FCW tops Humboldt; Cummings out for the season

By Natalie Hyland
Sports Editor

The Wildcats remain the only undefeated GNAC team after beating Humboldt State University 55-27 on Saturday in front of a 6,000 plus homecoming crowd. However, all was not well as running back Christian Cummings broke his leg and is set to miss the rest of the season.

With the win, CWU has clinched the top spot in the GNAC with a 4-0 record and is ranked No. 10 in the nation, according to an AFCA national poll. CWU boasts a 6-0 record as it begins its second bout with the GNAC.

CWU jumped out to an early lead in the first quarter, scoring 14 points to Humboldt’s seven, with touchdowns by senior Christian Gasca and junior Dillon Sugg before Humboldt could answer back. With 31 seconds left in the first quarter, Humboldt’s Sefa Tauanu’u put the Lumberjacks on the board.

Senior tight end Kyle Self stood out for the Wildcats during the rest of the game with three touchdowns, the first of which came during the second quarter.

“It was just one of those days where his number got called,” said head coach Ian Shoemaker. “He made a lot of plays for us.”

The Wildcats struck twice in the second quarter, aided by a touchdown from senior Austin Pernell in addition to the first touchdown from Self for 13 points, since the extra-point following Pernell’s touchdown failed. Self scored his second touchdown early in the third before Tyler Hasty found the end zone midway through the third.

The touchdowns would go unanswered by Humboldt until late in the third. That’s when senior Marjani Ellison finally answered back for the Lumberjacks, bringing the score to 41-14 at the end of the quarter. Kyle Self scored his third early in the fourth quarter to bring the score to 48-14 before the Lumberjacks began to show signs of life.

Humboldt would score the next two touchdowns from senior Scott Lawson and wide receiver Chase Krivashei to make the score 48-27. CWU’s Austin Pernell added one more touchdown—his second of the game—with 1:46 remaining in the fourth to shut the door on Humboldt 55-27.

“I thought we played really well… [there were] a couple mistakes here and there that gave up some points, but overall we looked at the game film and we were pretty pleased,” Shoemaker said.

Cummings goes down

Cummings, a junior, fell to the ground in the third quarter where he stayed until he was helped off the field by teammates. Immediately after the game his condition was unknown.

Shoemaker confirmed Tuesday morning the Cummings had undergone surgery for a broken leg Saturday night and would be out for the rest of the season.

The Wildcats offense will suffer greatly from the loss, as Cummings led the team in rushing yards (394) and has contributed five touchdowns, including three against Dixie State on Sept. 23.

“His was our leading guy our starter. It’s tough. We’re going to have to share the load a little more.”

-Ian Shoemaker, head coach

Parks and Recreation star and comedian Nick Offerman came to CWU as the annual homecoming entertainment.

He was our leading guy… our starter. It’s tough. We’re going to have to share the load a little more.

-Nick Offerman, comedian
Sessions vs. the green states

By Eric Rosane

News Editor

Over the summer, Attorney General Jeff Sessions made several accusations against the states of Washington and Colorado on the basis of the way the state is managing its marijuana distribution, operations and giving statistics. Attorney General of Washington State Governor Jay Inslee and Attorney General of Washington State Robert Ferguson, Sessions’ also falsely attributed the state’s legalization of marijuana to an increase in minors using marijuana.

“These findings are relevant to the policy debate concerning marijuana legalization… please advise as to how Colorado plans to address the serious findings in the Rocky Mountain HIDTA. (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) report, including efforts to ensure that all marijuana activity is compliant with state marijuana laws, to combat diversion of marijuana, to protect public health and safety, and to prevent marijuana use by minors,” Sessions said in a Letter to Colorado.

Sessions, in his earlier letter to Washington, pulled facts from the same family of sources: the Northwest HIDTA. These organizations, founded by the 1988 Anti-Drug Abuse Act, aim at assisting enforcement of laws against Schedule-1 drugs, such as marijuana and methamphetamine, on a federal, state, local and tribal level.

Inslee, Ferguson and four other lawmakers then fired back another letter on August 15, in response to Session’s July 24 letter. In the letter signed by Inslee and penned by Ferguson, the two break down the arguments that Sessions had previously made on the state, saying that the HIDTA reports are, for the most part, an outdated source that illogically don’t take into account the laws and regulations put in by the state legislature.

“You letter repeatedly fails to distinguish between marijuana activity that is legal and illegal under state law. Instead, it confuses the two in a manner that implies that state-legal marijuana activity is responsible for harms actually caused by illegal marijuana activity,” Ferguson said in his letter to Sessions.

Ferguson and Inslee later in the letter confirmed another allegation that Session’s had made based on HIDTA studies. The report in question was from the Northwest HIDTA bureau that stated that there had been 17 explosions at THC extraction labs that were examined, in a later report, and found to have been using methods that were not up to code of the marijuana extraction standards.

“That is true. Your letter, however, fails to clearly acknowledge that none of these explosions were at labs operating legally under state license. Legal extraction labs are required to use equipment certified by a manufacturer, and to be inspected by the fire marshal. In the history of our licensing system, no legal explosion lab has ever had an explosion,” Ferguson penned.

On August 4, Washington state senators and lawmakers that deal with state reformation and recreation/medical policies, penned their own letter to Sessions in support of Inslee and Ferguson’s initiative.

The four lawmakers, two of which are republicans, continued to disprove Session’s allegations of the apparent ill-regulated state of Washington, restating the amount of hard work the bipartisan legislation is making towards keeping both recreational and medicinal marijuana heavily regulated.

However, it does apparently work better than nothing but the best form of birth control is still abstinence (not having sex at all). Of course, this is not for everyone, so if you choose to have sex then please make sure you are using a condom or some other form of birth control, this can help you avoid pregnancy and can prevent you from a partner from contracting STDs.

Sexual misconception 3: Females can only orgasm through penetration. This is a misconception that a lot of people, including myself, believe. The idea is that women can only achieve orgasm through vaginal penetration. Of course this is false, there are several ways to achieve an orgasm that don’t rely on penetration.

One way is clitoral stimulation, according to a Bustle article, around 80 percent of women reach their climax this way. Try using your fingers, having your partner help, or get geared up with vibrators. Another way is by hitting that elusive G-Spot, this can be difficult to reach but with positions that lend themselves to deep penetrations it can be hit.

Also, on the subject of female orgasm, remember that foreplay is important. Take the time to explore your partner’s body and let them show you what they like and what gets them going.

That way your romantic encounter lasts longer and there is more time for your girlfriend to reach her climax since it takes about 20 minutes for a female orgasm.

That is my two-cents on the matter of sex but if you have more questions please send them to jill.hoxmeier@cwu.edu. And from both of us, we promise that your questions are anonymous and that they will be treated with respect.

Signed, Sarah J. Hoot
Editor in Chief

Faculty Adviser
Cynthia Mitchell advisor@cwuobserver.com

Advertising
Bianca Bailey bianca.bailey@cwu.edu
Central Washington University
400 East University Way
Lind Hall 109
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Photo credit for “Science in the Pini” goes to James Stack, the writer for the Homecoming spread is Simo Rul, and the writer for “Swing-cats boogie” is Alexi Prante.

Greeting (friend! It is me again, your favorite Editor-in-Chief! Here to tell you all about the SIX, Just kidding, well kidding.

Mostly I was going to talk about some common misconceptions about sex and I guess maybe a little bit of advice from someone in a long-term, long-distance relationship.

Now I am not an expert by any means so I am getting my information from the world wide web. However, if you want to talk to an expert, you are in luck.

Here at CWU we have Dr. Jill Hoxmeier (or as we call her, Dr. H) to answer all of your sexual health questions. If you have any questions about sex, sexual health or health in general send her an email and she will answer your questions.

For those who have been at CWU for a while, you may have noticed that Dr. H’s column no longer resides in the Scene section where it has for the last year or so. This is because she hasn’t been receiving any questions. So send them in, flood her inbox and help us bring back our beloved Dr. H.

Anyway, back to the sexual misconceptions (plus some extra advice)

Sexual misconception 1: Sex is great exercise. Some people believe that having sex burns a lot calories, however that is a myth. According to Dr. Aaron Carroll, 30 minutes worth of sex could burn about 80 - 150 calories but per studies that timed 500 men from Europe and the U.S. the most men only last about 3.4 minutes. And the time that your heart rate actually goes up is even less.

Sexual misconception 2: “Pulling out” is an effective method of birth control. In a Daily Nexus article, a newspaper from the University of Santa Barbara, there is still a high probability of pregnancy. This is due to the likelihood that the man will release sperm even before his orgasm or even as he is pulling out.

Quote of the Week

“...If I’m in your sphere, then nothing is PG-13.”

-Nick Offerman, Page 6

Editorial Policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which students may express all opinions and viewpoints, even those not consistent with the Observer’s editors. The mission of The Observer is to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and 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 forum for student ideas, the Observer is committed to the following standards: to provide a forum for student ideas, to publish the views of all students, to include students who are seeking a career in journalism.

The Observer encourages 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 express their ideas, values, and skills needed to succeed in first-class careers. If you have questions call (509) 963-1073 or email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com
**No vacancy: CWU hits housing capacity**

Samuel Beaumonte  
Staff Reporter

CWU experienced a record amount of incoming students this fall, beating the previous record by roughly 250 students. This created a pattern, as the past two years have both beaten their previous first-year student enrollment records.

This influx of students has led CWU Housing to seek out alternative residences for students. Last year they opened up a floor of dormitory rooms to temporary residence for students in over-assignment housing waitlist.

“Admissions keeps admitting everyday, and we’re also overseeing orientation,” Dr. Jenna Hyatt, the associate dean of student living said. “So we were seeing in our housing contract and our orientation numbers that we were going into over-assignment capacity.”

As of two weeks ago, all students have made it out of over-assignment due to cancellations, but Hyatt said CWU is still at capacity and there isn’t much room left.

In addition to the incoming students, CWU is experiencing some of the highest return rates for students wanting to stay on campus. This adds to the availability dilemma since most freshman who come to CWU have to stay on campus.

Because of this, returning students who missed the early assignment deadline may have found it difficult to secure on-campus housing as the waitlist built up. Those seeking off-campus housing faced similar problems as the majority of apartment complexes are full, said Sophomore Akrem Dawed, a computer science major.

“We were looking for a place to live for the school year and when I called Central they told me they were full,” Sophomore Akrem Dawed, a computer science major, said. “So I was looking for apartments, and I was waiting to hear back from waitlists. I was emailed about two weeks before school started saying that I made it through the waitlist for University Park & Place.”

With the combination of record first-year and returning students, CWU Housing is looking for a more permanent solution to over-assignment.

“In July, the Board of Trustees met in their annual summer meeting and gave us the go ahead to start engaging in the two-year process to build a residence hall,” Hyatt said. “So we’re looking at north of campus, across from the library.”

There isn’t a set date for the residence hall to begin construction, but the current plans include roughly 400 beds and the possible inclusion of a new dining facility.

Hyatt also stated that the building will try to follow the lead that Barto and Wendell Hall took with technology innovations. With Barto Hall receiving the LEED Platinum certification this summer, the highest reward possibly given by The United States Council of Green Building, CWU housing has high hopes for the new hall.

“The growth of our enrollment and the reason we need to build more beds is because the trustees want us to grow pretty substantially over the next five years,” Hyatt said.

Alternative contingency plans include potentially partnering with local hotels in order to house excess enrollment numbers, as well as possibly asking Resident Assistants who currently are assigned single rooms to prepare for having a roommate.

While Hyatt says neither of these plans were needed for this year, CWU is expecting continued growth in the next few years. Ideas like this may be needed in the future.

“It’s been tremendous, where we are at right now is what we want as a university. It didn’t just happen on accident,” Hyatt said. “One record would say 50 per year would get us to this, and there’s this end goal of getting up to 16,000 students.”

---

**Future of Lind’s observatory up in the air**

Kejuen Coleman  
Staff Reporter

Many people and students at CWU have been speculating about the future of the Lind Hall observatory atop Lind Hall could’ve been used for:

Gaining knowledge of extraterrestrial beings or just knowing the unknown. We all can use our imagination on what it was used for, but after speaking with Dr. Andy Piacsek from the physics department, many questions were answered which lead to no more wondering minds.

The speculations of one last terrestrial beings or just knowing the unknown. We all can use our imagination on what it was used for, but after speaking with Dr. Andy Piacsek from the physics department, many questions were answered which lead to no more wondering minds.

The speculations of one last experiment were more down to earth and not as extraterrestrial as many would have thought.

Though there had been speculations as to what final experiment had kept the observatory active.

“The physics department is currently studying the sky, or whether, we will continue to use the observatory on the roof of Lind Hall,” Piacsek said.

The Lind Hall observatory is in competition with the new and larger observatory that has been built in the Science II building, according to Piacsek.

Lind hall was originally designed and constructed in 1947 as a science building for the then Central Washington College of Education in an attempt to expand the department of sciences. Originally, Lind Hall housed the math department and all the science departments, according to Geology instructor Nick Zentner in a lecture.

Since the creation of the new observatory in the Science II building, it’s left the status on Lind hall’s observatory up in the air.

“To keep the old observatory usable for students would require a significant investment,” Dr. Andy Piacsek, Associate Professor.

“Even though the status of the observatory is in limbo, the hardware and resources of the equipment may still contribute some valuable research.

Given the recent advancements in technology with the newly constructed Science II building, Lind’s observatory might see the light of day, when it comes to a remodel.

“The Lind Hall observatory still has the 12-inch telescope that we’ve used for the past couple decades, but the equipment and software needed to operate it [aim it precisely, take pictures, etc.] is obsolete and difficult to use. It is not currently being used for any observation work,” Piacsek said.

For now, it seems as if it’s mainly there now to collect dust. Even with all the speculation, there’s still a discussion amongst faculty and department heads for the future of the Lind Observatory, even if it’s not on the school’s top-priority list.

“We need to decide whether it is worth the investment to upgrade that equipment, so that students can continue to use it,” Piacsek said.

We don’t know what that cost is yet. The other option is to mothball that facility. That is, remove some useful equipment and keep the dome from leaking, but otherwise leave it in place.”

The Lind Hall observatory has put in its many years of educational use but now it might possibly be time to close it down for bigger, better and brighter futures for CWU students and staff.
Exonerees tell stories of life on death row

By Miles King
Staff Reporter

The SURC Theatre was at capacity on the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 3. Security turned away about 70 students, but media and late arrivals lined the back wall. The guest speakers arrived prepared; this was not their first time sharing their stories.

Witness to Innocence (WTI) is a national organization with the goal of abolishing the death penalty across the country with the help and developed leadership of exonerated death row survivors, according to WTI’s homepage.

The Washington Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty shares the same goal as the WTI, but that organization is specific to the state; whereas, WTI is national.

Founded in 2003, WTI has currently in moratorium, issued a study completed in the United States in 2016 also showed that inmates were three times more likely to be put to death if they were African American, Anderson said.

Randal Padgett, one of the death row survivors who spoke on Tuesday, was accused of murdering and raping his ex-wife. He was sentenced to death by electric chair. After waiting in prison two and a half years for a retrial, he was exonerated due to a botched blood test.

“Death row is a bad place,” Padgett said. “It plays on your mind if you’re innocent.”

The first female death row survivor ever, Sabrina Butler-Smith, was accused of killing her son in 1989 when she attempted to perform CPR on him. Her son was not breathing, so then 17-year-old Butler-Smith pleaded her apartment neighbors for help. A neighbor incorrectly told her how to perform CPR, resulting in the death of her son.

Law enforcement later took Butler-Smith from the hospital and into custody, naming her a suspect in the murder of her son. Screamed at by the investigators, she was pressured into admitting guilt and therefore charged with child abuse and murder. Butler-Smith said. She did not sleep the night of her son’s death and her arrest.

The day of her trial, Butler-Smith was appointed two court-ordered attorneys. One attorney appeared to trial drunk and the other did no background research on the case. Upon arrival to the penitentiary, she was stripped of her clothes, fingerprinted and her hair bug sprayed.

She would spend 23 hours a day in a six-by-nine foot cell. In 2009, Butler-Smith was appointed two court-ordered attorneys. One attorney appeared to trial drunk and the other did no background research on the case. Upon arrival to the penitentiary, she was stripped of her clothes, fingerprinted and her hair bug sprayed.

She would spend 23 hours a day in a six-by-nine foot cell. Law enforcement later took Butler-Smith from the hospital and into custody, naming her a suspect in the murder of her son. Screamed at by the investigators, she was pressured into admitting guilt and therefore charged with child abuse and murder. Butler-Smith said. She did not sleep the night of her son’s death and her arrest.

The day of her trial, Butler-Smith was appointed two court-ordered attorneys. One attorney appeared to trial drunk and the other did no background research on the case. Upon arrival to the penitentiary, she was stripped of her clothes, fingerprinted and her hair bug sprayed.

Anderson moderates conversation and questions between the audience and the two guest speakers, Butler-Smith and Padgett.

Anderson moderates conversation and questions between the audience and the two guest speakers, Butler-Smith and Padgett.

Butler-Smith did not find her son’s grave until years after her release, and she is currently attempting to have it exhumed and moved. She has remarried and now has two more children. Her daughter has the same heart condition that contributed to her son’s death.
Smart enough for the presidency?

By Racquel Rollins

There are two words, one name, that never cease to start either an argument or a brief bonding moment: Donald Trump. He is always pulling some new stunt or saying something—usually on Twitter—that sparks a conversation.

Regardless of his presidential actions and any status that he may currently or previously have, I am just not a fan of how he acts in public and on public forums.

Most recently in the news is Trump challenging his Secretary of State to an IQ Test. I say if you are going to challenge him, then actually do it and make the results public.

To be fair to Trump, Tillerson was the one who called Trump a moron. Trump only retaliated, but I still would love to see his actual IQ results.

Trump must be a smart guy, I mean he did get this far in life and he is doing pretty well for himself. Anyone who has made as much money as him cannot be as stupid as he looks. Sometimes I do wonder about his intelligence though.

Why else would he choose to childishly personally attack someone, rather than discuss their differing views as an adult?

Trump has labeled Republican Senator Bob Corker as “Liddle Bob”, Senator Ted Cruz as “Lyin’ Ted”, Hillary Clinton as “Crooked Hillary”, only to name a few. He resorted to name calling and putting himself on a pedestal rather than critiquing and tearing down his opponent’s arguments.

Not only does he tear down people rather than arguments, he doesn’t seem to believe in real issues such as global warming.

He backed out of the Paris Agreement because he believed that his voters were against it. Those same voters are seeing the effects of global warming via wildfires, earthquakes and our incredibly active and deadly hurricane season. Sometimes you need to do what may seem like the unpopular opinion for the greater good.

Most recently in the Trump administration’s escapade to decrease power-plant emissions by 30 percent. Seems like a good one right? Less power-plant emissions mean healthier people, healthier workers and a healthier world.

He has also helped to secure coal’s place in the energy market despite their being much cleaner options. The United States seems to be the only country not moving towards clean energy industries. With as windy and sunny as it is in parts of the country you think it could be an easy switch.

Going off this same point, according to an article in Politico magazine, Trump plans on putting a tariff on imported solar panels. I’m all for buying American, but I’m also all for doing something to save the planet, or even just saving a few dollars on your electricity bill.

Trump also seems to be against our rights as American citizens, principally our first amendment. He claims that team owners should fire every single NFL player who does not stand during the national anthem before games.

As I stated in an earlier opinion, if it does not say that they have to stand in their contract, then it is fully within their first amendment rights to kneel or lean.

They are not disrespecting our nation or their team or the brave men and women who fight for us. They are merely protesting something else entirely: inequality and racism.

The First Amendment seems to be only for Donald Trump and those that fully agree with him, but I did not think that was how our country worked.

He also repeatedly attacks journalists and papers for writing “fake news.”

This, too, is attacking our first amendment. Anything that he does not like or agree with is deemed “fake news” and unfortunately the “fake news” phenomenon has become too popular.

Media outlets are there to keep everything in check, to make sure that the public knows what the government is doing and the government knows the opinions of the people.

Amidst everything, I slightly wonder if he even realizes that the point of being president of the United States. Everything he does seems to be for his own benefit rather than thinking of the good of the country.

Overall, regardless of his presidential actions and decisions, I think Donald Trump needs to take a history or ethics class or at least actually sit down and think about how the environment is getting payback for us taking advantage of it all these years.
Ryan Galindo, who teaches in the Health and Science Department, and his friend Braden Wielick sat atop the mezzanine on the second floor of the SURC. Both men were ecstatic for the show that would proceed that evening. Wielick heard of the show from Galindo and had to catch a plane from San Diego to Sea-Tac to attend.

Last Saturday, Oct. 7, comedian Nick Offerman came to CWU to do his Full Bush stand-up tour. Students, faculty members, friends and families alike lined up to get tickets and seats. The excitement did not stop at all, even with all the waiting.

Even alumni came back to Ellensburg to see Offerman. CWU Alumnus Josephine Beedle drove from halfway across the state for the show. "I graduated last year, so I just had to come back for this," Beedle said. Alongside her was Adam Beck, former student, who was stoked about the event. They both had high expectations for the show. Beedle mentioned that she wanted to hear more about his distillery from his stand-up.

When people were beginning to be let into the show, the level of enthusiasm increased. The inside of the SURC Ballroom was filled with chatter of how great the performance was going to be. "It's crowded in the general admission and kind of a squeeze, but there's a guy behind me who has a weird laugh that makes up for it," student Alex Brockwell said.

For many, this was their first time attending a stand-up performance. Sam Hamilton was a part of that group. Hamilton was seated in the front row, right in front of the mic.

"I've been waiting for weeks and the ticket was definitely worth it," Hamilton said. As the lights dimmed, the crowd cheered and Offerman appeared on stage. "Lower your expectations," Offerman said, rupturing the audience into a frivolous laugh. And so the night of laughter began.

Offerman began by congratulating Central for winning their homecoming game, and mentioned how Washington state "is so goddamn gorgeous." And so the night of laughter began.

"If I'm in your sphere, then nothing is PG-13," Offerman said, and proceeded to do his set with a song. His set included musical numbers and a range of topics, from his relationship with his wife to social media, from talking about his hobbies to poking fun at political figures and anything to do with sex.

"The poster says full bush," Offerman said as he continued with his jokes. The most interesting part of his show that got the crowd's attention was his song about his well-known character, Ron Swanson. Most people only see him as Ron, but it bothers Offerman; hence the song describing how that was just a character, not him.

Audience member Tim Feth thought of the show as "...hilarious, edgy, dirty, and the ode to Ron Swanson was amazing. It's a real reminder that he is a real person." Student Logan DeVries had only good things to say about the show that night. "It was awesome to see how blunt he was and he wasn't afraid to say what he wants to say." He did hint at the crowd's mixed reaction to some of the crudeness of some of his jokes. "I saw his Netflix special, so I was prepared," DeVries said.

While most of the responses were good, there were a few people who did not appreciate the dark jokes that Offerman made. One student was furious about the joke on suicide that was made. The audience all seemed to die down when the dark jokes were told. Forced laughter was in the atmosphere at times.

Another student, Cisco Rojas, was not afraid to talk about his feelings towards the show. "I had no expectations, I just knew he's going to be funny no matter what, but I wasn't laughing throughout the whole thing. Some jokes I didn't get. Then it was like: 'We get it. You do it with your wife,'" Rojas said, in response to the crude humor.

Student Brooklyn Braaten was "Excited as Leslie Knope excited," at the beginning of the show. But after the show, she was just as concerned about the dark jokes as some of the other students were.

As the show ended the audience began to exit out slowly. Some even stayed behind to try to take a sneak picture of Offerman. With that another homecoming performance came to a close and students will now have to wait until next year for the next big performance.
Xander Fu
Staff Writer

I'm not a film critic. Whenever I watch a movie, I always go in with high hopes and usually come out with good feelings. Unlike many film analysts (emphasis on the former syllable), I genuinely like and love most movies. I'm liberal with the amount I'll suspend my disbelief and I place an immense amount of weight on a movie's simple entertainment factor. I know the "Fast and Furious" movies are terrible but if you wouldn't sign up to see Transporter and The Rock throw down in prison, then you might be as good of a time as any to remove the stick. I'll watch old, new, big budget, small budget,arthouse, domestic and foreign films. It is my belief that just about every film has something to appreciate and admire. I just love movies.

That said, thus cannot be the case if you attach two words as grand in scale as "Blade Runner" to the title. In my mind, doing that in 2017 is like naming your firstborn son Leonidas; he's going to have to be pretty great.

"Blade Runner", in my mind, is nothing shy of a masterpiece. It's a relatively linear plot with serious thematic undertakings. The protagonist, Rick Deckard (Harrison Ford), is a "Blade Runner", a special police officer tasked with "retiring" (a sadistic synonym for execution) bad guy "ner", a special police officer tasked with "retir-

- ing" (a sadistic synonym for execution) had guy humanoids known as replicants. The replicants, described as "more human than human" give him doubt about what defines a person and, by extension, the ethicality of the life he lives. It's a twist of the classic noir archetype made popular by famous films of yesteryear such as 1946's "The Big Sleep".

Vangelis's soundtrack is arguably its own character in the film. It's dark, spooky and mechanical while somehow feeling organic, alive and full of personality, which, in a way, describes the driving ethos of the film itself.

From the start of the movie, the viewer is immersed into Ridley Scott's intricately crafted surrealist dreamcape of a setting. Smoke and torrential downpour create drama. The out-

- there architecture and fashion hooks the eye and mind. Upper class areas can be characterized by a warm tone, cleanliness and a predominantly Caucasian population while lower class areas are steely, crime-ridden, grimy and multicultural. It is also worth noting that CGI was not used in the production of this film. Buildings were either constructed in full or as a miniature. Taking this into consideration, Scott's world, though ground-breaking and jaw-dropping to behold, never strays too far from our own reality.

My hopes and expectations regarding its sequel were set very high. But with a new crew (Den- nis Villeneuve replacing Ridley Scott, Johann Johannson, Benjamin Wallfisch and Hans Zimmer replacing Vangelis and Ryan Gosling replacing Harrison Ford), I was met with a fair amount of skepticism.

And then there's the problem with sequels themselves. Sequels… Sequels are like any other movie; they're either a benefit or a hazard. If they're a benefit, it's not my problem.

When made available, the lowest hanging fruit will almost always be the one to grab, especially when tens of millions of dollars are at stake. The issue with that mentality however, is a tenuous result which lacks originality of any sort. This is the truth with most sequels. Put simply, the biggest flaw with them is this: Playing it safe.

I'll give you an example. In the past decade, the Marvel Cinematic Universe has gone down a storm. To their credit, the Marvel guys know what they're doing and have been successful at it. About two movies per year have dropped over that period of time and the money keeps on rolling in. This certainly isn't the case with DC's cinematic universe.

The serial, then, is not an easy thing to produce well, but even Marvel movies suffer from the fatal flaw. When watching the latest Thor or Iron Man movie, there's a voice in the back of my head that constantly reminds me of how much money they're milking from the formula. The formula simply doesn't allow for innovative storytelling or killing off main characters. If nothing is allowed to stop the studios from making money, then there is no risk. Without risk, there is no reward. Contrary to box office numbers, movie-goers notice this lack of consequences in multi-movie go Ethiads. That's why movies like "Logan" and "Deadpool" were so popular. They broke the mold.

Generally speaking, when sequels are good, they're fun cookie-cutter entertainment that leaves us just shy of content. When they're bad, however, they're sad, tragic desperate piles of shit which panders only to the simple minded who focus gure-

- nly on the surface level aspects of its predecessors. I digress…

"Blade Runner 2049" opens in much the same way as the first, with a prologue text and an all seeing eye. Officer K (Ryan Gosling) is a replic-

- ant of a newer generation who works as a Blade Runner, barring many similarities to the original's Deckard: slick, skilled, carrying enough self-loathe to fill a barrel and donning a dope jacket.

After seeing Officer K hold his own in a fistfight with replicant, Sapper Morton (Dave Bautista), my skepticism only grew. It was a cool scene, don't get me wrong, but with a new model replicant as the film's protagonist, the aspect of vulnerability from the first seemed to have been lost. Entering the second act, however, my skepticism was crushed. Crushed—by utter bessmerment. I understood what had been achieved. This is no simple expansion. It's an evolution.

"2049"'s visuals are grander, but that was to be expected. "2049"' action scenes are smooth and put me at the edge of my seat, but that was to be expected. The way "2099" took deep philosoph-

- ical thematic elements from the first and twisted them with such grace and subtlety just as the first did to the noir genre? I certainly couldn't have predicted that. Where the first responds to the question of "what makes a human human?" with the possible answers of love, lifespan and emo-

- tional affection, the sequel goes deeper, both by expanding the concept of love (a scene in the film reminiscent of 2013's "Her" involving AI and a sex worker left me speechless), as well as live birth. The sequel masterfully introduces new heady con-

- cepts while strategically disregarding others.

"2049" is a complex, intrinsic, drop dead gor-

- geous addition to the world of "Blade Runner" and praise can go no higher than that. It is my belief that "2049" will remain isolated from the majority of modern sequels and reboots as they are left to be forgotten…like tears in the rain.
Spanish musician Prego set to perform at CWU

By Tai Jackson
Staff Reporter

CWestern musician Prego will perform Bach's Goldberg Variations at CWU.

It may not seem like the small town of Ellensburg—a place with less than 20,000 people—would be the first choice for international students looking to study abroad, but perhaps that’s part of the charm for those who do choose to come here.

A student in an international program officially comes here to study, but they also come to see America, and Ellensburg is quintessentially American.

The town is encircled by national parks and recreation areas—meaning there are a lot of connections to be made between people that might otherwise never meet.

“My main goal is to foster interactions between domestic students and international students,” said Caoile, program director.

The groups who host the International Cafe hope to create a fun setting to facilitate connections, but they benefit as well. They get an audience they can introduce to their club or their program and they get an opportunity to take on the responsibility of running an event.

“It’s a really good way to get the leadership experience and have some structured support,” Fujita said.

The first International Cafe of the year is being held at noon on Oct. 12. Students are encouraged to bring lunch, though snacks and drinks will be provided.

Meet the world at the International Cafe

By Adam Robertson
Staff Reporter

CWU will be holding a concert of Ignacio Prego performing Bach's Goldberg Variations.

Prego won first prize at the 2012 Westfield International Harpsichord Competition, according to Ignacioprego.com.

The concert will be held on Oct. 17 at CWU’s Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building at 7:30. “To perform Bach’s Goldberg Variations is an incredible feat. It is often played on the modern piano, but to perform them on a period instrument (double-manual harpsichord) is a rare treat,” said CWU Music Department Acting Chair and Professor of Music and Director of Orchestras, Dr. Nicolas Caole.

Prego has played all over the world performing Bach’s Harpsichord Concerto in New York, playing solo in an England recital at St. Martin in the Fields in London and Berkeley, CA, and playing Goldberg Variations. He has had concerts with the Portland Baroque Orchestra where he performed at the Oregon Bach Festival in Seattle.

He also had a concert tour in Japan/Singapore, and a concert at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NY.

“To perform Bach's Goldberg Variations is a popular piece and perhaps made even more popular by pianist Glenn Gould, but rarely ever played in its entirety on harpsichord. Caole is looking forward to coming to CWU to perform this piece to CWU and the Ellensburg community.

Other people around campus are also excited about Prego’s visit.

“This work is one of the most difficult and inspiring pieces in all of music. I am sure that this concert will be memorable,” said CWU Professor of Music Piano, Dr. John Pickett.

Even students who are not music majors have heard about Ignacio Prego coming to CWU.

“I've heard of him before. I was told he's a great musician, especially for his age. It should be interesting to watch him perform,” said Aundrea Preece, senior music major.

Prego's visit is sponsored by a different club, program, class or organization and they all bring their own unique spin to the event. When the tourism and recreation program hosted the event, they set up tables representing different Pacific Northwest attractions and took on a sightseeing tour.

On another occasion the theme was children's stories from around the world.

Dakota McAndie, a physiology major, enjoyed the event.

"I think I've been to every single one," McAndie said.

He has been attending International Cafe’s for the past two years and enjoys getting to meet and make friends with people from different countries and cultures, forging friendships along the way.

One such friend is Yuri Imai, a graduate of the University English as a Second Language (UESL) program from Japan. She appreciated the opportunity that the events gave her.

“When I was a UESL student I didn't have a chance to meet American students. Everyone [in UESL classes] is from... not America,” Imai said.

Friends like the one between Imai and McAndie represent success for the International Cafe.

The holy grail is that some students might make new friends... somebody they maybe never would've had the chance to talk to,” said UESL Director Sherri Fujita.
Michael Cross directs his first feature film

By Ben Ramirez
Senior Reporter

Michael Cross is a young filmmaker born and raised in Ellensburg. His first feature film, “Second Nature” was shown at the Ellensburg Film Festival this past weekend. When he was eight years old, his mother brought home a VHS camcorder. He and his friends spent their time making home movies. “Michael was a very determined and persistent little brother,” Erich Cross, Michael’s older brother, said. “Our first and only project was an “Indiana Jones” based knock off in which we dressed up all of our friends in goofy costumes and chased them around make-shift sets with our mother’s video camera.” “It’s the most collaborative art form there is,” Michael Cross said. Little things can make or break a film. One scene can be shot many different ways and having the lighting or sound mixed slightly off can change that scene entirely. Cross enjoys manipulating all the small aspects of film and making them work in the way he wants them to in order to tell his story.

Cross graduated from the film school at the University of Southern California in 1998. He currently works in Seattle as a director and a producer on film and commercials. He likes that he is able to work on films and commercials as a career but is able to work on his passion projects as well. About eight years ago, Cross came up with a script for a movie that involves an alternate reality where men and women have flipped roles and the two main characters, played by Sam Huntington and Collette Wolfe, struggle to understand this new reality while running opposite each other for mayor. Cross gained funding from private investors and crowdfunding sites such as “gofundme-com” and “kickstarter.com” so that he could begin production on this film which he decided to call, “Second Nature.”

“Cross didn’t have a major studio backing him and the script for “Second Nature” lent itself to a small-town setting, so he decided to return home and shoot his film in Ellensburg. “Ellensburg was perfect,” Cross said.

Cross hired a friend of his, Nick Geyen, to produce the film. Geyen has both directed and produced independent films in the past and met Cross while speaking at a filmmaking forum in Seattle. Geyen was interested in the film and helped guide Cross in the right directions to achieve the intended goals.

“I was in a unique position to help Michael avoid common mistakes that take that first time feature directors are prone to,” Geyen said. “Michael was a great collaborator and would take my suggestions seriously throughout the shoot.”

Cross hired a friend of his, Nick Geyen, to produce the film. Geyen has both directed and produced independent films in the past and met Cross while speaking at a filmmaking forum in Seattle. Geyen was interested in the film and helped guide Cross in the right directions to achieve the intended goals.

“If you think you have some sort of talent, like juggling, a stand-up comic or poetry reader, just go up there and do it,” Wolfe said. There are a solid group of regulars that attend almost every Open Mic night to perform, such as Kyle Davis.

Davis is a senior history major at CWU with a minor in coaching and has been singing at Open Mic for a year. Davis first started performing after losing a bet with a friend, but that led to him coming back every Thursdays to perform.

He likes performing classic, old-school music like Journey. His favorite song to sing is “Don’t Stop Believing”.

“It’s a comfortable venue and we get a lot of new people that I can learn from and gain confidence before they perform. They are always nervous but I just tell them to relax and they will do fine,” Davis said.

The most recent Thursday held a few separate shoot days. Typically, there is a crowd of 150 to 200 audience members.

This time, the balconies were full and no seating space was available on the floor. “Usually we get people stopping in to listen while passing by, or gym members will be leaving the gym and stop and listen for a few songs and head home,” Wolfe said.

The next Open Mic night is on Oct, 26 at 8 p.m. in the SURC Pit.
Wildcats ready for Western rematch

By Anna Eyers
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats will play the Western Oregon (WOU) Wolves on Oct. 14 in Monmouth, Oregon. This will be the second time this season the Wildcats face the Wolves.

The Wildcats will be looking to claim their seventh win for the season. After defeating Humboldt State University on Oct. 7, the Wildcats lead the GNAC with a 4-0 record and have an overall record of 6-0.

Quarterback Jojo Hillel said the team will take note of their strengths and weaknesses from their last game against Humboldt.

“Those guys were a great opponent,” Hillel said. “Now we’ve just got to keep what we have rolling. Our defense were great against a really good offense, so we’re hoping to keep that going into next week.”

Hillel said he wasn’t worried about losing home-field advantage in the game this weekend.

“We’re just going to do what we do,” Hillel said. “The home-field advantage, it plays a small role. We’re just going to play our game and hopefully come out with a win.”

Historically, the Wildcats have fared well against WOU. On Sept. 9, the Wildcats defeated the Wolves 30-23. Similarly, in 2016, the Wildcats came away with two wins, resulting in final scores of 41-20 on Sept. 10 and 35-0 on Oct. 14. We always expect a change-up whenever we’re playing someone twice.

-Relly Hennessey, Captain

To date, the Wildcats and the Wolves have both played Humboldt State University, Azusa Pacific University and Simon Fraser University (SFU). In all three games the Wildcats came away with wins, while the Wolves lost to Humboldt and Azusa.

On Oct. 7, the Wolves defeated SFU in a record-breaking final score of 62-21. The 62 points broke a WOU NCAA DI record, with the previous high a 66-point output back in 2012. CWU performed similarly in their game against SFU, with a final score of 62-0.

The Wildcats will pack their bags and travel to WOU for their game this weekend. Hennessey said he enjoyed the travelling aspect that came with playing inter-collegiate football.

“I love walking into other people’s stadiums and going and playing football as it really isn’t a huge deal to me,” Hennessey said.

“It will be exciting to take a bus trip and go play football again.”

CWU @ WOU

When: Oct. 14
Where: Monmouth, Oregon
Kick-off: 1 p.m.

XC changes course for final meet

By Clayton Huber
Staff Reporter

Normally, at this time CWU would be going to Seattle to compete in the Emerald City Open at one of the tougher courses the runners would face all season. Instead, the Wildcats are heading to Lewiston next weekend, for a change of pace.

CWU is looking to continue their success as they prepare for the GNAC Championships on Oct. 27.

There are only 10 runners who get to compete in the championship, so the rest of the team is focused on their last race of the season at Lewis-Clark State College, finishing strong and ending on a positive note going into the offseason.

CWU was scheduled to compete in the Emerald City Open next weekend, which they have competed in for over four years.

This year they have decided to join the Lewis-Clark State Invitational in Lewiston, Idaho on Oct. 14.

“We’ve been considering for a year or two trying to visit that course and seeing how it goes,” head coach Kevin Adkisson said.

CWU hopes to take advantage of the change of course and are hopeful to finish the weekend with some new personal records for some of these younger runners.

“I think it’s a good chance for some of us who aren’t in the varsity picture yet to increase our confidence so we can get a good time by the end of the season and really build on that going into the track season,” freshman Donovan Barnhart said.

With this event being entailed to mainly underclassmen, CWU is hopeful to see new leaders emerge for next season.

“This season has been positive for the whole team, I think for the top half of the team, they are set to have a really good finish for the year at the GNAC Championships,” Barnhart said.

He went on to say that the underclassmen are also strong additions and replacements for the runners who will be leaving after this season.

The Emerald City Open is known as one of the harder courses that the runners face during the season, which is one incentive for CWU to switch events this year.

We want these people to have a positive experience with that final meet of the year for them just like we want for the rest of the team heading towards championships,” Adkisson said.

Central is coming off a big weekend for the women’s runners earning sixth at the 44th annual Western Washington University Cross Country Classic lead by Sophomore Alexa Shindruk placing 11th overall and Freshman Jackline Knight who finished 39th.

For the Men’s team, they placed seventh in Louisville being led by senior Josh Boston who finished 41st and junior Corbin Carlton crossed the finish line in 62nd place.

Top: Alexa Shindruk runs ahead of a group of WWU women at the WWU Classic.

Bottom: Josh Boston runs alongside a WWU opponent at the WWU Classic.
Crunch time for CWU soccer

By Jack Belcher
Staff Reporter

CWU women’s soccer has to win all seven of their next games if they want to make it to the GNAC tournament, which include two away games against Seattle Pacific University (SPU) on Oct. 12 and Simon Fraser on Oct. 14. CWU’s record is currently 1-3-5 and is ranked six of nine in the GNAC standings.

“It sucks,” head coach Michael Farrand said. “We had a great run last year, and we did some fun things and we have struggled all year long.”

The team has been fighting injuries throughout the year. Last year, goalie Emily Holt played in a lineup where the back line had never changed. This year, she has played every game with a different lineup.

“As a goalkeeper, that is a tough thing. For defense, that’s a tough thing because the rhythm of what we do isn’t quite there,” Farrand said.

Holt said, “We know what we are capable of doing, and we haven’t shown that yet to anybody. We have had a good game setting, and that is the most frustrating part.”

Last season, the team made history by being the first CWU women’s soccer team to make it to NCAA regionals.

“It was pretty great,” Holt said. “I played SPU first round in regionals and knocked them out, going into that game, even though we had lost to them previously, there was no doubt in anyone’s mind that we were going to win.”

Last year, CWU defeated Seattle Pacific 2-1 in the first round of regionals and eliminated them from the tournament. This year was a different story.

“We have seven games left to hang our season on so we need points from all seven games,” Farrand said. “So at this point, I don’t think it really matters if we play Simon Fraser, SPU, or we play Western seven times. For us, our season is these seven games to put us back in the GNAC tournament.”

This doesn’t mean that they aren’t preparing for these away games.

“SPU away is always a great game for us. We have a lot of alumni who support us there, so it’s kinda like a home game for us. It’s a mid-week game against one of our biggest rivals,” Farrand said. “It’s the team that we knocked out of the NCAA’s last year. It’s a big game in itself.”

SPU has a record of 4-1, and they are ranked second in the GNAC standings. CWU plays Simon Fraser on October 14, which has a record of 3-2; they are fifth in the GNAC standings.

CWU plays Simon Fraser on October 14, which has a record of 3-2; they are fifth in the GNAC standings, one game above CWU. CWU has already played Simon Fraser this year and lost 4-2.

“It’s another big game for us. Again, these are teams that are ahead of us that we need to go and get results on,” Farrand said. “I’m not going to say revenge because it doesn’t matter to us. Every game at this point matters. You don’t have to use revenge, you don’t have to use ‘let’s get them back,’ because it doesn’t matter. We have to win every game.”

CWU 55, HSU 27

Above: Junior Dillon Sugg pushes away a defender during Saturday’s homecoming game against HSU and improves to 4-0 in GNAC play. CWU is the last undefeated team in the GNAC as of Saturday.

Athletics Review

Football v. Humboldt
55-27 (6-0)
CWU defeated the Lumberjacks Saturday in front of a homecoming crowd of 6,000. With the win, CWU moves to No. 10 in the AFCA National Poll.

C. C. @ WWU Classic
No. 6 of 12
The women finished sixth lead by Alexa Shindruk with a time of 22:09.1. The men seventh lead by Josh Boston in 33:12.2.

Soccer @ NNU; v. WOU
0-3; 0-2 (0-4-2)
CWU fell to both NNU on Oct. 5 in Idaho and WOU on Oct. 7 at home. Next the Wildcats will face SFU and SPU.

Volleyball v. SPU
3-1 (6-2)
The Wildcats defeated No. 5 Seattle Pacific University on Oct. 7 in Seattle. With the win CWU betters their record to 11-5 (6-2 GNAC) and ranks third in the conference.

W. Rugby v. Quinnipiac
31-22 (2-2)
CWU struck back against NIRA champions Quinnipiac in front of a homecoming crowd.
Mauritson makes a mark at CWU

By Hanson Lee
Staff Reporter

Shelby Mauritson, outside hitter for the CWU volleyball team, began playing volleyball around the age of 10.

“My town wasn’t very big on volleyball, but my dad encouraged me to play, so I ended up trying out for this small club in a town that was about fifteen minutes away,” Mauritson said.

Mauritson went to Madras High School in Oregon where she played volleyball and softball. She considers them a huge part of her life and main focus.

During high school, Mauritson was able to accomplish a lot on the volleyball court.

“I was player of the year for my [softball] league two years in a row and I won first team honors all four years for volleyball,” Mauritson said.

Going into college, Mauritson was recruited for volleyball by CWU, which she said ended up being a great fit for her. Mauritson also mentioned head coach Mario Andaya as one of the reasons that CWU stood out to her during the recruitment process.

“The coaches and the campus itself really opened their arms to me,” Mauritson said. “It felt like [Andaya] taught me a lot more in just one camp than I had been taught my whole life.”

In August, Mauritson became one of the first volleyball players for CWU to ever make First Team All-GNAC in the preseason.

“It was a super good feeling and really gave me confidence going into the season,” Mauritson said. “We’re moving up every day in practice and in every game... we improve on something different.”

Andaya had high praise for Mauritson—particularly her ability to perform during practices and in games.

“It’s always nice to have a talented kid like [Mauritson]. She can do multiple things at a pretty high level,” Andaya said. “It’s really fun and rewarding to work with a kid like that and see the improvements that she can make.”

Teammate Madison Weg spoke of Mauritson’s role both on and off the court.

“I came in with her, so I’ve had the opportunity to grow with her,” Weg said. “On the court, she pushes you to be better and has a lot of intensity... off the court she’s just one of my best friends.”

Mauritson has positively impacted the team’s success, including by leading the team in kills this year. Although this is a personal accomplishment, Mauritson has credited her success towards her teammates, whom she says are the reason she is able to play at such a high level.

“I don’t really look at myself as a statistical leader, but I give more of the credit to my team for putting me in good positions and for having confidence in me,” Mauritson said.

As a junior at CWU, Mauritson hopes that she can continue to improve her game. “I’m super excited because part of me thinks that I haven’t reached my full potential yet,” Mauritson said.

Shelby Mauritson rises towards the ball during a home game on Sept. 28.