December burglary suspects arrested

by Andrew Fickes
Asst. news editor

An anonymous tip given to the Ellensburg Police Department last week helped officers arrest five suspects related to a three-month-old Ellensburg burglary. The stolen property, valued at several thousand dollars, includes TVs, computers, computer games and furniture.

A resident of University Park Apartments on the 300 block of East Helena called in the tip after observing residents move property from a neighboring apartment, which looked similar to property stolen earlier during three burglaries reported on Dec. 21 at the same apartment complex.

Interviews of the three suspects living together at the apartment complex did not result in arrest. Captain Ross Green of the Ellensburg Police Department said the individuals did not give any information alluding to whether the property in question was stolen. However, officers confiscated the property.

Officers and detectives investigated the case, further questioning the three individuals at the apartment and two other non-resident suspects.

"We did get cooperation from the suspects implicating themselves and others," Green said.

Officers arrested the initial three suspects, plus a fourth, on Feb. 13 and since then, have arrested a fifth suspect. There are four men and one woman. Three are adults and two are juveniles. The three adults are Joel

See SUSPECTS, Page 2

Former Panther speaks

Robert Penton, a former member of the Black Panthers, discusses the involvement of the Black Panthers during the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Penton’s speech is one of three noon-time events sponsored by Campus Life during Black History Month. See page 8 for complete details on Black History Month events.

Permits could be required for parties

Special-event permits could be required for all events that charge admission and serve alcohol
by Allison Worrell
News editor

You may need to obtain a permit from the city to throw your next keg-ger.

The Late Night Task Force, which focuses on nighttime situations in Ellensburg, is proposing a special events permit to the Ellensburg City Council.

The permit would be required for any event that charges admission and serves or sells alcohol, if it does not already have a license to do so. The permit must be purchased prior to the event.

Information from the permit will be shared with Ellensburg Police Department and fire services so authorities will have an idea where events will be, who is organizing them and how to best patrol the event.

"It's not intended to prevent people from having parties," City Manager Ted Barkley said.

Barkley said the main reason for the permits is to provide a level of accountability for community events. Ellensburg must maintain a

See PERMITS, Page 5

SUB funding approved by committee, tuition rates to climb

by Tarena Ruehle
and Amanda Hickman
Staff reporters

The SUB/Rec Building Committee's request for funding from the Service and Activities Fees Committee (S&A) was granted. Now the planning process can move forward, but not without an increase in student fees.

In June 2001, the Board of Trustees approved student fees not to exceed $90 for the recreation facility and $64 for the union building per quarter. The student fees will begin when the buildings are completed.

"When you can walk in the door we’re going to charge the fee," Bill Vertrees, director of facilities management, said. "That's why they're called walk-in fees."

The $90 fee will start in September of 2004, upon completion of the new recreation facility. Then, sometime in 2006, when the union building is complete, the second fee of $64 will begin.

There has been some debate as to whether these fees combined with the recent rise in tuition will be pricing Central out of the market.

"The reality is all the other universities are doing exactly what we are," Maren Oates, project assistant, said. "A lot of them are in construction, already opened or in planning

See SUB, Page 3

Plans for the new SUB/Rec Building are underway.
Construction continues on Walnut Mall

by Taren Ruehle
Staff Reporter

Construction on campus is literally taking a turn, but not necessarily for the worse.

Construction workers on the Walnut Mall Utility Upgrade, which began last fall, are heading south on campus from 14th Avenue down Walnut Mall.

The construction reached the town canal, otherwise known as "The Ganges," and will now turn and head east on campus, just south of the canal.

"Initially we were intending to go further south along the Walnut Mall than just the Ganges, but right now we're not certain where the student recreation building will actually be located," Pat Nahan, mechanical engineer for the Walnut Mall project, said.

Bill Vertrees, director of facilities management, said the new music building will be built first, and therefore presents a more urgent need for utilities.

The construction is all underground and consists of bringing chilled water, supply and return pipes, power and communication duct banks to the two construction sites and improving campus wide infrastructure.

"It supports the future expansion of campus, in terms of technology," Nahan said.

Branch lines will extend to Randall Hall, Michaelsen Hall and Hogue Hall.

This will supply the buildings with chilled water, which is the first step needed for air conditioning and new technology lines to keep the buildings up to date.

"It is not only going to benefit the new music building," Joanne Hillemann, manager of facility planning and construction services, said.

The next step is crossing the Ganges before April 1, when the canal fills with water. Construction will then begin east on the walkway south of Randall and Michaelsen Halls.

"It's a nuisance because we can't perform the work without fencing the work area and it's a large enough extent to prevent pedestrian pathway on the south side of Randall and Michaelsen Halls," Nahan said.

The sidewalk will be completely blocked off, alternate pathways into the buildings will be on the north side while construction is taking place. At all times they will maintain a pathway into the disabled access door on the south side of the buildings as well as access to all of the emergency exits.

The projected completion date for all underground construction is September of this year.

The supplies will extend to the east of Hogue Hall, where the new music building is scheduled to begin construction as early as late August this year.

Central's Walnut Mall utility upgrade is moving south of the Ganges to provide chilled water, power and communication duct banks for the music and SUB projects.

Tuition program has low freshman turnout

by Ken Whittenberg
Staff reporter

A tutoring service designed for freshmen, offered through Wildcat Connection Services, has not attracted as much attention as some tutors would like.

The services Wildcat Connection Services provide are here to ease student’s transition into college," Charise Apken, student assistant, said.

Sarah Schmoker, manager of the tutoring services, said the program was originally intended for freshmen, but because of low turnout the services are now available to anyone.

"I had heard about some high school students who had stolen some property, but Stahl wasn’t sure if they were the ones who had stolen his property.

On the evening of the arrests, Ellensburg Police Department returned all of Stahl and Night’s property, except the lava lamp and posters.

"We were psyched," Stahl said.

Despite the availability of tutors there hasn’t been much student interest in the program.

"We haven’t got many people," Schmoker said. "Maybe two to three people a night. We don’t have much of a budget (to operate or advertise with) and I’m not sure that many people know about the program."

Students who have taken advantage of the tutoring services at Studio East are pleased.

"It’s great having tutors around when you need help with your homework. Whenever I’m stuck or I can’t figure something out I’ll go to Studio East for help," Jason Worthington, sophomore, said.

Other tutoring services are available from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays in math, logic and writing skills in Bouillon Hall, room 206. Tutors are also available in Bouillon room 206 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Tuition increases approved by BOT

by Amber Eager
Online content editor

Central Washington University will take a bigger bite out of students’ wallets for summer tuition as of Feb. 14.

The Central Board of Trustees (BOT) passed the 5.38 percent tuition increase for undergraduate tuition bringing the rate to $98 per credit.

A 3.05 percent increase for graduate tuition raised the rate to $135 per credit.

Before voting on the increase, the BOT was asked by members of the Service and Activities Fees Committee why student services didn’t get an increase in their budget allocation from the tuition increase.

"We didn’t have any basis to move one way or the other," said.

This was because the university budget advisory committee did not get the actual costs of running the SUB and funding the summer programs.

The tuition increase took the spotlight during the meeting, other items such as the status of the new SUB/Recreation center were presented to the board.

A site search is underway for the center. When discussion turned to the cost of the project the board said it’s looking at it thoroughly to make sure that this is a project that students can afford and the benefits it will provide for the student body.

Government relations also presented a legislative update. Several tuition bills were introduced this session but all failed to pass out of committee before the Feb. 6 deadline.

Collective bargaining/civil service reform bills are moving through the Senate and the House.

The next BOT meeting will be held March 15.

Observer Online
www.cwu.edu/~observer
SUB: Plans underway for 2004 completion  
Continued from page 1  

with these, so it’s almost like not doing this is going to be a bigger loss to us and make us less attractive and end up hurting us.”  

Three weeks ago, the SUB/Rec Building Committee made a proposal to the Service and Activities Fees Committee (S&A) to receive funding for a new Super SUB and recreation facility. After much deliberation, the S&A Committee approved the SUB/Rec Committee’s request for $850,000.  

“We, (S&A) didn’t get student input on this matter,” Josh Kilien, S&A Committee chair, said. “As a result, the student committee members, who are intelligent and understanding of the process, had to make an educated decision on behalf of the student body. Overall, we are happy to see the plans move forward.”  

A majority of the $850,000 — $550,000 — will be covered by the sale of bonds and monies received upon retirement of bonds issued 40 years ago for the Bassetties and Residence Hall Systems. An additional $300,000 will come out of S&A funds when the SUB/Rec facility doors open in 2006.  

The S&A Committee’s approval of the SUB/Rec Committee proposals has stipulations attached to it.  

“The S&A Committee attached recommendations to the motion,” Kilien said. “At least two members of S&A need to be a part of the SUB/Rec Building Project Committee. The Committee also has to restructure itself to allow for a student majority, rather than an administrative majority. We want enough students on the committee to ensure that the student voice is actually heard. It is important for students to keep an eye on this process.”  

The SUB/Rec Committee was receptive to the S&A Committee’s recommendations.  

“These recommendations will certainly help guide the future plans and ensure that this is what we really want to do,” Steve Erickson, executive vice president of ASCWU and SUB/Rec Committee chair, said.  

The next step is to determine and analyze the issues related to the project program, site, budget and schedule.  

“Now we’re to a three to four month period that’s with the actual design team, the architects and engineers, that is going to pick how many buildings, where they go, what the budget is and how big they are,” Vertrees said.  

The rough plan for the recreation facility consists of three basketball courts, a multi-activity court, aero-box rooms, a weight-training room, a quarter-mile indoor jogging track, climbing wall, cardio equipment, racquetball courts, locker rooms and some grab-and-go food stands.  

“When you picture a weight room don’t picture Nicholson Pavilion,” Oates said. “It’s like nothing we have now.”  

The new facilities will be open seven days a week and with longer hours than those now offered at Nicholson Pavilion. No academic classes or teams will be in the recreation facility. Nicholson Pavilion will remain open.  

“We think the recreation center and union will have more students coming here on the weekends,” Vertrees said. “If you’re under 21, what do you do on a Saturday?”  

The buildings will be open for interaction among students and meeting places for groups.  

“Right now we have a place to go, but it doesn’t have anything appealing. It’s dark, it’s dreary, nothing is open inside of it,” Oates said. “The key is expanding programs and services along with a more attractive, appealing, open, visually comfortable facility.”

Letcher sentenced to 224 hours of community service for theft  
by Saul Hardin  
Staff reporter  

The Kittitas County Lower District Court sentenced and fined junior B.J. Letcher of the Central Washington University men’s basketball team to 224 hours of community service and a fine of more than $600 Tuesday for possession of stolen property.  

Letcher said a stolen credit card to purchase merchandise at the Ellensburg Fred Meyer in early November. Letcher had originally been charged with possession of stolen property in the second degree, forgery, and theft in the second degree.  

Letcher pleaded guilty to possession of stolen property and the charges of forgery and theft in the second degree were dropped.  

Central men’s basketball head coach Greg Sparling suspended Letcher for 14 games earlier in the season. Letcher was the first player Sparling has suspended in seven years as head coach, but it was a decision that rested solely on his shoulders.  

“As a coach, you’ve got a lot of hats to wear. You’ve got to figure out how to win games and you have to make sure your 15 athletes are held accountable. Like a parent, you have to make a decision on discipline and that is what I came up with,” Sparling said.  

Sparling admires this suspension has affected their team in the win-loss column. Central men’s basketball team posts a 7-8 GNAC (14-9 overall) record, which will not make it into the playoffs.  

“If everybody would have stayed injury free and out of trouble, I think we’d be in playoff contention,” Sparling said.  

With three games left and a current four-game winning streak, the Wildcats hope to end the season on a high note after the events of the last few months.

Joe Whitelde/OBSERVER  
B.J. Letcher must perform community service.

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17-year-old Central student aims for higher education

by Emily Bodden / Staff reporter

Siddiqui has been described as a "genius" by many, including him. The physics classroom is full, with minds painfully working to digest formulas and concepts, but in the corner of the room sits a savant, casually flipping through the latest issue of Car and Driver. Seventeen-year-old Waqaas Siddiqui doesn't need to pay attention; with slight observation he understands the material being covered.

"I have them do problems in class, so I'll put a problem on the board and he has the answer before the other students have figured out how to attack it," Sharon Rosell, assistant professor of physics, said. "I haven't had anyone quite as young as him that is as bright as he is.

With junior status at Central Washington University, Siddiqui is a different kind of teenager. While most students his age are going to high school dances and working at after-school jobs, he is applying to Harvard, MIT and Cornell. Central is only a pit stop for Siddiqui, who was unable to attend either University of Washington or Pacific Lutheran University because of deadlines and technological issues. Alia Choudary, professor of mathematics, said Siddiqui "is indeed a genius."

Siddiqui plans to complete degrees in electronic and computer engineering, earn a Ph.D. in law, and then obtain his professional engineering license. Siddiqui is taking classes at Central that will help fulfill requirements at other schools. When he is finished completing those degrees he will be about twenty-two years old.

"My mom would say, 'If I had a kid that couldn't do any better than C's and B's then I wouldn't bother them, but I know that you can do better,'" Siddiqui said. "Where other students have to study for four hours, I study for twenty minutes."

As a child, Siddiqui read continuously, tackling novels by the third grade. He was interested in building things and with the help of a game, Gizmos and Gadgets, learned how to build circuits. While attending public school in Lakewood, Wash., Siddiqui played soccer and, until high scores on standardized tests forced him into college, was a content high school student.

"If you talk to him about scientific issues, you don't have the impression you are talking to a 17-year-old. In 16 years of teaching at Central, I've only had one other student of this kind of capacity," Choudary said.

Siddiqui recognizes everyone has strengths and weaknesses, but believes hard work is what makes a person successful. In his case, he can't remember anything that he put time and effort into that he wasn't good at.

"I don't like people who have the potential to do something with their lives and they just spoil it," Siddiqui said.

Siddiqui's potential seems limitless.

Bryan Benjamin / Observer

17-year-old Waqaas Siddiqui is attending Central Washington University temporarily while he applies to Harvard, MIT and Cornell. He has always been a gifted student.

College of Education adds new program

by Shane Cleveland / Staff reporter

Central Washington University's College of Education (CTL), the state's largest producer of certified teachers, announced new programs to create better and more certified teachers, announced new programs to create better and more certified teachers.

"We look to further advance the education of teachers in Washington State," Central President Jerilyn McIntyre said.

The CTL is responsible for the 27 programs providing beginning teaching experience is available to Central students.

"I felt like I had a year's worth of teaching under my belt," Toby Maler, a Central education graduate, said.

Improving math and science education, developing teachers who know how to use modern learning technology are other programs being developed by the CTL.
PERMITS: Task force proposes citations for code offenders

Continued from page 1

balance between college students and other community members, and the two groups lead different lifestyles. Alcohol-related problems have caused concerns in the past. "Most [alcohol-related crime] is not serious crime, but there's a significant amount of it," Barkley said. Events such as parties thrown at the Elk's Temple, weddings or block parties will need to purchase permits.

The price of the permit, which has not yet been determined, could be in line of the tax on admission prices now in effect.

The task force will review sample language from a Seattle code that requires a similar permit at its next meeting. It will send the proposal to the city council to review, and the code could be enacted by late spring. The penalty for violating the code, also not yet determined, could be "pretty steep," Barkley said, depending on the degree of the offense.

The task force is made up of city business leaders, Central Washington University students and staff, the Ellensburg fire department and police, and the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce. It was originally established to combat the revelry that descends on downtown Ellensburg on the weekends.

"We reached a point where vandalism was occurring downtown, mostly broken bottles, vomit, broken windows and some fights," James Armstrong, executive director of the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce, said. "This is occurring mostly during the weekends.

The task force has recently employed increased random foot patrol on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings by Ellensburg police to deter alcohol-related incidents.

The special events permit is another deterrent the task force is using.

Some local business and property owners are pleased with the goals of the task force, but are leery about its effectiveness.

"The jury is still out," Frank Erickson, owner of the Blue Gem Company, said. "There has been an apparent decline in outrageous activities in the last six months, but I've seen heavy objects thrown at police vehicles and bottle rockets shot atfiremen in the past.

Erickson said police are out locating anyone. We've had incidents where hamburgers, snowballs and beer cans were thrown at us, and these are mostly isolated incidents." Green said a small percentage of weekend revelers are very vocal and are the focus of the task force, but they don't represent the student body at Central.

As for the proposed special events permit, Barkley said Ellensburg is not alone in monitoring such activities.

"Ellensburg is not alone in monitoring such activities in the last six months, but I've seen heavy objects thrown at police vehicles and bottle rockets shot at firemen in the past." Barkley said, depend­ing on the degree of the offense.

The Kittitas Valley Community Hospital contacted police concerning a campus resid­ent in its care for a possible overdose. Police found over-the-counter medications at the student's residence. The patient was released to the care of relatives.

Police Briefs

Compiled by Shane Cleveland
Staff reporter

Bad hair day
2:06 p.m. Feb. 11
A Motor Foot employee repairing an '99 Chevy pickup found the trouble with the grounds department vehicle was caused by a brown wig stuffed into the tailpipe.

Stolen bike
5:15 p.m. Feb. 11
A silver and black Novara mountain bike was stolen while locked at the Sparks Hall bike rack. The bike is valued at $1,000.

Prowler
1 a.m. Feb. 13
A woman resident of Brookline Village reported to police that an unknown man had knocked on her door and was yelling. Police were unable to locate anyone.

DUI
2 a.m. Feb. 13
An officer noticed a vehicle driving without its headlights on. The officer attempted to pull over the driver on Alder Street. The vehicle continued to travel but was swerving and weaving. The driver veered to the right and hit three cars parked on the side of the road. After making a right turn on 11th Street, the driver rapidly accelerated. The driver made a left onto Maple but was unable to complete the turn when he hit two parked cars, disabling the vehicle.

The 19-year-old man was arrested for felony eluding police and driving under the influence. Approximately $5,000 in damage occurred to the vehicles hit.

Overdose
2:23 a.m. Feb. 13
The Kittitas Valley Community Hospital contacted police concerning a campus resid­ent in its care for a possible overdose. Police found over-the-counter medications at the student's residence. The patient was released to the care of relatives.

Noise complaint
12:15 a.m. Feb. 14
Officers responded to a report of a noise complaint and possible underage drinking in Baro Hall. Residents were 21 and warned of the noise ordinance.

Three TRIO programs showcased at forum

A celebration for National TRIO Days will be held at Central Washington University. The Educational Opportunity Center, Student Support Services and the McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program are all TRIO programs at Central.

TRIO, funded by the United States Department of Education, provides educational opportunities to disadvantaged students. Students who are from low-income families, first generation college students, students with disabilities and students from populations underrepresented in graduate school can be served by TRIO.

Services of the programs include tutoring, academic advising, career-related activities and assistance preparing for and applying to graduate school.

Any student is encouraged to attend the open house, which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 at the Grupe Conference Center. Information about how the programs may benefit students will be presented.

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Central and Ellensburg go through the motions

Although few students may realize it, Ellensburg is their home. For nine, and twelve months for some, we live, eat, sleep, and study in Ellensburg. It's our town if we leave, we'll leave with many memories and forever remember our home in the valley. So why does it seem like there is an iron curtain strung along 8th Street? It seems both the community and the campus deny each other exists, and only look at one another with a festering disdain. This should not be the case as both provide benefits for one another.

Ellensburg can be a culture shock for students from the western side of the state. The two groups of people are just ideologically different enough to cause rifts between them. However, ideological differences shouldn't create the kind of divide that we see here.

The community and campus offer each other many interesting activities. Campus clubs often sponsor events that can be enjoyed by all, whether one is or isn't associated to Central. These events include anything from the classic film series to guest lectures to comedy shows. On the flipside, the community offers many similar events for people to choose from.

And yet, there is still the divide. I think it is mostly because of ignorance. Neither side bothers to learn from the other. It could be that the community sees the influx of young adults with plenty of money to spend on booze as another set of teenagers they don't know what to do with. That, and how many times do residents have to hear Ellensburg a back country hick town before they're fed up?

There are certainly "hick-like" people in the valley but not enough to support the stereotype. The animosity works both ways. Central students moan about the abusive city council regulations that fine heavily for noise violations. It's quite clear who that regulation was aimed at but Central students do nothing. Every student should register to vote in Kittitas County and vote in people who will please Central. All Central students do is complain, pay the fines and do not get involved in local politics.

Both Central and the community need to realize that both entities are crucial for the valley. Ever ponder the economic side effects of no university? Say goodbye to Fred Meyot, the renovated Safeway, Hollywood Video, and many other businesses. Without Central, Washington students can wish a fond farewell to a pleasant, safe, and sometimes adventuruous place to study and live.

The community and the campus can learn much from each other, but to do that, they will have to make a concerted effort and learn to work with one another.

—Daren Schuettpelz

Letters to the Editor

Parents support Tyler and Pete campaign

Dear editor:

My wife and I were visiting our son in town the weekend after the controversial campus meeting held by Tyler and Pete. We were eating downtown and picked up a copy of the articles and letters to the editor, and were a bit saddened by some of the responses.

I would like to comment Tyler and Pete for their concern for their fellow students on campus. I believe they were trying to point out the "good news" with others. Jesus, who we are eternally grateful to, had asked us to pass the word to all peoples. Tyler and Pete were attempting to do just that in a way that created some curiosity, and they were successful in doing so. They were charged with deception, but I believe that creating curiosity is far different than deception. Jesus Himself on many occasions used this technique. For instance, when He spoke to the Jewish leaders, He had water that whoever drinks from it would never have to drink again. This certainly stirred their curiosity. Or the time He said to the Jewish leaders, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

The fact is all men and women will agree with Tyler and Pete someday, because they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the ultimate judge of all men. One day He will return to earth and

See LETTERS, Page 7

Cartoon by Jed Waits

DEADLINES

News

• Friday, 5 p.m. — Entertainment, meetings, calendar events for the Observer calendar. • Monday, 3 p.m. — Sports, local, and weekend sports information. Monday, 5 p.m. — Letters to the editor.

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Observer — Opinion — February 21, 2002

Guest Column by Mark Kendrick, Managing Editor

Hochstatter forces Enron into Darwin forum

Senator Harold Hochstatter's argument against the teaching of evolution at the Darwin Day presentations on February 12 made virtually no sense at all. It's too bad, really, because a valid observation was lost in the senator's aimless ramblings, and questions that needed to be addressed were left unanswered. If you were one of the more than 300 people who attended, you certainly missed an interesting discussion. True to the senator's intent, the event did not degrade into a yelling match and instead followed a more academic theme. Philip Mattocks, assistant professor of biological sciences, began with a brief history of Darwin's life, and whether you agree with evolution or not, as a person Darwin was very interesting. The audience especially enjoyed Mattocks' description of Darwin's life as you learn about your future store. You come in after your walk, spread out your things, and you're not sure whether you should do this in the first place. For some odd reason, Christians sometimes think that simply considering evolution will lead to heresy. That simply is not the case, especially when you are studying evolutionary processes. An atheist may say "natural selection explains how random events can shape life without a divine being acting in the process." A Christian could respond, "How can one natural explanation of the component of the creator's intelligent design." Notice that both individuals should be interested in studying natural selection, either as a purely scientific process or as a manifestation of the divine. Reverend Lowell Murphy's presentation was on the interesting topic of that evening and, I would venture to say, the favorite of many in the room. He brought a scholarly perspective to the idea of religion, and offered a way for science and religion to understand each other. Science, he said, seeks to answer the question, "how is all this coming about?" Religion answers the question, "why is there anything at all?" Religion also offers a critique of science when science establishes itself as its own justification and does not consider whether it should do what is now capable of doing.

"Kevin was," Murphy said, "is not a threat to faith; it helps to make faith effective." I can personally attest to the validity of this statement. I fully enjoyed an entire quarter of Reverend Murphy's class and found nothing that ruffled my theological feathers. My faith was actually strengthened. For Christians to simply reject mechanisms of evolution without first evaluating them is naive; for an atheist to reject the spiritual component of evolution, it raises fundamental questions it seeks to answer is equal­ly myopic.

So what was the senator's point? College biology professors do an excellent job of explaining what we know for sure and what we are still learning about. When a student asked Steve Verby, assistant professor of biology, and organizer of the Darwin Day, where all the complexity came from in the first place, said, "We don't know yet, we may not ever know, and we don't mind not knowing. Not knowing gives us jobs." That idea of uncertainty is something that can be communicated as well as the high-school level. If there is no distinction made between our understanding of the mechanisms of evolution versus the origin of life on earth, students may assume that each concept is accepted scientific fact. Or, they may reject proven ideas, such as natural selection because they are linked to more hypothetical concepts of origins. Hochstatter made the repeated claim in his presentation, "It's okay." I agree: when we abandon reason and inquiry, as he did, and refuse to consider any ideas but our own, we do so at our own peril.

Letters Continued

Observer Online

Check out the online version of the Observer (www.cwu.edu/~observer) to read about politically conscious hip-hop music.

Continued from Page 6

every knee shall bow, and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. The sad fact is that on that day, all who have failed to believe this by faith prior to that day will be destroyed to eternity in hell.

Tyler and Pete could keep their "good news" to themselves, avoiding all the controversy, but they know the truth and want to give others the chance to decide for themselves about the one they call Lord. Instead of being upset with these young men, ask God to show you the truth.

Ed Behrens

Liberals are not an itchy rash

To the editor,

In response to Josh "Fernie Vice President for Academic Affairs ASWCWU/Board of Directors" Kilen, flying the banner of conservation proudly, I would say that I myself could not participate in what I would call an itchy rash. I do not particu­larly feel "akin to an irritation on a private are" nor do I understand what this good old fashion conservative "rash scratching" event would involve.

It is important to remember that if you feel your ideas could be perceived as offensive if discussed in public, you might probably not speak­ ing to your party's agenda or political platform. It seems to me that conserva­tives are often more linked to these actions such as intolerant behaviors of others may be a subject of a terrorist bomb. I must be confused; I had no idea that "diversity" is a partisan issue. I also did not realize that liberals somehow dislike Christianity, as I was implied by Mr. Kilen. I was also unaware that left-wing views were so problematic around the globe, and in need of silence.

Was it not in your letter that you claimed to better ourselves we ought to "accept different ideologies"? Certainly diversity, in its broadest scope of meaning, is the essence of the United States. Diversity includes liberalism and conservatism, extremism and everything in between. I'm from Seattle so coming to Eugene was an ideological culture shock for me. It frustrated me but I opened my mind to the experi­ence and as a result I came to be even more liberal "on my own terms." I have learned that sometimes with some of our faith based campus organiza­tions, clubs that many of my friends and family have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of. I do, however, realize that the same amendment which allows them to freely speak and recruit allows me to do so as well. My hope is that conservatives and liberals alike would be open to an atmosphere that allows people like "Do you agree with Adolph and Bruno?" to be posted, with the inten­tion of sparking dialogue and pro­ voking thought. Is not that the goal of a liberal arts education? Are we not in the business of higher learning? The goal for both liberals and conserva­tives should be to fully embrace diversity. For that reason I say let's get rid of the "buzzy" word or "irritant rash." It is through this diversity that we can come to be liberal or conservative "on our own terms." As to some of the reactions to the "Tyler and Pete" controversy among the student body, I am disappointed in your inability to tolerate pluralistic visions and discuss your differences as adults.

Patrick Wicklund

Senator's arguments weaken discussion

To the editor,

I attended the Darwin Day Celebration on Tuesday night and I must say that, as both an ardent evolu­tionary Christian and a Philosophy/Religious Studies major, I was appalled.

The Senator is obviously a very talented speaker, but unfortunately he didn't know what he was talking about. In arguing against evolution­ists, he tried almost com­pletely upon straw man and red her­ring argumentation. He pointed out the Piltdown Man fraud and the Lend Leas, in which these were supposed evolution­ists of humans. However, they were later found to be frauds and rejected by paleo­thropologists. They are historical footnotes, not some kind of proof that evolutionary biology is un­able. No biologist or anthropologist relies on such frauds as evidence for evolution.

The senator referred to "Social Darwinism" as evidence of the awful effects of evolution upon society. However, Spencer's theory was rejected even by Darwin himself as being an illegitimate extrapolation of biological phenomena to human social structures.

What was most disturbing was the senator's frequent made accu­mulation that evolutionary biology removes any meaning to life and thus gives us "cause to be uneasy." The problem with this is that the Senator, I once again personally talked about before and after the program, has misunderstood the themes. Evolutionary biology does none of those things. It is a religiously and philosophically neutral, respectable scientific theory with quite a bit of evidence to support it. Moreover, it is fully compatible with evangelical Christian belief (including belief in biblical inerrancy). It is a scientific, not a controversial claim, but the word limit for these letters does not allow me to support it, so I must move on. I believe that good old fashion science is not evolutionary biology, but athe­ism. It is atheism that destroys meaning, value, purpose, etc. This is why I am a liberal arts. It is a philo­sophical realm. The philosopher Bertrand Russell realized this, and uttered his famous quote, "I must build our society from the ground up, out of the unending despair." He knew that his atheism could not provide any ultimate fulfillment to his life. The great existentialist philosopher Jean Paul Sarte based almost his entire philosophy upon this. He realized that an "infinite reference point," namely God, would provide mean­ing, value and purpose to life. But, he did not believe that God exists, so life is ultimately "absurd." If the senator wants a real enemy to spend his time fighting, he should be focusing on atheism as the source of evil. I am a no­nonsense Christian, and I would speak of, not evolutionary biology.

Luke Van Horn
Black Panther visits Central for Black History Month

By Andrew Patrick
Staff reporter

The Black Panther Party gained notoriety in the mid-1960s for its anti-white rhetoric and tactics that advocated for the violent overthrow of the government. As part of Black History Month, former Black Panther member Robert Penton shared his experiences with the students and the positive things they did that were overshadowed by the attention-grabbing militancy of the group.

"Basically people assume they were a strictly militant group that used violence," Penton said. "They had homeless shelters and food shelters to help underprivileged black people. They helped start businesses and had breakfast programs." In many former Black Panthers' days, they perform on the piano, viola and other instruments including the Japanese koto, computers, and songs performed with only voices.

"Performing new music is always a special thing for musicians because it's something that is no previous standard to follow," Blink said. "It gives the performers the sole responsibility of bringing the music to life. To me, this is always a special experience and a chance to see their helping efforts pay off."

"Presenting the concert each quarter is an essential aspect of the composition program, as it gives students a chance to see their efforts pay off."

"The student composers present concert of original works"

by Mandy Harter
Staff reporter

Many people dream about seeing their name in lights, glitering over the dark crowded sidewalks of Broadway, but everyone has to start somewhere. For composers, that somewhere could be Central Washington University.

"The student composers present a concert of their music each quarter and have been doing so for the last five years (and missed only two quarters in that time)," Mark Polishook, associate professor of music and director of the composition/ theory program at Central, said.

Polishook is doing his part to help some composing hopefuls find the celebrating of their music on the lecture circuit at prestigious colleges talking about their experiences and how the social climate is still changing, but Robert Penton decided to use his knowledge to try and help people.

"Now he's a social worker. He works with kids that have been in trouble with the law, helps judges understand different cultures. Pretty much all good stuff," Penton said.

The display of weapons and insistence that the establishment be overthrown by whatever means necessary meant that nearly all the non-violent action they took was overlooked.

"They had homeless shelters and food shelters to help underprivileged black people. They helped start businesses and had breakfast programs," Penton said. Many former Black Panthers now make their living on the lecture circuit at prestigious colleges talking about their experiences and how the social climate is still changing, but Robert Penton decided to use his knowledge to try and help people.

"Now he's a social worker. He works with kids that have been in trouble with the law, helps judges understand different cultures. Pretty much all good stuff," Penton said.

The Panthers formed in the fall of 1966 by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale in Oakland as a political voice against the social injustices that occurred all across the country. The first injustice they sought to reverse was the violence blacks were subjected to from police.

"When they talk about the militant stuff, they were basically police for the black people, because the regular police didn't protect them," Richard Penton, student programmer and nephew of Robert Penton, said.

"With it not being illegal to openly carry firearms at that time in California, the Panther's patrolled black neighborhoods with weapons displayed and made sure the constitutional rights of the people pulled over by the police were not violated. This brought the incidents of police brutality down, but served to intensify the Panthers harassment by authorities.

"The police were sometimes in the KKK," Penton said. The displaying of weapons and Japanese koto, computers, and songs performed with only voices.

"Performing new music is always a special thing for musicians because it's something that is no previous standard to follow," Blink said. "It gives the performers the sole responsibility of bringing the music to life. To me, this is always a special experience and a chance to see their helping efforts pay off."

"The student composers present concert of original works"
The Olympics, for me, seem to find a way of affecting both my inspirational human interest side as well as my upchuck gag reflexes. The games have descended upon the world and for a little while longer, unity will blanket the world in the form of five, rainbow colored rings. However, it’s hard for one to miss the amazing cheese factor that the Olympics bring with their sob story athletes and tales of overcoming hardships. Despite the vomit required to watch the Olympics, I am still drawn to the tales of triumph and heart-felt efforts played out on a beautiful stage of drama and snow in Salt Lake City. Here are my top five reasons why I love the Olympics:

1. Only the Olympics could create a dynamic tale that can rival a chick flick on Lifetime. What better sport to hand out this bite sized woe than ice-skating. The scandal between the French and Russian judges is really the only way to keep the audience coming back. Despite the vomit required to watch the Olympics, I am still drawn to the tales of triumph and heart-felt efforts played out on a beautiful stage of drama and snow in Salt Lake City. Here are my top five reasons why I love the Olympics:

2. The selfishness of NBC is incredible. Fishback photographs in black and white, and specializes in portraits of well-known painters, sculptors, curators and photographers in their own personal environments.

3. Curling. What other way to watch the Olympics are as predictable as a WSU student drinking on a Friday night. If I see one more teary-jerk story on how little Billy overcame leprosy to win the gold, I will stab myself in the eye with a pencil. I understand that people overcome hardships and what-not, but how come NBC won’t do a feature story on the upper-middle class oppression that Sarah’s family felt while using their fortune to pay for her ice-skating lessons? Now that’s a worthwhile story.

3. Curling. What other way to
get shuffleboard and lawnbowling combined on ice than with brooms and out of shape “athletes” (I use the term as loosely as possible). The tragedy of Sept. 11 makes the Olympics seem like one big, worldwide hand-across-America pick me up. The Olympics are showing that the world can be unified on US soil. If the terrorists want, they can witness the unity themselves, via NBC of course.

4. Round out my top five reasons to love the Olympics is an idea that makes the list for pure comedic value. The Winter Olympics are considering making Bridge (yes, that card game for retired couples and housewives) an Olympic sport. You can’t beat the mental picture of little old men in golf caps and glasses sitting around a card table desperately seeking an Olympic gold. Do you have commentaries for this?

5. But when all is said and done, I despise aspects of the Olympics like mimetic pie. Here are my top five reasons why I hate the Olympics:

1. The selfishness of NBC to keep everyone from taking a bathroom break during the ice-skating portion of Spurgeon. As a consumer, I have never enjoyed this.

2. The Olympics as over-the-top gold winning ski jumps.

3. Curling. What other way to

4. The brilliant commentating of Bob Costas is also doing wonders for the appeal of the Olympics. I hope that you are picking up on my sarcasm, I’m laying it on pretty thick.

5. I will watch ice-skating. On occasion, I have been known to somewhat enjoy it. I see the athleticism and beauty, plus my girl instincts make me appreciate it. I will even humor my mother through pairs ice-skating. The fifths compensate for sappy parts in this event. But I will no longer tolerate the nauseating ice dancing. This is the rhythmic gymnastics of the winter Olympics. To be brutally honest, I would rather watch Britney Spears’ pathetic attempt at acting than sit through another ice dancing competition.

Don’t get me wrong, I like the Olympics. I figure there is nothing more than a pre-teen girl, so I might as well stick around and watch. Where else can you laugh (curling), cry (those sappy stories), and be energized (hockey).

Although I am sticking my finger in my hair, I am finding much to enjoy. ThePhones are turned off and out of the competition in the men’s half pipe. Maybe I just have issues with snowboarding after all, bronze medalist Chris Klug overcome a liver disease as a child to battle into the Olympic spotlight (tear). I see the term as loosely as possible.

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Nationally recognized folk musicians perform free concert

by Meredith Willingham
Scene editor

The Central Washington University Theatre Arts Department was awarded the chance to present a previously performed play at the Region VII Northwest Drama Conference/Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Bellingham.

Central's presentation of "Cloud Tectonics," written by Ry Sherrell, was chosen as one of seven plays to participate in the regional contest. "Cloud Tectonics" was selected as the regional winner, the cast and crew will receive an all expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. to perform in the Kennedy Center.

At the conference, students will participate in workshops in design work, instruction on how to speak with an Irish accent, and successful audition techniques. Two original student one-acts will also be performed in Bellingham as part of the conference.

"I think there's probably the possibility of me working on it in the future, to develop a full-length play out of it," Sherrell said.

The performance of "Mid-Day Sun" will be unusual, because most of the cast has graduated or moved away. The play will be read by actors sitting on the stage, which is called a "reader's theater format." The performance of "Mid-Day Sun" will be unusual, because most of the cast has graduated or moved away. The play will be read by actors sitting on the stage, which is called a "reader's theater format.

"We're going to get up and read the script. It's like a radio play -- if you close your eyes you imagine what the play would look like," director Steve Nabors said.

Cloud Tectonics' cast and crew hits the road to Bellingham

The William O. Douglas Honors College sponsored a free exhibition of folk music by Vivian and Phil Williams' last Tuesday. The couple researches their music through early American writings of early pioneers who traveled along the Oregon Trail. The duo helped found the Seattle Folklore Society and record the work of artists from around the region. Their performances include discussion of the meanings behind their songs and dances of the period.

Joe Whiteside/Observer

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**Thursday Feb. 21**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>TNT (Thursday Night Thing)</td>
<td>Chestnut Street Baptist Church</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>80s Film Series: &quot;The Breakfast Club&quot;</td>
<td>Club Central</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Symphonic Band Concert</td>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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**Saturday Feb. 23**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jazz Nite 2</td>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black History Month: Black Baseball</td>
<td>Chavez Theater</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Central Presents: &quot;Say What?&quot; Karaoke</td>
<td>9 to midnight</td>
<td>Cost: $3 student, $4 general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notice of Graduate Orals</td>
<td>Black Rm. 209</td>
<td>9, 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m.</td>
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**Sunday Feb. 24**

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<tr>
<td>Orchestra Concert</td>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
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**Tuesday Feb. 26**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kappa Xi Meeting</td>
<td>Shaw Smyser Rm. 111</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutheran Student Ministries</td>
<td>First Lutheran Church</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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**Wind Ensemble Concert**

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<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture: Dr. Heidi Szpek &quot;The Courage of Queen Esther&quot;</td>
<td>Club Central</td>
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**Wednesday Feb. 27**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Papa John's Coffeehouse Presents: &quot;Bijou&quot;</td>
<td>Club Central</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spa Day in the SUB</td>
<td>SUB</td>
<td>9 a.m. - 2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Achievement Celebration</td>
<td>Sue Lombard Dining Hall</td>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
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**Friday Feb. 22**

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Co-ed Indoor Soccer Tournament</td>
<td>Nicholson Pavilion</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. sign-in</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carmody-Munro Presents: Winter Tropicana Dance</td>
<td>9-1 a.m.</td>
<td>Cost: $5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recital C. Thompson</td>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recital Owen/Thomas</td>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hertz Hall</td>
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**March GRAS TIME!**

**Thursday February 28th 4:30-6:45 p.m.**

**Holmes West Dining Hall**

**Buffet Banquet**

**A Taste of New Orleans**

**Gift Certificates Available**

**Meal Plan**

- **$2.80**
- **Debit Account w/tax**
- **Cash**

**Specialty Drinks**

- **$5.00**
- **Beer & Wine**
- **$2.00**
- **Hard Drinks**
- **$5.00**
- **Coffee**
- **$2.00**

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**E-mail:** goosecrk@ellensburg.com
Britney Spears acts as well as she sings

by Heather Abhold

Staff Reporter

I remember the first time I heard it: "Baby One More Time" - seductively crooned by then-16-year-old Britney Spears. I - only 17-years-old myself - was fortunate for my first period physics class at Peninsula High School, but even in my frazzled state of mind, I took notice of the likable, instantly-grunting song that was destined to become a hit. Fast-forward three years. Britney had become a household name, her face had graced the covers of magazines from Cosmopolitan to Entertainment Weekly and I remained a fan despite a seemingly endless string of poppy hits trademarked by a throaty voice and rumors that America's innocent girl-next-door was not so innocent after all. When I first heard about her debut movie, "Crossroads", on MTV, I was intrigued. Slightly dubbous, yes, but nevertheless interested.

That is not entirely true. In all honesty, I was elated and excited, nearly to the point of counting down the days to the movie opened in theaters. After religiously watching special cials and documentaries on the famous singer, I could finally spend two hours watching her perform on the big screen. The local movie reviewer's low opinion of the film did not daunt my spirits. As I lined up outside the theatre with 50 pre- pubescent giggle girls, I could barely wait to get through the previews. The movie opens with Spears narrating a scene that I can still place in the mid-eighties where three young girls pledge to be friends forever. They each make a momento that signifies one of their wishes, and bury them. They promise to meet at midday of their high school graduation to dig up the box.

The movie cuts to the morning of the girls' graduation. Spears plays Lucy, the valedactorian of her high school. Incidentally, her first scene involves her dancing to Madonna in her underwear. Her father (played by Dan Akroyd), is a single parent who raised Lucy by himself, and her mother (played by "Sex in the City" Kiernan Soldier) left the family and disappeared without a trace.

It soon becomes clear that Lucy, Kit (Zoe Saldana) and Mimi (Taryn Manning) have now proven to be less than the Service Learning center is a great chance to relax, revive, and renew your spirits.

by Jennifer DeJong

Staff reporter

The fifth annual Spa Day comes to Central Washington University offering relaxation and stress relief for students and faculty. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Feb. 27, in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB), local businesses will offer services and information of all kinds for free of charge.

The purpose of SPA Day is to provide students with a day of pampering and to increase awareness of stress prevention. Activities and giveaways will include displays, brochures, information and even free services.

"I'm looking forward to a good rubdown [back massage]." Josh Kerwin, senior public relations major, said. "Every year I show up late, so I want to take advantage of it this year."

All students and faculty are encouraged to join the day of pampering and get acquainted with the many services offered by local companies.

"It'll be a great way to relax," Tiffany Labat, senior biology major said. Booths throughout the SUB will offer free consultations, demonstrations, coupons and free samples for all.

"Useless knowledge for your noodle"

It is generally agreed that "Hello" is an appropriate greeting because if you entered a room and said "Goodbye," it would confuse a lot of people. -Dolph Sharp

"Your chances of getting hit by lightning go up if you stand under a tree, shake your fist at the sky and say 'Storms suck!'" -Jack Handy

I got a dog and named him "Stay." Now, I go "Come here, Stay!" After a while, the dog went insane and wouldn't move at all. -Deep Thoughts by Jack Handy

The Lord's Prayer is 66 words, the Gettysburg Address is 268 words, there are 1,322 words in the Declaration of Independence, but government regulations on the sale of cabbage total 26,911 words.

-From an article on the growth of federal regulations in the Oct. 24th issue of National Review
Women still on top of GNAC
Wildcat win streak longest in modern-day history

by Duane Shimogawa
Staff reporter

Senior forward Jody Sargent (left) plays tough defense against an Alaska-Anchorage offender. The Wildcats beat the Seawolves, Feb. 14, 74-54, in Nicholson Pavilion. Forward Jenny Dixon (right) lays the ball in left-handed for two points in favor of the Wildcats.

For the Central Washington University Wildcats, winning is not an option of late, it's a given.

Central won the past 11 straight games in convincing fashion against GNAC opponents. The win streak is the longest in the program's modern history. The Wildcats haven't tasted defeat since Jan. 5 against Seattle University. Since then, Central has out hustled its opponents and gained a share atop the GNAC standings with Western Washington University at 13-2.

"We are definitely happy to be in this position right now, but we must concentrate on the three games remaining," senior center Rose Shaw said.

The Wildcats' latest victims were Alaska-Anchorage, 74-54, on Thursday and Alaska-Fairbanks, 74-61, on Saturday. Against the Alaska-Anchorage Seawolves, the Wildcats started off slow, but with four minutes to go in the half, they went on a 10-0 run to go up 28-14. Shaw contributed six points, and junior point guard Angela Jensen added four during the run.

Central put added pressure on the Seawolves by attaining its biggest lead of the half, 40-20, with less than a minute to go.

"I thought we played an all right game but like always, we pick it up in the second half," LiaBraaten said.

In the second half, the Wildcats lead by as many as 24 points, three times. Alaska-Fairbanks couldn't get back into the game as Central closed the deal with pressure defense.

"Overall we played an average game, but we still won big and we know that even if we don't play our best, we can still win games," Shaw said.

Jensen and Shaw led Central in the scoring department with 19 and 12 points respectively. In Saturday's game against Alaska-Fairbanks, the last game in Nicholson Pavilion for seniors Shaw, LiaBraaten, Jenny Dixon, Jody Sargent, Jennifer Niemi and Katie Pruett, the Wildcats put together a solid 74-61 victory.

Central went on runs of 10-0 and 15-2 in the first half to create a 41-24 lead. Seniors LiaBraaten and Dixon led the Wildcats in first half scoring with 12 and seven points respectively.

The Wildcats didn't let up as they jumped on the Nanooks even more and closed the game out by forcing 22 turnovers and limiting the Alaskans to 40 percent shooting on the night.

LiaBraaten led the Wildcats with 18 points, six of eight from the three-point arc. Shaw, Central's all-time leading scorer and rebounder, scored 16 points and gathered 11 rebounds. Dixon added 11 to pace the Wildcats.

"My job is to shoot the ball and that's what I did tonight fortunately most of them dropped in," LiaBraaten said.

Central goes on the road to play Western Oregon at 5 p.m. tonight and Humboldt State at 6 p.m. on Saturday. Both games can be heard on 88.1 FM The Burg or for areas outside of the Kittitas Valley, 881theburg.com.

Player's eyes remain set on winning season

Western Oregon University in Monmouth. Jan. 19 the Wildcats beat the Wolves 79-70 in Nicholson Pavilion by forcing 26 WOU turnovers. Guard Terry Thompson led the Wildcats in that contest with 19 points on four-of-nine shooting from three-point range.

The Wolves, 5-9 conference 8-15 overall, are led by forward Robert Day who averages 20.3 points, 5.3 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game. Since its stay in Ellensburg, WOU has lost four of its seven games. Jan. 24, the Wolves beat returning conference champ Western Washington in two overtime, but then lost to...
**Observer — Sports — February 21, 2002**

## Central Athlete of the Week

**Thompson ends stellar Wildcat career**

by Staci Miller  
Asst. sports editor

By the age of three, most children are playing with toys, learning to speak and learning not to use their big kid pants as a toiler but Central Washington University senior Justin Thompson has played baseball. The 6-foot-5-inch forward has had his fair share of struggles to find success but hard work and dedication has helped push Thompson to where he is today and where he is going tomorrow. After graduating next fall, Thompson hopes to test his skills abroad playing international basketball in Europe.

Though his time as a Wildcat is coming to an end, Thompson has made an impression on the team and especially with friend and teammate John Townsan.

"He's a great guy on and off the court," Townsan said. "All the guys respect him."

As the Wildcat team changes year after year with players coming and going, there will always be one man who will feel the effects of losing a player like Justin Thompson for years to come, coach Greg Sparling.

"He's one of those kids who only comes through your program every so often," Sparling said. "He's going to be tough to replace."  

### Thompson's career stats

- **.968 career points**
- **(20 th all-time scoring list)**
- **.435 avg. / .457 / .440**
- **(1st all-time in all three short of minimum 125 shot requirements)**
- **19.4 ppg**
- **(19.2 ppg this season third best in GNAC)**

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### Baseball reflects the game of life

by Casey Steiner  
Asst. sports editor

Senior forward Justin Thompson has just three games remaining as a Wildcat. Thompson averages 19.2 points, 6.8 rebounds, 2.9 assists, 1.8 steals and almost one block per game this season. His basketball career comes to an end after a March 2 contest at Saint Martin's College.

Even a great hitter makes an out two out of three times at bat. Ted Williams was the last player to hit .400 or more, and that was 61 years ago, although George Brett came close at .390 in 1980. Think about that. Even Ted Williams, the greatest hitter who ever lived, was forced to walk back to the dugout on some 60 percent of his at bats. Can you think of another job where you could be paid millions of dollars to fail at least 60 percent of the time?

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This is the beauty of baseball. After minutes or hours of nothing happening at all, a spectacular play stands out vividly. Baseball is the only game in which perfection is achieved when nothing happens at all. When a pitcher throws a perfect game, there are no hits, runs, walks, or errors, and no man on base. Perhaps one of the greatest accomplishments in baseball history was Don Larsen's perfect game on October 8, 1956. To this date, Larsen has recorded the only perfect game in World Series history dating back to 1903. Larsen carved his name into baseball history that day. It took 97 pitches to retire the 27 batters. An average of 3.6 pitches per hitter; 27, up, 27 down. Gilliam, Reese, Snider, Robinson, Hodges, Amoros, Furillo, Campanella, Mugler: this was the Brooklyn Dodgers batting order, inning after inning. The Yankees, theGreat Wall of the game 2-0. Boring right? Oh no.

Here is Bob Wolfe’s, the announcer on Mutual Radio who did the play by play for the Yankees, call of the final pitch of Larsen’s masterpiece. To set the scene, date, problem, pitcher, hitter, count.

"Two strikes and a ball the count remains to Mitchell. Babe Pinelli motions for more baseball to the bulb. I'll guarantee you that nobody, but nobody has left this ballpark. And if somebody did manage to leave early, man, he is missin’ the greatest. Two strikes and a ball, Mitchell waiting. Stands deep, feet close together. Larsen is ready... Gets the sign... Two strikes, ball one... Here comes the pitch. Strike three! A no-hitter! A perfect game for Don Larsen! Yogi Berra runs out there, he leps on Larsen! And he's swarmed by his teammates... Listen to this crowd."

All this excitement and yet only two runs were scored. Baseball, more than any other sport, is a game of records. Every statistic you can think of is catalogued in the history books forever. In the "perfect games in World Series play" category there is one name: Don Larsen. During the 99 years of World Series baseball, including a possible 735 games, only one pitcher completed a perfect game. This calculates out to about a .14 percent chance of a perfect game being thrown on any given day, and it explains the excitement in Bob Wolfe’s historic broadcast. This proves my point that nothing happening all day can be far more exciting than any game winning homerun.

Life is boring in the same sense. The occasional great event is the reason for living, but most of it consists of breathing, eating and working. Baseball offers that familiar routine day in and day out. "A bouncing ball towards short...Guilien gloves it...and throws to first for the out. And the side is retired," Townsan said. "All the guys respect him."

Baseball could quite possibly be the most boring sport on Earth, but that’s what makes it so great. It’s just like the game of life.

Maybe the best comparison would be to the dating game. The first time you touch, a word in conversation, or even a meaningful face to face on base. Your task is to advance, to try to come home, to score. Where do you think the analogy of rounding the bases came from?

Baseball is a boy’s game of inches. It’s endless and infinite. Ahh the game of baseball. There’s nothing better.
Central Washington University bowling club

The Central Washington University bowling club rolled into third place last weekend at the two-day ACUI Regional Qualifier tournament in Corvallis, falling short of a national berth.

The Wildcats took 15 bowlers to compete; 11 men and four women.

"Usually it's a one-on-one type of thing and then we add up the total scores for the team score," Dave Hamilton, club president, said.

"We're trying to get ahold of the NCAA just recognized our women's club status to a varsity sport," Dan Martin, club coach, said.

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Continued from Page 13

Lowly Northwest Nazarene a week later.

"We're still playing good basketball."

— B.J. Letcher

Central travels to Humboldt State University for a GNAC encounter Saturday night. On Jan. 17 the Wildcats pulled off their biggest victory of the season, beating conference front-runner HSU 88-74, in front of 1,200 fans at Nicholson Pavilion.

With a 13-1 conference and 22-1 overall record, the Lumberjacks are expected to avenge its only loss of the season. But not without a fight by Central.

"We're still playing good basketball," Letcher said. "We beat them before. Why can't we beat them again?"

HSU, ranked fifth nationally in this week's NABC/Division II Bulletin Weekly Top 25, is led by guard Austin Nichols and forward Fred Hooks. Nichols leads the GNAC in scoring at 23 points per game. Hooks ranks fifth in scoring at 18.3 and first in rebound per game at 11.7.

Against the Wildcats, Nichols was held to a season low seven points, but Hooks scored 28 and claimed 10 rebounds. The telling statistic of that contest was Central's ability to shoot 67 percent from the three-point line and just under 61 percent overall from the field.

Senior Troy Nealey sets for a jump shot against the Seattle University Redhawks. The Wildcats won the game, Feb. 14, 61-50 and the guard, Nealey, contributed four points in 17 minutes.

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Did they really say that?

"Well, if it's undisputed what's all the fighting about?"

— George Carlin, on the heavyweight boxing title

"He hit a pop-up against us one day that went so high, all nine guys on our team called for it."

— Florida Marlins coach Rich Donnelly, on the super strength of Mark McGwire

"They measured me when I was sitting down."

— 7'7" basketball center Manute Bol, explaining why his passport listed him at 2'2"

"Our players don't do dances in the end zone. We like them to act like they've been there before."

— Lou Holtz

"I am the greatest golfer in the world. I just haven't played yet."

— Muhammad Ali

"I guess we shouldn't be putting them on the bottom anymore."

— Michael Jordan, on relationship with NBA referees due to the addition of female officials.

"They broke it to me gently. The manager came up to me before a game and told me they didn't allow visitors in the clubhouse."

— Bob Uecker, on being cut by a baseball team

"We can't win at home. We can't win on the road. As a general manager, I just can't figure out where else to play."

— Orlando Magic GM Pat Williams

"Let me give you an idea how much money that is. By the time he gets a sign from his brain to scratch his groin, he's made $1 million."

— Jay Leno, on Ken Griffey Jr's multi-million dollar contract

"Sure there have been deaths and injuries in boxing, but none of them serious."

— Alan Winter

"If one synchronised swimmer drowns, do all the rest have to drown too?"

— Steven Wright