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Associated Students of Eastern Washington University

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## 'HAPPINESS, PEPPINESS AND SELF-LOVE'



Photo by Laura Lango

Sandy Williams, Eastern's Pride Center coordinator, hugs an EWU Lavender Graduate as they obtain their certificate in Showalter Auditorium on May 8.

## Diversity Week kicks off its shoes

EWU Diversity Coordinator encourages students to 'walk a mile'

BY JACLYN ARCHER  
eagle life editor

The used, circular paint palette is circumscribed by a rainbow of footprints broken up by the words, "Walk a mile ... It's a start." In the center is a red cap featuring the EWU eagle and the words "Diversity Week."

"Diversity Week is an opportunity for our campus community to learn about what makes each of us unique ... to allow us to open ourselves to different perspectives and learn from others," said Kimberlee Davis, human resource associate and Diversity Week coordinator, in an email interview.

Davis said the theme, "Walk a mile ... It's a start," is a reference to the proverb that advises people to suspend judgement of others until they have "walked a mile in their shoes."

"The reality is that we cannot live someone else's journey," said Davis. "So we take a step toward that understanding by coming together to learn about someone else's experiences."

This week marks Eastern's fourth annual Diversity Week, which Davis has helped plan since its inception in 2012. This year, Diversity Week features a variety of events including a keynote address by EWU President Mary Cullinan, Ph. D., recreational soccer, giveaways and seven lessons in diversity offered throughout the day on May 13.

The diversity lessons will be led by faculty members and students who will present on a variety of topics including race, religion, undocumented students, psychiatric disability and music.

Jody Graves, who will offer diversity lesson 6 at 2 p.m. in Hargreaves 201, will offer a presentation titled "Music Transcends the Middle East Conflict-One Note at a Time."

"University means 'the unity of diversity' and as a university, this kind of educational opportunity should be at the core of our curriculum ... not at the periphery" said Graves in an email interview.

Graves continued, "I believe that when we come together and share our experiences, especially from around the world, students are inspired to consider how they can develop their own gifts and talents as

DIVERSITY-PAGE 5

## LGBTQIA students honored at Eastern's Lavender Graduation

BY AYANNA FERNANDEZ  
contributing writer

It is around that time again; when the school year comes to an end and it is time to say goodbye to those students who have worked to successfully achieve their degrees and be able to call themselves a college graduate.

Other than the huge, traditional graduation that happens in June at Eastern, there are several graduation ceremonies that take place on campus to recognize and honor local graduates within different communities.

The pride club held its sixth annual Lavender Graduation on May 8, at 6 p.m. in Showalter Hall. Whitney Meyers, event and visit coordinator with admissions, said Lavender Graduation is more than just recognizing Eastern LGBTQ graduates.

"We also bring in students from

other colleges around the city, as well as local high schools," said Meyers. "It's a support event. It's really good for high school students to see that there are resources once you get out of high school and there are communities, especially in college. You may be a struggling LGBTQ youth but you have a place in college and you should go to college. You can achieve so much."

Performances and speeches were given by alumni, students in high school and college as well as faculty members and guest speakers.

Keynote speaker Ron Simons, founder and CEO of SimonSays Entertainment, said he is a huge supporter of education and any time he can share information or knowledge to help expand young minds, he will always snag that opportunity.

"I think it is important for us as a society to improve our level of acceptance and I think acceptance has to begin with individuals who have been marginalized, whether they are



Photo by Laura Lango

Whitney Huskey, EWU music and theatre student, sings at the Lavender Graduation.

LGBTQIA," said Simons. "I think by having an event like this begins to build a structure for people to empower themselves to be their true

members of our society and, in my

LAVENDER-PAGE 5



Photo by Laura Lango

EWU VCD students and Cheney residents discuss the artwork.

## Small Towns Exhibit debuts in Cheney

Eastern's Visual Communication Design art gallery opens in Brewster Hall, to students and locals alike

BY GRIFFIN STILES  
contributing writer

After months of mystery and an academic quarter of construction, the Small Towns art exhibit in Brewster Hall's community area has seen its debut.

For the last few months, the first floor of Brewster Hall has been partitioned by plastic sheeting. The sounds of significant remodeling could be heard all the way to the fourth floor and went on until odd hours of the morning.

But on April 30 the veil was lifted, metaphorically and literally. What was once only an empty space now houses the university's newest art gallery, appropriately named Downtown Stu-

dent Gallery. Intended to eventually host a variety of different exhibitions, the space's first selection is the Small Towns Exhibition. The display was organized and put on by Eastern's own Visual Design Club and represents the cumulative work of 18 different artists. Collected from the students of Colfax, Colville and Walla Walla high schools, the art will be displayed until June 14.

To visitors, the exhibition might evoke feelings of quaint tranquility and anyone who has spent even an hour in one of Washington's numerous small towns may immediately feel the connection.

Well lit and professionally arranged, the new gallery is worth a visit. Though a brisk walk from the main campus, the gallery is intended to cater to the Cheney community as much as to the university's students.

SMALL TOWNS EXHIBIT-PAGE 5

## INSIDE:

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## Upcoming Events:

**May**  
May 13-16: **Diversity Week:** Starting May 13, various Diversity lessons, sponsored by EWU President's Committee on Diversity, will be taught by students and staff. Diversity Week ends with EWU's annual Lu'au in the PUB MPR on May 16. For a full list of events, visit <http://sites.ewu.edu/diversity/ewu-diversity-week-2015/>

May 13: **Second Library Focus Group:** EWU Libraries is hosting a focus group at JFK Library at noon. RSVP to Bryan Eyo, Student Library Liaison, at [stulialison@ewu.edu](mailto:stulialison@ewu.edu) by May 10.

May 14-17: **"Fuddy Meers."** Eastern's Theatre presents, "Fuddy Meers" on the Cheney campus. Students can attend for free. Trigger warning: Domestic violence. **Showtimes: May 14 at 5 p.m., May 15 and 16 at 7:30 p.m., May 17 at 2 p.m.**

May 14: **EWU Career Mentoring Program Info Session:** The EWU Career Mentoring Program groups 3-5 Eastern students with a career mentor to advance student mentees' professional and personal growth. The session starts at 3 p.m. in JFK Auditorium.

For the most up-to-date events in Cheney and Spokane, follow us: @EasternerOnline



Illustration by Joseph Weeden

**OPINION: April showers bring May flowers ... and annoying allergies**

When allergy season attacks, what is there to do? Suffer. **Page 6**





@EasternerNews

Do you have information on the vandalism in lot 16? Call the campus police.

## Multiple vehicles willfully damaged on campus



Photo by Nicole Ruse

Twenty-one vehicles were purposefully damaged the night of April 28 in lot 16 near Roos Field along Washington Ave.

### Police search for leads using YikYak and other social media websites, asks Cheney community for help

By JASMINE ARI KEMP  
news editor

EWU University Police are looking for leads concerning vandalism in lot 16 near Roos Field.

On April 28, a parking enforcement officer discovered 21 vehicles in the lot with broken side mirrors. A police report said the vandalism took place between 1 and 6 a.m.

"It looks as though someone just [kicked off the mirrors]," said Gary Gasseling, deputy chief of EWU police. The side mirrors

were detached from the cars and on the ground.

Police have found no physical evidence such as fingerprints or shoe prints and have no leads on any names of a person or people involved. As of now, according to Gasseling, the only patterns officers have seen are the bright colors of the cars vandalized and how most of the cars involved belong to people who live in Dressler Hall and Pearce Hall.

In an effort to gather more information, an officer with campus

police visited the residence halls involved, asking if anyone knew anything. Red Barn is also turning to social media like Yik Yak.

The case file documenting the vandalism contains these social media posts. Some of the yaks were from people who complained about having something else to spend money on as well as saying, "I'm going to the cops."

Gasseling said social media helps police clue in on what is happening on campus. While they do not have someone hired to monitor

social media on a daily basis, when students tell officers there is something concerning on a social media site, the police will start monitoring all posts from that site.

In case a particular post on social media is relevant enough to an investigation, the EWU police can subpoena companies like Yik Yak to get information from the poster of interest.

"They'll give us an IP address ... the phone number ... we go through our resources to find a name," said Gasseling.

In cases like vandalism it is about "being a good citizen." Gasseling said students should not walk around and text simultaneously since there are events happening everywhere and all the time and any tip could be helpful.

"If anything would tickle our interest ... it gives us something," said Gasseling.

Students who have any information regarding the vandalism in Lot 16 on April 28 are asked to call the campus police tip line at 509-359-4268.

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# 'Fuddy Meers' show has grandma under the sink



Hilarity and confusion ensue during the opening weekend of "Fuddy Meers."

Photo by Laura Lango

By LAURA LANGO  
photographer

"Claire has a rare form of psychogenic amnesia that erases her memory whenever she goes to sleep. This morning, like all mornings, she wakes up a blank slate." So begins the official show summary of "Fuddy Meers", the spring's theatrical production at EWU.

The show follows a day in the life of Claire, played by Haliey Gilbert in EWU's theatrical production, as she attempts to "regain her memory while surrounded by a curio-cabinet of alarmingly bizarre characters," including a foul-mouthed puppet, a deformed man in a ski mask and an old woman with a speech impediment.

The cast is significantly smaller than the two other mainstage productions this year, "To Kill A Mockingbird" and "A Man of No Importance," with only seven cast members, and according to director Jeffrey Saunders, the mood is significantly lighter as well.

"It's spring, the sun's out, you'll laugh a lot. I think it's the kind of play that our students in general will really like because it has a very contemporary edge to it," said Saunders.

However, the show, which is written by David Lindsay-

Abaire, is not all light-hearted humor. The show deals with domestic abuse, drugs, identity and disfigurement, often with as much humor as gut-wrenching irony.

"It's surrounded by these zany, larger-than-life characters in some ways and then, on the turn of a dime, it switches on you and it's very human and revealing. I think a lot of our audience is going to connect with it on many different levels," said Saunders.

The smaller cast allows for a more intimate, intensified experience; although with each of the characters vacillating between ridiculous and realistic, it can be difficult to keep up with the mood changes of the piece. However, the cast's dexterity does them great credit, navigating between comedic and horrifying moments with skill. The entire play is built to be an unsettling, distorted reflection of reality and the humor is very biting. The ambiguous ending leaves the resolution up to the audience, allowing both the optimistic and pessimistic viewers to come to their own conclusions. The production opened last weekend and will run through May 17. All shows start at 7:30 p.m., except the May 14 and May 17 matinees, which start at 5 p.m. and 2 p.m.

FUDDY MEERS-PAGE 5

## REVIEW

# 'Avengers: Age of Ultron' freefall continues downward

Whatever spark the first Avenger's movie banked upon seems to have faded from the sequel. "Age of Ultron" is perhaps the perfect example of a movie that started off well but went into freefall as the director struggled to maintain his vision. Who can blame director Joss Whedon for complaining about the amount of stress he was under for the film considering the sheer mass of the franchise that is resting upon his weary shoulders.



CHRIS MUDD

Whedon told BuzzFeed last year, "I gotta say, it's been dark. It's been weird. It's been horrible. ... I feel like every day, I didn't do enough, I didn't do enough, I didn't do enough. I wasn't ready. Here's failure. Here's compromise."

Still, despite the troubles the man encountered, Whedon has still squeezed out another blockbuster. The film made \$187.7 million on its first weekend, which puts it firmly in second place behind the current holder of the biggest opening of all time, the first Avengers

movie. The man has an excellent track record, no one can deny.

"Age of Ultron" follows the cast of superhero's we've come to know and love from the Marvel Universe over the last decade. Iron-Man of course has his witty banter, Captain America's heroism is never in doubt and Hulk certainly smashes. Yet at this point, I feel like we are just going through the motions of the formula. Where the story leads seem inevitable, as do the conflicts to come.

Ultron himself seems cookie-cutter movie villain, whose motivation to wipe out all of humanity for its own sake has been copied and pasted from every major robotic bad guy ever. Sure, the effects are neat to watch, but it only goes so far. In the trailers Ultron was intimidating, terrifying even. Yet in the film he seems rather weak. He's nothing more than a filler villain intended to fill the gap, until Thanos decides to be a bad guy.

The score is nice, with similar themes from the previous film being revamped to a darker tone. But the darkness brings it down a fair bit, as both the music and the film as a whole seem somehow less fun than last time.

I'm not suggesting that a movie can't be both dark and fun. It just wasn't executed



Image contributed by Bagogames

very well in this case.

While I'm certainly excited to see the future installments in the franchise, the weight of the superhero genre seems to be slowing

them down. Whatever happens next will have to mix things up a bit, but perhaps that's exactly what the upcoming Marvel Civil War films will do. Time will tell.

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What are your thoughts on diversity on campus? • Let us know on Twitter.

**DIVERSITY:**  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

contributors to our culture and not just as competitors. I also believe that knowledge and education truly is the answer to global conflicts ... one step (or note) at a time."

Julie Griffis, a mediator and investigator for Human Resources, Rights and Risk, will offer Diversity Lesson 4 at noon in Hargreaves 201. Her talk, titled "Disabilities in Diversity: Psychiatric Disabilities," is intended not only to educate but also to help change popular mindsets surrounding mental illness.

"People with psychiatric disabilities not only have to live with their illness but they have to live with the stigma of having a 'mental illness,'" said Griffis in an email interview.

"At first, working with people with psychiatric disabilities, people are afraid — afraid of what 'they' might do, afraid of how 'they' might respond. However, once you recognize that we come in contact with people everyday who are managing their illness; who are just working on leading a normal life; who want to feel love and acceptance like each one of us, you realize that 'they' are not so different from those of us who are 'normal,'" said Griffis, citing her experience as an administrative staff member at Eastern State Hospital as the foundation of a unique perspective, someone who interacted regularly with the mentally disabled in an everyday, non-treatment capacity.

Davis encouraged students to take advantage of the Diversity Week events, including a competition to design the Diversity Week 2016 theme and logo. Furthermore, the President's Committee on Diversity invites students to offer feedback about Diversity Week at sites.ewu.edu/diversity.

"These Diversity Week events are for them. All the time, fundraising and energy are to provide our students with a voice, a safe place to talk and an opportunity to grow with us," said Davis.

**LAVENDER:**  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

opinion, healthier people."

Heather Forrest Fruscalzo, a graduating senior, said she found graduating to be nice experience, especially seeing the diversity within her community and the accomplishments everyone has made within their desired fields.

Forrest Fruscalzo said for her, the graduation was bittersweet.

"I got this tassel that's a rainbow tassel and I'm not go-

ing to be able to put it on my cap because my parents are going to be here for my graduation and I'm pretty sure they will disown me if I did," said Forrest Fruscalzo. "Being able to have a separate graduation that just represents me and my friends the community that supported me throughout it makes it so that I can celebrate that part of myself without having to out myself."

Many of the stories shared during the graduation showed the difficulties the LGBTQ communi-

ty goes through on a daily basis.

"The whole ceremony is kind of bittersweet, because there is all this happiness, peppiness and self love but the reason why all of that is happening and the reason for the whole history of it is because like this segregation from the rest of the community," said Forrest Fruscalzo. "It's like happy on one hand and kind of bitter on the other because all the stories always had something where somebody wasn't accepting of them so it's nice to have acceptance."

All the graduates were called on stage and recognized for their accomplishments while receiving a lavender stole and a rainbow tassel.

There were several messages that could be taken from the Lavender Graduation ceremony. Simons said if the graduates do not take anything away from the ceremony, he hopes they take away two things.

"You can do anything that you want to do," said Simons. "And be proud of who you are."

**SMALL TOWNS EXHIBIT:**  
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"I think it will help to get more of the community involved in the local art scene as well as the college itself," said Fallon Beere, a junior and resident of Brewster Hall. "I know that they do art shows on the main campus sometimes but not a lot of people go. The downtown location makes it much more accessible to the community at large."

The exhibition itself has been met with positive re-

views from students and visitors alike.

"It's pretty cool," said Dora Sherman, another junior and Brewster resident. "It's really great to see the students' art on display, especially in a public setting where everyone can see it."

The gallery is not the first of its kind at Eastern, but it is the only current permanent space of its kind on campus. Though the installments will be changing over time, the gallery will remain open to the public whenever a new exhibition is in.

"It would be awesome to see more art displays like this one," said Sherman. "I'm excited to see what the gallery hosts in the future."

If this beginning is anything to judge by, there could be an interesting future in store for the gallery. The current exhibit is generally open from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The gallery is located just off the foyer in Brewster Hall and is accessible by the 2nd Street entrance.

**FUDDY MEERS:**  
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The production opened last weekend and will run through May 17. All shows start at 7:30 p.m., except the May 14 and May 17 matinees, which start at 5 p.m. and 2 p.m.. Tickets are free to students and can be picked up at the box office an hour before the show. Tickets for non-students are \$10 and can be reserved through the box office.

As for other productions coming up at EWU's mainstage, the spring is a busy time, with multiple senior capstone productions, including "Steel Magnolias" on May 29 and 30, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged," on June 7, along with a staged reading of "Passing" on June 8 and a one-woman show on June 9. This summer, there is also a production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" in collaboration with the Modern Theatre in downtown Spokane, showcasing both professional and student actors from EWU.

## Corrections

In Issue 26, we regretfully printed "Author's new book: The World Until Yesterday" without a byline. It was written by Zachary Elliston, a contributing writer.

## Police Beat

By CLAIRE SIMPSON  
copy editor

May 3

**3:42 p.m.**  
**Theft**

A student left his possessions in a secured locker on the lower floor of the URC while exercising. Upon his return, he found that his wallet had been stolen from the locker. Someone turned it in at the main desk, but about \$100 had been taken. There are cameras in the area, so the investigation is pending at this time.

May 7

**7:50 p.m.**  
**Traffic Violation**

A police officer witnessed a Ford Focus cutting across P12 at a speed unsafe for a parking lot. He ran the driver's licence and found that it was suspended in the third degree for parking tickets. The driver was cited and released.

May 9

**5:14 a.m.**  
**Burglary**

A resident on the sixth floor of Morrison Hall returned to her unlocked room to find one of her possessions missing. It was a lei made from dollar bills that her brother had given her, estimated to contain \$40.

May 10

**11:53 a.m.**  
**Burglary**

It was reported that the metal gate blocking off the computer lab in the PUB had been tampered with overnight. Employees secured it as usual while locking up the night before and returned in the morning to find it forced up 1.5 inches from the floor. The investigation is still pending.

**10:54 p.m.**  
**Destruction of Property**

A resident of Brewster Hall reported that her car in the attached parking lot had the glass of its driver-side mirror broken. There was no other damage, but it will cost \$50 to replace the mirror. There are no leads or suspects.



OP-ED

# Plant allergies are ruining lives

## Spring-time pollen problems persist

By Zoë Colburn  
opinion editor

Now, I much prefer spring to winter — seeing the sun more than occasionally is a awesome and actually being able to go outside without fearing for the safety of my toes is highly preferred to the alternative. However, I'd like to submit a request to flowers and other pollinating plants everywhere that they leave my poor sinuses alone.



Colburn

In all truth, I don't get allergies nearly as bad as some — only a constant stuffy nose from March to November and the usual sneezing fits. Occasionally my eyes will water, but that's about

as bad as it ever gets. But I maintain that plants have gotten far too brave in their assaults and I'm sick and tired of barely being able to enjoy their beauty and their scents without sneezing on them.

Also, how do their attempts to pollinate my nose provide any benefit? It's not as if I've ever had flowers sprout from my nostrils to validate their efforts. I suppose plants adhere mostly to the "sow your pollen anywhere and everywhere and hope some of it sticks." method of reproduction.

In any case, it's awfully unjust that my and others'

immune systems should have to suffer at the hands of amorous plants and their omnipresent plant-sperms, but I guess that's just the way to cookie crumbles. Or the way the plant pollinates, more aptly.

I guess you'd expect me to be used to, or at least out of energy to complain about, my hay fever, but in all honesty, I don't think I'll ever be truly done complaining. The only thing that keeps me from really, truly enjoying the spring is the constant stuffy nose I've been saddled with, but at least there's always nasal sprays and Allertec.

*"I'm sick and tired of barely being able to enjoy their beauty and their scents without sneezing on them."*

Zoë Colburn  
opinion editor



Illustration by Joseph Weedon

COLUMN

# Cru club creates community

## Students share laughter, friendship and song at weekly Bible study

By Bekah Frank  
administrative assistant

I walked into the auditorium of Showalter Hall on Wednesday night and was immediately met with relaxing music, good company and the feeling of being home.



Frank

Going to Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ), for me, is like a small vacation I go on every week for two hours. I show up and all the stress of school, work and family just melts away. I find a seat with friends and, for two hours, there is no world outside of Showalter Hall.

On average, about 150 students pile into Showalter Hall once a week to join in the Cru movement. We come with a thirst for knowledge and we leave with a refreshing look on life.

Everything about Cru is real, unscripted and pure. The songs we sing each week are performed by current students and they are typically

current hits played on Positive Life Radio or Spirit FM.

After our jam session, a staff member or student will welcome everyone to Cru, give us any announcements and introduce a student who has asked to speak. That particular student will then take the stage and share with everyone what has been happening in their life lately.

This is probably my favorite part of Cru because it is so real. My fellow Eagles, in front of everyone, express the things they have been struggling with, the ways they have been overcoming them and what they have learned from their situations.

It is both encouraging and humbling to hear some of the things people share. The stories range from sexual impurity to problems in classes, but they all carry the same theme of God's unfailing mercy.

Once the student is done

baring their heart to everyone present, a Cru leader takes the stage and gives us a sermon through humor, humility and honesty. All of the Cru staff members relate the topic back to their own shortcomings and failures with an assurance that everyone is on equal grounds.

*"It is both encouraging and humbling to hear some of the things people share."*

Bekah Frank  
administrative assistant

During the sermon, the speaker encourages everyone attending to read along in his or her Bible and will even post the verses on the screen behind them. They want to make sure that everyone knows where they are getting their information from and where they can find it again.

Every sermon is built around the underlying theme of the scripture, that Jesus makes a difference in people's lives and if we allow Him to touch our lives, He will help us to touch the lives of others. The topics of each sermon vary from the characteristics of God to how He feels about us.

I have tried many different youth groups, churches and other Christian groups throughout my time here at EWU, but none of them have come close to being as inviting as Cru.

Cru really hits the heart of what it means to be a Christian.

They are all about showing the love of God no matter your religious views, hobbies, political standing or sexuality. The bottom line message of Cru, in my opinion, is, "Jesus loves you, and so do we."

*All are welcome to join Cru for their services in the Showalter auditorium every Wednesday at 7 p.m.*

## THE EASTERNER

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Zoë Colburn  
Opinion Editor  
easterner.opinion@gmail.com

### Requirements:

- Letters should be 300 words or less and typed, or legibly handwritten.
- Include your full name, signature, telephone number and email address for verification.
- We reserve the right not to publish letters; furthermore, all letters are subject to editing.
- Letters must be received no later than Monday at 10 a.m. in order to be considered for publication the following Wednesday.
- If your letter is in response to a specific article, please list the title and date of the article.

### Editorial policy

We encourage the EWU community to submit letters and opinion pieces that conform to the requirements listed above. Opinion articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Easterner, its staff members or Eastern Washington University.



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COLUMN

# Mariners relying on their King early

By BRANDON CLINE  
staff reporter

Another start, another milestone reached by Seattle Mariners pitcher Felix Hernandez, who has begun the 2015 season with a 6-0 record and a 1.85 ERA, a start to the season that the club has desperately needed from him.

Hernandez passed the 2,000 career strikeouts mark on May 10 and in the start before on May 4, became the all-time strikeouts leader in MLB history by a Venezuelan-born pitcher, passing fellow Cy Young winner Johan Santana.

The 29-year-old is the fourth youngest pitcher in MLB history to reach the 2,000 strikeouts mark, behind Sam McDowell and Hall of Famers Bert Blyleven and Walter Johnson, who are fifth and ninth in MLB history in strikeouts, respectively. According to the Bill James Career Assessments, Hernandez is on pace to end his career with 3,633 strikeouts, seventh-most in MLB history.

Hernandez has been the rock in an otherwise unsteady rotation for the Mariners to begin the 2015 campaign, with the Mariners sitting at 14-17 as of May 10. After a 4-6 road trip that ended in brutal, back-to-back, walk-off losses, the Mariners returned home and swept the Oakland Athletics in the weekend series.

Of the six Mariners pitchers to have made at least three starts this season, J. A. Happ is the only other starter to record an ERA lower than 3.50, currently sitting at 3.29. For the Mariners, who are 7-0 in Hernandez's starts, it's crucial to have an ace where they can almost guarantee a victory every fifth day he steps on the mound.

Averaging 9.25 strikeouts per nine innings and holding a 6.25 strikeout-to-walk ratio, Hernandez is aging like fine wine, sacrificing velocity for location and movement on his pitches.

Although he is just 29, Hernandez is entering his 11th major league season and has thrown 2,109 innings over that span. He's thrown the 16th-most innings amongst active pitchers and no pitcher higher on the list is younger than 34 years old.

The face of Mariners baseball

since he broke into the big leagues in 2005, Hernandez is approaching Ken Griffey Jr. levels of adoration amongst fans, if he's not already there. "King Felix" may end up surpassing Griffey Jr. in the laurels of baseball's greatest and can already make a case for the Hall of Fame before he's even reached 30 years old.

As it stands, Hernandez's 2,001 strikeouts rank 72nd in MLB history and is likely to break into the top 55 before season's end. He won the Cy Young in 2010 and has two runner-up finishes to his name and has 2.42 Cy Young award shares, 13th-most in MLB history and ahead of prolific pitchers such as Bob Gibson, Catfish Hunter and Warren Spahn. His perfect game in 2012 was the 21st in the modern era — beginning in 1900 — and is still the last one to be thrown in the MLB.

Hernandez was one of only four pitchers to have 1,900 strikeouts, throw 2,000 innings and accumulate 125 wins before turning 29. The other three — Blyleven, Johnson and Don Drysdale — are in the Hall of Fame.

The list of his accolades goes on, but one feat has evaded Hernandez: pitching in a postseason game. The Mariners haven't made the playoffs in Hernandez's 11 years, coming painstakingly close last season. Hernandez has been praised for standing by the team that signed him when he was a teenager in Venezuela, but that means Hernandez has had to sacrifice a chance at a bigger spotlight and greater playoff chances for his loyalty.

"I know the fans in Seattle. That's going to be something different," said Hernandez about reaching the playoffs in an interview with Jon Morosi on Feb. 23. "We've got one goal in here: to be in October. Everybody here wants to win. [McClendon] wants to win. We want to win. The city of Seattle wants to be in October. That's the main goal."

If the Mariners are to make the playoffs for the first time since 2001, Hernandez is going to have to continue being the ace he has been to start the season and throughout much of his career. It's no easy task, but it's a job fit for a king.



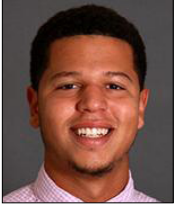
Photo contributed by Wikipedia

Hernandez of the Seattle Mariners pitches a ball at a game.

# Harvey invited to NBA's predraft combine

By SAM DEAL  
sports editor

Tyler Harvey will have another opportunity to prove he belongs with the best prospects in the country after receiving an invite to participate in the NBA's annual pre draft combine.



Harvey

The combine started May 12 and will conclude on May 17 in Chicago, Illinois. Harvey is one of 62 participants who run through a series of drills, measurements and interviews to determine their abilities at the NBA level.

Harvey, who declared himself eligible for the draft on April 1, has seen his name rise up draft boards after initially being projected as going undrafted.

NBADraft.net has Harvey slotted as the 48 overall selection to the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Harvey helped lead the Eagles to their second NCAA setting the school's all-time single season scoring record in the process, averaging 23.1 points per game.

Shooting 43 percent on 3 point attempts makes Harvey one of the best shooters turning professional this season and is the part of his game that best translates to the NBA.

The one-time Eagle walk-on, will learn where here plays next when the NBA draft airs June 25.

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# Sasquatch Carnival final meet for EWU before Big Sky Championships

By BRANDON CLINE  
staff reporter

In the last meet before the Big Sky Outdoor Championships, the EWU track and field team added a conference qualifying mark and set multiple season bests at the Sasquatch Carnival in Spokane on May 6.

The women's hammer throw was the "event of the day" for the Eagles, according to women's head coach Marcia Mecklenburg. The top four finishers hailed from EWU, three of which set a season best in the event. Olivia Midles won the event and set a season best with a throw of 187-4. Emma Murillo and Kaytlyn Coleman came in right behind Midles with tosses of 182-3 and 181-9, respectively.

Sophomore Kelsie Forcier finished fourth place in the hammer throw and was EWU's only qualifier of the day, throwing a season best of 181-6. Forcier crushed her old season high of 168-8 and is now slotted in 11th place in the hammer throw amongst Big Sky athletes during the outdoor season.

Anandae Clark won the pole vault with a jump of 12-1 1/2, just off her season best of 12-3 1/2. The EWU junior is ranked sixth amongst Big Sky athletes in the event. Katie Lynch finished her season by setting a personal record in the 800-meters with a time of 2:21.95.

In the final meet of her college career, Brittney Swanson went out on top, winning the 1,500-meters with a personal record of 5:07.49. Swanson finished just ahead of teammate Keeley Davidson, who ran a personal-best time of 5:07.52.

"It was great to get one more meet in before the Big Sky Championships. It allowed us to do some fine tuning as we con-



Photo by Anna Mills

Nik Taylor, EWU Track and Field athlete, participates in the Big Sky Steeplechase.

tinue to prepare for the championships," said Mecklenburg.

Cody Humphrey was the standout athlete for the men's team, winning both the shot put and the discus. He threw a personal best in the shot put, tossing it 55-9 3/4, which ranks eighth in school history.

Humphrey also inched forward on the Big Sky rankings

for athletes in the event, sitting in third place just behind Gus Margiotta of Northern Arizona University. In the discus, Humphrey is ranked fifth in the Big Sky with his season best of 170-7 coming at home during the Pellur Invitational.

Dallas Snider was less than a second off of hitting the qualifying mark in the 800-meters,

setting a personal best with a time of 1:54.22.

It was a personal best for Isaac Kitzan in the 1,500-meters as well, finishing with a time of 4:03.93. The time fell short of the qualifying mark and falls outside of the top 20 times in the event, ending Kitzan's season.

"While those who competed didn't make significant advanc-

es in the conference rankings, they did get a final opportunity to work on improving technical parts of their events," said men's head coach Stan Kerr.

The Big Sky Outdoor Championships begin on May 13 and run through the 16th, as the Eagles play host to the 11 other teams in the conference at Roos Field.

## Eastern thrower looks to finish on top at home

By FETLEW GEBREZIABHER  
online sports editor

After injuries sidelined him in high school from playing football and problems with his baseball coaches during his sophomore year, EWU senior hammer thrower Jordan Arakawa found himself searching for a new sport to play.

His girlfriend Olivia Midles, who is also an EWU senior thrower, introduced him to what would be his new passion. Arakawa began hammer throwing during his junior year in high school.

"I was a football and a baseball player until midway through high school," said Arakawa. "With occurring injuries, I decided to take a non-contact sport and baseball I didn't get along with the coaches too well

and so I tried track and I was kind of thinking, 'Should I run, should I jump, should I throw?' And my girlfriend was like, 'You should throw because I throw' and I was like okay."

Mildes was a standout hammer thrower at their high school in Olympia, Washington. Mildes' father helped coached Arakawa and also was the one responsible for giving Arakawa a chance to be a student-athlete at EWU.

"Her dad was also the one who reached out to coach [Marcia Mecklenburg] telling her, 'You should take a look at this guy. He has a real passion for this. You should maybe take a look at him.' Coach [Mecklenburg] really took that to heart and offered me a scholarship," said Arakawa.



Photo contributed by GoEags

Jordan Arakawa throws the hammer at an EWU track meet.

Arakawa was able to catch on to his new field of events pretty quickly, making it to state his junior year in discus throwing and beginning to throw hammer his senior year.

According to goeags.com,

Arakawa's career outdoor best at EWU with the hammer throwing is 219-3 mark and 156-2 with the discus.

Though he comes from a baseball family, Arakawa's family fully supported his decision to par-

ticipate in track. Growing up in Olympia, Arakawa describes his life as a "stable household with typical teenage issues." Arakawa's brother was also a baseball player in high school and is now studying physics at Central Washington University.

Arakawa said having his girlfriend with him at EWU helped his transition to college from high school. He said having her being able to be there to support her is very important and helpful.

When asked who was a better thrower, Arakawa said they both have "different strengths."

"I would say I have more power and she is definitely more about speed."

Though Arakawa enjoys and has a passion for track

and hammer throwing, his ultimate goal in life is to go to medical school. The biology major student said he hopes to further his education to become a pediatrician, pediatric surgeon or a general surgeon.

Arakawa is currently the student athlete of the week and holds a 3.93 GPA.

He will look to beat EWU's school record at the 2015 Big Sky Conference Outdoor Championships May 13 to 16 hosted by Eastern at Roos Field.

"[Arakawa] is keenly aware that he has finished second for two years in a row. He's very fired up. He's progressed from week-to-week," said men's head coach Stan Kerr. "He's positioned himself to go into the championships as a favorite. He wants to get that ring at home."

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