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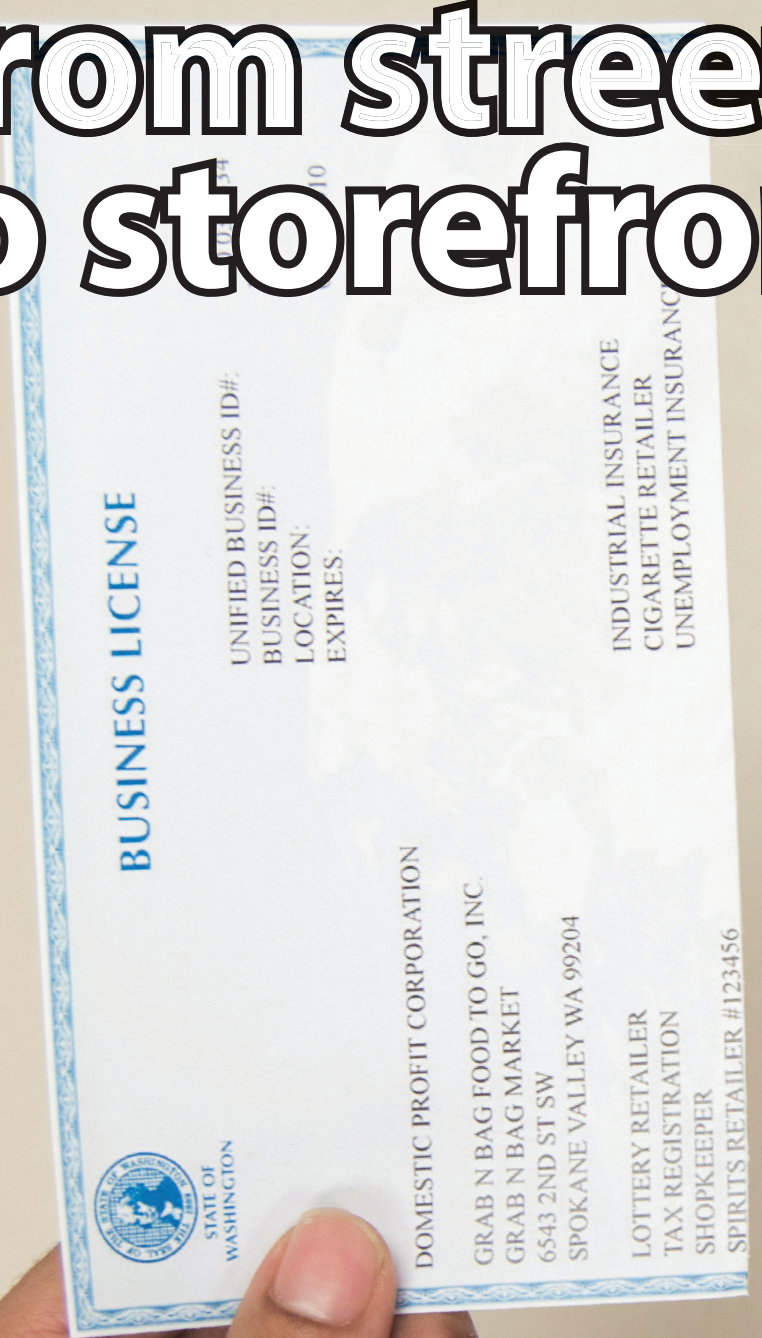
By the students and for the students of CWU

The BSERVER

cwuobserver.com
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@CWUObserver

From streetside to storefront



Legal weed prices
cause concerns for
street dealers
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**HOME
MEET**

Wrestling team
hosts state
tournament
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PHOTO BY DERRICK CLARIT

**SWEET
SIBLING
SUCCESS**
Co-owners continue
Winegar's legacy
PAGE 7



Black market suffering as legal cannabis takes over

BY ASHTYN MANN
Contributing Writer

The legalization of recreational marijuana in Washington state may eventually force some illegal street dealers to go legit, says one Seattle dealer.

For now, legalization appears to be a blessing for illegal street sales.

"I think [marijuana] is a lot easier to sell illegally now because legal marijuana is so expensive and people want it cheaper," said the dealer, who gave his name as Jay.

"However, it might be short-lived if prices of retail weed drop in the future."

Prices already dropping

Rick James, a 23-year-old part-time street dealer and full-time head gardener at Green Labs LLC in Raymond, Wash., said that the legalization of retail and medical marijuana has drastically decreased the price of cannabis.

James said at the height of

his time as an illegal salesman, a pound of cannabis was worth \$2,800 for the best available product. Now, James said, you're lucky to see a pound worth \$2,000. That's a 28 percent decrease in only a few years.

As a result, James has turned to selling legal medical marijuana.

"I only sell cannabis that I produced myself legally under medical cannabis laws," James said. "Which results in higher profit per sale, but less overall sales."

Legal prices still high

James said Green Labs, a legal grower and processor, produces about 70 pounds of legal recreational cannabis every month, selling it for \$4,500 to \$5,000 per pound.

That's more expensive than illegal street prices, largely because of taxes and costs that illegal growers and processors don't face.

At recreational marijuana shops, higher prices don't seem

to be deterring wealthy customers.

"What surprised me about the retail shop I visited was that there were a lot of middle-aged men buying weed. All different types of people, too," said Kevin Schwend, a 24-year-old office assistant and marijuana retail customer from Woodinville, Wash.

"There were businessmen with Bluetooth devices in their ears chatting away, and there were also the more stereotypical old hippies as well," Schwend said.

Quality is rising

Despite the drop in prices, quality has skyrocketed.

"The weed is definitely better quality because now people can buy really good quality for cheap from medical patients who are allowed to grow," Jay said. "Everyone is getting better at growing it because the way the market is developing."

Schwend said the quality of the weed that retailers sell is consistently better than street weed.

However, he said the quality of the illegal weed also has gotten noticeably better since legalization.

Better quality equals better sales, Jay said.

"Weed is definitely stronger now," Jay said. "The more you smoke, the stronger you need, so the sales increase."

Everyday low prices

The customer base has increased for street dealers since retail marijuana became a factor, Jay said. In fact, he said he returned to illegal selling after a break.

"If anything, [legalization] has made street selling more lucrative because people are wanting cheaper weed: supply and demand," Jay said. "People don't want to pay twice when they can pay half. Why would you go to Safeway when you could shop at Costco?"

Street-side, Jay said he sells to, among others, coworkers and managers of all ages who work at the high-class restaurant

where he works as a waiter as a side job.

Future for illegal business

According to Jay, as marijuana retailers continue to drop their prices illegal dealers must lower their own prices or convert to legal operations.

"Eventually, the retailers will start charging street prices," Jay said. "I think street dealers will slowly diminish as it gets cheaper."

Jay said he is planning on converting to legal selling as soon as he gets his medical card because it allows him to have the same amount of weed on him at all times and sell it legally to medical customers.

James believes he will have to convert his business to 100 percent legal to keep his head above water.

"I see myself having to find a way into the legal market or be pushed out entirely within the next five years here in Washington state," James said.

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Corrections:

-In the "Tea at 3" article, we misspelled Dr. Ken Brigg's name.

-Additionally, we named his title as "Chair of P.E." when it is "Chair of PESPH"

Editorial policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. The mission of the Observer is two-fold: to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best source for information, education and entertainment news. As a training program, the Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values, and skills needed to succeed in their chosen career. If you have questions call (509) 963-1073 or e-mail us at cwuobserver@gmail.com

Mapping the road to success

BY SIMONE CORBETT
Staff Reporter

Academic success did not come easily for Central Geography Professor Elvin Delgado.

As a student at the University of Puerto Rico, Delgado attended lectures taught in Spanish, while reading from textbooks written in a language that he did not yet fully understand: English.

"I just learned English 15 years ago. In college, I had to read my English written textbooks with a dictionary," Delgado said. "American students read three chapters in an hour, it took me three hours to read one chapter."

The Puerto Rico native said it was very hard to learn once he began his undergraduate career at University of Puerto Rico.

Delgado faced many hardships growing up, from the stresses of divorced parents and a distant father, to unstable finances.

Despite these hardships, Delgado, a first generation college student, used his circumstances as his motivation to keep going.

"Although it was very hard, when I get my mind to something, I have to just do it," Delgado said. "I now have a much greater respect for first-generation minority college students."

A career in academia was never on Delgado's agenda. Delgado attended a public high school that specialized in the arts from seventh to 12th grade. After being exposed to various art forms throughout these years, Delgado discovered his passion for photography.

Elvin Delgado's brother, Christian Delgado, who now resides in New York, said the thought of his brother going into teaching never crossed his mind.

"I don't think anybody, I mean anybody would even jokingly guess that he would end up as a University professor," Christian Delgado said. "I thought he would end up like the photographer in 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,' putting himself in extreme situations to get the perfect photo, because that's what he did."

With a natural interest in geography, Elvin Delgado's dream was to become a photographer for National Geographic.

"He stared at that magazine for hours," Christian Delgado said. "I understand now, he was studying the geography and the art of the photos."

To Elvin Delgado's surprise, it only took a matter of years for this dream to unfold.

Elvin Delgado's curiosity in geography and the natural sciences led him to seek advising from Angel David Cruz, University of Puerto Rico's Geography Department Chair. Cruz now serves as Delgado's mentor.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTIAN DELGADO

FAMILY Above: Elvin Delgado with his sister, while he was in college. Below: Elvin Delgado shows his smile during his high school years.

"One of the things he always said was that I'm like his dad. He's shown me so much love, appreciation and respect that has really touched me," Cruz said.

According to Cruz, Elvin Delgado called him one day and expressed interest in geography.

Elvin Delgado and Cruz met the next day and by the end of their meeting, Elvin Delgado was on his way to declaring a geography major, with an emphasis in medical geography.

"He was very intelligent and conversational. He quickly became interested," Cruz said. "He was always generous, and willing to help others."

During Elvin Delgado's undergraduate years, Cruz presented him with an internship opportunity at National Geographic in Washington D.C. Cruz said Delgado was

so generous, that when he received the application materials for the competitive internship, he gave the information to multiple students so they could also apply.

With Cruz's support and guidance, Elvin Delgado's hard work landed him a six-month internship at National Geographic as cartographer in 2000.

"I dreamt of working at National Geographic as a photographer, never a cartographer," Elvin Delgado said.

Cartography particularly struck his interest because he wanted to create maps and learn about the art and science that goes into them.

"Geography is such an underestimated discipline, and it's so powerful," Elvin Delgado said.

In addition to geography and

photography, Elvin Delgado excelled in many other areas, especially sports.

"Elvin was considered one of the best fencers in Puerto Rico," Christian Delgado said.

Elvin Delgado traveled as far as the Dominican Republic to represent the University of Puerto Rico.

"He competed in a competition where whoever won would've made the Olympic team," Christian Delgado said. "Unfortunately, one of his blades broke and injured his leg, preventing him from winning."

Christian Delgado said everyone they knew was confident he would've won.

"As an athlete he was incredible. He had a natural athletic ability to be good at anything when it came to sports," Christian Delgado said.

Despite his background, there was never a doubt that Elvin Delgado would be successful. His talents even extend to the music scene.

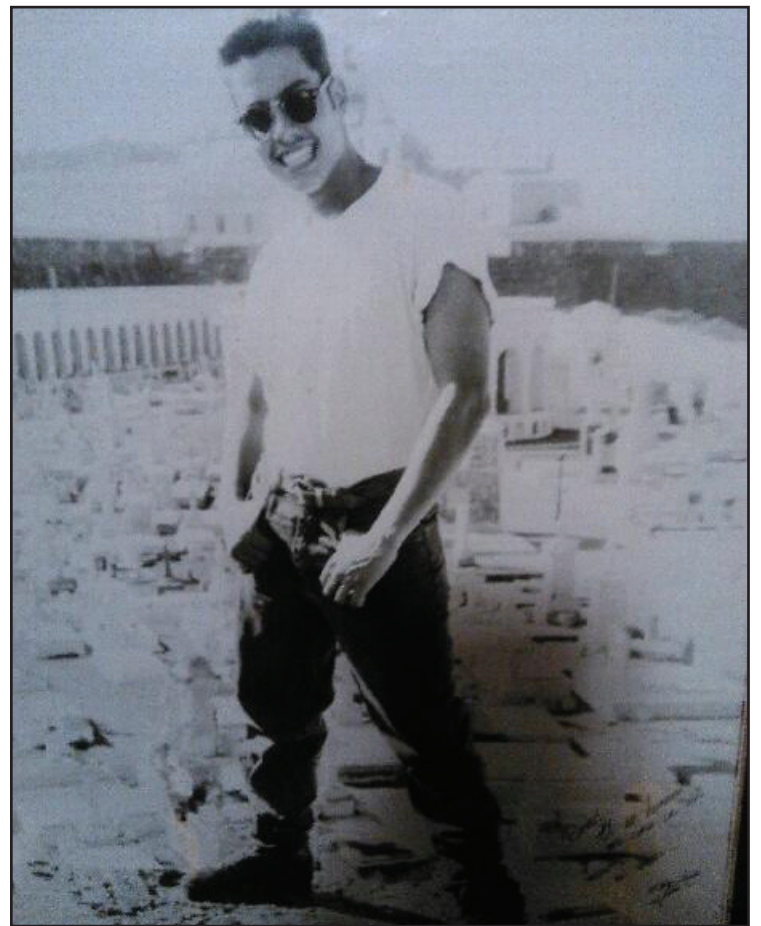
Cruz said that Elvin Delgado was once a part of a merengue music group during his undergraduate years. The group would travel to perform salsa-esque music throughout Puerto Rico and the states.

Elvin Delgado eventually found himself attending school as a full-time student, while perfecting his fencing and Judo skills and working at The Gap. With so many commitments, Elvin Delgado's grades began to slip.

He soon realized he needed to commit to what was most important. Cruz told Elvin Delgado to picture what he wanted his life to look like in 30 years.

"I said 'listen, do you want to stay at the Gap or do you want to go to graduate school and make a significant contribution,'" Cruz said. "He's like a son to me, and I think he perceived that from the beginning."

Elvin Delgado notes Cruz as



being one of the greatest influences in his life because Cruz believed in him when he didn't believe in himself.

"He brought up the idea of National Geographic," Elvin Delgado said. "It is because of him that I am here."

Elvin Delgado's consistent determination led him to complete a Master's of Science degree at University of Akron in Ohio, and earn his Ph.D. from Syracuse University's highly competitive program.

Upon completion of his senior research project in Venezuela, multiple universities offered him teaching opportunities.

Elvin Delgado joined Central's geography department in September 2012, partly due to the fact that Ellensburg proved to be the best place to raise a family.

Today, Elvin Delgado is working hard to establish a new energy institute at Central, which would include degrees to prepare students for paid apprenticeships in areas involving energy management.

"I always tell my students you can do anything in life, you just have to work hard," Elvin Delgado said.

Elvin Delgado loves helping his students, and watching them succeed.

"I try to inspire my students to see beyond the technical aspects of energy so they will better understand geography," Elvin Delgado said. "Whether that means choosing paper over plastic or walking to school over driving, I try to get my students to see that every decision they make has an impact."

Phase II on pace for Dec. completion

BY BRADLY SMITH
Staff Reporter

The mild weather this winter has played a significant role in keeping Science Phase II construction on schedule.

"We are on schedule to be done by the projected date," said Ryan Swartz, the project engineer for Lydig Construction.

That date is Dec. 31 this year. "The mild weather has helped us with the cast-in-place concrete," Swartz said.

Swartz explained that cast-in-place concrete is a method using pre-mixed concrete that is placed into removable forms, built on-site.

The entire project will use about 7,500 cubic yards of concrete when all is said and done.

"We are using concrete instead of steel columns," Swartz said. "The steel columns go up a lot quicker than the concrete does."

The drying process of the concrete can slow down the overall construction rate. However, because of the fair weather, Lydig is on its way to on-time completion.

After Dec. 31, there will be a period of 60 days that will be used for touch ups, testing and getting all of the equipment into the building.

In May of 2014, Science Phase II broke ground. At the

start of construction for the new building, an open public ceremony displayed what the project had in store for Central students.

It was projected that the overall cost of the project would be around \$66 million. According to the Central website, \$61 million was given for the building itself and another "\$6 million will be used to connect the facility to the campus information, power and utilities."

Lydig put in the lowest bid for the job at about \$37 million. That only includes the construction of the building, Swartz said.

This cost does not include all of the furniture and electronic equipment that Central will be installing upon completion.

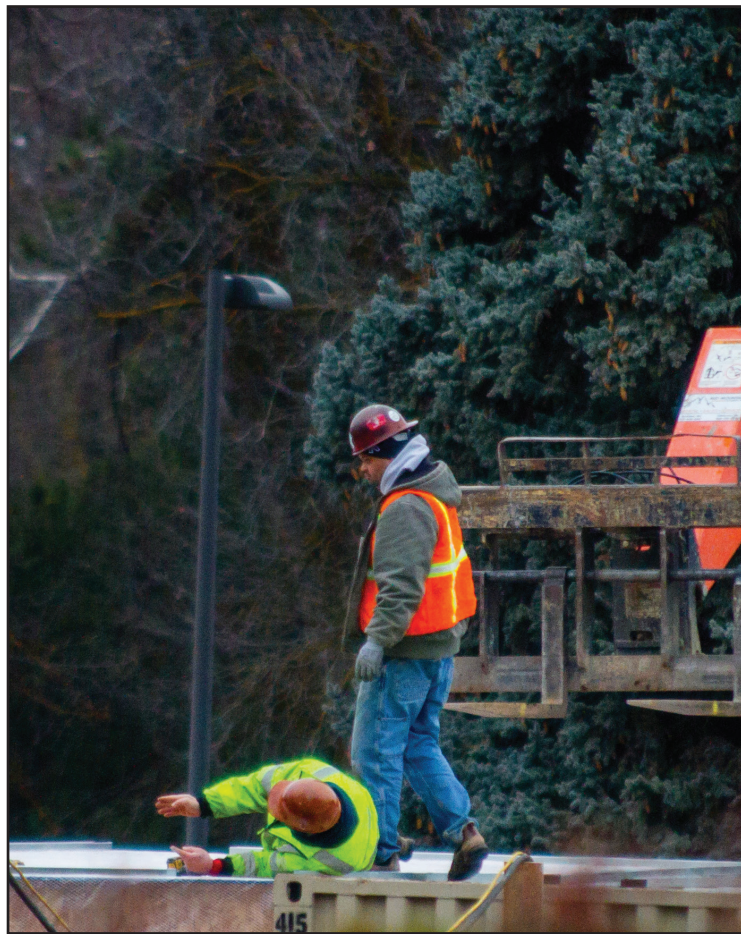
The construction has helped the local economy as well.

"Throughout the entire project there will be about three to four hundred people working, if not more," Swartz said.

These numbers include both full and part-time workers. Swartz also said that there may be people who he only needs to work on site for a few weeks at a time.

Swartz said Lydig has several other subcontractors, such as landscapers and mechanical workers, that come and go as needed.

There are always different jobs that need to be done that re-



XANDER DECCIO/OBSERVER

HARD AT WORK Phase II is planned to be finished by Dec. 31.

quire different fields of expertise.

Charles Goodwin, a junior geography major, is looking forward to the new building.

"Dean Hall is where I spend

a lot of my time. I think the new building is a great investment," Goodwin said. "I'm excited to be able to see the finished project next year and be able to use it."

Sparrow Club: helping kids help each other

BY FELICIA KOPPERDAHL
Staff Reporter

The local non-profit organization Sparrow Club, which is partnered with the Central Athletics department, is turning heads because they're "helping kids help kids" in medical need.

Nancy Wilson, former president and board member, said anyone can put on a fundraiser and give the money to a family in need, but that isn't what the Sparrow Club does.

Children 17 years and younger in medical need are referred to the Sparrow Club.

A local school and a sponsor, usually a business, adopts the Sparrow child. The school children engage in community service and earn sponsor dollars. The business, along with the school, donates money toward that child's medical costs.

"To have a project you need a sponsor, student and school," Wilson said.

Sam Cathcart, Sparrow Club coordinator, had an opportunity to work with the club after he graduated from Central. He started to volunteer, and Sparrow then gave him the opportunity to work for them.

"All our children are referred to us either by children's hospitals, a local physician/doctor, a community member or even other Sparrow families," Cathcart said. "They refer them to Sparrow or they download an application from the website. As a coordinator, it is my job to evaluate the applications, meet with the families, talk to them and explain our process. See if it is something they want to do, because a part of being a part of Sparrow is putting yourself out there a bit because we do a lot of stuff with the media."

Jan Clark, the mother of 11-year-old Sparrow child Avory Clark, said a Sparrow Club member approached her family after learning of Avory's story. She learned what the club was and made sure Avory understood

CWU Women's Basketball "Sparrow Night"

When: Feb. 12, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Where: Nicholson Pavilion

Price: \$8, donations accepted

Prize: Seahawks gear

For more information, go to www.sparrowclubs.org, or like their Facebook page "Central Washington Sparrow Clubs USA"

that her story would be public if the family went along with it. The choice was left up to Avory. Avory has been a Sparrow child since August 2014.

"She was diagnosed with Samter's Triad," Clark said. "It causes swelling, hives and wheezing. She also has asthma, nasal polyps and allergies."

As a result, Avory Clark is also allergic to many medications.

Jan Clark said the Sparrow Club is wonderful, and she is grateful for their help.

"It is a great organization with the concept of 'helping kids help kids' so that they can learn by donating hours of helping others toward matching funds donated," Clark said. "The only con is that more people don't know about it or what it's all about."

Sparrow Club has also put together the "Sparrow Singers" group.

"It's a choir. There are about 50 of us now. It's a multi-generational choir," Wilson said. "It's people from all over the community who love to sing for benefits for Sparrow or other benefit events around the community."

Wilson enjoys spending time with the Sparrow Club.

"I'm happy to be here," Wilson said. "You're never too young to make a difference."

CWU's fresh food options

BY TERA STENHOUSE
Staff Reporter

Lately there has been a push by students for more fresh produce in the Central Market Place and C-Store because of the desire to be able to cook healthy meals from their dorm rooms.

Steven Walsh, seniorelementary education major, has lived on campus for three years and sees the need for more fresh options.

"I think the SURC should have more fresh produce because it's the basic building block of a lot of different recipes," Walsh said. "There are times where I'd rather make my own meals, and having fresh veggies would help."

Students are always on the go, and sometimes it's faster to grab something to bring to class. Central Group Fitness Instructor Elainna Jordan said if there were more fresh options, it would be easier to make healthy choices.

"Eating at the SURC makes it difficult; you either eat too much bad food, or not enough," Jordan said. "More options make it easier for students to grab something healthy in between classes."

Jordan said there are not enough healthy options for nutritional guidelines to be met because the healthy food is gone before the afternoon.

"Nutritional guidelines say that there are three to six servings of fruit a day," Jordan said. "It's extremely hard to meet this because the fruit is used up by the



JOHN WHITTLESEY/OBSERVER

LOOKIN' FRESH Fresh fruits are hard to come by at CWU.

morning and it's not available to everybody, which is the biggest issue."

Since there has been such a push for more fresh produce, Central Dining Services has made an effort to add healthier dining options for students.

At the C-Store, students have the option of buying "grab and go" snack packs, apple slices, pre-made salads and veggie trays.

Central Dining Kitchen Manager Jim Matheny said that the amount of fresh produce at the C-Store has actually increased since last spring.

"Our supply is meeting the demand," Matheny said. "We doubled the amount of grab and goes last spring."

Dining Services has also add-

ed more healthy substitutes in the Central Market Place.

"We have phased out hot dogs and added baked potatoes, which has been a hit," Matheny said.

Matheny encourages students to give Dining their input because they want to meet the students' needs.

"Comment cards are great and if there are specific dietary needs, they should directly contact me," Matheny said.

The C-Store also provides a gluten-free section for students.

For more, call Dining Services at:
(509)963-1584

Students get a taste for politics

BY CHACE DAVY
News Editor

During Central's faculty development day on Jan. 28, a small group of Central students, as well as Central's Student Government (SG) took a day trip to Olympia to lobby Washington's legislators.

In small groups, the students visited individual legislators to lobby for topics ranging from elementary school programs like Compass to Campus to tuition freezes and campus renovations.

Danielle Sprague, who works for Compass to Campus, was lobbying for funding to keep sending mentors to fifth grade classrooms.

It's "a good way to talk with the representatives to show them that we've made improvements," Sprague said.

Students also lobbied for funding for the renovations of the Samuelson Building and Lind Hall.

If funded fully, the Samuelson Building would house the math and information technology departments.

Lind Hall is going to house the ROTC program.

Rep. Drew Hansen of the 23rd District, didn't have a di-



PHOTOS BY DERRICK CLARIT/OBSERVER

POLITICS Rep. Hansen met with students during Lobby Day.

rect answer for whether or not he would support any of the proposals to which he was introduced.

Spencer Biallas, the SG Vice President for Equity and Community Affairs, presented the funding request to Hansen.

"The way he quickly dismissed the funding for the supplemental request...sounded like it was pretty unlikely it was going to pass," Biallas said.

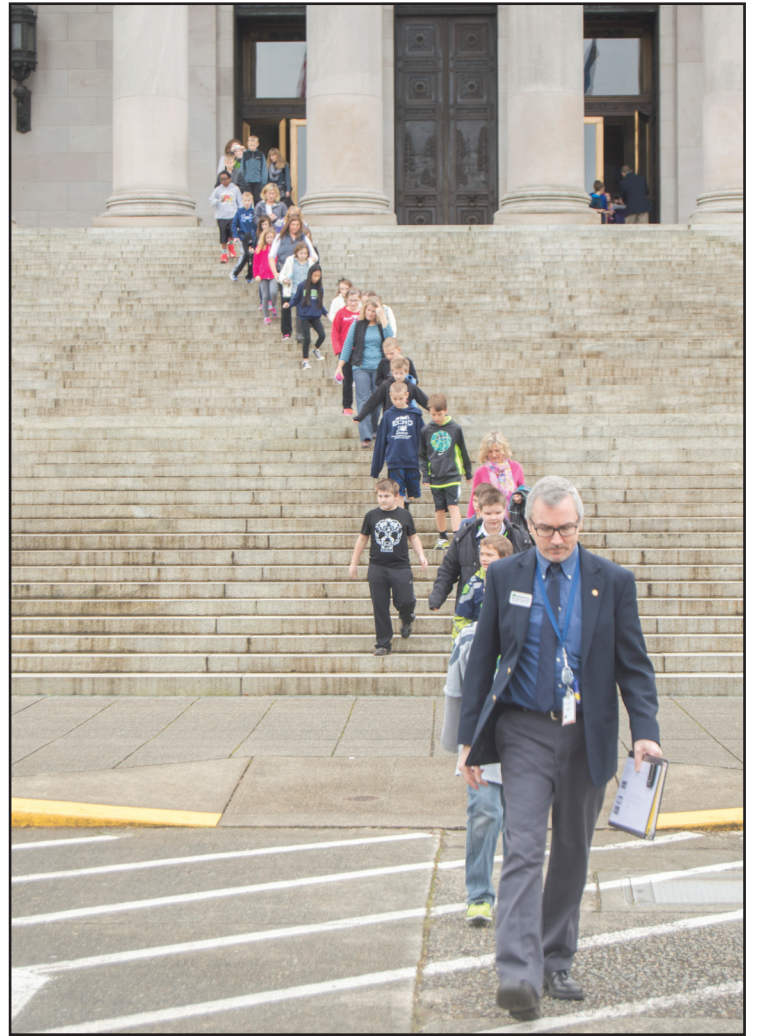
This year, unfortunately, there weren't a lot of students who went on the trip, despite

transportation being provided by Central. SG President Yosef Gamble is hoping that this will change in the next couple years.

"We'll just have to explore the ways that we can reach out to students so that they'll show up to these events," Gamble said.

Despite the low attendance, Gamble thinks that the majority of the attendees of the lobby day were successful.

"Many of the senators and representatives that we met were very receptive to what we were putting out there," Gamble said.



SCHOOL Elementary students touring the Olympia capitol campus.

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Game of Sex: Boob Age



BY ADAM WILSON/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

War. Dragons. Kate Upton. Death. Kate Upton. Boobs. Kate Upton. Ass. Kate Upton. Sex. Kate Upton.

I think I lost myself thinking about Kate Upton for those 30 seconds. I'm sure that was the intention with Machine Zone's mobile app "Game of War: Fire Age" and its sex-fueled advertisements.

As if the mobile game industry needed another reason to have its credibility tarnished. Many of these games, including the most popular game on the market, "Clash of Clans," rely on a reward system that doesn't actually mean anything in the long term.

Whereas a more legitimate game rewards you by advancing the plot or opening up more content to experience; these free-mium games gratify you through nothing worthwhile. It's an addictive struggle of building your city for the sake of building your city. Not because it's fun, but because you're compelled to keep doing it.

It's the same concept that makes games such as "The Simpsons: Tapped Out" so horrible, and yet so popular. It provides a basic desire to progress, yet does not have an end goal, leaving the player stuck in an infinite loop that won't end until they put the



GAME OF WAR: FIRE AGE/YOUTUBE

game down, if they do at all.

"Extra Credits," a web series that analyzes video games on an intellectual and academic level, heavily criticized the practice.

"The problem is that it's a lazy and cheap way to get someone to think they're enjoying your product," the web series said.

But "Game of War" went one step further in its design. It plastered Upton's admittedly awe-

some boobs all over the advertising campaign, to the point that it doesn't even show what the actual game is about.

"Clash of Clans" didn't add bouncing tits to its ad campaign, but apparently it's what "Game of War" needed to be relevant."

Granted, Upton DOES appear within "Game of War" as your personal assistant Athena, so her presence in the commercials isn't completely off-base. Then again, her cameo in the game is completely meaningless.

It's clear that the developers

wanted to market sex from the start and threw in Athena an afterthought, so any criticism that they are selling sex—which they still are—would sound unjustified.

And the worst part of it all? It's not the blatant objectification of a modern-day sex symbol. It's the sexualization of Machine Zone's entire product in order to compete with the game it completely rips off in the first place. "Clash of Clans" didn't add bouncing tits to its ad campaign, but apparently it's what "Game of War" needed to be relevant.

According to Forbes, Machine Zone had a \$40 million advertising budget that went towards this

garbage. That's \$40 million that could have gone to something so much more profound — a narrative-driven indie game, or a remaster of an old classic, or literally anything but advertising this freemium trash.

And it's not like they needed to leave the mobile scene to do these things either. Ever heard of "DEVICE6" or "Year Walk"? These are two amazing games with deep storylines that were designed for mobile.

So now what are we left with in "Game of War"? It's a clone of a skinner box that relies on sex to get people to play it. If that's not enough to get you to stop playing, I don't know what is.

Eat fresh—if you can find it on campus



BY HALEY CURL/COPY DESK CHIEF

Nearly 20 percent of American children and adolescents are obese, according to a recent report by the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition (PCFSPN).

The percentage of obesity within the age group of 12 to 19 years old has more than tripled since the rise of the fried and fast-food world.

If our population is gaining weight—to the point of obesity—between the ages of 12 and 19, then our culture is definitely doing something wrong. These adolescent years are naturally engineered to be the healthiest time of a human's life, yet one in five young people in America are obese? That is horrifying.

The PCFSPN has also released a projected statistic that, in the next 15 years, half of American adults will be considered obese. This doesn't mean that

only 50 percent of people will be overweight; this means that half of us will be so overweight that it is a diagnosable health issue.

The main arguments for why our country eats so badly are as follows: There isn't enough time to make a healthy meal, and it's easier to get something on the road.

We are a culture of instant gratification. We never sit still, unless we're binge watching something on Netflix. The constant rush of our day makes it very difficult to eat something healthy, or so we believe. But what about apples? Bananas? Any kind of natural food that you can eat raw?

These produce items are available on campus, but only in very few places and for a very short amount of time. Fresh fruit is offered in the C-Store, but it is regularly emptied by noon on restock days.

It's understandable; produce

goes bad. It makes sense that our dining hall services wouldn't want to order massive amounts of it and be stuck with the rotten leftovers.

But this also means that, because our campus is attempting not to waste healthy foods, any student with morning classes is doomed to a life without easy access to fresh produce unless it is on top of a burger.

"Any student with morning classes is doomed to a life without easy access to fresh produce unless it is on top of a burger."

True, there is the salad bar. It's great that we have that available. But the taste of salad gets old really quickly, especially if you eat it every day.

Would it really be so difficult to have any number of separate fruit and veggies available at a produce section in the C-store? Bags of apples, oranges, carrots, celery and many other healthy choices would make life incredibly more simplified.

Of course, there is the argument that we have grocery stores just down the road. I make trips

on a regular basis, just to keep up with my desired diet. However, a student with a meal plan should not have to buy any food besides that which they have already paid for.

Meal plans are meant to ensure that good food is available to you without any hassle. If there are limited healthy options within that meal plan, the "freshmen 15" becomes the "freshmen 30" very quickly.

Awareness needs to be raised, and steps need to be taken. No

matter how often we work out, we have to be able to burn off what we eat. Sometimes, it seems impossible, or ridiculously difficult, to do.

There will be a petition starting up this month, demanding that Central takes a closer look at its dietary options. Towards the end of the month, there will be a table in the SURC where you can sign the petition in person, or go to the "Healthier Eating Option CWU Students 2015" Facebook page and sign it online today.

DEAR READERS:

The Observer welcomes brief letters of 300 words or less from readers on current issues. Please include your full name and university affiliation: year and major, degree and year graduated, or staff position and department. To be printed in the following week's issue, use the "Submit a Letter" link on cwuobserver.com by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Observer reserves the right to reject or edit for style and length. All letters become property of The Observer. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

A new addition to the family

Winegar's opens new store location at Jerrol's

BY MORGAN GREEN
 Staff Reporter

Throughout the years Winegar's has stayed true to the family that is its namesake, even after nineteen years of selling coffee and ice cream.

The small family owned business of Winegar's began in 1956 with a farm and milking cows. Over the years it evolved into an ice cream and coffee retailer.

Now, 19 years after opening their first storefront, the business has stayed true to the family and is still run by the brother-sister duo, Kori Winegar and Richelle Higdon.

It's not rare to see family businesses in the area, but it is uncommon for them to span decades and generations. The business is into its third generation of Winegar's.

According to Higdon, Kori Winegar and her family connection is one of the reasons for their success.

"It works out pretty well, actually, because we are opposite personalities," Higdon said. "Together we make a good team."

Kori Winegar also feels it's their personal dynamic that has helped Winegar's to grow and continue to be successful over the years.

"My sister and I get along well, she balances me," Kori Winegar said, "I am the dreamer and she is the realist."

Amongst the family and the employees, Kori Winegar is known as the "coffee guru."

"I was the first one in the family that really took on the coffee and said 'I want to try this and taste it, and figure it out,'" Kori Winegar said.

Kori Winegar believes there is such a thing as a perfect cup of coffee, but it's hard to achieve.

"There is so much to [coffee], when it comes down to it," Winegar said. "That is where a lot of people do not realize, the at-



DAKOTA JOHNSON/OBSERVER

SO MANY OPTIONS Sophia Walsh helps a family pick an ice cream flavor. The store features 24 of its flavors at any given time.

Winegar's at Jerrol's
Location: 111 East University Way (Attached to Jerrol's)
Hours: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Opening Date: Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015 (Valentine's Day)

mosphere alone can change how [espresso] shots are."

Kori Winegar admits that when he first began he did not know much about coffee.

"I started like a lot of people, where I threw in a bunch of chocolate and caramel," Kori Winegar said.

Winegar attributes his coffee knowledge to a good network of coffee professionals.

"I learned a lot from the roaster," Kori Winegar said. "It is just a matter of caring. I care about our product."

Kori Winegar said the perfect cup of coffee is dependent on the temperature of your espresso machine, the grind, the beans and how they were roasted.

"The espresso part of it, I want it to be a good sweet, caramelized flavor that you can taste, but it doesn't linger in the back of your mouth," Kori Winegar said.

For those who are not into espresso based drinks, Winegar's offers an Extreme Bull 101 menu of flavored energy drinks. Kori Winegar mentioned that the initial idea for the flavored energy drinks came from a customer, but it was one of their Central

student employees who made it what it is today.

"We had a team member who was searching for a project for school, and so we created the Extreme Bulls," Winegar said.

The student employee, Samantha Faust, a recreation management alumnus, created the various flavors, processes and rewards cards.

"There were people who came in and wanted coffee but the [person with them] did not want coffee," Kori Winegar said. "But they wanted something to get them going."

“My sister and I get along well, she balances me ... I am the dreamer and she is the realist.”
-Kori Winegar
 Co-Owner of Winegar's

A long with Winegar's plethora of drink options, the ice cream is there for custom-

SEE WINEGAR'S, P. 10



DAKOTA JOHNSON/OBSERVER

BUSY BAKER When not in the store, Richelle Higdon also bakes the muffins and scones the store sells.

A history of Winegar's

The story of Winegar's (WHY-neh-gars) ice cream began with Truman Winegar, grandfather to current brother-sister owners Kori Winegar and Richelle Higdon. Truman Winegar opened his farm in 1956 with just milking-cows. By 1960, he started to sell the milk to the public.

In 1972, Truman Winegar's son, Gary Winegar, took over the farm and began producing two-percent milk. After buying bottles in 1982, their milk was sold in local stores such as Albertsons, Super 1 Foods, and the 18th Street Deli.

The business went into a new frontier in 1992; ice cream. According to Higdon, both her and her father Gary Winegar had always wanted to use the leftover cream from their milk production and decided to use it for ice cream.

The first flavors were vanilla, chocolate and "Nutty Truman," in honor of Higdon's grandfather.

Their first retail location at 7th and Main opened in 1996, where they sold coffee and ice cream. For four years, Winegar's did it all; made coffee, ice cream, milked cows and bottled it.

According to Kori Winegar, they sold the cows in 1996 and stopped bottling milk in 1997. The regulations for a dairy farm required the Winegars to install a lagoon for the manure, and the family did not feel right having one put in when their farm was so close to Mt. Stuart School.

Kori Winegar also said that the first year they didn't have to leave right after Thanksgiving dinner to go milk cows felt "off."

After the farm was sold, the Winegars focused their efforts on their ice cream and coffee business.

Since 2007 they've been selling from the corner of Alder and University Way, and they plan on opening their newest location, connected to Jerrol's on university, Feb. 14.

Fighting human trafficking

BY BRITTANY ALLEN
Staff Reporter

The Unheard Voices Benefit Concert was held on Wednesday, Feb. 4, and had the theme of Fighting Human and Labor Trafficking in Wash.

Every quarter, Unheard Voices, a program through the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE), hosts an event based off of the survey results collected from their previous event.

This time, the most popular educational topic was human trafficking.

The Washington Anti-trafficking Response Network (WARN) defines human trafficking as “the use of force, fraud or coercion to compel a person into any form of work or service against their will.”

WARN provides information on how to identify and possibly stop a trafficking situation on their web site.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated in 2014 that approximately 21 million people are being forced into labor, globally: 11.4 million females and 9.5 million males, respectively.

According to the ILO, “of those exploited [. . .] 4.5 million are victims of forced sexual exploitation.”

Human trafficking is used for sex work, manual labor and other domestic work industries.

According to the ILO, indigenous people and those who are migrating to find work are more susceptible

to entering into abusive occupations.

According to the Polaris Project, a non-profit dedicated to fighting against slavery and human trafficking, “victims are frequently lured by false promises of a lucrative job, stability, education or a loving relationship.”

Polaris also said, “Immigration status, recruitment debt, isolation, poverty and a lack of strong labor protections are just some of the vulnerabilities that can lead to labor trafficking.”

Labor trafficking is the most common type of trafficking found in the state.

Partnering with Campus Activities, WARN, and Northwest Justice Project (NJP), Unheard Voices hosted a benefit concert

on Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the SURC Pit to entertain and to inform people about the problem of human trafficking and labor trafficking specifically.

The partnership between Campus Activities and the CLCE is new this quarter. Upon finding that they had two events scheduled back-to-back, one being the trafficking program and the other a Will Evans concert, the two organizations

decided to combine the two.

Head of planning for the Unheard Voices portion of the evening are program leaders Rachel Mahnke, junior economics major, and Jessica Baker, senior environmental biology major.

Both did a bit of research before planning this event.

“I didn’t realize how big of an issue it was and that was kind of shocking,” Baker said. “You kind of hear about it in the background, but it’s never been like, ‘whoa, that’s a lot.’”

Both of the non-Central organizations working with Unheard Voices are based in Yakima, a hub for agricultural business in Washington.

“There’s a really big business, I guess you could say, for having immigrants working for you, but not documenting it, not doing it the proper way,” Mahnke said. “That’s where labor trafficking comes in. And that’s the focus of these organizations.”

Involved in the entertainment aspect of this event are three performers: two student groups brought in by the CLCE and one headliner, as previously booked by Campus Activities, Will Evans. In between performances, members of WARN and NJP provided information on the topic of labor trafficking in our area.

Both organizations set up tables with staff to answer questions throughout the event in order to allow students to connect with them and get more information.

“It’s about spreading awareness for people who want to get involved,” Mahnke said. “We want to give them the opportunity to make the connections because a lot of people at the college are like ‘I really think this is bad that this is going on, but what can I do about?’”

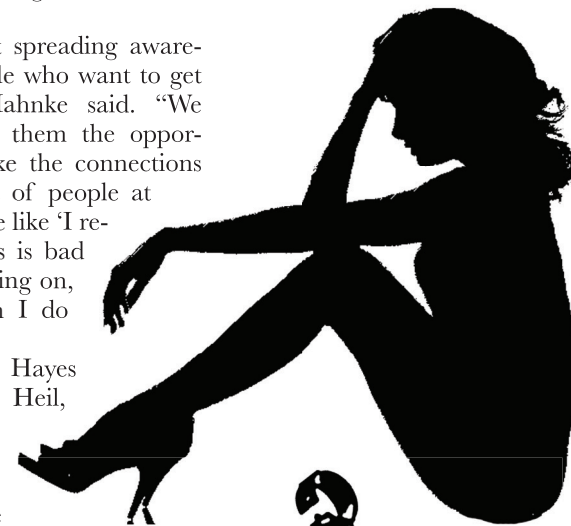
Samantha Hayes and Stephen Heil, who are both in charge of musical programs for the department, along with Scott Drummond, Director of Campus Activities, are involved with the Campus Activities side of things.

“The idea came up, ‘would Will possibly be willing to join in on the program and I guess in a sense become the headliner of that evening to kind of bring a little extra to the program?’” Drummond said.

Will Evans, who was originally booked by the team at Campus Activities for a separate event, acted as the face of the evening.

By agreeing to play for this benefit he has signed on to present himself as an advocate for human trafficking awareness.

“[Will Evans] is going to add his name to that,” Drummond said. “He’s really willing to go ahead and do that and to kind of



“[...] A lot of people at the college are like, ‘I really think this is bad that this is going on, but what can I do about it?’”

-Rachel Mahnke
Junior economics major

service that capstone piece to that evening.”

The event will not only be an example of how different Central departments can work together, but how Central as a school can bring people in to unite around a certain cause, like educating people on the reality of human trafficking.

“Unheard Voices is just an outlet for us to bring people in that are experts on the topic,” Mahnke said.

What do you think of campus Internet?



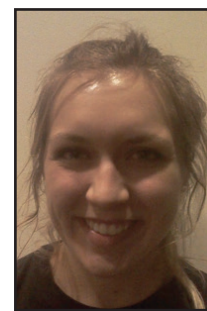
“I think the wifi needs to be upgraded. It’s no longer considered high-speed because high-speed is 25 mbps (megabytes per second). We need at least 25 mbps.”

Julian Avalos
Computer science freshman



“I think it’s a little slow and I live in an on-campus apartment. It goes out a couple times a day. My Xbox can never really connect to the internet.”

Jonathan Chavez
Accounting grad student



“I use it 24/7 pretty much. At my house, if I want to download a movie or watch Netflix, I have to turn the other devices off that I use for wifi.”

Rachel Mahnke
Economics junior



“I think it’s alright, but they need to support more devices for wireless connectivity.”

Nolan Sager
ITAM sophomore



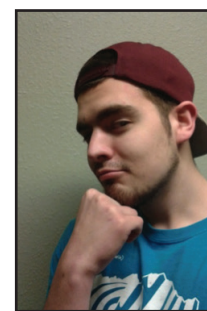
“It’s fine. It works a lot better than mine at home because I can actually watch full seasons on Netflix.”

Mariah Ladd
Undeclared sophomore



“It’s irritating having to reconnect all the time. It needs better service or better locations for the routers,”

Alex Black
Elementary education senior



“I think it is decent, but for how much I pay to live on campus, they could do better.”

Kurtis Carpenter
GI Science junior

Oscar review corner

#1: Boyhood



IFC PRODUCTIONS

BY JONATHAN GLOVER
Assistant Scene Editor

If you told me Richard Linklater (*School of Rock*, *Dazed and Confused*) started shooting a film 12 years ago, I would have called you crazy. Well as it turns out, he did do that, and wow, what a movie.

"Boyhood" is a story of Dad (Ethan Hawke), Mommy (Patricia Arquette) and their son, Mason, in a career-defining role from Ellar Coltrane. Starting with Mason at the age of 5, the audience is treated to a one of a kind experience as the film covers his life up until his 18th birthday.

The film begins with Mason and his sister, Samantha (Lorelei Linklater) moving into a new house with their mom. As she struggles with raising her two children while working and taking college classes, Dad is introduced to the story as the typical

dead-beat type.

The movie is scripted as a traditional coming of age story, but with a twist. Each scene in "Boyhood" is actually a new year in Mason's life. By filming and cutting the movie this way, the filmmakers have essentially documented a year-to-year arc of Mason, and by association, Coltrane.

The story itself actually isn't important or really even the focus of the movie. Nothing entirely exciting or out of the ordinary happens to Mason. In fact, if this movie were filmed traditionally with different aged actors playing the roles, the movie would have fallen flat.

And that's where Linklater's brilliant directing comes in. The movie isn't capturing the story of "Boyhood," so much as it's capturing the actors growing and changing. Each scene and situation is structured so authentically

that it stops feeling like a feature film and starts feeling like a Hollywood budgeted home-movie.

Watching this movie is literally like watching somebody grow up right before your eyes. I've honestly never seen anything like it. Despite the film's three-hour run time, I didn't notice it dragging at all. In fact, when I knew the conclusion was nearing, I hoped a little more could be squeezed out of the story because I didn't want it to end.

Mason's character development is so real and touches so close to home that you'd figure Linklater based the screenplay off of your own life. Late in the movie, Mason captures the question the movie imposes by asking, "Dad, there's no real magic in the world, right?"

No, Mason, there is. And you've helped create it. You've also helped create one of the best movies of the decade.

#2: Birdman

BY ADAM WILSON
Editor-in-Chief

"Birdman" follows the last few moments before Riggan (Michael Keaton), who is otherwise known better by his most famous character "Birdman," unveils his debut Broadway play in which he is both acting and directing.

The underlying plot, however, takes viewers through the mental toll the production has on Riggan as every wrench is thrown into the cogs before it actually premieres.

The story is about a play, and the movie feels like one as well. Each scene is filmed in one shot, and the entire film is edited to make each scene's transition seamless.

The result is a movie where every moment, from the passionate kisses to the heated arguments and glasses thrown against walls, becomes much more intense and real. Just like watching a play, I felt more emotionally attached to these characters than any other movie I've seen.

It's a true testament to the



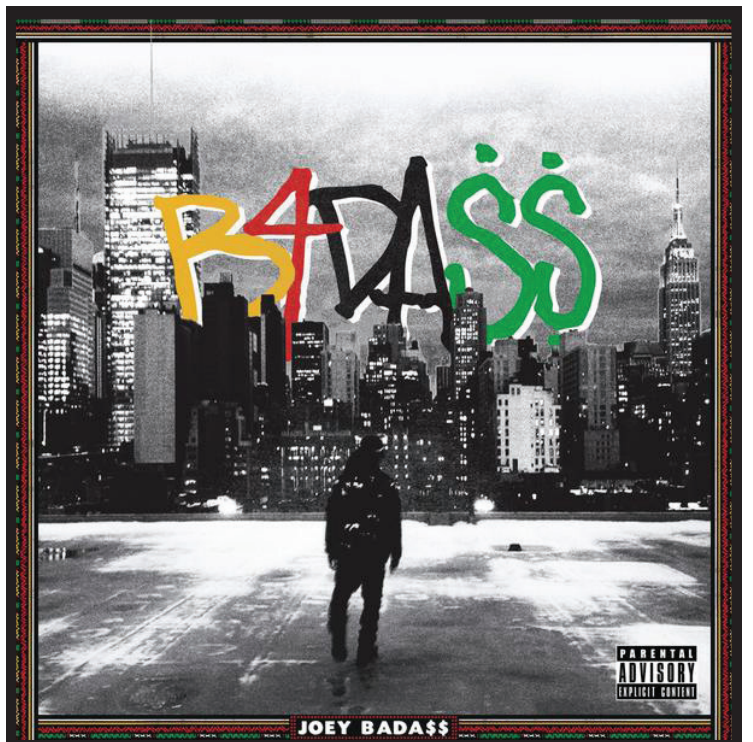
FOX SEARCHLIGHT

cast's ability to keep its composure so well during these scenes. It's one thing not to break character or mess up a 30-second shot. For six minutes it's nothing sort of fantastic.

But it's more than the leads who had to do this; it's also the audience in the theatre, the dozens of passers-by on the street and the patrons in the bar who elevate "Birdman" from being

more than a great movie, but instead a masterpiece.

"Birdman" was a risky project that couldn't have been more successful in its execution. It's a movie that shines in every aspect, but above all, it's cinematography. It's the cinematography that helps bring everything else to life, resulting in one of the best movies to hit the silver screen in some time.



Album Review: B4.Da.\$\$, by Joey Bada\$\$

BY NICHOLAS OLIVER
Staff Reporter

On Jan. 20, Joey Bada\$\$ released his first full length album, B4.Da.\$\$, which can be read as *Before the Money*.

Critics have been quick to compare his music to '90s east coast greats such as Biggie Smalls and the Wu-Tang Clan. The New York teenager, Jo-Vaughn Scott, a.k.a. Joey Bada\$\$ has gathered critical acclaim for releasing two mixtapes filled with 90's style rap with a surprisingly sharp edge that shows wisdom beyond his age.

On Joey's 20th birthday, his long-awaited proper debut album B4.DA.\$\$ was released.

Its greatness is noticeable as soon as you hear the room-filling applause during its first song "Save The Children."

It's alarmingly obvious that the album is more mature than any of his previous projects. I would dare to say that his masterful wordplay and lyrics are equal to or better than other current rap artists such as Ab-Soul and Schoolboy Q.

The album is structured under the same wide scope as many of the 90's rap albums that have influenced Joey.

Joey's classic hip-hop vibe wouldn't mean so much if he wasn't such a thought-provoking rapper. His flow is intense, yet playful and confident, but not egotistical.

His rhyming can be easily dismissed as frantic rapid-fire, but when you dig deeper into his wordplay, you realize the art of his deliberately paced lyrics and themes.

With lyrics like "your favorite mellow schizo," from the song "O.C.B.," Joey describes himself as being mellow and schizophrenic, which, best describes his music style.

His beats have calm moving

grooves, yet every lyric is delivered with a sense of urgency.

"O.C.B." is a standout track on the album, thanks to the New Orleans brass band, The Soul Rebels, who really give the song an almost Frank Sinatra feel.

The song is simple and Joey's verses really have that playground rap feel to them, with lyrics like "Yo Jo-Vaughn, clean your room, OCD, OCD / I used to wanna be like ODB, ODB / Now I'm a rap star, OMG, OMG."

It's songs like this that show Joey has a sense of humor. The teen raps these lines in much the same way a bored high school senior would read his biology report.

This album is more personal and seems to have more of a purpose than his mix tapes.

"B4.DA. \$\$" does carry a dark tone throughout the album, with themes dealing with what its like to be a young black man in America.

However the sun does break through with a little help from Joey's friends like BJ the Chicago Kid, who channels his inner Marvin Gaye with the track "Like Me."

Many critics have been quick to judge Joey on both his lack of risks and lack of features on the album; however, I think that's the point of B4.DA.\$\$.

This is a coming of age album for Joey Bada\$\$\$. You can really hear in the writing that he's come into his own and wants to show-case his young talent

Many of the themes of atonement are very relatable to a college audience, or even anyone between the age of 19 to 30.

So whether you love, hate, or don't really care about rap music, this album is great just to appreciate as a piece of art.

WINEGAR'S

ers with a sweet tooth. The two sides of the business might seem conflicting, but Higdon feels that they balance each other out well.

"In the winter months when people are not into ice cream as much, we have the coffee," Higdon said. "In the summer, it's more ice cream [sold] than coffee."

The first batch of the homemade Winegar's ice cream was created over ten years ago in May of 1992.

According to Higdon the ice cream side of the business began when she had the idea to take the excess cream that was being laid to waste.

"My dad had this vision of 'wouldn't it be nice if we could use this cream and make ice cream,'" Higdon said.

Their first batches of ice cream were vanilla, chocolate and maple flavors.

"My grandpa used to make homemade ice cream himself," Higdon said. "His favorite flavor of ice cream was maple nut ice cream, so we definitely had to do



DAKOTA JOHNSON/OBSERVER

FAMILY FIRST Kori Winegar's 5-year-old son, Kurtis, occasionally helps out at the store with his dad.

that right off the bat."

Every member of the Winegar's family has their own flavor of ice cream tailored to their likes.

"My dad loved

Higdon said.

The ice creams that aren't named after members of the family get named by customers, Higdon said. When they create a new ice cream they send it out to customers to see what they think it should be called.

Winegar's is always striving to make the customer number one in their business.

"The customer, in my eyes, is my boss; they tell me what to do," Kori Winegar said. "If I start making a bad product, they

are going to fire me and go somewhere else."

Higdon, Winegar and the entire team really view the customers as the best part of their job.

"I love building relationships with people and getting to know people's names," said Kevin Andrews, junior business marketing major and Winegar's team lead. "I see people at the same time every shift, so I get to know them."

The team at Winegar's strives to make the atmosphere inviting. "Whether you have family

here, or you are a college student, we treat you like family," Winegar's team coach, Sara Jarmin, said.

Jarmin is a 2012 recreation and tourism graduate who worked for Winegar's all through her college years and has recently moved back into the area.

Kori Winegar wants to bring that friendly, inviting atmosphere over to the new storefront as well.

"We were able to build it from the start up, and so we are able to think the process through from a customer standpoint and from a team member 'helping the customer' standpoint," Kori Winegar said.

The new Winegar's store is set to open Feb. 14 and will be much larger than the University and Alder location. The building will be 2,400 square feet in the front with a 1,000 square foot eating room, that is rentable, behind.

According to Andrews the new location will provide twice as much seating as the current location and the double drive-thru windows will speed up the drink ordering process.

"It gives us more space to try new things," Andrews said.

The new location is only the tip of the iceberg for Winegar's.

"I have a dream of taking our ice cream to hospitals," said Kori Winegar. "And taking it to children's hospitals just to watch the kids smile."

Whether you have family here, or you are a college student, we treat you like family.

-Sara Jarmin
Winegar's Team Coach

chocolate chip cookie so we made 'Gary Dough' for him,"

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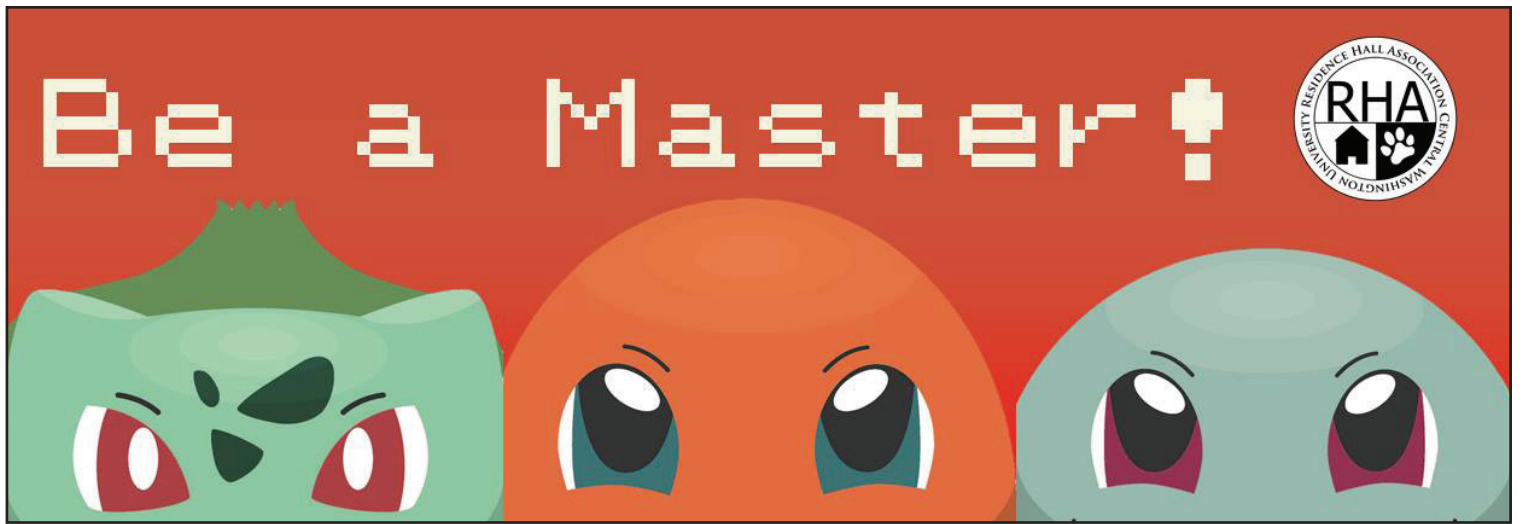
RHA brings "Be a Master" event back to Central

BY MARIA HARR
Scene Editor

Students will have a second chance to catch 'em all with the return of the Pokémon based "Be a Master!" game on Feb. 8.

This year, the Residence Hall Association (RHA) has added fairy type Pokémon, two extra gyms and about 50 new Pokémon to their day-long event.

"We're trying to make it a little more comprehensive and enjoyable," said Chloe Hildeman, senior public relations major and president of the



RHA BE A MASTER FACEBOOK

RHA.

The game was well-received when they did it last year.

"We're trying to make it a little more comprehensive and enjoyable ... Basically, it's the Pokémon experience brought to life."

-Chloe Hildeman
RHA President

"The feedback last year was phenomenal," Hildeman said. "There was nothing that was completely negative."

Hildeman and the rest of the team behind Be a Master! have implemented much of the feedback they received after last year's event.

"The biggest issue we saw

and were told about was that the Gym's were overcrowded," Hildeman said.

This year they've opened two more Gyms to help with the crowding. Each Gym will also feature an extra "tall grass" area to keep players engaged while they wait for Gym Leaders to be available.

Hildeman said she's also encouraged those running the Gyms to have something entertaining going on in the background.

The game is a pen and paper version of the Pokémon video games and follows the same pattern as the games and TV show.

"Basically, it's the Pokémon experience brought to life," Hildeman said.

First, participants go to the

Pokemon: Be a Master

Sunday, Feb. 8

11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Wellington Event Center

Free for CWU Students

"Poké Lab," located in the Wellington Events Center, to meet "Professor Hemlock," who explains the rules and gives them their starter Pokémon.

After that, the newfound Pokémon trainers can choose between the 10 available Pokémon Gyms spread out on campus. In Gyms, players will have the opportunity to search in "tall grass" for new Pokémon to catch and also battle

Gym Leaders for badges.

With eight out of 10 badges, trainers can then move on to the Elite Four, high-powered Pokémon trainers. After beating all four, they have a shot at the Champion.

This year, Tyler Van Sickle, senior business leadership and psychology major and president of the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), will play the Champion.

Last year, Van Sickle was part of the Elite Four with fighting type Pokémon, but now will use steel type.

"It's going to be bigger and better," Van Sickle said.

If they win the battle against the Champion, trainers get the sweet satisfaction of calling themselves a Pokémon Master.

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Wildcat throwdown in state

Central will host the state wrestling tournament in hopes to go to nationals



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CWU WRESTLING CLUB

HEAVYWEIGHT BATTLE Zack McCarley rises from the mat after a match. McCarley has won 10 matches this season and moves on to postseason matches this weekend.

BY KYLER ROBERTS
Staff Reporter

Time is winding down in the 2015 National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) season as Central's wrestling club prepares for the final few matches of the year.

It has been a year of ups and downs for the Wildcats. A few wrestlers have been consistent in their matches, including the team point leader, Zack McCarley.

With a record of 10 wins, seven losses and a total of 43.75 points, McCarley is one of the team's leaders, on and off the mats. He attributes his success to teammates.

"It's a great program, and a small group of awesome wrestling partners," McCarley said. "The only way an athlete can get better is by pushing themselves. If you want to be great you have to find a group of people willing to push you past

where you're comfortable."

Although Central lost their matches against Washington State University (WSU) back on Nov. 15, they still had some winners at various weights. The wrestlers have continually gotten better, including co-president Andrew Huerta.

"I started off kind of slow, heavier than I should have been, but I progressively got down in weight and got faster. I have worked on the little things to get better as the season has gone on," Huerta said.

"I started off kind of slow, heavier than I should've been, but I progressively got down in weight and got faster."

-Andrew Huerta
Wrestling club co-president

It isn't all about winning to these guys; it's about getting better and making progress. McCarley's favorite moment of his season just so happens to be a loss to a good wrestler from the University of Oregon.

"It's funny... my favorite moment was losing to John Hatch by one point. It was a bitter loss, but at the same time I wrestled really well. I made one or two small

mistakes, and when you walk away from the mat knowing that you're going to demolish your opponent next time, you have something to look forward to."

The NCWA Washington State Championships are right around the corner, on Feb. 15. Head coach, Erik Idler, is looking to win as much as possible, even though it is hard to win, as a team, against bigger schools with larger rosters.

Coach Idler believes WSU presents a great challenge because Central lacks a lot of weight classes. Idler has quite the resume, as he coached Central from 1989-1998. He produced 37 All-American wrestlers. He left to coach Ellensburg High School where he was the 2008 Washington State 2A Assistant Coach of the Year.

Idler was also honored as the Regional Assistant Coach of the Year for the 2011-2012 season. He now returns to the Wildcats,

hoping to restore the rich tradition that Central has of producing successful wrestlers.

"It's fun. The guys care, here, a lot more than they do in high school, so it's fun working with guys who are mature, and guys who wouldn't be here if they didn't care about getting better.

It makes it more enjoyable for me," Idler said.

After finishing fifth at the NCWA National tournament, and second in the Northwest Conference Championships in 2014, the wrestlers are

looking to build off of that success.

Central's wrestling team only lost two wrestlers to graduation last year, so hopes were high coming into the 2014-2015 season.

"We should be able to probably put four to five guys into the finals. Of those guys that make the finals, they all have an opportunity to win the state title. Going into this season I predicted we

"Primarily, we focus on the postseason...I would expect that we should be able to probably put four to five guys into the finals."

-Erik Idler
Head Wrestling Coach

CWU Wrestlers

Andrew Vulliet- 125 pounds

Maverick Reddaway- 141 pounds

Chris McElroy- 165 pounds

Victor McIntosh- 174 pounds

Duane Morrow- 184 pounds

Andrew Huerta- 184 pounds

Jake Ferris- 197 pounds

Zack McCarley- 235 pounds

Trevonn Russell- 235 pounds

Kevin Madson- 285 pounds

could be top three [in nationals]," Idler said.

Central's wrestling club is open to all students, both male and female, and they compete against other schools in the Pacific Northwest.

"It taught me how to be punctual and on time, help others out, and stay organized," Huerta said.



XANDER DECCIO/OBSERVER

FROM THE BENCH Head Women's Basketball Coach Jeff Harada looks on during Central's matchup with Alaska-Anchorage. Harada is in his first season with the Wildcats.

Wildcats looking to right the ship

BY MAXWELL MONSON
Staff Reporter

The Central women's Wildcats basketball team (11-8 overall, 6-5 GNAC) finished a hard two game stretch and look to take on the Simon Fraser University.

The Wildcats split with the University of Alaska Anchorage and Fairbanks losing to Anchorage 58-50 and beating Fairbanks 71-50.

The win over Fairbanks boosted the Wildcats up one spot in the playoff race, putting them at fourth place in the GNAC.

Head coach Jeff Harada is excited for the playoff race.

"I love it, this is why you play. Every game is so critical. Every loss matters and every win matters." Harada said "We are excited for it, it's a chance for us to move up or down depending on how we do."

Senior center Jasmine Parker had a big set of games putting up seven points, 11 rebounds and five blocks in the loss versus Anchorage. Parker continued her tear versus Fairbanks with 11 points, 13 rebounds and two blocks.

Harada has been pleased with Parkers play as of late.

"Her mentality, she is being aggressive. I have talked to her

about staying aggressive and looking to score, looking to make a play, make something happen." Harada said "Because she has that big play ability. She has the ability to take over games when she is on her game."

The Wildcats will look to build off their win against the Clan and the Vikings.

These next two games will be extremely important for the Wildcat's playoff chances.

The Wildcats start the road trip with Simon Fraser (SFU).

Simon Fraser is currently in fifth place in the GNAC, one spot behind the Wildcats, making this game that much more important. SFU is led by Senior guard Erin Chambers who is averaging 22.6 points per game.

She is currently leading the league in points per game. Along with Chambers they look to junior forward Meg Wilson to win the rebounding battle and give them a threat in the paint.

Wilson is averaging 13.7 points per game and 8.3 rebounds per game.

Harada knows keeping Chambers in check will be a key to beating SFU.

"We can't get down when she scores. She is gunna score, the key is making her work for her shots." Harada said "Great

player, great scorer, we just need to contain her."

Simon Fraser's offense is built on ball movement. They average five more assists per a game than their opponents.

They also have a great ability to hit the three ball making on average almost double their opponent with 8.4 per game.

The Wildcats will have to be active on defense to stop this Simon Fraser offense.

After the Wildcats play Simon Fraser they will look to beating in-state rival Western Washington (WWU).

It is always a heated battle between these two teams, but when you have playoff implications like we do this year, it adds a little fuel to the fire.

WWU is sitting one spot above the Wildcats in the standings but only one game separates the two teams.

Getting a win against rival WWU would give the Wildcats a chance to jump them in the standing.

"Playing the next three versus the three teams ahead or tied with you in the standings; it's big." Harada said "Were excited for it."

WWU does a great job at spreading the ball out. They love having every player on the court



XANDER DECCIO/OBSERVER

DEEP BREATH Forward Jasmine Parker focuses for a free throw.

be a threat and stats show this.

They have four players averaging double digit points. Senior guards Katie Colard and Jenni White lead the way for WWU.

Redshirt junior Melanie Valdez is looking forward to this upcoming road trip including the game versus in state rival WWU.

"It's always exciting to play WWU, but we just got to focus on Thursday and then we can focus on WWU." Valdez said

The Wildcats have relied heavily on the leadership of senior guard Courtney Johnson this season and they will need her again for these upcoming games.

Johnson has been a huge piece

to the Wildcats season so far. She is averaging 13.1 points per game and 5.9 rebounds per game.

Look for Johnson to have a big couple of games. She is the leader of this Wildcat team and they will follow her lead on this big two game road trip as they look for a couple huge wins and another boost in the standings.

"It's a huge road trip we got a big win versus SFU here so we know they will be looking for payback, and it's always hard to win on the road." Johnson said "We will really need to bring our defense. We will start with our defense and let our offense come from that."

Central rugby takes on Vikings

BY SHAIMA SHAMDEEN
Staff Reporter

Central's men's rugby team is no stranger to blowing teams out and they plan on continuing this practice in a rivalry game against Western Washington University this Saturday in Bellingham.

The Wildcats are prepared to show the Vikings why they are one of the best teams in the Northwest Collegiate Rugby Conference (NCRC).

Gavin Schag, junior hooker for the Wildcats said the team will make it a point to show the Viking's who's boss.

"We have 'Western Week' where we make sure to play our best," Schag said. "I feel bad when we beat other teams by so much, but not with Western. Beating them to the point of no return is always great."

The Wildcats have laid down a big marker in their first season as a D1A independent team ranking 6th in the NCRC while the Vikings are far behind in 23rd place, which may influence their confidence on the field.

"There are a couple of teams that just give up after halftime and don't even want to play any-

more," Josh Bower, senior wing, said. "Eventually they know we've won and it gets to the point where they're not even trying anymore."

Despite the gap in ranking, the Wildcats remain humble and make sure to stay focused.

"Even though they may be a lower caliber team, we make sure not to stoop down to their level," Schag said. "There's always so much to improve on and still so much progress to be made."

Head coach Tony Pacheco has incorporated film into the team's practice this season and players say this has helped them learn from their mistakes.

"Before we would just try to outplay the other teams with athleticism but watching the films help a lot to see what we did wrong and how to improve on that," Bower said.

With the addition of film, players have also been able to recognize areas of needed improvement that used to go unnoticed.

"There are so many different ways you can run plays and to be able to recognize certain situations in a game and act upon them," Schag said. "I want to im-

Rugby Schedule

Feb. 7 @ WWU

Feb. 20 @ OSU

Feb. 21 @ WOU

Mar. 7 @ UW

Mar. 7 @ Seattle Saracens

Mar. 14 vs UO

Mar. 21 vs UM

Mar. 22 vs EWU

April 4 Varsity Cup 1st round

prove on attacking certain areas that I know are open, and reading the other team to see what's available because there are so many options."

The Wildcats have shown improvement and no sign of slowing down, the Vikings will need to be ready for a tough game.

"Last year we beat them 94-0, this week we're going for 100-0," Bower said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIKA SMITH

TRUCKED Stefan Kiehn bowls over a defender in a match last fall.

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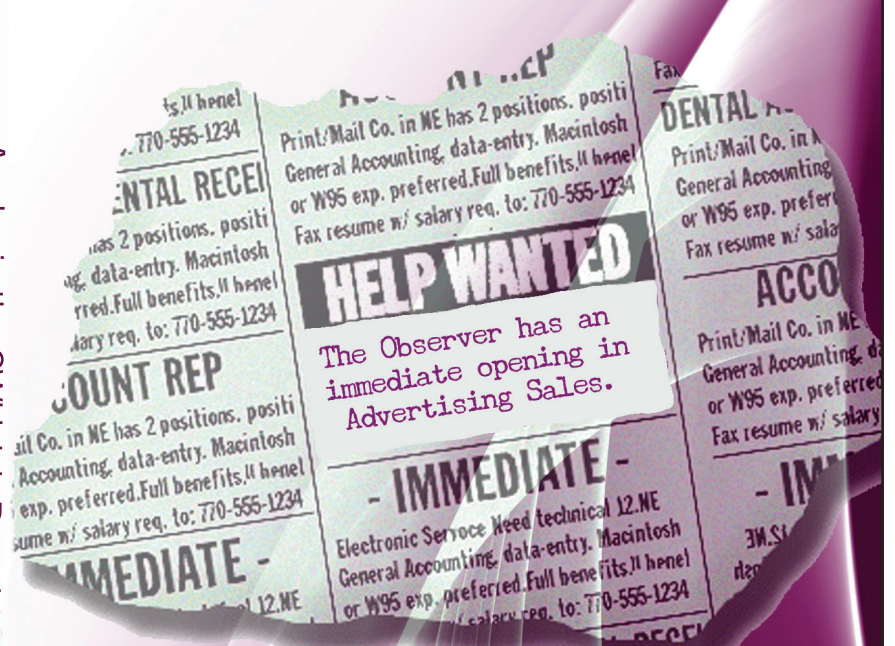


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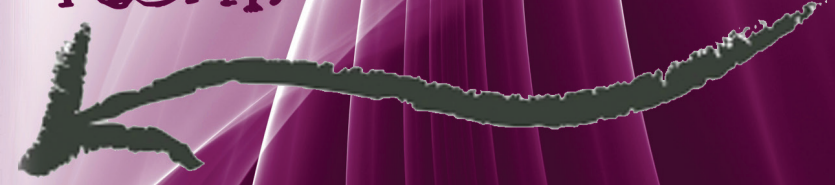
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Wildcats, Wolves square off

BY JEFFREY MACMILLAN
Staff Reporter

The Central men's basketball team [12-5, GNAC 7-3] returns from a three-game road trip to battle with the Western Oregon University Wolves.

In their previous game vs Northwest Nazarene, the Wildcats clawed back from a six point deficit with 1:24 left only to have the game slip through junior forward Joseph Stroud's fingers, when a game tying alley-oop careened off his hands to end the game.

Junior guard Joey Roppo knows how important home court advantage will be this game.

"This year it's been more valuable than before," Roppo said. "Having the crowd behind you makes you want to play that much harder."

The Wolves [18-3, GNAC 10-1] come to Ellensburg on an eight game winning streak and with firm control over first place in the GNAC, but that doesn't intimidate Central.

In the last game versus the Wolves, the Wildcats came ready to send a message that they are a team that will stay with its opponent for the whole game.

If not for a few turnovers, the Wildcats could have walked out of Monmouth, OR with a big GNAC win.

Central should expect a much different feeling as the Wildcats are a different team when they play in the friendly confines of Nicholson Pavilion.

Central is 7-1 at home this season and the students have packed Nicholson Pavilion all year.

The Wildcats currently sit in fourth place in the GNAC, with a chance to make up ground in the standings. To do that, Central will need to keep their GNAC leading 40-percent three-point shooting.

The Wildcats have looked to get the ball in the hands of sophomore guard Marc Rodgers and Senior guard Dom Williams, who have both proven to be unselfish leaders all season long.

Assistant Coach Drew Harris sees the development and maturity in both of the players on the court as the season has gone on.

"As a team we have done so much better in limiting our unforced turn overs," Harris said "Marc has done a lot to take care of the ball, especially late when teams are denying Dom."

The emergence of guard Joey Roppo has also helped propel

Central forward in the last few weeks; Roppo has demonstrated an ability to score from range and forced opposing teams to have to guard him on the perimeter.

Roppo has been a 63-percent three point shooter the first game against WOU hopes to make a difference this time.

"With teams denying Dom, I've had to become more aggressive," Roppo said. "I have had to find a way to be more involved in the offense to help facilitate myself and others."

In the end the Wildcats will have to contend with Western Oregon's junior forward Andy Avgi, who scored 23 points in just 26 minutes in the last meeting against Central. Avgi, who is the reigning GNAC player of the week, is coming off a 33-point double overtime performance over Seattle Pacific in Monmouth, OR.

Assistant Coach Harris is aware of the accolades of Avgi, but isn't going to let one player dictate the way the Wildcats will play defense, but some adjustments will be made.

"We'll do something's to contain Avgi, coach Harris said, "We will continue to play defense the way we have all season because that's our system."



PHOTO COURTESY CWU ATHLETICS

BACK DOWN Guard Joey Roppo reading the Western defender.



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12s since '12

BY SPENCER HANSEN
Assistant Sports Editor

Kenny Easley. Brian Bosworth. Curt Warner. Cortez Kennedy. Who are these guys? If you're a '12 since '12 these names probably sound like used car salesmen. Actually, they're former Seahawks and part of the foundation that built a championship franchise after 37 years of frustration.

Easley was a five-time pro bowler as well as defensive player of the year. Bosworth was one of the most popular Seahawks for a year before a career-ending injury and Warner was highly drafted out of Penn State in the early 1980s. Kennedy became one of three Seahawks in the Pro Football Hall of Fame after an illustrious career at the University of Miami.

Many of us have friends who were fans of other teams, just two seasons ago, until a winning streak propelled the Seahawks into the playoffs and a heart-breaking loss to the Atlanta Falcons that sparked the Seahawks' second Super Bowl run in 2013. People across the Northwest flooded sports apparel shops for

months.

Now, is this a free country? Absolutely. Is everyone entitled to his or her opinion? Sure. Can anyone root for any team they would like? Why not? Go for it. Usually, people become fans of team because they have an emotional connection from growing

of other teams as long as they aren't obnoxiously loud and their intentions are benign. Several of these new 12s aren't knowledgeable though.

These are the people I end up arguing with at the Horseshoe bar on Friday nights. These are the people who spout out ran-

would be the NFL defensive rookie of the year this season.

I scoffed in utter shock. Did I like the draft pick? Sure. Do I think he'll be a good player on the team? Without a doubt. But to say rookie of the year? He pulled that out of thin air and failed to offer any rhyme or rea-

they are invaluable resources to a sports nut's argument.

With the gut-wrenching loss in the Super Bowl I'd expect to see a whole lot less blue on Fridays next season with so many '12s' prepared to hawk their jerseys in the trash.

Twelves since 12 are why Seahawks fans have a negative stigma. Other NFL fans and analysts find the fan base extremely uneducated.

My one defense for the 12s since 12 is the thrill of being apart of something bigger than yourself. It's like the rush of adrenaline you get when you rush the court at a basketball game. That feeling of being in a crowd of people that all have the same love for a team as you do is unexplainable.

The Seahawks have brought more and more people together over the past few seasons, which is awesome to see.

The people I have spent this Seahawks run with have enriched it tenfold. I'll always cherish the moments of when I wake up Sunday morning, and put on my lucky socks and friends come over, jumping into their arms after history-making touchdowns and beastquakes.



up with that team, due to a parent or family member or because of geographical proximity.

Sometimes people will even root for a team because of their colors or the players on the team. In this case, the Seahawks are incredibly proximate to these 'new' '12s.'

I have no problem with fans

dom statements of confidence about their team, which is fine.

That's the fun of sports; bragging rights and showing off the pride in your team. That goes wrong when people don't know their facts or stats.

For example, last year someone tried to tell me that rookie defensive end, Cassius Marsh,

son for that prediction.

As a tip, the people you should be listening to are your local beat writers and reporters; these are the people with the first-hand knowledge. They know football or they wouldn't be professional beat writers in a large market.

Secondly, they are at practice everyday and attend all games;



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