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2015 ACP Best in Show Winner

The OBSERVER

Vol. 102 No. 5, Feb. 11 - 17, 2016

By the students and for the students of CWU

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Photo by Mckenzie Lakey

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New coffee shop in Brooks makes way for more 'major remodeling'



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Central men's basketball begins final six-game stretch at home



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State home growers may start to bud

BY BRIAN COOK
Staff Reporter

Washington may be looking into a new bill which would allow anyone 21 and older to cultivate their own marijuana.

“Everyone should be able to grow their own plant, for goodness sakes,” said Amber Steen, assistant manager at The Joint in Clearview, Wash.

Other states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use allow residents to grow their own stash. Washington, however, has kept growing marijuana strictly to those who have been issued a medical certificate or a producer’s licenses from the state.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Brian Blake of Aberdeen, would allow adults 21 and up to grow up to six plants and possess up to eight ounces of usable product.

This bill would also allow growers to “donate” up to one ounce of marijuana to another adult for no “compensation.”

With medical dispensaries combining with recreational



COURTESY OF FLICKR

State residents who are 21 or over may be able to grow marijuana in their homes if this new bill passes.

shops, many current medical growers may be out of a job.

“Growers won’t be able to sell to the medical market like they are now,” Steen said. “Many could turn to black market sales, which would cause a decrease in

retail shop sales.”

The state government would also be taking a big hit if home growing were legalized. Currently, the government receives a 40 percent excise tax on all marijuana sales.

“Growing marijuana could become a more complex process than many would think. Some growers could spend up to 15 minutes of upkeep per plant a day, depending on the style they are growing their weed” said

Tim May, grower at The Green-Vault.

Daily upkeep on plants consists of watering, pulling leaves and cutting the tops.

According to Steen, a grower can have a plant ready for harvest in anywhere from 45 to 80 days, depending on the strain.

The strain will also vary the amount of bud the plant produces, he said.

Some strains will only produce two ounces while others can produce between five and six ounces.

Most indoor grow operations have a series of expensive high powered LED lamps, which could cost new growers hundreds.

However, since the bill was introduced in the later part of the legislative session, it may not come to vote for some time.

May believes that while a lot of people would attempt to grow their own plants, “some would succeed, but most would fail. Then they would just buy the bomb shit I grow.”

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MCKENZIE LAKEY/OBSERVER

Home for the homeless

Individuals spend the night in cold weather shelters in the basement of churches each night. Most can expect food, a sleeping bag & a mat.

Local churches provide respite from cold winter weather

BY SHANAI BEMIS
 Contributing Writer

In the mostly empty basement of the First Christian Church in Ellensburg, a woman in blue flannel sleep pants lies on her stomach and tries to drown out the loud snoring coming from a large, unmoving lump of fabric in the corner.

The only other woman in the room sets up a bed next to her. Grace (not her real name) carries along a brown purse and other miscellaneous belongings. She

also totes a bag of cat food for her black cat named Yoda. With her green eyes, she sits quietly in a cat carrier.

Last night, the two of them left their home and an emotionally abusive relationship.

“It was short, brief, intense, and terrible,” Grace says while offering Yoda a small saucer of water.

She has spent a lifetime telling herself that she’s done with abuse, and always managed to fall back into it. But this time, it’s different. This time she thinks

she can start over.

“I have a lot of gifts, and the rest of my life to enjoy them,” she says.

In the adjoining kitchen, Andrew, who is tall with a long scraggly beard and black and white beanie, talks about an afternoon he spent applying to Central.

“I’m excited to go to school,” he says as he checks to see if his chicken is done cooking. “I haven’t been to school in 25 years.”

With a divorce, a short career

with the National Guard, and PTSD in the past, Andrew is looking forward to changing his life for the better.

Outside its 28 degrees and the wind makes it feel even colder. It’s February and most nights the temperature still drops below freezing.

For most of us, winter is an inconvenience; our fingers and noses get cold, but we warm up with a Starbucks latte in the morning.

Not everyone is so lucky.

According to the 2015 Point

in Time homeless count, an annual count required of each county by Washington state, Kittitas County has 27 individuals who currently meet the state definition of “homeless.” However, this count does not include people who can be classified as “couch surfers,” or people who are staying with friends or family while they do not have a dwelling of their own.

So while the rest of us drink

See “Home” on P. 5

Civil Rights exhibit educates Central students

BY RAY PAYNE
 Staff Reporter

This past week the Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) created a Civil Rights Exhibit in the SURC to educate students on the civil rights movement and its connection with today.

“It’s really just about educating Central’s population,” said Gianni Glover, senior social services major and program organizer for the CDSJ.

Glover had a primary role in organizing and setting up the exhibit along with Jordan Todd, senior double major in sociology and law and justice, who gathered information for the exhibit.

The exhibit was aiming to get the attention of Central’s entire student body to educate those who may have not received an in-depth or accurate lesson on the civil rights movement.

Parts of the exhibit included a showing of the movie “Freedom Riders.” There was also an area designed to look like a classroom with information on segregation in public schools, examples of Jim Crow laws and literacy tests, “The Willie Lynch Letter” and a section on lynching with graphic photographs and examples.

Central’s library assisted the exhibit by providing information and materials for the exhibit, detailing Central’s history with the civil rights movement.

Several sources were also consulted in the creation of the exhibit, including museums in both Seattle and Atlanta.

Although attendance seemed to be relatively low, the exhibit received praise from those who visited it.

“Personally, I liked the exhibit. I thought it was quite a bit informative,” said Alexis Edwards, freshman undecided. “We didn’t



JORDAN CAMERON/OBSERVER

The Center for Diversity and Social Justice created a free Civil Rights exhibit.

get to see that much of African American history [in K-12 education].”

Edwards noted that she in particular liked the school section of the exhibit.

She said it gave her insight into the differences between black schools and white schools at the time and how black schools seemed to worsen while white schools improved – something

that typically isn’t focused on in public school education.

“Going through the exhibit, you’ll learn more about other people besides MLK and Malcolm X and Rosa Parks... You’ll learn more deeper than them and who was doing some of the same things but just didn’t get the same credit,” Glover said. “Most of us who put that exhibit on have been through the public

school system and so we know that you don’t get that knowledge.”

One slightly controversial portion of the exhibit was the section on lynching in America.

The section displayed photographs of dead black people who had been shot, hanged or mutilated.

Two items that stuck out and elicited strong responses from attendees were the noose that hung from above and the KKK robe and headwear that was on display.

“When I first walked into that room I got chills,” Edwards said.

Also included in the section on lynching were pictures and information on some recent black victims of shootings, including Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and Tamir Rice.

“I feel like they’re just saying

See “Civil” on P. 5

Whipping up a new brew at Whipsaw

BY LEXI POPICH
Staff Reporter

New Brewery in Town
There's a new brewery in town—locally owned Whipsaw Brewery is a family-friendly, all ages brewery where the whole family is welcome, even dogs.

Whipsaw Brewery offers a variety of beers on tap along with non-alcoholic beverages, such as their homemade ginger ale and root beer.

Whipsaw is a comfortable brewery to kick back and drink a beer. The lodging design and handmade tables give it a cozy and welcoming feel.

One customer explained the overall design and feel of the brewery as “simplistic but far from boring.”

This family-friendly brewery has a similar layout as Iron Horse Brewery located on Main St. where customers can bring their own food or order food and have it delivered.

However, Whipsaw Brewery makes small cheese and meat platters in-house, and the Red Pickle food truck is located in the parking lot.



TAYLOR SIMENTAL/OBSERVER

Patrons can try a myriad of different kinds of beers at Whipsaw Brewery. The brewery offers pints at \$4 and flights of beer at \$8.50.

Minors are allowed in Whipsaw because instead of it being a bar, the counter is technically classified as a service desk.

Whipsaw provides board games for entertainment purposes, but customers are also welcome to bring their own board games as well.

A pint of any type of beer is \$4 and a flight of beer is \$8.50.

The beers currently on tap are Camp Tramp Wheat, Buzz on Blackberry Wheat, Stump Blower IPA and Hoot Owl Stout.

Whipsaw does not do growler fill-ups, but will be in the near future.

Beer reviews

The Camp Tramp Wheat is a lighter, summery wheat ale that is not overpowering and very refreshing.

The Buzz on Blackberry Wheat is the crowd favorite. It has a subtle blackberry taste that is just sweet enough without

Whipsaw Brewery Location:

By the Motel 6
704 N Wenas St.
Open from
1 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Family and dog
friendly
establishment
whipsawbrewing.com

crossing the line into a cider. The sweetness doesn't take away from its wheat roots, it is a very unique beer.

The Stump Blower IPA is the strongest of the line-up, weighing in at 7.9 percent. It definitely has a bite to it, but it is not overdone. It is hoppy and smooth with a golden color.

The Hoot Owl Stout is robust, but isn't the heaviest stout out there—definitely lighter and smoother than Iron Horses' Irish Death. Overall, a good quality stout.

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Milo Smith Tower Theatre

circle mirror transformation

by Annie Baker

director Patrick Dizney

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CAT MEDIA

Aviation needs emergency funding



JORDAN CAMERON/OBSERVER

The Central Aviation department is requesting \$3.5 million in state funding to help pay for expanding facilities.

BY KAILAN MANANDIC
Assistant News Editor

Central's aviation department is in a state of emergency and is requesting \$3.5 million in state funding to expand its facilities.

Central currently has 150 students studying aviation with only one classroom in the aviation facility. Other classes are held in Black Hall, where the department chair, Sundaram Nataraja, is stationed.

According to Nataraja, the aviation facilities are inadequate for current students and faculty. This is a problem considering that the aviation program is growing.

Last year, the program doubled in size and Nataraja said he expects about 100 incoming students next fall quarter. Eventually, he said he would like the program to involve over 1,000 students.

"In order to meet the demand of the industry for qualified professionals," Nataraja said, "we, as a state school, have a kind of responsibility to provide man power."

To help alleviate this problem, Nataraja and Central President James Gaudino went to Olympia on Jan. 28 to request \$3.5 million in emergency state funding.

Washington Legislature's aviation caucus is still deciding on the grant, but Nataraja is hopeful.

"I personally expect, yes, it'll happen," Nataraja said. "We didn't go there begging for money, but we sent a message."

Nataraja expects to receive the caucus' decision within the next two months and the facilities to be built within an additional two to three months, just in time for Fall quarter.

The Washington Legislature

plans school funding every other year and the next period will be the summer of 2017. This is why the aviation department needs emergency funding, according to Nataraja.

Additionally, during the next funding period, Nataraja plans to request funding to build a hangar for the aircraft. Currently, the planes are exposed to the elements during winter.

The current facility consist of one classroom, two faculty offices, 10 flight briefing rooms, a small testing rooms and two flight simulator rooms.

All of the emergency funding will go towards finishing the current aviation facility, which is only in phase one of production. Phase two will add four classrooms and four faculty offices.

These additions were a part of the original plan formed in 2007 but, according to Nataraja, because of the 2008 financial crisis, only the first phase was constructed.

The funding will only go towards the raw materials and building of phase two. The design is drawn out in the 2007 plan and any leftover funding will go towards more classrooms.

Additionally, the new facilities will prevent a current problem of student parking.

Since aviation students rush between the aviation facility and Black Hall for classes, they often have trouble with parking and getting to class on time.

The completion of the new facility will provide a space for all

students and faculty to meet under one roof and help streamline the curriculum.

“The department is looking forward to providing quality-oriented education...”

-Sundaram Nataraja
Aviation Department Chair

In addition to growing the program to 1,000 students, Nataraja wants to diversify the undergraduate curriculum and even provide a Master's De-

gree in aviation.

The current undergrad program consists of a Bachelor of Science in Professional Piloting and Aviation Management. Nataraja hopes to add mechanic and maintenance specializations.

The master's program is already planned out and just needs approval by the Faculty Senate. Nataraja is looking to have it ready by next fall quarter.

According to Nataraja, the aviation department also plans to reach out to its over 1,400 alumni, some of which are captains for Delta and United Airlines.

"We want to connect with them and bring them home so they can be an inspiration for our young students," Nataraja said.

Because of FAA regulations requiring pilots to retire at 65, Nataraja expects America will need about 110,000 pilots and 60,000 aviation managers next year.

He is excited to give students the opportunity to fill these positions.

"The department is looking forward to providing quality oriented education, a memorable learning experience and a compassionate environment for students," Nataraja said.



CWU PUBLICITY CENTER

Mass Incarceration speaker Michael Eric Dyson coming to Central

BY OBSERVER STAFF

Michael Eric Dyson, a prominent voice in the nationwide conversation on racial equality, is coming to speak at Central on Tuesday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. in the McIntyre Music Building Concert Hall. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

Dyson's speech will be free and open to the public. It will be followed with a book signing at the Wildcat Shop in the SURC.

Dyson's appearance is part of Central's Social Justice and Human Rights Series as part of this year's inaugural theme, "Mass Incarceration and Racial Justice: Black and Brown Lives Do Matter." The series aims to educate Central's community and initiate discussions about race.

According to a press release by Central's Publicity Center,

Dyson is widely recognized for his contributions to the ongoing discussion of race relations.

A Princeton graduate with a Ph.D. in religion, he is the author of several books, including the 2007 winner of the American Book Award, "Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster."

Dyson also works as a political analyst and sociology professor at Georgetown University. He's appeared on a variety of radio and television news networks, including NPR, CNN and MSNBC.

"Dr. Dyson is one of the authorities when it comes to issues of race and race relations," said Michelle Cyrus, diversity officer at the Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ), in a press release. "I felt he could really speak to what we're seeing now."

See "Civil" from P. 3

not much has changed, like we're just going about it differently," Edwards said. "Black people aren't getting the justice white people are getting, so I feel like that's what they were getting at."

Some criticized the room for its graphic nature. The photographs and objects on display triggered strong emotions in some individuals that others felt were unnecessary for the exhibit.

See "Home" from P. 3

hot coco and binge watch Netflix, what do these 27 individuals do at night to stay warm?

If they are lucky, they make it in time to spend the night in Ellensburg's rotating cold weather shelter. These shelters are maintained every night, Monday thru Sunday, at a different church in Ellensburg. Each night, a group of volunteers work two-hour shifts, keeping an eye on the shelter goers.

From 7 p.m. until 8 p.m. the churches open their doors and allow members of the community to check in.

According to Don Green, a pastor with the First Christian Church who oversees the church's Monday night shelters, this strict check-in time exists for safety reasons. Each person who checks in to use the shelter is checked for weapons before being admitted, Green said.

"Safe" can be a bit of a relative term however. Recently, an incident resulted in one shelter regular being arrested and another being on the receiving end

"A lot of people felt offended," Glover said. "And they're like, 'oh you don't have to go to this extreme to prove a point.'"

Glover made it clear that the exhibit was to convey the reality of the situation that was occurring at the time.

"If it makes you feel uncomfortable, then I did my job. Because the person who was on the other end of that noose felt uncomfortable, the black daughter, the husband, the black wife," Glover said. "You're just looking at it, so imagine how they felt."

of a chair to the face.

"It wasn't just alcohol," says Roger, a short-ish man in an Arizona University sweatshirt. "I knew [the attacker] and just alcohol wouldn't have made him do that."

After check in, each person is given a nylon sleeping bag and a floor mat to sleep on.

They congregate in the large open room, some already asleep or well on their way, others sitting and chatting. Josh, a man young enough he might be mistaken for a Central student, talks with Roger while he roll cigarettes.

At 10 p.m., the lights go out and both the shelter goers and the volunteers settle in for the night. At 7 a.m. the next morning, once the sun has risen, the volunteers will go home and the shelter goers will face another day in the cold.

"I think about them every morning," says Karen, who typically volunteers the 7 p.m.-10 p.m. shift on Mondays. She was recruited through the New Life Church in Yakima and has a son who also works with the homeless. "I go out in the cold and feed my horses and I think, [what I'm dealing with] is nothing."

What came first, love or marriage?



BY ANNA KESSNER/COPY DESK

If my best friend came up to me and told me she was engaged, my first thought would be, “are you fucking pregnant?”

It seems like more and more people these days are getting married younger and younger.

With Valentine’s Day right around the corner, I’m sure at least one person on your newsfeed will be getting engaged. That person will probably be under 25. Hell, probably under 21.

I feel like I’m the odd girl out when it comes to my views on marriage.

My 10 year plan includes graduating college, getting a job, buying a car, buying a house—basically just getting my life together.

Getting married is not high on my list of priorities.

I mean, sure, one day I could picture myself married and possibly having kids, but I see that in my 30s. Although, I can also see myself being single at 35, living in New York, laying on my bed in my underwear and freelance writing for a newspaper. Yup, totally channeling my inner Carrie Bradshaw.

But even Carrie found her Mr. Big, and so what if she was



DENNIS SKLEY/FLICKR

38 when she settled down?

I’m not saying everyone should wait until then, but I feel like that might be a better alternative to what people are doing nowadays.

Sixty percent of married couples between the ages of 20 and 25 end in divorce, according to National Center for Health Statistics.

Let’s all just ponder that for a second.

While we’re thinking about that, let’s also consider why people are getting married so young in the first place.

Unexpected pregnancy, military benefits, being completely infatuated with someone after only knowing them for two months. All reasons I’ve personally seen for walking down the aisle.

Now, I’m not saying that all people that get married young are stupid and will inevitably get divorced. Miracles do happen.

But so often we are reminded

that young marriages are hard. Especially if the two have a kid together. You should be 100 percent sure you are ready before you commit your life to someone.

Live together. Date for a few years. Make sure you really know the person. Better yet, make sure you really know yourself.

People probably think I’m just a bitter single, writing about how I hate to see other people happy.

My boyfriend and I have been together for three years. And let me tell you, there is no way in hell I am ready to commit my life to that guy.

We’re both doing our own thing and living out our goals, and if in the end, we intertwine those lives together, great.

But I’m only 21-years-old. Your 20s are supposed to be your selfish years. Travel. Shop. Do things for yourself. Love will always find its way to you.

There is absolutely no rush to get hitched. This isn’t the 1950s.

Response to last week’s letter to the editor



BY RAY PAYNE/STAFF REPORTER

Oberlin College students have made it clear that they’re tired of feeling the way they do; nobody can argue that they’re not upset.

However, what the original opinion was trying to convey was that the demands made were unreasonable and extreme. I too, share this opinion.

I understand wanting black faculty and counselors, because one can argue that students will be able to relate to them better. I also understand, though, that increasing the diversity of faculty is more complicated than some think.

Nowhere in the original opinion was the idea of students asking for equality and respect called extremism. Extremism is making unreasonable demands that include bringing back a form of segregation and the use of threats in order to obtain compliance.

Again, nowhere in the original opinion did someone say that when the issue is racial, it becomes extremism. However, when the issue involves threats to force compliance, that’s when there is a problem, no matter what the issue is.

To support your argument, you made several claims that were troubling. I will allow the claim that there is housing discrimination present, however black Americans do not receive the lowest wages, Hispanic and Latino Americans do. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median weekly earnings for blacks is \$641 while for Hispanics and Latinos it is only \$604.

The claim that black Americans are having their right to vote stripped from them is debatable seeing as there are laws with the purpose of preventing this action. If what you’re referencing is voter ID laws, then you are misrepresenting the purpose of them in order to back up your own argument.

Black people being less likely to receive treatment at hospitals is another debatable claim on the grounds that hospitals are required to treat everyone until they are stable. The idea that police are more likely to shoot an unarmed black teen than an armed white terrorist is something that cannot be backed up.

What can be backed up by police records is that in 2015, 54 percent of the people shot by police were white and only 1.8 percent of the blacks shot were under 18. Over 80 percent of the individuals across all race that were shot were armed with lethal objects.

While the incarceration issue in the U.S. is a definite concern, there are many factors contributing to incarceration rates outside of race. Also, someone cannot be “detained” for resisting arrest, they are being arrested and resisting arrest is a crime.

The one thing I want make clear is that you have no right to ever tell someone that that they cannot express their opinions because of their skin color, you cannot fight racial issues with more racial discrimination.

Until everyone understands this, we cannot make progress.

OBSERVER EDITORIAL

Students: Use free shit on campus

BY OBSERVER EDITORIAL BOARD

All around campus there are free or nearly free services that students have access to as apart of their tuition. A lot of these services go underutilized or simply unknown to some students.

One of the most well-known services is the free condoms and lubricant provided by Central’s wellness center. but free condoms in college is like free candy in an elementary school. Most kids are going to take some.

Additionally, the wellness center offers an array of educational programs and events. Sexual health education is their most popular program, although they offer other programs on drugs and alcohol, mental health, stress, and almost anything involving personal health.

Other than condoms, lube and education, Central provides a 3-D printer to students through the multimodal education center in Black hall 127. There is no cost for the printing materials, students only pay for the operation at \$1 per hour.

Additionally, the multimodal center offers a cricut machine which makes accurate and precise cuts for projects like dioramas or paper crafts.

Some students haven’t even

heard that they have nearly free access to this technology.

Central’s library also provides laptops for use in the library, video cameras, digital voice recorders and flash drives for three-day checkout – all for free.

There’s even a free phone charging station on the ground floor of the SURC equipped with most types of chargers. Additionally, a few tables on the second floor have USB power adaptors for phone chargers.

Alongside the wellness center, Central provides mental health services through the medical and counseling clinic. The clinic provides students with professional counseling that is covered by tuition.

The counseling is confidential and offered for individuals suffering domestic abuse, drug and alcohol abuse, and mental disorders, along with group counseling as more of a support group.

In crisis situations involving suicide, the clinic even sends a counselor to respond immediately at any hour.

All of this is provided for free or at 1\$ an hour thanks to student tuition, yet some graduate without ever using them.

In “Neighbors,” Dave Franco’s character says, “Our school has excellent facilities that nobody ever uses.” His character is correct. Be like Dave Franco.

TWEETS FROM THE STREETS

- Kelly Cronic @Kelly_Cronic · 17h**
Ellensburg needs a 24 hr coffee shop
- shan @ShannaHavens · 6h**
I mean your CWU love story is cute and all, but I'm not about marrying someone who graduated 20 years before me 😊
- BrøthΔmΔn NΔ†Σ @nathan1sk · 6h**
I WAS IN THE POOL!!!!!! Is how cold it is in Ellensburg right now #cwu #wildcats
- Scarlet Fonfara @justicefonfara8 · 6h**
I love seeing cwu stuff in my room 🥰🥰🥰🥰
- Jordan Braedt @JBraedt · 29m**
It's only 40 degrees and everyones happy about how warm it is... #ellensburg
- JeckCali-nalgas @jeckyoself · 25m**
Bye y'all, going to Ellensburg for no reason at all 🙄
- Don Beddoe @The_Don_102 · 5h**
This weather is crazy! Ellensburg was 21° and foggy, I get home to Yakima and its 51° and Sunny! Did I time travel or something!?

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CORRECTIONS:

A photograph that ran on page 13 of the sports section should have given credit to Jason Diffee. The headline “Fifth-year promise coming to Central” on page five made it seem as though the Fifth-Year Promise was for sure coming to Central Washington University. It should have been clear that it may come in the future.

Brooks Library sees a 'latte' change

BY KAITLYN LANGDALE
Staff Reporter

Change is on the horizon for the library after the ribbon was cut for its very own new coffee shop, Jimmy B's.

On Feb. 3, Jimmy B's had its grand opening.

The event was celebrated with staff, students, community members and the Kittitas Chamber of Commerce, which helped give the new coffee shop the opening it deserved.

Brooks Library Dean Patricia Cutright and the entire library staff couldn't be more thrilled with this latest addition to their library.

For them, this isn't just an easier stop for coffee, it's a chance to become more involved with Central students.

"I can't wait to be able to start my morning routine here," said Carlos Pelley, library staff member.

"I now get the chance to talk to students and talk to them about the archives."

This coffee shop has been a long time coming.

Cutright heard the cry for coffee from Central students in two different case studies performed in both 2011 and 2013.

"Since students were doing projects about us opening a coffee shop here, we obviously knew there was a big student interest, and we want to show our students that we hear them," Cutright said.

After three project requests and ongoing work from library staff members Michelle Rylie and Molly Allen, the dream finally became a reality.

The new coffee shop has been a welcome change in the Brooks



BRITTANY ALLEN/OBSERVER

Jimmy B's is the new coffee shop that just opened up this past month on the first floor of Brooks Library.

Library, providing students with a safer and closer option for a late night coffee while they are studying.

The library staff decided to honor the past by naming Jimmy B's after for-

mer Central President James E. Brooks, the first librarian of and namesake of Brooks Library.

For Cutright, the opening of Jimmy B's is the perfect jumping off point to continue implementing changes

in the library.

"We need to change the look of the library. The way students study and interact is so different from the way it used to be," Cutright said.

Cutright hopes to do more major remodeling to create a new atmosphere for students to study and interact with each other.

"We need a rethinking of the entire space," Cutright said.

Most students spend the majority of their time in the library either in the fish bowl or the

“We are happy to have students here even if it's just for a cup of coffee.”

-Patricia Cutright
Dean of Brooks Library

Hours

Monday - Thurs.

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Sunday:

4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

computer lab downstairs.

With this in mind, the library staff wants build from there and create an environment that caters to the needs of modern students.

One of the changes Cutright is looking to accomplish is rewiring the library's entire electrical system to accommodate more development in the future.

This will mean more outlets for students to plug into across the entire library, better Wi-Fi connections and internet speeds and maybe even the addition of a new computer lab upstairs.

The libraries need for an infrastructure and technology update is high on the priority list of the library's administration.

Allen, the library administrator, ran into this problem of outdated infrastructure when she needed to update plumbing for the coffee shop.

Cutright's ultimate goal for the library is to create an environment that more students will enjoy and make use of.

"This coffee shop helps bring in more people to the library," Cutright said.

"We are happy to have students here even if it's just for a cup of coffee."

Spread a random kind act next week

BY ANA LAURA LOPES CONTI FERREIRA
Staff Reporter

The Happiness Club and the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE) are hosting a Kindness Week event in order to encourage people to treat others with kindness and respect.

"It is a three-day event to encourage students to do random acts of kindness. It is a worldwide celebration," said Jillian Velasquez, program leader at CLCE.

On Tuesday Feb. 16, Wellington the Wildcat will be in the SURC, giving hugs and taking selfies with attendees.

On Wednesday Feb. 17, there will be a Kindness Pledge that people can sign up for. Students can take calendars with different acts of kindness split up between seven days, so they can continue participating an act of kindness for an entire week.

On Thursday Feb. 18, a board will be posted with the theme "take what you need or put what you can." Students can write and leave messages on the board for other students to take throughout the day.

Messages range from com-

Kindness Week

When: Feb. 16, 17, 18

Time: 11 a.m. - 1p.m.

Where: SURC Tabling area

pliments to encouraging people who are facing difficult situations.

In addition, the organizers will distribute little cards promoting acts of kindness, while providing coffee and cookies for everybody.

According to Velasquez, little bags of Hershey's Kisses with messages, buttons and heart-shaped balloons will be distributed with the goal that people give the chocolate to another person and make their day better.

Kindness Week is a worldwide event promoted by the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation (RAK Foundation).

"RAKtivists" are described by the RAK Foundation website as



COURTESY OF THE CWU CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

During kindness week Feb. 16-18, students can receive hugs and take selfies with Wellington the Wildcat.

kindness ambassadors who are part of a global community.

According to the RAK Foundation website, anyone can be a RAKtivist, the person just needs to believe that kindness can change the world and that practicing kind actions can inspire

other people to do the same.

The RAK Foundation has stories and ideas about different random acts of kindness that RAKtivists have been a part of.

The RAK Foundation encourages random acts of kindness such as donating used books,

cleaning up graffiti or letting your teacher know that you appreciate them.

According to the RAK Foundation website, the kindness movement starts with one person using their power to spread kindness to everybody around them.

Amazing Race runs into town

BY HOLLY CHESTER
Staff Reporter

The word “tuition” isn’t typically thought to be synonymous with exciting, however, this winter quarter, Central’s Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE) is attempting to make it so.

The CLCE is hosting a race on March 4 inspired by the popular reality TV show, *The Amazing Race*.

The competition features clues that lead competitors to different stops, where they must complete challenges to earn points.

The team that ends the race with the most points will be awarded a tuition waiver of \$500 to be split between the two team members.

The second place team will receive a \$250 waiver.

Senior global affairs major Elizabeth Vidaurri is the program leader planning the race.

“We’ve created a series of challenges, either physical or mental, on campus and off campus,” Vidaurri said.

“It’s just a good way to maximize students’ resources. I know my first two years I was unaware of a lot of things, and looking back now I feel like I could have benefitted from knowing more about Central as well as some places in downtown Ellensburg. It’s a good resource for students to have.”

The competition gives students the opportunity to challenge themselves with a partner, while having a fun time competing against fellow students.

David Higgins, junior supply chain management major, was a

Amazing Race

When: March 4
Register at the
CLCE by Feb. 22

Prize: 1st place
team \$500 tuition
waiver
2nd place team
\$250 tuition
waiver

part of last year’s winning duo.

He and his partner, Lexcie Linton, were participating for a different reason than other competitors.

“I just started dating a really cute girl, and I was like, ‘This sounds like fun. I really want to do this.’” Higgins said.

“My focus was just kind of spending some quality time together, running around doing a scavenger hunt all around campus.”

Before starting the race, they learned the first rule the hard way: You have to travel by foot.

“We were originally going to be riding a tandem bicycle,” Higgins said. “When I got there, we had everything ready, and they said ‘You can’t use any wheels for transportation.’” Higgin said he

“I just started dating a really cute girl, and I was like, ‘This sounds like fun. I really want to do this.’”

—David Higgins
Junior Supply Chain Management



COURTESY OF THE CWU CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Participants in the Amazing Race are only allowed to use their own two feet to run the course of the race.

had to run home and change all his gear, leaving him with only two minutes to catch his breath and get prepared before the race began.

The biggest surprise came at the end of the race, when Higgins and Linton discovered they were the winners.

“They were announcing first place, second place and third place. And our name was Team Tandem, like our bicycle. Team Tandem actually ended up win-

ning,” Higgins said.

“They said, ‘Here’s your \$500 tuition waiver!’ I was totally unaware of the \$500 first place prize.”

Higgins enjoyed the race so much, he plans on doing a presentation to the residents in the building he is an RA in to encourage them to participate.

Philip Gohl, a grad student studying information technology management, is helping to find pit stops for the race, create challenges and make sure it’s a success.

“It will be like last year’s... They’re all going to disperse into different locations and then they have to complete challenges,” Gohl said.

“It’s a way to see different locations that they probably haven’t known of in the downtown area.”

The race isn’t only an activity to get students more involved in Ellensburg local businesses and community.

It is also designed to help Wildcats build their leadership skills.

“There are a lot of different ways of becoming a leader,” Gohl said.

“And we try and challenge you in different ways to become a better leader, whether it’s a driver or initiator and it’s just a great way to know what you can do with the parameters you are given.”

Red, white and pink all around

BY MIKAILA WILKERSON
Scene Assistant Editor

Anybody who’s looking for a nice place to go on Valentine’s Day will be happy to know that there are many restaurants and gift shops downtown offering specials specifically for this special holiday.

According to Keira Grech, employee at Ellensburg Floral and Gifts, for about two years, there have been a lot of requests lately for Lover’s Chocolate Body Paint, which is now available at the store.

There is also a gift package that’s meant for women to give to their men. The gift package contains a glass beer mug loaded with chocolates, chapsticks and candles.

Grech recalled a couple of years ago when there was a Valentine’s order for her to put 50 carnations into one vase.

“We really try to accommodate everybody,” Grech said.

There are a few shelves with many different flower combinations with prices ranging from \$15 to about \$85, depending on the size of the vase and types of flowers.

Ellensburg Floral can get anywhere from 150 to 400 special orders during Valentine’s Day, Grech said.

The amount of orders varies year to year depending on what day the holiday falls on.

“I think we’re the number one spot for Valentine’s Day,” Grech said.

Some restaurants, such as Yellow Church Café and The Porch, are making new and creative Valentine’s Day menus. Other restaurants are putting together celebrations.

The Ellensburg Pasta Company announced on its twitter account that they will be serving breakfast starting at 8 a.m. on Valentine’s Day. A special menu featuring holiday entrees, desserts and drinks will be available.

According to James McCurdy, bar manager at the Blue Rock Saloon, there will be free wine tasting from 2 to 5 p.m. The wines will be coming from Gilbert Cellars in Yakima.

“We’ll have a dinner special [too], but it’s just not finished yet,” McCurdy said.

After the wine tasting, dinner will begin being served. “It’ll be awesome,” McCurdy said.

Sugar Thai, another popular spot downtown, will be giving out a special, complimentary Thai dessert with all their meals served in-house.

At the Yellow Church Café, there will be a special menu for Valentine’s Day. The menu will be available ahead of time on its Facebook page and website.

According to Monica Kent, an employee at the Yellow Church Café, Oscar Guitron, the restaurant’s owner and chef, is in the process of making that menu.

There will be a special meal available that will consist of a salad, entrée and dessert.

“We’ll call it a Valentine’s Day menu package,” Guitron said.

Anyone who orders this package will also receive a glass of champagne, according to Guitron.

The Porch might have three or four special drinks being served that day, according to lead bartender Jeff Merwin said.

The Porch’s chef is in the middle of working on the menu, according to Merwin.

“Last year we had a small menu for Valentine’s Day,” Merwin said. “Not sure what this year’s will be.”



TAYLOR SIMENTAL/OBSERVER

Keira Grech is one of the floral designers at Ellensburg Floral and Gifts.

Valentine's Day around the world

BY BRITANY DECKER
Staff Reporter

Valentine's Day, a holiday in which we celebrate our affection for each other, is a great way for cultures around the world, no matter similarities or differences, to celebrate the roles loved ones play in our lives.

Gabriella Fernandes, junior nutrition major from Brazil, gave insight to what it is like to celebrate Valentine's Day in her home country.

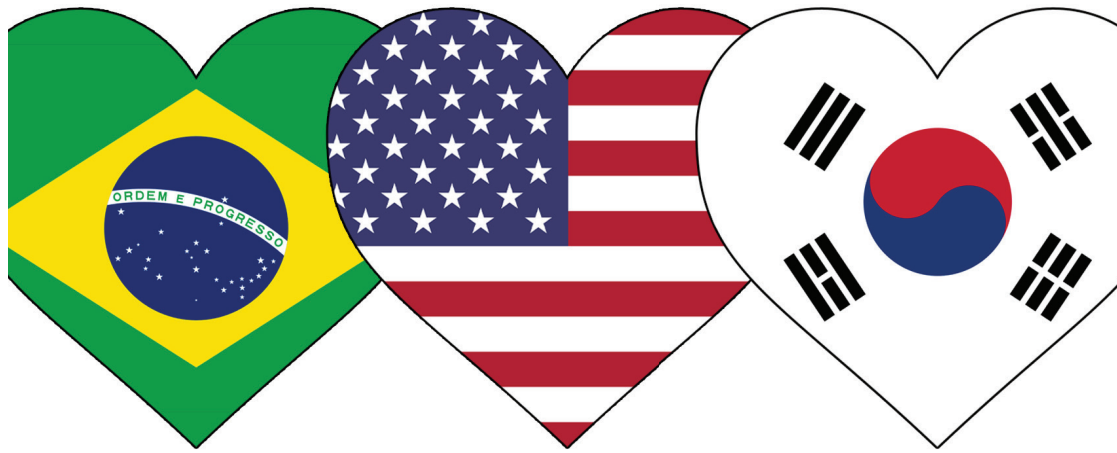
In Brazil, Valentine's Day is known as Dia dos Namprados, or Couple's Day, according to iloveindia.com. It's a major cultural event that almost all people participate in.

Couple's Day is celebrated on June 12. However, according to Fernandes, shops all over Brazil still sell Valentine's Day products on Feb. 14 because that is the most common date for the holiday.

However, Brazilian traditions aren't completely different from American's.

According to Fernandes, a dinner and movie date is just as common in Brazil as it is here.

There is a difference in the scale of the holiday's celebration. Fernandes said often times



People all around the world celebrate Valentine's Day differently but the meaning of the holiday is the same. GRAPHIC DESIGNED BY GRACE LINDSLEY/OBSERVER

Brazilians only buy "something simple" and that it really just "depends on the couple."

According to Fernandes, there are differences between how Americans and Brazilians show affection for their loved ones.

"Here, I cannot really tell if they are a couple or not," Fernandes said. "In Brazil, we defi-

nitely can."

In Brazilian culture, love is not something to be ashamed of and is instead celebrated every day. People in Brazil are in no way afraid of public displays of affection.

It's typical to see people kiss and hold hands in public, Fernandes said.

Another major difference between the culture of Valentine's Day in America and Brazil is that, in America, it is common to celebrate everyone from friends and family to the people we happen to be dating, Fernandes said.

In Brazil, however, this holiday is specifically for couples. Friends and family are not in-

cluded in the celebration of their version of Valentine's Day, Fernandes said.

Minji Chhaysy-Park, senior computer science major from South Korea, said that in Korean culture there are three different celebrations that all pertain to Valentine's Day.

The first of these three celebrations is Valentine's Day itself, which is celebrated on Feb. 14 just like in America.

However, this day is only for the women to celebrate their male lovers, Park said.

According to Park, in order to show their affection, women often give their lovers chocolates.

The second part of this holiday is called White Day and is celebrated on March 14, one month after Valentine's Day.

This is a time for the men to show women how much they mean to them.

In contrast to Valentine's Day, men are not expected to give chocolates but rather candies, Park said.

Lastly, there is Black Day, celebrated on April 14, two months after Valentine's Day.

According to Park, Black Day is a day to celebrate all the single men and women in Korea over a meal of black noodles.

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Home stretch

Wildcats battle for position in GNAC with four of their last six games in Nicholson Pavilion

BY AUSTIN BENNETT
Assistant Sports Editor

Central's men's basketball team begins its final six-game stretch of the regular season with its first two games at home against Saint Martin's University (SMU) and Seattle Pacific University (SPU).

The Wildcats sit in fifth place in the GNAC, with a record of 9-5 in conference play and an overall record of 14-5. Central has played tough for its last four games, winning three of them.

With multiple top-five matchups, the results of these next two games will be vital for the team's final placement within the GNAC.

The Wildcats have the advantage down the stretch with four of their six remaining games at home.

"It's nice to get back home and get into your normal routine," head coach Greg Sparling said.

Coming into this week, the Wildcats are 7-1 at home and 5-4 on the road.

The team's only loss at home came against rival Western Washington University earlier this season.

"It's always a big advantage playing at home. We have a good crowd all the time, which helps," senior guard Devin Matthews said. "For our young players, it helps playing at home, especially against good teams."

Even with Central's impressive record at home this season, Sparling still wants to keep the team focused on one opponent at a time.

Home Cookin'

Wildcat home stats

Record: 7-1

PPG: 89.8

OPPG: 74

Wildcat road stats

Record: 5-4

PPG: 80.3

OPPG: 79.3

"You just gotta take everything one [at] game a time. Once you take care of Saint Martin's, then you can look on to the next person," Sparling said.

Central split with SMU and SPU earlier this season on the road, defeating SMU and losing to SPU.

"I think [both games will be] huge," Sparling said. "We just need to come in, play defense and rebound...I think the biggest thing is we gotta clean up the defense."

The last time Central played SMU, the final score came out to be 75-71.

Central shot the ball well, going 55 percent from 3-point range and 48 percent from the field.

"In our team's history, all of our games have been close with Saint Martin's," Matthews said. "They've always been a test."

The Wildcats struggled offensively in their first matchup



JOHN WHITTLESLEY/OBSERVER

Sophomore forward Drake Rademacher, averaging 7.1 points per game, goes up strong for a shot.

against SPU.

They shot 42 percent from the field and 13 percent from beyond the 3-point arc. However, Central is averaging 89 points per game at home.

After this week, Central will head west to face WWU, then end its road tour against Simon Fraser University. The Wildcats will then play their last two regular season games at home against

both Alaska schools.

"You can expect [us] to have a lot of energy, few mistakes and a team that you guys see is hungry and desire to win," senior guard Gary Jacobs said.

An ode to Beast Mode

BY ZAC HERETH
Sports Editor

After six years, two Beast Quakes, 6,347 rushing yards, 65 touchdowns and one Super Bowl ring as a Seahawk, Marshawn Lynch is calling it quits.

Whether you think of Lynch as a thug or see the running back for the giving person he's known as in his hometown of Oakland, California as a Seahawks fan, you can't help but appreciate what the man has given this franchise.

Since the day he donned a Seattle uniform, he's epitomized what Seattle football is all about and has set the tone for the Seahawks' run-first physical brand of offense.

Just take a minute to appreciate the initial Beast Quake. Envision it in your head.

A 67-yard run that clinched a surprising playoff win over the defending Super Bowl champions, the New Orleans' Saints,



COURTESY OF KELLY BAILEY/Flickr

Marshawn Lynch makes his way down the sideline during his epic Beast Quake run against New Orleans.

and literally shook the ground in Seattle.

That was the start of the

turnaround of a stagnant franchise.

Since that run, Lynch has

been arguably the best and most durable running back in the league until this past season. His

combination of size, power and determination is unmatched.

Lynch doesn't have the break-away speed that the Adrian Peterson's of the world have, but no one can turn a two-yard loss into a four-yard gain the way he can.

The way he hits defenders almost makes you feel bad for prospective tacklers.

It's crazy to think that every Sunday I won't see the skull-cracking collisions Lynch creates.

No more handshakes for the offensive line after touchdowns and no more dances with the media in post-game interviews.

It came evermore apparent as the season went on that, even if Lynch wanted to play another year in the NFL, it wouldn't be in Seattle.

I don't care if Thomas Rawls is the next Lynch, Peterson or Frank Gore, I'll miss "The Beast."

This one's for you Beast Mode. Thank you.

Athletics donation may lead to facility upgrade

Central graduate and former professional baseball player donates \$250,000

BY NATHAN BREWSTER
Staff Reporter

\$250,000 can buy a 2016 Bentley Bentayga first edition or a new home in the Colorado Rockies. This is a significant amount of money for anyone to have—let alone give away.

Central's Athletics Department just received that sum of money from a donation by alumni Dave Heaverlo.

Athletics Director Dennis Francois was thrilled with the donation and already has a good idea of where he would like to spend the majority of the money.

"We have some facility upgrades intended with this gift," Francois said.

Francois said one reason the donation was so big was the positive relationship between Heaverlo and Central.

"Hopefully, this is an indication of his belief in the university and the program," Francois said. "His relationship with our president and the leaders of our university shows how indicative those relationships are."

Heaverlo became a professional baseball player after his time at Central.

However, Francois said that the gift is intended for upgrades in all sports and not just specific for baseball.

"We are trying to get our facilities up to the standard to where we can really grab the attention of student athletes here," Francois said. "We have done very well upgrading places like the SURC and music building, and the upgrade to our facilities is the next big one."

Francois said that the donation will play a big role in the recruiting of new Wildcats into the department.

"We felt we were losing student-athletes here because some of them felt their high schools had better facilities than us," Francois said. "We want the best for our student-athletes."

Francois sees this as a major step for the Athletics Department and hopes that it will only continue to thrive as the years go by.

"We want to make sure our students here have the best student-athlete experience," Francois said. "A successful program is also winning. You learn from losing but it doesn't make it a good experience."

Francois said that, even with



COURTESY OF FLICKR

Nicholson Pavilion, which houses 13 varsity sports teams in some form, may see some changes soon.

all of the facility upgrades, that academics will still be paramount for the program to succeed.

"We are still making sure that [student-athletes] are still taking care of business in the classroom, which is the number one goal," Francois said. "We want to continue having success in the classroom and have a great experience for those who choose us, whether it is on the track, court or field."

While talk of possible scholarships hasn't been dismissed,

Francois made it clear that the department will use the money for facility updates first, which they feel are necessary.

Even though the timetable for the facility upgrades wasn't given, the Athletics Department will be working to get the upgrades implemented as soon as possible to attract as many new student-athletes as they can.

"We want our standards to be high," Francois said. "We want our student-athletes to be treated properly and well."

Current Facilities

- Nicholson Pavilion (1959)
- Tomlinson Stadium (1959)
- CWU Baseball Field (late 1960s)
- Gary & Bobbi Fredrick Field (1993)
- CWU Soccer Field (2000)

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Central hosts state championship

BY RYAN KINKER
Staff Reporter

This Sunday, Central's wrestling club will hit the mats when it hosts the National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) Washington State Championship.

The NCWA is the governing organization of club wrestling across the country, just like the NCAA governs varsity sports.

Central wrestlers have been wrestling in the NCWA since the team lost its varsity status in 2004.

Wrestling did well as a varsity sport and is finding the same success as a club team in the NCWA.

After a strong finish in tournaments in 2015, Central was elevated from NCWA Division II to Division I.

The club had also done well in 2013, when the team won the Northwest Conference Regional Championship, finishing in second the following year.

Both of the finishes were followed with the team placing fifth in the NCWA National Championship.

The Washington State Championships will bring teams from across the state that will be competing for spots in the NCWA Northwest Conference Championship and the NCWA National Championship.

This Northwest Conference Championships represents teams



JOHN WHITTLESLEY/OBSERVER

Central wrestlers work on technique in practice leading up to the Washington State Championship meet.

in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. The tournament is in Butte, Mont. on Feb. 27.

Grays Harbor College is one of the favorite schools attending the meet.

They are ranked 15th in NCWA Division I and are the only other Washington school besides Central in Division I.

However, Wrestling Club

President Andrew Vulliet isn't ready to give in to the rankings.

"I think we have a chance to probably do really well," Vulliet said.

Vulliet, senior geography major, acknowledges that Central's team is very young and inexperienced, with many freshmen, but he believes that the team can get some wins.

Vulliet believes the team will be anchored by Jake Ferris, a

junior recognized as an NCWA All-American last year.

"We lost a lot of the guys we had the last two years or so that were doing pretty well," Vulliet said. "We lost two All-Americans. We have a lot of newcomers, and they're pretty solid... but I'm expecting a few [weight class] championships."

The end of season tournaments serve as a platform for improvement for the younger com-

petitors.

Vulliet does point out that, regardless of the results, the enjoyment comes from competing together as a team.

"We're just a close group of guys who... become a family as the season goes on. That's what I go for with the club," Vulliet said. "Plus, [we] have kids who maybe could've gone and wrestled at an actual program, but decided they'd rather go in-state."

Washington State Championship

When: Sunday Feb. 14 at 10 a.m.

Where: SURC Recreation Center

Competing schools:

- Central
- Eastern Washington
- Grays Harbor
- Washington
- Washington State
- Western Washington



GNAC Standings



Men's Basketball

Western Oregon University	13-1
University of Alaska Anchorage	11-4
Seattle Pacific University	10-4
University of Alaska	10-4
Central Washington University	9-5
Western Washington University	8-6
Montana State Billings	6-9
Concordia University	4-10
Saint Martin's University	4-10
Northwest Nazarene University	3-11
Simon Fraser University	0-14

Women's Basketball

University of Alaska Anchorage	13-1
Western Washington University	12-1
Montana State Billings	11-3
Simon Fraser University	9-5
Central Washington University	8-6
Northwest Nazarene University	6-8
University of Alaska	5-9
Seattle Pacific University	5-9
Saint Martin's University	3-11
Concordia University	3-12
Western Oregon University	3-12