Candidates get ready for today’s elections

by George Hawley
Staff reporter

Tuesday morning, with elections nearing, candidates for the Associated Students of Central Washington University University Board of Directors (ASCWU-BOD) met on the Barto Hall lawn for a barbecue and one of their final opportunities to campaign.

“The Resident Hall Association (RHA), the event,” David Brown, sophomore major, RHA president and write-in candidate for vice-president of student life and facilities, said.

More than 150 people attended the event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., which was a much higher turnout than the approximately 30 students attended a candidate debate in Club Central last Thursday.

“It was a wonderful opportunity to meet people and promote yourself,” Peter Burke, sophomore, public relations major and candidate for vice-president of student life and facilities, said.

The BOD elections will be held today. Students may vote online until 8 p.m., and at all of the dining halls throughout the day. To vote online go to http://www.votecentral.com.

“It was good to see all of these people show up, but the main thing is that people turn out on Thursday to vote,” Mike Julian, V.P. for student organizations candidate.

It was good to see all of these people show up, but the main thing is that people turn out on Thursday to vote.

Mike Julian
V.P. FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS CANDIDATE

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Ceremony honors ROTC cadets

by Joseph Castro
Staff reporter

Flags decorating the blacktop drill pad in front of Peterson Hall flapped in the wind as cadets of the Army ROTC Wildcat Battalion and the Air Force ROTC Saberwing Eagles marched in formation last Saturday.

Army Lieutenant Colonel Troy Konz and Air Force Lieutenant Colonel William Major inspected the cadets as they marched in their Class-A uniforms in front of a crowd of onlookers.

The inspection was part of the Presidential Day Retreat (PDR), an annual parade, awards ceremony and open house hosted by Central Washington University ROTC to award cadets and honor veterans and the community of Ellensburg.

Veterans, proudly wearing caps and jackets sporting the insignia of their service in the armed forces, presented many of the awards to the cadets.

“You see the quality of these future leaders,” Glen Mitchell, representative of the Ellensburg chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars, said.

Mitchell, who fought with the 3rd Army under Patton in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II, has attended the PDR ceremony for numerous years.

“Reminds us of our days in the military,” Mitchell said. “Makes you want to go out there and march when you see ROTC, page 2

Officers represent Central in D.C.

by Rachel Guillermo
Staff reporter

Our nation’s economy is dwindling and Central Washington University along with other state funded institutions are in need of federal support.

To help deal with the problem, two members of the Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors (ASCWU-BOD), President Nate Harris and Monica Medrano, vice president of political affairs, are in Washington, D.C. discussing issues facing higher education and education in general. One issue they are concerned with is funding for financial aid programs for higher education institutions.

“Our intent is essentially to information gather, communicate, dialogue and liaison with Washington Sen. Murray and Cantwell, as well as Representative Hasling,” Harris said.

The purpose of Harris and Medrano’s trip is to discuss with congressmen how possible cuts could affect higher education at Central.

“The Pell Grant is so critical for students who need financial assistance to attend college,” Agnes Canedo, director of financial aid, said. “It’s the one we count on.”

About 75 percent of Central students receive financial aid. In the 2001-2002 school year, $36,880,391 of financial aid was distributed through federal grants, employment and loans; $6,035,743 was distributed in state aid; $9,410,052 in Federal funds.

See TRIB, page 2

Emergency trainees prepare for disaster

by Staci Peter
Contributing staff reporter

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake rocked the Ellensburg area last night and caused over $100 million in damage.

Fifty-six students are unaccounted for, seven were declared dead-on-arrival at Kittitas County Community Hospital following the incident.

Though hypothetical, a situation of this caliber or something similar to it, is possible at any moment and the end result could be catastrophic if not prepared for in advance.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program is taking part in preparing members of the community and Central’s Safety and Health Management class for such an event. Whether in Ellensburg, a neighboring community or another state completely, people trained in CERT have the responsibility to respond to the emergency and help assist in post-disaster situations.

“(CERT) is something that’s absolutely necessary for a community like Ellensburg because we’re so isolated,” Rich Elliot, Ellensburg Fire Department Interim Fire Chief, said.

“If there is a local disaster much less a regional disaster we’re going to be on our own for a significant block of time. We’re going to need people in the community to have basic skills to help us accomplish what we need to accomplish.”

Central’s Safety and Health Management class See CERT, page 5
Police Briefs

Compiled by George Hawley

That hertz
5-9 p.m. May 13
A student left his backpack unattended in the lounge of Herza Hall. When he returned his wallet had been taken out of it. Total loss to the student was $35.

Window pain
9-10 a.m. May 14
Someone broke the window of a car in the O-5 parking lot. Nothing was stolen from the vehicle. Total loss to the owner was $100.

Source of inspiration

"It's good for students, because they get to see a whole different side of Ellensburg."

Jaquelyn Johnson
Director of CDS

Internship seekers find help in quest to jump start careers

by Joseph Castro

Continued from page 1

Central aid and $2,694,398 in outside grants and loans.

"It is necessary for us to gather information on federal financial aid in particular Pell Grants and Stafford and Perkins Loans," Medrano said. We have worked with Administration to gather information on these three very basic areas of financial aid."

Harris and Medrano hope the information gathered will help the incoming ASCIU-BOD members with a plan of action.

"It is undoubtedly expected that financial aid will get cut," Medrano said. "We want a head start on the issues, and find a resolution to this cut so that Central students will remain Central students."

Harris said the trip is intended to make Central's needs felt on a federal level.

"It shouldn't take a crisis to manifest representation regarding an issue." Harris said. "If a crisis becomes a catalyst than the cause related to the reaction may as well be lost."

TRIP: Focus placed on high road funding

Continued from page 1

Internship seekers find help in quest to jump start careers

by Joseph Castro

CDS is accepting all students for internships at least nine months in advance. "It's good for students because they get to see a whole different side of Ellensburg," Johnson said. "Students and employers in Ellensburg are really on the same page."

CDS can be used to search for an internship, but Youngren said students have received internships from Boeing and the Smithsonian Institute, and local internships with the Chamber of Commerce, Ellensburg Police, The Daily Record and numerous others.

"Most students find internships on their own," Youngren said. "I haven't even seen them until they have already obtained their internship."

"Students and employers in Ellensburg are really on the same page."

Monique Jones/Observer

The banquet honored those who participated in SOURCE, some of whom received awards for their presentations. Each presentation was judged by a panel of faculty members.

The winners in each session received a certificate of achievement and a gift certificate to the university bookstore.

There were also eight Honorable Mention certificates given out at the banquet.

The Daily Record and numerous others.

"Most students find internships on their own," Youngren said. "I haven't even seen them until they have already obtained their internship."

CDS can be used to search for an internship, but Youngren said students hear about internships through family contacts or the desire to work for a particular company," Johnson said. "Companies like Amazon.com don't have to come to these things because they receive so many hundreds of resumes from people that are out of work and desperate, so you have to have a solid resume, cover letter and some interviewing skills so you can be confident and get a start."

One option for students is to seek an internship in a small town like Ellensburg.

"It's good for students because they get to see a whole different side of Ellensburg."
Years of service and loyalty applauded at award program

by Emily Duplexis
Staff reporter

Spring is the time of year when one is encouraged to “stop and smell the roses” and reflect on the beauty around.

For Central Washington University, it is a time to reflect on the employees who have dedicated years of their lives to serving thousands of students.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Human Resources Department hosted the annual Service Award Program where 71 Central employees were recognized for their years of service to the campus community.

President Jerilyn McIntyre awarded the honorees with plaques indicating their years with Central, while Media Relations Officer Rob Lowery read comments from the honorees’ supervisors stating their personal gratitude and appreciation for many years of dedication to the campus community.

Student trustee on Central’s Board of Trustees, Jennifer Hazen, addressed the honorees with words of support and thanks on behalf of the student body. The University Store donated Central logo merchandise as a token of their appreciation.

President Jerilyn McIntyre presents psychology professor Jim Thompson with a plaque for his 35 years of service.

The ceremony ended with a service award moment drawing where honorees won various prizes donated by Central staff and friends of the awardees.

RUG SALE

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Due to Iranian currency devaluation crisis, the Persian rugs are extremely well-priced.

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Saturday May 24th 10am - 5pm
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ORIENTAL RUG CO. OF BELLEVUE
Meet the ASCWU-BOD Candidates

The Observer asked each candidate 1) What has specifically driven you to be an advocate for students and how have you previously acted upon that? 2) What qualifies you to take this position?

President

Mark Michael

Before this campaign started, I saw some archives of pictures that were stored on the walls of students here at Central, a fact upon which. For example, the wheel-access button at Bldg. "F." The button opens the doors for disabled persons and was broken for 2 weeks. Almost every weekend I went to class and saw someone in a wheelchair waiting for someone else to get the door to open. I kept thinking that someone else would deal with it. Finally I went through and worked in a put and order various jobs. One week later the door was still broken, so very politely I went back to facilities and mentioned that a lawyer for the A.D.A. would love to hear something I am. I went to facilities, put in a work order and it was fixed. As a write-in, I need the help of the people--write in their dorms and activities. I

V.P. Clubs & Organizations

Tony Aronica

I have always been drawn to leadership positions. If I had to identify one talent that I had, it would be public service. In the past year I have become acquainted with our student government here at Central, and I feel like this position will allow me to make the most differences in this campus. In the past when there was a problem that was cumbersome to myself or fellow students, I would organize and get clubs in actively fix the problem. Through training and providing education to other members on the B.O.G. I believe that I can create awareness in students and engage in involve solving problems in the campus.

Toni Aronica

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Executive Vice President

Dan Michael

The lack of communication on our campus is a primary reason for my campaign. I know that if effective vision for the school will be able to involve more students and aware more of the issues that pertain to them. Along with student concerns, I want to have impact on Central before I graduate and I feel by holding a position in office I could better serve the students and make Central a better place for incoming students. I want to make sure students are aware of the opportunities of Clubs and Organizations that can help at Central. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs. I have been working with Kastria Baca, the VP of Clubs and Organizations at the university, to better understand the students of Central needs.

Jill Creighton

President of my school.

V.P. Student Life & Facilities

I am a great leader and team player, I am able to communicate and relate to many students on campus. I am responsible and organized, which allows me to complete both long-term and short-term goals successfully. I am a caring and generous person and want what is best for Central.

Jill Creighton

Jill Creighton believes that this institution has holes in its structure and policy, I want to fix these glitches and give the students here a quality education. I am concerned about the level of education we receive. I want to understand to have faith that their needs, concerns, and ideas are met.

V.P. Academic Affairs

Peter Barbee

I believe that this institution has holes in its policy, I want to fix these glitches and give the students here a quality education. I am concerned about the level of education we receive. I want to understand to have faith that their needs, concerns, and ideas are met.

V.P. Equity & Community Service

Cindy Figueroa

Cindy Figueroa was from day one I've been selected to be an advocate for people with disabilities. I have been a student at CWU for only five years old my parents couldn't speak English. So I had to translate and understand what was wanted to help where I know people needed help. In the end it gave me more satisfaction than anything else. Being an advocate for students came naturally to me. I continued my work through A.S.B. in middle school and continued on through high school by becoming the first Mexican President of my school. I believe I am qualified for the position of VP for Equity Service because I know the system. As a voting member of Equity Service Council I've had the great opportunity to work closely with the current ESC VP, Brian Jones. By working with him, I've learned what it takes to run an organization that demands participation, activism, energy, creativity, openness, and understanding. I am ready to meet these demands.
RAs held to high standards on job

by George Howley Staff reporter

Their work requires them to simultaneously be parent figures, helpful friends and storm troopers. They are the resident advisers (RAs), and next year’s students have already been hired to fill all the openings in the residences.

‘What I like about my job is that I get to meet new people and help them out when I can,” junior Stock, sophomore graphic design major and RA, said. “I don’t like the constant meetings and all of the small, annoying and time consuming things that can get in the way of school work.”

The hiring process for RAs began early in the school year with a series of recruitment programs. These programs informed all students interested in being an RA of what the position entails before putting the applicants through a rigorous screening.

‘RAs are held to a higher standard than ordinary students because they are essentially living in a glass house with eyes always on them,” Dale Sculli, area coordinator of residential services, said. “They are always on the front lines in terms of dealing with students and student concerns.”

Potential RAs turn in a four-page cover letter. Between 80 and 90 of the applicants are interviewed. Those who do not perform to standard or do not get in the way of school work.

The rest are put on a list of alternates.

The RAs then choose their top three choices for where they would like to work. Most will get one of their choices.

When the next school year arrives, the new RAs are paid in the form of free housing and a small stipend.

RAs are community organizers and builders, but their duties also involve giving out noise and alcohol violations.

As much as possible, the more unpleasing jobs are done by the professionals so that the RAs can avoid the reputation of being the enforcers of the residence halls.

It is the RAs who organize the many activities that occur within the residence halls.

“We believe that the new RAs will do what they can to help the incoming freshmen to the best of their ability,” David Brown, sophomore tourism management major and president of the Residence Hall Association, said.

Not all RAs make it through an alternate pool.

‘The best qualified are hired and the others are put on a list of alternates,” Joe Price, coordinator for Central Washington University’s safety and health management, said. “It’s fun. The people in the class are good people and it’s a real good overview of quite a few topics.”

The CERT program consists of seven, three-hour training modules which include skills training in disaster medical, fire suppression, search and rescue, psychological assessment and organizational training and disaster simulation.

CERT training is ideal for a disaster of mammoth proportions but it can also help save a life on any normal day.

Brenda Larsen, Disaster Preparedness Grant coordinator, said CERT training is an important tool people can use in their day-to-day lives to help others no matter what the situation.

‘Through CERT has been beneficial to many groups, Price said this type of training is not for everyone. Price suggested a person have some familiarity in hazardous situations and understand the responsibility that comes with it.

‘In the event that stuff hits the fan and the existing resources are overwhelmed, volunteers, like the people in our program, would be expected to chip in and help out,” Price said.

The Safety and Health Management class not only has the knowledge to help in hazardous situations but also takes pride in the level of safety needed to be successful.

‘They have a specialized training in safety and health management and a lot of (other) people don’t fully understand the hazardous material portion of the class,” Larsen said. “They bring a more intimate knowledge to that portion and the safety of it as well.”

CERT is a federally funded program initiated to educate communities throughout the country in disaster response. CERT began in Ellensburg last year as a result of the grant awarded by the Corporation for National Service, Programs of National Significance.

The grant was written by Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RVS) Director Carol Findley and former Ellensburg Fire Chief Robert Schmidt and is being used as a means of updating the City of Ellensburg’s Emergency Management Plan (EMP). Initiating the CERT training program is a part of Homeland Security for Ellensburg. RVS is sponsored by the Central Washington University Grants and Research Department.

For more information on the CERT program and how to sign up for the June session, contact Brenda Larsen at 962-4311.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Observer welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be submitted by 5 p.m., Monday before the week of publication. Letters must be typewritten and less than 350 words. All letters must include your name and phone number for verification. Only one letter a month will be accepted from an individual. The Observer reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar, libel and matters of taste. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send letters by mail or e-mail to: The Observer, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 89926-7435; observer@cwu.edu or by fax at (509) 963-1027.

BOD endorsements

Six percent.
No, that is not the percentage of people who enjoy my Observances — that is more like .08 percent. Just for comparison, that is several times lower than my Friday night blood alcohol level. Forget the legal limit, we're talking about the LETHAL limit.

Six percent of Central Washington University's student population voted in the Board of Directors primary election. And the average percentage of voters in the general election is usually about ten percent.

Why? Well, I guess they just don't care or don't know anything about the candidates or what the BOD even does. Sad? I'm not losing any sleep over it.

In my attempt to increase votership by probably about .05 percent, I will tell my faithful readers who to vote for, just to make it easier on you. Oh yeah, and put the best "politicism" in office.

President: Vote for Richard Penston. He is active in the Central and Ellensburg communities. And he is one of the mainstays behind many of the Elks Lodge parties. Gotta love that. I had class with him and interviewed him for the Observer. He is a great person to work with and very down to earth.

Executive VP: Vote for Don Michael. I know he and his brother are supposed to be a package deal, but the younger brother wins this time. His brother is the "Dan" Quayle of this duo. And with this position's recent resignation, this election will be unideal.

VP for clubs and organizations: Vote for Tony Aronica. He seems to have more experience with clubs, but he better do a better job with the budget than his predecessor.

VP for academic affairs: Vote for Peter Barbee. This guy sounds like he knows what he is talking about. He says he is involved with the organizations he will be working with, and he likes his ideas about online registration and professor evaluations.

VP for equity and community service: Vote for Emily Figueras. She is the only candidate for the position, but don't you dare write in anyone else. She is the right woman for the job. Figueras is actively involved and a former Observer writer — you know that can't be bad.

VP for student life and facilities: Vote for Jill Creighton. She seems genuinely enthusiastic about the position. Creighton has done a tremendous amount of work in the campus community, much of it related to the work she will be doing, and is a proven leader.

VP for political affairs: Vote for Zane Marquez. He seems comfortable with the role of the legislature and already has practical experience with the political process.

Now maybe more than just the candidates' friends will vote for them. Just make sure you bring your highly sought endurance to the polls with you or go to www.cwu.edu to vote cast your bulletin online. It is really easy and I have just made it much simpler for you.

—Shane Cleveland

“OLD PEOPLE”

Cleveland should be ashamed

Mr. Cleveland ... Reality check! Old people suck, huh? How would you know anything about this? 23 years old and still wet behind the ears, as I see it. Seems your intentions were to enrage a bunch of people, well Mr. Cleveland, you have succeeded. You should be ashamed with your total disrespect towards your elders, as well as, people in general. I'm pondering the notion that you may also be an ageist bigot.

You strike me as a person who would kick a crutch out from under someone. You need to understand that without all old people, you wouldn't be here today. Old people have spent their lives making this a better world. What have you done to make this

world a better place? I'm appalled with your article in the Observer as well as about everyone else here at CWU. What a slap to the face. Your comments are an insult to the whole university. I am also saddened with the Observer's low standards for allowing such trash to be published. Your paper represents CWU, and with your overwhelming stupidity, you (Mr. Cleveland) have brought shame to this campus and to the community. I wish I had the time to express the feelings of all my friends and colleagues, but it seems I'm old and find the need to apply myself to more important issues than to some ignorant non-thinker like you.

I would love to share some thoughts for my friends, but I find it impossible to print these. Although, I must share this. While those proud and brave soldiers were dancing around land mines in combat (Vietnam War) to ensure freedom for this great nation, those like you were sticking down your Cookie Crisp or whatever. Old people fought to make this a better and safer place for you.

I wonder what your parents feel about your comments. I'd be ashamed to have my son or daughter act as you have. Mr. Cleveland, I'm not sure if you can understand. But we old people pay the taxes that fund education. Education is supposed to make you more tolerant of diverse people; obviously we have wasted all this with you. I'm curious about what you intend to do when you enter the workforce. Pre-school maybe is something to ponder, as a student.

Yes, Mr. Cleveland, it is reality time, time for you to remove your head from your gluteus maximus and join the rest of the planet. I notice you will be leaving at the end of this term. That should be a

See LETTERS, page 7

DEADLINES

Listed below are the deadlines for The Observer. The Observer office, located at Bouillon 222, is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Submissions can be brought to the office, mailed to The Observer, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 89926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.

NEWS

• Friday, 5 p.m. — Entertainment, meetings, calendar events.

• Monday, 3 p.m. — Weekend sports information.

• Monday, 3 p.m. — Letters to the editor.

ADVERTISING

• Thursday, 5 p.m. — Display ads.

• Monday, 5 p.m. — Classified ads.

To place advertising contact your advertising representative, call the Observer business office at (509) 963-1026 or fax information to 963-1027.
wonderful event for all. In closing, try to remember “freedom is not free.”

Kevin DeVries
Non-traditional students
President Elect

Reader does not share outlook

First, I would like to say to all those “old” people — those over the age of 30 according to Observer — Editor-in-Chief Shane Cleveland — I hope you get out and dance on every dance floor you can. Second, I would like to point out to “Mr.” Cleveland he will be an adult in three years, according to his definition, and thus be “old” only four years later — an outlook on life I am glad to not have. Like “Mr.” Cleveland, I am also 23 and would be “old” in seven years. Since I have spent the last three years of my life in school, I intend to have a good time for the next 20 plus. And if the music’s good, then I’m going to dance and have a good time, and if they won’t let me, then I’m going to their gig and dance. If “Mr.” Cleveland hadn’t been in a drunken daze, he might have noticed that only people who dance at some bars (espe­cially in Bremerton) are the “old” people. Because the young guys are scared of looking dumb to get off their butts. If you want to find some action not involving “old” people, go to the Bremerton city library. By the end of the summer, I suggest 17-and-older night at the Sandpiper. There you will find a dance floor teeming with people of your own minority level. But be warned, you won’t be able to take any girl you meet there out to a real bar for at least three years, which is when you said you’ll start acting like an adult.

Rachel Crockett
Senior
Theatre Arts

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Put yourself in minorities’ shoes

I work on a road construction crew. No, I’m not a flagger, I’m an equipment operator and a laborer. I am also a woman, and I have affirmative action to thank for my job. I’ll be the first to admit, I wouldn’t have been hired but for a fault in a quota, but I have kept the job because I am capable of it. Though there are other women, African-American, and other minority whip on my crew, the white male is still predominantly represented.

In response to George Hawley’s opinion piece in the May 15th Observer, I would ask all people of Hawley’s persuasion to examine their own investment in white superiority, and ask themselves if they can actually put themselves in the shoes of a minority who is faced with discrimination in the workplace. Can you, George, imagine being an African-American, female professor, complimented with surprise for being articulate during her solicited speech on diversity? Can you imagine being an African-American man in a position of authority and importance at a university, constantly complimented on your stylish dress while your white counter­part is congratulated for his insightful ideas? Maybe something smaller; imagine acting as yourself a female departmental admin­istrator, told that you’re worthless and shouldn’t be operating that computer.

If it’s hard to imagine life in those shoes, George, it’s okay. You can’t. But don’t go writing any more ignorant, self-righteous opinion pieces until you’ve talked with someone with you. Some have more than being scared on their mind to come forward to say “I am a trans­sexual person” I know for a fact that I am straight, and I open my heart and mind to the GALA and transsexual communities of CWU.

The first started going to GALA in April, I have received nothing that fills like I thought I would receive. I have an open heart and an open mind, because love from up above that I say this, God bless.

Marvin A. Porter
Ellensburg Resident

Observe — Opinion — May 22, 2003

LETTERS

Remember those who sacrificed

by Christine Page
Observer Adviser

Next Monday is a day off, but the real Memorial Day is May 30. It is a day set aside to honor the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in war. Memorial Day was always an important holiday in my family, partly because my dad made the ultimate sacrifice in World War II.

My dad survived World War II, but in a way, he was one of the walk­ing dead. He was a prisoner of war, captured on the island of Corregidor in the Philippines, and held in Japanese prison camps for more than three years. He had enlisted in the Navy right after high school. By the end of the war and his repatriation, he was a dif­ferent man.

While a POW, Dad traded away his only personal possession, a war and his repatriation, he was a differ­­ently empathize with someone who thinks he should be “appalled” about. My bet is, you won’t. Just because people aren’t synched any more doesn’t mean discrimination doesn’t exist. It does. Everywhere. In the workplace.

Calm down, George. Your job, whoever you are, will be there for you when you are ready to take it.

Nicole Hardina
Senior
English

GALA SUPPORTER

Open “heart and mind” for GALA

I know, there are some concerns about how I feel towards the gay community. Do not be worried about that. I think it’s time that the transsexual people of Central Washington University come out in to the open and join GALA. I think that you would be amazed how open GALA really is to the transsexual community of Ellensburg.

I’m having this copied with all sincere love and compassion towards the gay and transsexual communities of CWU. I think it’s time for those people that have more than being scared on their mind to come forward to say “I am a trans­sexual person” I know for a fact that I am straight, and I open my heart and mind to the GALA and transsexual communities of CWU.

I first started going to GALA in April, I have received nothing that fills like I thought I would receive. I have an open heart and an open mind, because love from up above that I say this, God bless.

Marvin A. Porter
Ellensburg Resident

obscure ramblings

Old. What is that?

by Martha Goudey-Price
Staff reporter

In last week’s Observer, Shane Cleveland, the editor-in-chief, made a profound observation — “old people suck.” Because I’m over 30 (pre­­ty far over), according to Shane, “I suck.”

Don’t get me wrong. I wasn’t offended by Shane’s appraisal of my advanced age. To be told that I suck? No problem. I understand that Shane is feeling uncomfortable about being 23 and three years away from “adolescence” and graduating and knowing that life is changing dra­­matically — as in OVER!

And honestly I understand why he was appalled at seeing “old” people dance.

When my now 20-year-old son lived at home I would sometimes dance around the house to music and he would turn pale and plead, “mom, please stop!” (for God’s sake” — I could hear the silent plea). He thought I sucked!

But Shane tells us to forget about being young at heart or releasing the inner child. “Don’t kid (pun intended) yourself,” Shane says. “Now I understand what acting your age means.”

Well, no, actually Shane has missed the best kept secret. There are no grown-ups. We all think that once we pass a certain decade that we’ll be grown up. Truth is, if we think we know what acting our age means, then we probably are. I remember a friend of mine who was in her 70’s. I asked her how old she felt and she said 28. She could walk seven miles and leave me in the dust and I was in my 20’s.

Stereotyping people because of a number is called ageism. Putting people in a box because they happen to be a certain chronological age is limiting. Some of our greatest leaders have been and are, over 60 and 70, and oh my heavens 80!!!

But maybe the point Shane is making is once you reach a certain age don’t embarrass yourself by doing things young people should be doing. But then, does that mean I should be here at Central studying for a journalism degree because I missed my chance when I was his age by wrong choices? I don’t think so.

Shane said, “I have exactly one month left in college. After that, it will be hard to justify long nights of partying and acting like a fool when I have real responsibilities to face. Like getting a life. The neat thing about getting a life is that we really don’t have to put ourselves in a box. We can enjoy adulthood if we keep it in perspective and don’t think we have to act our age. I question that adage constantly.

We all have bouts of immaturity. Trust me, 26 is not the entryway to maturity or adulthood. That can happen at any age. For some it never happens. For some it happens at 16. Mostly life is an ebb and flow. Just when we think we have arrived we go around another corner and see a whole new horizon.

To the graduating seniors I’d say: enjoy what’s ahead. But here these words: Whatever you do, don’t dance.

Non-traditional students
President Elect

The days are too many until graduation

DON’T PONDER THIS

It’s all the young can do for the old, to shock them and keep them up to date.

George Bernard Shaw
Storm of controversy at the Thunderbird
by Emily Dobihal Staff reporter

On May 3, the Thunderbird Restaurant and Tahoe Room experienced drunken and reckless behavior from a performing band. Following the Catheters’ show, which ended abruptly, Thunderbird owner Jesse Chicklinsky had to address the issue of performer conduct.

There are two sides to the story of the show that included The Catheters, Loudermilk, Problems With Heroes and Blue Sky Mile. The Thunderbird’s first all-ages show was Febur 2003 in April, presented by Fatman Entertainment, which ran smoothly. The second all-ages show on May 3 was presented by the No Touching Ground Movement (NTG), and the performance area was leased to NTG member Ryan Middleton, senior graphic design major. Middleton is also a member of Problems With Heroes.

The issues of the night involved the sound people, security and miscommunications between NTG and the Thunderbird management.

Middleton provided most of the security staff, which consisted mainly of NTG members. According to Chicklinsky, NTG did not comply with the Thunderbird’s agreement to wear provided shirts. Middleton claimed that only two shirts were given to them, but there were eight security people. Chicklinsky also had problems with the quality of security Middleton provided.

To my opinion, there wasn’t adequate support by them,” Chicklinsky said. Their security obviously wasn’t that professional, and in the future I’ll do it.”

Middleton says the problem was the lack of support during the show from the Thunderbird staff. “I tried to cover every angle I could, but I got no help,” Middleton said. “We had issues with people coming from the Thunderbird trying to come upstairs for free.”

According to Chicklinsky, the security problem was the drunken behavior of the members of The Catheters. The band destroyed at least $300 worth of leased equipment from a local dealer/sound technician.

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According to Chicklinsky, the security problem was the drunken behavior of the members of The Catheters. The band destroyed at least $300 worth of leased equipment from a local dealer/sound technician, who chose not to comment.

“The dealer extended the courtesy of this equipment cheap, without said this show will be a little more "space-age" and futuristic than its last one.

The band has been together for only a year, and this is one of their first big shows. "I don't think we'll win," Kapels-Nylander said. "We just want the opportunity to play in front of a crowd."

Casey Wagner, junior photography major and Mosaic member, said he is excited about the variety of music in the battle.

"There are so many styles," Wagner said. "I think it will be more of a show than a competition."

Students strut their stuff at fashion show
by Katie Kerber Staff reporter

It's fashion week at Central Washington University, with models hitting the runaway sporting spring's hottest trends.

The fashion merchandising club will present the annual spring fashion show at 7 p.m. tonight in the Samuelsen Union Ballroom.

"We are really excited about the show this year," Stacy Mixdorf, senior fashion merchandising major and member of the fashion merchandising club's promotion committee, said. "The community has really supported us and the show is going to be the best we've ever done."

Clothing stores such as Maurices, The Bon and The Buckle provided apparel.

At the end of the show, three students in the fashion merchandising major will debut their own clothing designs.

This year's theme is "Bright and Bold," and we're going for a very professional, yet simple approach to the show," Alexa Smith, senior fashion merchandising major and promotion coordinator, said.

"Burg will supply upbeat and easy to listen to music."

All the models are Central Students who have spent hours practicing their debut walk down the runway.

"This year we have a ton of people volunteer," Mixdorf said. "We even had an entire dorm volunteer. Girls are easy to get to model, but guys are always a challenge."

A silent auction will start at 6:30 p.m. Gym memberships, gift certificates, coupons from local businesses, a free cell phone and gift baskets are just a few of the items being auctioned.

Donations will support the fashion merchandising club.

Admission is $4 for students and faculty and $5 for the general public.

Puke piles up at "Fear Factor"
by Sally Romanowski Staff reporter

With palms sweating, hearts racing and vomit flowing, three teams from Central Washington University’s residence halls competed in "Fear Factor."

It wasn’t the real “Fear Factor,” but this version was created by Central student and Resident Advisor (RA) Andrea Bowman, who recently filled out an application to be on the real "Fear Factor."

“It’s more like ‘extreme factor,”’ Bowman, senior education major, said. “There really isn’t any fear involved in the program”.

See FEAR, page 11
Beloved employee leaves legacy

by Sophia Gutierrez
Staff reporter

Howard Page went to the doctor in February. Six weeks later, he was gone.

Page, 17-year veteran maintenance mechanic for Central Washington University, died March 25, 2003. The cause of death was adenocarcinoma.

Adenocarcinoma, a type of colon cancer, is one of the three most frequently diagnosed cancers causing 60,000 deaths per year in the United States.

According to Wafik S. El-Deiry, MD, this cancer can be treated with surgery if discovered in its early stages.

However, many cases have no symptoms. Factors that can determine the risk of this ailment include age, diet, alcohol consumption, genetics and exercise.

Page, 58-years-old, like many others, did not show symptoms until it was too late.

"He was a real terrific fellow and was always there for the kids," Giní Silva, residence life office assistant, said.

Silva has fond memories of Page from the four years she has worked at Central.

She recalled when he would visit and leave her sayings and poens to read, as well as the times he would go out of his way to help anyone who needed it.

Volunteering with the Kittitas County Fire Department (KCFD) District #2, as a first responder, was an important part of Page's life.

"He was always monitoring calls," Silva said.

Becky Baker, human resources and employee benefits representative, remembered visiting Page during the final weeks of his life. One of the hardest things she said she saw Page deal with was when his wife of 38 years, Mary, turned off the radio scanner because he could no longer respond.

"It hurt me to see him at home unable to do anything because he was so weak," Baker said.

Page was active in his family life as well as in the community. In addition to working full-time at Central and volunteering with the KCFD, Page took emergency medical technician training classes, served on the Fair Board, worked with 4-H and partook in Nunam Grange events. Yet, he never missed one of his granddaughter's basketball games.

Bob Hendrickson, facilities management maintenance supervisor, said some of his favorite memories were of Page going into his office and telling him stories about his two granddaughters.

"He really enjoyed his family," Hendrickson said.

Hendrickson first met Page on a construction job 25 years ago.

They coincidentally ended up working with each other again in 1987 when Hendrickson started working at Central alongside Page.

Hendrickson called Page "Mr. Maintenance" because of Page's skill and love of his job.

When things got tough on the job Page would tell Hendrickson, "Always remember why you're here. You're serving the students." Hendrickson said this is something that he will never forget.

Page's mindset on serving the students is why so many Central graduates kept in contact with him over the years.

In addition to helping students with maintenance problems, Page was genuinely interested in students' well-being.

"He was a real nice guy," Seth Miller, senior math and physics major, said. "He always wondered how everyone was doing and would talk to you for an hour about life."

Page's interest in student's lives helped him make many friends.

"The students loved Howard," Hendrickson said. "He got gifts and cards on every holiday."

The news of Page's illness was hard on Hendrickson. Although he knew Page's condition was terminal, he still hoped Page would make it through and eventually return to Central.

"It was pretty tough," Hendrickson said. "We were friends for a lot of years."

Page's service was held at the Old German Baptist Church on Toter Road. Page rode to his burial at High Valley Cemetery, in a fire truck, just as he requested.

Facilities Management is making a bronze plaque to honor "Mr. Maintenance," which will be placed alongside a tree planted in his memory.

The location has not been determined, but Hendrickson hopes it will be near the dorms Page worked at the most, the Basetts.

Memorial donations may be sent to: Elenburg Firefighter Life Support Fund, 102 N. Pearl St., Elenburg.

High Valley Renewal Fund, P.O. Box 173, Ellensburg (funds created in honor of Page's concerns with preservation of the environment and dedication to his Kittitas Valley.)

Sometimes people confuse leadership with bossing. Here is the difference:
The boss drives people,
The leader guides them.

The boss depends on authority,
The leader on goodwill.

The boss creates fear,
The leader develops confidence.

The boss assigns tasks,
The leader sets the pace.

The boss says, "I.;",
The leader says, "We."

The boss says, "go."
The leader says, "let's go."

- by Howard Page
Opportunities flourish in France

by Alexis Draper
Staff reporter

Tak111g a European vacation isn't all lying on beaches and shopping. Karly Fitterer, graduate pre-nursing major, made the long journey with her mind. I spoke with Fitterer about her experiences in Europe.


Q: Why did you go? A: I went as an Au Pair. It's similar to being a nanny. If the family travels they usually take you with them.

Q: What was the hardest part? A: They were French. I lived in a push suburb. France is one of the only countries that don't feel that Americans are superior; they will tell you that.

Q: How did you deal with that? A: My friends, that were also Au Pairs, motivate more students to run for the office. When not enjoying the brew, tourists can visit one of Ireland's castles.

Q: Did you want to come home back? A: They were French. I lived in a push suburb. France is one of the only countries that don't feel that Americans are superior; they will tell you that.

Q: What was the worst part? A: About once a week a couple of my friends, that were also Au Pairs, and I would go to this Irish Pub and I would go to this Irish Pub and have a top notch beer.

Q: How did you deal with that? A: My friends, that were also Au Pairs, motivate more students to run for the office. When not enjoying the brew, tourists can visit one of Ireland's castles.

Q: What was the hardest part? A: It really affected by war. With much of its old architecture still intact, it has become a popular tourist site with the language of their country of study. He explained that most of the Scandinavian countries and Korea offer programs in English. The reason is that universities started teaching their coursework in English.

Q: Where did you go? A: Leaving school, a job and her family for a man wasn't what Lindsay Marx, senior education major, thought she would ever do. Marx did just this, when she packed up her life and headed to France.

Q: Why did you go to Le Portel? A: I went to be with my fiance, Justin Thompson, while he played professional basketball.

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Q: What did you do when you weren't watching basketball games? A: I traveled all over. I went to England, Belgium and just about everywhere in France.

Q: Which was your favorite place? A: Belgium was awesome. The people there are really receptive to Americans. They wanted to tell us all about the country's history, traditions and culture. I really felt welcome there, which was very different from France. I felt like I wasn't wanted there at times.

Love leads to France

by Alexis Draper
Staff reporter

Leaving school, a job and her family for a man wasn't what Lindsay Marx, senior education major, thought she would ever do. Marx did just this, when she packed up her life and headed to France.


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Continued from page 8:

any guidelines or contract,” Chicklinsky said. “They destroyed his equipment. Professional musicians don’t treat each other that way.”

While agreeing the band was a problem, Middleton feels the sound was out of his control.

“I’m glad the crowd didn’t begin to emulate their behavior,” Chicklinsky said. “In the future, if we had a band that behaved in that manner, we would shut that show down.”

Middleton said he would like to plan another show at the Thunderbird, but won’t personally put his name on it due to money loss.

“Every time I cough, I taste it again,” Jeff Robbins, freshmanunde­

Tuesday, May 27

MEETINGS, ETC.

Tuesday, May 27

• Equity & Services Council

12 noon in SUB 105

This advertisement is paid by the Associated Students of Central Washington University.

Monday, May 26

• Memorial Day–no classes!

Thursday, May 22

• ASCWU BOD

3 p.m. in SUB pit

Central students drink a sickening concoction in contest.

Trevor Cray, freshman law and justice major, won the event not only by finishing before the other two contestants but by also keeping the drink down.

The third and final event required contestants to put on many clothes pins on their face as they could, excluding ears and nose.

“It’s not ‘Fear Factor,’ it’s pain factor,” Rebekah Varghese, spect­

ator and junior education major, said.

Aaron Miller, junior public relations major, won the event with 76 clothes pins covering his cheeks, eyebrows, nose and lips.

He was unable to comment but there was a significant amount of drool.

One spectator said Miller was only identifiable by his hair.

Davies came in first place for the second year in a row.

“I wish there would have been more people here,” Bowman said. “We still had fun though.”

Continued from page 8

 assimilated sound people making numer­

ous mistakes, it was a normal way.

Middleton said except for intoxicated people were also to blame. He said some of them were drinking and were warned repeatedly about the placement of a power amplifier on stage. Brian Standeford.

The Catheters’ lead singer, was also warned.

Through apparent neglect from both parties, the amplifier was damaged.

Middleton said the placement of a power amplifier on stage. Brian Standeford.

Chicklinsky was happy to find the crowd quite low-key throughout the show’s moderate chaos.

“I’m glad the crowd didn’t begin to emulate their behavior,” Chicklinsky said. “In the future, if we had a band that behaved in that manner, we would shut that show down.”

Middleton said he would like to plan another show at the Thunderbird, but won’t personally put his name on it due to money loss and problems he said were out of his control.

The Catheters’ show, you know it’s part of their performance,” Middleton said. “The Thunderbird is used to emulate their behavior,” Chicklinsky said. “In the future, if we had a band that behaved in that manner, we would shut that show down.”

Middleton said he would like to plan another show at the Thunderbird, but won’t personally put his name on it due to money loss and problems he said were out of his control.

The Catheters fell to the ground and landed in the midst of controversy on May 3.

Jeff Robbins, freshman unde­

continued.
Water polo dunks Western

by Kelly McBride
Staff reporter

Fanti cheered as Central Washington University dominated Western Washington University (WWU) last Saturday in an intense water polo match at the Central Aquatic Facility.

The team hosted WWU to compete in two games. In the first game, Central came from behind to beat WWU 14-9. The second game went into sudden death with the score tied at 15-15. Dan Kaputo, senior chemistry major, made the final shot to give Central the win.

Kaputo stood out in both games, scoring 10 points total. He was also the team’s top stealer. Kyle Victor, senior political science major, also shined, scoring six goals in the first game.

"We played very well and had the largest player turnout we ever had and the first fan turnout we ever had," Victor said. "There was no way we were going to lose with all the fans there."

Club President Clair Jacobson, junior elementary education major, was also impressed with the fan turnout.

"It was very cool to see everybody come out," Jacobson said. "It was really great support."

With the two wins the team is feeling confident and hopes they can continue their success in the future.

"We played a lot better than we thought we would," Ryan Bagley, senior political science major, said. "We really worked as a team."

The water polo club has been active on and off for the past few years. The co-ed club has 25 people on the roster and about 15 active players. Anyone is welcome to join the water polo club.

"Our team is really cool," Nathan Moxley, senior geography major, said. "Anyone who wants to play water polo can come.

The club practices at the campus pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 to 10 p.m. They work on fine tuning experienced player’s skills as well as teaching inexperienced players a game that is much like a combination of basketball and soccer in the pool.

"We’re all really good friends," Bagley said. "We all hang out outside in Saturday’s game. It’s something you look forward to doing."

The club competes with WWU, Idaho State, Washington State University and the University of Washington. They travel to schools for matches and hold matches at the Central pool.

The club competes with other schools year round.

High fees, including $600 for membership and $30 per match are required from all players at the beginning of fall season.

The team plans to join to compete fall quarter of 2003. To compete last year, the club called other schools to set up games. The club is funded by the $25 dues required from all players at the beginning of fall season.

Lawrence heads to Nationals as lone Wildcat

by Matt Younkin
Staff reporter

The NCAA division II National Championship meet will be the last track and field meet of the season. Edwardsville, Ill. will host the top athletes from around the country May 22 to 23. Central Washington University’s track and field team’s only competing athlete this weekend will be junior Justin Lawrence.

No stranger to victory this season, Lawrence has dominated the triple jump event in almost every meet. This weekend Lawrence will attempt to reach his goal of claiming All-American status when he squares off with 15 other jumpers from around the country.

"Right now Justin is riding a good wave of great performances all year," coach Kevin Adkisson said. "There is a great chance of him going over 50 feet if the conditions permit, because he’s had some jumps that were really close but he just scratched by a little bit."

Lawrence’s personal best jump of 49’2.50” at the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Championship meet placed him ninth in the country among Division II jumpers.

"Justin has worked so hard the past 10 months for nationals, this is finally his big break," Davina Strauss, jump and sprint coach, said. "This week he’s just watching tapes of technique and mentally preparing.

The most important factor is getting rest because the season really takes it out of you physically. It will be exciting to see what Justin can do when he’s rested because he hasn’t had that luxury yet this season."

Lawrence’s longest jump came in cold weather conditions at the Spike Arle Invitational. A little more than two feet separate Lawrence’s jump of 49’2.50” and the first place qualifying jump of 51’05.00”.

"I’m not going to do anything special this week except relax and mentally prepare and hope for good weather," Lawrence said. "I think a 49-foot jump will give me All-American and 51 feet will probably win. It just depends how other guys are jumping and the conditions."

Cool weather could be to Lawrence’s advantage. According to Strauss, Lawrence has been known to shovel off the runways and practice the triple jump in the snow so he’s acclimated to the coldest of conditions.

"Justin seems to rise to the occasion and perform well in front of big crowds," Strauss said.
Soccer hosts alumni

Wildcat pitchers balk 2003 season

What went wrong? Coach Deni Storey must be asking himself that question a lot these days.

Was it the 12 game losing streak, going 5-24 on the road or just bad luck that led to the Central Washington University baseball team’s disappointing season? None of those mishaps helped the Wildcats in their pursuit of a winning record, but any baseball fan knows that it all boils down to pitching.

What did the 1905 New York Giants, the 1963 Los Angeles Dodgers, the 2001 Seattle Mariners and the 2003 Western Oregon Wolves have that the Wildcats don’t? Let me give you a clue, their winning records aren’t just a coincidence. All these teams had great pitching. Pitching wins ball games.

Want more proof? Take a look at how the Texas Rangers are doing this season. Their lineup is one of the most devastating in the major leagues, yet they continue to suck it up in last place every season because their pitchers have one of the worst ERAs in all of baseball.

Coaches Spahn and Spahn were dominating pitchers for the Boston Braves in the late 1940s. Opposing hitters used to have a saying, “Spahn and Spahn — and pray for rain.”

It’s just a hunch, but I don’t think too many of Central’s opponents were saying “Olson and Klump — and pray it is enough” or “Thornton and Stein — and pray the sun don’t shine.”

Central gave up the most hits and hit the most batters in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference and was second worst in numerous other categories such as ERA, walks, strikeouts, extra base hits and wild pitches.

The truth is that a 6.24 ERA for your starting pitchers just isn’t going to win very many games.

Conor Glassy

A 6.24 ERA for your starting pitchers just isn’t going to win very many games.

Coach Desi Storey must be asking himself that question a lot these days. Was it the 12 game losing streak, going 5-24 on the road or just bad luck that led to the Central Washington University baseball team’s disappointing season? None of those mishaps helped the Wildcats in their pursuit of a winning record, but any baseball fan knows that it all boils down to pitching.

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The truth is that a 6.24 ERA for your starting pitchers just isn’t going to win very many games.

Losing seniors such as first baseman Brian Viafore, second baseman Anthony Rodriguez and designated hitter Jason Smith isn’t going to help our offense next year, but Storey needs to go out and get some quality pitchers that can come in, eat up some innings and shut down opposing lineups.

It also wouldn’t be a bad idea to give Central alumnus, Wildcat Hall of Fame member and ex-Major League pitcher Dave Heaverlo a call. Perhaps he could return to Ellensburg for a weekend and teach the Wildcat pitchers a thing or two about what it takes to go from Tomlinson Field to “The Show.”

It certainly can’t hurt.

Conor Glassy
Wildcats add new recruits

Women’s basketball, volleyball, softball and soccer add new players to next season’s rosters

by Andrew Grinker
Staff reporter

For a coach, recruiting is like a kid reaching into a grab bag full of candy. They both know there are good and bad picks, but are still blind to the final outcome.

In new players can be stressful and challenging at times for coaches. Only a few students can be added each season and coaches must make sure they fill the needs and holes of their respected team. For Women’s Basketball Coach Jeff Whitney, Women’s Soccer Coach Michael Farrand, Women’s Volleyball Coach Mark Andaya and Softball Coach Gary Fredricks, the daunting task of recruiting is virtually done.

For a team that has advanced to the NCAA Division II tournament three out of the last four years, there is little to improve. However, Whitney and his team look like they’ve done just that.

Women’s basketball team has added five outstanding players to help them keep the NCAA Division II title. On May 7, Whitney announced the signing of Rachel Ross who was the 2002-03 Most Valuable Player in the Northwest Athletic Community

Women’s volleyball team has added five outstanding players to help them keep the NCAA Division II title. On May 7, Whitney announced the signing of Amy Meisen-Vehrs.

Women’s soccer team has added five outstanding players to help them keep the NCAA Division II title. On May 7, Whitney announced the signing of Stephanie Powell.

Women’s softball team has added five outstanding players to help them keep the NCAA Division II title. On May 7, Whitney announced the signing of Ashley Blake.

Instead of singing “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” Japanese fans release balloons during the seventh-inning stretch. This is particularly popular with fans in the outfield.

Baseball vs. Yakyu

American baseball players are surprised when playing ball in Japan. They are astonished to hear the way Japanese fans cheer for them. The crowd is noisier and wilder. We, the fans, are surprised when playing ball in Japan. Japanese fans release balloons to the sky. Surprisingly, “Yakyu” is a word for baseball. “Yakyu” is pronounced Ya-Que. Although the rules are the same in these countries, the baseball terms are different. “Walks” are “four balls.” If they are “hit by pitch,” it’s a “dead ball.” “RBI” hits are “truly hits.”

In addition, we have few of the “unwritten baseball manners” found in American baseball. I have heard that many American players don’t steal the base if the score is 10-0 or so in late innings. It doesn’t happen in Japan. Japanese baseball league players steal the base even if the game is a blow-out.

The idea of being hit by a pitch is different. Roberts Patone, an ex-New York Met and a present Yomiuri Giants outfielder, was offended because he thought he was hit by pitch on purpose. Such differences surprise Japanese professional players.

After “Nomo Mania” helped recover the popularity of the Major League Baseball (MLB) in 1995, several Japanese players, including Kazuhito Sasaki, Ichiro and Hideki “Godzilla” Matsui, began to play in the big-leagues.

To be honest with you, I once heard why they left Japan to play in the MLB. When Nomo declared he would leave Japan to become a Los Angeles Dodger, I thought “he sold his soul to the U.S.A.,” even though I have loved Nomo since he was a rookie in Japan. When Ichiro said he wanted to play top-level MLB, I thought “is MLB a top level league compared with the Japanese one?”

After coming to the U.S., my idea is this: the understanding of the fans and the players is different from Japanese ones. When I go to see a game at Safeco Field, fans applaud the proper moments to the players. I have heard that when they hit home runs, as well as when they succeed in the sacrificed bunts. When Cal Ripken Jr. broke the consecutive games record held by Lou Gehrig in American and Sachiko Kinugasa, the Japanese record holder, Ripken invited Kinugasa to the stadium to show his respect to her. Such moments impressed me.

Although I miss yelling players’ names with the megaphones, I am satisfied with the MLB baseball environment. In addition to the high-level league itself.

Do I miss the Japanese MLB players, not playing in the Japanese baseball league? I enjoy the fact that many Japanese baseball players, including Ichiro, get married to beautiful female sports anchors, but I still think that Japanese baseball is one of the best differences in the big leagues. What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world?

When I was pleased with most is that wherever I see the Japanese MLB players play baseball, they play it with wide smiles.

Baseball vs. Yakyu

Japanese BASEBALL INFORMATION

NAME GAME: Some teams in Japan are named after the company that owns them, rather than their city, for example: Hanshin Tigers - owned by Hanshin Denki, an electric railroad company Orix Blue Wave - owned by Orix, a lease company

FREE AGENT STATUS: In Japanese baseball, it takes at least nine years for a player to achieve their right to be a free agent. When Japanese players negotiate their contract, they can use an agent or lawyer only once.

INTERESTING OWNER: While the New York Yankees have George Steinbrenner, Japanese baseball has a similar owner, Takeishi Kojima (Yomiuri Giants). When players or managers act badly, he reprimands them for their actions.

For Women’s Basketball Coach Jeff Whitney, Women’s Soccer Coach Michael Farrand, Women’s Volleyball Coach Mark Andaya and Softball Coach Gary Fredricks, the daunting task of recruiting is virtually done.

Women’s basketball, volleyball, softball and soccer add new players to next season’s rosters

by Andrew Grinker
Staff reporter

For a coach, recruiting is like a kid reaching into a grab bag full of candy. They both know there are good and bad picks, but are still blind to the final outcome.

In new players can be stressful and challenging at times for coaches. Only a few students can be added each season and coaches must make sure they fill the needs and holes of their respected team. For Women’s Basketball Coach Jeff Whitney, Women’s Soccer Coach Michael Farrand, Women’s Volleyball Coach Mark Andaya and Softball Coach Gary Fredricks, the daunting task of recruiting is virtually done.

Instead of singing “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” Japanese fans release balloons during the seventh-inning stretch. This is particularly popular with fans in the outfield.

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American baseball players are surprised when playing ball in Japan. They are astonished to hear the way Japanese fans cheer for them. The crowd is noisier and wilder. We, the fans, are surprised when playing ball in Japan. Japanese fans release balloons to the sky. Surprisingly, “Yakyu” is a word for baseball. “Yakyu” is pronounced Ya-Que. Although the rules are the same in these countries, the baseball terms are different. “Walks” are “four balls.” If they are “hit by pitch,” it’s a “dead ball.” “RBI” hits are “truly hits.”

In addition, we have few of the “unwritten baseball manners” found in American baseball. I have heard that many American players don’t steal the base if the score is 10-0 or so in late innings. It doesn’t happen in Japan. Japanese baseball league players steal the base even if the game is a blow-out.

The idea of being hit by a pitch is different. Roberts Patone, an ex-New York Met and a present Yomiuri Giants outfielder, was offended because he thought he was hit by pitch on purpose. Such differences surprise Japanese professional players.

After “Nomo Mania” helped recover the popularity of the Major League Baseball (MLB) in 1995, several Japanese players, including Kazuhito Sasaki, Ichiro and Hideki “Godzilla” Matsui, began to play in the big-leagues.

To be honest with you, I once heard why they left Japan to play in the MLB. When Nomo declared he would leave Japan to become a Los Angeles Dodger, I thought “he sold his soul to the U.S.A.,” even though I have loved Nomo since he was a rookie in Japan. When Ichiro said he wanted to play top-level MLB, I thought “is MLB a top level league compared with the Japanese one?”

After coming to the U.S., my idea is this: the understanding of the fans and the players is different from Japanese ones. When I go to see a game at Safeco Field, fans applaud the proper moments to the players. I have heard that when they hit home runs, as well as when they succeed in the sacrificed bunts. When Cal Ripken Jr. broke the consecutive games record held by Lou Gehrig in American and Sachiko Kinugasa, the Japanese record holder, Ripken invited Kinugasa to the stadium to show his respect to her. Such moments impressed me.

Although I miss yelling players’ names with the megaphones, I am satisfied with the MLB baseball environment. In addition to the high-level league itself.

Do I miss the Japanese MLB players, not playing in the Japanese baseball league? I enjoy the fact that many Japanese baseball players, including Ichiro, get married to beautiful female sports anchors, but I still think that Japanese baseball is one of the best differences in the big leagues. What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world? What is the defense of the most effective teams in the world?

When I was pleased with most is that wherever I see the Japanese MLB players play baseball, they play it with wide smiles.

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Stephanie Powell (Tacoma, Wash./Bellarmine Prep), Lorissa Forbes (Maple Valley, Wash./Tahoma HS), Jacee Ramsey (Klickitat, Wash.) and Amy Meisen-Vehrs (Spokane, Wash./North Central HS) will join the team in the fall. The women’s volleyball team will open the season on Aug. 29 at the Cal State San Bernardino Invitational with games against several other teams, including Western Washington University.

SOFTBALL

The Wildcat softball team added four high school seniors to their roster, Coach Gary Fredricks announced this week.

Joining Central in the 2003 season will be catchers Kelli Spaulding (Issaquah/Liberty High School), first baseman Mallory Holtman (White Salmon/Columbia High School) and outfielder Lorelei Kroll (Edmonds/Kamiak High School).

Spaulding, who lettered in four different sports at Battle Ground, was a first-team All-Wesco Conference player for the Tigers her sophomore year. Kauffman is captain to the Liberty Patriots and was a Second-Team All-KingCo selection her junior year. As a three-time softball letter winner, Kauffman has played catcher and outfielder for the Patriots.

Holtman, a three-sport standout at Columbia High School, made First Team All-Trico League her junior year. An Honorable Mention All-Comasco Conference member her junior year, Kroll is a three-year softball letter winner and a two-year letter winner in cross-country.

Central, which graduated eight seniors, finished fourth in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) this past season with a 12-1 record.

SOCcer

After a disappointing 2002 campaign, which led to 4-15-1 record, the Central Washington University soccer team had much to improve on. Central graduated seven seniors from a team that finished sixth in the GNAC standings.

Coach Kara Farrand announced the signing of three talented players to the Central roster and has since added two transfers.

The soccer team looked to add speed and attack when they signed Shaunas Forbes, Stefanie King, Amanda Malik, Kristina Randle and Michelle Phillips.

"I think that we have improved a lot," Farrand said. "We had a workout on Sunday with all of the players and everyone looked good."

Forbes, a transfer student from Edmonds Community College, will play forward for Central in the fall. King, also a transfer, will look to rebound after a knee injury forced her to withdraw from Grand Canyon University.

"King is at 100 percent and should be an immediate impact along with the other transfers," Farrand said.

However, Malik could be the most talented out of the five. She is the all-time leader in scoring at her alma mater, Redmond High School. She is the only player to sign a National Letter of Intent for Central.

Two transfers, Kristine Randle from the Air Force Academy and Michelle Phillips from Idaho State, will also join the team in the fall.

The team will start practice on Aug. 10, before heading down to San Francisco on August 28, where they will face San Francisco State University and Chico State University.

Tony Kwok
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