Variety of issues discussed at well-attended winter chat

Students air concerns over parking, faculty numbers and on-campus protests to administration

by Emily Duplasis
Staff reporter

Pushing their nervousness aside and swallowing the lumps in their throats, students met face-to-face with Central Washington University’s decision-making administration in President Jerilyn McIntyre’s fireside foyer.

Despite the large number of high-profile panel members, the atmosphere was relaxed, enabling both the panel and students to discuss immediate concerns and issues.

McIntyre introduced the open agenda and encouraged students to speak freely with any questions or comments during the Fireside Chat.

An ongoing struggle for students is on-campus parking, which was the first problem addressed by the panel.

“Planning for additional parking near the north and south side of Student Village is a possibility in the future,” Richard Corona, vice president for business and financial affairs, said.

Corona mentioned that the university is considering redesigning the landscape and removing trees on the east side of the Chestnut Street parking lot, near Barto Hall, to provide additional spaces. He also mentioned the women’s soccer field as future parking and reminded the students of the recent lot added at Eighth Avenue and Pearl Street.

“Between the city, the county and the school, we should be doing something,” Dean Duby, Ellensburg resident and student, said.

Duby asked the panel about a possible solution that would utilize the Kittitas County Fairgrounds as additional parking.

“This has been a consideration in the past, but there are a few safety issues the school must work out before any plans take effect,” Corona said. “We have been talking to the city about safety and possible cross-walks. It’s not impossible.”

On that hopeful note, the topic of conversation took a more dramatic turn when Scott Anderson, a student at Kittitas County Fairgrounds, said, “I guarantee that the new weight room and fitness center will be vastly better than what we currently have in Nicholson Pavilion.”

Steve Waldeck, director of university recreation, said, “Right now Nicholson isn’t enough to meet the needs of students, phys. ed. and the athletic department.”

The new recreation center will provide services previously unavailable to students, such as a four-court gymnasium, a weight-training area, an elevated jogging track and a climbing wall.

Students will pay for the new facilities with an increase in tuition, which will amount to an additional $95 per quarter for the recreation center and $64 for the new SUB once each facility opens.

The new SUB will also house the main on-campus dining hall and will include a copy center, ATM, bookstore, ticketed theater and post office.

The new facilities will be located on the lawn north of Black Hall and will extend to where the Holmes Dining Hall currently stands. Construction is expected to begin in April 2004. The new SUB is scheduled to be completed by September 2005 and the recreation center should be complete by early 2006.

“Although we want the buildings in place, we are more interested in getting people together and making recommendations about some things that we think would help to improve security on campus, protecting the state’s assets and to protect people.”

Rittereiser assembled a 14-member task force representative of the university’s administration, Academics, Student Affairs, Facilities Management and residential services included in the committee.

With the understanding that the process was meant to be done quickly and efficiently, Rittereiser said the task force met three times before submitting a report to the administration on Jan. 27.

Three areas of concern were identified and discussed separately at each meeting. The group looked at security of campus buildings, the security of security centers and the importance of background and criminal history checks of employees were all examined.

Building security issues arose following repeated theft and vandalism of vending machines in several academic halls and the Black Hall building at a rate of a dozen video projectors in October 2002.

See SECURITY, page 2
In memory...

The flag atop Barge Hall was lowered to half-staff throughout the week in memory of the seven astronauts who died in Saturday's shuttle disaster. It is speculated that an incident during the Jan. 16 launch of the shuttle contributed to its destruction. The accident occurred just four days after the 17th anniversary of the Challenger explosion.

Technology fee put to use with laptop checkouts

by Ryan Knee
Staff reporter

Students who visit the Samuelson Union Building (SUB) on a regular basis may have noticed a great deal of laptop computer use in recent weeks. Last month, the SUB Information Booth, also home to the Scheduling Center, began checking out laptops to Central Washington University students free of charge.

Funding for the computers came from the $25 computer technology fee paid with each student's tuition. Students can use the computers for up to two hours and have access to wireless Internet and various application programs. Students can also print black and white pages at no cost. Color pages can be printed for $1 per page and all pages can be picked up and paid for at the Information Booth.

"It's helpful for students that don't have computers that need to type up a last minute paper," Jesse Pueing, junior business administration major, said.

Computer patrons need to remember their Central user names and passwords to check out the computers. Those unsure of their user name and/or password can retrieve that information at Computer Support Services located in Boulion Hall, room 128.

"This is definitely a great service for the students," Kerri Sterkel, scheduling coordinator, said. "Right now we have 10 Compaq computers and we are looking to get a few more soon."

The wireless Internet connection on the computer only works in the SUB, but all other features can be used anywhere on campus. The computers have been installed with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint capabilities, as well as many other programs.

"This is something that the university has wanted to do for a while, by putting a wireless lab in the SUB," Christie Wilson, scheduling supervisor, said. "The Computer Technology Fee Committee paid for the computers."

Chris Selby, who works in the Samuelson Union Building Information Booth, checks out a laptop to a student during the noon hour on Monday. The computers are free to check out for two-hour time slots.

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~R&D~ (Auburn, WA)

SECURITY: Campus lighting concerns discussed by task force

Continued from page 1

The open use of Central's facilities during the evening and on weekends is one of McIntyre's immediate concerns.

The task force created a prioritized list of recommendations for building security. Among the most urgent were professors locking classrooms after use at nights and on weekends and the employment of building monitors in buildings open late or on weekends.

Other suggestions included limiting the number of buildings used on weekends, requiring new and remodeled buildings to use a card access system and taking measures to secure classroom equipment.

Creating student patrols and a more scrutinized key checkout system also made the list.

Increased vandalism in the Japanese Garden, as well as the Cascade Cup prank that left a scar on the university centers.

Unclear or faded crosswalk markings are implemented.

The Lighting Advisory Group and Facilities Management's electrician's were responsible for monitoring and fixing lights.

According to the report, the increased vandalism in the Japanese Garden and the removal of security (motion sensor) lighting seem to be interconnected. It was strongly recommended that the lighting be reinstalled.

The addition of blue light telephones in the north campus region and the proper trimming of trees and bushes that create hiding places were also recommended.

The growing number of students at the university prompted a recommendation to limit direct delivery on campus. Unclear or faded crosswalk markings and the failure of drivers to make the required stop for pedestrians was also a concern.

Last, the task force recommended a more in-depth and uniform approach to conducting employee background checks.

"It is incumbent upon us, before we hire somebody, to do our utmost to find out as much as possible about this individual and to find out about their compatibility to the job, the institution and the community," Rittereiser said.

Rittereiser said he would like to see more than a Washington State criminal record check in evaluating past behavior.

The recommendation of hiring a background investigation service was included in the report.

McIntyre and her cabinet will move ahead with the report and possibly implement some recommendations immediately. However, McIntyre said they do not want to take any of the issues lightly and some may take longer than others.

"We value and endorse (the report) in the division of student affairs," Keith Champagne, associate vice president for student affairs and task force member, said. "And we will do whatever we can to ensure the recommendations are implemented."
CHAT: Panel appeases students' money worries

Continued from page 1

from The 'Burg radio station, asked McIntyre about the scheduled protest against the Theatre Department's "Laramie Project" production.

Her response to his concern was to "just ignore them," McIntyre reminded the audience that Central's policy is to honor all public views and that the production "is not required attendance for anyone."

As the evening progressed, so did the questions. Alicia Hickman, music education major, asked the panel about the seemingly limited staff members in the music department.

"There are 263 music majors, and only 18 faculty members in the department," Hickman said. "Is the school doing anything?"

The panel assured Hickman that the music department is not alone in its need for additional staff. With the increased enrollment, many departments are having the same problem, McIntyre hopes to receive funded enrollments in the future, which would grant money based on the number of students in attendance as well as the overall need for faculty.

"Typically financial aid follows with the tuition increase," Charlotte Tullos, provost/ senior vice president for academic affairs, said. After easing the worry about tuition increases, the panel talked about the new SUB/Rec facility and how its addition to campus came about. Based on student-driven feedback, the need for a new gathering place was realized. Central students will fund the project without help from the state. The debt will be spread out over 30 years.

"I wasn't really sure what to expect," Peter Briggs, president of SALSA Christian Ministry, said. "This sort of thing is so beneficial to students and administration in enhancing communication." The complete panel included Tullos, David Soltz, provost/senior vice president for academic affairs, Richard Corona, vice president for business and financial affairs, Paul Baker, vice president for university relations and President Jerilyn McIntyre.

The event was broadcast by 88.1 The 'Burg. A number of students turned out for the event and contributed questions to keep the panel busy an hour longer than expected.

"I was really impressed how student-orientated (Mcintyre's) programs and efforts are," Hickman said.

Scholarship Announcements

The Jeannette Rankin Women's Education Fund will award at least 30 $2,000 scholarships nationally. Eligible applicants must be female, at least 35-years-old as of April 1, 2003, a U.S. citizen and pursuing a technical/ vocational degree, an associate degree or an undergraduate degree for the first time. The deadline to apply is March 1. For applications and more information visit www.rankinfoundation.org.

The MG James Ureno Scholarship for Dependent Children of the Army will award scholarships ranging from $700 to $1,800 per academic year. Eligible applicants must be dependent children, stepchildren or legally adopted children of Army personnel on active duty, retired or deceased while on active duty or after retirement, registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System, unmarried, under the age of 22, on June 1, 2003, enrolled full-time and maintaining at least a 2.0 grade point average. The deadline for application is March 3. For applications and more information visit www.serbd.org/educationdependent_children_regime.asp.

The Linda Howard for Seattle School District Graduates will award a $1,500 scholarship. Eligible applicants must be a graduate of a Seattle School District high school, enrolled full-time in a Washington college or university and must have completed their freshmen year (65 credit hours or equivalent) as of next fall and maintaining at least a 2.5 grade point average. Applicants are required to complete a 250-word essay explaining their views on "why one individual can make a difference in the lives of many." The deadline for application is March 15. For applications and more information visit www.collegeplan.org/collegepta/online/exps/howard.htm.

The Boeing Employees Credit Union (BECU) Scholarships will award at least 25 scholarships of $2,000 each. Eligible applicants must be a BECU member and a full-time undergraduate student maintaining at least a 3.0 grade point average. The deadline for application is March 31. For applications and more information visit www.becu.org/default.asp?sid=scholarships.

For additional scholarships and information visit the Scholarship Office in Barge Hall room 102, call 963-3005 or visit www.cwu.edu/scholar.
**Wildcat news bites**

Compiled by Megan Wade  
Assistant News editor

**ART AUCTION**

The Peace and Justice Alliance of Central Washington is organizing a silent table art auction from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 8 and 9 to benefit its newly-opened Peace Cafe located at 211 E. Eighth Ave. The auction is co-sponsored by the Central Washington University Progressive Student Union and The No Touching Ground Movement.

**PEACE ASSEMBLY**

There will be a peaceful assembly put on by the Diversity Center in response to the Westboro Baptist Church's protest of the "Larantine Project" at 6 p.m. Feb. 11 in the Cesar Chavez Theater in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB). Call 962-4429 for more information.

**NEED A DATE?**

The old fashioned dancing game is coming to Central at 3:30 Feb. 14 in the SUB Ballroom. Four couples will be united in the "date of their dreams." Admission is $1. Proceeds will benefit the Kittitas County Action Council.

**TODD ANDERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Central Rodeo Club and Marketing Club will host a fundraising dance to benefit the Todd Anderson Scholarship Fund from 9 p.m. to midnight on Feb. 8 at the Eagles' Lodge. There will be karaoke, dancing, music, prizes, and a raffle. Attendance is free. Raffle tickets can be purchased from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today and tomorrow in the SUB.

**T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER**

GALA-Guy, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Straight Alliance (GLBTA) will be selling T-shirts as a fundraiser to promote its mission of tolerance. Shirts can be purchased from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb. 6, 10, and 12 in the SUB or by dropping off a payment of $10 and information (name, size, phone, and email in a sealed envelope) at the GALA-GLBTA SA desk located in SUB room 206-7.

**GEOLOGICAL SEMINAR**

The Geological Sciences Seminar will continue with a presentation on "Tsunami Deposits on Kachemak: A Window into Subduction-Zone Earthquakes" at noon on Friday Feb. 28 in Lind Hall room 215.

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**Police Briefs**

Compiled by George Hawley  
Staff reporter

And that seat was so comfortable

Jan. 20 to 27

A bike was stolen from the Alfred Montgomery bike rack sometime between Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. It was a maroon men's mountain bike with a black gel seat, estimated to be worth $300. There are no suspects.

A bit too late

4 p.m. to 1:41 a.m. Jan. 28

Officers on patrol in the H-18 parking lot discovered a 1995 GMC pickup had been broken into with its passenger side window broken. Further investigation indicated that the stereo had been stolen. Total loss to the owner was $310.

Unlucky lot

12:12 a.m. to 1:41 a.m. Jan. 28

A 1998 Toyota pickup was broken into in the E-13 parking lot. The passenger side window was broken and the faceplate to the stereo was taken. Total loss to the owner was $560.

Here we go again

Jan. 27 to 28

Sometime between Jan. 27 and Jan. 28 a student's 1998 Honda Civic was broken into through the passenger side window. A CD player and 150 CDs were stolen from the car. The total loss to the student was $2,600.

A need for weed

8:39 p.m. Jan. 28

Police were called to the sixth floor of Muzzall Hall where the smell of marijuana was noticed. Shortly before police arrived a man who did not live there was seen carrying a backpack from a room out to a car. When police entered the room they found instruments used for the distribution of marijuana. Police then contacted the man who carried the bag from the room. He showed them the backpack and inside they discovered beer, drug paraphernalia and bags of marijuana.

The bag belonged to the resident of the room and he was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana with intent to deliver and minor in possession.

Fatal attraction

4 p.m. Jan. 29

A 23-year-old man called the police because his ex-girlfriend was harassing him. The woman followed him into the library and began to yell at him. He told her to leave him alone and he walked away. When he got to his car he was reportedly there waiting for her. When he opened his door she got into the passenger seat and refused to get out.

He called the police and when they arrived he was standing outside of the car and she was still inside. The police spoke to the woman and she eventually got out of the car. No charges were pressed.

Barto Hall independence day

11 p.m. Jan. 29

Police were called in response to students using fireworks outside of Barto Hall. Two 18-year-old men were found lighting bottle rockets. They claimed they didn't know they were doing anything illegal. They were given a warning and the police left.

That's gonna leave a stain...

1 a.m. Feb. 1

Police responded to a call involving a possible case of alcohol poisoning in the 500 block of N. Alder Street. They found a 19-year-old man laying on a bed and throwing up. The man was alert and needed no serious medical attention.

Bad taste

2 a.m. to 4 a.m. Feb. 1

A tire and rim were removed and stolen from a 1999 Mercury Mystique. The total loss to the owner was $200. There are no suspects.

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**Vaccinations available**

by Observer staff

Central Washington University's Health Center has six extra doses of the meningitis vaccine available through Feb. 14. Each shot costs $65. Some studies find that college students living in dormitories have a much higher risk of bacterial meningitis than other students. Meningitis is often accompanied by flu-like symptoms such as headache, stiff neck and fever.

For more information, call Celia Johnson at 963-1872 or the Health Center at 963-1881 for an appointment.

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**Correction**

In the Jan. 30 issue of the Observer the time, date and place of the Black Student Union's (BSU) regular meetings was incorrect. The BSU meets every other Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Grant's Pizza. Everyone is welcome.

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OBSERVANCE

Break out the rye bread, Grandma

There are four words in the English language sure to make millions smile when put together in perfect succession. These four words mark the countdown until the greatest day of the year — just 47 days from today.

Four beautiful words right on schedule.

"Pitchers and catchers report."

Monday, pitchers and catchers will report to Spring Training in Arizona and Florida. And baseball fans everywhere will rejoice.

Spring Training marks the changing of seasons. Much like the groundhog, baseball is a sign that the perpetual snow and ice of Ellensburg will warm into spring. The Baseball God saw his shadow and it is time once again to pull the troops out of hibernation.

The boys of summer will take the field while the wind still howls and the snow still falls across much of North America.

There is no baseball to watch, yet just knowing the ballplayers have gathered in the warmer weather of the south is a reminder that easier, better days are on the way. Spring Training, like a superhero, is here to save the day after another Super (Bowl) Bowl.

The game is, in that way, a hopeful signal, a positive omen. Soon there will be box scores and batting practice and the seventh inning stretch.

Soon all those things that make baseball the greatest game on earth will return. Spring Training gives a needed glimpse to millions of people, whose lives at that very moment have nothing to do with spring.

Four-wheel drive may still be needed to maneuver the snow and ice, but by the end of the month Dave and Rick will take us all to a warmer and happier place through radio waves. They’ll help generate hope that this year will finally be “the year.” There is reason to hope, because with Spring Training comes built-in optimism. After all, at this point all 30 teams are undefeated.

In just 47 days, on the greatest day of any and every year, the Seattle Mariners and Oakland Athletics will open the Major League Baseball season in Japan. And in just 61 days SAFECO Field will open her doors to another magical season.

Tens of thousands will pack the ballpark. Perhaps one is a small child attending his first game, one hand swallowed by a giant baseball glove, the other holding the hand of his father — eyes huge as he enters the stadium.

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Fire and controversy in male striptease

by Tracey Goodrich-Clay
Staff reporter

Last Friday night’s male striptease at the Thunderbird Motel’s Tahoe Room was more tease than strip. Fire codes were nearly violated and a city ordinance was pushed to the limit as more than 60 women, most of whom attend Central Washington University, packed the Tahoe Room to see oil-drenched, thong-clad men. The city ordinance is gray, but basically it says anything that excites the audience is illegal, Jesse Chicklinsky, Thunderbird owner, said. After being fined by the city last fall following the female striptease, the Thunderbird was under a lot of pressure to prevent infractions at this show.

One of the city’s biggest concerns, because of the last strip show, was the over-consumption of alcohol during the show. Undercover officers were present to make sure that the show remained in compliance with the laws of the liquor board and followed city regulations. The confusion with the name “striptease” and frustration with city regulations bothered many women in attendance. Many began leaving before the end of the show.

“The city council shouldn’t have anything to worry about, half the ladies left before the end,” Rebecca Wrixom, sophomore business administration major, said.

The evening began with strips of tickets draped over the broad shoulders of the six-foot-six, 250-pound stripper Diesel. On stage wearing a black tee, his hair brushed against the beams supporting the ceiling. After the show was underway and the atmosphere heated up, the dancers put on a variety of intriguing outfits. Falcon started his show with a naked pose behind a silk screen then quickly dressed in the full gear of a fireman.

“Each of our routines is an original idea,” Falcon said. “Before a show, I will pay out $2,000 in choreography and clothing.” A highlight of the evening included one of the strippers, drenched in oil, lighting a fire in a bucket and dancing above the neck in order to comply with the city’s regulations and some kept lowering their dollar bills to their navels.

One of the less erotic and more comical routines of the evening was the “Stevie Diamond Show” performed by dancer Stevie Diamond. As each layer of his clothes came off, a new character emerged. His costumes included a Dick Van Dyke-like lux, Batman and Superman. When each performer came off the stage, the audience scrambled with dollar bills high in the air, waiting for a smooth from the strippers. Many women in the audience didn’t realize that the strippers could only kiss above the neck in order to comply with the city’s regulations and some kept lowering their dollar bills to their navels.

Though audience participation was zealously at first, it faded as the show drew on. The regulations effect on the performer made it difficult for them to do their jobs. Immediately after the show, each dancer had to cover himself up with boxers-briefs and a sleeveless shirt before meeting the created audience.

“If this is the worst show we ever have,” stripper Magic said.

Cultivating kind actions

by Rita Fidler
Staff reporter

Help spread warm fuzzies by participating in Central Washington University’s fourth annual Random Acts of Kindness Week, which begins Feb. 10 and lasts through Valentine’s Day.

“Random Acts of Kindness Week involves just what the name suggests: being kind to others.”

Some of this year’s activities include making candy leis for elementary school students, making valentines for the elderly in nursing homes, decorating nuts-on-wheels cookies for friends and loving ones and delivering donuts to campus maintenance workers.

“My motivation of this activity is to show people that they can influence other people’s lives.”

Random Acts of Kindness Week is a nationwide event that led to the development of a non-profit foundation in 1995. It takes place in Ellensburg every year around Valentine’s Day.

The foundation supplies materials and activity ideas to schools, service groups and religious organizations across the nation and throughout Canada. In 2000, more than 5,000 school coordinators and 2,000 community coordinators were actively involved in this event.

Most of the crafting for this event, such as stringing candy leis and frosty cookies, will take place next week booth in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB). This year’s booth will be decorated in bright, sunny colors to emphasize the purpose of this activity: to add sunshine to someone’s life or to brighten someone’s day.

Students who are interested in volunteering for the event are encouraged to stop by the SUB room 211 and sign up for one or more activities on the sign-up sheet. Those who sign up will sit in the booth, help with the decorations and deliver treats.

Volunteers are looking forward to this event.

“This is my first year volunteering for the annual Random Acts of Kindness activity,” Laura Skanske, sophomore chemistry major, said. “I thought it was a pretty good idea and I like the idea of brightening someone’s day by doing something nice.”

Participating in the event is a way to gain Central club recognition.

Bringing someone candy or cookies might not be considered a great sacrifice, but sometimes it’s the little things that brighten someone’s day.

“These activities may seem small or insignificant, but really, it’s a segue into more involved programs that we can offer to students and staff on campus,” Anderson said.

Random Acts of Kindness Week is a nationwide event that led to the development of a non-profit foundation in 1995. It takes place in Ellensburg every year around Valentine’s Day.

The foundation supplies materials and activity ideas to schools, service groups and religious organizations across the nation and throughout Canada. In 2000, more than 5,000 school coordinators and 2,000 community coordinators were actively involved in this event.

Most of the crafting for this event, such as stringing candy leis and frosty cookies, will take place next week booth in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB). This year’s booth will be decorated in bright, sunny colors to emphasize the purpose of this activity: to add sunshine to someone’s life or to brighten someone’s day.

Students who are interested in volunteering for the event are encouraged to stop by the SUB room 211 and sign up for one or more activities on the sign-up sheet. Those who sign up will sit in the booth, help with the decorations and deliver treats.

Volunteers are looking forward to this event.

“This is my first year volunteering for the annual Random Acts of Kindness activity,” Laura Skanske, sophomore chemistry major, said. “I thought it was a pretty good idea and I like the idea of brightening someone’s day by doing something nice.”

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Project's plans persevere amidst planned protesting

by Tyler Matney

Staff reporter

Despite the controversy and hype surrounding the Central Washington University production of the "Laramie Project," the show must go on. While many prepare to protest the show, many others are busy ensuring the production's success.

Although the Western Baptist Church's promised protest has grabbed the attention of the Central community, it has not deterred those involved in the play from participating.

The "Laramie Project" follows the town of Laramie, Wyo., after the brutal murder of college student Matthew Shepard because of his sexual orientation.

In June 1998, Shepard was beat and left for dead near an abandoned gas station. His death, in reaction to his own orientation, drew attention to the issue of hate crimes against the gay community.

In 2002, a workshop production of "The Laramie Project," directed by Warner Miller, opened with a five-day campaign to raise awareness of hate crimes against women. The campaign began Feb. 3 and ends Feb. 7.

This year marks the first time that men will be included. Ensler feels that it is imperative for men to be involved in the movement, because women can not stop the violence alone.

"The males involved in the play wrote their own pieces answering the question, "What would your community look like without violence against women and girls?"

This is for the Center for Student Empowerment's first year participating in the nation wide campaign to stop violence.

Walter said the V-day campaign, created by Ensler in 1997, stands for victory, stopping violence, vagina and Valentine's Day.

Funds raised by the $10 admission charge to watch the production will benefit the Kittitas County Action Committee and Abuse Support and Prevention Education Now. Both organizations help women in violent situations.

"Coming to this is a way of helping to stop the violence," Waltz said. The Vagina Monologues begins at 7 p.m. tonight in the Samuelson Union Building Ballroom and 7 p.m. Feb. 7 and at 3 p.m. on Feb. 8.

"The Laramie Project" will be performed Feb. 27 to March 2 and March 6 to 8.

"I feel that when you deal with controversy it raises your profile."

— Michael Smith, Director of the "Laramie Project"

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Vagina Monologues take the stage to stop violence

by Susan Bunday

Scene Editor

It is in the week of the vagina at Central Washington University. The Center for Student Empowerment finishes its week-long celebration of V-Day with a production of the "Vagina Monologues".

The award-winning play by Eve Ensler ends a five-day campaign to increase awareness about violence toward women and girls. The campaign began Feb. 3 and ends Feb. 7.

"We want to get to a place where we as women don't have to be afraid to walk home alone at night," Karina Whitney, director for the Center for Student Empowerment, said.

The play is based on interviews conducted by Ensler and discusses the joys and sorrows of having a vagina.

According to Alyssa Waltz, student programmer and senior history major, the monologues are meant to make people aware of what life is like as a woman. From rape to childbirth, menstruation to menstruation, the monologues encompass life as a woman.

"The monologues are celebrating womanhood and V-Day is a cause for women's liberation," Maureen Eller, director of the play and senior theatre major, said. "It goes hand-in-hand."

Central's production of the play features 26 cast members including faculty, staff, students and Ellensburg residents.

"At a wise man once said, "Any publicity is good publicity." Someone just recently asked me the same thing and I told them that it didn't ruin Hugh Grant's career. Not that we want to see another production of "The Laramie Project," but to have a reputation for something like controversy. However, I feel that when you deal with controversy it raises your profile. If you're willing to put yourself on the line and ask some hard questions, then I think people gain some respect for you because you're not doing the standard repertoire and not challenging the audience."

The "Laramie Project" will be performed Feb. 27 to March 2 and March 6 to 8.
Around the county

It's easy to get caught in a rut of the same bars, restaurants and recreational activities while living in Wildcat Country. Scene leaves Ellensburg to find hot spots in the county via Cle Elum and Roslyn.

Oh, MaMa Mia

MaMa Valone's, located in Cle Elum, offers tantalizing entrees from pasta to steak to seafood at reasonable prices in a setting reminiscent of home.

By Andy Hanson/Observer

Cure creative and culinary cravings

by Katherine Wiles
Staff reporter

At first glance one might not see Kittitas County's thriving art community. But a closer look reveals the cultural side of the county. The Carpenter House Museum, located on Third Street and Billings in Cle Elum, is not only the former home of Cle Elum's first successful banker Frank Carpenter, but also houses the gallery and art studio of the High Country Artists.

The Carpenter House was built in 1916 and is still in its original condition. When the High Country Artists moved in the house was kept in its viewing form with all the original furniture; their only addition was to put art on the walls and under glass.

The artists display all types of art including sculpture, pottery, photography, jewelry, quilts, basket weaving, paintings and drawings.

Sara Engdahl, High Country Artists member and former president of the Historical Society in Cle Elum, instigated merging the Carpenter House with the High Country Artists.

"I was leaving my position as the president of the Historical Society and wanted to go out with a bang," Engdahl said, "so I had a showing of my artwork here at the Carpenter House, along with some of the other High Country Artists members."

The showing did well, and the demand for local art was so high that in December 2000, the Northern Kittitas County Historical Society and the High Country Artists signed an agreement that the High Country Artists would create and manage an art gallery inside the Carpenter House Museum. The artists also agreed to maintain the historical side of the Carpenter House.

"It's a great way to view art in a home setting. This way you can get an idea of what it will look like in your own home before you buy it," Bonnie Hawk, artist and Carpenter House Museum director, said.

Admittance to the Carpenter House Museum and Art Gallery is free. The museum is open year-round every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.
Hidden history in Roslyn

by Natalie Bing
Staff reporter

Breaking the rules and getting away with it has long been a favorite American past-time. From a bar that sold alcohol during prohibition to a movie theater that used to be a funeral parlor, Roslyn is a charismatic town with an immense amount of history.

During prohibition, old mining tunnels were used to transport alcohol (among other things) throughout the town of Roslyn.

"They would run the booze, women, or anything else you don't want to get caught with," Lynn Silver, The Brick bartender, said.

Squares of purple glass can still be found embedded in the Roslyn sidewalk, allowing light into the once-operating passageways beneath the sidewalks. Also in Roslyn is The Brick bar, located at 100 Pennsylvania Ave. The Brick is Washington's oldest continually operating saloon. A $5 cover charge is all that's necessary for maximum gluteus maximus content of the theater. Moviegoers can do whatever is necessary to make the journey worthwhile.

Another original feature to the Roslyn Theater is the weekly drawing for a free movie pass, popcorn and a pop. All who hold a movie ticket are entered, and the winning ticket number is announced after the show. The folks who own and operate the theater will do whatever is necessary to make the journey worthwhile.

Since it's owner-run, we are very particular to run it right," Donaldson said.

The Donaldsons have catered to all who enjoy the movies with them. "(The Donaldsons) actually deliver espresso to us upstairs so we wouldn't miss any of the movie. Where else can you get that?" Siegel said.

The Roslyn Theater offers some unusual culinary fare. For example, it offers popcorn with nutritional yeast topping, not dogs (vegetarian) on Che Elum bakery buns, Casa de Blanca nachos and bagels and cream cheese.

The Brick (top), the oldest continually operating saloon in Washington state, once housed prisoners in its jail (bottom left) and provided hidden passages for smuggling alcohol illegally during the prohibition. The Roslyn Theatre (bottom right) was once a funeral home.

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The Roslyn Theater is open every day of the year, with movies usually beginning at 7 p.m. For additional information call (509) 649-3155.

History is alive and kicking in Roslyn. The Brick and the Roslyn Theater are just two of the unique places filled with stories just waiting to be told.

Observer - Scene - Feb. 6, 2003

Valiant effort at Village Pizza

Shayne Breeden
Staff reporter

For 20 minutes I drove through rain and snow with high expectations, for pizza I would never forget, or so I've been told. At first I was worried that I might not find the place, but inside before 8 p.m. will have the cover charge waived. This weekend Free Beer is playing.

The Brick opens at noon every Monday through Friday from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. The Brick offers special discounted prices on food, beer and well drinks. For those with good aim, a sign hanging from the ceiling bets a mug of beer to anyone who can toss a quarter into a jug.

On the opposite corner from The Brick is the animal-friendly Roslyn Theater.

"This is the coolest place in the Pacific Northwest. You can bring your dogs if they're friendly, you get to see real hippies, and pony tails and tie-dye get you in for half price," Ron Siegel, upper county resident, said.

Only half of what Siegel said is true. Pets (and hippies) are welcome. But wearing tie-dye will not lower the cost of admission. The owners of the Roslyn Theater have pets wandering the aisles, so they have no problem allowing other people's animals to do the same.

"From the little poodle dogs to the big German shepherd dogs, all are allowed," Lyn Donaldson, employee, said.

For more than a century, the building housing the Roslyn Theater has been a part of the city. From around 1890 until 1960, the wooden building used to be the funeral home for the Roslyn community. Since 1970, the Donaldson family has operated a movie theater out of the historical site.

"It's got a lot of character," Donaldson said.

A balcony above the usual row of movie chairs is one distinct characteristic of the theater. Moviegoers can call in advance and request these "loge" seats for only one dollar more per admission. But no seat in the house is unworthy of your time; each offers a view particular to run it right," Donaldson said.

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The Roslyn Theater offers some unusual culinary fare. For example, it offers popcorn with nutritional yeast topping, not dogs (vegetarian) on Che Elum bakery buns, Casa de Blanca nachos and bagels and cream cheese.

The Pizza was great, but by the second piece I was eating off the table. My waxed paper wasn't holding up and for all I know I was eating off the same spot on the table that someone had spit on earlier that day. But I had to wonder as I ate, was it really worth the drive to do without a plate? I know that waxed paper is cheaper than paper plates, so with the money they save by forcing customers to dine a la mode, why did the pizza cost so much?

I quickly replayed the trip in my head to decide if it was worth the intense rain, a rural road and a blizzard.

The verdict was in. Had it been summer and had I felt like a drive with the top down, this trip would have been a bit more enjoyable. Instead I risked my life (thank goodness I had stud) for pizza which was good. But then again, when you order delivery you don't even have to leave the comfort of your warm, not to mention safe, home.

Village Pizza is definitely a place to try if you have the time and the money, but one word of advice for those who are willing to go the extra distance for great pizza: bring your own plate!
Women's hoops wipe the
Last Frontier off the map

While the brass band and the
cheerleading squad brought harmony to the
gym, the chemistry of the women's basketball team fit together on the
home court.

Last week, the Wildcats swept the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) 69-53, and the University of Alaska-Anchorage (UAA) 78-40.

The first game on Thursday proved to be successful for the Wildcats.

"I thought we came out and played very well the first half (37-19)," Head Women's Basketball Coach Jeff Whitney said. "I think it was the first time all season that we played the first full whole 20 minutes."

Senior point guard Meggen Kautzky earned 17 points and had five assists, both game highs for the night. "Obviously Meggen got us started off on a great note coming out," Whitney said. "She had three straight three-balls in the first half.

While the two teams went back and forth in the second half, the seniors did a great job holding it together at crucial moments."

"Meggen, (senior guard) Karissa Martin (Martin) and (senior forward) Careo Wells (Wells) really helped us down the stretch to do some things. (They) helped us maintain the lead we did and eventually won the game," Whitney said. "Karissa took control down at the end of the game. She hit two big buckets to help and keep our margin way up."

Wells also did an outstanding job, grabbing seven rebounds. "I think Careo made our defensive presence known by blocking shots, getting rebounds and she plays that intimidating role," Whitney said. Other bench players, not only the seniors, helped the team win.

Kicking a game-winning field goal, blocking a breakaway shot in hockey and draining a three-pointer at the buzzer in basketball are all exceptionally intense and extremely difficult things to do in sports.

However, athletes accomplish these feats every day with fans going crazy in the crowd. I have come to the conclusion that golfers and tennis players are just a bunch of babies. Can you picture John McEnroe strangling a child for accidentally sneezing during his serve? Picture what John Daly would do to a person that yelled at him during his backswing. The only balls these guys have say "Tigerist" or "Penn" on them.

All sports require focus, and hitting a baseball is considered by many to be the most difficult task in all of sports. If you studied for 30 years for a math test and only answered 40 out of 100 questions correctly, you would do to a person that yelled at him during his backswing. The only balls these guys have say "Tigerist" or "Penn" on them.

Don't hold the cheering and applause

The sun is finally out, the
birds are chirping and spring is
right around the corner. The
Seattle Mariners head down to
Peoria, Ariz., for Spring Training in only three days, and yet I can't stop thinking about golf and tennis. No, I'm not daydreaming of Anna
Kournikova; I simply cannot stop contemplating why fans are discouraged from cheering during golf and tennis events. While neither sport actually bans cheering in their official rules, silence is part of the games' dour etiquette.

Concentration is a key ele­
ment in all sports, and athletes should not only be physically elite, but they should be men­
sional sound as well. However, athletes accom­plish these feats every day with fans going crazy in the crowd.

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See CHEERS, page 11

For more information on the topics covered in this article, please refer to the following sources:
- "Women's hoops wipe the Last Frontier off the map," by Takeshi Kojima, Staff reporter
- "Don't hold the cheering and applause," by Connor Glassy, Staff reporter
- "This day in history: 1926 NFL rules college students ineligible until graduation."
Rah, rah, ree, kick 'em in the knee

by Jenny Smelser
Staff reporter

Pretty girls aren't the only people that make the cut on Central Washington University's cheer team. Eleven women accompany the women on the sidelines during sporting events at Nicholson Pavilion and on Tomlinson Field. All 22 cheerleaders work together to create a powerful squad full of energy and dedication.

Although the group practices in Central's wrestling room two days per week, it manages to get in 10 to 12 hours of practice off the smelly mats. It's a tough jog according to some.

"It's challenging," Nate Slattery, junior law and justice major, said. "I played a lot of sports in high school and now I experienced a greater challenge than being on the cheer team."

Central's cheer team needs to be tough and in shape. With an advanced stunting squad in place this year, accidents could occur.

The stunting squad practices religiously, working to perfect the art of throwing women 20 feet into the air or sticking 10 people into a pyramid high above the ground. Stunting takes extreme balance and concentration from both the men, who hold and throw, and the women, who also might hold, but are often flung into the air.

The team has hopes of competing nationally in a few years and is working toward advancing its abilities, not only in stunting, but in dance, jumping, tumbling and routine.

"We are going through a lot of transition and bettering the cheering program," Stephanie Iller-Drachman, sophomore fine arts major, said.

The members of the team say that overall they get along and work well together. Coach Kathe Hatfield has the same feeling.

"This year's group is the strongest co-ed cheer team I've ever had," Hatfield said. "They work well as a team, excelling in their abilities and professionalism."

The members of the cheer team feel that they work just as hard as other athletes competing in sports.

Despite the stereotyping of being ditzy girls or girly guys, both the women and the men feel that cheering is mentally and physically challenging and that not everyone is cut out for the team. Memorizing cheers and stunts is just the beginning; perfecting them takes hard work.

Just like any team, Central's cheer squad experiences conflict. Squad members go through their ups and downs, but manage to remain focused and stay friends.

Individuals train effortlessly to make the team each year, practicing with the team and on their own time. The women usually come from strong cheerleading backgrounds, but the men aren't as familiar.

According to Hatfield, males might be intimidated at first, but after seeing how it's done and actually trying it, their attitudes change and they figure it right in. Not many colleges in Washington have men on their cheer teams, but the numbers are rising.

Informational meetings for those interested in joining Central's cheer team will be held Feb. 10 and 11 in Nicholson Pavilion room 116.
Eskimos invade Central

by Casey Steiner
Editor-in-Chief

The thought of Alaska conjures images of long days, long nights, snow, eskimos and those stupid polar bears from the Coca-Cola advertisements — not basketball. So why, then, have the Seawolves of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) drawn more than 55,000 fans combined, 40,000 more than the Nanooks of Central Washington University, to their basketball contests? The most likely reason is good basketball. The teams have a combined 22-14 winless record. The Nanooks (14-4) rank ninth in the latest NCAA West Region Poll and the Seawolves stake claim to possibly the NCAA West Region's best player, junior forward Peter Bullock. At 7 p.m. tonight the Wildcats (11-7) will attempt to beat UAA (8-10) and the team’s star, Bullock, in Nicholson Pavilion. The 6-foot-8 post player ranks in the top five statistically in the GNAC in points, 19.7 (4); rebounds, 9.9 (2); steals, 2.61 (2) and blocks, 1.39 (2) per game. On Jan. 9, Bullock scored 22 points as the Seawolves beat the Wildcats 81-74 in Anchorage. Central will play UAF at 7 p.m. Saturday night in Nicholson Pavilion. The Nanooks’ conference record (7-2) will attempt to beat UAA (8-10) and the team’s star, Bullock, in Nicholson Pavilion. 

Junior forward Anthony Lewis shoots a jumper during a game against the Seattle University Redhawks.

Joe Whiteside/Observer

What is going on with the SUB/Rec Project?
The SUB/Rec Project is well underway. The Project Committee, along with the architects, is wrapping up the first phase of design. The completion of this first phase will put us 50% through the design process. On Friday, February 14, 2003, we will go before the Board of Trustees to get approval to go into the second phase of design. Currently we have a display in the SUB showcasing some of the design documents, a model of the new facility, and an approximated timeline. Please drop by and take a look at these; they are displayed so you can see what’s going on! Also, if you are interested, the Project Committee meets every Tuesday from 3 to 5pm in SUB 206/07; anyone is welcome to come to these meetings. If you have questions please contact Megan Fuhlman in SUB 116, fuhlmanm@cwu.edu, or at 963-1967. She will be happy to talk to you about these wonderful facilities.

Are you ready for Spring?
Spring is almost here and what better way to celebrate the warm weather than with a free haircut? Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially-needy individuals suffering from long-term medical hair loss. If you can't wait to cut your hair, go ahead and donate it and save it. Then, donate the hair before April by contacting David Uberti and the Project Committee meets every Tuesday from 3 to 5pm in SUB 206/07; anyone is welcome to come to these meetings. If you have questions please contact Megan Fuhlman in SUB 116, fuhlmanm@cwu.edu, or at 963-1967. She will be happy to talk to you about these wonderful facilities.

Model of the new Student Union (L) and Recreation Center (R).