12-6-2001

Observer

Central Washington University

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Hospital in rezoning debate

by Kevin Tighe
Staff reporter

Built around 1915, the old Ellensburg Hospital building on the southeast corner of Third and Poplar Street was acquired by Central Washington University in 1965, when a new hospital building was built.

The intentions of Central were to have a storage facility or separate office area for future use. Since 1965, Central has lost the need for this building.

However, in 2000, a group of investors came to the university with a proposal to purchase the building and turn it into a residential office building.

If the Ellensburg City Council passed the initiative to rezone the building to residential office space, the university would have gladly made the sale to the buyers.

To Central's dismay, the request was turned down by the council, leaving them still in ownership of the hospital.

Public reserve zoning is for public or government entities. The building could not be owned by individuals as it is currently zoned.

Robert Witkowski, Ellensburg director of community development, said the topic was extremely controversial with residents and landowners, attributing to the failure of the request by the council in 2000.

"Central desires to sell the hospital building. They want to get it off their inventory list," Witkowski said. "It doesn't make any sense to keep it on their books."

The recent phase of dealing with the hospital building is to try to rezone the building and make it into an office complex.

Neighbors living around the building are either in agreement and disgust. The majority of the neighborhood is fine with the proposal, but some residents see this as something that Ellensburg does not need that would change the look of the town.

Currently, there is an environmental review on the impact of the proposed change in progress, and the matter is tabled until these results come back.

Witkowski said there is no way to tell what will happen with the building right now, it's all up in the air until more findings come back about what can be done with zoning and environmental impacts.

City council picked up three new members last year. There is speculation that they may have different opinions than the previous ones.

If you are concerned or want to know more about the old hospital building, call the Department of Community Development at 962-7231.

BOT set to discuss Kamola restoration, new student union building today

by Allison Worrell
News editor

The Kamola Hall restoration project and the new student union building are on the agenda for the Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting which will be held today.

For the first time, the BOT has invited several Central students to discuss a wide range of issues from a student perspective, and to make decisions over the general management of funds and properties.

As another way to promote accessibility of the BOT to students, Silvers is the first student trustee to have his own office, Barge 310 M.

"It's my job to represent the voters of the State of Washington with the BOT over lunch before the meeting.

"As a student, I feel that this board recognizes the need for student voices to be expressed and heard," Justin Silvers, senior business administration and student trustee, said.

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Women's celebration: nominations due

by Observer staff

Nominations for Central's Empowerment Center's Women's Achievement Celebration are due Monday, Dec. 10 at the center. Nominations are open to all candidates, men and women, from all fields of life who have, in some way, benefited from the success of women.

Four individuals will be recognized on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at a dinner in the Sue Lombard Dining Room from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The selection committee will be made up of Central staff or employees and community mem-
McIntyre's survey receives little response

by Amanda Hickman
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's President Jerilyn McIntyre sent out a survey this fall to all faculty, staff and administrators asking for feedback on the effectiveness of the chain of communication and governance.

The President's office was expecting over 1,000 responses to the survey, but only 161 have been completed up to this date.

When McIntyre arrived at Central last July, she made a number of changes that were intended to improve communication and governance practices on campus.

The survey was designed to give the president's office, faculty, staff and administrators a look at whether those changes were for the better or not. It also addressed what could be done to better improve communication between university entities, students and the community.

"The communication process is like a two-way street," Libby Street, special assistant to the president, said. "When you are giving information, you need to be sure that the information is actually being heard. When you are receiving information, you need to be sure you understand what is being said."

The survey asks for input regarding the chain of communication practices and the decision making process.

The survey addresses questions about whether or not the president, vice presidents, unit heads, the Board of Trustees and staff organizations like the Senate, Employee Council, and the Exempt Employee Association.

The survey also measures the most favored means of communication among faculty, staff and administrators.

"We are trying to build a communication system in which there is a two-way communication among the president, other administrators, the faculty and staff," Street said. "In addition, we want people to feel like they know about and influence decisions of the university. People sometimes feel that they are not getting the information that they want, when they want it and how they want it."

The results of the survey are expected to be compiled over winter break, and are scheduled to be completed by January.

The results will be sent to the Employee Organization for discussion and will be shared with faculty, staff and administrators.

"So far, only a small number of people have responded to the survey," Street said. "The survey will be available until Dec. 14, either online or in print versions."

Anyone interested in filling out the communication and governance survey can contact the president's office, or log on at www.cwu.edu/president/current.

PEOPLESOFt: Interactive programming will allow students to access information

Continued from Page 1

administration module to be interactive for student use. Students will have access to online registration, bill payments, address changing and much more.

Currently, Central is still running on the SCT system. Because of a lack of upgrades, the financial office aid does not have the full capacity to collect all student and parent information.

Financial aid must join two separate databases in order to collect all the information. Many times the decision is made to collect no information.

"It impedes our ability to draw students and process financial aid," Oftedahl said.

There are some concerns among Central's faculty and staff concerning the operation of PeopleSoft. A major concern is that it can only be run on a PC. Many faculty and staff do their business on Macs.

Corona stated there are ways to emulate a Mac as a PC and CTS will find a way to make this possible.

Another common concern is the cost. The numbers are hard to predict.

"The unfortunate reality is software is expensive," Marie McGowan, human resources coordinator, said.

Students are required to park their cars in lots N-19, V-22 and/or X-22 during the winter break. This will allow for snow removal in other university lots.

Students parking on city streets are also advised to park their cars in these lots. Students' cars parked on city streets may be towed.

Snow removal requires car removal

by Observer staff

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Mentors help freshman adjust

by Jaimee Castaneda
Staff reporter

Freshmen in need of guidance and a friend can find both through the peer-mentoring program. Headed by sophomore Christine Lusier, peer mentoring helps freshmen adjust to college life.

"I have a strong passion for this kind of work," Lusier said. "I really like to help other people."

The peer mentoring program is designed to match freshmen with upperclassmen who provide academic and social support throughout the year.

"I think that it is an effective way to help new freshmen to get plugged into Central and transition into their new home," Kim Buehler, junior, food service management said.

Lusier entered the program as the peer mentor coordinator last March, its pilot month, and is in charge of organizing the program by finding mentors and underclassmen.

Initially the program wasn't as successful as anticipated because freshmen weren't too involved.

"Since the program started late, the freshmen didn't take advantage of what was being offered," Lusier said.

Lusier also said this school year has been ideal because the program has the whole academic year to attract participants. Lusier personally spends half an hour training each mentor about various issues such as communication skills and problem solving. Mentors provide emergency contacts in case of an emergency.

Once training is complete, Lusier likes to assign a mentor to an underclassman according to their major. Each mentor is to keep in contact with Lusier through monthly reports. It's up to each mentor and the underclassman to get together to continue meeting throughout the school year.

All freshmen are eligible for this program and will be paired up with a mentor.

"I think that this is a great program because I get to meet some people, learn about activities that I wouldn't know about," Mike Voth, freshman, elementary education said.

Part of Lusier's recruitment job involves speaking to general education classes and researching different majors to find out which classes she can talk to.

Her goal for the year is to stress the importance of the program to the freshmen.

Ideally, Lusier would like to see the majority of Central's freshmen involved.

Those that are interested in participating in this program can contact Lusier in the Barto Satellite Office or at 963-1704.

Gift project proving a success

by Jacqulyn Diteman
Staff reporter

Central Washington University faculty, staff and students opened their hearts and wallets in order to make the holidays a little brighter for some Ellensburg children.

The 2001 Holiday Gift Project kicked off the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and is already a success.

"Everyone has been really generous and some people have taken four kids," Kim Dawson, senior secretary for food service management, said. "If we didn't do this, these kids wouldn't have the same holiday."

Local agencies that offer services to underprivileged children provided a list of children and items they had requested and sent it to the president's office. An email was sent out to faculty, staff and students inviting them to participate by purchasing a gift.

"The thing that amazes me is that we sent the email off the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and by last week all 206 children had their names picked out," Dawson said.

The Gift Project was implemented five years ago by then president Ivory Nelson and his wife, Patricia, and is now kept alive by President Jerilyn McIntyre and her husband, David Smith. Although all of the children's names have been picked out, extra gifts are welcome.

Contact Kim Dawson at dawsonk@cwu.edu, or call her at 963-2111 for specific information.

Gifts should be holiday wrapped and marked with the children's identification number. All offerings should be dropped off at any department/unit office.
by Amber Edgar
Staff reporter

The Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors (BOD) held their last meeting of the quarter on Dec. 4.

The Early Childhood Learning Center and Non-Traditional Students group were highlighted as special guests at the BOD meeting. Both groups provided information about their services and involvement opportunities.

The Student Council for Exceptional Children and Students for an Assault Free Environment (S.A.F.E.) were the only two student clubs to be recognized at this BOD meeting.

Executive Vice President Steve Erickson has been busy preparing for an economic summit, which will be headed by the BOD. The summit will be to inform students about the finances for the new Quality of Life building and to offer an update on the progress of the project.

The meeting will be held on Dec. 11 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at The Dugout where the Campus Store and Tomasso’s Pizza is located.

Jessica Sutton, vice president for student life and facilities, has been working on a student concern about motor pool inspections.

Motor pool vehicles are given a three-point inspection throughout the week. This inspection only covers oil, the brakes and transmission fluid. The vehicles are not inspected over the weekend.

The concern is that such an inspection does not find other problems that may exist, such as a cracked axle, Sutton said. A committee may be formed to look into this issue and to provide suggestions on how this could be resolved.

Throughout the week BOD members were busy with the penny drive to benefit local domestic violence and sexual assault shelters, the Holiday Extravaganza that was held on Saturday, and a variety of meetings.

Sutton has been working with Alyssa Scarth, vice president for academic affairs, on the instructor evaluations and serving as a liaison for instructors who have questions about the evaluations.

Reggie Ramsey, vice president for political affairs, had a Washington Student Lobby (WSL) meeting in Pullman where the statewide 2002 WSL agenda was created.

Erickson and Board of Directors President Dustin Stahl are preparing for the economic summit that will be held next week.

There will be a pro-American rally today in the SUB Ballroom at noon and there will be no BOD meeting next week due to finals.


central University

Relationship class added for winter

by Observer staff

Any student interested in relationships and personal development are encouraged to check out FCSF/PSY 235.02 _Relationships and Personal Development during winter quarter.

After five years of preparation, Central Washington University’s Health Center is accredited by Illinois’s Central’s university health center services are accredited by national organization

by Observer staff

by Jaimee Cautenoda

Staff reporter

To help ease the college transition for non-traditional students the Center for Student Empowerment helped re-instate the non-traditional student club.

A non-traditional student is an individual that is over the age of 23, is married, is a single parent or has a family.

“We are bringing it back because there are so many non-traditional students on campus that could benefit from it,” Kirsten Pritchard, non-traditional programmer, said.

Pritchard said thirty-nine percent of the student population is non-traditional.

Last year the Empowerment Center started the program again. The center distributed surveys to students who lived in Brooklane Village, Wahle, Campus Courts, Anderson, and the Short-Getz Apartments asking for suggestions on parking, daycare and better communication with professors.

“At our first meeting, we only had four students and at the last meeting, we had 50,” Renee Strohl, president of the non-traditional/Commuter Club, said.

The club would like to help non-traditional students by introducing them to the ASCWU-BOD and assisting them as they fill out financial aid applications.

“I had no introduction to this school and having a club like this is a good idea,” Jennifer Hendrickson, history major, said.

The Empowerment Center is in the process of making a resource booklet that will help non-traditional students become more acquainted with the Ellensburg area as well as the university. This will be available next year.

Those interested in the program can contact Renee Strohl in the BOD office at 963-1693 or in SUB room 116.

Non-traditional students benefit from new club

by Aaron Clifford
Copy editor

Central Washington University’s surplus sale starts today. The sale will focus on selling antiques and collectibles from Central’s past. Among these antiques are chairs and furniture dating as far back as the 1800s.

“We anticipate a real turnout because we have a lot of older collectors,” Dave Moffat, program coordinator, said.

Moffat has been saving antique furniture and historic items from Central’s past since 1989. Since Central has no museum the items will be sold in surplus sales. This will be the first sale in which Moffat’s collection will be available.

Other items in the sale include vinyl flag banners, TVs, computers, tires, a “Shinoger” piano, pool cues and balls, rubber hoses, teddy bears, throw rags, toys, mixed firewood, a Sears refrigerator, sports balls, meat grinders, cardboard standup figures, hand saws, scrap metal, jewelry, teaching aids, a portable sewing machine, oak captain chairs, encyclopedias, sawdust, baby strollers, old bottles and miscellaneous older scientific equipment.

The sale will take place at 14th and B Street, across from the Kiwanis Park. Merchandise will be available for viewing from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Sealed bids are to be made by 8 a.m. on Monday Dec. 10. Items sold in the sale must be picked up before Dec. 13.

Central’s surplus sale unveils campus past

by Jamiee Cautenoda

Staff reporter

To help ease the college transition for non-traditional students the Center for Student Empowerment helped re-instate the non-traditional student club.

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Safe Ride has a ways to go

Oh, the infamous issue of Safe Ride. We’ve gone over it numerous times before; I almost hate to bring it up at all, but if we could just take a second to discuss it once more I have a few of my own concerns I would like to mention.

There’s no question that has been the source of a great deal of controversy ever since it was started. Most of this controversy has centered around the purpose of Safe Ride and what exactly the service is for. The intention of Safe Ride is to be an escort service, to provide a safe ride home. It is not a shuttle system. However, many students think this program should do more than take people home. And I would have to agree with them.

Safe Ride was started by a graduate student in 1996 and funded with a grant. The next year the grant ran out and students voted to pay $3 a quarter to continue this service. This is something the students voted for and pay for each quarter. It is their service and what they think needs to be taken into account.

Safe Ride needs to reassess its goals and the reason they are an invaluable service (or at least have the potential to be an invaluable service). Right now, they have a ways to go. I understand this program has only been around for a few years and that changes can’t be accomplished over night. But they should be working towards something.

I have a few suggestions. First off, I’d address the whole drinking issue (since Safe Ride is more commonly known as the “drunk bus”). I commend Safe Ride for picking people up at the bars. Do you know why? Because it’s realistic. But what I think they need to think about more realistically is what’s really happening when they make it policy to not take people to the bars (or at least downtown at all). They drive there and at the end of the night when they’ve had a few drinks (when their judgement is not extremely good) they get back in their car to drive home. I’m not saying it’s okay, but it is what happens. And if Safe Ride really wanted to address the issue of people not driving while they’ve been drinking, they would think about this. I also think the policy that students can only be taken home needs to be re-thought. There are other places students need to go, like to friends’ houses or somewhere in town. Also, the hours definitely need some improvement. (But they are working on this. There will be an increase in hours next quarter.) Safe Ride needs to strive to be more than an escort service. This is something it needs to work towards. It’s what the students want, so they need to be listened to.

This is your service, the students. Let the people at Safe Ride know what you think. They need your input. If you really want to see things change, you need to make it happen. Stop just sitting there and complaining about it, go in and talk to the people at Safe Ride. Offer suggestions. Offer criticisms. Do something!

Safe Ride is a service with great potential, but it’s not there yet. With a little help, we can make it happen.

-Beverly Parish

Letters

Student says the Fish Bowl is not a student service that should be cut

Dear Editor,

Shame on you Observer for not covering this story sooner. It takes a student writing a letter to the editor to get this information in front of the student body. This must be the best kept secret on campus because so few people have heard about it, it scares me.

Webster’s defines service as, 1) an activity on behalf of a person, organization, or cause, or 4) a favor. Both of these definitions connote that service comes without a price tag to the recipient. It has been decided that a service that students can do without is the Fish Bowl counter services in the library. I think this is a terrible mistake.

What kind of university doesn’t have copy services on campus? The counter service provides laminating, binding, enlargements and reductions, copies onto colored paper, dry mounting of items for displays, personalized calendars and color copies. (Beautiful ones I might add) After December 31, 2001, all that will be available is the self-service, (8.5 by 11 black and white copies). Yeah, the quality of my research and presentations will sure take a dive.

The Fish Bowl has proven to be an invaluable service to me during my course of study at Central. Without the use of The Fish Bowl, I find the materials I want duplicating and transport it over to The Copy Shop. There I would meet with less than friendly service. (I’ve been there. I know)., and pay much more for the color copies. I need. If I needed the copies morphed in anyway, (enlarged, reduced, cropped), I’d be LUCKY if they were done the way I wanted them the first time. (I’ve had to do this and I swore that I would plan better in the future so I WOULDN’T have to use the Copy Shop again.) After I finished, I would then have to schlepp the books BACK to the library.

By comparison, when I used the Fish Bowl, I find the materials I want duplicated, kept them in the same building, take them to the Fish Bowl counter, explain to a smiling face what I need done, have beautiful copies made the FIRST time, at a REASONABLE price, and return the books to the re-shelf table. DONE!!! The materials
Continued from Page 6

NEVER LEAVE THE BUILDING. This in itself is an incred­
ible asset to the university. The chance of loss or damage to the
minals is never because they leave the premises. WHY
CUT THIS UNAVAILABILITY SERVICE TO STUDENTS?

The explanation for this is that when you are not on campus—
Central is not self sup­
porting and depends on the states allocations to keep afloat.
Some of these funds are allocated to student services. The Fish
Bowl should not be a student service that is cut. We need it.
We would be on the downhill decline to becoming a second rate
institution without it.

Hey, Board of Trustees, you found money to bestow on
President McRae for doing an outstanding job. About
finding some student services—

If you agree, say something, and say loud, before it’s too late.

Anna J. Hughes
Graduate Assistant, Theatre Arts

According to graduating, “it’s time for the administration to get rid of the rose colored
glasses”

To The Editor:

Abh: How refreshing. Someone who is a student at Central,
but does not yet have a cynical outlook on fees, administration, and other bu­
bureaucratic miseries. I found Ms. Tiffany Henry’s letter to the Editor (29 November, 2001 Observer) quite
amusing.

Frankly, I’m touched. Not only did I get printed in the Observer, but part of my letter was quoted by Ms. Henry. Unfortunately, Ms. Henry seems to be looking at Central’s fee structure through rose colored glasses (similar to the ones that are stock issue to all members of the Administration). She seems to have explained to a few of my points, so please allow me to reiterate a few points.

Athletic Fee:

I count one (1) event that I attended during my four year tenure at Central Washington University “for free.” Even then, if you figure that each event would be $5 to get in without the athletic fee, chances are I would not go to the 7 athletic events each quarter that it would take to equal the $35 that I paid for the on-campus weight room while I was a student. And you mention the weight room on campus… I never used it, and had no desire to use it. Why should I have to subsidize an athletic club membership for someone else? If the athletic fee was eliminated, the on-campus weight room would likely become more competi­
tively priced with the local athletic clubs, requiring it to stay competitive with the local athletic clubs.

Health and Counseling Center Fee:

I’m afraid to ask for a ride home with someone who hasn’t been to the Health and Counseling Center, for fear to think that Central could actually get it right. Sadly, the same thought that I had in my junior year, but now it is made. Maybe it’s time for the administration to get rid of the rose colored glasses, too.

Yours truly,

副教授
Former student (Class of 2001)

Proposed bill addresses issue of campus safety

Dear Editor,

Senator X (CWU Washington Student Lobby Agenda states, "We support the promotion of public safety by reporting crimes that occur on or near campuses in a timely manner.")

The Central Washington Student Lobby in conjunction with the CWU Legislative Affairs intensely have been working to help make the campus community a safer place. Due to the extensive coverage and concern of safety at CWU, the Office of Legislative Affairs is taking necessary steps to ensure student safety, and no one wants to be left out for campus. But, as stated by Campus Police Chief Steve Rittereiser, "The statistic that one in four women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime is alarming. The age group (at most risk) is on campus and fits the profile."

Student safety is a concern and needs to be dealt with. No matter what the interpretation of any statistic, crime happens, and the Office of Legislative Affairs wants to reinforce public safety by reporting all crimes reported on or near campuses in a timely manner.

Ryan McMichael, ASCWU Legislative Liaison, has been working on such a proposal that will soon be going to several organizations for review. This bill is supported by the CWU Student Police, Counseling Center, Ellensburg Police Chief, CWU Public Safety and Police Services, Kittitas County Prosecuting Attorney, and the Associated Student Board of Directors.

CWU is currently in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, which the school must publish an annual report of 3 years worth of crime statistics. CWU must also provide timely warnings of crimes when the school considers a crime to pose a threat to the campus safety.

We all know that crimes happen off campus. But, it is at the campus that students are in the most danger, and if they are not informed of the crime until days or weeks later. With the proposed bill, the boundaries would be extended and all crimes of the campus community would be available to the campus community.

The proposed bill is one way of making this campus safer. Disclosing crime information to students and employees helps people become aware of potential unwanted situations.

Sincerely yours,

Reggie Ramsey, ASCWU Vice President for Political Affairs
Chair Central Washington Student Lobby

Jennifer Hazen, Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs
Ryan McMichael, Legislative Liaison

Benefit concert rocks Ellensburg this weekend

Dear Editor,

Everyone says there’s nothing to do in Ellensburg, but I

would like to make everyone aware of a 3-band concert on Saturday Dec. 8. It is a concert that features 3 bands (Three Phrase Factor, Blue Mouse Theatre, and 5th Seat), that play very popular and cool music and perhaps might offend older peo­ple. But, for the younger people, the concert starts at 6:30 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church, which is located on the Vantage Highway. If you head east out of Ellensburg, Calvary Baptist is almost the last church on your right after you pass on the left. You must pass the Vantage Baptist on the left-hand side of the road. It is the last church on your right.

This concert is the Saturday before finals week so. Why not relax right before finals week with some really loud and good music. Also, it’s for a great cause! Hope to see you there!

Reese Coleland

Student reminds us to drink responsibly

Dear Editor,

On Sunday, Nov. 18, the world was robbed when Erin Klotz, a local Ellensburg woman, was killed by a driver. In an instant, a beautiful and priceles's life was taken away, and an­other life, Tracy Fisher’s, was threatened because someone made an awful decision.

Tracy, who hit the car Erin was a passenger in had three glasses of wine, an anti-depressant, and a muscle relaxer in her system. The legal blood alcohol limit is 0.08. This woman’s blood alcohol level was 0.3, way over the legal limit. The two glasses of wine and the muscle relaxer, have been combined on several times has someone said in a party while going to the bars “I’ve only had a couple of drinks, I’ll be fine,” and then proceed to drive home? Someone made that same decision on Sunday, Nov. 18, and now a talented musician, a giving volunteer, an intelligent student, an active outdoor enthusiast, a sister, a friend, a daughter, our most extraordinary and beautiful young woman is no longer here on earth.

Due to the unlimited drinking throughout the year and the almost daily drinking during the weekend, I do not want to hear the same old complaints if the student body wants to continue drinking and driving.

Ellica M. Thuesen, student

NRHH congratulates new members

Dear Editor:

We would like to congratulate the newly inducted members of Central’s chapter of National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH). NRHH is comprised of the top leaders in the residence hall system. Its members are students recognized for their scholarship, leadership, integrity, and their commitment to Central Washington University. Inductions were held Wednesday, December 5, at the Residence Hall Association meeting.

Full membership is defined as the top 1 percent of students living on campus based on the criteria above. There are only 20 students at this time who are full members of NRHH. The fol­lowing seven students were inducted into full membership:

Megan Faham, Dougal Fulp, Kevin Hansen, Rachelle Mills, Nicholas Wold, Mindy Anderson, and Jessica Pence.

The following students were recognized as honorary mem­bers:

Michael, Kariyn Reagh, David Biggashaw, Mandy Harter, Alison Jenkins, Min. Luke, Carely Liley, Cara Perkins, Derrick Peters, Eric Rackoff, Kern Reis, Jeremiah Rodgers, Jeff Rosenberry, Matt Sprat, Christine Strickman, Emily von Jentzen, Anders von Reis Crooks, Kate Worl, Amanda Simz, and Steven Erickson.

All members went through an application process and have proven their leadership and commitment to Central Washington University.

Sincerely,

CWU chapter of National Residence Hall Honorary

Staff column:

Guitars gently weep

Twenty-one years ago, John Lennon, one of rock’s most influential musicians, died on Dec. 8, 1980. Many New Yorkers gathered in what had been a popular stock theatre across the universe. The implications of his passing were obvious for a generation of fans. But, today we react to the loss of that same generation. Sadly, and trudging ironies, Lennon’s Beatles bandmate George Harrison, at 58, passed away last Thursday, Nov. 29, almost within a week of the anniversary of Lennon’s death, Harrison, born the same year as Lennon, was not taken by the hand of ill­ness, but was taken by the hand of a bitter life. With his wife of 23 years, Olivia, and his 23-year-old son Dhani by his side, he died after a long battle with cancer in a friend’s Los Angeles home. He leaves behind his
two remaining bandmates, Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr.

Both musicians currently are on tour, but have not been nearly as successful. Lennon made it to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, but he has been called the most successful post-East family. With the Beatles’ breakup, McCartney and Harrison were both the prominent and influential lead guitar style of Harrison.

Looking back on Harrison’s career, critics would agree he was an integral part of the Beatles, but not the dominant voice. It appears that Harrison was not quite as flashy as McCartney, but he was enough to spend 13 years of his life with two of the best songwriters of the twentieth century, Lennon and McCartney. Lennon and McCartney, however, were even luckier to have Harrison. Born on Liverpool, England on Feb. 25, 1943, Harrison’s mother gave him his first guitar at age 13. In the same year, Harrison became good friends with McCartney, which led to his fruitful meeting with Lennon and his eventual inclusion into the Beatles in 1962. He was only 14.

Harrison, in many ways, was more influential to pop music than Lennon and McCartney. He pioneered the sitar in pop music, debating it in "Norwegian Wood," and with that, brought the culture of eastern philosophy and transcendental meditation to the western world. In starting his great love for eastern culture, Harrison also became one of the first rock bands—cannot help but mention the one—kicked out of the Beatles for his drug use.

In 1970, after the Beatles split, Harrison produced his first solo album, "All Things Must Pass." The double album hit #1 and spent 26 weeks at number one, with its hit single, "My Sweet Lord." After that, Harrison lived life to the fullest. He organized the Concert for Bangladesh in 1971 and started Hand Made Films, which had some success. Harrison stated that he should get right the first time, so they don’t have to do it the second time around. He certainly lived up to his beliefs.

As Saturday Dec. 8 inches closer, let us not only reflect on Lennon, but also on Harrison, who is really an important figure. They are probably totally different, laughing about old times.
The holiday season comes with many different feelings and reactions this year. The events of Sept. 11 have shaken and changed most of us forever. It is a day that shaped a nation and left many wondering what to do in the aftermath.

With the passing of Thanksgiving we find Christmas and the holiday season taking on a new meaning. Should we celebrate and cherish what we have more this year or should we be more reflective on what we have lost as a nation?

Many families will be celebrating the holidays together only to have a loved one sent away to fight the ever-growing war on terrorism. Other people who were more directly related to the tragedies were robbed of the chance to be together this season.

President Bush advised us that the best way to display the strength of this great nation is to go on with life as usual, I understand that this is the quickest way to move on, but I think it is hard for many Americans to conduct themselves in the same way this holiday season.

Retailers dealt with this issue by designating an extra day of discount shopping after Thanksgiving. Sources projected that holiday sales would be up only 2.5 to 3 percent this year, which would make it the worst showing since 1990.

In the last three months we have all seen a nation truly come together to help each other in a way that I could never have imagined. We reside in the richest and arguably the most privileged nation in the world and yet we have never had the sense of patriotism and camaraderie that is now apparent.

Will people feel like shelling out big bucks for material things when reflecting on what has happened or will it be a season more focused on family and giving thanks?

Only time will tell what the future will hold, but I know that this year more than ever I will be thinking more of family and the privileges that I have had growing up in this nation.

Quote of the week

"In the old days, it was not called the Holiday Season; the Christians called it 'Christmas' and went to church; the Jews called it 'Hanukkah' and went to synagogues; the atheists went to parties and drank. People passing each other on the street would say 'Merry Christmas!' or 'Happy Hanukkah!' or (to the atheists) 'Look out for that wall!'"

—Dave Barry
Review

Zach Hippi
Staff reporter

Not your usual Christmas tunes

When thinking of Christmas music, a person of our age would generally think of what their parents would play during the holidays; traditional school tunes. Peter, Paul and Mary, the Muppets and the Chipmunks are what I grew up listening to, and quite frankly as I got older I got fed up with it.

I’ve opted for a more “alternative” approach to the Christmas scene by listening to a two-hand split CD put out by The Jimmies and The Daryls.

The album is called “The Jimmies and The Daryls Christmas Carol,” and it features 11 traditional Christmas songs thrown together with a punk-rock twist.

The play list includes such classics as “Santa Claus is Coming to Town,” “Silent Night,” and “The 12 days of Christmas.”

The bands are both from the Northwest, and have put out numerous other CDs and compilation discs, but none are quite as unique as this one.

Instead of Kermit and the other Muppets singing there are powerful guitars, and a lot of screaming.

“The first time I listened to the CD all I could picture was Sama and his elves hopped up on a bunch of crack making toys, it was great,” Central senior Colin Irion said. “I wish my parents would have listened to this when I was little.”

If standard Christmas music is getting old and cliche try something new and punk, and dammit, turn it up loud.

Review

Melissa Chambers
Staff reporter

Set your sights on ‘Spy Game’

Amazing, another hit movie for director Tony Scott. Scott directed “Enemy of the State,” “Crimson Tide,” “Days of Thunder,” and “Top Gun” to name a few. Scott usually directs movies that are packed full of action and “Spy Game” is no exception.

Nathan Muir (Robert Redford) is a CIA agent on his way to retirement when he finds out his protege, Tom Bishop (Brad Pitt), has been captured, accused of espionage and put in a Chinese prison.

He is to be executed within 24 hours of his arrest.

The movie is full of flashbacks; Muir has to explain to colleagues how he met Bishop, why he accused of espionage and put in a Chinese prison. When he tries to save her he is arrested.

This is an amazing movie. The filming and acting are incredible. Redford and Pitt made their characters come alive with a vengeance; their chemistry together was amazing and the emotions between them seemed real.

Something I found to be unspoken in the movie was the connection between the characters. I got the impression that Muir looked at Bishop as a son. He cared deeply for him and the success of his job. Muir risks everything to save Bishop’s life just as a father would do for a son.

Redford and Pitt captured my attention from the minute the movie began and had me on the edge of my seat until the credits rolled through.

A movie that can make someone want to make a life altering change is worth seeing. During this movie I felt the need to quit school and become a CIA agent. There is something about the movie that is unexplainable.

I give this movie 4.5 out of 5 stars; all the dynamics of a good movie were there: action, love, suspense and the all-important good ending. Go to it by yourself if no one else wants to see it, but I can’t see that happening.

Gift ideas for the poor student

Most of you are waiting for the next refund check, so here are some inexpensive ideas.

* Socks with cute designs, Gap Outlet, $6.99-$9.99
* Candy and candle holders, Pier 1, $3-$5
* Bouquet of roses, Safeway, $9.99
* Gloves with furry wrists, Target, $8.99
* Stuffied animal, most discount retail, $5-$15
* Lotion, body wash, or candles, Bath and Body Works, $5-$11.50
* Men’s aftershave lotion, Bath and Body Works, $5
* Eight piece screwdriver set, Car Quest, $8.99
* Slippers, Rite Aid, $4.99-$10.99
* Chocolate with alcohol filling, Liquor store, $3.50
* Subscription to Playboy, only $1 an issue, online at playboy.com
* 1-year subscription to Marie Claire, $12

* Gift certificate for two to the movies in Ellensburg, $14.00
* Starbucks gift card, $15
* Hats and gloves for all ages at Old Navy, $8.50-$14.50
* Calendar for the 2002 year, most places sell calendars for less than $10
* Thermos for hot chocolate or coffee on the way to the slopes, $6.99-$14.99
* Cool mugs can be found in booths at the mall, gift shops or specialty shops, $5.99-$10.99
* Gift certificate to Campus U-totem or The Tax, $10.00

“Christmas Carols” can be purchased at Rodeo Records.

“Spy Game” is playing at the Liberty Theater.

"Our favorite place to stay in Washington state. See you next year."

-J & C (Ft. Worth, TX)
I don’t welcome the holidays with open arms, a Santa hat, and rosy cheeks. So rather than revel in another year of “It’s a Wonderful Life,” I’d rather watch “Scrooged.” This movie is great because it provokes a crazy cast that includes a disgruntled employee with a shotgun, a violent fairy, and a taxi driver from hell. You all know about the ghosts of Christmas and “God bless us, everyone,” but if you haven’t seen “Scrooged” you don’t know Ebenezer from Jack.

Emily Bonden

Choosing a favorite is never easy, especially when it comes to my favorite Christmas movie. After a long deliberation I finally come to the conclusion that my favorite movie is the original “How the Grinch Stole Christmas.” It’s just a classic. Jim Carrey has nothing on the cartoon version. It’s my personal favorite because there are no special effects and no million dollar over-actions that distract from the entertainment. Dr. Seuss, creator of such national icon that will forever be known as the Grinch, has created a number of stories throughout the years but his animated version of “How The Grinch Stole Christmas” can never be topped. The Grinch is a movie I watched on TV, growing up and still watch to this day. This movie reminds me more now that Christmas is about family, happiness and togetherness. Dr. Seuss brought to light the idea that everyone is good, they just have to see what is really important to find goodness in themselves. The Grinch, so evil and cold hearted, found goodness in himself, and because of this his heart grew three sizes in one day.

Melissa Chambers

Who can forget the Griswold’s Family Christmas and Cousin Eddie’s infamous black dicky under a white sweater fashion faux pas? I can’t and either can my family because for the past 10 years we have made “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation” a holiday tradition.

My suggestion for this holiday is to go out and rent, buy or borrow this movie, park your “tenement on wheels” and enjoy a true holiday classic.

Staci Miller

“Where do you think you’re going? Nobody’s leaving...we’re gonna have the hup, hup, happiest Christmas since Bing Crosby tap danced with Danny *f**k Kane, and when Santa squeezes his fat white ass down that chimney tonight, he’s gonna find the jolliest bunch of a**holes this side of the muthafucka.”

Clark W. Griswold (Chevy Chase), “National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation.”

One of my favorite scenes is when Aunt Bethany’s car (which she wrapped up to give as a present) is chewing on the unplugged tree lights and Clark plugs them back in. The next we see is a flame and hear a meow from under a chair. Clark moves the chair and a barn in the shape of a cat and some fur are all that’s left. Every time I watch that scene it makes me laugh.

Veronica Jones
Other celebrations this holiday season

Hanukkah
by Zach Hippi
Staff reporter

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday, and is translated as "dedication" in Hebrew. It's also commonly called the fes­
tival of lights. The celebra­
tion takes place over eight days in December. This year, Hanukkah begins at dusk on December 9.

Some customary traditions of Hanukkah are spinning a dreidel (a top-like object with Hebrew letters on it) and eating potato pancakes called latkes. Other traditional foods of Hanukkah are Sufganiyot (Hanukkah doughnuts), and Loukoumades. But the thing most associated with Hanukkah is the Menorah. A Menorah is a candle holder, with nine candles. One of the spots is for a helper candle, the others are lit one by one for eight days, coming to an end when the final candle is lit. The tradition of lighting the Menorah came from a leg­
end that pure oil burned for eight days without being refilled during the battle of the Jews and the Syrians. Many traditions vary from family to family, but may con­
tain of Torah readings, and reciting the aleph tikva prayer.

Have fun and
be safe this
holiday season!
Remember,
winter quarter starts
Thursday, January 3, 2002.

During this holiday season remember the wise words of Adam Sandler, "drink your gin and tonic, and don't smoke your marijuanica, and have a happy, happy, happy, happy Hanukkah.

Kwanzaa
by Veronica Jones
Staff reporter

Christian isn't the only celebra­
tion that takes place in December. Kwanzaa is an African-American and Pan-African cultural celebration that begins in 1966 during the Black Freedom Movement; it is not a reli­
gious holiday and can be celebrated by African-Americans of all faiths. Kwanzaa begins on Dec. 26 and runs through Jan 1.

Kwanzaa revolves around the Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles in Swahili) that help build and strengthen family, community, and culture for African-Americans.

Like any cultural celebration, Kwanzaa has symbols: Mazao (The Crop) symbolizes African harvest celebrations and the rewards of working together productively; Mkeka (The Mat) symbolizes African tradition and history, they build on this foundation; Kinara (The Candle Holder) symbolizes the ancestors, continental Africans; Muhindi (The Corn) symbolizes the African tradition and history. They must always be given. Mchizaji (The Unity Candle) symbolizes the children; they must always be given. Zawadi (The Gifts) symbolizes parents' love for their children, and the children's commitment to their parents.

For Kwanzaa rituals, a mat is put on a table and candles are placed in the candle holder. There's one black candle, which symbolizes the African people, three red ones that stand for their struggle, and three green ones that stand for the future and the hope that comes from their struggles. The seven candles repre­
se the Seven Principles.

The black candle symbolizes Umoja (unity) and is put in the cen­
ter of the candle holder; the red ones stand for Kuujichagulia (self-determi­nation), Ujamaa (cooperative eco­

nomic), and Kuumba (creativity) and are placed to the left of the black candle; the green ones stand for Ujima (collective work and responsi­bility), Nia (purpose), and Imani (faith) and are placed to the right of the black candle. The black candle is lit on the first day and the rest of the candles are lit left to right on the following days. This shows that the people are first, then their struggle, and finally the hope that results from that struggle. The other symbols are then placed on or beside the mat. Gifts are generally given just to children; they must always be given along with a book to stress the tradi­
tion of learning, and a heritage sym­

bol to strengthen the dedication to African tradition and history.

Have fun and be safe this holiday season! Remember, winter quarter starts Thursday, January 3, 2002.

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Ramadan
by Shane Cleveland
Staff reporter

Ramadan, the Muslim holy month is underway for the 1.5 bil­

lion Muslims worldwide. In accor­
dance with the Islamic lunar calen­
dar Ramadan occurs at a different time each year. This year Ramadan began Nov. 17 and will end on Dec. 17, which places it around other religious hol­

idays celebrated such as Christmas and Hanukkah.

Throughout Ramadan, partici­
pants must fast from sunrise to sun­
set. Smoking and sex are also for­
bidden during the holy month.

Muslims go without the nour­
ishment of food and water to learn discipline, self-restraint and gross.

The last day of Ramadan, Id al-Fitr, is celebrated by feasting.

Free pregnancy tests. Caring and confidential.
Call 1-800-935-HELP

Pregnant?

OFFICE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION
Presents
AEROBIC WALKING CLASS
Indoor aerobic walking to music
Optional toning exercises
Safe for all fitness levels
Tuesdays, 7-8 pm
Fridays, 6-7 pm
Nicholson Pavilion Upper Gym
$20 per person
For more information call, 963-1526

AEROSIZE•The EX Solution
TUE 963-3523

INDOOR AEROBIC WALKING
& TONING CLASSES
Wednesdays and Thursdays
Upper Gym
$20 per person
For more information call 963-1526

BEFORE YOU LEAVE FOR THE HOLIDAYS
BRRRR!!!
Now that freezing temperatures are here, let's take the necessary steps to avoid frozen water pipes:

1. Close all foundation vents. Seal all cracks and holes in the foundation or crawl space.
2. Turn off and drain outside faucets.
3. During periods of extreme cold weather, it is wise to use the water periodically, or allow a small amount of water to run, to maintain circulation in the water pipes.
4. If your residence is vacant for a short time, set your thermostat high enough so the pipes won't freeze.
5. If you are vacationing for an extended period of time, have your water turned off at the meter, by the City Water Department, at no charge during normal working hours, so you can drain your pipes.

If your pipes should freeze, do not use an open flame to thaw the pipes, and use caution for clearance when using space heaters. If you are unable to locate your shut-off valve to repair broken pipes, the City Water Department will turn off your water at the meter, at no charge during normal working hours, while the repairs are completed. It is very impor­
tant only City personnel turn off water meters as the shut-off valve may freeze during cold weather making it to break easily. In order for City personnel to shut off your water in a timely fashion, make sure your address is visible on your house and all doors is removed from the top of the water meter box.

If you have any questions, or for after hours emergency shutoff, please call the City Water Department at 962-7930.

A public service message from the City of Ellensburg Public Works Department.
Fall quarter is just about finished and winter break is within arm's reach. Make this break one to remember and go on the all important college road trip. It's almost an unwritten law that every student must embark on a crazy low budget trip somewhere out of state. Take advantage of the early snow and head to a ski area for the trip of your college career.

Here are some suggested trips and itineraries to follow and to help you plan for your road trip.

Destination: Whitefish, Montana
Ski Area - Big Mountain

The ten hour, 493 mile drive will just fly by as you cruise through Idaho and Montana. The big sky and big speed limits will get you to Whitefish in no time. Whitefish Mt. is an hour and a half north of Missoula in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Big Mountain is one of Montana’s premier ski areas and was ranked 21st out of 60 by the editors of Ski Magazine. It offers some supreme skiing and snowboarding and a great village nightlife.

Lift tickets and lodging are reasonable at Big Mountain. A daily lift ticket will set you back only $39 with a college ID. There are some inexpensive places to rest your head as well. The Cheap Sleep Motel starts at $48 a night and the Holiday Inn Express runs from $59-$89 a night. Remember the more people you bring the cheaper it becomes.

Whitefish is home to a bunch of ski village bars and cafes. For cheap eats on the road, bring your own food. Rely on staples like bagels, bread, peanut butter, and Krisspy Kreme doughnuts to carb up and fill those tummies.


Destination: Sun Valley, Idaho
Ski Area - Sun Valley

America’s number one ski resort is waiting for you to pull into town with a car full of your closest friends, or guys you met last quarter. The last place you should be is Whitefish.

The ten hour, 493 mile drive will just fly by as you cruise through Idaho and Montana. The big sky and big speed limits will get you to Whitefish in no time. Whitefish Mt. is an hour and a half north of Missoula in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Big Mountain is one of Montana’s premier ski areas and was ranked 21st out of 60 by the editors of Ski Magazine. It offers some supreme skiing and snowboarding and a great village nightlife.

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Destination: Sun Valley, Idaho
Ski Area - Sun Valley

The ten hour, 493 mile drive will just fly by as you cruise through Idaho and Montana. The big sky and big speed limits will get you to Whitefish in no time. Whitefish Mt. is an hour and a half north of Missoula in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. Big Mountain is one of Montana’s premier ski areas and was ranked 21st out of 60 by the editors of Ski Magazine. It offers some supreme skiing and snowboarding and a great village nightlife.

Lift tickets and lodging are reasonable at Big Mountain. A daily lift ticket will set you back only $39 with a college ID. There are some inexpensive places to rest your head as well. The Cheap Sleep Motel starts at $48 a night and the Holiday Inn Express runs from $59-$89 a night. Remember the more people you bring the cheaper it becomes.

Whitefish is home to a bunch of ski village bars and cafes. For cheap eats on the road, bring your own food. Rely on staples like bagels, bread, peanut butter, and Krisspy Kreme doughnuts to carb up and fill those tummies.


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Huge home stand for men's basketball

SPU and Western invade Nicholson Pavilion tonight and Saturday evening

by Casey Steiner
Staff reporter

Wildcats have high expectations of their basketball team. Sure they want to win each and every game, but more importantly they want wins. Great wins. At this point in the quarter Central Washington University students want anything that can temporarily help them forget about end of the quarter projects, papers, and tests. They don’t expect anything Vince Carter-like, but a two-handed slam by Justin Thompson off of a missed shot over the biggest player the opposition has to offer would suffice.

There were no slams in Central’s 91-79 win over the Warner Pacific Knights last Saturday. Point guard Scott Freemond barely missed connecting with guard Terry Thompson on a fast break alley-oop dunk in the first half. Power forward Justin Thompson came up just short of completing two remarkable dunks in the game. In fact, toward the end of the second half Justin Thompson, the man Wildcat fans call J.T., was penalized for trying too hard to appease the crowd. J.T. was called for a technical foul for hollering to the Central student section, which was as rowdy as ever, had a lot to hoot and holler about. Namely, J.T., who finished with 25 points and 13 rebounds, both of which were game highs. He also had five assists, two steals, and two blocked shots.

Down 44-43 at the midway point, Central would push the lead to 15, but then the Wildcats were still spectacular and seemed entirely under the Wildcats’ control. Despite falling short of the “high” expectations Nicholson Pavilion was still the place to be the night of Dec. 1. There were no dunks, but the Wildcats were still spectacular and remained unbeaten at 4-0. 1250 fans, including the Central student section, which was as rowdy as ever, had a lot to hoot and holler about. Namely, J.T., who finished with 25 points and 13 rebounds, both of which were game highs. But the game never seemed entirely under the Wildcats’ control. Central would push the lead to 15, but then

"...it's nice to see our team jell and go in the right direction."
— Head coach Jeff Whitney

Crusaders with Kollman leading the team in minutes, rebounds, and free throw percentage.

"Kollman is definitely someone we have to keep in check. She has an excellent mid-range game and we are going to have to limit her touches," Whitney said.

Northwest Nazarene also houses what could be the deepest bench in all of the GNAC, with every player except one on the roster averaging in double-digit minutes and three points a game. This proves to be an extremely valuable weapon for the Crusaders and gives them an opportunity to not worry about getting into foul trouble and allows them to press opponents for nearly the entire game.

"They press you for forty minutes a game," Whitney said. "We need to play as close to flawlessly as possible. We need to defend our home court."

The Crusaders will definitely prove to be a worthwhile adversary to the Wildcats who are looking to make it three years in a row with an appearance in the national tournament.

In order for the Wildcats to get a victory they are going to have to rely on good defense and getting senior center Rose Shaw off to a good start. Both the Wildcats and the Crusaders realize how important it will be to start conference play with a win and that alone could prove to be the makings of an excellent basketball game.

by Kailid Juma
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University Women’s Basketball team will open up the 2001-2002 Great Northwest Athletic Conference season tonight on the road against the Northwest Nazarene Crusaders.

Central is off to an excellent start with an unblemished record of 4-0. "I’m excited about our start, it’s nice to see our team jell and go in the right direction," Wildcat head coach Jeff Whitney said. "We hope it will carry into league."

The Crusaders are off to an impressive start as well, with a record of 4-1. Northwest Nazarene has been averaging close to 88 points a game and holding opponents to an average of 62 points a game.

Warner Pacific would edge back to within six. The traditional chanting of "warm up the bus" by the Central student section couldn’t come until there was only 30 seconds remaining in the game.

"They (Warner Pacific) are a very good team. They aren’t over-athletic. They ran their stuff as well as any team we will face this year," Greg Spurling, head coach of the Wildcats said. "We’re just happy to get the win."

The Wildcats open play in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference at home this weekend in perhaps two of their biggest games of the season. Seattle Pacific, who earned a preseason ranking of 16 nationally, storms into Ellensburg tonight. The Western Washington Vikings, ranked second nationally, come to Nicholson Pavilion Saturday evening.

"These games are part of a huge rivalry," Spurling said. "These are probably two of the premier college games in the nation. Both nights we need to play as close to flawlessly as possible. We need to defend our home court."

Returning for the Wildcats is forward Sam Moore who missed the Warner Pacific game for unspecified team rule violations. After only sitting out ten men against the Knights, Moore will give Central some additional firepower.

Tonight the SPU Falcons will try to put an end to Central’s four game winning streak and also look to take revenge upon the Wildcats. After garnering a 21-6 record in the regular season a year ago, Central handed SPU a 95-101 overtime loss in the first round of regional play-offs, which ended the Falcon’s season.

The Falcons, who return four of their five starters from last year’s squad, rely heavily upon prescense All-America forward Brannon Stone. The 6’9” Stone has been touted as possible. We need to defend our home court."

The Crusaders and give them an opportunity to not worry about getting into foul trouble and allows them to press opponents for nearly the entire game.

"They press you for forty minutes a game, and to do that you have to play a lot of kids," Whitney said. "What it comes down to is that we are going to go in there, and when the smoke clears, we will see what happens."

The Crusaders will definitely prove to be a worthwhile adversary to the Wildcats who are looking to make it three years in a row with an appearance in the national tournament.

In order for the Wildcats to get a victory they are going to have to rely on good defense and getting senior center Rose Shaw off to a good start. Both the Wildcats and the Crusaders realize how important it will be to start conference play with a win and that alone could prove to be the makings of an excellent basketball game.
Central Athlete of the Week

Thompson key ingredient in 2001-2002 'Cats

by Stephanie Tokola
Staff reporter

Central Washington University junior Terry Thompson started playing basketball when he was seven years old. A local youth basketball coach saw Thompson shooting on the outside courts at Garfield High School in Seattle and asked if Thompson would be interested in playing for his team.

That was 14 years ago, and today Thompson is once again adjusting to playing with a new team.

Thompson, a guard, has high hopes for the 2001-2002 basketball season. Coming from Edmonds Community College, Thompson is looking forward to playing a promising season with Central.

Thompson had an outstanding season last year with Edmonds. He averaged 20 points per game and made 49 percent of his three point attempts.

Thompson started his career in a Wildcat jersey with the same winning determination he ended with at Edmonds. He helped lead Central to a 3-0 record to start the season. In his first game as a Wildcat, Thompson contributed 21 points as Central beat Northwest College on Nov. 17.

Thompson continued his early season success when the team traveled to Chico State on Nov. 17. The team won by three with time running down on the clock. Thompson hit a clutch three pointer to tie the game and send it into overtime.

Basketball has affected Thompson's life in many ways. He said basketball motivates him to go to class, keeps him going, and gives him something to do.

When Thompson wakes up in the morning he has basketball on his mind. He loves basketball for as long as he can remember and that's where he gets his inspiration to play.

Thompson had many offers from colleges and universities to join their basketball program when he decided to transfer out of Edmonds.

Thompson's main goal this season is to win. "I just want to win," Thompson said. "Win the division, and hopefully the national championship."

Thompson isn't having any problems learning the new plays at Central, and he is looking to contribute more as the season progresses. "I want to be able to score and defend well on the wings," Thompson said. "I'm getting into a new system, but I'm adjusting to it pretty well."

Thompson's most memorable basketball moment came last year when Edmonds played Clark College of Vancouver.

Edmonds was down by three with time running down on the clock. Thompson hit a clutch three pointer to tie the game and send it into overtime.

Basketball has affected Thompson's life in many ways. He said basketball motivates him to go to class, keeps him going, and gives him something to do.

Thompson had many offers from colleges and universities to join their basketball program when he decided to transfer out of Edmonds.

Central's head coach, Greg Sparling, was the deciding factor in Thompson's choice to play for the Wildcats.

"I like Coach Spar a lot," Thompson said. "He seemed like he was the most interested in me throughout the whole recruiting process."

Thompson is majoring in Recreation and enjoys working with children. He is looking forward to having the opportunity to work with children after he receives his degree from Central.

That isn't his top priority upon graduation, however. Thompson hopes to play basketball professionally in the future, whether it is in the states, for the National Basketball Association or the Continental Basketball Association, or overseas.

"Most likely, I'll be playing after college," Thompson said. "Probably overseas, then if drafted, that too."

Thompson has had an amazing start to his Wildcat career. He still has two and a half months of regular season play before the district tournament.

Thompson said he has been told Seattle Pacific University and Western Washington University are Central's biggest competition.

Central has two regular season games against each team, including tonight's home game against Seattle Pacific and a home game against Western at 7 p.m., Dec. 8, in Nickelson Pavilion.

Take me out to the basketball game

The Central Washington University men's basketball season just started, and it's time for students and other Ellensburg residents to get fired up. The team has started with a perfect record early on. This season has potential to be an exciting one for the Wildcats. The team has some good players and team chemistry is also solid. However, fan support is needed to help the spirit of the team and the school. When I was at Western, the basketball attendance was strong and we went to the Final Four.

"Fan support helps a great deal," Roy Elia, sports information director, said. "People get fired up at Central when the team plays against a conference-opener team."

This Thursday, Central plays against Seattle Pacific University, which will be the team's first conference game. Following the game against SPU, the Wildcats will continue conference play against Western Washington University on Saturday. It will be the Wildcat's second crucial conference game in a row. Both Western and SPU are picked to finish first, SPU second. Western missed out on making it to the National championship contest by one game last season.

Happy Holidays!
VICTORY: Depleted Wildcats win against Warner Pacific

Senior John Townsan watches senior Justin Thompson pull up for the jumper in Thompson's game against the Knights. one back for a run at the national championship.

"Western should be in mid-season form," Sparling said. "They have a very nice club, but they can only play five guys at a time.

Seniors A.J. Giesa and Jacob Stevenson return for the '01 season while leading the conference in three-point accuracy. Giesa, a transfer from Sandrin and 6'4" forward Yusef Aziz. Sandrin averaged 12.4 points and 6.1 rebounds a year ago. Aziz, a transfer from Florida. Wildcat fans won't get another glimpse of the team until Rumbolt State visits Ellensburg Jan. 17.

Senior Dennis gives Palm a powerful partner in the post. Dennis, also return. At 6'6" and 300 pounds the Western has very good guards," Sparling said. "We have to contain them and not allow their big guys any second chance points from offensive rebounds." Also back for WWU is center Mike Palm, an honorable mention selection last season. The 6'10" Palm is considered to be one of the best big men playing Division II basketball in the country. Palm has averaged 14.6 points, 10 rebounds, and 2.2 blocks per game while shooting 60 percent from the field and 89 percent from the free throw line.

"Palm is having a great year," Sparling said. "His presence will put more pressure on our wings." Brian Dennis and Darnell Taylor who each averaged double figures in scoring before being declared ineligible after the ninth game of the season, also return. At 6'6" and 300 pounds the senior Dennis gives Palm a powerful partner in the post. Dennis, who was leading NCAA Division II in both rebounding (11.6) and field goal percentage (72.1), has averaged 13.2 points, 9.2 rebounds, and 2.2 blocks per game this season.

"Western wants to put a lot of points on the board," Sparling said. "They've played basically all their games at home to this point. Now they're in a new gym. You never know what could happen." Sparling encourages all Central students to come to Nicholson Pavilion tonight and Saturday.

"Get out to these games. It's rivalry week. The Western game is the Apple Cup of small college basketball," Sparling said. After Saturday's contest Central hits the road for eight games, including matches at the Nugget and Winter Park, Florida. Wildcat fans won't get another glimpse of the team until Humbolt State visits Ellensburg Jan. 17.
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