Hundreds gather to march against hate

CWU honors the memory of beloved alumnus

By Kailan Manandic
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Eric Winterstein loved to longboard while he attended CWU, as many students currently do.

“Eric died earlier this year on June 4 at 26-years-young. CWU will honor his memory in the form of a golden bench that will be placed on campus. The bench will feature a silhouette of Eric and a longboard, which he loved to longboard around Ellensburg.”

The symbol is perfect said Madelynn calling dopamine the chemical key to happiness. She said the bench works well to honor Eric’s memory.

“There’s nothing that you can do to wrap that up,” she said. “He was such an amazing person, you could build 500 benches and it wouldn’t be enough. But it was great what they did.”

- Read more about Eric and Madelynn in her story on page 3

CWU's Theatre brings Broadway to McConnell

Page 7

By Kailan Manandic
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Chants and cheers echoed throughout downtown Ellensburg Monday afternoon as hundreds of community members and CWU students marched in protest of hate and intolerance.

About 600 people participated in the peace march that began on campus and weaved through the historic downtown area before stopping in front of Ellensburg City Hall.

The march ended at the SURC at 5 p.m., nearly an hour after it began.

Nancy Lillquist, Ellensburg City Council member, stepped in front of the crowd at the door of City Hall and read aloud the council’s recent proclamation in support of NIOKC.

“We, the City of Ellensburg, in support of Not In Our Kittitas County, and in keeping with the principle of respect for all people, unequivocally oppose any manifestation of bullying, harassment, hatred and prejudice towards any group or individual,” she read.

“We resolve to actively work to make the City of Ellensburg a safe place, free of discrimination and hatred of any kind. We also resolve to promote a climate of safety, inclusion, and acceptance in our community.”

The march was originally focused on the Not In Our Kittitas County (NIOKC) movement and mostly maintained that ideology. However, Tai Jackson, a CWU journalism junior, with a group of classmates helped organize and expand the event into anti-hate peace march that encompassed multiple anti-hate protests.

Groups of protesters shouted several mantras as they marched which included, “Not in our KittCo,” “Black lives matter” and “Love conquers hate, don’t discriminate!”

Jackson and fellow students Des Young, Miranda Cunningham and Nancy Hall planned the event as a part of a project for their First Amendment class. According to Jackson, the march exceeded her expectations.

“We had a lot more people than we thought we would,” she said. “I wish there were more students involved. However, I do love seeing how many community members were so active in it.”

Protesters aimed to inform all of Kittitas County that the community doesn’t stand for racism. According to Jackson, the amount of community support was important in spreading the message beyond CWU.

- See more on pages 8-9

By Kailan Manandic
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Eric Winterstein loved to longboard while he attended CWU, as many students currently do.

Eric was even apart of a longboarding club that doesn’t exist anymore.

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Eric died earlier this year on June 4 at 26-years-young. CWU will honor his memory in the form of a golden bench that will be placed on campus. The bench will feature a silhouette of Eric and a longboard, which he loved to longboard around Ellensburg even though it was flat,” said Madelynn Shortt who was Eric’s girlfriend.

He graduated from CWU in 2014 with a bachelor’s degree in biology and chemistry and went on to find success in Seattle as the lead extraction specialist for Db3, Washington’s leading edible marijuana company.

Eric’s family paid for the memorial and were involved with the design process. Belofsky also assisted in the inclusion of the dopamine molecule.

Dopamine is a neurotransmitter found in the brain that helps control the reward and pleasure centers. The compound essentially causes happiness and according to Belofsky it was chosen to represent how Eric lived his life and his love for chemistry.

The symbol is perfect said Madelynn calling dopamine the chemical key to happiness. She said the bench works well to honor Eric’s memory.

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- Read more about Eric and Madelynn in her story on page 3
County cannabis post-election

By Jonathan Olsen-Kozioł
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While the world is buzzing about President-elect Donald J. Trump, local elections also produced results worth discussion.

The Kittitas County Commission election results were tallied and both seats had incumbent winners. Paul Jewell and Laura Oasiadcz both retained their commissioner seats.

Both candidates have publicly voiced their disapproval of legal cannabis in Kittitas County.

The commissioners’ reasons for keeping marijuana out of the valley have some truth behind them, but there is more to the story.

Commissioner Jewell claims that emergency calls involving marijuana are up since I-502 has passed. Rich Elliott, the deputy chief for Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue, said there is validity to Jewell’s claims, but that he doesn’t think marijuana is a volatile issue.

Emergency calls involving marijuana (mainly marijuana edibles) have increased according to Elliott, and the records back that up. There were seven calls in 2014, four calls in 2015 and 14 in 2016, while alcohol-related calls are down from 134 in 2014 with 116 in 2015 and 93 in 2016.

Marijuana-related calls are up over 30 percent from last year, but the relatively low total paired with the diminished severity of each call makes this a non-issue from an EMS perspective.

Marijuana-related calls are all “low acuity,” meaning that the people being treated by paramedics are “not really that sick,” Elliott said. He added that calls dealing with weed and people that are stoned are easier to deal with and less dangerous than calls involving alcohol and drunk people.

Elliott thinks there will always be some kind of anti-pot movement because it’s “just how they grew up.” It’s that same anti-pot movement that keeps marijuana producers out of Kittitas County.

Jewell and the county commissioners ignored zoning recommendations concerning marijuana, and re-opened the zoning proposal for the county in 2014 after its vocal anti-pot proponents spoke out against marijuana processors they believed would’ve potentially upset the agricultural balance in the county.

Mike Graham operates Natural Mystic Farms and wonders why the commissioners would micro-manage an issue they don’t have professional experience with. The original zoning parameters set by Planning Official Doc Hansen were suitable for I-502 producers and allowed them to operate in “farm first” areas Graham said.

Jewell’s success to keep processors out of the county troubles Graham. Graham said he employs 23 people who are paid between $12.50 and $15 an hour and he believes anyone trying to keep jobs out of the county, doesn’t have the county’s best interests in mind.

“I guess Jewell doesn’t want a competitive labor market, available jobs or growth in the area. It makes no sense to me,” Graham said.

Graham also disputes Jewell’s claim that the county doesn’t benefit from Washington state receiving tax revenue from I-502. Zoning marijuana producers out of Kittitas County could bar the county from receiving direct profits from I-502. However, Kittitas County will still have state tax benefits regardless.

“Last I checked, Kittitas County is in Washington state. This isn’t the republic or empire of Kittitas County,” Graham said.

Graham hopes the producers and commissioners can find some middle ground on these issues and progress can be made.

“They are supposed to help businessmen run their business, not impede businesses from doing something positive,” Graham said.

The amount of beauty that I have seen in this week has been difficult for me to wrap my mind around entirely.

You would think that beauty would be an easy thing to convey, in a day and age where the atrocities of the hour plaster our screens, sometimes we forget to take a step back and enjoy life.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Not in Our KinCo peace march rallied. I attended my first Broadway event in it from the beginning, so it’s hard to take away that moment from everyone involved.

But the beauty that I have witnessed on this campus doesn’t end there. Around this time last year, I walked through the Ellensburg Red Curtain Revue that is put on annually by the Theatre Arts Department. I have always loved theatre, but this play was different. I knew a handful of cast members and had a personal interest in it from the beginning, so I was naturally biased going into it. But since the lights dropped and the curtain raised, I fell into the show.

Nearly three hours passed and I was absolutely blown away. In fact, I had to buy tickets for the Sunday matinee just to allow myself the chance to experience it once again.

I’m proud to say that I have had the privilege of getting to know two of those very talented individuals very well over the course of the past year. These two—Jakob Wachter and Aubrey Schulz—are quite the duo to work with. Half the time I can’t tell whether I’m actually at work or if I’ve been launched into Disney World.

Over time I’ve learned to step out of my comfortable world of writing and step into other people’s worlds. By doing this I have met incredible people. I’ve heard their stories, I’ve experienced gripping personal journeys along with them, and most importantly, I’ve learned to love and respect individuals for who they are.

Too often we don’t realize the talent that is surrounding us on this campus. A classically trained cellist player may be the person sitting in the back of your English 101 class. Your co-workers may be two of the best damn stage performers you have ever met. The possibilities and the talent are endless.

Take a moment to appreciate everyone around you and the many skills that make them not only a force on stage or behind an instrument, but also in their daily life.

Look around and take it all in. You’re surrounded by beauty. Immerser yourself in it and let it carry you through your life.

-Mckenzie Lakeny
Editor-in-Chief
A letter to remember Eric Winterstein, a life-loving alumnus

By Madelynn Shortt
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I met Eric Winterstein when I was a sophomore at CWU in 2010, the year we began dating. It’s been six years since then and my life hasn’t been the same since. I remember thinking Eric was one of the weirdest people I’d ever met and I learned to love that about him.

At first it used to put me off, but I quickly learned to cherish it and proudly showed it off. We loved making people squirm a bit, a similarity we shared until the end. He helped me to embrace my weirdness.

In the last six years we grew together and apart and together again, but we never could shake the feelings we had for each other.

Eric moved away from Ellensburg briefly during college and we ran into each other again. In 2015, I moved to Kent to teach English for a year. He eventually returned to CWU to finish his schooling.

In 2015, I moved to Seattle to teach English for a year. When I returned in 2015, Eric and I ran into each other again at Seattle’s largest music festival. That single moment led to an indescribable love. There was some kind of underlying force that always brought us together and it was something we couldn’t shake.

Eric, 26, died on June 4 in a tragic accident. He graduated from Issaquah High School in 2008, and from Central Washington University in 2014 with bachelor’s degrees in chemistry and biology. He was a member of the American Chemical Society and worked for Db3 in Seattle as lead extraction specialist. Db3 is the state’s top selling edible marijuana company.

CWU and the city of Ellensburg held a special place in Eric’s heart and he could never stay away. He was involved in CWU’s science department, was a member of the Chemistry Club and a teacher’s assistant.

Eric had a high level of presence and involvement. We have students that do that, but they don’t have the type of impact Eric had,” associate professor Gill Belofsky said. “It was his personality, his optimism, his demeanor. It was infectious.”

The two remained in contact after Eric graduated. Eric often e-mailed questions about his work, but Belofsky said after a short time, Eric’s kindness surpassed his own. Before graduating, Eric assisted Belofsky and Blaise Donjdi in research aimed at treatment of hookworm disease that has since been published in The Journal of Natural Products.

“In time, Eric could be doing exactly what I’m doing,” he said. “He was thinking about a master’s or Ph.D. Eric was going to continue to be a success. He will be missed.”

Associate chemistry professor Tim Sorey described Eric as a creative, hands-on person who touched outside the box. Eric would look out for others by asking questions not just for his own understanding, but for others’ too. Eric never missed any labs, he said.

“Eric wanted it, but we wanted it as well—to stay in contact with his blossoming scientific endeavor,” he said. “Eric was a rising star and was in a field he felt strongly about.”

Some of Eric’s ashes will be spread on the CWU campus, just outside the Science Building, where a tree will be planted in his name. A bench will also be dedicated to him.

“I would love to walk down that walkway every day and see the tree! Every time I come to school,” Sorey said. “We can keep letting people remember how much we cared for him.”

‘Whole Lotta Love’

Lucky doesn’t touch on the feelings I have about holding that special, guarded place in his heart. He let me in— we let each other in again.

“I’m thankful for those memorable experiences and so conscious of the little things like being the one who woke up next to him each morning, packing his lunches, helping him cut his hair and having him drive me to work, tires screeching as he turned the corner 30 seconds before having to clock in.

I had so much left to learn from Eric, so much left to ask and so much that will remain unknown about our future together. The universe took one of the most important people to me, someone who taught me the most powerful love I’ve ever known. What I focus on now is how fortunate I was that we rekindled the love we’d had for one another and that it was far more powerful than ever before.

‘Whole Lotta Love’ is a former Daily Record staff writer and Observer reporter who now lives in Seattle.
Sex in the CWU

By April Porter
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The presentation started late as Peggy Orenstein rushed back into the room. She made it up to the podium and explained how she wanted to be honest with us, reminding, “I forgot my notes.”

The light-hearted yet blunt speaker talked on the topic of her most recent book, “Girls and Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape.” This event was sponsored by both the Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) and the Women and Gender Studies program.

One of Orenstein’s major sources of inspiration for pursuing this subject was her 13-year-old daughter. She published another book, “Cinderella Ate My Daughter,” based on her experiences with her daughter.

She talked with her daughter in the book about the meaning of sexuality. Orenstein also encouraged her daughter to sit down and talk with their kids about sex instead of avoiding the subject. She also emphasized how the discussion about sex needs to happen in other relationships, especially with romantic partners.

The focus of Orenstein’s talk was girls and women specifically, because her book is a collection of 70 interviews of mostly middle-class women between 15 and 20-years-old.

She found was, “this generation of women did feel entitled to have sex, but did not feel entitled to enjoy it.” The smart, strong image many women try to portray is not translating into their social lives and specifically not into their sex life. Orenstein emphasized that sex, “shouldn’t be something girls have to get over.”

Orenstein went on to describe other difficulties women face. “Our culture is littered with women’s body parts,” she said. “Confidence comes off with the clothes.

Women’s bodies are being put up everywhere for advertisements and entertainment. So, women feel as if they have to have their outside appearance look good all the time. The effects of this porn culture is a rise in pubic hair removal and labia surgeries.

Another issue Orenstein described from her research was that 30 percent of women reported they had pain in their last sexual encounter. Women usually were more worried about the man reaching orgasm than themselves not being in pain and their own pleasure. In some of the interviews found in Orenstein’s book, the girls felt they needed to make sure the guy was satisfied at the end of the night, and in order to avoid intercourse would give a blow job instead.

“In the baseball field-sex analogy, the woman is the field to be played,” Orenstein said. “But a better analogy she found was pizza.”

When two people get a pizza, they discuss what the other one wants on the pizza. Both of their interests are important in this analogy. It is about “balancing responsibility and joy,” she said.

The audience had a positive reaction and many questions. One of the audience members was a mother who now taught her daughters the names of the different parts of their genitals, which Orenstein pointed out was lacking in teaching children about sex.

A college-aged man asked a question about a previous comment made by Orenstein when she said “alcohol is the number one date-rape drug on campus.”

He said that both parties are usually drunk and doesn’t that deter it from being a rape drug? Orenstein answered there are many tricky issues in those types of situations. Legally, the boy is usually convicted, she said.

Another audience member asked if any of the women she interviewed had positive sexual encounters. Orenstein said that 17 percent experienced orgasms during hookups and 60 percent experienced orgasm in a long-term relationship.

“I want sex to be enjoyable to women,” Orenstein said. I do not want to see women, “reduced to it,” and I want women “safe from cruelty ... Sex should not be something girls have to get over.”

The CDSJ sponsored this event with the Women and Gender Studies program because they have been working together for a long time, said Katrina Whitney, assistant director of diversity. The issue of “women as a marginalized group” is one of the big reasons CDSJ is interested in topics like the one presented by Peggy Orenstein. It is about “women’s identities,” Whitney said.

Open house honors Native American Culture

By Samuel Beaumonte
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Last Wednesday, Nov. 9, the Museum of Culture and Environment hosted an open house to pay tribute to the land CWU occupies. The event was a part of Native American History Month.

“I feel that it went exceptionally well; we had a much larger turnout than I had expected and I was very much enthused,” said Michelle Cyrus, assistant director of equity and outreach at the Center for Diversity and Social Justice. While the open house has been held for years, this is the first time it’s been held at the museum.

“It’s critical to be there and feel that it’s a more appropriate venue and welcoming location,” Cyrus said.

The open house featured Native American sculptures, paintings, traditional food and games and played an arrangement of songs and shared the meaning of the name Kittitas, that translates to a meeting or safe environment where the one rule was that there should be no conflict.

“It was really focused towards students and sharing resources such as faculty and staff as well tribal members. We really wanted to show them that there is a community,” said Kande Cleary vice president of inclusivity and diversity. “I think it’s built and provided a community for students, Native American students in particular to each other and provide support for each other. Another program, the Native American Student Association (NASA) was there and its president gave a speech regarding its resurgence and potential support for students.

“From my perspective, students who identify as Native American may lose that time with their elders who traditional-ly teach them the culture,” said Justin Francisco, Native American Student Association member.

As a part of Native American History month, the Museum of Culture and Environment honors Native American culture.

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Bike theft doubles at CWU

By Ray Payne
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A stolen bike is an increasingly common problem on CWU’s campus.

“Obviously we’ve got real concerns when it comes to bike theft being doubled in the same time frame this year as it was in 2015,” said Central Washington University Police Chief Mike Luvera.

According to CWU’s police department, there have been 49 reports of bike theft on campus since Jan. 1 of this year.

This is more than double that of the last three years of bike thefts.

“Looking back over the five years, it goes up and down, but I don’t think it’s ever been as high as it is in 2016,” Luvera said.

In 2013 it was 12 thefts in the same time frame as this year. In 2014 it was 21 and last year it was 23.

A rate increase like this would lead one to believe that this is a trend. However due to there being such a high rate in 2012 (37), Luvera sees it as otherwise.

“Trend as far as the thefts go, yes, trend over a period of years, no. I think this high number has been the outset or the outlier,” Luvera said.

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“Trend as far as the thefts go, yes, trend over a period of years, no. I think this high number has been the outset or the outlier,” Luvera said.

So far the police do not have any leads as to what is the cause of this high number of thefts. Nothing has led them to believe that this is one person or a group of people, he said.

One student, Grayson Long, sophomore psychology major, had his bike stolen on Nov 14.

“I was doing laundry about 11 p.m. ... went to bed, got up, walked downstairs went to where I left it, and it was just gone,” Long said.

On Nov 15, Long’s bike was stolen. Unlike some students who would be away from their bikes for longer periods of time, Long hadn’t even been away from his bike for more than 24 hours.

Long’s cable lock was cut and taken along with the bike. The bike was in a visible area and near his residence hall.

As far as Long knows, no student witnessed the bike theft and he has no idea who did it.

Long’s roommate, Alexander Harvey, freshman undecided, also had his bike stolen this year but eventually found it in downtown Ellensburg.

Long found Harvey’s bike at Jack in the Box with the serial number scratched off.

Although his bike wasn’t registered with the campus police department, he promptly reported it to them.

“I was put into a dedicated room with a police officer just one on one, and he wrote down all the things I had to say,” Harvey said.

Although to him it felt like there was not much police could do to find the culprit, Harvey did believe that campus did the best with what they had.

Like Long, Harvey’s bike was also secured with a cable lock, and after the experience, he doesn’t feel like cable locks are a good enough security measure for his bike.

Luvera was able offer some advice to students looking to protect their bikes from theft.

Registering your bike, using a U-Lock and paying attention to the status of your bike are among the best tips for protecting bikes on campus.

Even with these measures, bike theft can occur relatively quickly.

“Thiefs have always been our number one crimes,” Luvera said.

With the current data, there is no way to narrow down the thefts to one area. Nor is there a common time of day that thefts occur, making it very difficult to pinpoint a trend or suspects.

As the bike thefts on campus continue to occur, Luvera said CWU Police Department will keep a look out and try prevent them in the future.

“We take all of our calls for service serious and bike theft is no different. This is something we are looking at,” Luvera said.

“We are looking at the stats and the numbers and the data and we are trying to come up with some creative ways in which to combat it and we’re asking the community to help us do that.”

Keep your bikes safe:

- Register your bike with CWU PD
- Take Pictures
- Keep record of your serial numbers
- Use a good lock (a Solid Metal U-bolt)
- Go out and check bike regularly
- Lock the main frame
- Use bike racks
- Talk to your roommate/s about keeping your bike in the room

All pictures were taken by Jack Lambert of broken down or “dead” bikes across the CWU campus. These bikes are abandoned and have had numerous parts stolen.
A fun romp into Marvel’s newest movie: Dr. Strange

By Jacob Quinn

I love the Marvel movies. I’m the guy who read all the comics growing up (He, I still read them now.

I watched all the cartoons and when the first Marvel X-Men came out years ago, it was my heavens on earth.

In other words, I’m biased. However, Dr. Strange is truly another great entry in the line of Marvel blockbusters, though not a perfect one.

The story is about Dr. Stephen Strange (played with an impressive American accent by Benedict Cumberbatch), a surgeon in New York City with a perfect record in the operating room (since he only takes cases he knows will end favourably).

He appears to be a man who has it all: wealth, good looks, well-regarded in the surgeon community and an on-again-off-again fling with Christine Palmer (played by Rachel McAdams), a nurse in the hospital.

Until one night, he drives off a cliff and wakes up a quadriplegic, egotistic maniac (Hannibal, anybody?) but is forced to change his ways.

He gets a superpower, somehow by a cliff and wakes up a quadriplegic, egotistic maniac (Hannibal, anybody?) but is forced to change his ways.

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Strange tries everything, but nothing works. Then he learns of a man who completely recovered from an injury similar to his own. This man tells Dr. Strange that the answers he seeks are in Nepal.

The acting also breathes life into the familiar story.

Cumberbatch shines as the egotistical doctor searching frantically for a path to healing. His journey through the mystical arts, though at times rushed, never feels false thanks to Cumberbatch’s versatility.

Tilda Swinton plays the Ancient One and despite the negative press on “white-washing,” I still thought it was cool to see a woman, even if she wasn’t Asian, be the elder and master over a sea of men.

The Oscar-nominated Chiwetel Ejiofor plays an interesting but familiar Mordo—a loyal student of the Ancient One—and was, at least for me, a welcome departure from the comics.

Benedict Wong plays Wong (LOL). Of all the Asian actors traversing Hollywood, how ironic is it that the guy who gets hired has the same last name as the character he plays? He shares, along with Cumberbatch, many of the film’s funniest moments.

The movie’s faults mostly fall on the writers, Jon Spaihts, Cumberbatch, many of the comics growing up (Hell, I still read them now).

The humor often finds its way into whatever queer community, be an ally in that effort seek out queer-friendly events, groups, gatherings, and check out the Center for Diversity and Social Justice and/or the Wellness Center.

It might be hard for your friend at first, so you can help by just seeing what’s on campus and in the community, as far as meeting people in general. Meeting people through other people in real life can and does occur.

That said, aren’t the kids using dating apps these days?! There are plenty of queer fish in the sea. If nothing rocks his world in Elburg, however, he may have to cast a wider net. But at the end of the day, we’ve all been attracted to people who aren’t interested in us and it’s rough.

The movie does exist. For queer persons who are, in fact, also gay.

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It might be hard for your friend at first, so you can help by just seeing what’s on campus and in the community, as far as meeting people in general. Meeting people through other people in real life can and does occur.

That said, aren’t the kids using dating apps these days?! There are plenty of queer fish in the sea. If nothing rocks his world in Elburg, however, he may have to cast a wider net. But at the end of the day, we’ve all been attracted to people who aren’t interested in us and it’s rough.

The movie does exist. For queer persons who are, in fact, also gay.

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The story is about Dr. Stephen Strange (played with an impressive American accent by Benedict Cumberbatch), a surgeon in New York City with a perfect record in the operating room (since he only takes cases he knows will end favourably).

He appears to be a man who has it all: wealth, good looks, well-regarded in the surgeon community and an on-again-off-again fling with Christine Palmer (played by Rachel McAdams), a nurse in the hospital.

One— and was, at least for me, a welcome departure from the comics.

Benedict Wong plays Wong (LOL). Of all the Asian actors traversing Hollywood, how ironic is it that the guy who gets hired has the same last name as the character he plays? He shares, along with Cumberbatch, many of the film’s funniest moments.

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The show is about to begin

CWU’s Red Curtain Revue takes center stage for its upcoming performance

By Lindsey Powers
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This year, the Red Curtain Revue has a variety of genres being represented—rock, jazz, classical and pop—all squeezed into a two-hour show.

CWU’s Red Curtain Revue is an annual theatre performance that also features a collection of solo pieces and group numbers from various productions to showcase the talent within the CWU theatre program.

“As someone who is not at all a dancer, the experience of dancing on stage in so many numbers in an invincible,” Jackson noted how dedication is a huge factor for the performers. “We really want to represent any nation they wish to perform on stage with so many new friends for the first time. The experience is great, but it’s made so much richer being able to work with such awesome people.”

Christopher Jackson, a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre Program, also pointed out “a lot of these numbers are directed and choreographed by students within the department and those rehearsals tend to be more open ended.”

Jackson noted how dedication is a huge factor for the performers. “Hands down, finding the time to balance schoolwork and rehearsal [has been the most difficult],” he said. “It gets incredibly stressful trying to figure out when to get homework done when you are rehearsing 20 hours a week.”

Jackson also explained that “with the big group numbers, the rehearsal structure is much more rigid in order to improve how efficiently our rehearsal time is spent.” Smith added that “it is vitally important that everyone is ready to work every day they come to rehearsal.”

As the performers prepare for the rapidly approaching performance dates, all of them are excited for their chance to perform.

“I love the emotional power that music has, so being in a show where I can explore all of the different ways music can impact the human heart is fascinating to me,” Jackson said.

Benson added, “I am most excited for my family to come and see my first college performance. They’ve always supported me in all my theatre endeavors, and this has been such a new and exciting adventure for me.”

As for Smith, he is most excited about, “being able to perform on stage with so many new friends for the first time. The experience is great, but it’s so much richer being a dancer with so many other people.”

Parade of Nations postponed for now

By Will Schorno
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The 11th annual Parade of Nations organized by CWU’s Center for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ), originally set to be tonight, Nov. 17th, has been rescheduled. The Parade of Nations is a piece of the show that ties everything into a two-hour show.

Anyone and everyone is welcome to represent any nation they wish to perform in the Parade of Nations, in fact it is encouraged. The participants can represent any nation they wish in the show regardless of their family history.

CDSJ would like potential participants to sign-up sooner rather than later if they want to be in the performance. Sign-up sheets can be found at Central’s Center for Diversity and Social Justice office in rooms 250-253 in the SURC.
Honestly, I did not think that there was going to be that many people,” Jackson said. “I love all the supporters … I’m so proud.”

The Ellensburg Department received an anonymous threat beforehand and informed Jackson that officers would escort the crowds as they navigated downtown Ellensburg. Officers also blocked numerous streets as protesters crossed. The march remained peaceful and saw only one instance of opposition. Several witnesses reported that a truck promoted white supremacy as it passed the line of protesters.

This seemed to be an isolated incident, as many other passing cars honked and waved in support and several community members cheered from their homes as protesters passed by.

“It was great,” Jackson said. “I’m really thankful for everyone who came out and helped … It was a success in my eyes.”

CWU psychology professor Marret Fallshore is one of the organizing members of NIOKC and echoed Jackson’s success.

“It was overwhelming,” Fallshore said. “Somewhere between 500 and 1,000.”

Fallshore began the NIOKC movement last October and played a major part in gathering community support for the movement.

“The more people who get the message out on campus and in the community, the better,” Fallshore said.
Not in Our KittCo

The History of NIOT

The film highlighted the efforts of a group of citizens in Billings, Montana who took a stand against hate crimes being inflicted upon their neighbors.

Drummond went on to ask the community to stand together against the KKK, as it has with other issues in the past.

“The beauty of Central and the beauty of the Ellensburg community is we’ve always stood up,” he said. “Just because it gets driven under doesn’t mean it’s gone. It’s always there.”

Here to stay

NIOT aims to be a long-term movement in the community and has another event scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 29.

The community forum, titled, “Building Respectful Communities: Transcending Hate,” will feature several speakers including a welcome and introduction from CWU President James Gaudino and Ellensburg Mayor Rich Elliott.

Richard King, professor of critical culture, gender and race studies at WSU will give a keynote speech on white supremacist movements and racial violence in the Pacific Northwest.

Lecia Brooks, outreach director of the Southern Poverty Law Center, will update the community on Klan and white supremacist activity in Washington.

Additionally, several victims of racial discrimination from the community will talk about their own experiences with hate and answer audience questions.

The NIOT movement plans to flourish, Fallshore said. Events for winter and spring quarters are already in the works.

“I never knew I could do something like this,” Fallshore said. “Oh my God, what one voice one sentence can create ... I’m so proud of this community.”

Drummond began the NIOT group in a campus-wide email chain last October. NIOT is a nationwide movement that aims to create safe and inclusive communities, free of hatred and bullying.

The NIOKC movement plans for winter and spring quarters to continue its efforts of a group of citizens in Billings, Montana who took a stand against hate crimes being inflicted upon their neighbors.

Photos by: McKenzie Lakey, Xander Fu and Jack Lambert
Design by: Taylor Morrell
Top of page: Marchers gather outside of Ellensburg City Hall and wait for a reading of the proclamation by council-member Nancy Lillquist. (Jack Lambert/Observer)

Above: Community member Diane Fishel-Hall speaks to the hundreds of marchers gathered in the SURC Pit prior to the march. (Xander Fu/Observer)

Right: Young community members march past Sue Lombard as they make their way into downtown Ellensburg. (Jack Lambert/Observer)
Love Conquers Hate

Left: Marchers pass CWU’s Barge Hall. (Jack Lambert/Observer)

Center/Bottom left: Protestors from the community show off their homemade signs. (Jack Lambert/Observer)

Below: A marcher reacts to a driver who shouted “White Power” as they drove by the group in downtown Ellensburg. (Xander Fu/Observer)
Why theatre people are absolutely lovely

By Will Schorno
will.schorno@cwu.edu

A couple weeks ago, I had the pleasure of interviewing the trio of director Allison Price, and actors Matt Ober and Grace Helmcke from the play Graveyard Injuries put on by the Central Theatre Club (CTC).

And let me tell you, I was absolutely infantsilized. The way they presented themselves was like the spotlight was still on them but it zeroed their focus in on whoever they’re speaking to. The passion and fire in their eyes when they spoke to me about their work is something I envy when it comes to the way I talk about my own work habits and passions. Completely kind and welcoming as well, Allison, Matt, and Grace had me leaving their rehearsal room in a much better mood than when I came in. But why?

I don’t consider myself one to be influenced easily by how people conduct themselves, especially in an informal view. And then it hit me: theatre people are some of the coolest and most interesting folks one can chat with.

Why are theatre people specifically so rad? I’ve spent some time contemplating the ins and outs of why every theatre actor I have come across has been so chill, and I have come to the conclusion that there are certain aspects of performing in front of an audience that require certain traits and characteristics. For example, they are well-spoken and so damn charming. Whether it is enjoying small talk and everyday conversation or speaking to a room full of people while putting on a spectacle, the conversation is always fluid, enjoyable, and riddled with expression and character, which shows a lot of transparency. Transparency is a good thing in conversations because it is always reassuring that the person you are conversing with means what they are saying.

When theatre personalities are speaking with you, it is written all over their face due to their expressiveness. However, great conversation is not the only perk of associating with these wonderful people.

Theatre people are balls of fun. Allison, Matt and Grace all displayed this in my interview. They were willing to laugh at a joke and either joke back or compliment your humor. However, I noticed this sort of need to make sure others were having fun with the actors I met when I was in high school.

During high school parties, the students in the theatre club would get into character and provide entertainment, which halted all beer pong games and flip cup scenes.

This desire to break out into character and bring joy to everyone who attended is something shared by theatre types. After all, their passion is making a display of their talent a treat for those observing. Perhaps the only vice people will comment on about theatre artists is their perfectionism; but once again, I can only see this as a good thing. The drive and work ethic of a passionate, fueled actor in theatre is something that is rare among people.

The drive and work ethic of a passionate, fueled actor is something that is rare among people.

This sort of stubbornness can be off-putting for some, but to theatre types, mediocrity just doesn’t cut it.

However, passion for what one loves doing is only a virtue as far as I am concerned. Following a dream with such desire is a beautiful thing and an outlook on life that should be embraced by everyone.

At the time of writing this article, I had not yet been graced by the performance put on by Grace and Matt with Allison’s direction. I know the effort and passion put forth by the CTC will be on full display. I have always felt that artists of the stage are delightful company and the more theatre friends one has, the better.

The people that are behind the characters on a stage are some of the most fun and interesting personalities that one can become friends with.
Baird fits right in with the Wildcats

By Natalie Hyland
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As a junior in high school, Taylor Baird was diagnosed with junctional ectopic tachycardia, a heart condition that caused her heartbeat to rapidly accelerate, sometimes to the point where she would faint. Baird has undergone two heart surgeries to correct the condition, and is glad to report no complications since the second surgery.

This did not stop her from playing the game she loved. Baird, a clinical physiology major, guessed she started playing basketball around age seven.

“I’ve been playing ever since I can remember,” Baird said.

During her high school career, Baird also played for Barbara Berry, coach and founder of The Way to Win Basketball Club.

“Taylor has played with The Way to Win since she was in seventh grade,” Berry said, “she’s like family to me.”

Berry recalls how Baird has blossomed over the years. She founded The Way to Win Basketball Club.

“[Baird] is a great rebounder on the team,” Baird said.

Baird, a clinical physiology major, has grown in many ways since she started playing for The Way to Win Basketball Club.

“[Baird] is a great rebounder, she can outrun most kids and her court speed is one of the reasons why they recruited, Baird played her first two years with Southern Utah University, a NCAA Division I team. Within those two years, Baird forged some bonds, she won’t soon forget, but decided to start looking for another university to call home.

“I don’t regret my time [at Southern Utah], but it was time for a change,” Baird said.

When Baird’s search came to CWU, she already had a few marks in the pro category; Fairbanks, Alaska, only a few hours from Baird’s biggest motivators, her mom and grandparents in Snohomish, Washington. Baird also felt extremely welcomed by the team during her visit. She was also impressed with the coaching staff at CWU.

“Jeff Harada has done good things [at CWU],” Baird said.

Coach Harada has been with the Wildcats for three seasons and counting. When he met Baird during her visit he could tell she was ready for a new start, and hoped it would be with him and the Wildcats basketball program.

“We were really hoping for [Baird] to fill the void in the post in the three seniors we lost [last year],” Harada said.

Harada said his expectations for Baird and her expectations of herself are one in the same. They both want to see her number of points and rebounds reach double digits each game.

“I want to be the rebounder on the team,” Baird said.

While Baird is now playing in a different division, she says not much is different between the two divisions so far.

“If CWU is pretty similar to [Southern] Utah, but coming here I have a lot more experience,” Baird said.

That experience, she believes, is what allows her to play a leadership role at CWU, and Harada agrees.

Aside from her experience, Harada said Baird brings a fun, yet mature disposition to the team which everyone can benefit from.

“It seems like she’s been a part of this team longer than she has,” Harada said.

Some of Baird’s favorite memories include her teammates, and one example is specifically a bonding retreat the entire team took to Sunraysia before the season began.

Another ‘wow’ moment for Baird came during CWU’s game against University of Washington, because UW was her favorite collegiate team growing up.

“When she’s not on the court, Baird enjoys it when she’s hanging out with her teammates and traveling. Baird has been all over the country with basketball teams, but has also traveled to places like Norway, Mexico and Canada.

“I want to go to London, England. My best friend from southern Utah is from there,” Baird said.

Whenever possible, Baird visits with her family in Snohomish. It’s not uncommon to find her family at home games.

In fact, Baird’s mom is bringing Thanksgiving dinner to her as she can’t make it home for the holiday, due to a tournament CWU is hosting Nov. 25-26.

Taylor Baird
High School: Glacier Peak
Transfer from: Southern Utah University
Points per game (2016): 5.3

Ultimate frisbee team preps for season

By Kofi Asiedu
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CWU has a lot of interesting club sports here at CWU, with ultimate frisbee being one of the most intriguing. The club was started in the fall of 2012 by the captain prior to missing playing three people out of the 20 players.

The official season starts in winter quarter and goes all the way through spring quarter. Winter and spring is when the sanction tournaments are held, while other tournaments happen throughout the year.

“We usually play in some tournaments during the fall to help our new guys get acclimated and after those we go to sanction tournaments where we get ranked for performance,” Berryman said.

The ultimate frisbee does not have an official start, and instead they participate in tournaments during the year.

Central Washington ultimate frisbee club team has 22 members. Only seven players are allowed on the field at once; the Wildcats have a deep bench, so players will consistently play and get time on the bench.

“If some players are not able to make it to a game due to their busy schedules, there is no punishment because the team has such a large roster. Players are willing to step up in case other players are not able to make it to the games. Communication with the captain prior to missing a game is very helpful,” Berryman said.

CWU participated in “Beaver Brawl” on Oct. 8. Beaver Brawl is an ultimate frisbee tournament held in Oregon. The Wildcats also entered the University of Washington tournament called “Sundoggin’” in Burlington at the end of October. CWU will be participating in another tournament by this Jan.-February.

Most tournaments are held in Western Washington. The Wildcats are looking forward to start their own tournament hopefully this April or May.

Students are welcome to join the team.

“We usually do first come, first serve. The club is still young so we are just trying to find enough players to stay every year with the other players graduating away. We pretty much take anybody, ultimate frisbee is one of those sports where you do not have to be super athletic to be good, as long as you got the technical things down,” Berryman said.

The team had one of their few tryouts last year, only cutting three people out of the 20 people that tried out.

“For the most part, you can pretty much come out and play and we’ll let you on,” Berryman added.

Students that have free time and are interested in ultimate frisbee should think about joining the team now. Tournaments are happening soon and it is a great way to get a few practices in before sanction tournaments start.
By Kofi Asiedu
Kofi.Asiedu@cwu.edu

Senior wide receiver Jesse Zalk, Central Washington football fans are all too familiar with this name. Zalk has become one of the fan favorites this season with his electrifying returns and catches.

Zalk has recorded 1,542 all-purpose yards and 16 touchdowns this season. He is ranked 21 in the GNAC in all-purpose yards. On Nov. 5 against Simon Fraser University, Zalk set a CWU single game receiving yards record (307) along with five touchdowns, which tied the GNAC single-game record.

Zalk is a nominee for King 5 College Football Player of the Year this season.

“It would mean a lot to me cause all those people are good athletes,” Zalk said.

Last season, Zalk ranked 3rd in the nation in all-purpose yards (1,674), including 43 catches for 675 yards. He was named Second Team All-American and First Team All-Conference. This season, Zalk has 1,029 receiving yards, 156 punt return yards and 331 kick return yards.

This is Zalk’s last season and he would love to end it the right way.

“The last couple games of the season were real fun. Glad we beat Humboldt State University to win the last game of the season,” he added.

Zalk loves to lead his teammates by example for the upcoming group of freshmen receivers.

Freshman receiver Ronnie Gary had nothing but high praises for Zalk.

“Jesse has been giving me help since I arrived here for the summer football camp. Jesse, the coaches, and a lot of other people know the talents Jesse possess... and last weekend against Simon Fraser, there seemed to be no cap to his potential. He and everybody working the offense, took advantage of the poor performing team and had a Jessepalooza that game.”

Zalk had a record performing game against Simon Fraser. Recording 10 catches for 307 yards and five touchdowns.

“I was in utter awe at the whole thing. By the time he received his third touchdown, I stopped being surprised because I figured that this is what it takes to be a great player. Us freshmen want to hold ourselves to a higher standard when comparing ourselves to Jesse, we want to be better in every way possible. We want to have the younger generations be better than we were also,” Gary continued.

The tradition for Wildcat football is to lead by example. Zalk encourages his teammates to work harder every day. This is his senior year and he wants to set the right example for the younger players, so they can help the upcoming freshmen next season.

“He is not always the one talking and trying to pump up the team, because he leads with his actions,” junior wide receiver Nate Rauda said. “Jesse always brings energy to practice every day and never gets lazy. He definitely helps other receivers get better with the energy that he brings and his playmaking ability. The energy can pick guys up and help them have a good practice.”

Central Washington University won their last game of the season against Humboldt State University 37-30.

Zalk will finish out his CWU career breaking many school records including 307 receiving yards against Simon Fraser.
Who's the best team in the NFC?

Debated by: Mitchell Johnson (Seahawks) & Ryan Kinker (Cowboys)

This has been a weird season for professional football. Conventional wisdom has gotten us nowhere with predicting how this season would go.

In the NFC, the Oakland Raiders are 7-2, yet the team is in second place in the division, while the Dallas Cowboys, who've been leading the NFC East for most of the season, are in last place in the NFC East. The team has missed most of the season due to injuries, but the team has looked like one of the worst teams in the league. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since.

The NFC East always has been a division where teams can win games, but this year it seems like the NFC East is no different. This line was finalized before DeMarco Murray was placed on injured reserve, and the team is struggling to find a 1,000-yard rusher. The team has missed most of the season due to injuries, but the team has looked like one of the worst teams in the league. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since.

If you want to get technical, the defending NFC champions have been the best team in the division, but they've struggled to find a consistent rhythm. The team has missed most of the season due to injuries, but the team has looked like one of the worst teams in the league. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since. The team's offense hasn't produced much all season, with a 1,000-yard rusher being the only thing to look forward to. The team is not as good as everyone thought, and their defense has been a problem for the Cowboys, who'd looked back since.

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Show your support for the movement, tear out this sign and place it on your window.

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