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The Observer

Central Washington University

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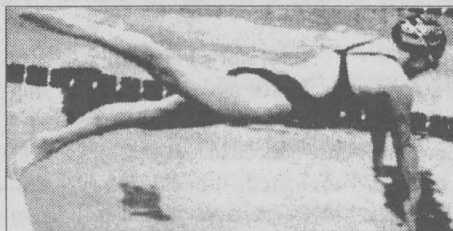


Gospel choir brings soul to Ellensburg.
See Page 8

Life In Hell

See Page 6

Swimmers dive into Nationals.
See Page 12



The show must go on

by Rob Kauder
Staff reporter

On Monday, the Service and Activities Fees Committee met with theatre arts department chair Wes Van Tassel to discuss his budget situation. This is the first time the committee has met with Van Tassel since Sarah Shumate, vice president for student affairs, wrote a memo last August expressing her concern over the deficit in the drama activities budget. At the time of her memo, the deficit was \$71,000.

In a cramped conference room in the ASCWU office, the committee met with Van Tassel, Shumate, Vern LaBay, a budget analyst from the provost's office, Dean Liahna Babener of the College of Arts and Humanities, and Joe Antonich, director of Financial Services.

The goal was to get all of the people involved with the budget together at the same time to inform the committee of the current situation and to discuss possible solutions. By the end of the meeting, the committee had

See DEFICIT/Page 4



Funding is needed to cover costs for each production theatre arts puts on, such as the 1994 production "Godspell."

Filephoto/Observer

Residence hall contracts: Beware before you sign

by Tim Yeadon
Staff reporter

Buyer beware: if you want a quarterly housing contract, you probably won't be able to get one.

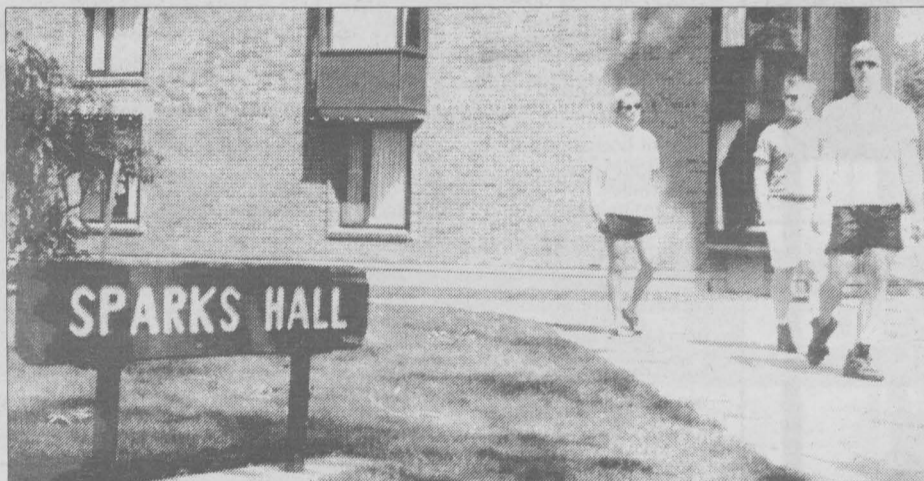
Housing services has offered both year-long and quarterly contracts in the past, but those looking to live on-campus for only one quarter will be forced to accept a year-long contract.

"On September 1, we will offer quarterly contracts if we are able to," Freehill said.

However, those quarterly contracts will be offered on a space available basis only. The space available will be determined by the number of year-long contracts sold.

Last year, CWU filled 1,826 beds on campus out of 2,109 total spaces. This year, Central has approximately 100 more students living on campus.

Freehill said she doesn't know how long Housing will continue to provide



Students living on campus next year may want to read the contract extra carefully before signing.

quarterly contracts on a space-available basis, or if quarterly contracts will be provided at all in the future.

"We're projected to have a rise in students for the next five to 10 years," Freehill said.

Freehill agreed the move away from quarterly contracts has a lot to do with the economics of running student housing. According to Freehill, residential services at Central are self-supported and do not receive state support.

Quarterly contracts were first offered by CWU six years ago, Freehill said. She added occupancy was low at the time and it was another way to attract additional tenants.

Amy Gillespie, ASCWU vice president for student life and facilities, said she has a problem with Housing's move away from quarterly contracts.

"At first, they said there would be no quarterly contracts at all," Gillespie said.

Gillespie said the ASCWU asked Housing to provide quarterly contracts for at least the 1997-1998 academic year.

"Central prides itself on being able to provide housing for anyone who wants it," Gillespie said. "This restricts that."

Freehill noted that those students graduating or leaving for an internship and must break their contracts will not be penalized like those who leave during the middle of a quarter. Graduating students will be released from their contracts if they inform Housing prior to the start of that quarter.

It (having yearly contracts) is very difficult when we are trying to maintain occupancy," Edmond said.

Edmond pointed at students who move into dorms fall quarter only, then move out due to graduation, internships or the availability of off-campus housing. He also said this eats up bed space for those who want to live on-campus the entire year, causing them to move to off-campus housing.

"It's tough to fill those spaces," Edmond said.

Tuition to increase for summer

by Kwame Amoeteng
Staff reporter

Central students will pay a little more for summer tuition, room and board this year.

Central board members voted to increase summer tuition by nearly 3 percent, which amounts to a maximum \$3 more per credit than last summer quarter. Undergraduates and graduates will pay

\$77 and \$13 per credit, respectively. Also, registration fee for summer quarter is now \$46, a \$1 increase over last year.

Students living in residence halls or apartments and eating meals in campus dining halls will see a 4 percent increase with a minimum rate of \$4,270 for the 1997-98 academic year, compared to the existing \$4,130.

Central provost David Dauwalder attributed the increase in summer tuition to inflation.

"The other area we really looked hard at was financial aid. There is not as much money in grants for students in the summer," Dauwalder said. "We try to create some revenues from the summer tuition to come back to the faculties."

Central's summer sessions are self-support operations, and are not funded by the state.

Despite the increase in summer

See INCREASE/Page 2

Central students assaulted by suspects with a shovel

by Michael Bellamy
Asst. News editor

Five or six young men jumped out of a blue car and attacked a group of Central students early Sunday morning.

The students were rushed by the suspects while walking on East 18th Street. During the assault, one suspect took a shovel from a nearby yard and struck one of the students in the right

eye.

The students were followed by the suspects as they fled before the suspects returned to their car, threatening to come back with guns and "cap" them.

The attack follows another assault on Feb. 19 when a man was attacked by four young men who "flashed gang signs." The victim was struck by one of the suspects with a stick. Both assaults are still under investigation.

Stolen Tide, wild ride, fire inside

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 5:27 p.m.

Police were called to investigate a smell of marijuana in Muzzall Hall. They located the room where the smell was coming from but the resident had just recently left for the dining hall. No arrests were made.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:01 p.m.

A 50-pound box of Tide laundry detergent was stolen from Holmes Dining Hall. Police believe it was done during business hours.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 10:30 p.m.

A day planner containing credit cards and a checkbook was stolen from the lobby of McConnell Auditorium. Police have no suspects at this time.

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 11:09 p.m.

A 20-year-old man from Stephens-Whitney Hall was contacted for a minor in possession of alcohol. He was cited and released.

Thursday, Feb. 20, 12:49 a.m.

Police noticed a woman staggering around. Upon contact, police noticed the 20-year-old was intoxicated. She was cited for an MIP and when she became uncooperative was booked into Kittitas County Corrections Center for resisting arrest.

Thursday, Feb. 20, 1:57 p.m.

Residents in the Short-Getz

apartment complex called police when they saw smoke coming from an apartment. Police entered the apartment and found food had been left on a stove that was left turned on when the resident left.

Friday, Feb. 21, 7:50 p.m.

An employee at the SUB Games Room called police when a 20-year-old male non-student returned to the games room after being told previously not to return.

Police warned the man he would be arrested if he returned.

Saturday, Feb. 22, 12:37 p.m.

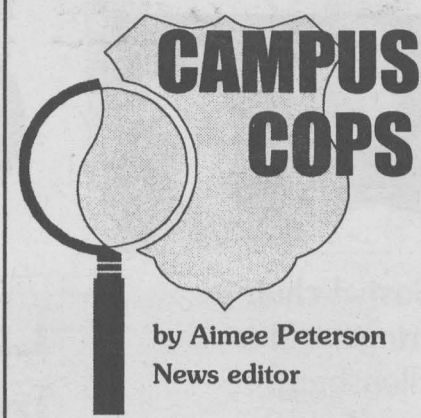
A 24-year-old female passed out in North Hall from an alcohol overdose.

An ambulance was called to take her to the Kittitas Valley Community Hospital.

Saturday, Feb. 22, 11:30 p.m.

Police tried pulling over a driver on North Alder for a broken headlight and then observed the driver swerving into the other lane, almost hitting a car.

They arrested the 43-year-old male driver when the breathalyzer registered at .251, twice the legal limit. He was booked into the Kittitas County Corrections Center.



Sunday, Feb. 23, 3:09 p.m.

In a room in Meisner Hall, a wall outlet caught fire causing the power in the room to go out. An alarm clock was also damaged. The estimated loss is \$100.

INCREASE: Halls need maintenance

From Page 1

tuition, Central remains the least expensive summer school program of the state's universities. Washington State University is the most expensive, costing \$157 and \$202 per credit for undergraduate and graduate studies, respectively.

While also referring to inflation as a

big factor for the increase in the room and board fees, vice president for Student Affairs Sarah Shumate, said part of the fees will pay for deferred maintenance costs. She said deferred improvement costs are currently estimated at \$14 million but the room and board fees increment will only allow the university to spend \$1.4 million on deferred maintenance projects.

"Our youngest residence hall is probably 30 years," Shumate said. "They (residence halls) have not had the kind of maintenance they should have. We've been very cost conscious, but we can't look at a year where we have a zero percent increase."

Meanwhile, state legislators have yet to determine how much more students will pay for general tuition.

MARK A. CHMELEWSKI

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Older students receive more CWU services

By Roxanne Murphy
Staff reporter

Central is looking to improve the resources and support available for non-traditional students.

"[Non-traditional students] are going to be more and more a part of the student body," Jane Rider, assistant director of Campus Life, said. "Older students have proven to have a different set of issues and concerns and we need to listen to what they need and link them together."

The non-traditional student population is composed of single parents, first-time college students over 25, people who have dropped out and are coming back, and first generation students whose parents never attended college.

Non-traditional students make up approximately 20 percent of the student body.

A non-traditional student support group, a lounge and a task force were all created in response to last year's campus climate report. The report found non-traditional students were not satisfied with some services at Central such as offices not being open in the evening and a lack of daycare, especially for in-

fants.

One of the main issues on which the support group focuses is a feeling of isolation and not fitting in during classes, counselor Judie Boman, facilitator of the support group, said.

"It's like starting all over and their past experience isn't recognized," Boman said. "Living off campus, [the non-traditional students] have no way to connect with other students."

Other issues that non-traditional

“
Living off campus, [non-traditional students] have no way to connect with other students.

- Judie Boman

students face are balancing time with families, jobs and school, parenting difficulties, problems with divorce and career anxieties.

"The support group is an involving group," Boman said. "There isn't one set agenda."

In addition to the support group, the counseling center is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays until 7:00 p.m. and there are also counselors available dur-

ing lunch hours.

A non-traditional student lounge has been opened in SUB 213.

"The core of students use it for quiet study," Rider said. "Some [non-traditional students] come in early in the morning right as the building opens, make a pot of coffee or some tea and they hang out."

Campus Life is planning on making improvements in the lounge. In the future, they hope to acquire updated computers and a printer, turn the lounge into a resource center and possibly bring the support group into the lounge. Campus Life is also hoping to start a non-traditional newsletter.

Rider is the chair of a task force created to listen to the concerns of non-traditional students. The task force is comprised of 12 people, half of whom are non-traditional students.

"The group is attempting to put a report together that will contain the students' voices and recommendations on how to improve the situation," Rider said.

The non-traditional support group meets Thursdays from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Wickerath Lounge in the Health and Counseling Center. For information about the support group, Judie Boman can be contacted at 963-1391. For information about the non-traditional student lounge or the task force, Jane Rider can be contacted at 963-1677.

CWU Day events prove successful

By Steve Braeutigam
Staff reporter

Central President Ivory Nelson accepted a \$25,000 check for Central's geology department's graduate fellowship endowment at the third annual CWU Day in Olympia on President's Day.

Central administrators, faculty, stu-

dents and staff assembled at the state capitol on Feb. 17 for the event which consists of meetings with state legislative leaders and some entertainment.

There were 11 issues on this year's agenda: tuition, tuition waivers, faculty/staff salaries, university employees attending class, gender equity, international student exchange, enrollments for higher education, financial aid, capital budget, K-20 technology

and the legislative process for 1997 to 1999.

Also a result of CWU Day is that Central's Board of Trustees will now include a student representative.

Lawmakers who addressed the Central group were state representatives Don Carlson, R-Vancouver, and Joyce Mulliken, R-Ephrata. Carlson is chair of the house higher education committee.

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Salt adds flavor to lives of many Central students

By James Leonard
Staff reporter

Brightly colored signs scream "Planet Salt, It's Cosmic" all over campus promoting a campus ministry that has more than tripled in size over the last two years.

It outgrew the Samuelson Union Building, its former meeting place in the fall of 1996. Salt now has services averaging over 300 students during the school year, and meets in the sanctuary of the Christian and Missionary Alliance church, located a little over a block from school property. Salt's mailing list keeps over 700 students up to date on what's happening at Planet Salt.

Planet Salt attracts over 10 percent of the Central student population and is definitely not a typical church service. You won't find anyone falling asleep in this place, there's just too much going on.

Pastor Drake Travis and ministry intern Paul Mortimore both say Planet Salt is a large helping of just plain fun and excitement. Lots of it.

The theme of Planet Salt, "It's your link to another world," suggests that coming to Planet Salt is like entering another world.

"There is a sense of belonging at Planet Salt, a feeling of being at home, I guess some of our philosophy is to just go nuts—you can follow Christ and have a ball," Travis said.

Mortimore said too often, people of the younger generation have viewed the church as stuffy, lifeless and in love with the past. One of the goals of Salt is to prove that Christ is relevant to the lives of students, and that it's fun to be a Christian.

As far as the name Planet Salt is concerned, the idea came from the Star Trek series.

"Hey, these guys are Trekkies," Travis said,

"They grew up on it. Some are influenced by New Age thought—they freak out on the stuff, for some, this is great, it's far out and they can connect with a God who is cosmic in proportions, is eternal and also personal at the same time, not just something tagged on to the church."

Paul Mortimore said Salt has been a helpful reminder that living for Jesus means constant stretching and growing, sometimes in areas where he didn't even know he needed growth. He says these same opportunities are available to the students of Central who are willing to jump in with both feet.

Travis mentioned that he places

high importance on making Planet Salt a place of acceptance and something the students believe they have a stake in, a place where it's their place of worship to connect with God and themselves.

"We have pastor's kids coming, and drug addicts, missionary kids, athletes and wimps—everybody," Travis said. "For many, this is the only

place where they feel accepted no matter who they are or what their situation is."

Tim Owen, Senior Pastor of the CMA, is pleased with what is happening with Planet Salt.

"I had a vision to reach the students of CWU before I even arrived here to pastor the CMA church in 1970," Owen said. "I spent hours,

days, on Central's campus building relationships. Students bring life, enthusiasm, and energy to the church. The CMA would probably be dull and boring without the university students. They are the salvation of the church, the lifeblood."

Planet Salt meets every Thursday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. at the CMA church, 1407 B Street.




Members perform the SALT version of "YMCA."

Photo by Heather Ziese

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More than 300 locks will be changed at the Conference Center. Photo illustration by David Dick

Conference Center all keyed up

By James Leonard
Staff reporter

Two master keys to the CWU conference center disappeared; one for Courson and the other for Munson. The entire conference center is set to be re-keyed within the next month for an estimated cost of \$12,000.

The keys were kept in a locked box so access could be readily controlled. During a recent key box audit however, the Conference Center came up short. The two missing keys were primarily used for custodial purposes and therefore accessed the main entrances, laundry facilities, and many other rooms within the center.

"It is a mystery as to what happened to these keys, but so far there have been no problems with break-ins," Ken Baxter, director of the conference center, said.

Steve Rittereiser, chief of University Police Services, said

when a key or set of keys is lost and there is a potential security risk, often times, the best solution is to re-key the area or areas at risk.

Edna Madsen, manager of Facilities Management, says that an estimated \$200,000 is spent every year on switching to improved locking systems, but only \$1,000 a year is spent on re-keying because of lost, misplaced, or stolen keys.

If students who live on campus lose their room key, there is a \$25 fee for the cost of re-keying their door. The good thing is that the job will be done almost immediately, usually the same day.

The conference center is the only set of buildings on campus that hasn't changed their locking system over to the higher security Medeco locking system. The Medeco key control system uses keys that cannot be cut on ordinary key-cutting machines. Only persons with authorized identification may have additional keys cut. Baxter, Vertrees and the rest of the key system advisory group have

decided since the conference center needed to be re-keyed eventually anyway, now is as good of a time as any to change over to the Medeco system.

"This will bring us up to speed with the rest of the university, no one will be able to go down to the local hardware store and make a fifty-cent copy of one of the keys," Baxter said.

Rob McKenzie, of the campus locksmith key shop, put together an order for 314 high security Medeco locks that will be used for the conference center.

Sarah Shumate, vice president of student affairs, said the university is self-insured, so the money to pay for the re-keying may come from utility savings or from other funds set aside for maintenance.

"In a budget of over \$2 million, a cost such as this really isn't substantial, especially for something like this that would have to be done eventually anyway," Baxter said.

DEFICIT: Theatre Arts needs operating budget

From Page 1

a better understanding of the budget and had looked at several possible remedies for the funding crisis.

To insure the drama program remains viable, Babener and Van Tassel say they the department needs a stable production budget. The creation of an operating fund for the department, Van Tassel added, is necessary because without one, the department will always appear as if it is operating over budget. An operating fund would be used to cover expenses during production over the course of the theatre season.

"The most important thing to understand is when you run a theatre you have to pay for production before you get the revenue," Babener said.

The idea is to have money available to the department at the beginning of every year so it can pay for production. Everything from lumber to stamps to table saws needs to be purchased to prepare for a performance.

Once the box office opens, people start buying tickets, generating revenue that will go back into the department accounts. The dilemma is, when the fiscal year ends on June 30 not all of the revenue will be collected by the department, yet the majority of the bills will have been paid. This gives the impression the budget is "in the red." Having an operating budget, Van Tassel says, will eliminate this. Babener agrees with Van Tassel that an operating fund for production is a viable option.

"Most universities have what is called a production account," she said. "There is a set sum in a bank account that the theatre can draw on. When Wes has a production and he needs to buy scripts and build set[s] he can go to this account, take the money out of there and he doesn't have to wait for the revenue."

Typically, universities with such an account will put approximately \$50,000 into it, Babener said. So far, however, Van Tassel has met resistance over the proposal. Neither the previous two deans nor university President Ivory Nelson supported the idea of creating a fund.

"I've asked for \$75,000 since the day I came here. This particular dean is interested in that and has helped me," Van Tassel said. "I couldn't get any money out of them to establish a fund [from] the two previous deans. I've asked Ivory [Nelson] and he said 'There isn't any money . . . you have to be entrepreneurial.' So I told him we earn all but 9 percent of our revenue. We earn [more than] \$300,000. That's pretty damn entrepreneurial."

Currently, the only source of university funding is through the S & A Committee. On the average, the committee gives drama activities between \$32,000 and \$35,000 per year, which

makes up approximately 9 percent of the program's revenue.

Shumate said that Van Tassel was hired by the university under false circumstances, because he was brought here to build up the theatre arts program yet wasn't given any money to do it. Van Tassel agreed with Shumate's assessment of the situation.

"I took the job, and when I got here [CWU President] Garrity resigned, and he had promised me a number of things," Van Tassel said. "Ivory came in and . . . froze everything. The various things I was promised didn't happen but I had to do them anyway, or else we weren't going to have a department."

Since Van Tassel arrived at Central, he has built up the theatre arts program dramatically. The department began a student recruiting program, a graduate program, expanded regional touring of the youth theatre, developed a Drama Teacher's Summer Institute and started offering Theater 101, a basic and breadth class on theatre appreciation.

"Every time you add a component, it costs more money and the budget goes up," Van Tassel said. "Every component we add is to give our students more opportunities."

More opportunities are needed because of the tremendous growth in the number of majors in theatre arts. In 1990 there were 19 students in the major; in 1996 there were 81.

Between the proposed \$50,000 production account and the \$35,000 S & A allocation, theatre arts could have more than \$85,000 to operate with to finance the various programs within the department.

Joe Antonich came up with another possible solution. He suggested modifying the theatre arts department budget to keep better track of expenditures and revenues. The modification, which would split revenues from the S & A subsidy would allow the department to track how student fees are being spent — a concern voiced by ASCWU Executive Vice President Rick Vogler.

"The main concern with this committee is the question of what happens with the student fees that are allocated to you," Vogler said.

Vogler's comments mirror those made by Shumate in an interview last week. She sees the deficit as only a symptom to a larger problem, which is the department is not being funded by the university to cover production costs. She said the S & A Committee should not be responsible for funding a program that isn't being adequately supported by the university.

"It seems like this body should be sending a memorandum to the provost indicating that it is not their responsibility to deal with an academic program that has not been adequately funded," she said. "That's not the purpose of S & A money."



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From the B.O.D....

WE NEED YOUR "not-able-to-park-because-of-the-RPZ" booty down at the City Council meeting on Monday, March 3rd at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be in the City Council Chambers at 2nd & Pearl (near the Fire Station). **Don't miss this opportunity to give your input on revising the Residential Parking Zone ordinance in Ellensburg!** The following points are the changes to the RPZ as recommended by the ASCWU Board of Directors:

- R** 1) Zone 2 to be changed from 24-hour enforcement to 8 am-5 pm enforcement.
- P** 2) Change orientation of parking stalls on 7th Avenue.
- Z** 3) With the implementation of #2 above, diagonal parking spots on North 7th Avenue should be designated 1-hour load/unload.
- 4) Beyond the RPZ document, the BOD also suggests community beautification.
- 5) Most importantly, the BOD would like to see some of the wording in the RPZ document changed.

Please come to the meeting Monday night to find out more!

Meetings...

BOD

Tuesday, March 4th, 5 pm
in the Chief Owhi Room, SUB.

Club Senate

Tuesday, March 4th, 7 pm
in the SUB Ballroom.

Funds Council

Monday, March 3rd, 12 noon
in the BOD office, SUB 116.

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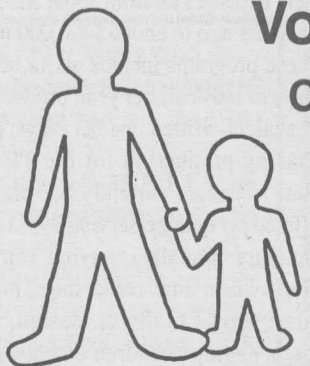
CWU vs. WWU

Saturday, March 1st at 7:00 pm

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these upcoming events:

Monday, March 3rd:

Women's History Month Kickoff Celebration! Music and refreshments in the Women's Resource Center, SUB 218, 10 am-3 pm.

Zookeepers contemporary acoustic rock, two performances in the SUB Pit, Noon-1 pm and 7:30-8:30 pm.

Tuesday, March 4th:

"Living History Portrait of Great Women" Creative monologue presented by Elaine Partnow in the Yakama Room, 7 pm.

OBSERVANCE

"Normal people" come down on black history

On Tuesday, the *Observer* received several letters to the editor. They dealt with a variety of issues, including theatre arts budgets, homosexuality and the Bible. But one letter deserved special attention.

This letter was one of the most frighteningly misguided pieces of blatant racism to roll across our desks in a long time.

"Let us open by saying that we as a group of Central students, male and female, young and old, are sick of reading the *Observer's* never-ending line of bullshit about race issues. All your articles about blacks and Black History Month and Malcolm X and Martin Luther King and black awareness and celebrating African-Americanism and all the other racist garbage your paper thinks the students should have to read. We are sick and tired of reading it."

During the Tuesday staff meeting, editor-in-chief William Baldyga read the letter to the staff and then had people submit their response.

The writer left the letter unsigned but said "A large contingent of everyday, normal students enrolled at Central Washington University" did not "want our agenda-riding president kicking our asses out of school just yet for such a so-called racist letter."

While the *Observer* has a standing policy of not publishing unsigned letters, the ideas deserved airing in a public forum.

The person(s) claimed to represent a large body of students, staff and faculty from all walks of life who are sick and tired of "reading the *Observer's* never ending line of bullshit about race issues."

"It's sad that people can't see Black History Month for what it is — a chance to celebrate and learn about a culture," staff reporter Sarah Petty said.

The letter then asserted that the newspaper was nothing more than a mouthpiece for university President Ivory Nelson and that, "we didn't come to CWU to be preached to by Ivory Nelson and his gang of bleeding-hearted liberal activists and agenda toting cry-babies."

Assistant Scene editor Josh Cooley disagreed with the claim that the newspaper was working with Nelson, as it would be like "mixing oil and water."

"As for the *Observer* and Ivory Nelson having an agenda, you couldn't be more wrong," Cooley said. "[Nelson] has absolutely no say in what the *Observer* prints."

The discussion of racial issues is doing a great disservice for the black community, the writer claims, because the primary issue — slavery — happened generations ago.

"None of us personally know a single person who has owned a single slave of any kind of color so quit bitching about it . . . if all of you whining, liberal idiots would shut your mouths for just long enough to think about what you're really doing, some good might come out."

"I think this person needs to surface for air at least once a year," Calendar editor Jeremiah Donier said. "While it is true that racial issues seem to predominate our society, this person should realize that time marches on. Without the questions and issues that are raised, our society would soon stagnate."

The brunt of the attack went against the president of the university, Ivory Nelson.

"We are sick and tired of people like Mr. Nelson thinking he can bombard us with his agenda for as long as he is president of CWU. We as students don't need it and we don't want it. We don't even need to mention some of those fools he has hired . . . [who] do a grand job of putting their feet in their mouths. As far as most students are concerned, Ivory Nelson can take his unqualified, quota-filling ass back to where he came from. He never should have received the job as president anyway and everyone knows it."

The most frightening part of the letter, however, was the last paragraph.

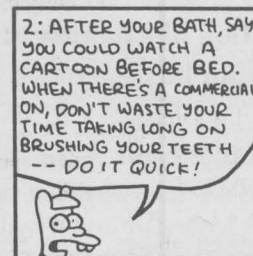
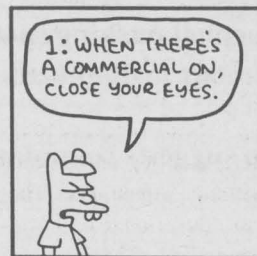
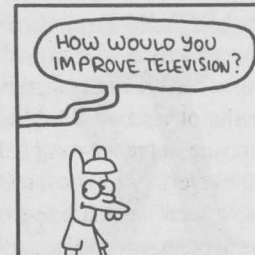
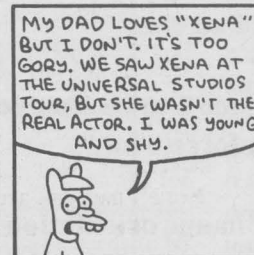
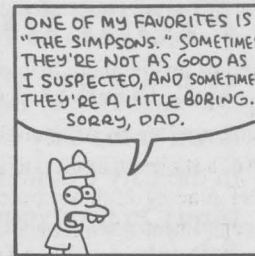
"The *Observer*, along with Ivory Nelson, aren't doing 'race relations' any good by subjecting the students of the university to the overwhelmingly stupid liberal views towards blacks. Keep it up and you will (writer's emphasis) start to see resistance in many ways. Think about it for a while."

"My problem is that these people suddenly decided that they were the normal ones," Baldyga said. "And for what it is worth I survived 26 years on this earth, five of them in the Marine infantry, only to be threatened by an anonymous letter writer at my college who doesn't want to hear about black history."

While the writer claimed the document was not meant to be hateful or racist, Assistant sports editor Mike Parker disagreed.

"The letter claimed to be above a normal hate letter, yet it's groundless assertions take away all its power," Parker said. "When has the *Observer* been a bleeding heart for any cause?"

LIFE IN HELL



Editorial

Theatre Chair defends budget

To the Editor:

To clarify the misleading information which was printed last week in this newspaper about the Theatre Arts budget, here are the facts.

Because this department is not funded, the university accountant's records for the account called "drama activities" will always show a deficit. It cannot be otherwise. Theatre operates on deficit spending. This does not mean the department is running at a loss. On the contrary, indications are that the year will show a small gain.

Deficit spending means we encumber expenses before revenue is received. We will spend about \$380,000 this fiscal year on all projects, touring, productions, student payroll, etc. Those projects will generate about \$400,000 in revenue.

Each year the department receives a small allocation from the S&A committee — this year \$35,600. That

amount represents the only "up front" money in the activities account, about nine percent of what will be spent. A few weeks into each new year the "up front" money is spent. From that point on, the account shows a deficit.

Encumbrances precede revenue by as much as six months, as we must prepare the entire season of plays and activities.

Consequently the theatre department operates by deficit spending. But it does not operate in the red. Procedures for the "deficit look" to be removed include: (1) The department stops spending, therefore no productions or projects are offered, (2) An "up front" fund sufficient to operate for one quarter without receivables is created — we have been seeking this funding for six years, or (3) Projected receivables are entered into the account balance before the revenue actually arrives.

All of this information was clearly explained to everyone who had input into last week's confusing article.

Wesley Van Tassel
Chair

S&A member stands up for her major

To the Editor,

I'm writing in regards to Rob Kauder's Feb. 20 article entitled "Drama activities budget takes the stage." I thought the article was a little one-sided. For example, Kauder was quick to point out how the Theatre Arts department's year-end June 30 deficit has gotten bigger the past four years, but he made no mention of the growth in student population and programs/projects offered. In 1990-91, there were 19 majors and eight minors in the theatre department. Over the past six years, the numbers have steadily grown to 82 majors and 30 minors.

To provide enough opportunities for all of these students, the department has added or augmented several programs, which has brought department expenses up from about \$25,000 six years ago to about \$400,000 now. These programs include six or seven plays or musicals per year, production of student-written one-act plays, purchasing production for the TH101 class (there are currently two classes offered per quarter, serving over 1,200 students annually), paying student employment and scholarships, hiring guest artists to direct, design, and teach; touring a children's theatre production the entire spring quarter (all over Washington state and part of Oregon and Idaho—a wonderful promotion for the university), offering summer productions, advertising all activities, and maintaining both McConnell

Observer

"The campus news source, serving Central since 1927"

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The *Observer* is a laboratory newspaper produced by students in conjunction with the school's communication department. The opinions here do not necessarily reflect those of the university. Unsigned editorials and cartoons represent the opinions of a majority of The *Observer* editorial board. Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are those of the author.

STAND UP: Theatre student explains her side

From page 6

theatres and shops.

The only money this department receives from the university is for faculty salaries and benefits (out of the dean's budget), and student employment, which comes from S&A (the Services and Activities Committee). The department generates the rest of its revenue for productions and programs of its own.

With all of this in mind, how can the vice president for STUDENT Affairs "encourage" the S&A committee (made up of a student majority) to cut STUDENT funding from a growing, thriving department when the money is directly used to benefit STUDENTS?

I'm also curious as to why neither Dr. Shumate nor Kauder bothered to mention the other two S&A user groups who are in the red—Athletics and the Observer! Why did the Observer print such a damaging front page story about someone else's deficit when the Observer has deficit problems of its own? And Athletics receives \$280,000 from S&A, which is \$244,400 more than Theatre Arts, yet they are also running in the red. So, why has Theatre Arts been singled out?

The story also could have mentioned that receivables from revenue for certain shows had not been factored in to the Theatre Arts deficit. If they had, that deficit number might not have looked so big and scary. But then again, it's the "big and scary" that gets people to read the paper, isn't it?

Sincerely,
Dominica Myers
Theatre Arts major
S&A committee member

EDITOR'S NOTE: According to Gary Frederick, director of athletics, his department is not over budget, nor has it ever been. Gary Frederick said the reason why there might be some confusion over his budget is that he has asked for supplemental funding for travel expenses.

Meyers also points out the Observer has a debt as well. This issue was discussed at length in several articles during Spring quarter.

In response to rising printing costs and a lack of financial support from the university, the newspaper raised its advertising rates and, thanks to Dean Liahna Babener, the business manager's salary was transferred to the communication department account. Transferring the salary, which originally came out of the newspaper's advertising revenue, will save the newspaper \$15,000 annually.

LETTER WRITERS:
All letters submitted must be typewritten and less than 300 words.
All letters **MUST** include your name and phone number for verification.
The Observer reserves the right to edit for length, grammar, libel and matters of taste.
Send letters to: Observer, CWU, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7435, or bring them to the newsroom in Bouillon 222. You can also FAX them to 963-1027 or send them via e-mail to Observer@cwu.edu.

Bible Wars III

To the Editor:

I'm really sorry Christine, but you have to use your freedom of speech or lose it. Unfortunately Ms. Vance insists on continuing. So here we go again.

Ms. Vance insists that because Genesis 1 and 2 offer two different accounts of creation that the Bible is fallible. She is only confusing the issue. The order of creation may be an important theological discussion, but it has nothing to do with whether or not the Bible condemns homosexuality.

As for the old and new covenants, it is redundant to point out that this is a Christian distinction. Of course it is. The Bible is the book of the Christian faith.

The apparent contradictions that Ms. Vance has pointed out in her recent letters lack theological backbone. Jesus wasn't renouncing marriage when he responded to a statement about remaining unmarried by saying, "Not all men can accept this statement... He who is able to accept this, let him accept it (Mathew 19:10-11)." God revealed to Peter that foods were no longer to be considered unclean (see Acts 10:12-15). Shaving a circle in hair was a form of idol worship in ancient times and idol worship is still wrong under the "new covenant."

One last point. The new testament clearly has something to say about homosexuality. Paul makes it clear that homosexuals, adulterers, thieves, and drunkards will not inherit the Kingdom of God. In fact NONE of us can inherit the kingdom of God apart from forgiveness through faith in His Son Jesus (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). So, it is not a matter of whether the Bible rejects the homosexual lifestyle. What is important is whether or not you accept the Bible as God's Word, and that is a decision that each one of us makes individually.

In Christ,
Robert Olson

Peer group educates, not counsels

Dear Editor,

I am writing to correct some misinformation and misquotes that were

printed in an article on page 6 of the February 20, 1997 edition of the Observer. The article was titled "Peer Theatre provides alternative to counseling," by staff reporter Ryan Johnson.

The Peer Theatre Troupe was started here at Central last quarter by myself and several students interested in introducing a new approach to educational programming in the areas of health and wellness. Peer Theatre is basically "skits" performed by students, and addresses a wide variety of personal and social issues of concern to many of us. It has absolutely nothing to do with counseling and does not attempt in any way to serve as an alternative to the professional services provided by the Student Health and Counseling Center. The misquote of Gina Devita should have read "our skits are alternatives to lectures and videos often used (in educational programming)." She did not at any time compare or even mention counselors or the services they provide. The students involved with Peer Theatre have been instructed not to give advice, but rather to refer students with concerns to the appropriate resources on campus such as the Student Health and Counseling Center. Anyone interested in seeing firsthand what Peer Theatre is about should attend the upcoming performance on February 27, at noon in the SUB pit or call our office to request a performance in your residence hall or classroom. Again, Peer Theatre is about educational programming, not counseling. Thank you for your time.

Mark Dettner
Interim Director
Prevention and Wellness Program

EDITORS NOTE: According to reporter Ryan Johnson his notes show the original quote to be accurate.

Winter dance big success at Central

Dear Campus Community,

I think George Peppard once said, "I really love it when a plan comes together!" If you were not in attendance at the first Annual Snow Ball, you truly missed an exciting event: An

evening of great music provided by the Jazz Band under the direction of Professor John Moawad was truly an experience to behold? However, if you missed the opportunity to see students, faculty, staff, community members and alumna from far and wide dancing to the big band sounds and having fantastic time, you'll get an opportunity to experience the event next year in February!

Karen Moawad took the idea and expanded upon it with a planning committee made up of Shannel Robbins, vice president for equity and community services; Natalie Millison, Big Buddies coordinator; Lola Roverson, Campus Life publicity; Jane Rider, assistant director, Campus Life; Kay Anderson, Campus Life accountant; and Donna Basteys, secretary, Campus Life. Their leadership was crucial to the success of the event.

The exciting thing about the Snow Ball was the volunteer spirit which took over numerous students and staff who worked to make this a successful event! Without the dedication of those students and staff who began at 5:30 a.m. on Feb. 8 to put everything together, it would not have been the "show stopping" success it was.

I truly appreciate the effort made by Karen and many others who "enrolled a number of individuals in this vision" to provide a fun social activity where all members of the community could be involved. I want to thank everyone for all the hard work they put

into the planning of the Snow Ball. I've listed below the key individuals who made this an exceptional event from a planning perspective and truly hope I have not left anyone out. Plan your calendar for the second Snow Ball in February 1998!

Special thanks go to the following individuals:


- Karen Moawad, Associate Director, Campus Life
- Kay Anderson, Campus Life Accounting
- Scott Drummond, Assist. Director, Campus Life
- Kitty Stoffle, Custodian
- Otto Bach, Custodian Lead
- Natalie Millison, Big Buddies Coordinator
- Shannel Robbins, ASCWU
- John Moawad/Members of the JAZZ Band
- Jane Rider, Assistant Director, Campus Life
- Chris Hull, KCAT
- John Horton, Building & Grounds Supervisor
- Shari Lux, Office Assist.
- Lola Roverson, Campus Life Publicity

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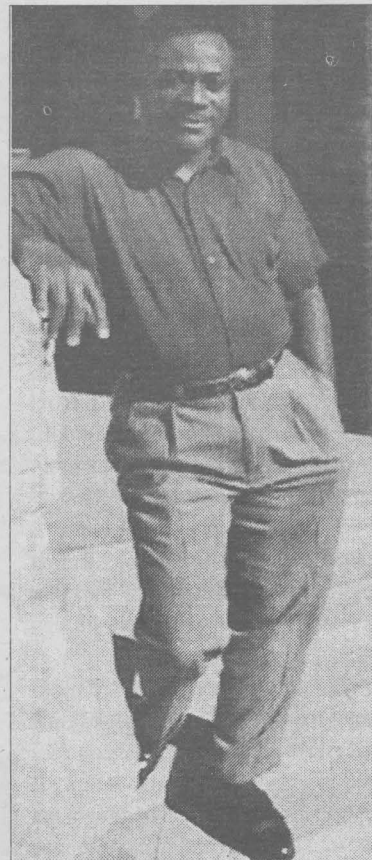
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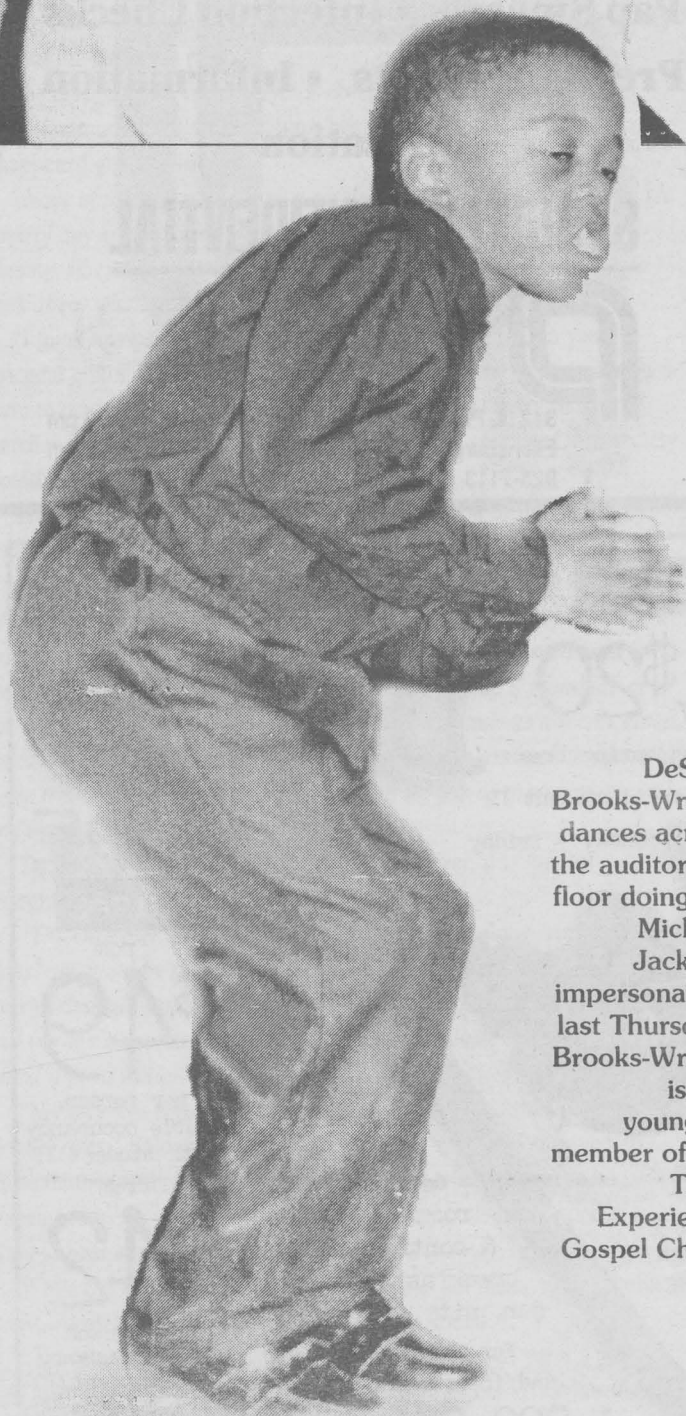
SCENE

IN HARMONY

Gospel singers perform at Central to celebrate Black History Month



Clockwise from top: Karma Johnson from Total Experience Gospel Choir, Central's Eon Trotman and Gena Brooks from Total Experience Gospel Choir gave solo performances last Thursday.



DeShe' Brooks-Wright dances across the auditorium floor doing his Michael Jackson impersonation last Thursday. Brooks-Wright is the youngest member of the Total Experience Gospel Choir.

by Jo Lynn Draper
Asst. Scene editor

Eon Trotman, Total Experience Gospel Choir (TEGC) and the Greater Faith Inspirational Choir (GFIC) paid a tribute to Black History Month as they let their voices ring throughout the SUB last Thursday and Friday.

"I'm very grateful to be able to share our story with Central Washington," Patrinell Wright, founder and director of TEGC, said.

Trotman, financial aid counselor, began the gospel kickoff with a 30-minute concert of contemporary gospel music. The songs included "Oh, I Need Him" and "Try Me One More Time," both written by Andre Krouch. Trotman also sang a song he wrote entitled "Walk With the Savior".

"I try to share the love of Jesus Christ through my music, what he has done through my life," Trotman said.

Trotman's rendition of contemporary gospel was very slow. However, the crowd of more than 30 students, faculty and staff let Trotman know by applause they were happy with the performance.

"Being a Christian ever since I was 14-years-old has been a great experience for me," Trotman said. "I continue to serve the Lord, I continue to worship."

TEGC gave a hyped concert with nine of their 15 singers. TEGC singers range from ages 5 to 27. The 5-year-old is Wright's grandson, DeShe'

“
It was good to see Central put on something as powerful and moving as this.

-Bruce Savoy

Brooks-Wright.

"My parents were the motivation for me singing in the choir," Gena Brooks, TEGC soloist, said.

The music lasted 45 minutes and ended with a two-song encore.

"I've always thought they were phenomenal," senior Dominica Myers said.

Myers said that she has always enjoyed concerts with large choirs, but small choirs can be just as effective.

"It was good to see Central put on something as powerful and moving as this," freshman Bruce Savoy said.

Wright began the choir in 1973

when the Seattle high school she worked for fired her for bringing "too much ethnicity" to the choir.

One hundred twenty-eight high school students joined Wright as she took the choir to her home church, Mt. Zion.

"I've been a professional performer for well over 10 years before I came to the Total Experience Gospel Choir," X Jones, TEGC singer, said. "It's been the most incredible two years I've had as a musician and a vocalist."

TEGC has performed at Expo '74 in Spokane and Expo '86 in Vancouver, B.C. On July 4, 1976, TEGC represented Seattle in the Bicentennial Celebration.

TEGC has also performed for the swearing in and welcoming ceremonies for 500 new U.S. citizens, has toured around the world and was the first African-American group to sing in the Mormon Tabernacle.

GFIC of Yakima wrapped up the tribute to Black History Month with a more traditional form of gospel.

The audience joined in on the upbeat music at Friday night's concert.

The colorful African attire worn by the choir gave a different meaning to gospel than Trotman or TEGC.

Each choir showed a contribution to the various beats and tempos of gospel music's unique rendition.

"I especially liked it because it's gospel music and they can sing it on our campus," sophomore Deb Fergus said.

Seafirst art show features photos from top names

by Sarah Petty
Staff reporter

For students whose number one complaint is "There's nothing to do in Ellensburg," the college environment offers wonderful opportunities to change and develop one's taste in entertainment.

One of those opportunities is going on right now in the Sarah Spurgeon Art Gallery.

Located in Randall Hall, the Spurgeon Gallery is now featuring an art show titled, *Pictures by Legends: Photographs from the Seafirst Corporate Art Collection*.

Seafirst Bank's corporate art collection was the first of its kind to be developed in the Northwest.

Founded in 1967, the purpose of the art collection is to represent artists of regional and national stature.

This is the Seafirst's second touring exhibition of artwork and features artists such as Ansel Adams, Lewis Hine, Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, Helen Levitt and Arthur Rothstein.

The 55 photographs are arranged in sections of Historical Documentary: Images made to create a visual record; Socialist Documentary: Images made to instigate change; Pictorialist: Images made with the intent of promoting photography as an art form; Modernist: Images made with the intent of promoting unmanipulated photography as an art form; and Minimalist: Images made to explore emotional and philosophical content.

What one may expect to see at the exhibit are mainly black and white prints, some dating back to the 1800's. Among them are picturesque scenes of the outdoors, characteristic of Ansel Adams' work and prints of classic film stars one would only recognize in character.

Richard Avedon's print of Groucho Marx, taken in 1972, reveals the real man behind the dark glasses, big nose and bushy mustache.

Students perceive the exhibit's purpose to be all-around growth.

"I think it's for knowledge of the world in general, to see other people's perspectives, to see things from someone else's point of view," sophomore Matt Scontrino said.

Students who have already visited the exhibit now realize the importance of involving themselves in culturally enlightening experiences such as the art show.

"It expands your mind," sophomore Doug Yuasa said.

The photographs will be on display in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery through March 25.

The gallery is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

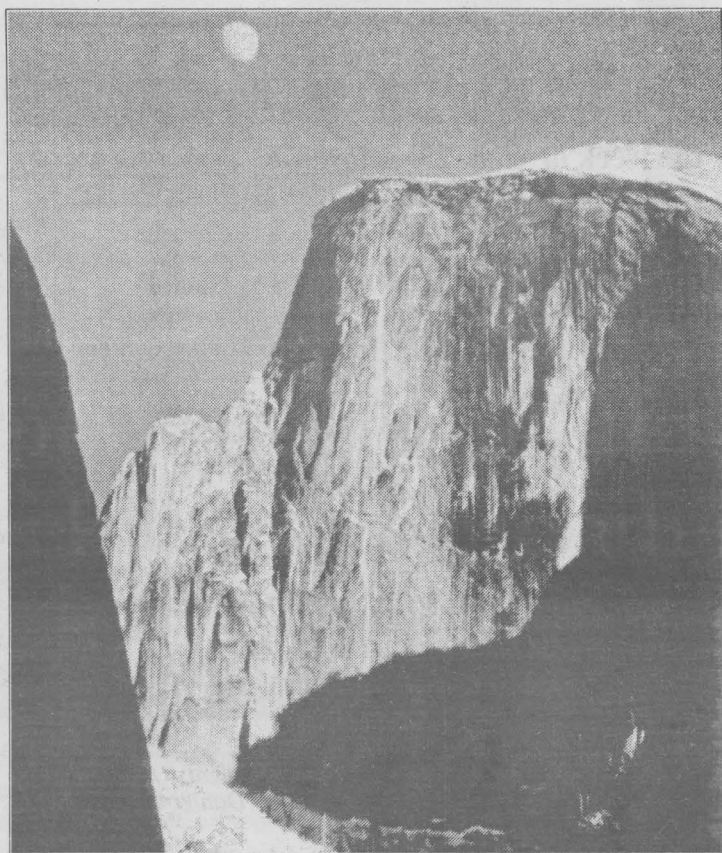


Photo courtesy of Seafirst
Ansel Adams is one of the many artists featured in the *Pictures by Legends* display at the Spurgeon Gallery.

Historical women come to life in SUB

by Jodie Alamos
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's Women's Resource Center is celebrating Women's History Month by presenting "Living History Portraits of Great Women," a lecture by Elaine Partnow, author and actor.

Partnow brings to life through her performance a wide variety of women through the ages from all over the world, including Eleanor Roosevelt, Ursula K. Leguin, and Sojourner Truth.

Through her monologues, she sheds light on the enormous contributions of these women. Partnow guides the audience into discovering that "women's issues" are not concerned solely with gender roles, but also the full spectrum of life, from civil rights and the environment to matters of the heart.

Partnow has presented living history performance pieces to audiences at schools, colleges and organizations across the country and in China and Mexico.

In her performances, Partnow selects costumes and props to add the theatrical representation and bring

color and distinction to the monologues she performs.

Partnow has created a variety of living history performances. As an actress she appeared in more than thirty stage productions including regional theater, off-Broadway shows, summer stock and road tours. Additionally, she has been cast in more than a dozen feature films.

As an author, her research and writing has gained popularity with the noted work, *The New Quotable Woman*. She continues to be active in developing performance pieces that enhance and advance the appreciation of the humanities.

"Living History Portraits of Great Women," will be presented at 7 p.m. March 4, in the SUB Yakama room. Admission is free to the public.

Partnow's presentation is made available by the Washington Commission for the Humanities through The Inquiring Mind: A Forum in the Humanities, a statewide humanities speakers bureau. The WCH is a non-profit organization supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and private contributors. For additional information please contact Women's Resource Center at 963-2127.

'Festival' features variety of art

by Ryan Johnson
Staff reporter

Campus life is hosting the Festival of the Arts, an annual multicultural event that celebrates art music, history, theatre and dance. It will run until the end of May.

Campus life has been hosting The Festival of the Arts for over a decade.

"It started out only being in January," Jane Rider, former adviser for the Festival of the Arts, said. "It sort of took a snowball effect after that."

A calendar will be posted each month to inform students and faculty of upcoming gallery openings, lectures, concerts and workshops.

"The Festival of the Arts gives people a chance to display their art, whether it's music, dance or historical projects" senior Lori Bigelow, intern in charge of public relations for the Festival, said.

Women's History Month will be acknowledged during March, as will Asian American History Month.

March's events include Elaine Partnow's "Living History Portrait of Great Women" at 7 p.m. March 4 in the SUB's Yakama room. Local Access is hosting "Ain't I a Woman" from 7-8:30 p.m. March 6 in Tower Theatre. International Women's Day panel is at noon March 7 in the SUB (tentative). There is a cultural tour on March 8 at the Yakama Tribal Center (tentative). Djordje PoPovich is hosting "Women in Serbia" at 3:30 p.m. on March 10 in Shaw Smyser room 115. Harvest Moon Salish is presenting Basket Weaving at 7 p.m. on March 11 in the Yakama room. It is Jazz Nite at 8 p.m. March 14 in Hertz Hall. April is the Celebration of Cultures month.

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Canvas paints new scene in music

by **Dave Henderson**
Staff reporter

This spring, Central students are sure to be looking for some good live music to bring them out of their winter slumbers. New to the scene this year is a three-person band called Canvas. Canvas brings an original sound to the stage, by using two bass players instead of a guitarist.

The band is made up of Justin Gibbens and Howard Barlow on bass and John Stewart on drums. Canvas has played several gigs this year in Ellensburg. They recently played in the SUB pit and were broadcast on Central Underground, a public access cable show. They have also played several local parties in and around Ellensburg, where they really got the crowd jumping with their upbeat sound.

"The first time I saw Canvas, they were geared up in these space suits that caught my attention," Arlo Hammontree, a Central student, said. "And as they played, they proved they were from planet funk!"

Musically, the trio have come from rather eclectic musical backgrounds. Barlow and Stewart have been playing together for the last three years, so there's some history to their style. When they came to Central, they

started jamming with Gibbens and formed Canvas, which they feel can best be described as an experimental garage-fusion band.

"This is an interesting band because it poses a lot of possibilities for the drums," Stewart said. "I get the opportunity to be a bit more ambitious and technical."

The band's name is open to a variety of interpretations, but since Gibbens and Barlow are art majors, who paint their creations on canvas, it's fitting that they chose it as a name to describe their band. Stewart, a 23-year-old philosophy major, feels his music was influenced by his interest in jazz, fusion and sophisticated rock.

"I've been listening to and playing everything from folk to punk to classical," Gibbens said. "Individually, we're able to compose quite a concoction because of our diversity."

"I think we all contribute equally to the sound that we create," Barlow said. "We have our own unique musical backgrounds, distinctly separate from one another. I think it's interesting to hear what we come up with as a band because it doesn't seem to mimic any set style."

Canvas has the potential to become more recognized in the future, due to their talented song writing and a unique sound. Their music is a compilation of fast bass lines and jazz-



Canvas breaks onto the local music scene with their unique blend of instruments.

Dawnda Budd/Observer

style melodies. Some of their songs have a funk sound to them, while other tunes are more fast paced and abrasive. James Martin, a friend of the band, described the band's sound as "Miles Davis getting pummeled in the back alley."

"I think the emphasis is definitely instrumental," Gibbens said. "We are a lot more confident in our music writing capabilities, that's our focus."

Their free style of play works well with good coordination and rhythm in between the drums and bass guitars. Canvas writes and performs all of their own music and all three of the members are constantly working on something new to contribute. Most of the

band's songs are instrumental, but 23-year-old Barlow and 21-year-old Gibbens do step up to the mic on many of their songs.

On some songs such as "Squid Jig" and "Grumpy Pumpin'," they use a bass guitar strung with piccolo strings, which produces a sound a full octave higher than a regular bass. This blends well with the other bass, bringing in dueling scales that really rock the masses.

"I think there's a lot going for this band in terms of friendship and chemistry," Stewart said. "So I think the future is open ended and music is at the top of all of our lists."

Canvas is looking to the future as

they continue to get more gigs and support here in Ellensburg. They are planning to record a new demo in Bellingham soon as they now have around 14 to 15 songs that are finished.

"We all seem serious and willing to take our chances and see what can happen, so who knows what the future could hold," Barlow said.

"I think we're all pretty serious about pursuing this project in our post collegiate years, considering the instability that an art and philosophy major hold," Gibbens said.

Canvas will be playing in early March in the SUB pit.

CWU students take play on tour

by **Erin O'Connor**
Staff reporter

Imagine traveling around the Northwest for an entire quarter performing in a play and getting college credit for it.

Central students Mimi Rodgers and Abra Stanley are doing just that. During this tour they don't attend class. Instead, they live out of a suitcase and visit Ellensburg only on weekends.

Rodgers and Stanley were among the 12 chosen to go on tour performing William Shakespeare's "The Comedy of Errors."

The cast leaves Ellensburg the second week of April to start the Northwest tour, which ends in June. The tour includes Walla Walla, Spokane, Olympia and Port Orchard. The cast usually stays in each city for five nights.

"Tours are a good experience to work on character development, especially when doing Shakespeare," Stanley said.

While touring, the cast mainly performs the play for students in grades four through 12 in the touring cities, with some public performances.

Because the actors are touring, they

can't enroll in university classes, but can receive three to 12 credits for touring and teaching workshops to high school drama students.

"Entry level jobs in theater are with touring companies, so this is a great first step," Rodgers said.

Rodgers plays the character Luciana in the production.

Touring students rehearse the play winter quarter and kick off their tour at Central performing at 6:30 p.m. March 12 in McConnell Auditorium.

Usually, Shakespeare productions last three hours, but the director, Wesley Van Tassel, has adapted this production to a one-hour show to hold the audiences' interest.

Even though the sets must be transportable, they were produced at full scale. Tim Stapleton, who designed the set and costumes, is a guest artist at Central for winter quarter.

"He is really a talented artist who did intensive research to develop a proper concept for this play," Leslee Caul, sales director for the theatre department, said.

Stapleton, who is from Portland, also created the sets for Central's production of "Romeo and Juliet" and "Robin Hood."

"It is intensive work, but fun," Stapleton said.

You might be slipping into that college lifestyle if



Wildcat Wit
by Sean McKinnie

- You average 3 hours of sleep a night.
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SPORTS

Swimming meet qualifies 12

by Mike Parker
Asst. Sports editor

At last weekend's CWU Open Swimming Invitational, Central swimmers swam against both college and club teams, but more importantly, worked to meet national qualifying standards. The Invitational, which

was the last chance to qualify, will be followed only by the national tournament.

"The swimmers are tapering, resting, honing their skills for nationals," head coach Chad Youngquist said.

Tapering is a winding down period where the swimmers reduce their practice yardage and concentrate on quick sprints across the pool.

"It's a resting period to let the muscles heal," Central swimmer Kara Jacobson said.

Central swimmers Jared Goins, Chris Bolla and Carianne Ferencik led their teams, and 12 more swimmers posted national qualifying marks.

Bolla was a highlight for Central men over the weekend, taking first in the 200 IM Friday, and winning the 100 fly and 100 back on Saturday.

Ferencik took the 200 free on Saturday, and finished her weekend with victories in the 100 free, and 200 breast on Sunday.

Twelve Central swimmers used their chance at the Invitational to successfully qualify for nationals. New qualifiers include Paul Anderson and Paul Masiello in the men's 200 free, Masiello in the 50 free, Marshall McKean in the 100 back, Tyler Andrews in the 200 back, Jodie Nelson in the women's 400 IM, Leah Gilland in the 100 butterfly, Tia Simms in the 100

"I expect everybody to do well, but one person is going to step up that I don't expect to."

-Chad Youngquist

breast, and Ginny Wandler in the 200 breast.

The national tournament is the only meet left for the swimmers. Up to 18 men and 18 women from Central's swim and dive teams will make their way to Federal Way next week to compete in the cumulative event for the season.

"If we swim extremely well, we could get fourth," Youngquist said.

Central swimmers are banking on their relays to earn a high finish at nationals. Both men and women qualified three teams in each relay, but participants in some relays won't be decided until the last minute.

"Some guys step up in their individual events and I just have to put them in the relay," Youngquist said. "I expect everybody to do well, but one person is going to step up that I don't expect to."

Youngquist made clear that swimming at nationals is a big deal for the participants, and when given the opportunity to be their best, the athletes can rise to another level.

People to watch in the national tournament include, Ferencik, who will be defending a national championship in the 200 free and Joni Jacobs, who has been regularly ranked first all season in the breaststroke. Erin Matthews could claim the 400 relay split time record, which is currently 24.5. She has already posted a 24.9, and with the adrenaline of the big race, could bump it up enough to set the record. Jacobson will also look to finish strong at the tournament. She will compete in three events as well as in some relays.

"There's going to be some fast swimmers," Jacobson said, "I'm looking to get my best times of the season."

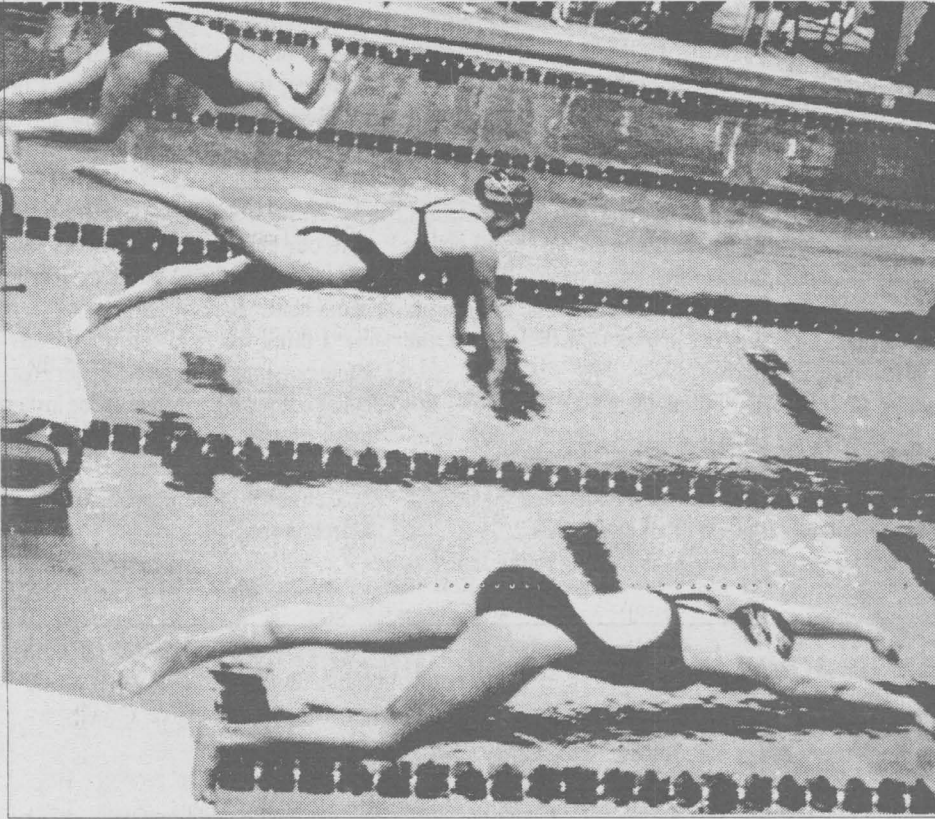
For the men, the 200 free relay could break the school record by a full second. Jon Walker, a potential member on that team will be a strong asset at nationals.

"Jon works hard, I'll be able to put him in more relays," Youngquist said.

Wildcat swimmers will be blessed with one big advantage that they have not had the luxury of the last few years. The tournament will take place in Federal Way this year, allowing families and friends to cheer on the team.

"It's been in Texas the past two years, so it will be nice to be close to home," Jacobson said.

The event will be held March 6-8.



David Dick/Observer

The time trials after the meet provided swimmers with another chance to qualify for nationals.

Schick tourney disappoints

Athletes with varsity college basketball experience kept from competition

by Lisa Allen
Asst. Sports editor

If you went to Nicholson Pavilion last Saturday to watch the Schick 3-on-3 basketball tournament and wondered why there weren't more people playing...keep wondering.

The low turnout could be attributed to many reasons, but the one that has everyone talking is the regional rule that states no ex-varsity basketball players can compete. Period.

The interpretation of the rule has been bent, stretched and even broken in years past. The rule is simple: If you have played collegiate basketball at the varsity level at any time, whether you quit the team or not, you cannot play in the Schick 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament.

Several advertisements about the tournament were posted around campus that encouraged students to get their squads together to compete for prizes and a chance to advance to the regional tournament, but the advertisements forgot to state the most important thing: who was eligible to play.

"The tournament is considered an intramural sporting event," recreation director Rob Gimlin

said. "Each university interprets its own rules and policies on the participation of varsity athletes."

As a result, full refunds had to be given to two teams and one team did not find out until the morning of the tournament that they were ineligible to play because some players had varsity experience.

Recreation directors from other universities such as Eastern, the University of Washington, some Oregon schools and most community colleges agree with the rule as well.

"When everyone in our region agrees with the rule it becomes majority," Gimlin said.

Gimlin stated that he had mixed feelings about the rule and could see both sides of the argument.

"People don't want to play knowing they'll face a team of ex-Pac-10 players when they get to regionals," Gimlin said.

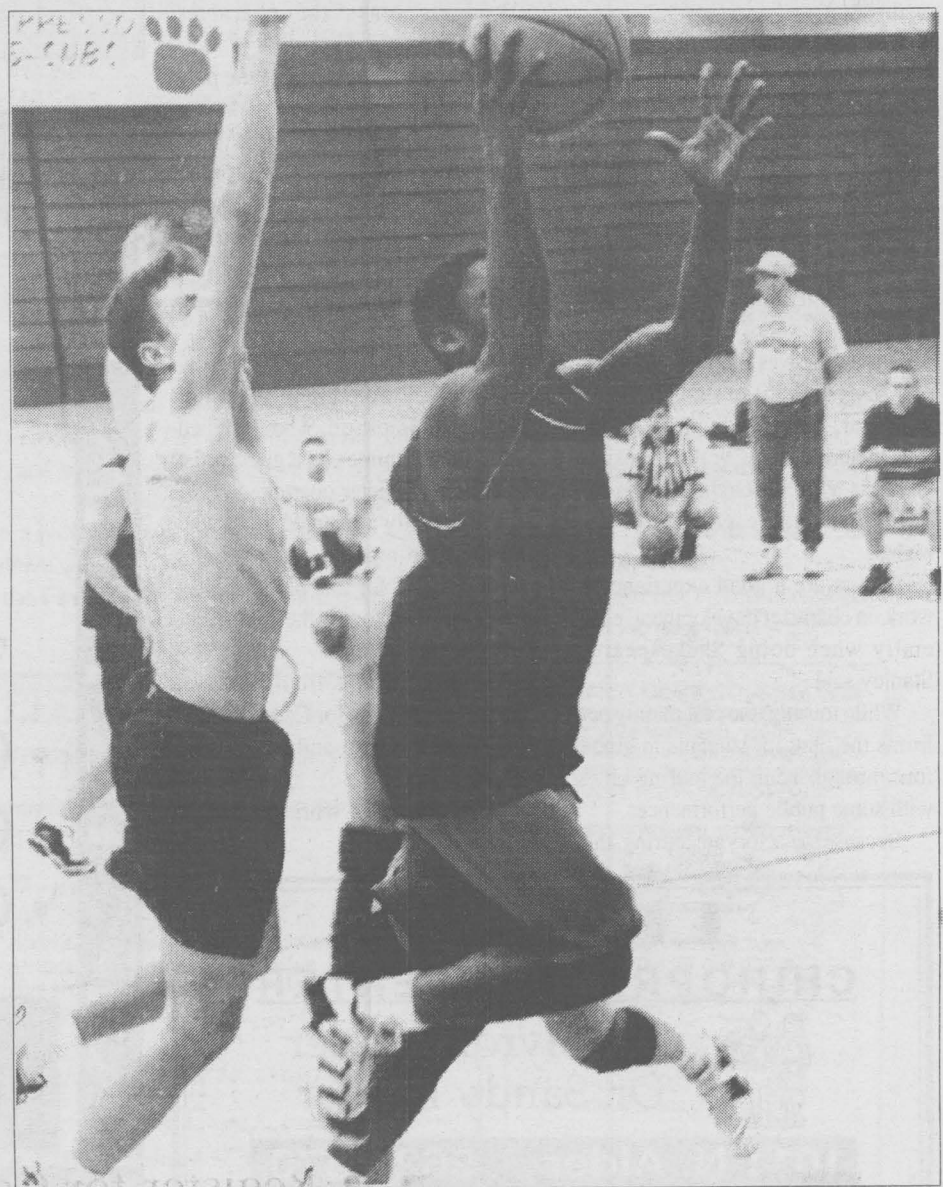
This year's tournament saw only 11 men's teams and one women's team compete.

Because there was only one women's team they were automatically crowned the local qualifier champions and will travel to compete at the regional tournament being held at the University of Washington.

In the men's division, Brian Hill's squad was crowned division winners and will accompany Jenny Vincent's, the women's division winners to UW representing CWU.

Bruce Mace, the intramural coordinator, was pleased with the turnout. In terms of the regional rule, Mace is in agreement as well.

"I think the rule keeps the tournament as an intramural event," he said. "Varsity athletes have a definite advantage in terms of skills that sets them apart from the general public."



Women fall at home

by September Woods
Staff reporter

The women's basketball team resembled a jigsaw puzzle this weekend, having all the pieces to win but incapable of unscrambling them.

As Central played their last game at home, the 'Cats were unable to beat Seattle University to clinch a tie for fourth place in the Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference. The Chieftains beat the Wildcats 91-75.

"This was a disappointing loss, losing by three in Seattle, we thought this would be a real fight through the end," head coach Nancy Katzer said.

The 'Cats gave up six unanswered points in less than a minute to start the second half, then called a time-out with 12 minutes on the clock in hopes of redeeming themselves. Wendy Roberts, Becki Matzen, Carrie Gosselin, Jill Willis and Marne Maloney went to the floor ready to attack.

"We played like zombies," Rutter said.

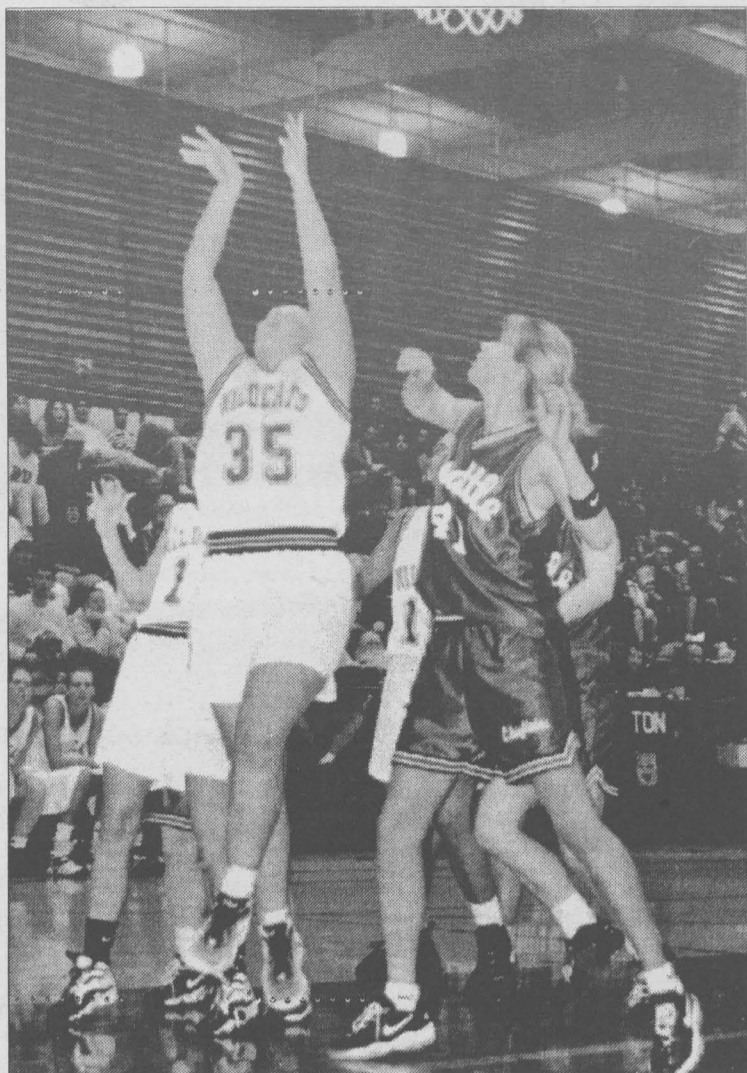
Molly Mickle, who led the Wildcats with 17 points, finished the first half strong and played her strongest second half, ending the game by scoring the last two.

"This was another one of those games where we were all out there but we weren't playing together," Mickle said.

Tiffany Rutter came out playing her last home game solid, with hopes of hosting a play-off game, against Seattle U. She scored the second highest on the team with 15 points and was one of the top performers in the second half.

Rutter said her motivation was mainly focused on winning the game but because she's a senior and this was her last home game, that led to motivation in itself. Also, Willis was injured, giving Rutter the opportunity to start.

"Tiffany is so deserving of that kind of performance, she always gives 100 percent and it all came together in that (Seattle) game," Katzer said.



Heather Ziese/Observer

Tiffany Rutter gets an easy two points in the Wildcats' final home game of the season.

The Wildcats' preparation for last Saturday's game was filled with a series of new strategies, but plagued with problems.

"In our defense, Newman had been ill during the week and was feeling weak during the game, while Willis sprained her ankle pretty seriously Wednesday and played on a tender ankle," Katzer said.

The 'Cats take fifth place in the PNWAC and play Friday night at nationally ranked Simon Fraser.

"Going to Simon Fraser is a difficult trip, riding up there takes five

hours and then playing a game," Katzer said. "Our team will not give up."

Simon Fraser ranks fifth in the nation and Friday's game is Central's last league game of the season.

"Simon Fraser is a tough place to play - they have a good home tradition," Rutter said. "We'll have a good week of practice and then go up there and battle hard."

The 'Cats will play the first round of the play-offs on March 5, against Seattle University.



'Cats destroy Western Baptist

The Wildcat baseball team, coming off a disappointing season last year, and clutching on to a program that is a potential target for extermination, came out swinging in their opener last weekend. The team pulled off a pair of huge upsets to route Western Baptist 11-0 and 20-3.

The double header was the opening series for both Central and Western Baptist, but the Wildcats seemed to have thawed out a little quicker after the long, cold winter.

Wildcat hitting in the series was superb, and after the melee was over, seven of the team's batters had .500 or above batting averages. The team average was an impressive .478, including seven doubles, a triple, and a home run by Chris Moore.

Team batting leaders were Moore, Brian Cobb, and returning team batting champion David Blockinger. Each Wildcat had five hits in the series.

In the second game alone, Central racked up 20 hits, four by Blockinger, three by Matt Turner, and three by Cobb.

Central returner Mike Reese also showed up for the series, managing the team's sole triple.

While the Central bats spoke volumes against Western Baptist pitching, Western Baptist bats were silenced by a strong pitching display led by Central's number one pitcher Mark Stewart.

Stewart, who led Central in wins last season with five, struck out nine batters and allowed only four hits in five innings. Central's relief, made up of Scott Earle and Casey Adcox, was equally impressive allowing no hits, and striking out five in the final two innings.

The second game was also won by a returning Central pitcher. Tony Lael pitched the first three innings, allowing only one hit, helping to get his first win of the season.

Western Baptist had no earned runs in either game. The only three runs given up by Central came off fielding errors and a wild pitch.

The baseball season continues this weekend with six more away games. The 'Cats will first battle the University of Puget Sound on Friday at Willamette University. Saturday, the team travels to Monmouth to take on Western Oregon. On Sunday, the team goes to Salem to take on Willamette.

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Track sprints into high gear

by September Woods
Staff reporter

The CWU track and field team is hot, but the question is whether the cold weather in Ellensburg will put them behind the rest of the schools in warmer climates.

The Wildcat track team heads to the University of Washington Saturday for the first meet of the season.

"The UW preview meet is going to give us a chance to thaw and see what kind of talent we can unveil," head coach John Picha said.

The lady 'Cats are already showing strong ability and hope to improve on last year's sixth place regional finish.

"For the women's side, Sara Levens, Crissie Gordon and returnees Shelley Johnson and Dana Riste make us very competitive in the region," coach Charlie Smith said. "Heidi Stull, we feel, is going to be a national caliber high jumper, same as Johnson."

A third of the returning women are varsity letter winners and include eight point scorers from last year's regional meet.

"We're returning Jennifer Mercy, Amanda Johnson, Angie Marchant with additions of Billy Jo Bandy, along with Cindy Figueroa in the throwing events," Picha said. "We'll be able to put some points up at regionals and possibly have some national qualifiers."

Megan Prkut, who placed 14th in the heptathlon at the national meet is the only returner with such experience.

The men's track team is led by 11 returning lettermen including two All-Americans.

"Having Chris Courtney and Chris Faulconer, along with Rico Brown and

“
Sprinters
and
throwers are
going to
carry this
team.”

-Charlie
Smith

Tony Frank, we're solid," Smith said.

Rico Brown, a top kick returner in the Columbia Football Association last fall, will join Courtney and Faulconer in the 200. With the help of Frank, these four will make up the 4X100 relay and one of the top 4X400 relay squads in the region.

"Sprinters and throwers are going to carry the team this year," Smith said.

All-American Tony Hoiby will return in throwing events for the 'Cats.

"We have good depth in the throwing events for both men and women," Picha said. "Hoiby is back this year and he'll keep adding strength to our throwers."

Central begins the 1997 season on Saturday competing in the University of Washington Invitational.

"We haven't had a chance to be outside a lot, but despite that we're looking really good," decathlete James Neil said. "This will be a great meet to break us in."



Heather Ziese/Observer

1997 Men's and Women's track schedule

March: 1- at University of Washington Invitational; 8- at Salzman Invitational; 15- at Tri-City Sports Festival; 22- at Spring Break Open (Edmonds); 29- Northwest Easter Relays (Edmonds)

April: 5- at Western Washington Team Invitational; 6,7- at Western Washington University Multi-Event Invitational; 12- Central Washington Open; 19- at University of Puget Sound Shotwell Invitational; 26- Central Washington University Spike Arlt Invitational

May: 2,3- at Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference (Burnaby, B.C.); 10- at Pacific Northwest Regionals; 21-23- NAIA National Championships (Atlanta, Ga.)

The Wildcats have done a lot of indoor conditioning because of unmelted snow on the track and field.

"This weekend's meet is going to be a true test of our indoor conditioning," Picha said. "We will have been on our track three days prior to the meet because of snow."

As the ground thaws, so will the stiff legs of the Central track athletes.

First conference loss comes on last-second call

By Brett Allen
Staff reporter

The men's undefeated ride through the PNWAC ended in a crash at Seattle University last Saturday night.

The Wildcats came up short against the third place Chieftains despite a late run in the closing minutes.

Corey Hitzemann sank two free throws with 1.2 seconds left in the game, helping Seattle to a perfect night from the foul line (21-21), and a one-point victory 77-76.

According to head coach Greg Sparling, the Wildcats lacked the intensity versus Seattle, that has earned them first place in league, and home court advantage throughout the PNWAC playoffs.

"I don't think our guys put on their work clothes tonight," Sparling said. "They thought they were 8-0 and could go in and cruise through Seattle, and that didn't happen. We didn't play hard tonight."

Central was able to take off to a five-point lead at the break, but slowed down in the second half, shooting just 33 percent from the field. After falling behind 71-64 with 3:30 left to play, the 'Cats sprang back to life.

Two minutes later, still trailing 73-68 with 1:10 left, sophomore Tyce Nasinec popped a three-pointer. Then, 30 seconds later, junior Grady Fallon connected from the arc to put the 'Cats up 74-73.

Seattle recaptured the lead with 28 seconds to play on a lay in by Arne

Klubberud. Senior Willie Thomas then hit two shots from the foul stripe, giving Central a one-point lead with five ticks on the clock.

But four seconds later, Hitzemann calmly hit his foul shots, finishing with 7-7 from the line.

Thomas led the 'Cats with 20 points, Grady Fallon chipped in 15, and Chris Mosley had another big night off of the bench with 12.

The Wildcats return home to take their frustrations out on Western Washington on Saturday night, completing their regular-season. The team will need an ego-booster after the tough loss.

"We want to have a big win to be confident and pumped up for the playoffs," point guard Todd Nealey said.

The 'Cats have earned a first-round bye in the PNWAC playoffs and will play the lowest seeded team that survives the first round.

The opening round games feature third place Seattle versus sixth place Lewis-Clark State, and fourth place St. Martin's versus fifth place Western.

No matter who they end up playing, the 'Cats will have their paws full.

"Whoever comes to play us here will be at the top of their game because it's the playoffs," Nealey said.

The Wildcats go toe-to-toe with Western at 7 p.m. Saturday, in Nicholson Pavilion, and will defend their first place playoff seed March 8.

Tickets have already gone on sale and a packed house is expected for Saturday's showdown.

1997 Spring Intramural Sports Program

SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Mon - Wed	time	Tues - Thurs
Co-Ed "A"	3:00 pm	Women's "W"
Men's "X"	4:00 pm	Co-ed "B"
Men's "Y"	5:00 pm	Men's "Z"
Co-Ed "C"	6:00 pm	Co-Ed "D"

Each league is limited to the first 10 teams to sign-up.

COST: \$40.00 per team Registration Begins March 3

Register at University Recreation SUB 111,
Mon. - Fri. between 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

League Play begins April 14, 1997

Manager's meeting April 10 at 8:00 pm NPAV 117

Pre-Season Tournament: Cost \$10.00

(\$5.00 if you register in conjunction with league sign-up by March 10th.)

Single elimination tournament.

Limited to the first 16 Co-Ed, 4 Women's & 16 Men's teams.

Tournament will be held April 7th - 10th.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 963-3512

TENNIS LEAGUE

Men's Singles Women's Singles
Mixed Doubles

Men's Doubles Women's Doubles

COST: \$5.00 per team Doubles or Singles

Registration begins March 3

Register @ University Recreation SUB 111, Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

League play begins April 14, 1997 and each team is automatically entered into the end of season tournament in June. Player's meeting April 10 at 7:00 pm NPAV 117. Players will arrange own times to play after 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday.

BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Mon - Wed	time	Tue - Thurs
Open "J"	8-10 pm	Open "K"

Each league is limited to the first 8 teams to sign-up.

COST: \$40.00 per team Registration begins March 3

Register @ University Recreation, SUB 111 Monday - Friday
between 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

League play begins April 14, 1997.

Manager's meeting April 10 at 9:00 pm NPAV 117.

All leagues will use the long courts. All teams will be eligible for the Spring Basketball tournament held May 10th and 11th.

GOLF LEAGUE

All events will be played on Mondays at the Ellensburg Golf Course. Each week will be a new event. Prizes awarded to the top net and gross scores each week. To make a tee time call 962-2984 and mention you want to play in the Intramural league. Green fees reduced to \$6.00, payable at the pro shop.

WEEKLY COMPETITIONS

April 7	Individual Play (front 9)
April 14	Blind Partners (front 9)
April 21	Individual Play (back 9)
April 28	2 Person Best Ball
May 5	Individual Play (back 9)
May 12	Blind Partners (back 9)
May 19	Beat Rob Gimlin day
June 2	18 hole Final

A league handicap will be established for each competitor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 963-3512

Softball squad will swing for super season

By John Fazio
Staff reporter

Temperatures are rising. The snow is melting. Spring is just around the corner. So is the start of softball season. This weekend, the CWU women's softball team begins its 1997 season with a four-game series in Portland, March 2-3 against Concordia.

The Wildcat's 26-person roster consists of eight returning letter winners, eight junior college transfers, nine freshmen, and one player returning from last year's junior varsity squad.

"We have a good pitching staff this year," head coach Gary Frederick said. "I think our pitching will carry us this season."

Kaci Bridges, a freshman from Chehalis, will be the team's number one starting pitcher this season. During her senior year in high school, she had a .79 ERA and earned 14 wins.

Amy McLeod, a sophomore transfer from Adams State (Colorado), will be the team's number two starter. Last year, she ranked 17th nationally in strikeouts, among all NCAA Division 2 pitchers, averaging 7.5 per seven in-

nings.

Karissa Sandstrom, a senior from South Kitsap, will be the team's top reliever. Last season, Sandstrom finished the year with a 3.32 ERA and a record of 3-8 for the Wildcats.

Along with Sandstrom, Central has six starters returning from last year's team that finished with a 16-19 record. Central advanced to the championship game of the Pacific Northwest Athletic Conference post-season tournament, before losing to arch-rival Western Washington University.

Two returning players were selected to the PNWAC honorable mention all-star team: first basemen Viki Wenzel and catcher Tora Budsberg. Wenzel, a sophomore from Olympia, led the Wildcats in hitting with a .350 average. Budsberg, a junior from Tenino, batted .286 while playing flawless defense behind the dish.

"We have a lot of new players, but our team chemistry seems to be real good," Frederick said. "For us to have a good season, we're going to have to have good pitching, a team batting average in the high .200s or low .300s, and a team fielding percentage of .960 or better."

Smiley wins regional title; team takes 4th

By John Fazio
Staff reporter

The Wildcat wrestlers went head-to-head with the region's best last Saturday at Pacific Lutheran University at the Pacific Northwest Regional Wrestling Championships. The Cats' ended the day with a fourth-place team finish and sent four wrestlers to the finals at the regional tournament.

"On the whole, it was the best we wrestled all year," head coach Kevin Pine said.

Two-time All-American Leighton Smiley was 3-0 on the day and muscled out the Wildcats' only first place title. Typically a 134-pounder, Smiley dropped down to the 126-pound weight class that he has competed at in nationals the past two years. Smiley outlasted Southern Oregon's Tyson Escobar to take the 6-4 decision.

"It feels good," Smiley said of his first place finish.

The lighter weight class definitely played to Smiley's favor in the tournament.

"The guys weren't as big and strong as they were at 134, and I've wrestled most of these guys before,"

Smiley said.

The Cats' picked up three second place finishes at the regional tournament as well.

In his first showing down from his 150-pound weight class, senior Tim Kitchen was 2-1 in the tournament and his only loss came to the country's top ranked 142-pounder. A number of controversial calls opened the score up in the final match and left Kitchen with an 8-1 defeat against Nick Cline of Southern Oregon State College.

"There were a couple of questionable calls that made the score look lopsided, but it was a tough match and we both wrestled pretty well," Kitchen said. "Hopefully, we'll get in the finals at nationals for a rematch."

Chris Feist, the Wildcats' 177-pounder, lost to long-time nemesis Matt Bliss of PLU by a score of 8-2. The admirable second place finish left a sour taste in Feist's mouth though.

"Second's for losers," Feist said. "I can beat the guy. I've beaten him before. Next time we meet, it's my turn."

Jeremy Cronenwett, the Cats' heavyweight, put his injury-stricken season behind him and battled his way to a second-place finish as well, winning two matches and dropping one.

"He's struggling with injuries, but he wrestled really well," Pine said. "He knows this could be his last chance and he's looking forward to the national tournament. When he's healthy, he's tough to beat."

In the 158-pound weight class, which Pine calls the toughest in the tournament, Steve Gusse faced three All-Americans and finished the day 3-1 nabbing a third-place finish for Central.

At 167, Jeremy Brummett took fourth while Jay Castino finished fifth at 190. Jack Anderson, Adam Gunnarson, and Bart Orth earned sixth place honors at 142, 150, and 158, respectively.

The national qualifiers will hop on a plane Tuesday to Jamestown, N.D., for the national championships that will be held March 6-7.

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