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The Observer

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The Observer

By the students

For the students

Vol. 113 NO. 1 | April 4 - April 10, 2019



cwuobserver.com | [@CWUObserver](https://twitter.com/CWUObserver)



Manweller settles for \$155K

Mariah Valles
Editor-in-Chief

Matt Manweller, former CWU professor and state representative, settled a wrongful termination lawsuit against CWU for \$155,000 on March 28. An order of dismissal with two stipulations was placed in the Kittitas County Superior Court. Originally, Manweller sought more than \$2 million.

According to Kremiere Jackson, vice president of public affairs in a statement made on April 3, the settlement included two non-negotiable stipulations made by the university. First, that Manweller agreed to not challenge his termination for cause from CWU in any forum. Second, that Manweller agreed to not be employed by the state of Washington in any capacity at any time.

The Northwest News Network (NNN) broke the news about this settlement on April 2.

In September 2018, The Observer reported that in August 2018, CWU concluded a nearly yearlong investigation into allegations by former female students of Manweller's of inappropriate behavior. At the end of the inves-

11 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that the Plaintiff,
12 **Mathew Manweller**, shall have judgment against the Defendant for the total sum of One Hundred
13 **Fifty-Five Thousand and No/100 Dollars (\$155,000.00)**. Additionally, any liens, subrogated
14 **interests, or outstanding medical bills of which Plaintiff's counsel has actual or constructive**
15 **notice prior to court approval of this settlement shall be resolved out of these gross amounts, and**
16 **Defendant shall have no liability for any such liens, interest, or bills.**
17
18 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that neither party shall
19 **recover against any other party their respective taxable costs, including statutory attorney and**
20 **expert witness fees under RCW 4.84.010, nor interest herein.**
21
22 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED** that consistent with the
23 **provisions of RCW 4.92.160:**

Link to document: bit.ly/2OJt3qy

The court judgment was made available by the Northwest News Network on document cloud on April 2.

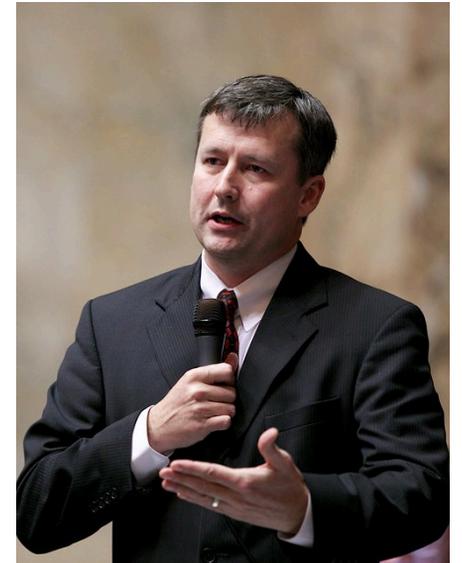
tigation, CWU terminated Manweller's employment. The termination took place immediately.

Manweller denied the allegations. He then filed a lawsuit against CWU for wrongful termination.

CWU previously investigated Manweller in both 2012 and 2013, but

neither investigations resulted in substantiated allegations or discipline. Manweller was later promoted and CWU paid his attorney's fees related to the earlier investigations.

Jackson said in the statement that CWU's motivation for accepting the settlement offer was to protect the privacy



Washington State House Republicans
[TINYURL.COM/YC7CQC2W](https://www.tinyurl.com/YC7CQC2W)

of the students and supporting witnesses.

"We did not want our students to have to relive their experiences through pre-trial depositions and trial testimony," Jackson said in the statement.

The court decided CWU and Manweller would pay for their own respective attorney and expert witness fees.

Candidates for ASCWU introduce themselves at club senate meeting

Jack Belcher
News Editor

ASCWU candidates introduced themselves and their platforms to students at the CWU Club Senate Meeting on Wednesday March 27. There are currently six open positions on ASCWU: President, VP of clubs and organizations (Ashley Klippert is running unopposed), VP of academic affairs (Nicholas Mejia is running unopposed), VP for legislative affairs (Zackary Turner is running unopposed), VP of equity and community affairs and VP of student life and facilities (both of which have no current candidates).

While there are four candidates running for ASCWU President, every other position is running unopposed, except for VP of equity and community affairs and the VP of student life and facilities, where there are currently no candidates.

The candidates that are running for student president are Brendan Dolleman, Dominic Choi, Jasmin Washington and Alejandro Alcantar.

Continued on Page 3

Support shown for fallen Deputy Ryan Thompson on March 28



Shawna Hettick/The Observer

Students from Valley View Elementary stood silently on the sidewalks as the procession for Deputy Ryan Thompson passed by. Many students held American flags.

Nick Tucker
Senior News Reporter

Hundreds of people from around the country and beyond came to Ellensburg March 28 to celebrate the life and support the family of one of their own. Deputy Ryan Thompson of the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office was killed in a shootout with a suspect on March 19. Thompson graduated from CWU in 2003 where on Thursday his memorial service was attended by over 2,500 people.

Hundreds of police vehicles from across the country participated in the procession that left Steward and Williams Funeral Home in downtown Ellensburg at 12:20 p.m. It then made its way under an American flag held aloft by two Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue trucks, and arrived at Nicholson Pavilion where officers and civilians were lined up along the sidewalk to pay their respects. Police officers from Seattle and Spokane to New York, Dallas and British Columbia all saluted one of their fallen brothers silently.

Continued on Page 8

Editor: Jack Belcher

ASCWU warns about Patriot Prayer



Ben Wheeler/The Observer

ASCWU has an open public meeting in the SURC Pit every Monday.

Ben Wheeler

Online and Social Media Manager

A warning about an Ellensburg and CWU campus visit by the controversial group Patriot Prayer later this weekend (Friday and Saturday) was issued by the ASCWU Student Government during their April 1 public meeting. Topics discussed also included announcements of several events and the approval of the new Student Academic Senate constitution.

Patriot Prayer

ASCWU President Edith Rojas announced the expected presence of the group, identified as Patriot Prayer later in the meetings, during her official report.

"They just have a history of being provoking and having negativity associated with them," Rojas said.

Rojas recommended that students and others on campus avoid the group

and not pay them any attention. She advised students to take in the weekend by engaging in Wildcat Day on Saturday or in other activities that allow them to take in what is expected to be beautiful weather.

ASCWU Clubs and Organizations VP Bailey Kinker said it is expected that Patriot Prayer will be demonstrating outside The Tav at night during their Ellensburg stay, as well as participating in a night march. Kinker advised that students who are easily provoked may want to avoid the area while the group is in town. Kinker said the group's demonstrations will be concerning second amendment rights.

Just before the conclusion of the meeting, S&A Parliamentarian Eric Bennett reminded students to not engage the group, as well to understand the group is being allowed to demonstrate in the area.

"This is a free speech place," Bennett

said. "They have a right to come here, as long as they're following the rules of the campus."

Student Academic Senate Constitution

ASCWU also voted to approve a new Student Academic Senate (SAS) Constitution and new bylaws during the April 1 meeting. This constitution and the new bylaws are to be shorter and more concise, according to Nancy Montiel, assistant to and speaking on behalf of Claire-Ann Grepo, VP of academic affairs.

Bennett said the old constitution and bylaws were long, so it was decided to remove redundant language through the implementation of the new constitution. Also changed was how senators are elected to the Club Senate. Usually clubs or organizations (those recognized by ASCWU) elect a senator from each club to the senate. However, now that process has been abolished in favor of one that has the senators being appointed by department chairs, with approval of the choices coming from the ASCWU. Bennett added that the new constitution favors a committee structure that is more voluntary oriented instead of punitively motivated.

"We created the position of Parliamentarian, to make the organization run more fluidly," Bennett said.

Upcoming Events

ASCWU Executive Vice President Kane LeMasters announced a first ever end-of-year banquet for ASCWU to recognize incoming board members, as well as others that assist ASCWU in various positions. It will be on May 28, tentatively planned from 5:30 -7:30 p.m.

Kinker said the Spring Club Fair will be on May 8, and that they have 50 spots max in the fair. In order to get a spot for a club, a member will need to send an email to club.events@cwu.edu.

Welcome back, Wildcats

Mariah Valles

Editor-in-Chief

I'm Mariah Valles, a junior studying broadcast journalism. I'm entering my second term as The Observer's Editor-in-Chief. The origin of my passion for journalism came from print. In middle school and high school I participated in both newspaper and yearbook. In my second and third year of high school I was in a Student Voices program with The Seattle Times.

Last quarter, The Observer made a lot of progress. We grew into a 16-page weekly newspaper. We live covered an active shooter false alarm for nearly two hours, with additional coverage in the weeks following.

The Observer placed 6th in weekly newspapers at the Associated Collegiate Press conference in La Jolla, California. We grew our online presence and placed 7th in websites at the same conference.

We bonded as a staff. We came together and published a 24-page newspaper during week seven.

This quarter, I hope to continue to see immense progress. We have fine-tuned our goals.

I'm excited to see new reporters write their first stories. I'm excited to see their final stories and compare them to their firsts.

This quarter we plan to be more active on our social media. If you aren't already, keep up with us on Facebook (/CWUObserver) and Twitter and Instagram @CWUObserver.

If you ever have a story idea or question, we invite you to email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com.

Best,
Mariah Valles

The Observer Staff

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Editorial Policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. The mission of The Observer is two-fold; to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best source of information, education and entertainment news. As a training program, The Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values and skills needed to succeed in their chosen career. If you have questions or concerns, email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com.

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Editor: Jack Belcher

ASCWU candidates introduce themselves

Continued from Page 1



Jasmin Washington, a public health major who has been the Black Student Union president for two consecutive years, and has worked as a sexual health educator at the wellness center. Washington wants to make a change in the way that CWU embodies the values of diversity and equity on campus. Washington said that she wants to work towards making changes that can be realistically achieved in a year. This means that she plans to take steps towards larger issues such as campus parking because it is unrealistic to promise a solution to the current parking problems that CWU faces. She also wants to aid the Hispanic population on campus by giving a larger voice to M.E.Ch.A and have campus signs in both English and Spanish.



Dominic Choi stands for safety, transparency and value. In regards to safety, Choi pointed out that emergency alerts are not always reliable and suggested adding speakers around campus to quickly alert all students in the event of an emergency such as another active shooter threat. Choi has experience working in associated student body as a policy analyst in legislative affairs, and knows how difficult it can be to try and change policy, which is why he plans to make the university more transparent by making it clear who knows what. Choi is also concerned by the value that students are getting out of their college experience. Choi said that CWU has some of the highest fees of any college, and wants to make sure that they are being put to good use.



Brendan Dolleman is running under the campaign slogan "Bridge the Gap." Specifically Dolleman wants to bridge the gap for parking, entertainment and transparency. His goals to fix parking are to create a gravel parking lot near the ropes course, which he said will help alleviate overnight parking near Barto Hall. As for entertainment, Dolleman wants to bring a bowling alley to Ellensburg by sponsoring the alley through CWU or a third party. Dolleman's third goal is to increase the transparency between students and the administration, by setting up bi-weekly interviews with campus administration and bi-weekly interviews between students and himself if he is elected ASCWU president.



Photos by Shawna Hettick/The Observer

Alejandro Alcantar wants to create a direct line of communication with CWU administration, saying that students shouldn't have to create online petitions to ensure their own safety. Alcantar said that CWU has been growing for the last couple of years, therefore the university needs to adapt to fit the needs of all students. This means that CWU needs to fund more departments, financial aid counselors and advisors. He also wants to improve campus WiFi. In order to get the funding for this, Alcantar would like for CWU to become an official Hispanic-serving institution (HSI) which would bring in state funding. In order to become an HSI, the university needs to be made up of at least 25 percent Hispanic students. Alcantar plans to reach this goal by recruiting more from Yakima.

Policy change allows student teachers to walk in spring

Nick Tucker

Senior News Reporter

Students with full-time internships or student teaching in the fall can now walk at commencement in the spring due to a recent change to CWU policy. This change has been spearheaded by ASCWU VP for Academic Affairs Claire-Anne Grepo, who received concerns raised by double education major Kassie Hill who wanted to walk with her graduating class. According to Hill, one year into the teaching program she found out that she wouldn't be allowed to walk because her student teaching was taking place in the fall during a different academic year.

"I am a double major, I've done it in three years, and I'm a first-generation college student," Hill said. "I found out I wouldn't be able to walk at graduation, and that's just really, really heartbreaking."

Hill said she had a teacher tell her that this had happened to multiple previous students, and who told her to "start pushing buttons."

So she reached out to Grepo and together the two started brainstorming and created a student task force, mostly made up of other education majors, with the goal of spreading word of this initiative.

ASCWU President Edith Rojas then drafted a letter from ASCWU support-

ing the initiative. This letter was then given to the Dean of Education and Professional Studies Paul Ballard, the Dean of Student Success Gregg Heinselman, Provost Katherine Frank, President Gaudino and the Faculty and Academic Senates.

“

It's a win for everyone involved.

Ron Jacobson, Executive Director of school of education

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Once the letter was sent, the policy change went through various councils until it reached the University Policy and Advisory Committee (UPAC) which President Gaudino oversees, and then the Board of Trustees who gave it their approval.

All of this has been done successfully and the policy change is now official. According to Executive Director of the School of Education Ron Jacobson, he and his office received many emails every year from students asking for an exception. Jacobson thinks that this change is something that will impact a lot of students in a big way.

"I support [the new policy], I like the decision," Jacobson said. "For a stu-

dent who is going to finish up in the fall and then get a full-time job and move, for them to come back in the following spring to walk and bring family is difficult. This allows them to do commencement because many of them just don't come back."

Jacobson said that the policy previously allowed for students with an internship or student teaching in the summer to walk in the spring because it was a part of the same academic year. The problem for education majors specifically is that there is no student teaching in the summer because almost no K-12 schools are in session during that time. Jacobson says that this policy change has been made with mainly education majors in mind, and will do a lot for those students.

"Other than being a little more complicated, I don't see the downside to this," Jacobson said. "It's a win for Central, the students, it's a win for Ellensburg because families can come for commencement and enjoy the town, it's a win for everyone involved."

In order to make use of this policy, students need a petition form and must get a letter from their advisor, chair of their department, and the dean of their college.

"Not many schools allow for this, I think only a few others in the state," said Grepo. "We have a lot of student teachers here and an esteemed education depart-

ment. Their voices need to be heard."

Hearing the voices of students is something that both Grepo and her administrative assistant Nancy Canales want to emphasize, and is what they say started the process of changing this policy.

"This policy was enacted due to concerns that students came in here with. If you have some kind of policy or something in your department that is interfering with your success, an unnecessary obstacle, please come talk to us because that's what the student academic senate is here for," Canales said. "The administration doesn't know how it affects us because they're not in our shoes, so please come let us know if you have issues with CWU policies."

Hill isn't yet sure if she'll be able to walk, as she still has to go through the petition process. However, now she has a chance that wasn't present before to celebrate her success with friends and family.

"I get to have them celebrate the fact I completed college, I get to move back and start teaching, I'm set to start looking for a job, and I won't have to worry about leaving my students for commencement" Hill said. "I just want to thank Central for actually going through with this, I never thought such a large university could do this and the fact that they did it so quickly is amazing."

Editor: Jack Belcher

Equestrian team competes at Stanford

Nick Tucker

Senior News Reporter

Madison Sturgeon will be representing the CWU equestrian team in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) zones competition at Stanford University. This follows Sturgeon placing 2nd at regionals Feb. 23.

Sturgeon went to zones last year with the rest of the equestrian team, which is the competition level between regionals

and nationals. That was the first time the team made it to IHSA zones. This year Sturgeon will be competing as an individual rather than with the collective CWU equestrian team.

According to Sturgeon, who is now a senior, she first found out about the CWU equestrian team in her freshman year and joined during her sophomore year.

"For me it really made my experience at [CWU] a lot better. With equestrian

there's something you're involved with every day and every weekend," Sturgeon said. "The close friends that are involved that all share the same love of horses is why I like it so much, the competing part is just a bonus for me."

Two of those friends are Gabrielle Longmire and Kylie Vroman who will both be accompanying Sturgeon to zones this year as the equestrian team's coach and captain respectively.

"They're awesome, they're a big part

of why I'm able to compete at this level now," Sturgeon said. "They're also my best friends on the team and outside of the team. Both great people, great riders, I'm really glad they get to come to Stanford with me to make the experience that much better."

One added challenge to the competition is that the competitors don't get to bring their own horse or even interact with the horse they will be competing with until the competition begins.

"She'll draw her horse and she doesn't get any time to interact with the horse at all before she starts competing," Longmire said. "All you get to do is you get to watch them warm up, you get to watch other people ride them."

According to Sturgeon, this along with the fact that Stanford will be providing their own high-quality horses, means that the competition is a lot more focused on the performance of the rider than the physical capabilities of the horse.

"You pretty much just draw a name out of a hat and that's the horse you get. You're not allowed to touch the reigns or find out anything about the horse," Sturgeon said. "You just have to get in the ring and adapt to the horse, figure them out and that's what you get judged on."

Because of this need to adapt, training for Sturgeon consists of getting as much time as possible riding as many different horses as possible. In addition, there are also questions which include information on riding technique and equipment.

"I think she'll be great, she's a beautiful rider. She's also been studying hard for the knowledge questions that they'll be asking, and I think she'll do really well," Longmire said.

If Sturgeon does well in this competition, she'll move on to the national-level IHSA competition which is held in Syracuse, New York from May 2-5.



Shawna Hettick/The Observer

Sturgeon rode a palomino gelding named Ottis in the class for regionals. Regionals was held at the show that UW hosted at the Monroe fairgrounds in March.



Shawna Hettick/The Observer

Madison Sturgeon won the reserve championship at regionals this year. She will be competing at the zones show in California this weekend. She placed second at regionals which qualified her for the zones show.

Editor: Cassandra Hays

Ace to close after 19 years of business

Cassandra Hays
Scene Editor

Kelly King, owner of Ace Body Piercing, is leaving the community after 19 years of business in downtown Ellensburg. Within the next three months, King is moving on from Ellensburg and will be closing the shop to pursue other endeavors.

King is originally from California, but grew up in the Yakima area as well as around Lake Chelan. She moved to Ellensburg to attend CWU in 1994 and received a degree in philosophy. She also studied anthropology, almost earning a second degree before leaving CWU because of financial reasons.

An opportunity arose for King to open her own shop shortly after she left CWU. The previous owner of the space was relocating and desperate to sell, so King bought the space, starting her own piercing business with only \$5,000.

"We started with a case of jewelry," King said.

Ace was originally combined with Old Skool's, a neighboring business that sells records, thrifted clothing and other antique items. Carol Cox, the owner of Old Skool's, said she has known King since they were both 14, which amounts to over 40 years.

"She's been in business a long time and has served the community very well," Cox said. "I'm happy for her though because she's moving on and hopefully on to better and bigger things."

King customer base consists mainly of college students, but she also gets many customers who are travelling through Ellensburg. She said she is happy to assist anyone with anything they need when it comes to piercings, and she loves to converse with her customers. King also said she loves the feeling of trust between her and the customer. She prides herself in her ability to calm people down and realize that they are in control of the situation.

"People come, they want this change and I'm the specialist that gives it to them," King said. "So it's one of those relationships where they're putting some trust in me and my job is to help them through this ordeal, because a lot of people are very afraid of the pain. You face that fear, and you do the piercing, and typically the result after is laughter. I really like that aspect of the job."



Shawna Hettick/The Observer

Kelly King is the owner of Ace Body Piercing, located at 310 N Main St. After 19 years of business, King will be moving on from Ellensburg to pursue other endeavors.

While she enjoys her job at Ace, King said part of the reason she is leaving is due to the development of carpal tunnel, which she believes is her body telling her that she should pursue other avenues. Another factor in her moving on is to combat the constant anxiety and stress in her life.

"I know it sounds crazy, but I have a dream to have less stress in my life," King said. "I've been doing this 19 years so I want to do some new things."

King said that she doesn't want to

feel like she has to hustle every day of her life, and she wishes to reduce the constant barrage of pressure in her daily routine. She said things like bills and responsibilities can make someone feel constantly overwhelmed.

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I'm really excited about the change.

Kelly King, Owner of Ace Body Piercing

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"Even in our downtime, we're worried about our problems," King said.

King is also leaving Ace to focus on her writing career.

"I have some diverse interests and I also really like writing," King said. "I'm really excited about the change."

She said she loves to write to relieve stress, because she is able to go with the flow, she only has to write when she's feeling creative and she can take downtime when she needs to. She plans on spending a year to finish and promote a children's book, which she will be writing and illustrating herself.

King is also a songwriter and is currently working on music with Star Anna, a local artist who has put out several albums over the last few years. King currently has three songs that she has produced with Star Anna on Bandcamp, a website where artists can share their music and be directly supported by their fans.

King said that she will also be exploring other interests after moving on from Ace. King has an interest in acupuncture, meditation and Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT). EFT draws on various alternative medicine theories including tapping and acupressure as a treatment for physical pain and emotional distress. This has inspired her interest in alternative medicine and acupuncture as a means of stress relief, and she has even brought some of those techniques into her profession. King has recently started offering a piercing related to acupuncture, called a daith. The daith piercing is located in the ear's innermost cartilage fold. The piercing is designed to hit a pressure point which helps to ease both anxiety and migraines. King said the response to these types of piercings has been overwhelmingly positive.

"The amount of people that it has helped is amazing," King said. "I have done people that have started crying because their migraine of ten days immediately went away when I pierced them."

Aside from music and writing, King also wants to explore EFT as an alternative career.

King said what she will miss most about owning the store is having the opportunity to strike up a conversation with people from all walks of life.

"I feel like the job is sort of like being a bartender where people will just sit down and start talking to you and I love that part of it," King said.

King said that there is a possibility she may reopen the shop in the future, but she does not have any set plans to do so. She said she wants to focus on her new direction and see where it takes her.



Photos by Shawna Hettick

In addition to providing body piercings, Ace also offers a wide selection of body jewelry and home decor such as tapestries.



Editor: Cassandra Hays



Photos courtesy of Joanna Thomas
 Claudia Castro Luna (left), Gyorgi Voros (center) and Rena Priest (right) are three of the poets performing at the fourth annual Inland Poetry Prowl. The event will take place at various venues across downtown Ellensburg.

Poets and students will prowling downtown

Rune Torgersen

Online and Social Media Manager

The fourth annual Inland Poetry Prowl begins this Friday, April 5, gathering poets from all over the U.S. in Ellensburg. It is a three-day celebration of poetry, community and the works of Sylvia Plath. Stretched across various downtown venues, the event seeks to tie together many forms of poetry, as well as other artistic expression. Attendees can expect inspiration from 23 different poets, novelists and musicians in addition to an open mic night and a live radio broadcast featuring live readings of Plath's works.

Xavier Cavazos, an English lecturer at CWU, has been deeply involved as one of the organizers of the event. He said that although many artists' works will be represented, the focus of the event remains on one artist, as it has the past three years that the event has been hosted.

"We focus on celebrating the life of the artist that we're celebrating each year, so this year it's Sylvia Plath," Cavazos said.

According to Cavazos, Plath's work is known for dealing with heavy subject matters while exploring the beauty in them. He said that the way poetry is able

to condense and relate stories of the human experience is one of the things that makes it valuable.

"One of the things I think poetry does, particularly Sylvia Plath's poetry, is making something beautiful out of brokenness," Cavazos said.

The Poetry Prowl has been organized since its inception in 2016 by Joanna Thomas, a local visual artist and poet. According to Thomas, she was inspired to start the event when she noticed that Ellensburg didn't have a big gathering of poets like the surrounding towns did. She was impressed at the turnout that first year.

"I was shocked because everybody showed up. Our poet laureate at the time was Tod Marshall, he came to our first event. He was like 'oh my god you guys have got a little gem here, keep going,'" Thomas said.

According to Thomas, spreading the prowl out over about a dozen different venues helps to ensure people don't get tired of the event. It also makes it more visual for those in downtown who may not have been aware that it was happening in the first place.

"We're up, we're moving, we're meeting, we're greeting, we're spreading the word 'poetry,' people see us walking through town like lemmings and they

wonder what's going on," Thomas said.

Poets are grouped in venues based on the subject matter of their work, meaning each event will have a different theme, to go along with the change in scenery. The event is free to all attendees, which means audience members can come or go as they please.

Audience members aren't necessarily people who study literature. Angel Jewel Gates, president of the Inklings Creative Writing Club, is an industrial engineering technology major, and believes that poetry can lend value to any life, regardless of one's background or education.

"There's always a reason to read, whether it be poetry or fiction or anything," Gates said. "If you can find a connection to a piece of writing, it gives an internal sense of validation, like 'oh I'm not alone in this.'"

According to Cavazos, the most essential event to attend will be the culmination of Saturday's activities at Gallery One from 8-10 p.m. It will feature a poetry reading by Washington State Poet Laureate Claudia Castro Luna and a song written and performed in honor of Sylvia Plath by musician Karin Blaine. Drinks, cake and book signings will be available as well. A full list of events and performers can be found at inlandpoetry.com.

Cavazos encourages those who may be unfamiliar with the world of poetry to treat the event like a chance to try something new.

"I would really challenge people to get out of their comfort zones a little bit, like when the more literary types in Ellensburg will put on a pair of cowboy boots and a cowboy hat and check out the rodeo for a day, we want the community to check out poems for a day too," Cavazos said.

Poetry Prowl

What: A three-day celebration of poetry, community and the works of Sylvia Plath

When: April 5-7

Where: Various downtown venues

Cost: Free

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 Sun. Noon - 9pm

Editor: Cassandra Hays



Cassandra Hays/The Observer

'Gondoliers' to showcase student talent

Cassandra Hays

Scene Editor

"Opera is for everyone."

If you've been in the music building, you may have heard the phrase echo throughout the halls. The saying is used within the department to bring awareness to opera as an artform. Every year, CWU's music department puts on an opera production to showcase vocal, musical and theatrical talent.

This year's production is "Gondoliers," an English operetta written by Gilbert and Sullivan. It will be directed by Dr. Gayla Blaisdell, associate professor of voice and opera at CWU. According to Dr. Blaisdell, the show will be a light-hearted comedy that features a cast of 45 to 50 students. The operetta takes place in Venice, Italy and features elements of drama and comedy.

The show will be performed in the Morgan Middle School auditorium. Senior Josie Thomas, assistant producer, said the school is a good common ground for their audience.

"There can be a little bit of anxiety about coming to a college campus and seeing a college show, so putting it at a middle school is nice to kind of mesh the community and college together," Thomas said.

Morgan Middle School's recent renovation is another reason that the operetta will be performed there, according to Dr. Blaisdell. Part of the renovation was the demolition and reconstruction of the wings on either side of the stage, which provides ample wing space for set pieces. The auditorium also has a backstage area, lighting equipment and curtains, all of which better lend themselves to a full scale production such as "Gondoliers," according to Dr. Blaisdell.

Thomas said the cast of "Gondoliers" has been rehearsing since the beginning of January. They have been working closely with a choreographer, which according to Thomas has not been done in recent years. She said that several numbers will feature students



Cassandra Hays/The Observer

"Gondoliers" is an operetta written by Gilbert and Sullivan and features a cast of 45-50 students. High quality costumes were rented from a professional theater company for the show.

from the dance program who will be performing solo dances in addition to full-cast choreography.

According to Dr. Blaisdell, costumes have been rented and flown out from Valley Light Opera in Massachusetts, which specializes in Gilbert and Sullivan shows. Dr. Blaisdell said the costumes will be professional grade, an element that will set this production apart from past shows. She said that costumes will be supplemented with pieces from their own costume department.

A full pit orchestra, which consists of a string section as well as wind instruments, will be directed by Nikolas Caoile. The orchestra will be performing in front of the stage to accompany the cast. According to Caoile, there are 17 members in the orchestra who have been rehearsing since the end of winter quarter.

"["Gondoliers"] is an amazing synthesis of drama and music," Caoile said.

Dr. Blaisdell said although opera may seem like a dying craft, it is actually one of the fastest growing art forms in the

world. She encourages people to go see live performances as much as they can.

"Things happen, they're exciting, there's a different kind of electricity in the air," Dr. Blaisdell said. "When you go see a movie, you know it's going to be the same every time. When you go see a live performance, who knows? There's going to be an element of unpredictability and spontaneity and excitement that live performance can give that you can't get from movies and TV."

Thomas said that vocal professors are aware that opera is not everybody's favorite genre, so they do their best to incorporate different types of opera into the shows. She said "Gondoliers" is an enjoyable operetta for the audience due to its themes, style and the fact it is in English.

"It's a little bit easier for people to listen to than the deep opera that can sometimes be hard to relate to," Thomas said. "I think it shows the singer's strength and their talent in a really nice way."

Dr. Blaisdell said that opera can be an

enriching cultural experience that can be beneficial to those who haven't experienced it. She also said people should go see "Gondoliers" to appreciate the work that students have put in to the show.

"These are students that are your age doing incredible roles and doing them super well and at a really high level, and you want to support them and their endeavors and check out what's going on on campus," Dr. Blaisdell said. "It's great to have a bigger perspective."

Thomas said the cast has put in a lot of effort to the production, and they would appreciate an audience to share it with. She said audience members can look forward to an entertaining show.

"I think it will be a really fun show, it's really interesting and there are a couple of twists and turns that people won't be expecting," Thomas said.

Tickets for "Gondoliers" will be \$10 for students with CWU ID, \$12 for seniors and alumni and \$15 for adults. All proceeds from the tickets will go back to the music program.

Police community gathers in Ellensburg for Deputy Thompson's memorial

Story By: Nick Tucker

Design By: Will Yi

Photos By: Shawna Hettick

Continued from Page 1

According to Public Information Officer (PIO) Kyle Foreman of the Grant County Sheriff's Office, the risk of getting hurt or killed is always on an officer's mind. Foreman has participated in about 15 memorial services like this one during his career with fire departments and law enforcement.

"When a law enforcement officer dies, it is felt across the country as well as that community where the officer was lost, and out of respect for that officer, that officer's family and the survivors, law enforcement will come together in support," Foreman said. "Deputy Thompson was a part of the community, whether he was investigating a call or just stopping by an espresso stand to get coffee or just chatting with someone on the street, he was a fixture here. Just like when any family loses a family member, this community is gathering for one of ours."

Bill Hunt, the law enforcement chaplain, gave the service's invocation. He knew Thompson well and even shared a story of an inmate

who told him: "I heard Deputy Thompson was killed. He was the nicest cop who ever arrested me, I'm sorry for your loss."

Thompson's warmth, relaxed sensibilities and sense of humor were all spoken about fondly by those who spoke during the remembrance section of the memorial. Many mentioned "Thompson Time," in reference to Thompson's easy-going view of punctuality. Matthew Stroe, who grew up and went through the same police academy class with Thompson, talked about how Thompson would keep him and his roommates well-fed and would give hugs that would morph into Thompson taking his friends down like a wrestler.

"I would love to have one more hug from Ryan, even if it turns into a wrestling match," Stroe said.

Not all who came to the memorial service knew Thompson personally. Sgt. Kevin Lynch and Sgt. Jeremy Orenstein are both officers from the New York Police Department and members of Brotherhood

for the Fallen. There are over 500 officers in the New York chapter alone according to Lynch, who is attending his 10th memorial service for a fellow officer.

"Distance doesn't matter, we all have the same job," Lynch said. "He's one of us and the only thing we can do now is be there to support his family."

Brotherhood for the Fallen has chapters all over the country and donated \$1000 to Thompson's family as they do for all fallen officers. It is one of many organizations set up to honor and support the families of police officers who are killed in the line of duty.

Corporal Kyle Nelson of the Bellingham Police Department is a member of the Behind the Badge Foundation which is made up of officers and civilians, many of which are also surviving family members of fallen officers. In addition to gathering officers to support the families of fallen officers at their memorial services, the Behind the Badge Foundation also maintains the Washington State Law Enforce-

ment Memorial Wall on the state capitol campus.

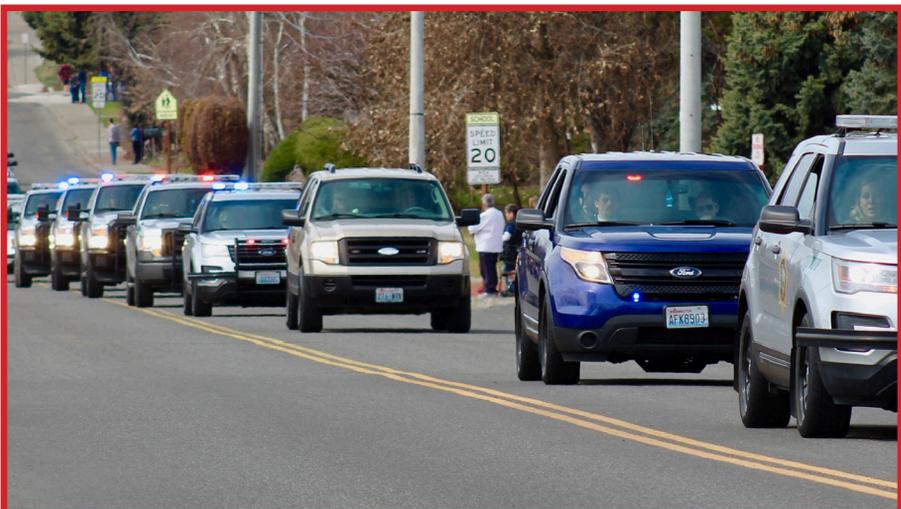
"They'll continue to walk with the family even after today's event because the trauma continues for them," said Nelson.

Towards the end of the service, members of the audience sat in silence as they respectfully gave time for Deputy Thompson's family to gather privately outside of Nicholson Pavilion. The silence was broken to give spontaneous applause for Officer Benito Chavez, who was wounded in the leg during the gunfight that killed Thompson, as he left in a stretcher.

One of the last parts of the service came over the intercom of the auditorium: a radio message from the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office dispatch.

"Godspeed Deputy Thompson," the voice said to the silent audience. "We have the watch from here."





Editor: Cassandra Hays

Sundays Unplugged features local artists

Cassandra Hays
Scene Editor

Ellensburg is home to several local artists, many of whom have garnered a following within the community after performing at various venues downtown. One venue is Cornerstone Pie, located at 307 E 5th Ave, which hosts Sundays Unplugged, a weekly live concert series at Cornerstone which features acoustic music.

The event was originally an outdoor concert series that only took place on weekends during the summer. This past year, Cornerstone decided to extend the series throughout the year by moving the live music inside during the colder months.

Caesar Caldaron, co-front house manager, said that a lot of the artists who perform are local musicians. The artists are found through Facebook, Youtube and word of mouth. Some artists simply come in and introduce themselves. Cornerstone has featured musicians from Ellensburg, Wenatchee and Leavenworth.

Many local artists are regular performers at Cornerstone. Abbigale Smith performs frequently, and Dan James usually performs every third Sunday, according to Caldaron.

Sundays Unplugged features a variety of genres, including country, folk, classic rock and alternative. Caldaron said the most common genres of music performed are typically blues or jazz. While performances usually consist of a single artist,



Cassandra Hays/The Observer
Local artist Bruce Marshall is a regular performer at Sundays Unplugged. He typically plays covers from the blues genre.

groups of two or three may perform.

Caldaron said Sundays Unplugged has received a positive response from the community.

"We have a lot of customers that regularly come every Sunday," Caldaron said. "Not only that, but for our live music in the summertime."

Caldaron said that most of the audience is local residents, but plenty of college students tend to come as well. Typically, the dining room is filled with customers on Sunday nights when there is live music.

Billy Mac is a regular performer at Sundays Unplugged. He said he got his first guitar when he was in fourth grade, and has been playing ever since. Growing up, he played bass in several different bands in junior high. More recently he began playing with a band called Better Day, who released three CDs and performed all over the northwest before breaking up. Mac said he enjoys playing Americana style music and he writes most of the songs he performs. He is inspired by family, the community and even politics.

Mac plays at several different venues around Downtown Ellensburg, and enjoys playing music for the community.

"We just play around town and have a lot of fun," Mac said.

Mac said a lot of the people who come to Cornerstone to see him perform were fans of the band Better Day, and continued to follow Mac after the band broke up. He has gained a small local following after releasing his own music and performing regularly at Sundays Unplugged, and he interacts frequently with his audience between songs and after performances. Mac said he likes drawing the community in to enjoy music together.

Caldaron said that owners Mark Holloway and Donna Malek started Sundays Unplugged in response to a demand from the community for live music.

"There's not a lot of places in Ellensburg or really around the area where you can listen to live music," Caldaron said.

He said that live performances in Ellensburg are especially scarce during the wintertime, when venues need to be indoors. Holloway and Malek wanted Cornerstone to be a place where the community could gather on the weekends.

"That to me is what's really special about Cornerstone is just the fact that we're trying to cater to the community," Caldaron said. "People can come and get together, and just listen to music and have good food."

Cornerstone's outdoor concert series will begin in June. Live performances will take place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night.

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Editor: Hanson Lee

It's about time to live your best BitLife

By TyYonna Kitchen
Columnist

Sometimes life gets messy. You could easily be born as a result of an affair or you could take too much cocaine and die at 13 years old. What happens when you accidentally murder your school bully or fall into such a huge mountain of debt that you are forced to live with your parents until they die? The answer is: you push through. However, if that is not an option, you can always restart the game and BitLife will generate a new and possibly far worse life.

Since being released to apple users, BitLife has taken over, especially on YouTube. "Challenges" like "living off sugar daddies," "how big of a scumbag can we be" and the two-game combo of "BitLife controls my sims" have been popping up on the popular platform for a few months without much sign of slowing down. It may be another phase like the amazing cinnamon challenge, or it could stick around for the rest of YouTube's life and take the place of casual youtuber racism (fingers crossed).

No matter what direction BitLife is headed on YouTube, one thing is for certain: the app is here to stay. With over 78,000 followers on Twitter and even more on Instagram with a whopping 171,000 followers, people can't help but show love to the life simulator and I have to say that there is not much to hate. Like most life simulators, there is no point other than to simulate life. To some, that

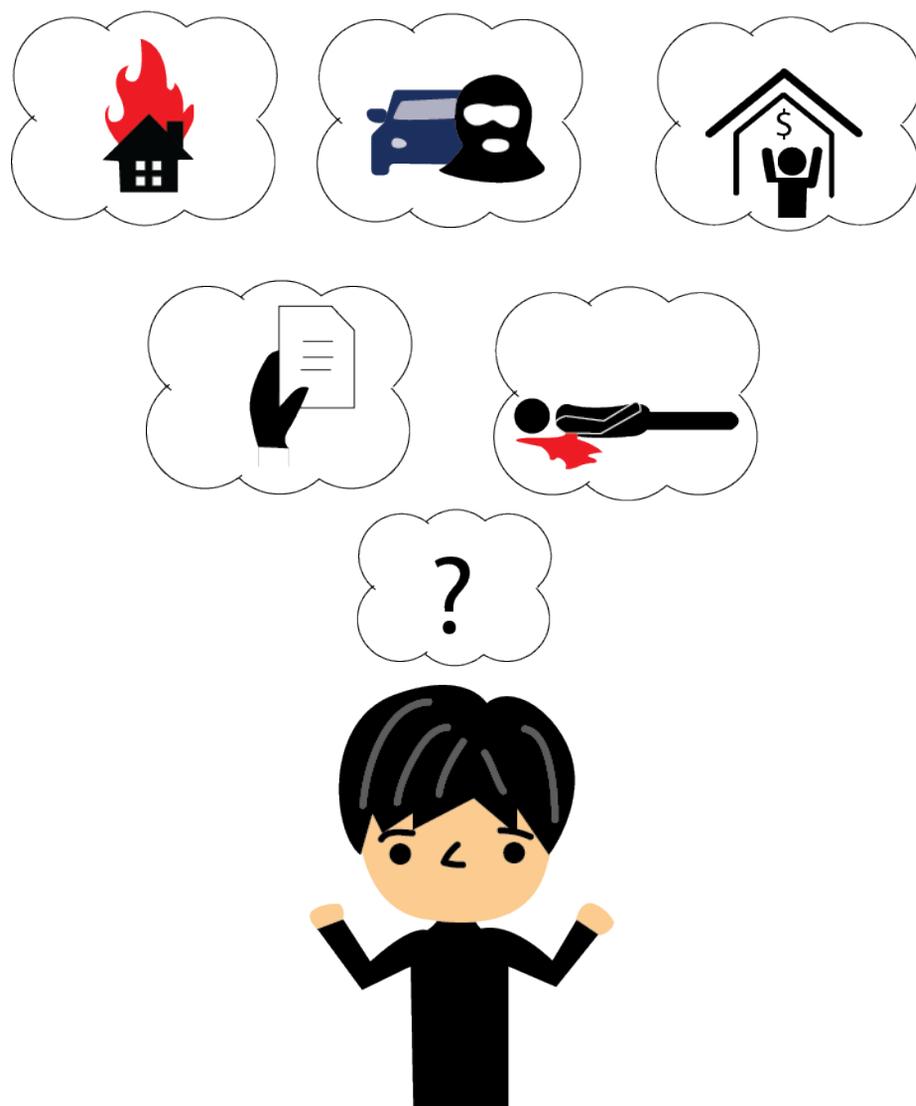
may seem like a waste of time, but to others like me, BitLife is a fun waste of time that can provide a healthy-ish distraction from other matters.

The YouTube videos made using the app may not be entertaining (some may even call them boring) but playing the game on my own has been a pretty good experience. Annoying sound effects and weird sound effects aside, you get to experience a cooler version of real life and then some.

Do you want to hook up with some random prostitutes after your spouse calls you a "biznatch"? You can and as an added bonus, in BitLife herpes is completely curable. Are you in debt after spending four years getting a useless degree? Get a sugar daddy and a brand-new car to replace them after they die (in the game of course).

Personally, I use the app to have kids that I can never take care of and blame my simulated characters for procreating. It's tons of fun. Sometimes, it's even nice to just relax and live a happy life before making one huge mistake like doing drugs, cheating or even committing a random murder, which inevitably ruins my formerly happy life or kills me.

The app has earned four of five stars in my eyes and is still developing as we speak. Do you want to be remembered as a hero who saved a child from being kidnapped by a hipster? Or maybe you want to be remembered as the person who tried to club a random bus driver to death.



Graphic by William Yi

March movie madness reviews for 2019

By Ben Wheeler
Columnist

"Captive State"

In this Rupert Wyatt – directed film is the story of an insurrection, mostly from the point of view of the group organizing it, with some perspective from officials that this insurrection is targeting. The governing body that is targeted is an American one with an alliance with alien occupiers, who live underground. These aliens attacked earth in the past, and alliances with these creatures known as the 'legislators' were seen as the only way to avoid annihilation. Our main group seeks to expose these alliances as facades.

The big issues with this film are the pacing and the non-sequential storytelling. The pacing varies wildly from breakneck to garden snail style slow. Basically, the pace of the story regularly changes with little explanation as to why. There is nothing wrong with non-sequential storytelling itself, but the way the film utilizes it is terrible. It mainly relies on this style to reveal twists in the story, but when the film rarely takes the time to explain people's motivations, this style of storytelling is very jarring and frustrating. Plus, the twists rarely make sense in the moment.

Unfortunately, these flaws make it hard to see anything very worthwhile about "Captive State". I want my 11 bucks back.

"Shazam!"

"Shazam!" doesn't officially open in theaters until April 4 or 5 (depending on your location), but a buddy and I were lucky to see an early screening.

Directed by David F. Sandberg while starring Jack Dylan Grazer, Zachary Levi

and Asher Angel, this film showcases the journey of Billy Batson, a well-intentioned but troubled foster-child who is bouncing around foster homes due to him pulling drastic hijinks in his search for his birth mother. After saving his foster-brother Freddy Freeman from neighborhood thugs, Batson is teleported to a cave where the wizard Shazam lives and receives Shazam's powers after the wizard deems him pure of heart. Batson learns he must grow up quickly, as Dr. Thaddeus Sivana (Mark Strong II) wants those same powers for himself.

Though the title character lacks Deadpool's twisted humor or ability to break the fourth wall, he is similar in his ability to make any situation light-hearted and comical through sassy jokes combined with excellent comedic timing. "Shazam!" doesn't rely solely on comedy however, as it is almost a sampler platter of tones. There are some surprising horror elements, as well as drama throughout. Still, the film is at its best when its comedic moments alternate and mix with its heartfelt, family-themed moments.

The pacing and storytelling are excellent in being fast enough to keep you interested but still giving you plenty of time to digest and enjoy what you are watching. The fight/action scenes are fantastic in their choreography and the comedic elements blend into these scenes seamlessly. There is also a really cool reveal leading into the final fight scene. The less said, the better. Just go see it!

"US"

Jordan Peele has been bothered by some interpretations of his first directorial effort ("Get Out"), so it made sense he would turn up the terror dial on his follow up, "US". As far as I can tell, this

second horror effort knocks it out of the park with many more true scares.

"US" is the story of the Wilson family as they make a trip to their summer house near the beach in Santa Cruz. The mom, Adelaide (Lupita Nyong'o) is nervous about this trip, as she suffers recurring nightmares and visions about a traumatic experience where she confronted her doppelganger on the same beach as a child. Her husband, Gabe (Winston Duke) and her children (Shahadi Wright Joseph and Evan Alex) attempt to comfort her, an effort that ultimately fails when the whole family's doppelgangers show up in their driveway, aiming for blood.

It is not often that a horror-movie forc-

es you to contemplate complex themes as the movie plays, but "US" is that effective in combining horror and weirdness. The film avoids horror tropes and showcases excellent build in its dramatic and scary scenes. Most of the build-ups have a really good payoff, and the film is unpredictable. You have never seen a horror movie like this one, not even close. There is still some humor mixed in early on, but this is definitely a horror film. The pacing in this film is borderline chaotic, but the sequences are edited together so perfectly, it is impossible to be lost.

I give this film a strong recommendation, but you may want to skip if you're not a fan of cerebral plots.

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Editor: Hanson Lee

Games, difficulty and the necessity of challenge

By Rune Torgersen

Columnist

The phrase “this is like the Dark Souls of (insert medium here)” is heard more often than any of us are fond of, often implying a certain degree of unnecessary difficulty in the work it’s hurled at.

For those who’ve been living under a rock, the Dark Souls video game series is notorious for demanding a certain amount of player skill in order to progress, right alongside occasionally vague plots, often unforgiving boss fights and a general feeling of outright hostility towards the player.

Proponents of the series and other games like them tout their tough-but-fair approach as ultimately rewarding enough to merit any initial frustration.

This raises the interesting point that video games are the only form of art that requires a certain amount of skill to appreciate, at least in most cases.

In order to enjoy the full story of a game one has bought and purchased, one must first progress through a series of trials that said game has set for the player, partially for entertainment’s sake and partially because it is at this point expected.

I believe that this is the cornerstone of what makes video games so engaging as an art form.

Learning something, demonstrating one’s prowess and then being re-

warded with an item or a snippet of story plays the brain’s reward centers like a musical instrument.

This element of challenge that is unique to video gaming is implemented in various ways, depending on genre, and I find that some result in a better finished product than others.

Clearly, determining whether a work of art is objectively “good” or “bad” is next to impossible, as all art has value in the mind of the right beholder, but there are some instances where difficulty is used to artificially extend the play-time of a game that might otherwise be quite short.

Examples of this include the now-infamous monkey puzzle from the “The Lion King” tie-in for the Super NES.

The puzzle boiled down to trial and error, with a little bit of finicky input for good measure, and it often ended up being the part of the game where players gave up. This, in my opinion, constitutes a nearly objective “bad” design element of a game.

Then there’s the kind of challenge intended to be overcome not with skill, but repetition, such as the loot systems found in nearly every massively multiplayer online role playing game (MMORPG).

This involves forcing a player to repeat quests, levels or objectives over and over in the hopes of obtaining a randomly dropped item they need in

order to be competitive with their fellow players.

This cycle of spending hours on a menial task only to finally obtain the goal one was seeking, thus releasing a burst of sweet dopamine, often ends up claiming untold amounts of players’ lives, not to mention their hard-earned cash in the form of subscription fees.

In games without monthly subscription fees or pay-to-win mechanics, I find this to be a mere annoyance, but in games that actively charge players for the privilege of running on a virtual hamster wheel, I’m of the opinion that it counts as exploitation. I’m not a fan.

Then there’s the third kind, the kind I find adds value to every game it’s present in. This third kind of challenge presents itself as a part of the story, integral to experiencing the game as the artist had intended.

In games like “Dark Souls,” “Bloodborne” or smaller indie hits like “Celeste,” the challenge is present to make you, the player, feel the frustrations, trials and ultimately victories the main character experiences over the course of the game.

It’s not random chance, it isn’t present just to pad out an otherwise dull experience and it doesn’t exist to coax the player into paying real-world money for the opportunity to finish a product they’ve already paid for.

It’s a narrative tool that rewards

deep engagement with the narrative and mechanics of the game, often leading to a more satisfying overall experience.

It may cost blood, sweat and tears, but when the game is conquered, you’ve earned the right to go back to the beginning again and see just how far you’ve come.

The thrill of discovering that you’ve mastered a new skill is almost as satisfying in a game as it is in real life, and it takes excellent game design to instill that emotion.

Your game must hook the audience right at the start to merit their continued playing.

Keep those rules consistent throughout the experience while avoiding “cheap failures,” then provide players with a satisfying enough story or reward to make them feel like all that work was worth it.

I have nothing against difficult games, but they must be difficult for the right reasons and in the right way.

Like with food that’s ridiculously spicy for the sole purpose of being ridiculously spicy, games that are difficult for difficulty’s sake are painful and ultimately pointless.

Like a good curry or spicy chicken sandwich, games that temper their difficulty with fairness and reward in equal measure may be occasionally painful, but ultimately, the experience leaves the player satisfied.



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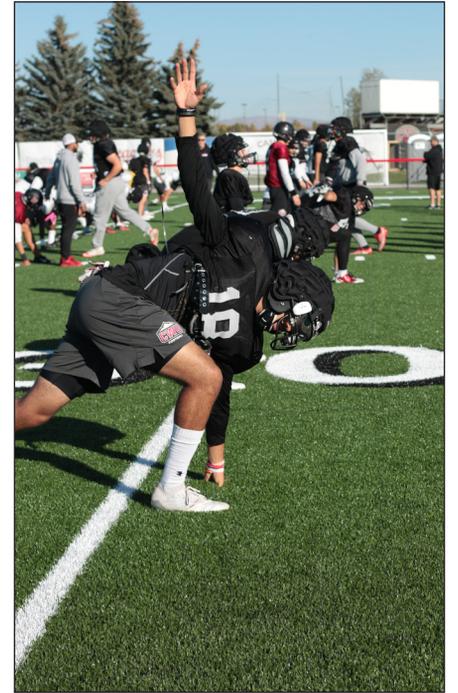
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Editor: Nick Jahnke

Wildcat football moves into spring training



Heather Stewart/The Observer



Heather Stewart/The Observer

CWU spring football practices will begin April 5. Practices are open to the public and the spring game will take place on May 4, starting at 3 p.m.

Nick Jahnke

Sports Editor

Wildcat football is about to kick off spring training. Practice will begin April 5, with two scrimmages throughout spring, ending with a spring game on May 4, according to press release on wildcatsports.com.

CWU Football head coach Chris Fisk said that the goals the team aims to reach this spring is to learn the new system that comes with the introduc-

tion of new coaches and leadership among the players. He said they want to push the level of investment in the program as they try to strengthen the bond of the team.

Fisk said the coaches have been implementing changes in schematics, the way they practice and drill, since winter conditioning began, and will continue to do so as they move into spring.

"I think for players, change is hard. So you have to be smart about how many changes you make and the rate at which you try to apply change," Fisk said.

Fisk said that since he and the previous head coach Ian Shoemaker come from similar coaching backgrounds, there shouldn't be a huge shift in the philosophies that the team operates on. He said that the biggest change separating his coaching style from Shoemaker's is that he prefers to emphasize a tempo style offense. Tempo style is a strategy in which the offense shortens the time between each play, forcing the defense to react faster.

According to Fisk, the biggest changes will come from the hiring of Kelly Bills, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. Bills is coming over from FCS Division I Weber State University, where he brought the team to the FCS playoffs three times and two Big Sky Championships in his three years.

"We're excited to take some of the things he's done at his stops, and implement them into our offense," Fisk said.

Fisk said he doesn't think anything that happened in the previous season will have a bearing in the next. He said much has changed in terms of new offensive staff and the experience of the defensive staff. Those changes will be reflected in the upcoming season.

According to Fisk, the biggest change this year as far as positions go will be a battle for the starting Quarterback (QB) title, as they will be losing QB Reilly Hennessey. Hennessey has been signed to the Parma Panthers from the Italian Football League, according to the Daily Record.

Fisk said that some of the candidates for QB include freshmen Canon Racanelli, Tai-John Mizutani and Christian Moore. He said that the fight for that spot is likely going to be the most notable challenge going into fall camp.

Fisk said that they will not be putting a timeline on when the new QB will be chosen. He said one of the questions he is asked is who he will have as QB, but he doesn't believe in dealing in absolutes.

"It's exciting because I think all of them are just outstanding persons. They're just unbelievable people," Fisk said.

Spring practices will generally be held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and will consist of position meetings followed by on-field practice, according to Fisk. The schedule is available on wildcatsports.com. It states that all practices will be open to the public.

Fisk said that the level of physical contact in practice will progress from two



Heather Stewart/The Observer

helmet-only practices with little or no contact, followed by two more practices in helmets and shoulder pads, also with minimal contact. They will begin hitting live on the fifth practice as mandated by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). He said that the NCAA is regulating and monitoring contact more than in previous years.

Players get different levels of academic monitoring based on their current and past performance, according to Fisk. He said that players are placed in different groups, an at-risk group, middle-of-the-road and a non-risk group. Each group has correlating amounts of freedom from how much they need to be monitored.

"I think that better people and better students equal more wins," Fisk said.

For those who need their fix of CWU football, the spring game is happening on May 4. Fisk said they put on the spring game to celebrate the hard work the team has put in since January. He said they always try to tie in a young kids' football camp to get the community involved. Fisk said that even if everyone watching doesn't necessarily know what's going on in the game, he likes the social aspect of the event. Fisk said that it gives people a chance to come together, converse, and it's a great ex-



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Editor: Nick Jahnke

Moyle lights spark on softball offense

Hanson Lee
Managing Editor

With an 19-11 start to 2019, the Wildcats have gotten out to a nice start on the season. Behind the team's early success has been sophomore catcher Theresa Moyle. In 22 games played and 17 games started, Moyle has helped ignite a spark for the Wildcats on the year. Moyle has played an integral role on the Wildcat's offense, boasting a team-high batting average of .444 and a team-high slugging percentage of .981 to go along with a seven home runs and 25 runs batted in.

"I'm trying my best to put the team first and do what I can," Moyle said. "This year I'm not as stressed and the culture between the girls is amazing."

Head coach Michael Larabee had high praise for his second year catcher. Larabee said Moyle has proved to be an elite weapon for the Wildcats nonetheless, despite having to endure a multitude of injuries over the course of the season which has limited her play on the field. With her production over the year, Larabee said she doesn't see the end in sight for Moyle's rate of improvement and, if anything, she believes that Moyle is only getting started.

"She can run, she can hit for power and average and she can play a pretty high level of catch... She's a really hard worker," Larabee said. "She's just scratched the surface... I think she's got a lot more in her."

Moyle first began developing a love for the game of softball when she was younger. At the time, she played soccer, but Moyle remembers growing up and watching her father play baseball.

For one of her birthdays, Moyle's father gave her his championship baseball t-shirt. This moment and introduction to the sport gave Moyle a reason to pursue the game she still plays today.

Moyle attended Weiser High School in Weiser, Idaho, where she played softball her freshman and sophomore years, and then baseball her junior and senior years. For Moyle, the adjustment process from softball to baseball didn't happen without its difficulties. Moyle had to learn how to play with a different sized ball and with the guys. The game of baseball forced her to become tougher and grow in ways that only playing softball couldn't.

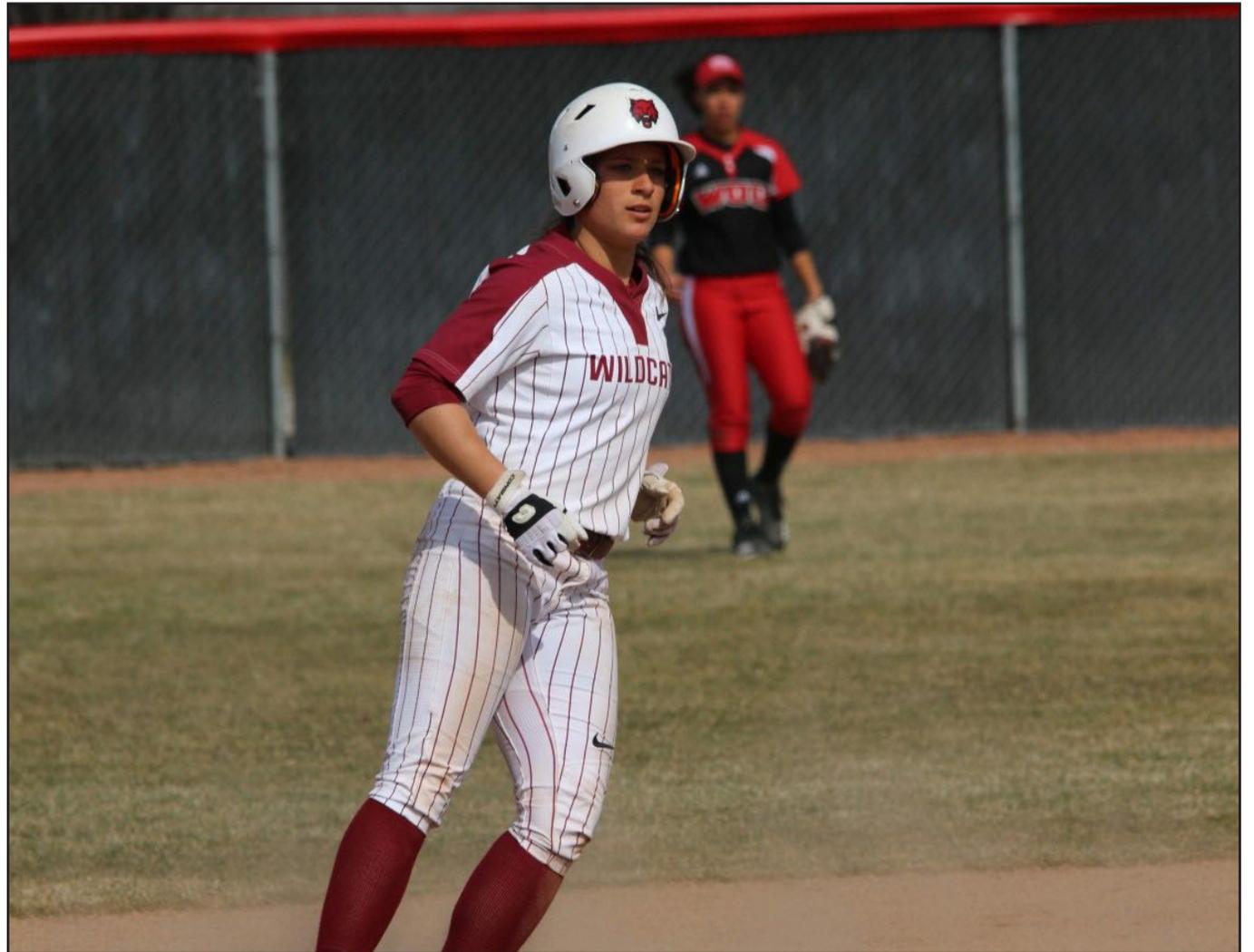
"My mindset changed and I think it's made me better," Moyle said. "I'm more aggressive now which is a great trait to have in softball."

With her college days in sight, CWU was an easy choice for Moyle because of the campus itself, the welcoming softball culture and the family friendly environment that Ellensburg and its community had to offer.

Now in her second year with the Wildcats, Moyle has made great strides in her abilities as a softball player. Moyle expressed that she struggled with self-confidence during her freshman year on the team, but that this aspect of her game has been a huge difference maker in how she has been able to perform this season.

"This year, no matter if I make a mistake or strike out, I know that my team is there to pick me up," Moyle said.

Senior outfielder Rachael Johnson said that Moyle has been a



Courtesy of CWU Athletics

In her second year as a Wildcat, Moyle has excelled at the catching position, as well as offensively at the plate. Up next, Moyle and the Wildcats will host Simon Fraser University on April 6.

great for the Wildcats on the season, both as a player and has a teammate, and has shown great leadership qualities and poise along the way. Johnson described Moyle as someone that starts the fire for the Wildcats and is a teammate that consistently maintains a high level of energy for everybody around her to feed off of.

"A lot of our girls look up to her and she's a great teammate all the way around," Johnson said.

Johnson added that beyond her abilities as an athlete, Moyle is just as great off the field. Johnson said that because of this, her presence on the field positively impacts the game and the teammates around her.

"Off the field, she's the goofiest person I know," Johnson said. "She has a great attitude, she's always looking to become better and help other people become their best too."

Moyle credits her overall success to the culture of the softball program and her teammates who have supported her since she first arrived at CWU. Moyle noted that having teammates like Johnson, senior catcher Kayla Ellis, junior outfielder Paige Liikala and junior third baseman Savannah Egbert has helped her transition into a program that is now giving her a chance to reach her full potential in the near future. With two more years to go, Moyle hopes that she can keep on going and can't wait for what lies ahead.

"I think that's what will keep me at my highest potential is just having people behind me like we currently do," Moyle said. "My mental game is something that I would like to keep improving on."

Now Hiring!

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Editor: Nick Jahnke

Forecast for spring intramurals

Bryce Weedman
Senior Sports Reporter

According to Jordan Bishop, coordinator of intramural sports, spring intramurals at CWU is something many students look forward to, mostly because the weather is warmer, and there are more opportunities to play different sports. This spring CWU will offer some new opportunities, as well as continue some trends, like pregame match ups with key players which will be posted on Instagram and postgame stats following the games that will also be posted on Instagram. Social media will continue to be a main point of emphasis for the CWU Recreation Team. The recreation team has also cut the cost of team sports in half, going from \$55 per team to \$20. This will help make things easier for students to afford registration according to Jordan Bishop.

"We did it for the students, we're here to provide a service, and we want more students to come out and participate," Bishop said.

According to the recreation team, along with price cuts, they are very excited about the new multi-purpose field and the opportunities it will give to the spring intramural season. Lighting on the field will allow for night games, and a more expanded availability for matchups. CWU Recreation believes brand new field turf will allow for safer play, and a feeling of pride, playing on that Wildcat logo. Softball games will be played at Alder Fields this spring, instead of being played at Rotary Park. The recreation team indicated that scheduling was somewhat of an issue

for softball last spring because availability for Rotary Park is only on Sundays.

"It's not super ideal for teams to go play there for one day, and it kind of threw the students for a loop with scheduling too," Bishop said.

The recreation team has expanded as the intramurals interest has grown. They have hired 10 new employees for spring. Bishop hopes this will allow for more growth, and better availability for student experience. There will be six sports available to CWU students this spring including outdoor soccer, flag football, basketball, volleyball, dodgeball and softball. The recreation team has added special events such as racket sports and e-gaming.

There will be two elite sports this spring, soccer and volleyball. Elite sports will be tracked by individual player stats. Players will be able to see stats in terms of every single matchup. Staff will also be cracking down on student registration and false I.D.'s. There will be no playing if the student does not have an I.D. This has been an issue in the past and intramurals looks to fix this issue, according to the recreation team.

"We will have card readers, so we will be able to verify and know that a student is actually registered," Bishop said.

Intramural social media usage has risen in the last year according to Bishop, as well their student interaction online. Look for the recreation team to put more work into their Instagram page this spring to help connect students to intramurals.



Bryce Weedman/The Observer

CWU students utilizing the SURC basketball courts. Spring basketball intramurals are heating up, and so is the competition.

2019 - 2020

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

ASCWU

ELECTIONS

2019 - 2020

WHO
WILL
YOU
ELECT?

APRIL

9

ASCWU
PRESIDENT
PRIMARY
ELECTION*

*Top two move on
to General Election

VOTE TUESDAY at <https://ballot.votebuilder.net/cwu/>
 Online: 12:01 a.m. - 6 p.m. • In the SURC: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

LEARN ABOUT THE CANDIDATES AND VOTE!

APRIL 15 **OFFICIAL CAMPAIGN DAY**

Meet the candidates, learn their goals, ask them your questions.
11AM-2PM, SURC Marketplace

APRIL 15 **WRITE-IN CANDIDATE DEADLINE**

All materials due by 4 p.m.
How-to info here:
cwu.edu/ascwu/elections

APRIL 17 **STUDENT GOVERNMENT PUBLIC DEBATE**

Candidates share their goals and debate important issues
6PM, SURC Pit

APRIL 24 **STUDENT GOVERNMENT PUBLIC DEBATE**

Candidates share their goals and debate important issues
12PM, SURC Theatre

APRIL 25
ASCWU GENERAL ELECTIONS

5th Annual Central Washington University

DIVERSITY AWARDS

MAY 8, 2019 // 6 - 8 PM

CWU STUDENT UNION BALLROOM

Limited free tickets at cwu.edu/tickets
Light refreshments, keynote, awards presentation

Join us in honoring recipients for the following categories:

- STUDENT AWARD
- ALUMNI AWARD
- FACULTY AWARD
- STAFF AWARDS
- COMMUNITY AWARD

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

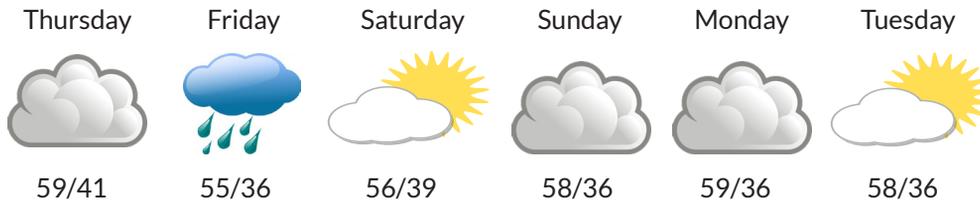
JEOMA OLUO

Seattle-based writer, journalist, and social justice advocate. Author of the New York Times bestseller "So You Want to Talk About Race." One of The Root's 100 Most Influential African Americans 2017. Winner of the 2018 Feminist Humanist Award.

AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation: DS@cwu.edu

Editor: Hanson Lee

Ellensburg weekly weather forecast



Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a high of 59.
Friday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a high of 55.
Saturday: Sunny with some clouds and a high of 56.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a high of 58.
Monday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a high of 59.
Tuesday: Sunny with some clouds and a high of 58.

Data sourced from weather.com. Information current as of publication date. Weather subject to change.

Ask TyYonna

The "Ask" column is written by one of our staff members. Opinions in this column are meant to be lighthearted and entertaining.

Dear TyYonna,
 Graduation is right around the corner and as a senior, I'm becoming overwhelmed with what I need to do to get ready while also working to maintain a hefty spring quarter workload. Any suggestions on how can I effectively relieve this stress? On another note, are applying for jobs a real thing that humans our age do?
 Sincerely,
 hopeful CWU graduate

Dear hopeful CWU graduate, Congratulations on your graduation. My first thought for you is you should step back and breathe for a moment. Don't drown yourself in work in order to do it all because you will only stress yourself out. This is a time for you to enjoy life a little before becoming one of those real-life grown-ups. One of my favorite stress relieving activities is working out at the gym. You get to physically workout your frustrations in a healthy way. Another option is reading. Not a textbook (unless you are into that), but a good novel, collection of poetry or short stories. This can get your creative juices flowing while also giving you a mental break from the turmoil that is graduation.

Other choices such as video gaming, retail therapy, cooking and many others could also relax you. As far as applying for jobs goes, I recommend that you ask someone who is a little more responsible. Denial may not be a healthy mindset, but no one is perfect.
 Sincerely,
 TyYonna

Submit a question

Email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com

Call for reader work

Do you have a letter to the editor or a burning opinion you want published?

We would love your work!

Email us at cwuobserver@gmail.com or stop by Lind 115 M - Tu 5-6 p.m. for inquiries.

This week in Observer history



On April 6, 2000, The Observer published an article about the new installation of ethernet within residence halls on campus.

With this advancement in technology, students were able to use the internet at higher speeds while maintaining a constant connection to the internet. These internet speeds were fast enough to allow students to use the internet for multiple purposes simultaneously.

This week's word search:

H Y D R A N G E A B I W K J O
 F H E I S P W D E K D I T H R
 D Q O E B K L P A T K D H F C
 O D P Q W O R N B U D H S G H
 P W M G G H K D N L U F H G I
 L A M I K D C I U I B V G C D
 P D R O T M R O D P G T K G T
 S A P O R M E J C L D N F J E
 M F K E L D W C V I G M D J L
 D A F Y M C O F N Y B I F U O
 L E M L K F L C N T H D K S I
 P S K I R I S X Z N E H D J V
 F H U L H T N E H D A I S Y J
 K O W N K D U E I W H D K F J
 P Q R J G B S A C V X E S O R

Spring flowers:

1. Tulip
2. Marigold
3. Daisy
4. Lily
5. Hydrangea
6. Rose
7. Violet
8. Sunflower
9. Iris
10. Orchid

Call for a cartoonist!

Are you an artist? Do you love to doodle? Do you know someone who loves to draw?

The Observer is looking for a cartoonist. If you're interested, send work to cwuobserver@gmail.com or stop by Lind 115 M-Tu 5-6 p.m.

HYPE

WHAT'S HAPPENING

THU. APRIL 4
Farmworkers Exhibit and Birthday Celebration
 All Day (program at noon) • SURC 137
 Stop by anytime to view the final day of the exhibit honoring the work of Cesar Chavez. At noon, enjoy free cake, music and more.

New Exhibits Reception at the Museum of Culture & Environment
 5:30 p.m. • Dean Hall Lobby • Free
 "Peruvian Textile Traditions: An Ancient Living Heritage" and "Enemies of the State: Soviet Punk 1975-1991." Food, discussion, more.

Archery Tag Drop-In Play
 6 - 8 p.m. • Recreation Sports Complex • Students/Rec Members
 Compete against your favorite CWU Police under the lights!

Open Mic Night
 7:30 p.m. signups, 8 p.m. performances • 1891 Bistro
 Show off your talents at Open Mic Night or come as a supporter and spectator. The entertainment will not disappoint!

SAT. APRIL 6
Wildcat Day
 Future Wildcats and their families will be on campus - give them a welcome!

MON. APRIL 8 - 12
I Ask (SAAM campaign)
 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • SURC Tabling
 Help spread the word that asking for consent is a healthy, normal and necessary part of everyday interactions. cwu.edu/wellness

MON. APRIL 8
ASCWU Public Meeting
 1 p.m. • SURC Pit • Open to all

Monday Movie Madness: Aquaman
 7 & 9:30 p.m. • SURC Theatre • Free/\$3
 Plunge into the city of Atlantis.

TUE. APRIL 9
ASCWU Primary Election
 VOTE! 12:01 a.m. - 6 p.m. online at <https://ballot.votebuilder.net/cwu/> or stop by the voting stations in the SURC from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Write-in candidate deadline 4/15
 Visit cwu.edu/ascwu/elections for info.

NOMINATE, VOLUNTEER
 Visit cwu.edu/leadership-engage
Evening of Recognition: nominate students, staff, faculty by 4/12

Earth Month: activities with kids and community include Elementree, Olmstead Cleanup, Yakima River Cleanup, and Downtown Cleanup. Sign up online or visit CLCE for info.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW
CWU Diversity Awards
CWU Family Weekend
CWU Theatre Arts
 and more!
cwu.edu/tickets

#CWUHYPE



