Aiming for change

Day of the Dead
CDSJ celebrates traditional Mexican holiday

Road to Rio
CWU rugby alumni make Olympic team

PAGE 7

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

PAGE 3

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DERRICK CLARIT
D.C., three states put weed on ballot

Marijuana measures across the country could impact federal legality of the plant

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**Alaska - Ballot Measure 2**

Ballot Measure 2 will legalize recreational use of cannabis for people 21 and older. Residents will be allowed to possess one ounce of marijuana and six plants.

The ballot states that different parts of the marijuana plant could be tax-exempt for the manufacturers.

SOURCE: ALASKA.GOV

**Oregon - Measure 91**

Measure 91 will legalize recreational use of cannabis for people 21 and older. Residents will be allowed to possess eight ounces of marijuana and four plants.

Similar to Washington state, cannabis sales will be regulated by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

SOURCE: OREGONVOTES.ORG

**Florida - Amendment 2**

Amendment 2 will legalize medical marijuana in the state. Physicians would be allowed to prescribe marijuana to treat diseases such as cancer, Crohn’s disease “or other conditions for which a physician believes that the medical use of marijuana would likely outweigh the potential health risks for a patient.”

SOURCE: ELECTION.DOS.STATE.FL.US

**Washington D.C. - Initiative 71**

I-71 will allow residents to possess two ounces of marijuana and six plants.

While sale of the plant would still be illegal, residents may give another resident, who is 21 and older, up to one ounce of marijuana for free.

SOURCE: DCMJ.ORG

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Weekend sports information:

Sunday 5 p.m.

Letters to the editor:

Sunday 5 p.m.

Entertainment, meetings, calendar events, display ads, classified ads:

Friday 5 p.m.

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**CORRECTIONS:**

- In Issue 4, we incorrectly referred to the Wellness Center as being the same office as the Student Medical and Counseling Clinic.

- Additionally, we incorrectly quoted biology professor Holly Pinkart as saying “All viruses need to bind to a receptor on a cell, and then that triggers their update.” The quote should read “All viruses need to bind to a receptor on a cell, and then that triggers their uptake.”

- In a preview of the Wildcat football game against Humboldt State, we mispelled JaQuan Gardner’s name.
Kittitas ‘Cannabis’ County: Regulations weigh heavy on voter minds as election race closes

BY CHACE DAVY
Assistant News Editor

As the Kittitas County Commissioner election draws near, candidates O’Brien and Steve Verhey have been campaigning to win the votes that may sway the county one way or the other.

One of the most controversial topics in the county today is the growing of cannabis for recreational use.

When Initiative 502 was on the ballot in Washington in 2012, the voters of Kittitas county voted against it by a margin of less than 500 votes. However, now the law has been realized and the first shop in Ellensburg, the Ellensburg Apothecary, is now open for business, the debate has shifted from legalizing the product to focusing on where it is grown in Kittitas Valley.

Cannabis legalization “does have a lot of emotion, and I understand that,” O’Brien said.

Projected state revenues from recreational pot sales over the next four years is $190 million.

Most people that I have talked to understand why Initiative 502 passed,” Verhey said. “The way marijuana laws are enforced has destroyed countless lives…Even the people that voted against it, most of them understand that.”

The state legislature is also able to modify the I-502 law for the first time this year because the two-year hold on making changes has ended.

If the legislature decides to make any changes to the laws, it could impossibly grow and manufacturers across the state.

“I have heard from the marijuana industry that the state will raise the cap that is currently 2 million square feet of plant canopy possibly to 10 million square feet,” O’Brien said.

The state could also possibly modify where profits from recreational cannabis sales go.

“Governs that the school systems is a $4 billion hole, [the state Legislature] may take all of the extra revenue...and say it all has to go in to education,” O’Brien said.

A lot of the concerns regarding recreational cannabis in Kittitas County have to do with how easily it can be accessed by children.

According to the Denver Post, Colorado has seen a spike in children ages 3 to 7 being admitted to hospitals due to accidentally ingesting cannabis products, usually in the form of edibles.

As of May 2014, nine children had been admitted to Children’s Hospital Colorado for accidental ingestion of cannabis by requiring that all cannabis-related edibles be easily identifiable, even when they are out of the package. The rules surrounding the law are still in development.

Cannabis isn’t the only issue currently under debate in Kittitas County.

Along with where cannabis is grown, where these farms, as well as the rest of the farms in the county, get their water has been an issue that O’Brien is set on tackling.

Verhey believes that keeping jobs in the county, especially for recent graduates, is one of the more pressing issues that need to be addressed.

It’s the kind of job where, unfortunately, it’s inevitable that you annoy at least a few people all the time, and you annoy a lot of people some of the time.”

Verhey said.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Washington voters will vote on initiatives I-591, which would expand background checks on the sale of guns to anyone in the state, and Initiative I-594, which the state legislature is also considering.

Residents have the option to approve both initiatives, but that would effectively cancel out each initiative.

Todd Schaefer, professor and chair of the department of political science, said if I-594 is approved, its opponents may ask that the state Supreme Court over turn it.

“One of the main criticisms of initiatives proposed to become laws in the state are that they can be misleading and not properly explain the entirety of the proposed initiative, Schaefer said.

“The sad thing about these initiatives and direct votes, in my opinion, is that you could be in favor of the issue, but depending on how it’s written, it may not be a good idea to vote for it,” Schaefer said.

If one of the initiatives passes, Schaefer said that the state would implement it and watch it for two years, then the legislature has the ability to change it.

If students are unsure about the initiatives, they should either not vote for them or vote no, because that keeps either from being implemented,” Schaefer said.

Stefan Kiehn, senior psychology major, said that it is currently too easy for people to have access to guns, and that his vote for I-594 would help close loopholes.

“I’m voting yes because I just feel like it’s way too easy now to have access to guns,” Kiehn said. “I think it’s a step in the right direction, though overall it’s a mental health issue as well.”

The trouble with initiatives such as I-594, Kiehn said, is that criminals would find a way to access guns regardless of current laws.

Central students should care about these upcoming initiatives in light of recent shootings that have occurred, Kiehn said.

“More and more people are hearing about [shootings], and I feel that it’s important that some sort of legislation is in place,” Kiehn said.

Since Central is a federally funded university and there is a federal law preventing the possession of guns on campus, Scharfe said that the initiatives would not directly affect Central students in that aspect.

Regardless of the outcome, [the initiatives] are not going to change the policy we have here,” Kiehn said.

According to a poll published by the Seattle Times, public support for I-594 is at 60 percent and support for I-591 is at 39 percent.

Incredibly, 22 percent of those polled said they would vote yes on both. If both initiatives pass, the Legislature or the courts would have to resolve the issue.

James Huckabay, faculty legislative representative and emeritus professor of Geography, wrote a column published in the Daily Record arguing “Haven’t we seen over lifetimes of working our Constitution and Bill of Rights that we will never change criminal behavior by criminalizing lawful behavior?”

By R. Troy Peterson
Mail Reporter

This year, Central’s online convenience fee for credit cards went from $3 to 2.75 percent. While the fee was determined by a third party company–Higher One—the reaction of students has ranged greatly.

Adrian Narango, the director of Financial Aid, manages the financial office and student accounts.

“It isn’t a fee that Central is collecting,” Narango said. “We’re not getting any revenue from it or getting any kind of kickback from it.”

Phil Rush, vice president of Clubs and Organizations for

Voters consider gun initiatives

BY COLT SWEETLAND
News Editor

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Online fees increase

By R. Troy Peterson
Mail Reporter

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Phil Rush, vice president of Clubs and Organizations for
BY HALEY CURL
Staff Reporter

The Office of Student Success is dedicated to exposing first- and second-year students to every opportunity that could enhance their future.

“Our primary reason for existing is to provide support for students so that they can be successful as students here and as citizens in the larger society,” Sarah Swager, Dean of Student Success, said.

Richard DeShields, associate dean of Student Living, said the orientation program for first and second year students is extensive. Orientation begins as early as April for new students enrolled for fall quarter.

Swager said the Office of Student Success aims to ensure that students have a wide variety of experiences while attending Central.

“In every opportunity possible, we try to find intersections between what they’re doing in the classroom and into their departments,” Dahl said.

“Whatever you’ve been in the psych program really liked it,” Steenmeyer said. “Plus I wanted to study something that actually like.”

Bri King, undeclared freshman, first thought of majoring in clinical psychology last year.

“I’m in athletics, I run track and field for Central, so I went through physical therapy, chiropractic, massage therapy... They helped me through my injury and I was allowed to continue on running at a collegiate level and I was really thankful for that and I’d like to have an impact like that on someone,” King said.

Swager said there is no rush in declaring a major.

“There are lots of students who make the choice to declare a major, and might change their minds,” Swager said.

Though she said it is not something to take lightly, Swager said that it is common to change a major.

“My specific career has changed a lot.” Dahl said. “I want to work for Disney. I’d work in any of the departments with the characters, either being one of them, or if I don’t get any roles, he one of their escorts at least.”

Swager graduated from Colby College with a BA of studio art and art history. She said that prior to college, she had never taken an art class.

“After I took an art course, I found a topic and an area in which I really thrived,” Swager said. “And it was a great thing for me to pursue that. It gave me joy. It gives me the foundation to pursue other things in my career.”

“According to Swager, the Office of Student Success wants first-year students to learn about who they are and what they love to do.”

“What do you feel like you’re interested in, and what are you good at?” Swager asked. “What is the intersection between those two things?”

Audra Saislin, early childhood education major and administrative management minor, and first quarter transfer student, has found exactly that intersection.

“I really like the developmental process of kids,” Saislin said. “The career I want to have is to own a daycare, and my minor helps with the business side of that.”

Duke Steenmeyer, freshman intended psychology major, said his goal is to become a police officer, and eventually a detective.

“Anyone who I’ve talked to who’s been in the psych program really liked it,” Steenmeyer said. “Plus I wanted to study something that I actually like.”

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“The revisions that AEA underwent allow any professor to use the system if they have concerns with any of their students.”

“In the past [AEA] has primarily only focused on first year students,” Nelson said. AEA was only open during weeks

- ATTENTION VOTERS -
Washington State has 21 Public Utility Districts (PUD) that sell electricity. Kititas PUD has the highest residential rates of all PUD’s. Results from the latest PUD Financial Statement 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Operating</td>
<td>9.18 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Operating</td>
<td>7.34 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Revenue</td>
<td>10.68 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Commercial Revenue</td>
<td>9.02 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation Revenue</td>
<td>8.98 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Commercial Revenue</td>
<td>6.83 cents/kwh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pat Kelleher for Kititas PUD Commissioner, District 1

As a Kititas PUD Commissioner, I will vote for a simplified rate structure where the kilowat hour and demand charges are the same for all commercial and residential customers. This will eliminate the special rate of 4.40 cents/kwh for sales over 20,000 kwh per month. An example of the simplified rate structure is available on the Douglas County PUD website.

As a Kititas PUD Commissioner, I will vote to commit Kititas PUD to fully explore our options under RCW 54.32.010 Consolidation of Districts: Two or more contiguous Utility Districts may become consolidated...Kititas PUD is contiguous to Grant PUD, Chelan PUD and Douglas PUD. As a Kititas PUD Commissioner, I will vote to commit Kititas PUD to fully explore our options under RCW 54.32.010 Consolidation of Districts: Two or more contiguous Utility Districts may become consolidated...Kititas PUD is contiguous to Grant PUD, Chelan PUD and Douglas PUD.

Pat Kelleher, Candidate for PUD Commissioner, District 1 Nonpartisan: 509-962-2565

Paid for by Pat Kelleher for Kititas PUD Commissioner, District 1

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PregnancyHelpEllensburg.org
Fees, from p.3

Student Government, said that the increased fee is unfair to Central students. “Not only do students have to pay a ridiculous amount in tuition already,” Rush said. “Charging a percentage cap on that if they want to pay with their own personal funds, instead of financial aid, on a card, is ridiculous.”

Naranjo said that the previous convenience fee had been contracted through Sallie Mae. The original contract lasted for nine years.

Sallie Mae’s campus solutions business, the segment which was originally contracted with Central, was purchased by Higher One and was announced via Higher One’s website, on May 7, 2013. Once Higher One purchased Sallie Mae, they contacted Central and said they had to either create a new contract or look for a new vendor.

“We looked at other vendors to see what the other service fees were,” Naranjo said.

The other vendors Central looked at had a similar payment structure. These companies included TouchNet Information Systems, Heartland Campus Solutions and Universal Payment Systems.

Naranjo said that while Central wanted to have the feature of being able to pay through MyCWU, the vendors kept coming back to the same price.

“It averages anywhere from 2.75 percent up to 3.25 percent, depending on which vendor you went with,” Naranjo said.

According to Naranjo, the fee is only applicable to credit card transactions, and any transactions with bank accounts will not be subject to the fee.

According to Central’s records, there has been a significant drop in payments online. Naranjo said that while the numbers aren’t necessarily a head count of students paying, they are nonetheless telling of student reactions.

“Last fall, the amount which was transactioned through that payment system was $2.4 million,” Naranjo said. “This September, that went to $1 million.”

The in-person credit card transactions are not through Higher One, but are instead contracted through U.S. Bank. He said that Central pays Higher One roughly $10,000 annually for their services. Higher One makes about $29,382 through the 2.75 percent fee through MyCWU, Naranjo said.

Rush said that the 2.75 percent convenience fee could have a greater effect on off-campus students, such as students at the Central centers in Des Moines, Lynnwood, and Moses Lake.

“That might be one of the only ways [off-campus students] can pay,” Rush said. “So, it kind of sucks for them.”

Cameron Rindlisbach, accounting major, said that for online classes which already have fees, it will only compound the financial burden.

“There’s certain majors that are entirely online,” Rindlisbach said. “You can do the entire program online, and now that’s really expensive. Like, $3000 for a 15-credit quarter?”

Rush said that he does not agree with the 2.75 percent convenience fee.

“The whole point of an online payment system is to be convenient,” Rush said. “And a percentage on a couple thousand dollars tuition is a convenience fee that’s just approaching ridiculous.”

AEA, from p.4

three through six of the quarter. Diane Fishel-Hall, director of Enrollment Management Communications, has a goal that instructors will be able to simply check a box through a link in the faculty toolbox in MyCWU.

The instructor would check a box on the class roster if they thought the student was showing signs of academic, attendance, or behavioral troubles.

When an alert is submitted, the student receives an email. Multiple alerts regarding the same student will automatically send an email to the student’s academic advisor.

“The student will then be encouraged to visit with their advisor, and be reminded of other available academic resources. The advising staff will coordinate appropriate response and support strategies.”

“We are poised, right now, to do a really exceptional job of improving retention at this university,” Fishel-Hall said.

Recently, Central has made an effort to hire professional advisors within each major on campus. This will help professors with heavy workloads and take some of the academic advising out of the professor’s schedule.

“This is the first time I’ve been confident in saying it will be ready,” Fishel-Hall said, in regard to the new AEA system.

The progress report shows a level of detail not available before, which makes these reports extremely helpful for faculty, according to Carolyn Thurston, director of Exploratory Advising and Student Transitions and Academic Resources (STAR).

Progress reports are separate from AEA. Some instructors are asked to fill out in depth progress reports if they have students that are part of certain programs such as CAMP, TRiO and STAR.

As a result, instructors may still receive hard-copy or electronic progress report forms for students participating in these programs.

AEA is designed to be a very quick and easy tool for instructors to help students improve their success rate on a university-wide scale.
Eating health on a budget

Reevaluate your spending habits

If you buy a Starbucks coffee and a pack of cigarettes every day, yet you do not have money to buy lunch, you might want to rethink your priorities. Look at all the stuff you buy and figure out what you can cut from your budget.

Go frozen

Yes, frozen peas are not as appetizing as the delicious sugar snap ones, but a bag of frozen veggies ranges from $1-3. Frozen fruits, veggies and meat costs less, and you do not have to worry about these foods going bad. Also if you buy meat and do not plan on eating it in the next few days, freeze it. Something died so you could eat it; do not waste it.

Stop tossing non-expired food

I have many friends who refuse to eat leftovers or day old meat. People are starving all over the world and you’re going to throw away chicken you cooked yesterday? Nuke it in the microwave and be grateful you have something to eat. Also, some foods, like yogurt, can be eaten a few days past the expiration date. Double check before you toss perfectly good food.

Stop being so picky

If you’re on a college budget, chances are you’re not going to be able to buy all organic, farm-to-table food. Get over it. An inorganic salad with chicken breast is still healthier than eating McDonald’s for dinner.

Pack and plan

You do not have to spend hours making charts and preparing your food. Look at the food you have in your fridge and figure out what’s going to expire soon, what can be frozen and what you can eat in the next few days. Also, invest in some mealware containers. I buy a bag of spinach, carrots and a couple of cucumbers, put them in the containers, and I have salad for the next 3 days.

If you wake up early and do not have made lunch in the morning, pack lunch the night before, so you’re not munching on junk food the next day when you get hungry. Buying a $5 sandwich every day adds up. If you can make one at home for less than $1.

Multiple stop shopping

If you have the means of transportation, go to more than one grocery store to take advantage of different sales. Grocery Outlet has good deals on fruits and vegetables, Safeway has $5 Fridays and Fred Meyer offers a lot of healthy options.

Clip Coupons

Instead of tossing the coupons, use them in the mail, use them for your grandma. Sure, you may only save a dollar or two per shopping trip, but those dollars add up at the end of the month.

Cook in bulk

If you do not have time to cook every day, then set aside one day when you cook in bulk. Make a pasta casserole or cook a bag of chicken breasts. When you get home after a long day, all you have to do is throw your food in the microwave, and you have a stress free dinner.

Stop hating cooking

Cooking is not that hard. You do not need to cook a fancy meal every night. Many times you can make a perfectly delicious meal in 30 minutes. Instead of making cooking a chore, make it part of your day. Grab a cookbook or look online for some recipes so you’re not stuck cooking the same boring thing every day. If you can read and you have a kitchen, then you can cook. You just need to take the time and have the patience to do so.

- amc boogiem

Cart Newton is the starting Panthers quarterback.

The sound of bad spending

I don’t know who made the decision to spend thousands of dollars on the two enormous TVs in the music building, but it seems pretty poorly made to me, especially considering how slowly all of the computers in the library are running. The priority should be spending money on updating technology that will be useful to students rather than on extravagant gadgets that appear to have little practical application.

They’ve been installed in the choir room and the jazz room in the music building – places where such technology does not seem very useful. Having the capability to play videos of musical performances to jazz and choral ensembles could be useful, but there are more cost-effective ways to this, such as Canvas, or even the Facebook groups that many of the ensembles already have.

It is very frustrating to spend more time than necessary waiting on slow computers to get any work done in the library. They frequently stop responding, and they even when they are responding, they go incredibly slow. It takes 5-10 minutes simply to sign in. Public computers in the school library are great resources, but at the current time, they are almost more trouble than they are worth.

-Kelsey Ortel, student

Have an opinion? Send us a letter to the editor at cwuobserver@gmail.com
Celebration of life after death

Diversity center honors the dead with Día de los Muertos

BY KALA TBD
Staff reporter

The Center for Diversity & Social Justice is bringing the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos to Central for a third year, with help from Casa Latina and some Central professors.

Día de los Muertos, or the Day of the Dead, is a holiday centered around honoring and celebrating family members who have died.

This celebration is often done at the grave sites of family members. Families clean their grave sites and decorate them with personal items.

The Día de los Muertos celebration on campus is open to all students, not just those of Mexican heritage.

“We all have lost someone, or will, and this type of event allows us to remember them in a happy way,” Veronica Gomez, diversity officer at the CDSJ, said. “It has a universal message.”

There will be several altars open to students on campus so that they may have a space to pay respect to those they have lost.

Casa Latina will have an altar in SURC 273 on Oct. 29 until the evening of the 31.

Students will be able to go to the sacred space and add momentos and pictures to reflect on their family members who have passed away.

The Museum of Culture and Environment in Dean Hall will have an exhibit to memorialize those who have died crossing the U.S./Mexico border during immigration and will also have an altar in their memory.

Xavier Cavazo, an English professor, will have poems from his class to add to the altars as well. Joan Cawley-Crane, an art history lecturer, is helping showcase Central Latino student’s artwork around campus, with artwork focusing exclusively on the holiday and its meanings. There will also be an art display in Randall Hall.

Jason Dormady, assistant professor of history, will give a speech on the importance of the holiday.

There will also be slam poetry, Mexican folkloric dancing and live music provided by Los Nuevos Coyotes de Jalisco.

Free face painting and sugar skull decorating will be available for attendees, as well as Mexican hot chocolate and Mexican bread.

Some students are appreciative of the opportunity to attend an event that they would not usually be a part of because it is outside of their own culture.

“It’ll be a fun experience that I’d otherwise never gotten to do,” Charlie Weber, an undeclared junior, said.

Gomez recommends listening to Dormady’s informative presentation at 6 p.m. in order to learn more about the holiday. The presentation will help explain why the holiday is so important and how it can be celebrated respectfully.

“So, don’t be afraid to ask people: why things are happening,” Gomez said.

Marcos Gurrola, senior English education major, said that even though his family does not celebrate in a traditional sense it is still a meaningful time for his family.

Instead of having a three day celebration, Gurrola’s family uses the holiday as a time to reflect upon the dead, to discuss his lost family members and to recall fond memories for a night.

According to Petersons.com, a data-gathering website on college, Hispanic and Latino students make up 11.6 percent of Central’s student body.

Gurrola believes it is important for students to learn and understand the holiday due to its cultural roots.

“A lot of non-Mexican students don’t understand the holiday because it’s intimidating, being about the dead. It’s important to know it’s not just sugar skulls and face paint,” Gurrola said. “It’s important to know it’s not just sugar skulls and face paint. It’s about coming together.”

There will be several altars as well.

Senior English major -Marcos Gurrola

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According to Petersons.com, a data-gathering website on college, Hispanic and Latino students make up 11.6 percent of Central’s student body.

Gurrola believes it is important for students to learn and understand the holiday due to its cultural roots.

“A lot of non-Mexican students don’t understand the holiday because it’s intimidating, being about the dead,” Gurrola said. “It’s important to know it’s not just sugar skulls and face paint. It’s about coming together.”

Arts and crafts: There will be free sugar skull decorating and face painting at the Día de los Muertos event held to honor the dead.

There will also be slam poetry, Mexican folkloric dancing and live music provided by Los Nuevos Coyotes de Jalisco.

Free face painting and sugar skull decorating will be available for attendees, as well as Mexican hot chocolate and Mexican bread.

Some students are appreciative of the opportunity to attend an event that they would not usually be a part of because it is outside of their own culture.

“It’ll be a fun experience that I’d otherwise never gotten to do,” Charlie Weber, an undeclared junior, said.

Gomez recommends listening to Dormady’s informative presentation at 6 p.m. in order to learn more about the holiday. The presentation will help explain why the holiday is so important and how it can be celebrated respectfully.

“So, don’t be afraid to ask people: why things are happening,” Gomez said.

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Arts and crafts: There will be free sugar skull decorating and face painting at the Día de los Muertos event held to honor the dead.
Hal Holmes hosts masquerade ball

BY CASSIDY WARNESS
Staff Reporter

For Samantha Grover and her team of competitive dancers, this Halloween will be far from the normal night of children’s trick-or-treating and passing out candy.

On October 31, the Hal Holmes center in downtown Ellensburg will be opening its doors for an adult Halloween masquerade dance.

The ball is being hosted in order to raise funds for the Ellensburg Community Dance’s All Star Competition Team, a free program for youth.

The Masquerade Ball is open to members of the community, ages 18 and over.

“It’s a wholesome adult-themed party that gives college aged students and adults the opportunity to do something that’s not geared toward the bar scene,” Grover, the director of Ellensburg Community Dance, said. “It’s also for people wanting to do a mixture of both; start at the masquerade then [go] out to the bars.”

Ellensburg Community Dance will be hosting a night of dance and masquerade fun for adults.

The masquerade will have refreshments, food and live music, as well as performances from the E.C.D team, ballroom dance lessons and live paintings by local artists.

“Events like the masquerade help us - the community - see the work they put into their fundraisers as well as the talent and hard work they put in daily,” Grover said.

Following the style of a traditional mid-century masquerade ball, guests are encouraged to come dressed in costume with decorative masks and remain anonymous until the night is finished.

Prizes will be handed out to guests with the best costume, best mask and best overall attire at the end of the night.

“We always wanted to do a masquerade in Ellensburg because we’ve never had anything like that here before,” Grover said. “We will also be playing the guess-the-guest game, where guests have to keep their mask on the entire night and everyone gets to guess who is who for prizes.”

The Ellensburg Community Dance All-Star Competition Team is a group of young adults ranging from ages 11-18.

The team has dedicated their time and effort on maintaining good academic standing, being contributing members of society and also competing in dance events across the nation.

“We are raising money to send our competitive team to show off their skills at competitions,” Grover said. “These girls have been working very hard to create a fun Halloween night for their parents and the community.”

The team hopes to attend and place in at least three dance competitions this season.

The masquerade ball will be a fundraiser to help the youth team attend a dance competition in Tacoma and Las Vegas.

The team hopes to raise $10,000 by the end of the year.

“Living in a small town, it’s difficult to get enough money to pay for the costs of competitions. E.C.D is a free dance program, so we have to raise money for everything that goes towards that,” Grover said. “Vegas will be a reward for their hard work. It’s a vacation and a competition for the kids.”

Grover, a self-taught dancer, founded Ellensburg Community Dance in February 2012.

“We all thought that the masquerade theme was an appropriate idea for both the team and the adults,” Grover said.

Grover and the All-Star competitive team have been working hard designing costumes and performance routines for the Halloween event for four months.

“This is wholesome adult activity that will not only be fun, but it is for a great cause,” Grover said. “We are hoping to put on a Winter Ball for underage students this holiday season as well.”

The masquerade will be hosted on October 31 at 8-11:30 p.m.

Where: 209 N Ruby St
Price: $15-25
ellensburgcommunitydance.weebly.com/
BTW, Cake FYI is closing

BY BRITTANY ALLEN
Staff Reporter

On October 30, writer, baker and entrepreneur Molly Allen, owner of Cake FYI, will be closing her store due to personal reasons and to begin her new job as editor-in-chief of Best Friends For Frosting, (BFFF) a creativity focused online publication.

“BFFF started in 2010 and has expanded from a mother-daughter run food blog to a creative lifestyle resource for recipes, DIY projects and party styling. BFFF has also been featured in other publications such as Martha Stewart, QVC and ModCloth. At the end of this month, Allen will go from being the managing editor, a position she held even before Cake FYI’s inauguration, to editor-in-chief. “I’m sad to be closing, obviously, because this is something I’ve put a lot into, but ultimately I’ve wanted to do,” Allen said.

Much of Allen’s initial research and planning for opening Cake FYI took place in Johnson’s class. “She spent hours and hours finding out how she would do if she focused more of her time on baking and writing...writing and editing have always been my main passions,” Allen said, “and to be able to head up a creative lifestyle publication has always been what I’ve wanted to do.” For Allen, baking and writing have always been major passions. She graduated in 2012 and has since been writing for BFFF and “Chasing Delicious,” a food and lifestyle blog of which she is the executive director.

Allen has also been writing her own blog called Cake FYI, since 2010. Off of the Central staff that Allen mentioned as being influential in her time as a student of the English program was Joseph Johnson. “It’s way different to be a blogger than a business owner,” Allen said. Allen says writing is what truly makes her happy. “I just kind of saw a need there, and it’s something I’m passionate about so I took the leap to do that,” Allen said. “I’m all about taking big chances. I’m a big believer in trying things and doing work for baking blogs, but for an opportunity to continue and thrive in a career that combines her greatest passions. “Molly has always been solid enough that she can grow from disappointment and not be intimidated by failure,” Johnson said. “She’s already an accomplished writer, doing work for baking blogs, but realized the class [technical writing] as someone who wanted to know more.”

Among those sad to see Allen close Cake FYI is Carolyn Honeycutt, director of the Ellensburg Downtown Association (EDA). “Molly has always been willing to go above and beyond to support her clients,” Honeycutt said in an email. “The EDA is very sad to see her business close and wish her the very best in her new adventure.”

Cake FYI
Opened: May 24, 2014
Closed: Oct. 30, 2014
Where: 213 W Ave Suite 16

LAST CUPCAKE
Cake FYI is closing its doors on Oct. 30.
Alumni-formed band celebrates debut album with Friday show

BY CAMILLE BORODEY
Rooke Refiar

To celebrate the release of their first album “I Natural Rubber Latex Condom” the four member rock band Poon, fronted by Central alumni John Otteni and Matt Carstens, will be performing at Old Skool’s on Halloween night.

“You hear the name and you automatically kinda get an idea that this is something really weird,” Otteni said. “I take a lot of time with it. You could call us comedy rock.”

Otteni, who plays guitar and sings lead vocals for the band, also wrote a pretend backstory for Poon, which states the band formed in the mid-70s. He describes his stage persona, Lesley Quartermaine, as being flamboyant, amusing, and extravagant.

“I initially wanted to be characters, and try to keep that up,” Otteni said. “Each name relates back to reality.”

Otteni also came up with the stage personas for Carstens, who is Chet Striker, and the band’s drummer Colin Wessman, who is Rick Boner.

“Something about Kiss is that they’re really poppy, but it’s also really funny how serious they take themselves,” Otteni said. “We just thought it would be so fun to do something that isn’t serious at all.”

Half of Poon’s songs were written in 2006, but they did not play their first gig, which was at Studio 7 in Seattle, until 2010.

Carstens, who graduated college in 2011, originally came to Central to study percussion before changing his major to print journalism.

“Carstens plays guitar, keyboard and does vocals for the band. Aside from Poon, Carstens plays drums for the Ellensburg Big Band and has played shows around Ellensburg under the name Nancy,” Wessman said.

Wessman also plays the bass, and despite being Poon’s drummer, he thinks that Carstens is actually the better drummer.

Carstens said when Poon plays at shows, people ask them if they like Kiss, and the band members play dumb and pretend like they do not know who Kiss is.

“We’ll show up to shows in full makeup and costume and people will just be like ‘Geez, what are you doing going on?’” Carstens said.

In September, Poon performed an acoustic show at Old Skool’s.

“I wasn’t sure how it was going to work out well,” Carstens said. “I’d like to think that my character had never seen an acoustic guitar.”

One of the biggest challenges in performing is keeping his energy high for the entire show while he is in character. He also finds challenges in the makeup process.

“It helps if I get foundation around my eyes,” Otteni said. “Riffs are a big part of Poon. I usually start from a tasty riff or a really bizarre phrase.”

Poon has played five shows, and their favorite venue to perform is at Blue Moon in Seattle.

“The band also really enjoys interacting with the audience when they perform. I think my favorite part of performing Poon is anything goes,” Otteni said.

“[Blue Moon] has that kind of environment that feels that we can do whatever. Wessman said.

“Poon is actually the better drummer. Besides Kiss, Poon’s musical inspirations include Alice Cooper and Michael Bolton.”

“People are looking in the mirror and have all the makeup on, and you’re just like ‘I’m this guy now,’” Wessman said.

Carstens and Otteni look forward to their show at Old Skool’s because they like the intimate feeling that comes with playing there.

“What’s that you’re going to be on Halloween?” Wessman said.

“It’s just a lot of fun playing with guys I have known forever,” Wessman said.

The band’s original name was Big Mountain Fudge Cake, but they decided to change the name to Poon, a name that is shocking yet short.

When at Lake Washington High School together, Otteni, Carstens and Wessman became interested in Kiss after they heard the song “Strutter.” They started coming up with ideas for Poon in 2006.

“You're looking in the mirror and have all the makeup on, and you're just like 'I'm this guy now,'” Wessman said.

“I feel like there is still a lot to develop as a character,” said Otteni.

Carstens and Otteni agreed Poon is the most fun they have ever had performing.

“This is kinda the thing we always wanted to do, and now we're finally doing it,” Carstens said.

“We're living the dream.”

Halloween Show
When: Oct. 31 @ 8pm.
Where: 308 N Main St
Price: Free

PHOTOS COURTESY OF POON

10 The Observer • Oct. 30 - Nov. 5, 2014
Bienvenue au club français

Coin de France explores cultures of francophone countries

By Morgan Green
Staff Reporter

At the Breeze Thru Café in Michaelsen Hall, Central's French club meets to explore the various facets of the French culture.

Most of the members of the club are studying French, but the club is open to anyone interested in French culture and language.

“We aren’t just for French majors or people taking the classes,” club President Ashley Puz, senior French and political science major, said. “Anyone can join.”

The club’s official name is “Coin de France,” which means “corner of France.”

When it comes to their activities, the club does not limit themselves to France.

“We are trying to be more focused on francophone countries this year,” Puz said. A francophone country is any country that speaks French, regardless of the regional language differences.

Algeria and the Caribbean Islands are francophone countries.

“Even though they speak the same language, it is completely different,” Puz said.

According to Puz, the cultures differ greatly between the countries. The French club hopes to research the different cultures to broaden the scope of their club.

During the fall quarter, the club is focusing on France. In the winter and spring quarters, they will introduce more francophone countries.

This past week, the club explored the food side of the French culture by enjoying chocolate fondue and sparkling cider. Students indulged in chocolate covered bananas, marshmallows and strawberries.

Coin de France When: Mon. @ 5p.m. Where: Breeze Thru Café More Info: Find them on Facebook @ CWU Coin de France

One of Puz’s favorite trips was to a shop on Capital Hill in Seattle, where the club was taught how to make macarons, a small confection with sweet ganache, buttercream or jam smooched between two colorful cookies.

“We spent the afternoon making three different kinds of macarons,” Puz said.

In the future, Coin de France hopes to make a trip to Seattle to visit a crêpe restaurant. They would also like to visit a few French grocery stores to taste authentic food.

Puz’s favorite activity has been the Taboo nights. On those nights, the club gets together and plays the word association game, only in French.

“I got to use my favorite word, ‘pamplemousse,’ which is French for grapefruit,” Griffin said.

The club also hosts a movie night every other week in Black Hall.

Currently, they are watching French horror films to get into the Halloween spirit.

Coin de France is an active participant in Central campus events. Last year, club members helped put on a production of the French play, “Fables de La Fontaine,” for the World Languages Day celebration. The club has also helped with the play, “L’Homme en animal,” which, translated, means “human animals.”

Club Treasurer Lyndsey Burkette, a senior French major, helped by creating the masks worn by the actors.

Burkette, an art minor, sculpted the masks and hand painted them. The masks depicted various animals such as a fox, wolf and frog.

Burkette’s masks won the Creative Expression Best Presentation Award at Central’s Symposium On University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE) last year.

A few of the club members have traveled abroad to get first hand experience with French culture.

Griffin spent an academic year in the small city of Grenoble, in southeastern France, which is near the French Alps.

Griffin mentioned the amazing food, specifically the cheeses, and also the French people, as some of her favorite things about living in France.

“If I feel drawn to their ‘take life as it goes’ approach,” Burkette said.
From Central to Rio

Alumni stars set sights on making U.S. Olympic Team

BY JONATHAN OLIVER
Staff Reporter

Central rugby coach Tony Pacheco never dreamed of developing two potential Olympians, but that's exactly what he did. Throughout their time at Central, Tim Stanfill and Patrick Blair would contribute to one of the school's best periods of collegiate sports success since 2007.

In 2011, Central and Pacheco set the collegiate rugby world ablaze by placing seventh in the U.S. overall, and fourth in the Collegiate Rugby Championships (CRC) in sevens. The men's rugby program has since garnered national attention.

After their time at Central, both men go on to play for the Eagles, the United States national rugby team. The Eagles are set to play in Rio in 2016 during the summer Olympics.

After graduating from Central in 2012, Stanfill went on to play wing position for the men's national team (fifteens) the following fall.

He has also settled into playing regularly for the Seattle Saracens, and working as a personal trainer in Bellevue.

Stanfill fell in love with rugby at an early age and never looked back. A self-professed lover of video games, playing Call of Duty.

“Starfish is shot out of a cannon when he comes on the pitch,” Pacheco said. “He has a love for the game that is unmatched in any other aspect of his life.

“I can’t live without it,” Blair said. “It would be boring without [rugby]. It’s almost like a musician to his guitar.

For both Stanfill and Blair, playing for the U.S. men’s national team has been the apex of their life. In the rugby world, no other feat comes with higher esteem.

“In the meantime, Stanfill and Blair are sure to represent crimson and black on the world’s biggest stage, the Olympics.

“Other countries’ basic skills are superior to ours at the moment, just because they were born with a rugby ball in their hand, similar to football here,” Pacheco said. “We try to emphasize those basic skills and be as good as we can. No deceptive game plan, no tricks, just execution.”

Luckily, the men’s rugby team has already started the year off strong, with a 16-2 record overall and a 13 game win streak. They’re currently undefeated in 15% with only two losses in seven.

Pacheco’s formula is working, and he hopes more Olympian prospects are in the works from the Central rugby program.

In the meantime, Stanfill and Blair are sure to represent crimson and black on the world’s biggest stage, the Olympics.
Wildcats to tame the Tigers

CWU vs LU

Tomlinson Stadium
Saturday Nov. 1, 1p.m.

BY JEFFREY MACMILLAN
Staff Reporter

It is the final home game of the 2014 season for Central's football team, as they welcome non-conference foe, the Blue Tigers of Lincoln University Missouri. Central's senior players will look to finish their careers strong and make their legacy known.

Senior wide receiver Greg Logan has been one of the most consistent players for Central as he has had 699 receiving yards against Lincoln and their pass defense, which has surrendered 254 receiving yards per game to their opponents, and 17 touchdowns against Lincoln. Logan currently leads the GNAC in receptions. Logan has noticed his numbers decline over the last three games, but he looks to improve his numbers against Lincoln.

"Logan is a guy who has an internal drive," coach John Picha said. "He's always been the hardest working receiver we've had out here, and his work has shown up in his production this season."

Central's offensive attack is not one-dimensional, as the Wildcats hope to give Lincoln a heavy dose of the running game, with junior workhorse running back Jordan Todd, and senior running back Ishmael Stinson. Todd is the starter and is third (130 total rushes) in the GNAC in carries, as well as second in rushing touchdowns, with 11 this season.

Todd's responsibilities are large, as he has the utmost confidence in him to place the running game on his shoulders. Todd's responsibilities are large, as he has the utmost confidence in him to place the running game on his shoulders.

"Jordan Todd is the starter," head coach Ian Shoemaker said. "He's going to carry the ball a lot if he's going to be doing other things."

Todd finds himself with a heavy load, as he is the feature piece of the Wildcat running game, taking a large portion of the carries for the team, catching touchdowns, and blocking in pass protection.

While Todd has shouldered a lot of responsibility for the Wildcats, Stinson has shown flashes of brilliance in relief. Stinson's best outing came against Simon Fras- ternburg, where he carried the ball 17 times for over 100 yards. Recently, Stinson has been held in check in his limited duties, but it will be hard for Lincoln to keep him contained, as he averages 5.1 yards per carry, and has shown himself to be explosive once he finds space behind Central's big offensive line.

Central's offensive line has been able to impose their will upon the opposition, showing their ability in the pass protection game. The Wildcats have proven that they have a nasy side in the run game as they have pushed defenders around all season.

Saturday should be no different for senior offensive linemen Marshall Green and Calvin Hoshiali Jr, as they hope to open holes for the running game and push Central's offense forward.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Wildcats' senior linebacker JB Torsy looks to add to his 6.5 sacks and four tackles for loss as he helps add to the Wildcat's disruptive defensive totals.

Currently, Central averages 8.3 tackles for loss per game, tying them for 27th in the nation. That, coupled with Central's 11th ranked pass, rush averaging 3.25 sacks per game should present a lot of problems for Lincoln's offensive line, who currently allows 1.8 sacks per game.

Also on the defensive side of the ball is senior defensive back Cole Graves. Graves, a long time member of the Wildcat's program, has been a leader on and off the field. Graves, who missed the 2012 season with a chipped fibula and torn ACL, has accepted the role the coach in the Wildcats featured back is and is third (130 total rushes) in the GNAC in carries, as well as second in rushing touchdowns, with 11 this season.

Todd's responsibilities are large, as he has the utmost confidence in him to place the running game on his shoulders.

"I just work hard and do what I'm asked," Graves said. "And if the game allows me to play more or less I just stick to my assignment, and make the play to the best of my ability!"

Henderson is an explosive running back in the multiple formation offense. He can stick to his assignments and make tackles in the open field.

Henderson is an explosive running back in the multiple formation offense. He can stick to his assignments and make tackles in the open field.

Henderson is a explosive running back in the multiple formation offense. He can stick to his assignments and make tackles in the open field.

"The game will dictate if he is going to carry the ball a lot or if he's going to be doing other things."

"A player like [Henderson] commands attention," Shoemaker said. "And if he gets in space he's a special kind of athlete, so we need to make sure we are fundamentally sound and we play our game."

Central is hoping that they can stick to their assignments and make tackles in the open field. They have encountered against other heavy running teams.

"We've done a great job sticking to our assignments," defensive coordinator Payam Saadat said. "But we've failed to finish the plays and make the sound tackles we needed to."

Central is hoping that they can stick to their assignments and make tackles in the open field.

"The crowd at Tomlinson should expect to see amazing things from the underclassmen as they look to send the seniors out on top.

CWU vs LU
Tomlinson Stadium
Saturday Nov. 1, 1p.m.
BY DONNIE SANTOS
Staff Reporter

The women’s volleyball team (15-6 overall, 8-5 GNAC) is coming off a split weekend in Alaska. Central is continuing to fight for one of the top spots in the conference as the season is nearing its end.

On Thursday, University of Alaska Anchorage (17-4 overall, 11-2 GNAC), who is currently ranked second in the league, swept the Wildcats. Central was able to regroup and grab three games from University of Alaska Fairbanks (4-20 overall, 2-11 GNAC) to end the weekend.

Central will host Simon Fraser University (14-6 overall, 8-4 GNAC) on Oct. 30 and rival Western Washington University (17-4 overall, 10-2 GNAC) on Nov. 1. Central lost the previous time they played the Clan and the Vikings, so the Wildcats will be looking to even the score.

Central will be relying heavily on the consistent hitting from junior Linden Firethorne and redshirt sophomore Kiah Jones. Last Thursday, Jones led with eight kills and on Saturday, Firethorne led with 18.

“Our individual success has been a team effort,” Jones said. “We wouldn’t be able to do it without our passers and Catie [Fry] setting. We have been working hard to keep getting better on offense.”

Central will need to create a hot streak in order to have a chance at regionals. These last five games will determine the team’s ranking going into post season.

“We have to take all our remaining games one at a time,” Firethorne said. “We can’t focus on anything past this weekend. If we want to make it to regionals and have a chance to play in the post season, then all we can do is get the job done this weekend. We always look forward to the Western Washington games.”

Every game is going to play a part in the NCAA selection committee’s choices for which teams will be playing in the regional tournament on Nov. 20-22. Central hopes to make an appearance for the third consecutive year.

The games against Simon Fraser and Western Washington are on Thursday and Saturday, respectively, at 7 p.m. at Nicholson Pavilion. These will be two of the last three home games of the season for the Wildcats.

“Central takes on Vikings and Clan”

CWU vs SFU
Nicholson Pavilion
Thu. Oct. 30, 7p.m.

CWU vs WWU
Nicholson Pavilion
Sat. Nov. 1, 7p.m.

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(509)-963-1095
BY DILLON SAND
Staff Reporter

Entering his 20th season as the head basketball coach at Central, Greg Sparling (3rd most wins in the program’s 102 year history) is working with a roster that looks completely different from last year’s team.

The Wildcats finished sixth in the GNAC last year with a 12-14 overall record.

The biggest change from last year’s team will be the absence of last season’s NCAA Division II scoring leader, Mark McLaughlin.

Without McLaughlin’s 27.1 points per game, the Wildcats will play a completely different style of basketball, focusing more on defense and letting the flow of the game decide who will be putting up shots.

“We have a bunch of different guys who could step up in a given night and give us 20 [points per game],” Sparling said.

Joe Russell was last year’s sixth man and is the team’s leading returning scorer at 9.2 points per game. Russell is poised for a larger role this year.

Drake Rademacher
Foward

Gary Jacobs
Guard

Devin Matthews
Guard

Jerome Bryant
Foward

Caleb Dressler
Center/Forward

Joseph Stroud
Foward

CWU Basketball
Home Games

Another Level Blue Angels
Basketball
(Nov. 3)

Walla Walla University
(Nov. 29)

Montana State Billings
(Dec. 4)

Seattle Pacific
(Dec. 6)

Quest University
(Dec. 12)

Northwest Nazarene
(Dec. 18)

Simon Fraser
(Jan. 3)

Western Washington
(Jan. 17)

Western Oregon
(Feb. 5)

There are a bunch of different players stepping up in important roles, the Wildcats are expected to look like a brand new team.

Sparling believes that the strong ties this team has outside of Central will help the team mesh together in the long run.

“Before coming to play for the Wildcats, Jacobs and Matthews were teammates at Pierce College, where both were named to the first team of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAC).”

Rodgers and Bryant also have ties from the past, both playing at Cathedral Prep.

Spalding believes that the new faces the team has outside of Central will help the team mesh together in the long run.

“There’s going to be some growing pains, but we just have to make sure we get better everyday,” Sparling said.

“The freshmen we have this year are very mature,” Sparling said. “There’s not going to be a set five that will start every game, it’s going to partially depend on the matchups, practice and how the team works.”

The Wildcats are predicted to finish sixth in the GNAC in the pre-season coaches poll for the second year in a row.

Central coincidentally finished sixth the previous two seasons, with an 8-10 conference record.

With so many new players and returning players stepping up in important roles, the Wildcats are expected to look like a brand new team.

“From the outside, we look very different,” Sparling said. “There’s going to be some growing pains, but we just have to make sure we get better everyday.”

“We have a bunch of different guys who could step up in a given night and give us 20 [points per game],” Sparling said.

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“We have a bunch of different guys who could step up in a given night and give us 20 [points per game],” Sparling said.

There’s going to be some growing pains, but we just have to make sure we get better everyday.”
Rugby captain brings motivation

BY COLE RIDLEY
Staff Reporter

Central women’s rugby team has the passion, we have the players,” Johnson said.

Along with the change from club to varsity, the program also received a new coaching staff including Mel Denham, head coach and former USA Rugby player.

“She is amazing, She is phenomenal,” Johnson said about Denham.

Despite the recruitment program bringing in players to play here, so this is the first time this group of girls has played together,” Johnson said. “All these girls come together, and we are still learning how to work together, but we are progressing so well.”

This year’s team is heavy with underclassmen: 11 freshmen, six sophomores, six juniors and four seniors make up the roster.

“We have a lot of underclassmen who definitely make an impact,” Johnson said. “We are just going to keep getting better.”

As seniors in a collegiate sport, athletes often know in the back of their minds that it may be their last year playing at a competitive level.

Careers often take importance over the sport they love to play, but the thought hasn’t appeared in Johnson’s mind.

“It hasn’t hit me yet. I have just been coming out as hard as I can to take as much advantage as I can,” Johnson said. “I don’t think of this as my last year. I think of this as a varsity program and having as much fun as I can.”

Johnson said that she is focused on her team and this season, and has considered playing rugby after she graduates.

“Depending on where I am, there is a bunch of women’s clubs and have so much more passion. Everybody wants to be here and make it to nationals.”

Johnson has had a large role in changing the mindset for the team this year, Teammate Jennifer Johnson (no relation) said Heather has taken on the leader position this season.

“Heather is always willing to step up and do anything she can to help the team... She always has a positive attitude that is contagious to the rest of the team.”

Jennifer Johnson
Freshman Lock

The mindset is totally different this year,” Johnson said. “Totally different atmosphere. We have so much more intensity, so much more passion.”

Harder roster forced the team to work out the kinks that come with new faces. Once the team came together, Johnson’s concerns were put to rest.

“We have only a handful of returners from the club. With all the girls coming over, we didn’t really know each other before, but some of us got hooked up through Mel,” Johnson said. “But we are a family. We have team dinners and we have game nights.”

Over Johnson’s four complete seasons of being a Wildcat rugby player, her favorite collegiate memory was the game this weekend against Quinnipiac.

“We wouldn’t be here without Tony Pacheco and the men’s rugby players,” Johnson said.

The Wildcats will head down to Oregon State University on Nov. 8, before returning for a home game against Washington State University on Nov. 15.