Central to implement new services for students with autism

ELLENSBURG BULLS
New semi-pro baseball team will settle in Ellensburg this summer

SERVICES OVERHAUL
Central to implement new services for students with autism
SB 5052’s passage leaves many in Wash. dissatisfied

BY AARON KUNKLER
News Editor

SB 5052, the Cannabis Patients Protection Act (CPPA), was passed by Gov. Inslee last month.

The CPPA will greatly increase the regulations on Washington’s medical marijuana patients and suppliers all across the board. While the changes will be sweeping, they will not come into effect until July 1, 2016.

In the meantime, some groups are already planning counter-moves.

“Our legal team is examining the bill. We do absolutely plan to file a lawsuit to have (CPPA) overturned,” Anthony Martelli, spokesperson for Sensible Washington, said.

Their website said that Sensible Washington is a marijuana advocacy group that seeks to delegalize personal drug possession in Washington and end the war on drugs.

According to Liz Coleman, Senate majority caucus informa- tion officer, the bill sets up a framework for a registry program for patients. The program would be run by the Department of Health and could be added into the law by the Liquor Control Board, Department of Revenue and medical providers. Patients who sign up for this registry are allowed to possess three-ounces of marijuana, down from the current 24-ounces. The bill also restricts the number of plants patients can grow to six, plants, down from 15, and only four if they choose not to register with the database. If patients sustain themselves on home-grown marijuana, they can have up to eight-ounces on hand.

The high thresholds of marijuana that patients can currently possess ensure they will have enough marijuana to last through their own growing cycles if there are no retailers in the area, Martelli said. That will likely change on July 1, 2016. If patients fail to register, they can only possess one-ounce of usable marijuana, on par with the recreational market.

Law enforcement may only access the database in conjunction with an active criminal marijuana investigation; unlawful ac- cess will result in class-C felony charges.

However, this provision concerns Martelli, as it creates a database of patients who are essentially admitting to federal felony possession of marijuana, punishable by up to five years in prison.

Martelli believes this is a violation of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) which is designed to protect confidential patient medical information.

It is important to note, that under SB 5052, if patients have their medical card and are in compliance with all aspects of the bill, they can assert a positive defense against arrest.

The ACLU was instrumental in creating and passing I-502, but according to Mike Cooke, a spokesperson for the Washing- ton chapter of the ACLU, they will likely not be getting involved with the passage of SB 5052.

Cooke said the ACLU is con- cerned with changing policy, and he does not know if patients will see any major legal repercus- sions from the passage of SB 5052.

However, Martelli is worried that patients may not un- derstand the new laws and find themselves in violation of new medical marijuana laws without actively knowing.

Current medical marijuana laws have been on the books since 1998, when I-692 passed with a statewide 59 percent ma- jority. Many, if not all, of these regulations will be rewritten un- der SB 5052.

Martelli said the reduction of legal possession limits, both in regards to plants and product, will hurt patients living in many of Washington counties that have not allowed recreational re- tail outlets. Medical dispensaries would also be forced to close, or go through a process to become recreational retail outlets.

In the coming year, SB 5052 will likely see many legal chal- lengers from medical marijuana advocates, but as it stands, medi- cal marijuana in Washington could look very different in a year’s time.
Central expands disability services

BY JONATHAN GLOVER
Sports Editor

Students living with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) have a lot to look forward to at Central. Ingebretson, the program's creator, said, “I really felt like I could get the best education for me at a university.”

According to Ingebretson, interacting with encouraging students and faculty during his visit played a significant role in choosing Central.

“This to day, I would not go back on my decision to go here; it’s been awesome,” Ingebretson said.

As a freshman, Ingebretson wrestled at Central. However, during that time he realized being a student and an athlete was much more difficult at the college level.

“It was a step up. It wasn’t high school wrestling anymore,” Ingebretson said.

He also struggled with injuries, and thus came to the difficult decision to move on from competitive sports and place his focus on school.

According to Ingebretson, in the classroom as well after realizing being a film and video studies major wasn’t his true passion. Ingebretson said he was in a rut and didn’t know where he was going, what his career plan was or what he was going to do.

After many conversations with family and high school football coach Mark Hassart, Ingebretson was able to begin reinventing himself.

During this awakening process, Ingebretson stumbled upon an orientation position recommended by former Central Resident Hall Coordinator Joshua Hall.

“That was the life-changing moment. I fell into a career that was a perfect fit for me, and I had an unrelenting passion for it,” Ingebretson said.

Now that Ingebretson’s new direction was clear, he decided to major in interdisciplinary studies, allowing him to focus on administration and higher education. He hopes to someday travel around the country and work for other institutions for five to ten years. After that, he plans to get his Ph.D. and become a Dean at a university and possibly come back to Central.

Central’s current Residence Hall Coordinator Sarah O’Steen is Ingebretson’s supervisor. O’Steen said she nominated Ingebretson for employee of the year because of his commitment and drive.

“He has such passion for being a residence assistant,” O’Steen said.

Ingebretson is humbled by this recent recognition. He said it’s been a great blessing and an amazing experience to have received this title and even to have been nominated.

“Ingebretson is someone who you can just rely on to get the job done. He always goes above and beyond minimal expectations that we set… This is just a way I can recognize him for his service to the department,” O’Steen said.
BY KYLE KUHN
Staff Reporter

Starting fall 2015, Central will be offering a new energy management degree under the integrated energy studies program. This new program, headed by Geography Professor Elvin Delgado, will help students find new jobs in the energy industry through its unique approach.

Delgado spoke with many different companies while planning this degree, such as Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). These discussions allowed him to get a better idea of what energy companies would want out of future employees.

“Other students [outside of Central] won’t have the particular training that we provide,” Delgado said.

The energy management degree is a more in-depth version of Central’s energy studies minor. It was a very successful program, but it was just a minor, Delgado said.

This degree involves courses from 15 different programs at Central and is largely based around clean energy. However, Delgado said that the program will still teach the importance of fossil fuels and how influential they are on foreign policy.

According to Delgado, having an energy program like this is very beneficial for Central students because of the amazing local energy landscape. When doing projects, there are many options and sources of inspiration for students in this area.

The energy management degree will also be attacking a gap in the industry, Delgado said. PSE and BPA are estimated to lose 1,070 employees due to retirement by 2017.

“There is a higher rate of retirement occurring,” Brian Lenz, PSE’s local government and community relations’ manager, said. “Anytime we have a focus on energy, it’s a good thing.”

Lenz went on to discuss how the energy industry is constantly changing, especially when it comes to how people are getting their power. For that reason, PSE will not be filling each opening. “Currently, PSE is looking at where the needs are,” Lenz said.

The normal rate of retirement for BPA is about 50 to 100 people a month said Joel Scruggs, public affairs specialist at BPA. In a year, about 20 percent of BPA’s workforce will be eligible to retire, which has caused some industry wide concern.

“There’s a lot of gray hair,” Scruggs said. “We’ve been hiring a lot more recently.”

Energy programs, in general, are a good thing, Scruggs said. BPA supports whatever can help spark people’s interests in the energy industry.

“We want to get more talented young people in the door,” Scruggs said.

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#CWUOWLZ
From “Services” on P. 3

Devin Beach, community member and avid autism advocate, has been working with Central on expanding services on campus to students with autism ever since she graduated with a degree in communication studies in 2008.

Since its inception at Central, Beach has been working with Disability Services on the ASN program to find ways to improve and adapt it for students at Central.

“I had a lot of support [in school],” Beach said. “I had some really great mentors who just really helped me through, but there was always kind of this puzzle piece missing of why I was the way I was. I kept trying to conform to the neurotypical standard of behavior, and I couldn’t do that.”

Since working with Holden on ASN, Beach has offered many suggestions on ways to improve the program and ensure it is a great fit for students here.

“The community on campus was that students at schools like Bellevue typically live at home, so a sense of community already exists on and off campus. One of the biggest challenges, Holden said, is getting students to “come out” as being on the spectrum.

“Are a lot of students out there who haven’t registered with us,” Holden said. “At least, I know there are many, many students around campus. I can imagine it’s probably around average [for Central’s size]. The group I know about is still pretty small.”

Holden is hopeful that programs like ASN will encourage more students to feel open about being on the autism spectrum, in addition to creating a campus-wide dialogue. She said it’s more important to support students, rather than trying to find a cure.

“In this part of the country, there aren’t services even if you wanted to pay,” Holden said. “These are smart students; we need just a little bit of scaffolding to be successful. The parents I talk to are just so appreciative that their kids will have a chance.”

Devlin Beach, 회원, 제 authored. "Where neuro-

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Age of Ultron just came out, and if you’ve been reading the paper like a good pupil, you know that even more Marvel and DC movies are on the way, to present owner rights and whatnot, overall, it won’t really matter. All across the board science fiction, fantasy, and comic book fans are being consistently disappointed by the film counterparts of their favorite series, characters, and plotlines.

In 2009 and 2013, a lot of “Star Trek” fans were irked by JJ Abrams’ Hollywood style and lackadaisical disregard for canon in his films. Similarly, many Marvel and DC fans are also experiencing these, movies are not for the longtime nerds. They’re made to earn the most profit, and therefore, they target a larger audience — the laypeople.

As a Star Trek fan, I often don’t even consider the new Trek movies’ canon; they’re simply a commentary on that canon, a fanfictional what-if scenario. Nerd culture is “in,” and this new trend has both its benefits and downsides. The good news is, people generally don’t demand their movie sucked or didn’t make sense.

However, that also contributes to nerd-based movies being dumbed down, homogenized and normalized. I don’t read comic books, so naturally when this movie trend began, I refrained from seeing comic-book-based movies. My philosophy was that I would be taken with a grain of salt; they’re not going to be what you, the longtime fan, want them to be. Watch them as you would read fanfiction — amusing in its own right perhaps, but not something you would ever take seriously.

This goes for the newcomers, too. If you really want to be a passionate fan of the Avengers, that’s cool. But you’re not going to be what you, the longtime fans, want them to be. Then the movie would lose significant amounts of money, a risk the people and corporations that make them aren’t willing to take. Therefore, these movies obviously have to be taken with a grain of salt; they’re not going to be what you, the longtime fan, want them to be. Watch them as you would read fanfiction — amusing in its own right perhaps, but not something you would ever take seriously.

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The giant green rage monster could endanger Romanoff’s life if things go down.

The Hulk is a monster that Banner struggles to restrain. But who helps him control the monster? Romanoff. Together they came up with a “hullabaloo” which is a series of actions that he and Romanoff perform in order to quell The Hulk and bring Banner back.

Why would Romanoff help? Aside from being a friend and teammate to Banner, there’s also a monster within her. As Black Widow, Romanoff had committed horrendous acts — she’s even murdered children. She is a lethal spy with red in her ledger that she desperately wants to absolve.

In other words, Romanoff is responding to his literal monster with her metaphorical one.

Her other teammates, which easily could have been written as love interests for her, all have past sins, but nothing that compares to her own. Nor do they show strong shame, instead reveling in a good fight.

On the other hand, Banner is a pacifist. He is reluctant to become The Hulk, and he is also open in his guilt for the innocent people that have been slaughtered or injured by his beast.

Romanoff is responding to that because she’s been there, she can help. She knows what that guilt feels like. It would be unfeminist if Romanoff needed to have a relationship. If she wanted to “fix up” a bad boy just like in any other romantic drama, or if she ever excused his violence because he’s just a “good person,” which is uncomfortably close to romanticizing domestic abuse.

She never once defines herself as needing anyone else. She does not want to “fix” Banner. She does not excuse his violence. Instead, she tries to get him to become a better person on his own. Banner is in desperate need of saving from himself, and she understands. They both are monsters. She wants him to confront his monster and control it instead of hide from it. She’s controlled her own and knows he can too.

Yet, in the end, she chooses being a hero over their relationship. She chooses to save lives rather than be happy with the man she loves because he chooses to run and she can’t.

Is that not feminist?
Editor/Haley Curi

**Symphony No. 2**

*BY LOGAN HOUSER*

*Staff Reporter*

It's big, it's loud, it's Mahler! Central's music department presents a powerful combination of voices and symphonies with “Symphony No. 2, Resurrection” by Austrian composer Gustav Mahler. The performance will feature more than 200 musicians, including Central’s Symphony Orchestra, the Central Men’s Chorus, the Central Women’s Chorus and the Yakima Symphony Chorus.

The performance will be directed by Nikolas Caiole, who serves as the director of orchestras at Central, music director of the Wenatchee Valley Symphony Orchestra and principal conductor for the Salem Chamber Orchestra.

While this is not his first time conducting Mahler’s “Resurrection,” Caiole said he is still approaching it as if it is the first time. According to Caiole, the piece will be very complex, especially since he will be directing an extremely large orchestra and choir with off-stage musicians.

Caiole compares Mahler’s symphony to Beethoven’s 9th Symphony, which also combines vocals and instruments. He describes Beethoven’s 9th as a description of how all men are created equal, whereas Mahler’s symphony is about the meaning of life.

According to Caiole, Mahler completed many of his compositions within one year, but “Symphony No. 2” took him 10 years to finish. Along with representing the meaning of life, the piece also refers to a higher power. Mahler had been challenging his spiritual beliefs at the time, having been raised Jewish but drifting towards Christianity. However, the higher power in the piece does not signify any specific religion.

“At first, [file] seems trivial and meaningless,” Caiole said. “But over the course of the piece’s 70 minutes, it becomes clear that life means more. Some of the final words uttered, ‘I come from God, to God I return,’ underline the spiritual content of the piece.”

According to Megan McCormick, a senior choral conducting major, Mahler’s “Resurrection” will feature at least 100 singers, and the piece is the “peaks and valleys of human emotion wrapped up in one work.”

“‘It’s fun for sopranos because we get to use our full voice,’” McCormick said. “‘But I think everything that Mahler does is using the utmost extremes of emotion in this piece.’”

McCormick said working with Caiole is “fun and efficient.” McCormick worked with Caiole when he was the director of the singers, orchestra and harp-schordist player for Central’s performance of “The Marriage of Figaro.”

The alto soloist for the performance Melissa Schiel said she is in a “spiritually exposed position” as a soloist for “Symphony No. 2,” but that it is a challenge because the alto solo is very low and has to be sung with purpose.

Schiel said “Symphony No. 2” is more impressive when heard live than from a recording. “[The piece is about] mankind being in pain and wanting to return to heaven.”

Schiel added that a person doesn’t need a religious background to enjoy Mahler’s symphony. Mahler’s “Symphony No. 2, Resurrection” will be performed on Sunday, May 17 at the McIntrye Music Building. Tickets are $20 for general admission and $10 for Central students.

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**Gustav Mahler**

The Symposium Of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE)—a university-wide forum that showcases the research, work of students and faculty from various departments across Central—is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

On May 21, 34 different departments are participating in over 50 presentations at SOURCE. In addition, SURC 137A will be live streamed online to allow people from around the state to see what’s going on.

A key experience of students presenting at SOURCE is the chance to work and grow under a mentor.

Meghan Gilbert, junior psychology major, is a presenter who is working under a mentor for her SOURCE presentation. According to Gilbert, to find a mentor for SOURCE a student usually has to take the initiative and actively seek one out.

“It’s more of a student seeking out opportunities in their departments. You have to seek that out yourself; it’s not given or provided for you,” Gilbert said. Jesse James is a psychology department and Gilbert’s mentor. James said that he always encourages students in his research methods class to join a professor’s lab and participate in research.

“I strongly recommend you be proactive and go approach someone that is researching in an area that is similar to your own interests, but I rarely have students take the initiative from that invitation to actually go and approach another professor,” James said. “We can just keep encouraging and kept repeating that students will take advantage of that opportunity.”

James is the SOURCE coordinator this year. The one-on-one time students can spend with their mentor is priceless, Jamie Gilbert said. Though mentors are there to help students, they wait for students to ask for their help before they give it.

“One of the best things about Central is several opportunities of that nature, and being able to get know your professors more and learn from them,” Gilbert said. “I believe Central is all about mentorship.”

Meghan Gilbert said that having a mentor has allowed her to produce something, some project or new knowledge that students will take advantage of. James Gilbert said that students will take advantage of that invitation to actually go and ask for their help before they give it.

“Many of the students that present at SOURCE have the opportunity to work one-on-one with their mentors,” James said. “A lot of universities are so large that students don’t have the opportunity to work one-on-one with their professors, SOURCE and Central gives students that opportunity,” James said. “It’s great for the professors too, because they get the chance to showcase the help on their research but also be able help in that growth in the students.”

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**Art Submission Details**

Every week The Observer will feature different art from students on this page in our print version and in a gallery on our online version.

Featurable artwork is not limited to drawings, paintings and photography. We’re accepting submissions of any visual art (costumes, sculptures, etc.) for the print version and any free-to-view digital media (original films, music, etc.) for the online version.

Details on rules, accepted forms of art and other requirements, as well as a submission form can be found at: cwuobserver.com/submissions

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**When they start to produce something, some project... I think that’s really exciting.**

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*James Gilbert*

Psychology Lecturer

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**“A lot of universities are so large that students don’t have the opportunity to work one-on-one with their mentors.”**

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*Jamie Gilbert*

SOURCE Coordinator

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“I’ve also had like different relationships; when it’s been more like I’ve had mentors who will sit there and talk at me and ask me to do really small things, but I don’t feel like I learned anything from the process,” Meghan Gilbert said. “Dr. James has allowed me to be very hands-on with it, and he’s there if I have questions or if I need to learn more. But he’s really allowed me to put together the project as a whole, and I’ve really enjoyed that, and I felt like it’s really helped me grow as a student.”

According to James, it is a wonderful process, and he loves mentoring students. There are dull and exciting moments just like everything else; when moments are really mundane, all they can do is just trudge through because the end result is knowledge and that’s what makes it all worth it.

“My favorite part of mentoring students is knowing my students are gaining new knowledge and skills that they learned in abstract ways in the courses that they are using for the first time in a real applied kind of way,” James said. “When they start to produce something, some project, some end product, a poster, research project or new knowledge that has never been found in the history of the world, I think that’s really exciting.”

Jamie Gilbert said that all students who present at SOURCE have the opportunity to work one-on-one with their mentors.”

“ A lot of universities are so large that students don’t have the opportunity to work one-on-one with their professors, SOURCE and Central gives students that opportunity,” James Gilbert said. “It’s great for the professors too, because they get the chance to showcase the help on their research but also be able help in that growth in the students.”
Hip-hop steps on stage

BY NICOLAS COOPER
Staff Reporter

This year at Burgstock, there will be an addition of hip-hop to the usual lineup.

Tim Nakhisa, assistant music director, and Tim Mitchell, student music director, from 88.1 The ‘Burg said the third year of Burgstock, though different from the last two, is expected to be a success.

“We feel [that] the hip-hop side of things will intrigue a lot of people,” said Mitchell. “I think there’s a bigger hip-hop scene here in Ellensburg than people think. There’s a lot of students here producing their own music.”

Originally, there was only going to be a 30-minute segment for hip-hop. However, with more applicants submitting their work and wanting to be involved, the set time has been increased to a full hour.

“The artists can do a song that they have previously recorded, or it can be a freestyle if they want to,” said Nakhisa. “Those are the areas that we are looking at. It’s not necessarily a battle in the sense of traditional battle areas that we are looking at. It’s not necessary that they want to, but that won’t be the case this year.

“We’re trying to be that stepping stone towards that next point in your career, because we want to see these people succeed and aim higher and start booking venues in bigger places such as Seattle,“ said Nakhisa.

Anything we can do to help out, we’re going to do it, and that’s why this event is so important.

The ‘Burg is currently working with their contacts to figure out what big-name Seattle artists they can work with for a prize. Prior may include being featured on a future project of a big-name artist.

Nakhisa said the grand prize is still getting finalized, but what is certain is that the winner will win four hours of free studio time at Fastback Studios and a spot in the line-up for the next year’s Burgstock.

The ‘Burg is currently working with Central Washington students to establish a big-name artist.

So far, the goal is local artist promotion and, ultimately, that’s what this prize will end up being,” said Mitchell.

Local Ellensburg artist Omar Zamora, who goes by O.Z., said he found out about Burgstock through 88.1 The ‘Burg and hopes to have the time to compete.

Zamora said he’s done a few onstage performances in town, at Central and at various open mic nights. He has a show coming up soon at the House of Haze and looks forward to performing at Burgstock next weekend.

Zamora currently has two solo projects out. One titled “The Inspiration” and the other “The Smokeout.”

Zamora said he always enjoys listening to Biggie and Tupac. Some of the artists he currently likes to listen to include Big Sean, Drake, Kendrick Lamar, Schoolboy Q and Mac Miller.

Art’s Nelson, senior Japanese and Asian studies major who goes by Art, is another local Ellensburg artist who will be competing in this year’s Burgstock. Similar to Zamora, Art heard about Burgstock through 88.1 The ‘Burg.

Art said he has started to take his music career seriously and has been recording songs professionally for the last year and a half. He used to record with another producer, but in the last three or four months has got his own equipment so he can self-produce.

Art said a lot of his musical inspiration comes from 90s music, The Roots, The Pharcyde and some Japanese rap.

When it comes to other artists Art said he listens to, he is trying to find his own style of music and generally does not look to other artists in order to keep that style.

Art said before he became serious about music, he listened to Kendrick Lamar, Snoop Dogg and Lil’ Rashed.

Some of what Art doesn’t like about the artist that he listens to, he said he is trying to focus on his own style of music and generally does not listen to, he said he is trying to focus on his own style of music and generally does not listen to any others in order to keep that style.

Art is currently working on his latest, “Blue Skies,” which he expects to release mid-summer this year.

With success, 88.1 The ‘Burg will use this as a stepping stone in the hopes of other hip-hop events around town.

“It’s more about Ellensburg, it’s more about Central Washington, it’s more about our hip-hop scene here,” said Nakhisa.

SCENE

And may the best band win

BY ALEXANDRA PROCTOR
Staff Reporter

50 bands submitted to compete, seven were selected as finalists and, now they will face off in an epic showdown.

Winners will receive four free hours of recording time at Fastback Studios and a spot in the line-up at Fisherman’s Village Music Festival in Everett, Wash.

“This is an opportunity for CWU students to come check out the best unsigned bands in Washington state and really have their voices be heard,” said Mitchell.

The band began at Central, where they started with their friends and family who supported them back home.

Every audience member will automatically be entered to win two tickets to Sasquatch, camping included. There will be no cover charge, merchandise will be sold from local bands, delicious pizza from Cornerstone Pie and alcoholic beverages will be available for attendees who are 21+.

Tresplitter, a group of four guys, is coming all the way from Bellingham to perform. Their band consists of Miikah Washburn, Chris Hanlile, Ben Howard and Ryan Mallory.

The group describes their sound as “alternative rock-ish” with a dash of electronica elements.

The band began at Central, where they started by playing covers. Coming from various musical backgrounds such as jazz, classical and school band, the group found that they meshed well together and started doing band rehearsals via Skype.

In December of 2014 the band released an EP called “Future Ghost EP.”

The group is excited to share their music with show-goers, and said their music is “organic as possible.”

“It really does feel like we’re painting a picture,” said Hanlile.

Trento, who goes by O.Z., said it is like people looking into an art gallery.

Thunderhound, who has been around since 2011 (previously known as The Ancients), is a band from Ellensburg. Thunderhound has a bluesy-rock sound with a hint of stoner and psychedelic.

Thunderhound consists of vocalist Liam, lead guitar Joie, bassist Tony and Nat on drums.

“We are all stoked about this, simply because we never get to play for our friends and family. We are all traveling to cities we’ve never seen before travelling there every six months,” said Davis.

When it comes to other artists Davis said he has a single group that is what really inspired him to get into music.

They are all stoked about this, simply because we never get to play for our friends and family. We are all traveling to cities we’ve never seen before travelling there every six months,” said Davis.

Though the band consists of teenagers, they already have one album out called “Stare at the Sun.”

“We play music for the same reason others play music; to express yourself and have fun,” said Davis.

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He started on stage as a class clown, but now he performs on stage as a rapper named KC Cousins.

“I really just found a passion for it in high school,” said Adam Crittendem, senior communications major. “I was really into theater in high school, so I just had a really big passion for being in the spotlight and then performing in front of people, and I just love music. So I thought I would try my strengths at [rapping].”

Crittendem’s first performance was at his high school’s senior boys’ pageant. There were many categories of performances, humorous or otherwise, and Crittendem decided to rap for the first time in public to an audience of a few hundred.

“I was a little bit used to being on the stage by then because I was in theater a lot, but I was also a class clown,” Crittendem said. “That was one of the biggest obstacles, getting people to take me seriously because I am such a clown at times.”

Breaking away from his humorous nature, Crittendem decided to pursue his passion for music, which originally stemmed from the way it influences people.

“Weither it’s activism or starting a trend, whatever avenue you choose to reach people and inspire people to do something, I think that’s awesome,” Crittendem said.

The process of getting into the music industry was primarily made up of trial and error, Crittendem said. He bought low-quality recording equipment and began the learning process.

“Probably [the hardest part] was getting used to hearing myself,” Crittendem said. “It took me a while to gain the confidence to just let my voice out and get comfortable with it.”

Crittendem has actively pursued music for the last three years, ever since he moved in with his roommate—another up-and-coming rapper—Derrick Clarit, senior public relations major.

“We were both at the same point,” Crittendem said. “We played each other our tracks that we had recorded by ourselves and were like, ‘Alright, let’s start doing this.’”

Though the process of recording and editing can be difficult, Crittendem said that he and Clarit found a saving grace this last year.

“Our two buddies do sound engineering,” Crittendem said. “They’ve been our go-to for recording and mixing and mastering our tracks. They’ve helped us improve our sound by tenfold.”

These two friends are Carlos Vega, senior public relations major, and Wesley Boone, senior exercise science major.

“Both Carlos and I do the production of some of the instruments that they rap over,” Boone said. “We have also done all of their vocal editing and mixing and mastering of their tracks, both on the products that they have and also some instruments that [Clarit] has purchased from other people. We try to make it sound somewhat professional.”

Although they both tried various instruments when they were younger, neither Vega nor Boone play any instruments now. Instead, they use computer programs and their trained ears to match instruments and create melodies.

“It’s a good way to unwind; that’s why I started doing it. It’s a good way to release, art-wise,” Boone said. “We make something and have our own thoughts about it and send it to Derrick or Adam, and they have their own ideas. Or it sends them to their own place.”

Boone and Vega have known each other since high school and are also a roommate duo. Bouncing ideas off each other, they slowly became a team that creates music whenever inspiration strikes.

“It’s kind of fun, when you like a certain genre of music, to kind of try to emulate it,” Boone said.

“We’ve messed around with a couple different genres, but we definitely had the most success with hip-hop.”

Vega said working with Crittendem has been painless and easy.

“When working with Adam is great,” Vega said. “He comes in, and he really just knows what he’s going to do, and he hin it, and he just doesn’t take that long to do it. It’s very easy working with Adam.”

Crittendem has also explored his own sound and style, and he said his ability to change his sound is one of the things that draws him to music.

“I think that’s what’s awesome about music; you’re not really boxed in,” Crittendem said. “I would say [my style is] a little more chill. I like more inspiring, knowledgeable hip-hop, but at the same time I’m slowly starting to learn that people pay to party, they don’t pay for poetry.”

When he is off the stage, Crittendem is involved in the Central community as a senator of Lambda Pi Eta, but strives to keep his hobbies separate from his daily life.

“When I am doing things at school and with the honor society, that’s when I’m in more professional mode; I’m Adam then,” Crittendem said. “I use more professional language, I try not to curse as much, not to use slang.”

Another difference between Crittendem’s personal and professional life is his appearance, specifically, his hair.

“I wear it down mostly when I rap,” Crittendem said. “It’s pretty long. I haven’t cut it for like four years now, so it’s down to my back. But, when I’m in school, I usually keep it tied up, and when I perform, I usually let it down.”

“The way that he raps and the words that he uses, how he rhymes and how he sounds, I think it’s great,” Boone said. “It’s a good style. He doesn’t try to be like anybody. He’s not really caught up in trying to be noticed for anything. He just enjoys it. The hair is kind of a part of the persona.”
Rappers come to Central

BY KYLE FENTON
Managing Editor

The CWU Spring Concert is finally here and, with it, Central is preparing for the biggest hip-hop concert since Macklemore and Ryan Lewis made their way to campus back in 2011.

Three up-and-coming Seattle artists—Sol, Grynch and Nacho Picasso—will be in the lineup.

“The people who booked us, I got to tip my hat to them, because I think it is going to be a really dope show,” Sol said.

Sol will be headlining with his live band. His drummer, Nima Skernitz, and bassist Elan Wright, both helped produce Eyes Open, Sol’s latest project.

“My live band gives me a lot of energy. We were all in the studio starting from scratch. Now we will be able to keep this thing going next year,” Lane said.

According to Vice Magazine, Nacho Picasso is a self-proclaimed scumbag. His musical style is unlike Sol and Grynch, from his beats to his flows. His lyrics are dark with hints of humor, and his beats have a heavy trap sound.

“This will be my first time doing a show with Nacho. I think it’s dope to have a bill that has as wide a range of styles as Seattle’s ‘tip of the Northwest’s hip-hop scene,’ Sol said.

In a Q&A, when Vice Magazine asked how he compared to other Seattle rappers, Nacho Picasso said, “I’m just as much a reflection of the artists for a show as early last summer, but didn’t decide on Sol, Grynch and Nacho Picasso until February.

“CWU is usually behind the curve on things, but didn’t decide on Sol, Grynch and Nacho Picasso until February.

“Assuming this is successful, we will be able to keep this [calendar of events] going next year,” Lane said.

Unlike the Macklemore show, this concert will be a long show with numerous artists and acts.

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MAY 16 FROM 3 PM - 10 PM
AT CORNERSTONE PIE

HIP HOP COMPETITION ★ BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Win a pair of tickets to Sasquatch! 2015 (camping included)

Northern Shakedown ★ Sanoma ★ Centaur Midwife ★ Thunderhound
Pull for Fire ★ Treesplitter ★ Harvest States
BY ZAC HERETH
Ball Reporter

Stampeding through Rotary Park this summer is Ellensburg’s new professional baseball team, the Bulls.

Joining the Bulls in the inaugural season for the Mount Rainier Professional Baseball League (MRPBL) are the Skagit Valley lumberjacks, Moses Lake Racers, Greens Harbor Gulls, Oregon City Mud Turtles and Glacier Outlaws.

The Bulls will kick off the season May 21 in Moses Lake, and their home opener will be against the Outlaws on May 29. Tickets for games will be $6.

“It’s been so long since we had [professional] baseball here,” said Keith Marshall, the Bulls’ general manager and public address announcer. “I’m finding out this is a huge baseball town. It’s amazing all the people here that are so involved in baseball.”

Marshall grew up in Ellensburg until he moved to Vancouver in high school, and later returned to attend Central to study psychology. He turned to attend Central to study psychology. He

PRO STATUS

As it sits now, the Ellensburg Bulls will start their season on May 21 in Moses Lake. They will play until the end of August.

Ellensburg Bulls’
Home Season Opener

When: Friday, May 29 at 6:05 p.m.
Opponent: Glacial Outlaws from Mount Rainier
Where: TBD
Cost: 10 game pack, $55

something they could see happening.

Why Ellensburg?

Greene said the league was looking for cities with populations around 30,000 people that didn’t already have professional baseball teams.

He said Ellensburg and Moses Lake are perfectly set up for close travel to save costs for the league, noting that travel costs are what kill so many independent baseball leagues.

The goal for the team is to build a strong foundation and relationship with the town and to provide role models for the town’s young baseball players.

“It’s gonna be a real family place to go,” Marshall said. “A place to bring those kids out to the ballpark and meet the players. Show the kids you need to go to college and play college baseball.”

Greene said Ellensburg was one of the easiest towns to set up a team in, and there has been much more attention garnered by the team as the season approaches.

“Everything I’ve heard from everyone is really positive,” Waldner said. “They’re excited that there is going to be a team.”

It’s for the passion of the game. Our goal is to advance as many guys as possible.

The roster will feature players who last played in the minors, college, independent leagues and high schools. Marshall said he had been getting calls from all over the country from players who will be reporting for practice this week.

The players will be housed by volunteer host families in the area. Anyone interested in providing a room for a player can contact Greene through the league’s website.

Central connections

Marshall will be joined in the organization by four other Central alumni in the organization.

Three Central baseball players from last year’s GNAC conference championship team will be on the team: outfielder Jaykob Sells, infielde Scott Stone and infielder Josh Potter.

In their senior seasons, Sells hit .270 and drove in 15 runs, Stone hit .271 with six home runs and 21 runs batted in, and Potter hit .329 with two home runs and 19 runs batted in.

“It’s the team’s promotions director is Erika Waldner, another Central student athlete.

Waldner, a junior marketing major with a minor in sports business, played volleyball at Central before a torn labrum ended her career. But she still helps out the team.

Waldner also has an internship with the school’s athletic department. She said she is very lucky and blessed to get an opportunity to work for the team.

Both Greene and Marshall said keeping local talent here is
The Central baseball team finished the year with an impressive .295 team batting average, above the GNAC average of .292. They also tied the GNAC hit average at 460.

BY JAKE NELSON

The Central baseball team didn’t get to end the season how they wanted to. After being 2014 GNAC champions, Central was projected to win it all again this year. However, the Wildcats finished one game below .500, with a 24-25 record, and didn’t advance to the GNAC tournament.

Even though Central didn’t get another shot in the championship, three players made First Team All-GNAC this year: senior Kasey Bielec, junior Darren Honeysett and junior Zach Johnson. Hon-eysett was also awarded with the Newcomer of the Year award, after transferring from Monterey Peninsula College.

Bielec and Honeysett led Central’s offense this season. Bielec, a seasoned team leader of the baseball team, finished his final year on the diamond at Central in style by hitting a home run during his final at-bat as a Wildcat. Bielec finished the year with a .409 batting average and a .488 on base percentage as well as five home runs and 40 RBIs.

“My biggest disappointment this year was injuries. Junior pitcher Nate Potter went down early and Brandon Williams blew his knee out mid-season. ‘We didn’t only lose the best pitcher on the team, we lost the best pitcher in the league,’ Storey said. ‘Realistically, if Brandon Williams stays healthy, we win a few more ballgames, and we are in the tournament. We had a bunch of seniors last year that flat out weren’t going to lose when it came down to it. It was a bigger group and they had been through it.’

With key returning players such as Honeysett and Johnson, Central looks to bounce back next season and return to the GNAC Tournament.

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Another rough start for M’s

BY CHANCE DAVIS/STAFF REPORTER

It’s another season and another rough start for the Seattle Mariners.

The Mariners’ mediocre start to the season has set some fans on high alert. It has become a reminder of last year’s season, when the team finished 87-75, missing the wildcard spot by one game.

Being three games below .500 so early in the season has left many fans frustrated and concerned.

The bullpen has had a tough start, blowing games when only leading by one run. James Paxton and Taijuan Walker, the new young duo in the bullpen, have a combined 1-5 record this season.

Starting pitching is crucial to the Mariners when it comes to winning games. It’s difficult for the Mariners to pull ahead and make big plays when they are constantly trying to make up runs for the mistakes of their starting pitchers.

The Mariners have one of the best 3-4-5 trios in the MLB. Robinson Cano, Nelson Cruz and Kyle Seager all have golden gloves, while Cruz is the reigning home run derby champion.

The Mariners’ offense has seen a big change this year when it comes to big hitters with the addition of Cruz in the lineup. Cruz not only leads the team in home runs, but also leads the MLB with 14 home runs. In just 31 games, his batting average is .334, and he has 27 RBIs on record. Cruz is crucial to getting wins.

Seager, who also has a high RBI for the team at 16, is also important for the team when it comes to winning games. He makes plays consistently and has shown up huge on defense. If the Mariners want to succeed, they’re going to need that on a team level.

The more players the Mariners have hitting RBIs on the team, the better chance it has, especially with the pitching inconsistencies coming out of the bullpen that has cost runs and even games.

Two years ago, the Yankees and the Mariners made a trade—Michael Pineda for Jesus Montero and second round draft pick. Montero has been nothing but streaky the past two years, but this year the tables seem to be turned. He is hitting .348 at AAA for the Tacoma Rainiers with 4 HR.

Jesus Montero might not be the answer to the hitting woes of Mike Zunino, who is hitting .159 with 3 HR, but he is the answer to the Mariners’ DH problems in Brad Miller.

Since day one, Lloyd McLendon, manager of the Mariners, has been confident that the Mariners can win over 90 games this season and compete for the AL West.

With a record of 14-17 before their home battle against San Diego, the Mariners are looking to get this season going towards their way above .500.
The softball fields at Rotary Park, just southwest of Central’s campus, will get plenty of use this summer as Ellensburg’s Youth Center will be hosting an adult slowpitch softball league, starting June 15.

There are a total of three softball fields at Rotary Park; two of them called “skin infi elds.”

“We call them ‘skin infi elds’ because there’s no grass on them; it’s just the trigger infi elds and grass outfi elds,” Youth Center and Athletic Programs Coordinator David Hurn said.

The fi elds are used for the men’s and women’s league. The co-ed league uses an auxiliary fi eld, which is all grass.

Though there is no fee for each player, according to Hurn there is a bulk team fee. The prices for the league only include team signups and registration; equipment is not provided.

Teams are usually formed prior to signing up and local businesses will often offer sponsorships to cover team fees. For those without a team, players can sign up as “free agents” and join a team that is looking for extra players.

“That’s pretty typical for city-run programs outside of Central,” Hurn said. “A vast majority of teams get sponsors. Pizza Rita put a team together a couple of years ago. A lot of businesses have become more and more open to helping put together team fees.”

The slow pitch softball league can also encourage camaraderie in the community.

“Most teams set up team uniforms, but some of them are as simple as a same colored shirt. Nine teams out of ten will set aside money to buy a shirt,” Hurn said.

Women’s and co-ed leagues play 10-game seasons, while men’s leagues play 16 games. These games run from June through September.

Following the season, men’s and co-ed leagues host single elimination tournaments to declare a champion. The women’s league holds a double-elimination tournament.

“Teams are getting together and hitting and playing catch,” Hurn said.
The Seattle Sounders are off to a good start this year as they look to win back-to-back Supporters Shields and, if fate has it, the coveted MLS Cup. The Sounders are currently sitting in third place, just four points away from first.

The Sounders’ big name DeAndre Yedlin left last year. Yedlin gained national attention in the 2014 World Cup alongside Sounders’ star forward Clint Dempsey.

Yedlin, a Seattleite, left for the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, following last year’s loss to LA Galaxy in the playoffs. It was a tough blow for the Sounders, who loved his defensive power.

To make up for the loss, Seattle brought in Tyrone Mears, a defender from England. Mears has made a name for himself as a dependable defender, as well as a playmaker. This was made evident by his cross in the Sounders’ opener against New England Revolution, which led to a classic Dempsey header goal.

Mears has been a great addition for the Sounders. The team knows that they will have to rework their roster because the departure of Yedlin has left gaps in both speed and intuition. Seattle can always look to Dempsey. He has been the centerpiece of this team since he came here, and this season should be no different.

Dempsey has seven goals and four assists in seven games this year. He is sitting on top for goals this year for Seattle, right ahead of other star forward, Obafemi Martins.

Dempsey will need to keep up those kinds of numbers if the Sounders are going to win the MLS Cup this year, a feat they are a favorite to accomplish.

The Sounders lost a tough game on Saturday to the Columbus Crew by a score of 3-2. Columbus is currently in fourth place in the Eastern conference, so the Sounders would have loved to beat them and get a win on the road.

The Sounders will stay on the road this weekend, as they make the short trip up I-5 to Vancouver, Canada to take on the Vancouver Whitecaps. The Whitecaps hold first place in the Western conference, so a win over them would be huge.

The Sounders have not had as much success on the road this year. They have two wins, two losses and one tie on the road, compared to three wins and one loss at home. Turning around and taking more games on the road would be a big boost in right the direction.

Adding new players and losing old ones always creates a transitional period that can be tough for any team. The Sounders seemed to handle the transition well, and they should only keep improving.

As the season goes on, I believe we will see the chemistry of this team keep getting better, and the wins will start stacking up as players learn to communicate with each other.

When you have a player like Dempsey on your team, it is hard to think of yourself as the underdog. Look for this team to go on a tear as the season gets going. Another Supporters Shield and shot at the big one is not out of the question.