He’s out; Sparling’s contract comes to an end

By Hanson Lee and Natalie Hyland
Senior Sports Reporter and Sports Editor

After 29 years, CWU Athletics announced Tuesday that they will not be renewing Men’s Basketball head coach Greg Sparling’s contract following the end of the 2017-18 season.

“After a thorough review of our men’s basketball program, I came to the conclusion that it was in the program’s best interest to go in a different direction,” Francois said in a press release. “Central has a storied basketball program and Greg has certainly been an integral part for the last 29 years as both a player and coach. We greatly appreciate all that Greg has contributed to the program and wish him all the very best in his future endeavors.”

The search for a new coach will begin immediately and there are hopes to name Sparling’s successor by April, according to Francois. In the meantime, day-to-day operations will be overseen by assistant coach Drew Harris, who says he was blindsided by the news.

“We are all pretty shocked that his contract wasn’t being renewed,” Harris said. “I didn’t see this coming after making it to the GNAC tournament.”

Harris joined the Wildcats coaching staff at the start of the 2013-14 season, but had also previously played with the team during the 2010-11 season.

“I’m thankful for him giving me the opportunity to coach and for trusting me,” Harris said. “I appreciate everything he did for Central basketball.”

The Wildcats fell in the first round of the tournament to Saint Martin’s University 87-84 in overtime. Some players speculate if they had advanced, Sparling’s contract might have been renewed.

“Who knows,” Shabazz said. “I do think if we would’ve even made it to semis or made it to championships or won the championship, it probably would’ve helped the situation.”

The Wildcats have made it to the GNAC tournament numerous times, but haven’t made it past the first round of the GNAC tournament since the 2012-13 season.

Harris said that this past season was an especially difficult year for the Wildcats with all of the injuries that occurred on the team.

- See “Sparling” page 11

Track runs straight to nationals

By Simo Rul
Staff Reporter

The CWU track and field team wrapped up their indoor season by sending five athletes to represent the Wildcats at the NCAA D-II Indoor Championships March 9 and 10 in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Leading the athletes going to nationals are seniors Ali Anderson, Harlee Ortega and Kodiak Landis. Also making the trip are sophomore Halle Irvine and junior Mariyah Vongsaveng.

Anderson will compete in the 400-meter dash and the pentathlon along with Ortega. Vongsaveng will compete in the 60-meter hurdles. Irvine is representing in the pole vault and Landis will be involved in the men’s heptathlon.

- See “Track” page 12
CWU's College of Business is putting on an event called the Cannabis Caucus on April 27th, a first for CWU.

This new industry is projected to top $20.2 billion in sales and create new businesses. The difficulty that these businesses face are the laws and regulations like any other business that we must follow. The conversation about the marijuana industry continues to be controversial amongst people. The intent of this conference is to broaden community knowledge of the trends, challenges and opportunities in the Pacific Northwest cannabis industry.

The conference will be held on April 27 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Sue Lombard Hall. Registration is free for students and $25 for non-students. There will be limited space and registration must be done in advance.

By Observer Staff

CWU's College of Business' Economics department will put on an event called the Cannabis Caucus on April 27, which will be the Washington state’s first economic outlook conference dedicated to the newly flourishing industry.

In 2016, the marijuana industry generated $6.7 billion in sales, according to Forbes. This new industry is projected to top $20.2 billion in sales in the United States by 2021. The marijuana industry is unfamiliar to people because not many people are educated about the industry and most already have their opinions on the drug itself. In Washington state, strict laws are put on marijuana businesses. The difficulty that these businesses face are the assumptions that dispensaries simply get a business license and begin to sell pot.

“The marijuana industry is like any other business,” Cory Wendt, co-owner and operations manager of the Happy Crop Shoppe, said. “Our business has laws and regulations like any other business that we must follow and practice regular day-to-day operations.”

In regards to the industry and college students, Wendt says that how the alcohol industry works is similar to the marijuana industry. Beer and wine majors and minors are becoming popular at universities and Wendt claims that the future will include marijuana programs with fresh minds to expand the industry.

The University of Washington offers a class on medicinal cannabis and chronic pain. Accredited universities such as University of Vermont and Ohio State University also offer courses within the science of marijuana and legal issues that surround it.

The marijuana industry is on the rise in the state of Washington, and has set an exemplary model that California has made efforts to follow. Although Washington has more strict laws and regulations in comparison to Colorado and Oregon, the state has created more opportunities for small business owners rather than monopolies.

ATTENTION ALL WILDCATS! This is the last issue of the quarter for the Observer. I know it is very sad but I am sure you will get through the next week without us. Winter quarter has been crazy for us and I am sure for you as well. We saw an opinion on the cover, a huge investigation on a double truck and many other entertaining and newsy stories.

I know that I did a little promo for something last week but I really want to take a second and promote YOUR campus newspaper: The Observer. The paper that sits on those blue newsstands across campus and puts out social media posts about the stories we write each week. If you are reading this deck, then you are awesome! But there is so much more that you can do to help us out. Sharing stories on social media, picking up papers and going to the website are all great ways to help us get out around campus and to even more people. If you really want to get involved you should consider joining our staff. Now, you may be thinking, “well, I am not very good at writing.” To that I say, HA! We will teach you how to become a better writer, which will give you experience writing something other than papers (also if you are a creative writing major I am pretty sure you can use this as a practicum credit). If you really don’t like writing, there are still opportunities for you here at the Observer. We have photographers, copy editors (perfect for people who love to correct grammar) and we are looking for a graphic designer to help design our website (that two page spread in the middle of the paper).

Being a part of a newspaper is a great experience. Sure it is stressful at times but you learn so much from it and come out knowing more about the industry than when you started. This issue is going to be my last as the Editor in Chief of the Observer, but the relationships that I have made throughout my time here at the paper have been awesome. I have made so many good friends and met tons of new and interesting people from all over campus. Being a part of the paper is more than just writing stories and interviewing sources, it is also about making friends (as cheesy as that sounds).

And if that is not enough to convince you to join, we are also an award winning paper. After this last conference we won fifth place in best in show and third place for small school website. In the past we have won first place in best in show several times along with many other awards. We take pride in our work and we strive to make sure that we are putting out a first place quality paper.

There is no prerequisite to join the Observer and you don’t have to be a journalism (or even a communications) major to join. If you take this class you can get one to three credits and the course number is COM 486. Whether you have no experience or a ton of experience, I would urge you to try us out just for a quarter. There is always room for people to join and we will welcome everyone!

Have a great spring break everyone! Make good choices! And we will see you in a few weeks!

Signed, Sarah J. Hoot
Editor in Chief
**News**

**By Rosane**

President James Gaudino reported that by the end of next year, the Responsibility-Centered Management (RCM) budget model will turn a profit.

According to the Vice President of Business and Academic Affairs, Joel Klucking, the collective colleges are projected to be under budget by around $1.5 million by the end of the year. The president also stated that with the addition of local funds being under, colleges should expect a $3.6 million carryover for next year.

RCM was implemented as CWU’s new budgeting model last summer. The model distributes funds at the college level rather than the department level. The model was met with disagreement by the faculty in a survey last spring before its implementation. In the survey, which surveyed over 200 faculty, a majority of faculty expressed concerns with the discussion, implementation process and transparency of the transition.

All the colleges are currently projected to come in at or under budget for the upcoming year under budget. The College of Arts and Humanities, and College of Business are projected to be under budget by around $50,000 while the College of Education and Professional Studies, and College of the Sciences are projected to be under budget by around $240,000.

This means that, collectively, the colleges could come in at or under $596,000. Klucking also stated that about $150,000 of the academic support is projected to go back into funding next year.

At the beginning of the meeting, Gaudino laid out the reason for the continuation of the budgeting town hall meetings, citing a broader image than just sustainability. He said that decreasing amount of allocated state and federal funds has justified the new “business-like” model.

“There is not a one-size fits all. What works for the University of Illinois doesn’t necessarily work for Harvard, it doesn’t necessarily work at Central Washington University.” Gaudino said. “We need to modify, over time, activity-based budgeting and RCM to fit the specifics of CWU.”

Gaudino said that there wasn’t enough money on the federal government to fund higher education anymore.

“It’s not the picture that it was 10 years ago,” Gaudino said. “The willingness of both the federal government and the state government to fund higher education may not have diminished, but their ability has absolutely diminished. It’s just not there anymore.”

Gaudino also acknowledged the immaturity of the budgeting model and said that it will take two or three years to have the budget properly adjusted to the specificities of CWU.

“Someone asked me what the bumper sticker would be. If we were to make a bumper sticker, it would be ‘innovate or die,’” Gaudino said. “That’s really what it boils down to. We have to innovate or we do not have a sustainable model.”

Klucking also gave an update on the fiscal year budget. He said that they were on schedule to get approval from the Budget Executive Committee in March and then get it approved by May.

**By Belcher**

By Mela Daily

By Jack Belcher

News Editor

Musician and Grammy-nominated artist Mela Daily will be at CWU on March 15 for a concert titled, “An Evening of Music from Around the World.” The proceeds of this concert is to raise $5,000 for the immigration law center. Tickets will be sold for $35 for general admission, while CWU students will only have to pay $25.

JFON is an organization from the United Methodist Church and works on providing legal advice to immigrants. JFON was established in 1999 and now has 18 sites that support over 50 clinics. This chapter that is being brought to Ellensburg will be the first site in Washington State.

JFON is being brought to Ellensburg through Jen Stuart, pastor at the Ellensburg United Methodist Church, who, in her own words, is “the instigator and head cheerleader” of the process.

Stuart was a key figure in bringing Mela Daily to CWU to play a concert, which will help fund the Ellensburg chapter of JFON.

Stuart met Daily when they started a church together back in Texas. “The focus of this church was to bring the high arts to the public, according to Stuart.

Stuart first heard of JFON from friends in her hometown of Austin, Texas. She decided to bring a chapter of JFON to Ellensburg after consulting with community members. She said that since then, the idea is getting a lot of support and interest from community members.

“We’re excited to be doing something solid to help people in our community who often not in the headlines, who stay in the shadows because of their status,” Stuart said. “Our hope is that our entire community can come together to help people in need.”

CWU Professor Chuck Reasons is one of the community members that is in support of the JFON program. Reasons is a professor of CWU’s law and justice department, and is currently a volunteer who is also chair of the board for Central Washington JFON.

Reasons said that he didn’t know Stuart before them, but he volunteered and was eventually made chair of the board, which is made of community and university members.

The board has been working since last summer to prepare the clinic that will be located at the United Methodist Church in Ellensburg, which should be ready by April.

“Our goal is to provide either free or inexpensive immigration law counseling. We have no such service right now in the Ellensburg or Kittitas County area for immigration law, and there is a real need for it,” Reasons said.

According to Reasons, JFON has been able to get volunteer immigration lawyers to come to Ellensburg for one day a month to help residents. These lawyers, who will be coming from outside of Ellensburg, will be working for free or lower rates, which will provide people with the legal services that they need.

“If things work out in the next year or two, we would like to hire a full-time attorney,” Reasons said. “Some of the other JFONs in the Midwest and East Coast have full time attorneys.”

Reasons said the program in Ellensburg is just getting started and growing fast. Services in this clinic will be provided in both English and Spanish. There will be plenty of rooms for attorneys to work with their clients.
DACA protesters spread their wings

By Xander Fu
Staff Reporter

Bold black and orange wings were worn on the backs of nine students. Chants promoting a DREAM Act reverberated through the SURC, turning the heads of lunchtime occupants.

Last Monday a demonstration emerged in the crowded SURC. It is the fourth protest this year in a DACA series by Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx de Aztlán (MECha). They began on the SURC’s upper level and made their way down to the main floor, where they spent the remainder of the hour chanting.

Butterfly wings made of painted cardboard cutouts added something new to the series of DACA demonstrations put on by MECha at noon last Monday, March 6. Lilian Fausto, junior law and justice and sociology double major, who led the demonstration, explained this theatrical element.

Monarch butterflies symbolize migration, according to Fausto. “They bring beauty as well as the spreading of nature…[they bring] culture and bring life and help proper in the works that they do,” Fausto said.

For many, the issue goes far beyond symbolism and bright colors. Fausto herself elaborated on her family’s situation. Decades ago, her mother and aunt, neither of them older than 18 at the time, escaped the conflicts in El Salvador by entering the States, according to Fausto. Her mother has since obtained documentation. However, Fausto’s step father is currently on temporary protected status (TPS) and is not a citizen.

Bryan Cadena, an undocumented student at CWU, immigrated to the U.S. illegally in 2003 from Guerrero, Mexico. He graduated high school and maintained an appreciation and drive for education. Although being undocumented disqualified him from federal financial aid, he said he was thankful for the Real Hope Act of Washington State because it allowed him to apply for state financial aid and come to college. Cadena considers himself to be in a better position than his younger cousins. They will need a DREAM Act to continue their education, he said.

“We should not be trapped behind doors when we, as Americans, are destined to flourish,” Cadena said.
Bateman Team works to fight childhood cancer

Isabelle Hautefeuille  
Staff Reporters

The CWU Bateman team is in the process of finishing a fundraiser with Kittitas Valley Hospital and the Ellensburg community to help fight pediatric cancer. CWU Bateman is also working with one of four treatment facilities for pediatric cancer.

The Bateman competition is a nationwide Public Relations Student Society of America competition. Four students: Leanne Freaker, Mckenna Lautenbach, Beau Kelderhouse and Tanner Kovacevitch are apart of the CWU Bateman team.

For the 2018 campaign, students were required to develop a campaign on behalf of “With Purpose,” a movement dedicated to making sure kids with cancer have access to safe and effective treatment options.

The achievement of their project takes the form of several events which were organized from Feb. 15 to March 15. During those events, they spread the word of “With Purpose.”

One of the events was the CWU Women’s Basketball game on Feb. 24. The students set up a stand and talked to people about pediatric cancer. They were also selling pizza for the organization.

On March 2, the Bateman team was at Gallery One in an event incorporating kids, who are first concerned by their subject. On the wall behind them, student drawings from one of the Ellensburg elementary school were displayed.

“We asked them the question: what does cancer mean to you?” Kelderhouse said. “We wanted to really reach out to kids.”

Dave Carns, a teacher in construction management at CWU, was in Gallery One this Friday and talked with the group. He liked how the CWU Bateman team sought to involve the kids in the presentation to the public.

“It’s been super fun, crazy, hard, all of these different things. It was a real great opportunity and a real public relation experience on a small scale.”

-Leanne Freaker, CWU Bateman Team

“Coming from fourth grade students, it will have a lot of impact because they are very honest,” Carns said.

Many schools and colleges in the United States compete against each other, working with the same client. They have to find original ideas which sometimes end in a dead end. “It’s challenging and time consuming,” Lautenbach said.

Seeing the end of their project, the Bateman team is drawing the assessment up.

“It’s been super fun, crazy, hard, all of these different things. It was a real great opportunity, and a real public relation experience on a smaller scale. I can really feel that that is how the real world will be like,” Freaker said.

Join CWU’s Wildcat Battalion Army ROTC! Call (509) 963-3518 or e-mail armyrotc@cwu.edu. Stop by Lind Hall, Room 220 for more information. To get started, visit goarmy.com/rotc/ku94
"A scale does not define you" was one of the many comments written on a scale that was destroyed by students who swung heavy sledgehammers and wore safety glasses.

Last week, the Wellness Center hosted the National Eating Disorder Awareness (NEDA) Week to educate students on eating disorders and how to combat them. The week-long event also spread awareness of resources available on and off campus and also tried to help students get rid of bad self-images of their bodies.

On the SURC West Patio, a table held a variety of sledge hammers, safety glasses, rainbow sharpies and one of the 15 scales that were available to smash. Students passing by approached the table and wrote statements like "My weight doesn’t define me," and "[the] scale doesn’t define you" on the scale.

Senior and cultural anthropology and Spanish major Samantha Thurston is a health education, positive body and nutrition exercise intern at the Wellness Center and helped put the event together.

Thurston said this year is the third annual Smash the Scale and was inspired by Southern Smash, a nonprofit organization that challenges people to redefine their beauty and worth by letting go of their poor body image and the negative self-talk that has become a cultural norm.

Southern Smash tries to educate people about the dangers of eating disorders, but also aims to empower individuals through smashing scales so that they can learn to celebrate and embrace their own body and beauty.

McCall Dempsey is the executive director and founder of the nonprofit organization. Dempsey suffered from an eating disorder for years, and according to her website, felt that during this time, the “scale and the size of my jeans dictated my day, my mood and my life.” Her health deteriorated quickly, both physically and mentally, and when she hit rock bottom, she entered the Carolina House Eating Disorder Treatment Center.

“The Carolina House did not save my life,” Dempsey said on the website. “They gave me so much more—they gave me tools and showed me how to save my own life.”

Thurston said there’s a stigma associated with weight and that she wanted students to feel empowered and not chained by the scale.

“People that are passing by can write something negative or positive on the scale,” Thurston said. “Then they have the option of smashing the heck out of it, and it’s fun to watch.”

On another table, a sign asked students “What would you say to the scale, family, the media and yourself?” Some answers were “My goal is healthy, not a #,” “If I’m happy, why is my body any of your concern?” and “I love myself! No scale can do that!”

The table was run by two volunteers: senior nutrition major Emily Imbery and junior nutrition major Cheyanne Kinney.

Their professor asked their nutrition class if anyone wanted to volunteer to help out the Wellness Center with NEDA events, so they signed up to help.

“Eating disorders are pretty common,” Imbery said. “I wanted to help and get the word out that there are resources available.”

Kinney said there’s a stigma on what foods people can or cannot eat. If people want to eat sweets and carbs, then they should eat those if they want to. Otherwise, people are drawn to unsafe eating habits and diets that may cause harm to the person.
“It’s all about safe eating,” Kinney said. “There’s also balance people need to consider. You can eat carbs and sugars, but eat some veggies too.”

A resource table was also available to students. The table contained information about the signs and symptoms of eating disorders, useful eating disorders screening questions, how to help a friend with eating and body image issues and recognizing the warning signs for students with eating disorders.

The Wellness Center also provided contact information for the CWU Student Medical and Counseling Clinic, Eating Recovery Center website and NEDA text, chat and helpline.

Sophomore and computer design production major Bethany Burtom grabbed a blue sharpie and wrote a comment on the scale. Thurston approached Burtom and asked if she wanted to take a swing at the scale, and she jumped at the chance. She smacked the scale again and again.

Burtom had just got out of class and was heading home when she walked by the event and was interested to know what was happening because of all the sledge hammers she saw on the table.

“I’ve always struggled with body confidence and not too long ago I overcame my eating disorder,” Burtom said.

She became anorexic and bulimic at the age of 14. It wasn’t until her parents discovered that she was sick that she reached out for help.

“I didn’t feel like I had control of anything, and I had always wanted to be thinner,” Burtom said. “Food was the one thing I could control.”

She suffered from her eating disorders for about two years until she was able to overcome them and is much happier now with who she is.

“Smashing the scale felt so empowering,” Burtom said. “I’m worth more than what the scale tells me.”

Eating Disorder Statistics

• More than 30 million people in the U.S. will suffer from an eating disorder

• The majority of eating disorders begin between the ages of 18 and 25.

• Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any mental illness.

• About 35 percent of binge eating disorder patients and 30 percent of bulimia patients are medically obese.

• Over 70 percent will not seek treatment due to misconceptions, stigma, lack of education, diagnosis and access to care.

For help contact:

CWU Student Medical and Counseling Clinic
• Medical appointments 509.963.1881
• Counseling appointment 509.963.1391

• The National Eating Disorder Helpline toll free 800.931.2237

• Chat at nationaleatingdisorders.org or text NEDA to 741741

Photos by Jack Lambert
**Future of sex?**

By  
**Henry Crumblish**  
Staff Reporter

Sex is a connection between two souls. The intimate exchange between two beings is the pinnacle of closeness. For millennia, sex has only been possible when you have two human beings, however, in 2018 with technology shattering ideas of impossibilities, human beings will soon have the option to formulate with robots.

Several companies such as RealDoll are using science and robotics to make subservient sex slaves which will enact any and every sexual fantasy of its owner. These robots are also working on male versions equipped with British accents, six pack abs and bionic penises.

These dolls are the evolution of blow-up dolls, the gross latex sex toys with goofy eyes and gaping fish mouths. I would have hoped that as a society we would have collectively shamed these monstrosities into extinction.

In today's sex-crazed social climate, you can take sexual deviancy a step further by adding electricity and realistic human features. Sex is nothing to be ashamed of, but there are limits that we as a species should respect.

These dolls are enabling the destruction of intimacy between humans. Sex and emotional pleasure is important for the development of human relationships.

Some of these robots will even come with a rape mode so owners will be able to live out rape fantasies. This is deplorable and far beyond the realm of normal human behavior.

It could be argued that rapists can satisfy their disgusting urges with these robots, but it could be argued that creators of these robots encouraging harmful sexual behavior towards women. In effect normalizing rape?

The problem with these sex robots is we are flying too close to the sun. Just because we have the technology to do something doesn't mean we should. Humanity has to place a boundary somewhere.

Sex with souls, lifes-like automation is not right. If I were to buy two sex robots and have a champagne and circuitry-filled threesome, am I cheating on my girlfriend? Or is this simply masturbation?

For the men reading this, you be okay if you came home to find your partner being split in half by an unstoppable bionic penis? I am all for being open-minded and exploring one's desires and wants in the bedroom, but focusing any more time, effort and resources on robot companionship will lead humanity down a dark path.

These dolls are already on the market and will undoubtedly get more advanced as demand and intrigue increases.

People have the freedom to do whatever they want in the privacy of their own homes, but an abomination is an abomination. 

Humanity will eventually learn the danger of competing with robots. We may finally kill or redefine what it means to be human by creating sexual objects made for our pleasure.

**Student First Amendment rights protected**

“Press Rights” from page 1

To refresh, this bill makes prior review, where administrators have the right to look over student media before it is distributed, illegal. This bill continues to have a huge impact on my life. Because Auburn High School (AHS), the high school I attended, did not enforce a prior review policy, I was able to grow into a young journalist with a bold understanding of the first amendment rights and rules.

Why am I so passionate about this bill if I have never worked under a prior review policy? I knew how much of an advantage I had over those who worked under a prior review environment. I was able to practice real-world journalism throughout all of high school: my content was never censored. The bill that ended up becoming so involved with the bill is my high school journalism adviser.

Thomas Kaup has been advising newspaper since 1996 and has advised both middle school and high school in Nebraska and Iowa, private and public, and has been advising newspaper and yearbook at AHS since 2012.

His enthusiasm for press rights and free speech wore off on me and motivated me to stand up for student journalists of the past, present, and future.

After Sen. Joe Fain visited AHS to have lunch and visit with students in journalism classes, Fain ended up becoming the main sponsor for the bill. Without the efforts of Kaup inviting Fain to AHS, the House's decision made on March 2 wouldn't have become a reality.

The bill was passed when I was in attendance of the Associated Collegiate Press national journalism conference in Long Beach, California. I was able to huddle around a laptop with the New Voices representatives and listen to the bill be passed.

The New Voices representatives are in favor of the bill and are a support system for student press rights around the country. I’ll never forget hearing that the bill had passed with such a majority, I can’t lie and say that tears were present.

This has been a humbling experience and it’s hard to believe that it’s actually coming to an end. Thank you again to Kaup and Fain, who fought long and hard for student journalists’ rights.
Scene
Editor: Daisy Perez | scene@cwuobserver.com

Professors to perform at concert

According to Burckhardt, “Blue Cathedral” is an orchestral composition by the American composer Jennifer Higdon. The work was commissioned by the Curtis Institute of Music in 1999 to commemorate the conservatory’s 75th anniversary. “Pictures at an Exhibition” was composed in 1874 specifically for piano by Russian composer Modest Mussorgsky. This piece is Mussorgsky’s most famous piano composition.

“Concerto for Violin” will be performed by Carrie Rehkopf Michel and John Michel, who are married. Carrie is a violin professor and has been teaching at CWU since 1990. Some of her former students play in various orchestras and have also received outstanding teacher awards in higher education, public schools and private studios. In the past, Carrie has given concerto performances with the Everett, Olympia, Wenatchee, Yakima, Southwest Washington and Lake Sammamish Symphonies as well as with several youth orchestras. John is in his 27th year as cello professor at CWU. John and Carrie have performed Brahms Double and Beethoven Triple Concertos. Recently, collaborations included Lawrence Golan and the Yakima Symphony; David Walton and the Rainier Symphony; R. Joseph Scott and the Sammamish Symphony; Paul Elliott-Cobbs and the Everett Symphony.

“It is really neat to have Carrie and John [as] a part of the music department at CWU,” junior music education major Henry Sparks said. “They have great energy and know what they are doing when it comes to performing.” When it comes to double series concerts, John has performed all of the six Bach Cello Suites from memory, and regularly appears in the Seattle Bach Suite Marathon. “John and Carrie have many years of experience performing, therefore they will put on a great show,” Sparks said. It is not every day that you see professors perform at CWU events. This has been a talked about event since the music department calendar was posted back in August.

“If you’ve never been to a symphony, this is a perfect opportunity especially before finals week,” junior education major Spencer Manning said. “Usually people go to symphonies to enjoy relaxing music so take a study break and check it out while you can.”

The winter concert will kick off for finals week. Professors will perform symphonies with the orchestra like “Blue Cathedral.”

Orchestra

When: March 11
Where: McIntyre Building
Time: 4 p.m.
Cost: General Admission $12 or $7 for students/seniors/alumni at the door or online
tickets.vendini.com

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Loud sexual sounds can be heard from within Dr. Givings' office. Mrs. Givings presses her ear up to the door and listens; she's confused and disgusted. Her husband is treating someone for hysteria.

Emily Rollie is an assistant professor in the CWU theatre department and director of "In the Next Room," also known as the "Vibrator Play." The play gives comedic yet emotional insight into how we bond as people.

She said this is particularly important in our culture now where people use technology and are obsessed with their phones.

The play was written by Sarah Ruh, who Rollie said has developed into an outstanding American playwright in the last 15 years. The play takes place in the mid-to-late 1880s and is set in upstate New York near Saratoga Springs, a historical spot known for its alleged healing mineral waters.

The play looks at the historical practice of curing women with hysteria using vibrators.

Noah Dominick, theatre major, plays the character of Dr. Givings, a doctor who treats any woman who comes into his office. Dr. Givings goes over symptoms with his patients and then diagnoses them with hysteria.

Dominick said that during this time period, many husbands would take their wives into offices like these because they thought the women were behaving illogically, when in their reality, the women were only annoyed or unfulfilled sexually.

Hysteria was actually a real medical diagnosis that lasted until the 1950s. Rollie said hysteria was an illness used for many broad symptoms.

"It could be someone was feeling slightly depressed and they could be, 'oh you have hysteria,'" Rollie said.

"Postpartum depression, they didn’t know what that was early on, so that was lumped into hysteria."

A total of seven people play characters in the show. This number doesn’t include all of those who are involved behind the scenes.

Dominick said working with a smaller group is enjoyable because you create enhanced connections with different actors and people.

Cameron Houg, assistant director of “In the Next Room,” said during his first read of the play that it was nice to see how the show deals with human connection in a truthful manner. The play handles many vital messages while keeping it fun with humor that’s absurd and enjoyable. He said it’s fun to mess around with the ridiculous comedy and the play has many messages to tell.

"Because comedy without a message is just jokes," Doug said.
CWU ready for home opener

By Clayton Huber
Staff Reporter

CWU Baseball will play their first regular season games at home against Concordia University March 10 and 11 after returning from Nampa, Idaho. They opened the regular season against Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) March 3 and 5, coming away with a 4-6 record.

The Wildcats started their preseason Feb. 2 and finished on Feb. 17 with a 5-5 record. CWU’s regular season began on March 3 against NNU after a two week break.

Senior pitcher Mackenzie Gaul believes that even though the team won half of their preseason games, there is still plenty to be done. “We all know we can do better and watch us play,” Gaul said.

“We can pitch better, including myself,” Gaul said. “We can hit better and field better. When we are able to do all of those things, we’re going to be a dangerous team.”

During the preseason, many underclassmen and new players found themselves getting more play time than they normally would. A normal lineup includes nine players, but the Wildcats have given 17 different players a chance to make a statement at the plate.

“The preseason is all about figuring out who can step up, who is going to fight their way into the lineup and who is going to do whatever they can to help out the team,” head coach Desi Storey said. “There is a role for everyone on this team and we need everyone to contribute if we want to win a lot of ball games.”

Senior outfielder James Smith III is already off to a strong start, hitting .360 with six doubles and one triple. Smith started every game last year, hitting .286 and only had nine doubles all year.

“It feels good to get off to a hot start,” Smith said. “I am seeing the ball really well and have a lot of confidence at the plate right now. I’m really excited to get this season underway and hopefully stay hot.”

Smith is among the 12 seniors that will be leaving the team after this year. He hopes to leave the Wildcats in a good place during his final year.

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The best I could do is kind of pick his mind, try to take from him and add to what I already know and what I'm already capable of and just build off of that. Shabazz's experience this year will be tremendously helpful for the remainder of his time at CWU. Bryant is confident in the team going forward with players such as Shabazz and Montoya leading the team in the coming seasons.

“I feel like the young guys are pretty experienced,” Bryant said. “They going to be good next year.”

According to assistant coach Drew Harris, the ultimate goal for the team is to win the GNAC championship. Montoya will be a senior next season after transferring from Seattle University prior to this season.

“We can build by trying to just learn from our mistakes and just try to get better,” Montoya said. “Become better teammates, better players, coaches and just everything in general.”

For Bryant, his last season at CWU ended just short of the team goal. The team hopes that Bryant will take away from this season and his time overall on the team and the relationships he has developed.

“I think this last year went pretty well. I think it was my most fulfilling season,” Bryant said. “You create bonds and friendships for a lifetime.”