Campus police submit crime report

by Erik Swenningson
Staff reporter

Preliminary crime statistics for 2003, released by the Central Washington University Police Department, show a drop in frequency for several types of crime on campus.

Universities or colleges that accept federal funding are required to keep track of and make available to the public, crime statistics on campus under the Jeanne Clery Act of 1998.

The statistics don't have to be turned in to the government until October of the year after they happened.

"I could wait that long, and not say anything until they were official, but that's not going to do you, me or our community any good," Police Chief Steve Rittereiser said. "There are several areas we're really pleased with, for example burglaries."

Central had 56 burglaries on campus in 2002, of which 41 were cleared with the arrest and conviction of Ryan Bon. Some of those see CRIME, page 3

Homeland security may discourage exchange students

by Berivan Youssif
Staff reporter and
Joe Castro and Emily Dobihal
Asst. News editors

Following the events of Sept. 11, 2001, many new policies were enacted in the United States for security reasons. One of the newest programs enacted by the Department of Homeland Security, called the US Visit Program, is affecting international student enrollment at Central Washington University.

Since 9/11, Central's English as a Second Language program has seen a 50 percent drop in enrollment. A shortage of international students has accounted for close to $1 million in tuition losses.

"People will have difficulties getting a visa, they will feel unwelcome and unfairly treated," Michael Launius, International Studies and Programs Intern Executive Director, said. "The program will affect visitors from most third world countries, but 27 nations (mostly European countries and Japan) have been excluded as part of a Visa Waiver program. "People from mostly third world countries are considered to be more of a threat," Launius said. "This impacts unequally and can be seen as an insult."

The US Visit program will begin to affect the university starting spring quarter. "I don’t know what the impact is going to be, but it can’t be good," Horowitz said.
Police Briefs
Compiled by Erik Swenningson, Staff reporter
Hi ho Silver, away
Jan. 16, 2004
The owner of three horses reported them missing in the area of Driver Lane and were afraid of them running in the roadway playing in traffic.
Do you see the light?
Jan. 17, 2004
On the southwest corner of Sprague and 7th Avenue a person was reported coming from a third floor room in Central’s Al-Monty was spotlighting cars as they were being loaded.
A woman reported missing in the area of Driver Lane and were afraid of them running in the roadway playing in traffic.
WOMEN IN NEED SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship is available to low income women pursing a B.A./B.S. and who are not dependent on their parents. Applicants must have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better and be eligible for in-state tuition.
Deadline: May 29
GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (MINORITIES IN GOVERNMENT FINANCE)
This scholarship is available to students in public administration, accounting, finance, political science, economics, or business administration with an emphasis in government or non-profit management. Applicant must be of: African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, Eskimo or Alaskan, Asian or Pacific Islander or Hispanic decent. Applicant must submit a recommendation by his or her academic advisor, department chair or dean of the program.
Deadline: March 1
ALFRED G. & ELMALI MITOLO SCHOLARSHIP
Applicant must have a strong fascination with nature and very strong observational skills. Must be a Washington resident for at least five years and have cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
Deadline: March 31
ANIMOSITY AWARD
Deadline: Feb. 9
PAUL CHALKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Applicant must be a full-time student and enrolled in an undergraduate program. Applicant must maintain a good academic standing and make progress toward a degree.
Deadline: April 1
REGIONAL EAGLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Applicants must be gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered undergraduates. Applicants must have interest in educating people about issues that concern gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population and make human right history.
Applicants must demonstrate financial need or merit.
Deadline: March 1, Aug. 1
LUNCHEN SCHOLARSHIPS (SINGLE PARENT)
Applicant must be a Central single parent with a high GPA and a financial need.
Deadline: No Deadline.
UMMA MULTAJAI INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS
Applicant must be a Central foreign student student. After meeting the requirements of his minor, Applicants must maintain a reasonably good performance in international education activities. Must have a GED or GPA at 3.25 GPA or better.
Deadline: No Deadline.
RURAL AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Must have missed opportunity for college attendance upon completion of high school and have a cumulative 2.8 GPA. Applicants must have earned at least 90 credits and be employed or held an unemployment position. Applicants must be from a rural community and reside in the state in which you will be attending college, and have GPA of 3.0 or better on previous agreements with another University. Master's candidate are eligible to apply.
Deadline: March 15
For more scholarships go to www.cwu.edu/j-scholar or go to THE SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE IN BAGEL HALL ROOM 102.

Scholarships

Around the University
Summer employment opportunities
Recruiters from Warm Beach Christian Camp in Stanwood will be on campus from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23 at the Samuelsion Union Building Pit. No appointment is necessary; for more information contact Student Employment at 963-3008.

Mission Ridge College Day
Saturday, Jan. 24 is College Day at Mission Ridge, featuring live music and discounted fees. A $10 round trip shuttle leaves at 7:30 a.m. By showing school identification, students can get $25 lift tickets. Sign up at the Tent ‘N Tube window in the SUB.

“Dolls Digital and a Collection”
The Sarah Spurgeon Art Gallery in Randall Hall is currently featuring an exhibit showcasing the local talents of Chantelie Carole Sahlströld, Michael Stone and Louis Kollymeyer. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Lecture series continues
Josh Goldstein is the next speaker in "The Social and Cultural Roots of China's Globalization" lecture series. Goldstein will be presenting his lecture, "Sifting Through Trash: Consumer Waste and China's Globalization," at 3:15 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27 in Black Hall 150.

Open mic night
Papa John’s Coffeehouse is sponsoring the first “Open Mic Night” of winter quarter at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 28 in their new venue, the SUB games room. Admission and coffee are both free. Students interested in performing poetry or songs can contact Alice Brown at brown@cwu.edu.

Lecture to be re-broadcast
Mary Robinson’s lecture on globalization will be re-broadcast at 7 p.m. tonight on channel 15. Tapes may be checked out from the library starting Friday and will be purchased by calling 963-1221.

“Your turn”
If you have a question or concern, feel free to email it to mtvnews@cwu.edu.
CRIME:

Rape reports increase
continued from 1

Crimes Bon committed were in 2003 as well, Rittereiser said, so if Bon's burglaries are subtracted from the total of 28 in 2003 the number gets even lower.

Only three vehicles were stolen in 2003; a drop of 66 percent from the nine stolen in 2002. Rittereiser said his department is very happy with the significant drop in incidents of bicycle thefts for the last year. A statistical high of 80 bikes were stolen in 2001. Over the last two years that number has dropped, to a new low of 36 last year.

The Daily Record published an article last fall when the Ellensburg City Police reported seven car prowls in one night, north of the campus, Rittereiser said. Central Police have been able to keep the number of car prowls steady between 30-35 over the previous three years.

"We'd like to credit the community for their effort and our efforts, as well as police officers," Rittereiser said. "We've tried to put people out in the parking lots, things like starting our parking enforcement officers very early in the morning when we suspected some of these things were happening and designing patrols around the parking lots."

One crime category has increased for 2003. Central had six incidents of rape reported, up from two in 2002.

In all cases, Central Police know who was involved. Rittereiser said he feels better with that number because people are coming forward.

"We know they happen, we know they don't get reported," Rittereiser said. "When our number of reports starts going up I think the things we are doing, the sexual assault response commitment, publicity and our partnerships with the Wellness Center and Health and Counseling Center, I think those things are starting to work in the right direction."

The Bureau of Justice statistics reported in 2001 that only 16 percent of rapes and sexual assaults are ever reported to law enforcement.

Gail Farmer, director of the Wellness Center at Central, said Student Affairs and the police department focus on letting students know what services and support is available in sexual assault cases and the increase in reports reflects that.

"There are fewer cases of sexual assault because of the education being done and the raised level of awareness at Central."

"It's good that students are coming forward," Farmer said. "Our goal is to have as safe a community as possible and if it gets offenders on notice that they will be held responsible."

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The University Readership Program provides students with the Daily Record and The New York Times at on-campus locations around Central Washington University.

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Language and Literature Building
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The University Readership Program is designed to enhance the learning environment at Central Washington University while inspiring a newspaper readership habit that will last a lifetime.

The academic environment at Central Washington University is complemented with the content found in the newspapers. The University Readership Program helps students develop their critical thinking skills by applying real-world issues in the context of a learning environment.

Newspaper readership is essential in increase awareness of local, regional and national events. A well-informed student body is better prepared for the world that lies ahead!

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College Democrats discuss issues

by Marty Maley
Staff reporter

With the Iowa caucuses completed Monday, and the New Hampshire primary coming up on Jan. 27, the continuing debate among the College Democrats is who will receive support for the 2004 presidential election.

With the presidential race officially underway, the Central Washington University campus political community is gearing up for a busy year. Patrick Wicklund, junior political science and College Democrats president, is looking forward to assisting in campaign efforts for the Democratic ticket holder.

"It's less about beating Bush and more about knowing a Democrat candidate would lead the country in the right direction," Wicklund said. "I think that the people that are the front runners now really have some vision for the country."

The College Democrats are waiting until after the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary to pledge their support to a specific candidate.

After they begin aiding the Democratic favorite, the College Democrats plan to have a candidate forum to explain the differences between the candidates to Central students.

Wicklund said it is bad for the country if this generation ignores the presidential race. The youth need to know about knowing a Democratic candidate in the national primaries for the Democratic nomination.

Although John Kerry claimed victory in the Iowa caucuses, he is still not considered the national frontrunner for the Democratic nomination. Wicklund said that the media is presenting the presidential runoff as a horse race and not addressing the real issues.

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Is Bush really a conservative?

Tuesday night we witnessed President Bush's State of the Union Address. Conservatives across the country have consistently praised this president for the following reason: every time an important decision related to the War on Terror had to be made, Bush did the right thing. His record has been flawless.

Furthermore, despite his abysmal performance as a speaker leading up to the 2000 election, his skills as an orator have increased significantly; his ability to inspire his supporters is reminiscent of Reagan.

However, imagine for a moment that Sept. 11 had never occurred. If we were not fighting a war, would we still be praising this president? Besides tax cuts, what conservative ideals has he advanced?

For those of you who have forgotten, Bush has overseen a massive increase in entitlement benefits by pushing for his prescription drug plan; he has pushed for a farm bill that put farmers on welfare; he signed an education bill that was written by Ted Kennedy; he betrayed the principles of free-trade by supporting steel tariffs; he signed an unconstitutional campaign finance reform bill. His foreign policy aside, how has President Bush behaved differently than a moderate Democrat?

Bush seems to think that stealing the Democratic agenda is a nifty way to win votes. This strategy may be effective in getting Republicans elected. However, this will prove to be a Pyrrhic victory if the party sells out its belief in limited government in the process.

I will support President Bush in his reelection campaign, simply because the Democratic Party has demonstrated that it cannot be trusted to defend America. However, I think conservative Republicans should think twice before declaring that Bush has helped to advance the conservative movement.

President Bush addresses the issue of employment Wednesday. Jobs, the economy and national security are among the important issues in this year's presidential election.

College Republicans argue for Patriot Act

by Jeremie Wallis
Staff reporter

The race for the Democratic presidential nominee has begun to narrow the field to one person to face George W. Bush in November. The College Republicans, in an effort to prepare voters for the election, have started on-campus activities designed to inform people of the issues.

The first activity is a debate between Ryan Cavanaugh, president of the College Republicans and Patrick Wicklund, president of the College Democrats, both junior political science majors.

“We’re going to discuss if there are infringements on civil liberties,” Cavanaugh said, “and if there are, do those achieve a balance between liberty and security?”

Many students understand the need for public discussion.

“If there is any outcome, some students may change their side,” Shawn Carpenter, senior psychology major said. “Other than that, I don’t see the debate affecting the students in any way.”

The Patriot Act, the main topic of debate, affects students among others, giving them a reason to be informed. “I think it will be Dean who makes it through. Al Sharpton is the weakest candidate. He has no political experience and no platform to run on.”

Carpenter said. “This debate is for them.”

The debate between the two political groups will take place in the Samuelson Union Building Pit today at noon. The debate will be followed by a question/answer session. Students are encouraged to attend.
When I grow up...

College is meant as a time to find yourself, to find your academic strengths and to find your future; to begin grasping adulthood with both hands and start living at a life of maturity... well, maybe just a career.

The rest of my life is determined by what classes I attend, but what credentials do I have to decide my life, what credentials do any of us have at 20?

In my mind, I'm not nearly an adult. I'm living away from home for the first time and although I'm forcing myself to choose my future, I can still barely decide what to make for dinner.

When it all boils down, I'm worried I may be making wrong decisions and not even know it. I'm afraid I may look back later and regret the choices I'm making now. I have the intellect to graduate and the grades that say I'm doing well in school, but am I emotionally ready to make life-altering choices? Am I ready to decide what's right for them and their future fresh out of high school?

Nowadays, high schools are providing the opportunity to hurry along the growing-up process by providing students the opportunity to participate in Running Start. I have a friend who did Running Start, and as a 20-year-old senior here at Central she is struggling to face the reality that she may graduate before she can legally participate in her graduation toast.

I understand the desire to be in Running Start, I encouraged my little sister to begin last fall. It gives students free college credit and fewer quarters at a four-year university, but is a junior in high school really prepared to make decisions that will finalize their future? I'm a junior and I know I'm not.

What I've found at college is more confusion than confidence, more anxiety than answers. I wish I could ask a 40-year-old me if I'm doing okay. I want to know if I'm choosing the right paths and heading into the correct profession.

It's hard being in college and knowing that you won't ever really know if you made the right decisions until its probably too late. You won't know if you'll love your career until you're happily there, or if you hate it until you're already buried alive.

I'm not looking for answers, I'm just sending these questions out into some void hoping that my two decades of knowledge is enough to get me through. And at the same time I'm hoping I'm not alone, and that there are others out there who share the same fears, the same concerns and the same insecurities as I do. The mist we can do right now is go at it together, wish each other luck and hope our youthful decisions turn out for the best.

—Susan Bunday

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GEORGE HAWLEY’S OPINION

Hawley’s ideas vastly inferior

I agree with George Hawley’s comments about the history of Western civilization’s precedence in the classroom. I think it deserves our full attention when considering our nation’s current status in Iraq and our “War on Terrorism.” So let’s take a better look at it shall we.

First, let us not forget that this “vastly superior” democratization was not built by the means of “dead white men.” This nation’s ruling doctrine, The Constitution of the United States, did “embrace” values of the Native Americans. These are people who peacefully and prosperously lived on this continent thousands of years prior to the coming of this “most peaceful and prosperous” Western civilization that George Hawley so ostentatiously speaks of.

Second, let us not forget the millions of lives that were lost with the introduction of diseases and religion from this “great Western civilizations.” This is a civilization that, despite the Catholic Church’s brief “Moral dilemma,” killed those that rejected the church because it was a doctrine of the Church that those who do not accept the church were therefore not human and inferior.

Nor should we entertain the fact that further down George Hawley’s “uni-linear” evolutionary scale are a people who once inhabited the very ground where CWU now rests.

I claim no to go on and on about the many of the things that our “vastly superior” civilization left out of high school books. George Hawley says that our “vastly superior” civilization left out of high school books. George Hawley says that this civilization is bent on destroying itself.

—Sarah Munkres

DEADLINES

Friday, 5 p.m. - Entertainment, meetings, calendar events.

Monday, 3 p.m. - Weekend sports information.

Monday, 5 p.m. - Letters to the editor.

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You tell us

What current issue concerns you most?

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if you have learned anything about our civilization's history and take a look at what this "superior" nation is doing today to the "inferior," it seems likely that this civilization is bent more on covering up its own wrong doings. And it is this ability to learn about and appreciate other cultures that allows us to practice cultural relativism, we let the ethno-centricists take care of the value judgements.

Jon Shellenberger

Article lends 'nothing new' to argument

I have not written to The Observer before, but after discussing George Hawley's article "The Folly of Cultural Relativism" with my mother I felt it was important to voice my outrage. While I disagree with many of his statements, I would take very seriously to properly address all of the subjects and points that Mr. Hawley so glibly threw into a six-hundred word essay. The real reason I am writing is that Mr. Hawley has decided to tackle a very serious subject but reduced the entire debate to anachronistic jingoism, predictable name-calling, and unsound reasoning.

There is nothing new presented to the debate, nor any compelling idea to respond to, only mindless provocation and liberal-baiting. With so much on the line and several millennia up for critique, the logical place to start would be some basic definitions. For example, what is "cultural relativism"? No doubt there is a workable definition, but it is not offered here. What does superiority in "...every way that matters." include? Is the quality of a life derived from the amount of wealth an individual is allowed by their economic system to accrue? Can someone still be happy if they are not allowed to express their beliefs or faith publicly?

These are not rhetorical questions, they are points that require serious examination. Mr. Hawley has not offered any credible dialogue on these issues, nor are they basic premises for any of his claims delineated anywhere. What we are left with is the Word Document equivalent of a political bumper sticker.

I agree that an article of definition would be boring so I propose an altogether new solution: don't try to simplify complex and far-reaching issues into sensationalist sound-bites for the sake of creating controversy in the Op-Ed section.

By choosing to rely on tired and trite rhetoric to make his point, Mr. Hawley has not only alienated those who already opposed his points of view but also anyone who feels that such a weighty topic deserves intelligent and thoughtful discussion.

Now to the readers I ask: go beyond the puns and commentators, talk to those around you and also listen closely to them. Seek out information and ideas and decide for yourself what kind of civilization you want to live in. If we the people do not take action, the few, the George Hawley's, will decide our future for us.

Joel Breeden
Senior
Studio art

Look beyond the textbook, thesaurus

"Once one has been through deep experiences in tune with the vast forces of the universe, the vast forces within ourselves, we see that the need for conflict, the need for hostility, and the need for hatred become less intense. One finds the universe inside and the one outside so vast and so lovely that any other living thing that loves or shows any signs of loving is precious and close." —John Cunningham Lilly, The Mind of the Dolphin. Quoted in The Last Whole Earth Catalog, 1971.

George, take a step outside your sterile textbook world, snap the umbilical cord running to your sterile textbook world, snip through the umbilical cord running to your sterile textbook world, snip the umbilical cord running to your sterile textbook world, snip the umbilical cord running to your sterile textbook world, and decide for yourself what kind of civilization you want to live in. It goes on.

Jonathan Carlson
Senior
Asian studies

PONDER THIS

"In three words I can sum up everything I have learned about life: it goes on." —Robert Frost

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VOICING OPINIONS
Let's ditch the stereotypes, dog

by Andrew Grinaker
Sports editor

Stereotypes are something that encompasses everyone in the every day aspects of our lives. Stereotypes mold our impressions of people and our perceptions of how a situation could possibly play out. As children, we are taught not to think of people as stereotypes and to treat everyone as we want to be treated. However, as we are all products of pop culture (no matter how much we say we aren't); stereotypes are established and re-established in all of the mainstream media that we receive.

There are given stereotypes that are portrayed countless times in the media, especially in these supposed to be dumb, glasses indicate a nerd appeal, low pants and an even lower car indicate these people may be part of the gang. Yes, some people fit the stereotypical bill, but most don't.

The reason I bring this to the attention of the masses is because of a situation on a recent airplane flight. As a took my seat in 26D, I noticed a man seat over in, my same row. He was an older man in corduroy pants and sweater that could have been worn by Bob Ross. Yes I know you as the reader just said, "you’re making a stereotype." But that’s the point of my story. I thought to myself, as the man worked diligently on his crossword puzzle, that he must have just finished an insurance or software com-

vention.

As I got comfortable reading my "Staff" magazine, (the first I have bought since high school) he could have made his own assumptions about me, with my oversized headphones blaring Rage Against the Loud enough for him to clearly hear Tom Morello was wailing on his guitar.

As we flew over Mt. McKinley and the rest of desolate Alaska, I decided to break the ice and ask him why he was wearing the words. His assumptions and stereotypes ran wild as he put down his crossword puzzle and replied with, "I was at one of the largest beer conventions in North America, trying to find new beers to add to my bar in West Seattle."

I was blown away and trying to figure out how to respond, I replied with a typical college stu-
dent answer, "That’s cool." Intellectual thoughts just weren’t going to my head when I was drunk.

I couldn’t believe the Bob Ross look alike owned an establishment similar to where my friends and I spend hours of our free time and a pretty penny of our parent’s money.

My experience shows stereotypes and expectations shape our lives. We can learn so much by putting them aside and simply learn the truth instead of guessing it.

Go out and eliminate a stereotype, just one. Find someone that you see often, but never talk to. Introduce yourself, ask them a few questions and know that you know that person for who they truly are, not how they are stereotyped.

Putting the "men" into menstruation

by Jennifer Turner
Staff reporter

What’s a girl to do? Since when has male sensitivity become a trend? Between metrosexuals and the rising popularity of emo bands, I don’t know where to start.

What’s possibly even more dis-
turbing is that I can’t quite recall when this fad began. Was it "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" that showed them how to dress more fashionably? Or maybe it was an article they read in some men’s health magazine that beckoned them one and all to bring out the lit-
tle crying girl inside.

I’m not saying that having a healthy connection to your emotions is a bad thing at all. Having an ample collection of more hair products than I own, however, is questionable. I don’t know how other girls might feel, but sometimes it seems to me that guys are starting to invade every aspect of this girl’s world.

The guy-girl ratio in my abdominal conditioning class is no better in their favor. I had an ex-
boyfriend that subjected himself to worse diets than some of my bulimic friends from high school.

The other night I took some guy friends to Jack-in-the-Box and was confronted with the horrifying revelation that they knew the words to more than one *NSync song. We’re talking songs that hadn’t been on the Top 40.

To be honest, sometimes it helps you to have a guy confide in. Generally talking to a guy can offer you a drastically different view than if you confide in a girl friend. It may not be what you want to hear, but it’s different.

My main complaint is in the dating area. I don’t want to date someone who is high-maintenance, whiny, insecure and talkative as myself. I’m tired of the nice guys that I want to talk about my feelings! If I wanted to date someone with emotional attachment problems, that also gets sentimental over UB40 and loves gossiping, I would be a lesbian.

Blame media, society, even pressure from the females in your life if you’d like. But at the end of the day, can you tell me why you choose to use Bed Head products?

Guys, don’ t get me wrong. I’m not asking you to become a man. Just less of a woman please.
They choose as customers, preferring those with good credit. But now they have a new market: college students.

In the past, credit card companies have been fairly cautious about who they choose as customers, preferring those with good credit. But now they have a new market: college students.

Every year the holiday season rolls around, and it means many gift cards are replacing cash as gifts. For some students, such as Eva Tallmadge, a server and making a lot of money, these easy quick fixes can be a bittersweet when credit card bills start piling up. "I was still a broke student," Cory Stuart, junior computer science major, said. "It's what drives the economy.

"I think everybody in America is (in debt)," Cory Stuart, junior computer science major, said. "We advise students not to use credit cards," Canedo said. "I know students and parents like to have them for emergencies but it's important to budget. I don't think people are aware how detrimental they are to students.

Kelly McBride, senior public relations major, said, "I spent like I was still a server and racked up $8000 (in debt)."

According to www.truthaboutcredit.com, students currently owe an average of $3000 in credit card debt. McBride has eight credit cards and is contemplating taking out a new one, but some students are a little more wary.

"It's so easy to get ahold of (credit cards), but it's also very easy to abuse," Devin Beach, sophomore undecided, said. "With checks and debit cards, it's a little easier to see if you've exceeded your limit."

"Living here on campus, most students are living on a budget...I would hope there's not a culture where you have to have a lot of things," Agnes Canedo, director of financial aid, said.

"Whether or not it is a cultural thing, there are several important questions to ask when choosing a credit card.

First, what is the annual percentage rate or APR? The APR is the yearly interest rate charged by companies.

"My debts don't cause me any problems because I have money," Stuart said. "I have savings so I pay just a little above the minimum.

But the Federal Trade Commission warns that interest quickly piles up if only the minimum payment is being made. ...If you have an outstanding balance of $2,000, with 18.5% interest and a low minimum monthly payment, it would take over 11 years to pay off the debt and cost you an additional $1,934 just for interest, which almost doubles the total cost of your original purchase.

Second, what is the grace period? The grace period is the time between when the item was purchased and when the interest begins. The issuer can grant a grace period to pay in full before applying charges, or simply begin applying charges immediately after the purchase has been made.

Third, are there any extra fees or charges? Some companies charge an annual fee for credit or even a monthly fee, whether or not the card is used, while others do not.

"I think (the open-mic night) is a great idea. It might broaden the singer-songwriter scene at CWU."

Kris Oakley, senior English education major, is scouting her collection of female folk-rock albums a la Tori Amos, Joni Mitchell and Sarah McLachlan, to locate the perfect song for her to sing.

"I think it'd be great if an open-mic night was a regular institution," Oakley said. "Since I'm not in the music program right now, it'd be great to hear from others wanting to break into the music scene."

Time to tune up those guitars and warm up those vocal chords. At 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jun. 28, Central Washington University's Papa John's Coffeehouse is hosting a casual open-mic night in its new venue in the Samuelson Union Building games room.

"I was younger and said just got one credit card and manage it," McBride said. "I just want to be out of the hole, but it's hard in school."

"We advise students not to use credit cards," Canedo said. "I know students and parents like to have them for emergencies but it's important to budget. I don't think people are aware how detrimental they are to students.

"They took four of my major bills that I couldn't pay anymore and lumped them together...instead of paying them off in 13 years, I can pay them off in three years for $3000," McBride said. CreditGuard does not allow the people they are helping to sign up for any more credit cards while paying off their current debts.

"I wish someone would have set me down when I was younger and said just get one credit card and manage it," McBride said. "I just want to be out of the hole, but it's hard in school."

"We advise students not to use credit cards," Canedo said. "I know students and parents like to have them for emergencies but it's important to budget. I don't think people are aware how detrimental they are to students."

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"I think it'd be great if an open-mic night was a regular institution," Oakley said. "Since I'm not in the music program right now, it'd be great to hear from others wanting to break into the music scene."

To sign up or to get more information about the event, email Brown at brown@cwu.edu or come the night of the event to see if there is room on the schedule. Admission is free.
Underwood becomes King
by Joanna Horowitz

Underwood’s one-man multimedia show “IM: From Mountain Top to Hip Hop” is a carefully woven patchwork of characters, images, thoughts and messages.

Though the story is not yet seamlessly stitched together, Underwood’s performance Jan. 15 in McConnell Auditorium was spectacular thanks to his own collage of diverse talents.

Underwood and his team, including director Jean Morris and co-writer Frank Underwood, Blair’s brother, took on a challenge when they decided to stage a production such as this an inspirational allegorical tale of the collision between a fictitious rag mogul and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Bringing together two generations and two very different modes of looking at the world, the play examines the dichotomy between black and white, man and women and subdivisions in the African-American community.

When dealing with such weighty topics, a sentimentality and clichés are always a risk; ones that “IM” does not completely escape. However, despite any flaws in the story, the storyline itself was magnificent—both entertaining and inspirational.

The story centers on rap star Mo’LoT, a bootin’, hatin’, boot-sippin’ MTV stereotype of wealth and fame. When he is shot in an altercation over a rival’s girlfriend, Mo LoT finds himself in a heavenly holding pen, awaiting guidance from none other than Martin Luther King Jr.

King, now the heaven-in-house stand-up comic, forces Mo to confront scenes of suffering, from slavery up through the present.

Eventually these lessons touch Mo emotionally and tolerances for not only whites, but also for men and women of his own culture. Seeing King slap Mo for referring to women as “hussies” and “bitches” was priceless.

Of course, the slap, as well as all other interactions between characters, was carefully orchestrated by Underwood who plays all the characters. “IM” revealed his skills in acting, mime, dance, singing and rapping, as he glided through an impressively diverse list of characters—LoT, a slave, a Nazi soldier and more. With no costume changes, props or even a set (only a chair and a platform), Underwood created a full, vibrant cast out of thin air.

Most impressive were his portrayals of King and LoT. The rapper was loose, poetic and straight out of the inner city. King was proud, composed and fluid. The transitions between the two proved that Underwood is a serious stage actor, not just a pretty face on television.

Jan. 15 was the third-performance of the show and the first on the road, so it is clearly still a work in progress. It is not surprising, then, that some flaws in the story remain. The biggest problems with the script mostly come from an oversimplification of some of the issues.

When King sends LoT back in time to see those who suffered for the rapper’s life today, only a few scenes are shown: a slave ship, a civil rights riot and an interaction between a Nazi soldier and his Jewish girl-friend. Without more scenes showing different plights, the WWII vignette is out of place.

The play also culminates with a too-much ending. As LoT learns his lessons and sees what the future on earth would be like without him a la “It’s a Wonderful Life,” he is rewarded with a second chance to clean up his life and his rhymes, it’s touching but a little too gossy for a production that breaks so many rules and pushes the boundaries of storytelling.

Despite any minor setbacks, “IM” was a fantastic showcase for a multi-talented actor, one that found common ground for an audience spanning age, gender and race. The instant standing ovation Thursday night was a testament to the show’s ability to reach an audience and Underwood’s ability to channel its spirit.
For a Jun. 14 show at Papa John's Coffee House, the band sat down with the Observer.

What do you like most about playing live?

Angell: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Lieb: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Nettleton: Dave Matthews live, somewhere.

Stenson: Josh Schroeder's band, whatever their name is.

Fickes: Alder Road.

Who are some of your influences?

Nettleton: Less Than Jake, Yellowcard and Rancid.

Fickes: The Beatles Anthology on TV.

Lieber: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

What's in your CD players right now?

Lieb: Tom Petty "Wildflowers."

Fickes: Reel Big Fish "Why Do They Rock So Hard?"

Angell: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Stenson: Really different. I'm really eclectic.

Nettleton: Less Than Jake, Yellowcard and Rancid.

Fickes: Wilco, Bob Seger.


Fickes: I want to get filthy rich.

Stenson: I just want to tour. That's my goal in life.

Nettleton: Really different. I'm really eclectic.

What's in your CD players right now?

Nettleton: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Stenson: Dave Matthews live, somewhere.

Fickes: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

How would you classify yourselves musically?

Nettleton: Punk.

Stenson: (but) Not really butt-punk, if you will.

Fickes: Sixth grade.

Stenson: I used to listen to oldies all the time.

Nettleton: It sounds sick, but Bruce Springsteen for me.

Fickes: The Beatles Anthology on TV.

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So how do you like most about playing live?

Fickes: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Angell: Cake "Fashion Nugget."

Nettleton: Dave Matthews live, somewhere.

Stenson: Josh Schroeder's band, whatever their name is.

Fickes: Alder Road.

Does the band have any long-term goals?

Fickes: The Beatles Anthology on TV.

Nettleton: They're depicted in the music.

Guggino brings the structures that people may

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"I think we are all aware of buildings, but very much it's because they physically take so much space," Mary Frances, Gallery One director, said. "I think Guggino shows some beauty in these buildings, and gives them a personality."

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Bahai Club starts

Not many people know what "Bahai" means. Bahai is not an English word but a Persian one. It is also the name of a new club at Central Washington University that focuses on enriching the campus culture.

Bahai means "The follower of God's glory," Ben Rhodd, spokesman of Bahai Club and a resource management student, said there are six million Bahais around the world. Being Bahai does not require race, religion or cultural distinctions.

"Bahai believes in a number of principles that have been established by various manifestations created by sons of God, such as Jesus, Buddha, Moses, Muhammad," Rhodd said.

The Bahai Club at Central seeks to change the world into a more desirable one, starting at the community level, by educating about the Bahai faith.

The Bahai Club, comprised of 13 Bahais, holds seminars on the Bahai faith twice a week, at noon on Tuesdays in the Samuelson Union Building Owls Room and 1:00 p.m. Fridays at the Peace Cafe at 211 East Eighth Ave. The Friday meetings are intended as informational sessions for those interested in the club. Anyone is welcome at the meetings.

"What the Bahai Club is doing is helping people be aware of the Bahai faith," Rhodd said. "We simply want to let people know there is a spiritual tradition, and bring people into humanity and the oneness of our humanity and the humankind."

According to the handout, "Bahai Faith," the religion stems from six principles: the oneness of humankind, promotion of a universal education system, the equality of women and men, formulation of a universal auxiliary language, unity through diversity, recognition of all the messengers of God and belief in one God.

"Although we are all different, as far as the very foundation of our existence, we are all human beings," Rhodd said. "The requirement for joining Bahai Club is only being a human."
Seattle clubs hopping this weekend

by Jon Rice
Staff reporter

This weekend Seattle is the place to be. The clubs are going to be poppin' with some of the top disc jockeys spinning the latest hits. Whether you're looking for a place to cut loose or chill out, there are a lot of choices for a night out in the Emerald City. Here are some of the great spots if you find yourself west of the Cascades this weekend.

Friday, January 23

The Showbox: Chinese New Year Funk Night
1426 1st Ave., 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Showbox features favorites in funk and hip-hop, mixed by DJ Del, DJ Marc Sense and Jeff Beltran. The Showbox is known for featuring everything from local Seattle rock to southern-hospitality blues.

Pioneer Square Joint Cover:
For $12 every Friday and Saturday night clubbers can receive admission to one of the top spots in Pioneer Square, which play the best in hip-hop, top 40 and techno and feature live bands playing everything from local Seattle rock to southern-hospitality blues.

Some of the venues in Pioneer Square within walking distance of each other are:

- Tiki Bob's
166 S. King St., 4 p.m. to 2 a.m.
This could be one of the best spots for those 21 and over. The DJs spin the top 40 and hip-hop all night long. Tiki Bob's has a full bar with great drink specials, and is packed with fun, good-looking people.

- J&M Cafe
201 1st Ave. S.
This bar has a laid-back atmosphere, making it a good spot to go for a drink and chill before hitting the club scene.

- Fenix Underground
323 2nd Ave. S.
The Fenix features hip-hop on the top floor, a live band on the second floor and DJs spinning top 40 on the first floor. There is something for everybody in this club.

- Bohemian Cafe & Nightclub
111 Yesler Way
DJs spin hip-hop and reggae all night. The Bohemian Cafe & Nightclub gives Pioneer Square a great urban feel.

Saturday, January 24

The Showbox: Global Session
1426 1st Ave, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., $15 in advance, $20 at the door.
November Entertainment hosts an exclusive showcase of the most requested DJs from around the world, including DJ Icey, DJ Babyanne and DJ Dig Dug, spinning techno and house favorites.

DJ Icey, "King of the Funky Beats," has worked with the Chemical Brothers and has his own label, Zone Records. He has released 12" mixes including the single "As II." He will be following in the footsteps of other DJs such as Pete Tong, Fatboy Slim and Paul Oakenfold with the release of this summer's "Essential Mix - Mixed by DJ Icey."

DJ Babyanne, "Bass Queen," is one of the most popular female DJs in New Orleans and has a number of singles, including "Tripin' on the Bass," "Abercrombie," and "Bass Queen," as well as "Freak's Groove" on DJ Icey's Zone Records. She has been featured in a number of newspapers such as the Miami Herald, New Orleans Herald and in a number of magazines.

The Last Supper Club: Club KISS
124 S. Washington, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.
KISS 106.1 turns The Last Supper Club into Club KISS. DJ Tamm spins top 40 hits downstairs, while DJs rotate upstairs spinning hip-hop and techno.

Re-bar: Kaskade
114 Howell St., 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.
The bar sponsors Om Records San Francisco Sessions V4 Tour featuring Kaskade. Kaskade was praised as the best up-and-coming artist of 2004 by URB Magazine and as having crafted a captivating debut, by Billboard Magazine.

His talent has the techno and house music world head on.

Outlaw Tattoo

"Winner, Best Color Flash at the Spokane Tattoo Convention 2003."

AWARD WINNING TATTOO & BODY PIERCING 925-4465
312 East 4th Avenue in Ellensburg
Across the street from Safeway

by Amy Lynn Taylor
Staff reporter

Thanks to the Peace Cafe, bars are not the only place in Ellensburg to find both live music and food. Every Wednesday and Saturday from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., the vegetarian restaurant located at 211 East Eighth Avenue holds free concerts performed by local musicians.

The Wednesday performances are scheduled in advance, while Saturday is open-mic night. The open-mic offers a chance for anyone daring enough to take their talents and opinions on stage.

"We're always looking for artists with a variety of levels of talent," Dianne Bedwell, Peace Cafe staff member, said. "It's a friendly crowd."

Guitarist Corey Dosch, English graduate student, has performed at the Peace Cafe on several occasions.

"It's a very supportive environment for people exploring their musical interests," Dosch said. "It's a great place to play. It's intimate and relaxed."

Musicians are not the only artists encouraged to step up to the microphone on Saturday nights. "It's also a great opportunity to open up a scene for other artists," Jim Batman, volunteer staff member, said. In addition to offering a serving of local talent, the cafe also offers a vegetarian dinner special on Wednesdays and Saturdays for around $5.50.

"You're going to listen to some good music and are going to be exposed to some great food as well," Andrew Cottonwood, kitchen manager, program organizer and member of board of directors, said. "It's homemade food at a great price."

According to Cottonwood, the Peace Cafe is one of the only restaurants of its kind in Eastern Washington. Much of the food is organic, comes from local sources and the menu is entirely meat free.

"The food is all vegetarian and vegan, which is perfect," Camille McCarthy, sophomore, primate behavior and anthropology major, said.

The vegetarian menu is not the only thing that sets the Peace Cafe apart from other dining establishments. The cafe is a project of the Peace and Justice Alliance of Central Washington, a non-profit organization that is committed to advocating non-violence and promoting education on environmental and humanitarian issues in the local community and the world.

The Peace and Justice Alliance offers the cafe as a place where people can come to study and discuss political issues and get involved in local groups. The Peace Cafe is run by a staff that is about 85 percent volunteer.

To find out more about becoming involved in the Peace Cafe or to learn more about the Peace and Justice Alliance of Central Washington, visit http://www.elltel.net/peacejustice/index.htm or stop by between 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday and Saturday for music.
Another win slips away

by Adam Jack
Staff reporter

The saying "close but no cigar," may be the story of the Wildcats' season so far. But Saturday night the cigar was lit and ready for the celebration. Then the unthinkable happened again.

Central Washington University suffered another heartbreaking loss on Saturday night to Saint Martin's College (SMC) 85-83. The Wildcats held an eight-point lead with just over two minutes to play, but the Saints caught fire in the final 1:29 as they outscored the Wildcats 10-2. SMC's Kaelen Moore made a jump shot as time expired to give SMC the win.

The loss dropped the Wildcats to 3-11 on the season and 6-5 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Central has now totaled nine losses by six points or less this season, which is bound to make players and coaches frustrated.

"That shot is the story of our season," assistant coach Shane Kernen said.

Senior forward Tyler Mitchell gathered another double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, and teammate senior guard Scott Freymond scored a team high 16 points for the Wildcats.

"We are just trying to win," Mitchell said. "If we keep working hard things will start to bounce our way."

Freymond had similar feelings on the loss and the unfortunate luck.

"We did the things we needed to do to win," Freymond said. It's like somebody doesn't want us to win."

The Wildcats dominated the boards and the paint Saturday with a 54-28 rebound advantage, and a 58-32 points in the paint advantage. Senior forward Mike Connor had a career high 14 rebounds to lead Central, along with his 14 points.

Central will be on the road this week playing tonight at Seattle Pacific University, and then the Wildcats will go to Bellingham for their rivalry game with Western Washington University.

"We don't think about our record going into a game 'cause we know we can win," Freymond said.

Swim team finds friendships through hard work

by Krista Donohue
Staff reporter

Swim team: the countless hours of practice, the endless travel and that nagging water in the nose could be considered a negative. The positive though, is going through the same thing with the rest of the team and loving every minute of it.

Many of the swimmers agreed that by being on the Central Washington University swim team, they have made some amazing friends. The amount of time spent swimming is a bonding experience for everyone.

"You meet totally new people coming onto the swim team, it's a brand new situation, and everyone is your friend," junior Amanda Schamk said. "You spend so much time with the people on the team that it is almost impossible to not get to know them."

Being on a team involves a lot of work. The swimmers swim an average of twenty hours a week, with morning practices and evening practices during the week and often traveling considerable distances to different schools for swim meets on the weekends. However, being on the team also holds a lot of opportunities and friendships for the swimmers.

"Swimming at a collegiate level could hold the key to something more in the future, and most swimmers want to continue swimming after college."

"I hope that when I graduate from Central I will go into a masters program," senior Cliff Brooke said. "In a masters program you still have swim meets. The people that swim on them are older. I would love to continue with swimming if I could find an enjoyable team to be on."

For other swimmers, however, the future may not lead to a masters program.

Senior Matt Kalkoske has different plans that he would like to pursue after college.

"I have one more year here at Central," Kalkoske said. "Next year I hope to start helping with coaching; after that I plan to attend a chiropractic school."

Others, such as sophomore Leia Spillman plan on attending graduate school.

"I hopefully will attend grad school in San Diego after graduating from Central, and get my masters in Forensic Science," Spillman said.

Wherever the road takes them, these swimmers will never forget how swimming helped define their college experience. They will leave Central with life-long friends and endless memories.
**Weekly Seattle sports wrap up**

by Patrick Carlson

**Sonics**

For the fourth game in a row, Seattle played a team with a losing record, and for the fourth game in a row they lost. The Washington Wizards defeated the Seattle Sonics 99-84 Saturday, ending the Wizards' three-game losing streak. Washington outscored Seattle in every quarter but the second and held Ray Allen to just 19 points. The Wizards' Larry Hughes scored 27 points in a game that saw Seattle commit 21 turnovers.

Ray Allen

"Right now I'm not reaching these guys," Coach Nate McMillan said, in Sports Illustrated. "We are playing poor, and we're not playing together defensively. We are not stopping anyone defensively."

Seattle came from behind on Monday to defeat the Philadelphia 76ers 96-91 on the road. Ray Allen led the Sonics with a game-high 29 points.

For tonight, we just fought a little more than we have been fighting," Allen said. "It made the game a little easier, we played tougher defense and we got the result that we wanted." The Sonics, now 20-19, will host the next three games at home with the Golden State Warriors tonight, the Los Angeles Clippers on Saturday and the Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday. Game time for all three games is 7 p.m.

**Seattle Seahawks**

Seattle Seahawks guard Steve Hutchinson has been named to the 2004 Pro Bowl roster, according to the Seattle Seahawks Website. Hutchinson was originally an alternate but now takes the place of New Orleans' LeCharles Bouchette, who injured his knee this year.

Steve Hutchinson

"I want to play for a Japanese baseball team because I want to stay with my family," said Hutchinson, in the Seattle Times. "I want to play in Japan."

The Seahawks defeated the Portland Winter Hawks 4-2 on Friday. T-Birds Chris Durand, Tyler Metcalfe, Kyle Fecho and Dustin Johner all scored in the win.

"We talked about making sure we didn't let them back in the game," Hutchinson coach Dean Chynoweth said in the Seattle Times.

"The Thunderbirds shot a season-high 48 shots but missed out on six power plays, which ultimately killed their chances."

The Thunderbirds, 13-22-8-2, are now fifth in the U.S. Division of the Western Hockey League.

**Mariners**

The Mariners have signed catcher Ben Davis to a one-year contract. Davis, who hit .236 with six home runs and 42 RBIs last season for the Mariners, avoids salary arbitration with this deal. Davis came to Seattle from San Diego in a six-player trade in 2001.

Seattle also said goodbye to a player who has been a signature at Safeco for the last few years. Kazuhiro Sasaki, the Mariners closer and all-time saves leader in Mariners history, will not return for the final year of his three-year contract. Sasaki will walk away from the $9.5 million he was set to make in 2004.

"I want to play for a Japanese baseball team because I want to stay with my family," said Sasaki, in the Seattle Times.

In better news for the Mariners, Joel Pinerio and Gil Meche agreed to contracts, avoiding salary arbitration and completing the Mariners rotation for the start of the season. Pinerio's deal is worth $11.5 million over three years, while Meche's deal is worth $1.95 million for one year.

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<td>Step/Tone TAMI</td>
<td>Abs-solutely JULIE</td>
<td>Step/Tone ABBY</td>
<td>Abs-solutely TAMI</td>
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<td>Pilates PATTI</td>
<td>Interval KELLY M</td>
<td>Step/Tone DANIELLE</td>
<td>Pure Strength DEBRA</td>
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<td>Fitness Yoga PATTI</td>
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**Sports TV Guide**

- **Friday**
  - NBA - Houston vs. Indiana 5 p.m. ESPN
  - San Antonio vs. Phoenix 8 p.m. ESPN

- **Saturday**
  - College Basketball
    - Duke at Georgetown 11 a.m. CBS
    - UCLA at California 12:00 p.m. CBS
    - Eight Annual Winter X Games 1 p.m. ABC

- **Sunday**
  - College Basketball
    - Michigan St. at Purdue 11 a.m. CBS
    - Oregon at Arizona * 1 p.m. CBS
  - NBA - Sacramento vs. Dallas 11 a.m. ABC

*HD Hans' Gym II*
Wildcat women stay warm in between games during their road trip to Alaska. The temperature ranged from zero to as cold as -56 degrees below.

Cold can't hold Wildcat women down

by Andrew Grinaker
Sports editor

Basketball, cold temperatures, smiles, smiles and more smiles are the only words that can describe the road trip the Central Washington women's basketball team took.

The five day journey trekked across thousands of miles, over the foreign neighbor to the north, and into the land of the moose, Alaska.

The team played two games, the first on Thursday night against the University of Alaska-Fairbanks and the second on Saturday night against the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

The first game featured an Alaska-Anchorage team coming off a six-game losing streak and looking for their first Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) victory. Riddled with bad passing, poor interior defense and a scoring drought that encompassed the first 6:30 minutes of the second half, the Wildcats fell to Anchorage, 72-63.

"It was obvious that we were not completely prepared for the Anchorage game, and didn't do the things that we needed to do to win," senior wing Kelsey Ellis said.

The Wildcats were led by senior wing Lindsay Weiss with 17 points, in a game that saw Anchorage full court press and zone the Wildcats the entire game.

Knowing that they had traveled this far, the Wildcats definitely did not want to go home 0-2. Playing in the Patty Center in Fairbanks, a tough place to play, the Wildcats played an emotional, hard fought game. They trailed by one point at halftime, but came out and won the game on the defensive end with 8 steals and a game-high 15 rebounds from senior Lindsay Weiss.

"We had more faith in each other on Saturday, trusting our teammates that they were going to be there," Weiss said.

Although the main focus of the trip was basketball, the team came away with more than just a GNAC victory.

Road trips are a chance for the team to bond and to come together as a team.

"Subzero temperatures forced us to stay inside and actually discover what each other is all about," freshman guard Ashley Blake said. "This only helps us out on the court."

The trip included two different cities, Anchorage and Fairbanks, both cold by any standards. The team spent just about every waking minute together, attending practices, team dinners, hockey games and movies.

"Hanging out, talking, dancing, singing, having fun is what you'll remember most when it's over," senior guard Yvette Avila said.

Alaska didn't offer much more than icy roads and hours inside, but the team feels the trip helped build character among them.

"You start seeing them [teammates] as people and not athletes," Weiss said.

The women will share one memory about the trip that will stay with them forever. On Saturday night, as the half of the team was coming back from a hockey game and the other half from a movie, the electronic sign outside Fred Meyer read -56 degrees, quite possibly, the coldest temperature any of the women will ever experience.

It's all about the t-shirts

by Lindsey Jackson
Ast. to the Editor-in-Chief

Not since a Nordstrom Rack sale has a shirt caused so much competition. Students with the drive for personal pride and team camaraderie participate every quarter in Central Washington University's intramural program.

Winter quarter team sports include men's and women's basketball, volleyball, co-ed soccer and badminton. Individual racquetball is also offered as an intramural for winter quarter.

"I like it [intramural basketball] because I can run and stay in shape in the winter," Colby Miller, senior biology major said.

The biggest change in the intramural program over the years has been the growing student interest in the program. About 14 teams in the co-ed intramural division and a full women's basketball league, sports like co-ed indoor soccer have gone to a Sunday-Wednesday schedule to compensate for the many teams that are competing.

"We have had record number in both women's basketball and the co-ed soccer programs this quarter, both leagues are actually full," Steve Waldeck, director of the recreation department, said.

Intramurals are not only a program that allows students to compete together but also a way for students to come together as teams and friends.

Many residence halls form teams and play each other throughout the season. 'Death Row Inmates' have been playing for almost a decade. As an intramural for winter quarter.

"I like it because I can run and stay in shape" said Colby Miller senior

The referees are there to keep things fair and fun but to also bring a level of professionalism to intramurals," Jeff Grover, intern of outdoor pursuits and intramural sports, said.

Registration for spring intramural ends the first week of spring quarter and quickly. Last quarter more than 900 students participated in just the co-ed softball program, one of the largest student intramural groups ever. The softball league has been one of the more popular sports in the last few years.

"The intramural program is special and important to us so we try to make things as good as we can for students," Waldeck said. "We want to give them the best."

Because student participation is at an all time high, students are encouraged to come out and support their peers at games. Visit http://www.cwu.edu/~imsports/ for more information or call 963-3512.

Behind the scenes student referees are taught how to referee games so that students can play in a sportman like environment. After the training provided by the recreation department student referees are also able to referee local high school and some Central games because of their involvement with the intramural program. Even the recreation major has seen an increase in student applicants.

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by Lindsey DiRe
Staff reporter

Cascade mountain range, Stevens Pass - offers Nordic skiing, snowshoeing, sledging, and skiing. With the current expansion of their terrain parks, and offerings of both Nordic and downhill skiing Stevens Pass is a winter resort that offers a triple threat for outdoor enthusiasts.

Stevens Pass, base elevation of 4,061 feet.

"Cowboy Peak" at 5,845 feet, receives abundant snowfall that tends to be relatively dry due to the location of the resort.

"The grooming is consistently excellent here," Cindy Jackson, administrative director of Stevens Pass said. "We have great snow that has become highly in demand because of the diversity of the terrain and how scenically beautiful it is here. If you haven't experienced Stevens Pass, it is something you don't want to miss."

Nordic skiers are welcomed to 28 km of groomed skiing through the heart of Mill Valley to Nordic Cascade Depot Lodge. Stevens Pass offers 10 lift, 37 runs and 1,125 acres of skiing terrain.

"Stevens Pass has cruising runs that run through the back-country," Noel Renggli, sophomore undecided, said. "It has great food and better instructors than Snoqualmie; overall I would rate it a "7" for northwest ski resorts. You should make a weekend trip out of it if you visit."

Stevens has three day lodges that provide an all-American assortment of food and beverage. Stevens Pass is turning 65 this year and wants to adopt.

"It has a large terrain park geared towards a younger crowd," Kenton Bass, freshman history major, said. "Stevens Pass snow is good for the elevation and location and it is fairly close to the university. I would rate it a "7" because it is not too large and developed for the terrain and lifts."

The resort offers rentals for Nordic skiing, snowboarding, skiing, snowshoes and sledging. Nordic ski, boots and poles rent for $21 before 1:30 p.m. and then $14 after 1:30 p.m. Downhill ski rentals, which include skis, boots and poles, are priced at $32 before 4 p.m. and $28 after 4 p.m. Snowboard rentals, which include boots and board are priced at $32 before 4 p.m. and $28 after. Snowshoes are offered for $18 and sledging tubes go for $13.

Skis and board lessons start at $65 and range up to $115 depending on how many hours you desire with an instructor.

Lift tickets range from $47 to $32 depending on what time of day you purchase your ticket. For more information call Stevens Pass at 206-812-4510 or check them out at their Web site at www.stevenspass.com.

Stevens Pass lift and rental prices

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<th>Noon</th>
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Rentals (Rigged skis and snowboards)

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<tr>
<th>Adult Packages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ski (skis, boots and poles)</td>
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<td>$28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowboard (boards and boots)</td>
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<td>$28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telemark (skis, boots, poles)</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stevens Pass Useless Facts

14 total lifts, 3 Rope Tows, 5 Double Chairs, one high speed quad, 11 beginner slopes, 54 intermediate slopes, 35 advanced slopes, and 10 expert slopes.

"Stevens Pass is turning 65 this year and wants to adopt. If you are so get with the program! It works."

Need a place to LIVE? Take over our two-bedroom apartment starting April 1st! Close to campus, gym, and laundry. Call 962-1102.

Need a Place to LIVE? Take over our two-bedroom apartment starting April 1st! Close to campus, gym, and laundry. Call 962-1102.

ATHLETIC NORTHWEST COUPLE, happily married for 13 years wants to adopt. If you are looking for a loving and secure home for your baby, call Christina anytime, free 1-866-301-0579.

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Skiers take the lift up Stevens Pass, just outside Sky River Inn.

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Central Washington a winter wonderland of adventures

by Haley Weston
Staff reporter

Some may say the winter months in central Washington can be boring if you are not a snowboarding or skiing fanatic. Fortunately, there are other activities to partake in.

A popular place to hang out after fresh snow hits are the local sledding hills. Tent n' Tube, located in the Samuelson Union Building, rents inner tubes to students for $4 per day. One of the four hotspots for sledding in Kittitas County is Craig's Hill, "Joe Watt Canyon is icy, but it makes it fast and they get more snow out there, so it is the place to go," Aaron Hannon, sophomore economics major, said.

Joe Watt Canyon, known for it's steep hills and a favorite among Central students is located just off of Thorp Cemetery Road, with tubes as the primary source of fun.

Come in and beat the winter blahs!

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Central Washington offers an abundance of activities, however many of them have the potential to be dangerous. Tent n' Tube provides free handouts covering issues such as; dehydration, hypothermia, appropriate clothing and watersnow purification.

For more information on snowmobile adventures you can contact the Cle Elum District ranger station at (509) 674-4411.