dominican University, losing both games 2-1 and 3-1.

In game one Central was able to score first. Sophomore outfielder Remy Bradley drove in junior outfielder Katie Foche who reached base on an infield single earlier in the inning. Sadly, that was the last run for Central, which were held scoreless throughout the next five innings.

Gau threw all six innings, striking out four batters.

In game two Dominican scored first, scoring in the bottom half of the second inning on a single followed by an RBI triple. Central was able to tie up the score, driving in one runner in the fourth inning.

Senior first baseman Maikala Galuga reached base on a fielding error and later scored on an RBI single by starting pitcher Kiana Wood. Dominican came right back, scoring two runs in the bottom of the inning and won the game 3-1.

By day three of their California road trip, the Wildcats were looking to make a comeback.

McDaniels hit her fourth home run of the season and drove in a total of six runs, as the Wildcats split their two game series against the Academy of Art. The Wildcats won the first game 8-0 in five innings and lost the second game 12-10.

In game one Central racked up 11 singles. Maikala Galuga led the team with three RBIs in the game.

Gau, the starting pitcher, held the Academy of Art scoreless in the game, allowing just three hits while striking out two batters in five innings.

In game two the Academy of Art came out swinging. The two teams combined to record 28 hits and 22 runs in a back and

forth high-scoring game that the Academy of Art won.

The Academy of Art opened up the first inning by scoring four runs on three hits, taking an early 4-0 lead. Central then answered by scoring four runs in the third inning on a sacrifice fly by sophomore short stop Andrea Hamada, an RBI single by Wilkerson, and an RBI single by Foche.

The two teams continued the back-and-forth battle throughout the following innings. The Academy of Art scored two times in both the fifth and sixth innings to take the win.

"This weekend was a good learning opportunity for us. We had a few high moments and a few low moments but it was a great time for us to battle through those moments of adversity, especially early in the season," Gau said. "We had to battle from behind and come back. I'm excited about the obstacles that we are facing. I'm excited about how we are going to respond to adversity. We have two weeks till our league opener. California was a good chance to work out some kinks."

The Wildcats will play their next eight contests at home in Ellensburg, starting with a doubleheader against Simon Fraser on Saturday, March 8, at noon.

"We will be working on offense as well as confidence and really working on not playing down, remembering who we are," Holtman-Fletcher said.

"It was a bit rough at the beginning, but I feel like our team was able to bond more. The seniors were positive and helped us to think about what was next."

-Kiana Wood
Freshman pitcher

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CENTRAL CLUBWRESTLING

2014 NCWA Regional Tournament



DERRICK CLARIT/OBSERVER

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT The Central Washington club wrestling team practices before the regional tournament on March 1. Last year Central sent eight wrestlers to the National tournament, with five Regional champions.



MARCH 1

**REC CENTER COURTS C AND D
10 A.M.- 2 P.M.**

BY CHANCE WEEKS-WILLIAMS
Staff Reporter

For the second straight year Central Washington University wrestling will host the Regional tournament. This tournament will serve as a national qualifier for the National tournament for nine schools which are in the Northwest Region.

The top two wrestlers for each weight class will be given a bid to the national tournament, which will be held March 13-15. Each participant is seeded based off of their amount of wins. The number of rounds will vary on how many participants are in each weight class; there will be approximately 4-10 rounds for each participant.

Central Washington won the tournament last year with five champions and sent eight wrestlers to Nationals. They also are returning everyone this year, six of whom went to nationals. Captain Nick Bendon has two tournament wins under his belt and is hoping to win his weight class again. Bendon is currently ranked third in the nation with a 15-7 record.

Bendon finished sixth in the nation last year. Fellow teammate and Captain Steven Alf, made an assessment of Nick Bendon's potential.

"He could go all the way this year," Alf said. "He has to keep pushing the way he has been."

Bendon will be wrestling at the 157 pound weight class this year.

"My expectations of the team are to do better than we did last year," Bendon said. "By reclaiming the regional title and

at nationals placing top three as a team. I personally look to go undefeated for the remainder of the postseason, and win a national title, as well as a three time All American title."

Alf, who is ranked No. 13 in the nation, is looking forward to repeat this year as champion of the Northwest. He was just one match shy of placing in nationals. Alf wrestled at 174 pounds last year, but will be wrestling at 165 this year.

Newcomer, freshman Jake Ferris has really made an impact this season. He finished second in the most recent tournament the team had. He is a two sport athlete as well; he just walked on the Central Washington football team as a linebacker. On Saturday he will be wrestling in the 197 weight class.

Sophomore Andrew Vulliet will look to go farther this year in nationals after only winning one round in Texas. He won his weight class last year. "Everyone [at central] has a shot of winning their bracket this year," Vulliet said.

Central Washington is currently ranked 16th nationally in the coaches poll for Divisions one and two.

"We have a lot of potential this year and we have a good chance of succeeding this year, with several potential All Americans," Bendon said.

The tournament will be held on courts C and D in the Student Union and Recreation center. It will be five dollars for non-students and free for kids and Central Washington Student's (with ID's).

"We're expecting to win it back-to-back," Alf said.

THE NORTHWEST REGION

Central Washington	Douglas College
Eastern Washington	Evergreen State College
Idaho	Montana Western
South Puget Sound	Washington State
	Western Washington

CENTRAL'S WRESTLERS

Andrew Vulliet	125 lbs
Kyle Moore	133 lbs
Matt Yutse/Brent Evans	149 lbs
Cameron Thoreson/Nick Bendon	157 lbs
Steven Alf	165 lbs
Andrew Huerta	184 lbs
Jake Ferris	197 lbs
Kevin Madson/Zack McCarley	235 lbs

BASEBALL

'Cats open GNAC play vs. reigning champs



ZACH OLNEY/OBSERVER

FOULED BACK Junior infielder Kasey Bielec fouls a ball off in a game last year. Bielec is hitting .360 this year with two home runs and 5 RBIs.

BY QUIN WALKER
Staff Reporter

The Central Washington University baseball team will open up Great Northwest Athletic Conference play this weekend against conference rival Western Oregon. Both teams are coming off of California road trips. The Wildcats (4-4)

will host the Wolves (6-6) this Saturday at noon. Western Oregon has dominated this conference for the past decade, but the Wildcats believe this year they are the better team.

"They have been good for so long that every time we play [Western Oregon], we want to beat them," junior infielder Kasey Bielec said. "They are the best competi-

tion, in our eyes, in the league and getting over that hump will be a great confidence builder for us."

Pitching has been great to start off the season, but head coach Desi Storey highlighted the importance of getting the offense going as GNAC play rolls along.

"The games we've lost the last two weeks, we either haven't got the timely hit or we haven't gotten the bunt down," Storey said. "Offensively, we just gotta get going better. We are going to spend the week working on bunting and hopefully get outside the next couple of days."

One player who has been swinging it well is Bielec, who is the reigning GNAC Player of the Week. He comes into this series hitting .360 with two home runs and five RBIs. He also has been the Wildcats' most consistent hitter thus far and hopes it continues.

"It feels great to be GNAC Player of the Week. I felt like I had a good weekend. I saw the ball really well," Bielec said. "It was nice to have your swing feel good for an entire weekend. I just want to keep it going."

Bielec is ranked in the top five in the GNAC in batting average and home runs.

"He's been swinging it well. Kasey had a good weekend at the plate," Storey said. "He's working his butt off. We need him to keep hitting well."

A strength of this team has been the pitching staff. Hoping a team ERA of 3.06, the Wildcats' rotation has shown to be something the team can rely on. Senior

pitcher Skye Adams knows they have to be on point for this weekend's matchup against Western Oregon.

"We've always known Western Oregon is our best competition. Especially in our league, we won't face anybody better than them," Adams said. "They always have a good pitching staff. They always hit the ball really well. Pretty much our pitching just needs to be there like it has been the past two weeks, and hopefully our hitters can come through. They have proven they can hit better pitching."

The development of the program over the past three years has been enormous. From winning only 19 games in 2012, the Wildcats are coming off of a 30-win season. Bringing in out-of-state recruits and mixing in some junior college transfers has proved a formidable plan for building a program. It also helps to bring in talented assistant coaches as well, especially ones with experience, Bielec said.

"We took a huge step last year. Bringing [Rob] Hippi and [Ken] Wilson really got our recruiting up to a level it was not at my freshman year," Bielec said. "I think now people are starting to see Central Washington is a great place to play. I think if we can keep bringing in some good out-of-state guys and keep bringing in some JO guys who are committed to the program, I think we can even go higher."

The Wildcats' four-game series starts at noon at home on Saturday. Although weather permitting, the game has a possibility of being moved to Western Oregon.

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