**By April Porter**
**Online Editor**

**By Natalie Hyland**
**Staff Reporter**

**By Ben Ramirez**
**Staff Reporter**

**Reed Phillips/The Observer**

**COURTESY OF CWU ATHLETICS**

**Reed Phillips/The Observer**
Cannabis as a Schedule III Drug

By Miles King
News Reporter

Florida House of Representatives members, Matt Gaetz and Darren Soto, proposed a bill in mid-April to move marijuana from a Schedule I substance to a Schedule III substance. In 1970, President Richard Nixon signed the Controlled Substances Act, that classified marijuana as a schedule I substance. Other schedule I substances include heroin, LSD -a hallucinogenic substance. Other schedule I substances include LSD -a hallucinogenic substance, and a high potential for both abuse and dependence according to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Current laws prevent dispensaries from utilizing basic banking services, such as loans and checking accounts. Banks caught providing services to federally illegal dispensaries can face criminal charges and fines, according to Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) regulations. If moved to schedule III, dispensaries would be granted access to banking services that are currently restricted.

“Being able to bank like every other retail industry would make life a lot easier,” Choyce said. She also recognizes that banks have their hands tied because they are federally insured by the FDIC.

Sales of illegal substances prohibits businesses from receiving regular business tax deductions, according to U.S. Tax Code 2018. The rescheduling of pot would allow dispensaries to receive tax deductions that would enable them to keep more of their profits.

With certain tax deductions available, “customers would pay significantly less at the counter,” said Choyce, by passing the savings onto consumers. Instead of maintaining current pricing and accumulating higher profits, Choyce would lower prices with the goal of bringing in more customers and more sales.

Movement from schedule I to schedule III would not change the policies at CWU. According to Mike Luvera, CWU police chief, “So long as the federal government has marijuana as an illegal substance, the policies and practices around a campus would not change.”

The CWU student conduct code also states “Federal law prohibits any possession or use of marijuana on university premises or in connection with university activities.”

Hey Wildcats,

Instead of talking about some big headline or hard-hitting investigative piece, I thought I’d talk about an article that I think is a little more universally interesting.

It’s about butts. When researching topics to talk about this week, I only found a fair amount of writer’s block.

But then I stumbled upon an article from The Seattle Times that made me a little more hopeful for the human race. It was written by Tyrone Beason, who I had the pleasure of working at a college journalism summit, and is titled “We cannot lie: The cultural significance of Sir-Mix-a-Lot’s ‘Baby Got Back’.”

The Seattle rapper’s hit turns 25 this week and Beason not only celebrates the song itself, but celebrates its cultural impact.

I didn’t know what to expect, but I was more than happy with what I got.

I was constantly surprised by how many synonyms Beason could find for someone’s assets. Beyond that, I learned that the song’s impact was entirely lost when I was born five years after the release in 1992.

I recommend all of you give it a read, it’s such a simple short piece about how Sir-Mix-a-Lot nearly single-handedly shifted how many people viewed certain body types.

The popular song shifted our culture in merely a decade or two and that couldn’t have happened any other point in our history. Think about how humans started out at and how long ago that was.

Now think about where we were at 150 years ago. Our growth is exponential and I think the human race is doing pretty well.

It’s difficult to look past the war, environmental destruction and general hatred towards one another. But at least we have pop songs about butts now!

See you next week Wildcats,
-Kailan Manandrade, EIC

Corrections: On page 9, the graph with “A Star Wars review” was mislabeled as “not adjusted for inflation”. The numbers on the graph are adjusted for inflation.

Editorial policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and conduct decisions. The mission of the Observer is twofold: to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large; and to be the best source for campus, entertainment and sports news. As a training program, the Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision-making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values, and skills needed to succeed in their chosen careers. If you have questions call (509) 963-1073 or email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com.
Their first date was at a dance a student and after graduating end of each academic year. He over 250 Barto residents by the communications and music, he worked different jobs in the area you around,” Hubbard said.

He served as a board member for Jazz in the Valley, Ellensburg’s summer jazz music festival, for 18 years, was president of the CWU chapter of the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) from 2000 to 2005, participates in different musical groups on campus (such as Brass Choir and Jazz Band) and in Ellensburg and even hosted his own blues show on 88.1 the ‘Burg.

He’s been pretty integral to my transition with his knowledge of CWU to Barto Hall. I’ve worked in five residence halls and I’d never had a custodial staff member that I connect with,” Corner said. “His impact on our students is second to none. He doesn’t shy away from investing in them… Dale is probably the best [custodian] in terms of communicating with the students.

In addition to bonding with residents and RA’s over the last few decades, Hubbard has ingrained himself into both the CWU and Ellensburg community.

He served as a board member for Jazz in the Valley, Ellensburg’s summer jazz music festival, for 18 years, was president of the CWU chapter of the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) from 2000 to 2005, participates in different musical groups on campus (such as Brass Choir and Jazz Band) and in Ellensburg and even hosted his own blues show on 88.1 the ‘Burg for 13 years.

“I also did a Friday morning show with Thom Kokenge for about six years,” Hubbard said. “Thom and Dale’s Morning Show, we’d get there a little before 6 a.m. every Friday and it was a blast.”

Kokenge, after he got his start in radio at CWU and local Ellensburg station 95.3 KX-LE-FM, has been the host and producer of All Things Considered on Northwest Public Radio (NPR) since 2005. NPR is based at The Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at Washington State University.

In addition to winning “DJ of the Year” in 2005, Hubbard has had an impact on hundreds of Barto residents in his time at CWU.

Hubbard has an impact on hundreds of Barto residents in his time at CWU.
Monica Reece-Bruya, secretary extraordinaire

By Ryan Kinker
News Editor

While professors are well-known on CWU’s campus, some of the most important staff members are not as visible, despite having a bigger impact on the success of students and faculty.

By filing paperwork and helping keep students and staff aware of important events, secretaries allow students to focus on class while professors can focus on their students.

Monica Reece-Bruya, the secretary senior for the geography department, is integral to the success of students and faculty in the geography department.

“I just really love working with students and helping them succeed on their path to graduation,” Reece-Bruya said. “It’s very fulfilling to me.”

Reece-Bruya has been working in the geography department since summer quarter of 2014, after the retirement of long-time secretary, Marilyn Mason, who gave 17 years of service to the geography department. Reece-Bruya has been in the community for much longer, as her husband, Chris Bruya, has been the director of jazz studies in the Music Department since 2002.

Bruya and Reece-Bruya are both alumni of CWU, and came back to the city where they spent their college years. Bruya took the position as a professor while Reece-Bruya worked in town.

“I graduated and got on the path of working in assisted living homes,” Reece-Bruya said. “I got my Nursing Home Administrator license, and I worked in that field for a long time.”

When the geography department was looking for a new secretary, Reece-Bruya applied because she wanted to be on campus and involved with students.

“The job was open and when I interviewed it seemed like a great group of faculty and staff,” Reece-Bruya said. “I just thought it would be great to be a part of that.”

Since she joined the department, Reece-Bruya has earned the love of her coworkers. In an open letter from May 2015, geography department Chair John Bowen acknowledged Reece-Bruya’s impact.

“Finding a person to take Marilyn’s place was a daunting challenge and we feel exceptionally lucky that we were able to hire Monica Reece-Bruya as our new secretary,” Bowen said. “Monica has already proven to be exceptionally competent and has quickly become a familiar, friendly face to whom students can turn for help.”

Associate Professor of Geography Jennifer Lipton said that Reece-Bruya has more than met the needs and demands of faculty over the past few years. Reece-Bruya “has been fantastic, we’re so happy to have her,” Lipton said. “She’s been wonderful support for us, she makes everyone feel at home. She has such a great sense of humor and she’s very positive, especially when there are changes at the university. She knows how to roll with it.”

Chris Bruya said Reece-Bruya isn’t one to brag about her own life.

“When she told me about this story, I asked her why someone would want to write about her,” Chris Bruya said. “She’s very humble and can’t even comprehend why someone would want to know about her.”

Bob Bruya, Reece-Bruya’s son who is a senior jazz performance major at University of Miami, said his mom has shown care for others her whole life.

“She grew up with animals and we have some now as well. She views all life as something special, with a high regard for people and nature,” Bob Bruya said. “She’s an extremely loving and empathetic person.”

Chris Bruya said his wife always goes above and beyond for people.

“Our son’s birthday was a few days ago and we had a Skype call,” Chris Bruya said. “She’s sitting there with a birthday hat and a party horn. All she said was: ‘I’m a mom, I have to do these things’.”

Bob Bruya knows Reece-Bruya has appreciated working on CWU’s campus as well.

“I know she has really enjoyed working with the wide variety of people at CWU,” Bruya said. “She connects with everyone she meets.”

Editor’s Note: Ryan Kinker is a geography major.
Keep your eyes on North Korea

By Eric Rosane
Staff Reporter

If you’ve been watching any form of news coverage over the past month, you’ve probably been subjected to the occasional “bloody-murder-esque” form of reporting, the equivalent of major news corporations declaring the end of days, on the recent missile launches by North Korea.

In an attempt to keep relevant observationalists on them, the North Koreans held a military rally last April to showcase some of the nation’s most sophisticated and relevant arms in the way of missiles, some used and some, experts said, are still in development.

Of the five missiles that were shown at the rally, only two have the potential to be launched as an intercontinental ballistic missile. Within the past week, discussions have been aimed at whether or not the Northerners’ have the capacity for such a weapon.

In an interview with the Seattle Times, President of the Ploughshares Fund, Joseph Cirincione expressed severe caution on the subject.

“If they can hit Seattle, sooner or later they’re going to be able to hit Washington (D.C.),” Cirincione said. “What would they gain by hitting Seattle? Why would they do this? The only thing you can come up with is madness.”

So is Seattle truly a viable target? Some would say most likely not. Its fairly self-evident that NK’s recent showcase of missiles is nothing more than a stagnant way to instill fear in Western society and that war, or military action, would be nothing short of detrimental to North Korea’s civilization. So, essentially, it could all be a bluff.

And President Trump, to an extent, is calling out this bluff.

In a Reuters interview last Thursday, April 27, Trump expressed great gratitude to China’s President Xi Jinping, for everything he’s done in response to North Korea’s actions and has even given praise to Kim Jong-un, noting the strength that Jong-un must have possessed in the wake of inheriting his father’s position after his death.

Even with those remarks, Trump didn’t dismiss the potential for conflict with North Korea. “There is a chance that we could end up having a major, major conflict with North Korea,” Trump said.

I honestly don’t think that we’ll see a major confrontation with North Korea in the next 5 years, but that doesn’t necessarily mean I’m going to dismiss the possibility.

With the increase in missile tests by North Korea’s nuclear program, it’s evident that they’re making astounding progress at an increasingly accelerated rate, and that can only tighten the tension that are already felt here in North America.

North Korea wants to be seen, and so the person that wants to brush their actions off as a simple song-and-dance routine, I believe that maybe we should be more critical about the way we react and investigate these missile tests.

If the missile tests are really failures, then it’s evident that they’re learning from these mistakes. That with each passing test, their technology and science are being improved upon, which will bring them one step closer to being able to implement success.

As their nuclear technology becomes smaller and their missiles become fluent, it’s likely that North Korea’s political grip on society will weaken.

I don’t think that it’s irrational to theorize that perhaps North Korea is just testing certain aspects of missile launches and then aborting said experiments.

Why else would every missile launch end in a dilated, unplanned failure that ends up with the missile being doomed to the sea? It’s inadequate for us to assume that we’re sincere in doubting their abilities, when really we should take perspectives on their progress and make accurate predictions as to where they could possibly on this subject in 5 years time.

As we examine these possibilities, and plan for future confrontations with the nation, we need to realize that self-criticism will be one of our greatest tools in mitigating lethal contact in one of the world’s most tense political relationships.

So stay aware and observant.
Playing with fire is just another experiment to the members of Chemistry Club who will be showing this trick during the fair.

The purpose of the hands-on event or activity will be determined by the audience, as the club that receives the loudest claps—measured in decibel meters, according to Clarke—will be declared the winner.

For short-term, acute stress, the “best” ways to “get rid” of stress are those methods that result in more systemic issues of social injustice and inequity beyond the scope of a 700 column word. For short-term, acute stress, this is very common, particularly as students—has long-term, sustained stress that pervades daily life. While I know that students can, and do, experience chronic stress, much of it results from more systemic stressors aren’t going away.

They can walk or ride your bike to school or work! You can get a stress-free life. Take advantage of that. Can you walk or ride your bike to school or work? This is why the Savvy Science Spectacle is open to public and everyone is encouraged to come to this educational event because, “it will be an exciting and fun filled night with science experiments and I am excited to see what people will take from the event.”

By Susie Chavez
Scene Staff Reporter

This upcoming weekend, the CWU Chemistry Club will present its third annual Savvy Science Spectacle. This three-part event will include a hands-on STEM fair before the competition begins and a planetarium show once the event ends.

“The purpose of the hands-on STEM fair is so that people from the community have the opportunity for hands-on engagement, as well as [the ability] to ask questions,” said Jacob Ferong, a senior physics major and president of the Savvy Science Spectacle.

Ferong founded the Savvy Science Spectacle 3 years ago when the event was just science clubs competing against each other. “The ultimate purpose for starting the event was so that STEM fields could get together,” said Ferong. “I also hope that this is a good bridge so that clubs talk to one another.”

According to Ferong, the event also aims to expose people to STEM and give people a better understanding of what STEM is. Eamonn Clarke, chemistry major and president of the Chemistry Club, said “this event will also give us great teaching experience since the demonstration will be more lecture based.”

This is why the Savvy Science Spectacle is open to public and everyone is encouraged to bring their friends and family.

Over the past couple of years, demonstrations have included playing music through fire and blowing up hydrogen balloons.

This year, the IEEE will be incorporating racing robots, the chemistry club will be making outback fries sharing the hands-on fair as well as making elephant toothpaste as part of their demonstration.

The night doesn’t stop with just experiments, however. The Biology Club will also be bringing in some of their reptiles to show participants.

The club with the best demo will win a trophy. For the past two years, the Chemistry Club has won the award for the best demonstration and are “hopeful to win again this year and in my opinion, chemistry has the flashiest demos,” Clarke said.

“Because we have huge science nerds,” the winner will be determined by the audience, as the club that receives the loudest claps—measured in decibel meters, according to Clarke.

Darby Wedekind, a junior science major, encourages everyone to come to this educational event because, “it will be an exciting and fun filled night with science experiments and I am excited to see what people will take from the event.”

“If you are looking for something to do Saturday evening and want to see ‘Bill Nye experiments, 2.0’ but in person,” said Wedekind, regarding the demonstration.

Future scientists are more than happy to answer any questions and invite the community to become engaged and learn more about science at this educational event for a night of learning.

By Susie Chavez
Scene Staff Reporter

This upcoming weekend, the CWU Chemistry Club will present its third annual Savvy Science Spectacle. This three-part event will include a hands-on STEM fair before a demonstration competition between CWU science clubs with a planetarium show to follow.

STEM clubs participating in the event include: physics, astronomy, geology, chemistry and biology, as well as Society of Physics Students and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

This is the first year that the event will include a hands-on STEM fair before the competition begins and a planetarium show once the event ends.

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Future scientists are more than happy to answer any questions and invite the community to become engaged and learn more about science at this educational event for a night of learning.

Dear Dr. H,

What is the best way to get rid of stress?

Dear student,

Stress is certainly having its “moment” these days, and although stress has been around since the dawn of time. The stress we experience now—particularly as students—has greatly evolved from the environmental challenges affecting our crops and potentially wiping out our sustenance for the season, to the every-overwhelming class load, work and social life.

Stress is never ending, and the sooner we can develop some coping strategies, the better. Due to the sheer number of things you could potentially be stressed about, I am tackling this topic in a two or three-part series.

First, I want to differentiate between different types of stress: chronic and acute. I’m focusing here on acute stress, which is very common, short-term stress that presents itself frequently for students: a tough exam, a break up with a partner or getting called into work when you just need to study for said exam.

This is different from chronic stress, the long-term, sustained stress, as it is more strongly associated with health; not having enough food to eat, experiencing job insecurity and discrimination or stigma that pervades daily life. While I know that students can, and do, experience chronic stress, much of it results from more systemic issues of social injustice and inequity beyond the scope of a 700 column word.

For short-term, acute stress, the “best” ways to “get rid” of stress are those methods that motivate you to tackle a challenge, or rest and restore you after tackling said challenge, without any undue harm on yourself or others.

While it may be tempting to blow off steam by starting the weekend party early, ask yourself if your coping strategy is really your avoidance strategy.

Example: If you’re struggling to balance your class load and work, you need sleep, proper nutrition and exercise with ample evidence to support that. Neglect your sleep, proper nutrition and good exercise, and there’s a slim chance you’ll have the mental capacity to manage your time in a way that reduces the stress of your homework and job.

Learning to manage your time will put you on the fast track to managing the stress in your life, which is all we can really hope for, because many of our stressors aren’t going away. I can’t emphasize SLEEP enough. If we’re up half the night cramming for an exam, engrossed in Netflix or incessantly checking social media, not only are we wasting precious time, we’re setting ourselves up for diminished performance.

Screen time is not restorative, so put down the phone, tablet or computer at night. If you still want information on sleep hygiene, check out: healthysleep.med.harvard.edu/healthy/getting/overcoming/tips

Finally, if you’re eating crap and keeping within a 10-foot radius of your couch, the sluggishness will overtake your mental capacity to think and act clearly in stressful times. You just won’t feel good about it; it’s a vicious cycle of stress, poor coping and more stress.

Make sure you’re eating a balanced diet with plenty of fresh and whole foods, and avoid excess caffeine, alcohol and fried food. Move your body. Sign up for a class through the SURC, dust off that bike or grab a friend and pledge to meet up for morning, afternoon or evening workout.

If your issue is lacking time for all of your obligations and you’re wondering how to pack it all in, remember that those coping strategies should rejuvenate your fervor for life.

Now that you’ve replaced your nightly movie marathon with sleep, you’ll have more energy and actually accomplish what you need to.

Dr. Jill Hommeier is a public health professor at CWU.

Send anonymous public health and sex-related questions to askdrh@cwuobserver.com and have them answered here.
"Opera" from page 1

This opera is about a man named Tamino and his sidekick, Papageno. The two are sent on a journey by The Queen of the Night to rescue her daughter, Pamina—who Tamino is in love with—who is being held by a man named Sarastro. To help with their quest, Tamino is given a magic flute and Papageno is given a magic glockenspiel.

According to Blaisdell, the opera follows Tamino’s search for enlightenment and love while he battles with the choice between good and evil. Sarastro makes Tamino and Papageno face a set of difficult trials. During these trials, an old hag tells Papageno that she is going to be his wife. The hag eventually reveals that she was a beautiful woman in disguise named Papagena. In contrast of Tamino and Pamina, who are dramatic and romantic, Papageno and Papagena act as the goofy couple who keep everyone grounded.

"[Papagena is] a very fun character. We get to be the down to Earth stuff that the audience can relate to," said Juliet Hollifield, a junior vocal performance major and one of the students who plays Papagena. "There are a lot of genuinely hilarious things that are going to be happening in this show."

Despite what the Queen of the Night said, Sarastro is not the bad guy that Tamino believes him to be. Sarastro represents the sun and friendship, while the Queen of the Night represents the dark and bad side of life.

"The character Sarastro has taken my daughter from me and I am trying to get her back and get Sarastro killed. I am evil essentially," said Victoria Busby, a senior vocal performance major and one of the students who plays the Queen of the Night.

On Sunday, May 7, there will be a pre-performance lecture by Mark Samples, assistant professor of musicology. Samples will give historical context to the show and talk about the way operas were performed in the 1790s. This performance is not aiming to be historically accurate, so Samples will give the audience an idea of what it would have been like to watch it in Mozart’s time.

After the two shows in Ellensburg, the cast will travel to Leavenworth to perform at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts on May 13 and 14. Icicle Creek Center for the Arts has hosted CWU in the past when the Opera Ensemble performed Mozart’s “The Marriage of Figaro”. Blaisdell is grateful that the students have the opportunity to take their show outside of Ellensburg.

"It’s a great learning experience as well as a lot of fun,” Blaisdell said. “It’s a live performance of peers, it’s a fun production, it’s in English and it’s accessible. If you’re ever going to see an opera, this is the opportunity.”

The comedy of “The Magic Flute” is balanced by some dark costumes and scenes that bring drama and tension to the show while lighter romances keep things comedic.

Reed Phillips/The Observer
Unheard Voices: Cinco de Mayo takes over Cornerstone Pie for the Fifth of May

By Alex Palacios  
Scene Staff Reporter

Many people may believe that Cinco de Mayo is a holiday celebrating the independence of Mexico from either Spain or the U.S. In celebration, many people use the day to drink Corona or tequila and eat Mexican food.

This year, however, the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE) has decided to re-educate the community with their event, Unheard Voices.

This event will serve to reinforce the public of the misrepresented holiday.

Spearheading the event will be Jasmine Bustamante, a senior accounting major and Spanish minor. She is an employee of the CLCE working as a program leader.

CLCE is an organization that does everything from hosting blood drives to organizing river clean-ups. A lot of the work that they do requires as much manpower as they can get, so volunteers are welcome.

Last week they had close to 300 people help out with their Earth Week Yakima River Clean-Up project, according to Bustamante.

Not only does CLCE help students get volunteer hours, they also give students the chance to learn about different social narratives throughout CWU.

Bustamante was chosen to lead the event because of her close cultural ties to el Cinco de Mayo.

The day will be full of events including speakers, musical performances and poem recitals. There will also be a piñata making station for kids.

The CLCE wants anyone who’s interested to learn about the Cinco de Mayo’s origins and to partake in a small slice of Mexican culture.

CLCE employee Ashley Anderson, a sophomore marketing and economics major, is one student who will benefit from the event.

“I think it will be good for the whole community. I didn’t even know what el cinco de mayo was,” Anderson said.

The focus of Unheard Voices is determined by the program leaders and members of the event. Unheard Voices is your chance to learn about different social narratives throughout CWU. In collaboration with Cornerstone Pie and D&M Coffee.

“This event’s topic was mostly chosen due to timing. Other CLCE hosted event topics have included Hospice Friends, Kittitas County Friends of Animals and Prisoners of War. “We decided to go forward with the Cinco de Mayo idea, because it got brought up during the discussion and we realized that it fell on a Friday,” Bustamante said.

CLCE usually hosts these events once a quarter, but due to the number of other CLCE events they decided to make this only one for the year.

“Since we’re so busy with other events, we just decided to make this event bigger than we normally would and put more effort into this and other programs,” said Bustamante.

Also helping to host the event is former CLCE member, Omar Manzo. Manzo is studying Spanish, political science and Latin American studies at CWU.

“This event gives us the opportunity to reclaim our cultural heritage and educate the community on cultural respect and competency,” -Omar Manzo, Spanish, Political Science and Latin American studies major

The focus of Unheard Voices is to reclaim our cultural heritage and educate the community on cultural respect and competency.

Some people may not know of the existence of Bailadores de Bronce, but Lopez has a personal connection with the group with whom he learned how to dance when he was a kid. Lopez has done multiple productions with them in Seattle and Yakima.

There are six regions within the country from Northern Mexico to the Yucatan Peninsula and each is unique in its cultures and landscapes. The dances will represent five of the different regions of Mexico. The goal of the dances is to educate the people in the audience about Latin culture, dance and history.

While attending CWU, Lopez felt like a second class citizen and he is seeking to change this.

“CWU needs more diversity,” Lopez said.

Many other clubs supporting diversity are also seeking to bring about change on campus, including the event sponsor, Student Involvement, Mariachi del Centro, Center for Leadership and Community Engagement and many others.

It will “promote Latin heritage and culture,” said Andre Dickerson, director of Student Involvement. Dickerson thought it would be great to sponsor this event, as it will be a great presentation of Latin culture.

“It is all student lead,” Dickerson said. According to Dickerson, an event like this will support the students from the Latin culture as well as inform the rest of the campus of the Latin culture.

Anyone who attends the performance at the end of the week will get a chance to hear the history and culture of the dances. The dances will be performed by Bailadores de Bronce of Seattle, as well as Ballet Folklorico Los Bailadores Del Sol of Central Washington.

There will also be the CWU Mariachi Del Centro with Jose Iniguez (Award-winning opera and bolero tenor) according to the CWU events page.

“I am excited as an audience member,” Dickerson said. “[It] should be a great time.”

Unheard Voices: May 5, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. 
World Without Walls: May 6, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Spinters break 4x100-meter record, again

By Simo Rul
Staff Reporter

The CWU women’s 4x100 relay team broke the record at the first home meet with a finish of 46.83 seconds. There is a lot of confidence going forward.

“It feels wonderful [to break the record], I just know it’s one of the small things that we accomplished, and there is way more things we’re about to break,” senior hurdler Erykah Weems said.

They do not get to practice the relay much, the thing they have to do is believe in one another.

“Just simply having faith in each other, I think that’s just what the base of it is,” Weems said.

For this team it’s only about taking steps in the right direction.

“Our team is just about faith, and we just keep on growing,” Weems said.

This is a great team, we’re exceeding each meet, the team is getting stronger every year. As I’m a senior, I’m excited to see what Central has to continue to do,” Banfro said.

“This team has not practiced a lot, or even raced together, but the record is theirs,” Banfro said.

“I was impressed, but I also expected them to break [the record]. I knew they had the ability to go sub 47,” Bryan Mack, sprinters coach.

Banfro said the ladies could run faster, and the ladies plan on breaking it again.

“This is déjà vu for the ladies as GNAC approaches. “I think we are ranked third right now going in, but we were third last year...and came out with the title,” Banfro said.

Banfro is happy about what the Wildcat’s have accomplished, and is looking forward to the team’s future.

“This is a great team, we’re exceeding each meet, the team is getting stronger every year. As I’m a senior, I’m excited to see what Central has to continue to do,” Banfro said.

This team has not practiced a lot, or even raced together, but the record is theirs.

“It was really important [to break the record], because that was the second time we put that team together,” said assistant coach Bryan Mack.

Mack announced this is the team that will represent CWU at the GNAC tournament.

Things did not necessarily go as planned, but they still managed to break the record.

“They’re pretty confident right now that they can be a 46-flat, maybe sub 46 team,” Mack said. “It wasn’t a perfect race, the first handoff was a little off from the second, but the second handoff was way off, and this last one was pretty good. There is a lot of room to improve.”

Mack believed that the ladies were capable of breaking it.

“I was impressed, but I also expected them to break [the record]. I knew they had the ability to go sub 47,” Mack said. “I kind of had the expectation, but it didn’t make it any less impressive.”

Mack said carrying this momentum is important, in case if they don’t get to run again before the GNAC tournaments.

“I think we’ll be more of a transition and running team,” Verduin said. “It’s going to be more [about] pushing the ball as much as possible.”

Pana, who was recruited by Richardson last year, explains why she feels strongly about having Richardson named at coach.

“She was a college player, so she understands every perspective that everyone on the team has,” Pana said. “I’m expecting changes, but I feel like it’s not going to be so drastic that… we feel like we’re starting from the bottom.”

Now that the search for a head coach is over, the team can turn their focus to bringing tough competition to the GNAC next season.

“We want to be a GNAC championship contending team,” Verduin said. “I definitely want this year to be my best year yet and to have our team go further than we’ve gone.”
Softball has College World Series in mind

By Rachel Greve
Staff Reporter

The CWU women’s softball team is leaving postseason play behind them and getting ready to defend their GNAC title.

Finishing first in the GNAC and setting more records this year, the team is looking to go even further this year than they have in previous seasons.

“We have talked a lot about the end point, and that’s Salem, Virginia, where the college world series are this year,” said head coach Mike Larabee.

Last year, the team broke records by not only clinching their first GNAC tournament title, but also by getting to the super regional tournament in California before being knocked out by Humboldt State University.

This year, they have already broken a bigger record than last, most wins in a season.

“From the beginning, we have always talked about competing for a national championship and we go after it in parts,” Mike Larabee, head coach, said.

Campbell set a new GNAC record with 193 career RBIs, and the season isn’t over yet.

Campbell isn’t the only one who is standing out; however, the entire team is getting ready for another record breaking post season.

“Post season is the best time of the year. As Coach Bee always says, once post season rolls around we are all (6d), nothing we did beforehand will affect what we do now. Postseason is a different vibe and it’s so much fun,” said junior outfielder Celine Fowler.

The team may be defending GNAC and West Regional champions, but they still have some fighting to do after a difficult end to regular season play.

“We have beat everyone in our conference at least twice,” Larabee said. “I have to keep reminding the team to play the highest level of catch possible to get to where we want to be, Salem, Virginia.”

This will be the Wildcats’ sixth appearance in the GNAC tournament. The stakes are high and both Larabee and Campbell believe the team has it in them to go all the way to the College World Series.

The Wildcats’ first game is Thursday, May 4, against Western Oregon University in Lacey.

Celine Fowler commands center field

By Alanna Inzunza
Staff Reporter

Playing as an outfielder for the CWU softball team, junior Celine Fowler first found her love for softball at a young age.

At 8 years old, she began playing t-ball and by 9 years old she was playing competitively. Since then the sport has played a big part in her life.

By freshman year of high school, Fowler was told by her parents she had to pick a sport and she decided to go with softball.

Fowler played for the Lady Sharks till 16U. Then after 16U, played for the Washington Lady Hawks.

“Which is a very competitive program its good, its what got me here,” Fowler said.

All four years of high school Fowler went to CWU after realizing this was a school she wanted to attend.

By freshman year of high school Fowler was described how they’ve just hit it off from the start.

“From the beginning, we have always talked about competing for a national championship and we go after it in parts,” Mike Larabee, head coach

“I felt like CWU was a really good spot where I could compete and get myself into a starting position and I worked my way up and I’m so happy with my choice and I wouldn’t change it at all,” Fowler said.

Head coach Mike Larabee has seen her grow into her full potential.

“When I got here last year in the fall, our entire outfield wasn’t very good to be honest … just through a lot of Coach Bee always says, once post season rolls around we are all (6d), nothing we did beforehand this will affect what we do now. Postseason is a different vibe and it’s so much fun,” said junior outfielder Celine Fowler.

Junior pitcher Kaia Wood throwing a pitch during their doubleheader with Saint Martin’s University. Wood has been CWU’s ace this season.

Fowler is looking forward to the upcoming games the CWU softball team will be playing in hopes to clinch a spot in the regionals.

“We really got to take all four of them. We really have to clinch that spot for that championship and I think we have absolutely no problem doing it,” Fowler said.

“We’re going to bounce back really hard after three losses but other than that I think we’re all really prepared for it.”

As for her future, Fowler is majoring in elementary education. She will always want softball to play a role in her life.

“I want to be a teacher and I want to have a family.. I [just] wanna enjoy life. And I’ll probably still coach, maybe play slow pitch or something, but I don’t think the game will ever leave my life,” Fowler said.
Dalto succeeds on mound, batters box

By Sabrina Wheelhouse
Staff Reporter

Not many people can say that they play the sport they love at the college level with their life-long friends but lucky for one Wildcat, he can.

Chris Dalto was first introduced to baseball through his family. He began watching it on the television with his father and eventually started playing after he watched his older brother play. Since then, he recalled being in love with baseball since he was 4 years old.

As he continued to play throughout the years, he found constant support and motivation from his family, which helped push him to keep pursuing baseball and compete at the college level.

“Hitting my first walk off hit during my year at JUCO, in front of my grandparents, was a special moment for me and made find a deeper passion for [baseball],” Dalto said.

Dalto was first recruited to a junior college in California where he spent a year. Three days before school started, he received a call from coach Wilson at CWU about the possibility of playing here. He knew right away that he wanted to make the switch because two guys he grew up with and played baseball with since they were young-
er had already committed to play at CWU.

Having friends already at CWU made it an easier transition for him.

“He had the tools that we needed and also had connections that helped us find him. We needed infielders and he fit right in with the program and team,” said Head coach Desi Storey. “His leadership and confidence was another bonus as was knowing we would have him for three years.”

Dalto has had great success this season on the field, earning Player of the Week for April 10 and NCBWA West Region Player of the Week. Dalto is hitting .323 on the season with two home runs, 13 runs batted in, and eight doubles. On the mound, he has a 1.74 earned run average in 10 appearances and five saves.

“Hitting my first home run this season against NNU was definitely something I’ll remember as a Wildcat and probably my favorite memory so far at CWU,” Dalto said.

The thing he loves most about baseball is when the first pitch is about to be thrown. He finds the most excitement is that he gets to play his favorite sport every day.

After college he hopes to continue his baseball career and get drafted to the league as a pitcher or middle infielder.

“Dalto is an entertaining player, mentally and physically, he has the tools and just enjoys playing the game as hard as he can every day,” said assistant coach Scott Stone. “He is confident and comfortable with who he is as a player and isn’t afraid to fail.”

About Chris Dalto
Hometown: Valencia, Calif.
Year: Junior
Positions: Infielder/reliever
Innings Pitched: 13.1
Saves: 6
Batting Average: .318

Junior Chris Dalto pitching (left) and hitting (right) during a four-game series against Saint Martin’s University. Dalto has appeared in 45 out of 46 games for the Wildcats.

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Plenty of places to fish in Kittitas County

By Andrew Kollar
Staff Reporter

The Yakima River Canyon is considered a staple of the Ellensburg area and is known for having a beautiful landscape, carved away by the river, thus making it a popular destination for fishing. In addition to the Yakima River, there is the Teanaway River, which runs into the Yakima River further downstream and the Columbia River all within an hour of Ellensburg’s Historic Downtown.

Rivers are dependent on glacial melt, it causes sediment to come down with the water flow, decreasing visibility and the fish are unable to see the bait, creating an added level of difficulty opposed to fishing in lakes.

People wanting to fish should head to Cle Elum, to the upper section of the Yakima River or try fishing the Teanaway river for more on shore access. The rivers prove to be a bigger challenge considering the fluctuating water levels, clarity and the WFWD regulations prohibiting the use of bait, per Riley Jorgenson, biology education major and avid fisherman.

“If you want to go and fish in the canyon, you are going to have a pretty tough time,” Jorgenson said. “This is the period of the year where it’s at its highest and bank access is pretty limited.”

Although the fishing in the Yakima River is more challenging than the local lakes, Sam Gutierrez, molecular biology major, would prefer to fish in the canyon because of the geography surrounding the area. As a biologist, Gutierrez enjoys looking at the erosion caused by the thousands of years of the river cutting through it.

Gutierrez recalled a time when Jorgenson invited him on a spur of the moment steelhead trip. Starting with curiosity looking to see how much water the dams on the Columbia River were letting out and when the they saw the graph reach the lowest point, they took off.

“As soon as we got there: Wham, we were yanking big ass fish out with everyone else looking at us who had been sitting there for hours with nothing to show for it,” Gutierrez said.

Rivers do add the additional element of the natural geography of the river valleys to the fishing experience, but if someone is looking to strictly catch fish, the local lakes are another option.

“The Yakima [River] is a great, beautiful river, but the fish there aren’t planted. They are just wild fish that have a pretty particular pallet. They are a lot tougher to catch,” Jorgenson said.

The Naches Fish Hatchery has planted thousands of rain-bow trout, ranging from 1.2 to 4 pounds per fish in the local lakes, including the four-acre Matson Lake and the 27-acre McCabe pond, both are within a 15-minute drive of downtown. The WDFW releases bi-weekly reports with full disclosure on number of fish they plant in every lake in Washington, including the weight in pounds per fish. This information provided by the WDFW will let fishermen know where they will find the most productive lakes.

“When fishing lakes, the factors that make river fishing more difficult does not apply. The clarity and water level will remain consistent all year round, except in the case of an algae bloom, making it a reliable source for fishing.