

6-2-2005

# Observer

Central Washington University

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# The Observer

you stay classy Central

## graduation

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# BOD takes reins of Senior ~~Golf~~ Celebration

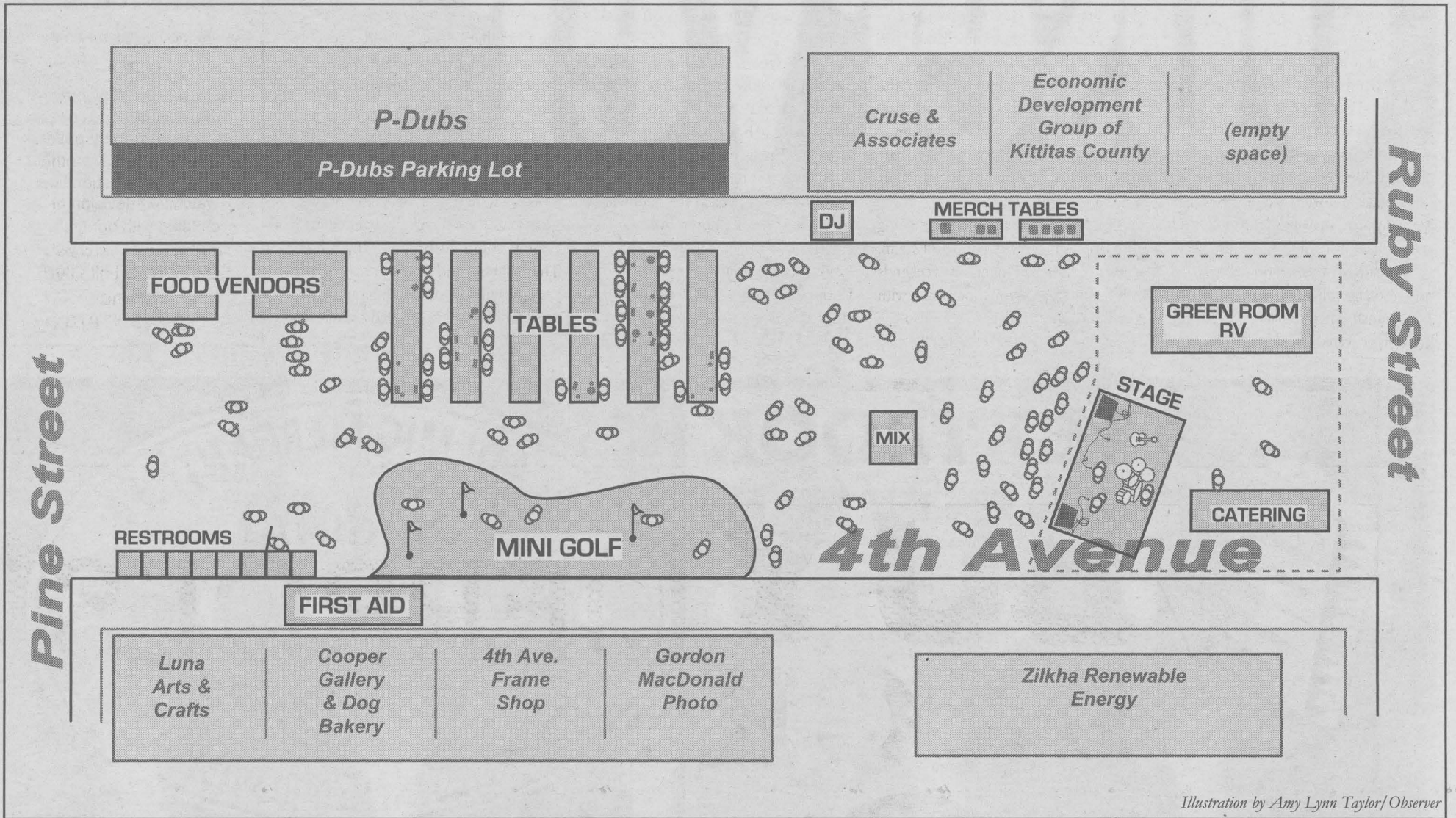


Illustration by Amy Lynn Taylor/Observer

by Rebecca George  
Staff reporter

Sorry kids, looks like there won't be any golf this Saturday. Don't cry; have faith because the ASCWU student government has been working long and hard to put together a high quality alternative to the annual event Senior Golf.

"The board of directors has done an excellent job at taking the issues with Senior Golf and turning them into a positive celebration everyone can enjoy," Obi O'Brien, Ellensburg city council member said.

On Saturday, Central students and Ellensburg community members are invited to the first annual Senior Celebration from 1 to 9 p.m., possibly running later into the evening. Festivities will be between Ruby and Pine streets. Admission is free for all.

After obtaining approval from Ellensburg city council to close off an

area of downtown Ellensburg and waive the noise ordinance, the ASCWU was given permission to hold an alcohol-free celebration as an alternative to the annual Senior Golf celebration.

"It should be a ton of fun," said Derrick Peters, ASCWU vice president. According to Peters, the ASCWU will offer give-aways such as free t-shirts.

The event's entertainment will feature a wide range of musical groups including headlining band Marcus Eaton and special guest. Blue Scholars, an acoustic rap group, will open for Marcus Eaton. John Keister, former cast member of Seattle's "Almost Live" will emcee the event.

"Some say Marcus Eaton is a mix between Dave Mathews and Incubus," said Peters.

Celebration activities will include live music from bands including Bill & the G-Strings, a small-town Texas band that models the Kingston Trio, Pick

Pocket, the Pete Moss Band, Below Average, Translated and Oxbow Scar.

Along with non-stop, live music, food and refreshments will be available for purchase thanks to Smokin' Joe's BBQ and Hot Diggity Dog.

To keep with the golfing tradition, nine holes of Hawaiian miniature golf will be available for those who wish to play. Other activities include the "Who's got the hot shot" 3-on-3 basketball tournament sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Leadership.

"I think it's cool that they're actually putting together something like this," said Neil Forrester, junior undeclared. "I mean, if we're gonna get busted for Senior Golf, we may as well have an alternative that everyone can handle."

Past Senior Golf celebrations have left a negative impression on Ellensburg city officials.

While planning for the Senior Celebration with Ellensburg city council,

the ASCWU board of directors have also been working separately with the Ellensburg Eagles Lodge to possibly run a beer garden next to the event. Currently, the Lodge is awaiting approval from the liquor control board and city officials. However, city officials have been hesitant to give the go-ahead for a beer garden downtown.

"They have not been cooperative," Lucas Westcoat, ASCWU president said, "The council is ready to accept offers for beer gardens for almost any business in town, but they are hesitant to listen to students."

City officials have not released a definitive statement approving or disapproving the proposed venue, so the question remains as to whether or not there will be a beer garden accompanying the Senior Celebration.

"The city of Ellensburg has really gone out there to support the ASCWU's efforts to run an event that

will still be a success even without the beer garden," O'Brien said. "The initial proposal was for an alcohol-free event and I commend them for taking on the leadership to come up with a safe and positive alternative to Senior Golf."

P-Dub's is expected to open this Friday, in time for the Saturday event.

"Barring any problems with inspections we'll be open Friday," Jose Perez, P-Dub's general manager said.

Westcoat and Peters are optimistic that the Senior Celebration will be a success, even if there is no beer garden. In addition to P-Dub's the ASCWU is in the process of negotiating with local downtown bars to provide discounted beverages and coupons for attendees.

"At this point, people are encouraged to do whatever they want at home and we'll be happy to see them there," Westcoat said.

Westcoat is expecting a turnout of up to 2,000 celebrants.

## Senior Celebration a safe place to toast, if city will issue permit

by Andrew Van Den Hoek  
Staff reporter

In a matter of days, another chapter in the history of this campus will draw to a close as the senior class moves on to the great futures that lie before them. They will leave this place empowered with the knowledge they've gained from their studies and the mental fortitude earned from countless late-night cram sessions, endless papers and nail-biting finals weeks.

This too is my senior year and though I will not be graduating till next fall, I feel it's only appropriate I end my tenure as an Observer reporter with what I'd like to think of as a final call to arms.

There are few milestones in a per-

son's life that top graduating from college. I can think of just as few events that are as worthy of celebration as this one. As most of my fellow students can attest when it comes to celebrating, we Wildcats certainly have written the book.

Our unique talents at creating a good time tend to reach a crescendo about the end of the year at the event we all know as Senior Golf. Year after year, this typically unorganized, unsponsored and uncontrolled event has raised concerns about safety, property damage and even violence.



Andrew Van Den Hoek  
Staff reporter

As the number of students attending our campus grows larger, combined with the sporadic nature and location of these parties, it's only a matter of time before things get out of control.

A few months after this school year began, a group of students and community members decided to do something about this threat to the safety and welfare of those that live in Ellensburg, the idea of Senior Celebration was born. It would be one centralized event, open to all students, combining live music, entertainment

and games, giving the student body a venue to cap off another great year.

The beer garden, provided by the Eagles Lodge and located next to the celebration would provide a controlled, centralized environment for the students of our campus to toast the end of another year.

I have watched down the hall from my office in the Center for Excellence in Leadership as the members of the ASCWU - BOD fought valiantly to pull together the permits, the entertainment and the hundreds of other logistical necessities to pull an event like this off.

Whenever one roadblock was cleared it seemed like a new one would appear, but the student organizers persevered and met each problem with the tenacity needed in order to bring this

new event into existence.

However, when it seemed like this dedicated group had jumped through every hoop imaginable for putting on an event like this, another wall was put in their way. The liquor control board will not issue the Eagles the permit they need to host the beer garden.

Over the last four years, I've had the opportunity to see the strength and will of this student body. I've been inspired to see a campus made up of advocates, leaders and people driven by the belief that they are capable of making positive changes in the world around them.

The Senior Celebration has the ability of turning the negative event that

see PERMIT, page 7 ▶



# Changes proposed for Safe Ride program

by Heather Lewis  
Staff reporter

Central Washington University students depend on Safe Ride for many reasons, and the changes being made to it for next school year will make it easier for students to get around town.

Steve Rittereiser, Central's chief of police, gave a forum on campus last Thursday to answer questions and explain plans for the new shuttle service. Instead of relying on the phone method, vans will be doing a point-to-point transit system using 15-person airport-type vans instead of the older

ones currently in use. Rittereiser held focus groups to determine what students thought of these new plans, and decided it was time for a change.

"Connecting students with the downtown base will benefit both parties," Rittereiser said. "Most freshmen that come to Central do not have cars and this will enable them to run errands or see a movie in town."

This transit system will be running from approximately 2 p.m. to 12 a.m. on weekdays and longer on weekends with major stops throughout town with specific routes. Drivers will also be taught how to use their best judgment

regarding incidents that include alcohol, and they will drop students off in well-lit areas.

"This service would make getting home a lot more convenient. It would also be safer than risking college students driving home drunk," said Jake Schrader, English education major.

The new system will have two buses, with one driver in each bus, and will be supplied with cell phones in case of an emergency. All passengers will have to show their Central Connection Cards. Unopened alcohol containers will also be allowed if done in an appropriate manner, and if the person with the alcohol

is over the age of 21.

Also under consideration is providing a van that is handicapped accessible. There would be a student patrol who would answer calls in a separate handicapped accessible van.

"We don't want to make anyone feel excluded, we want to have a better service to offer everyone," Rittereiser said.

The system will be paid for with grants and vans will be painted with Central colors to promote the school. The planning and development of this system will be worked on during the summer and will be up and running by October 1.

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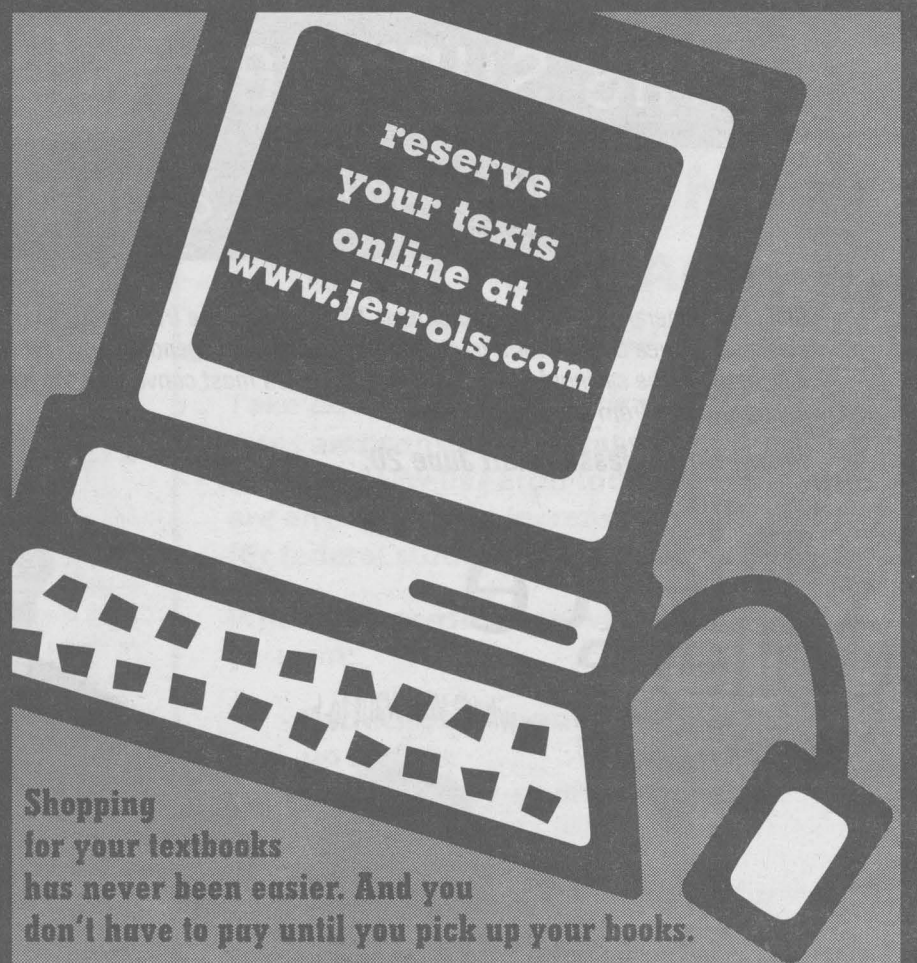
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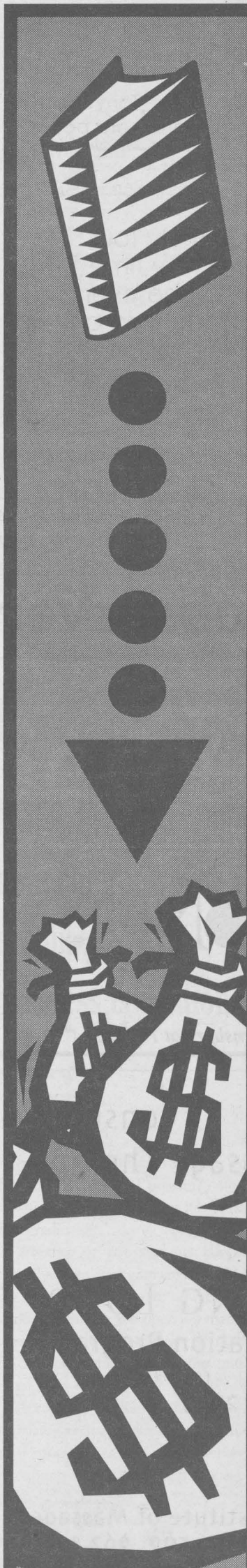
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# Working to make Ellensburg better

by Pat Brown  
Assistant news editor

The police department's job is to serve and protect the community. The agendas of the community and the police department may not always be consistent though.

Last Thursday at the Mary Grupe Center, a discussion titled "Working with you to make Ellensburg better" led by Ellensburg Police Chief Bob Richie, was held to try and make sure the police department and community stay in good communication with each other.

"The important part is sitting back and listening to the audience," Richie said. "It's a check and balance to make sure we're all on the same page."

Ellensburg ranks 33 in overall crime rates in the state of Washington. Chief Richie warns that this statistic can be very misleading because the majority of Ellensburg's crimes are misdemeanors.

Violent crime in Ellensburg is sparse, according to information presented at the forum. Homicide cases occur approximately once every 14

years, the last one happening in 2002.

Alcohol-related crime makes up approximately 25 percent of the police calls to service. According to the Ellensburg Police Department's annual report in 2004, there were 103 DUIs, 108 disorderly conduct arrests and 186 other alcohol-related incidents.

"Anytime you devote resources to one specific area, you lose out in other areas," Richie said.

If alcohol-related issues could be reduced, the Ellensburg Police Department could reallocate services to other programs such as a drug task force, a traffic unit or more programs between local schools and the police, according to Richie.

"We're really feeling for our lack of a drug-task force," Richie said.

There were only 120 noise violations handed out of 941 calls to service for people in violation of the noise ordinance.

The total number of Ellensburg Police calls to service in 2004 was 15,374. This total was slightly less than last year. These 15,374 calls resulted in 4,653 incident reports being taken.

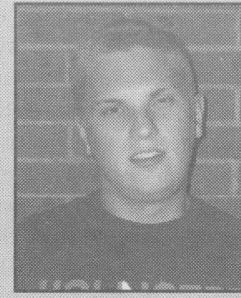
**"The important part is sitting back and listening to the audience."**  
-Bob Richie  
Ellensburg Police Chief

## How many noise violations do YOU think were handed out in Ellensburg?



"I honestly have no idea, it's probably a lot."

-Cali DeMonbrun  
junior family studies major



"Six hundred, I feel like the cops hand out way too many."

-Kyle Tomlinson  
freshman psychology major



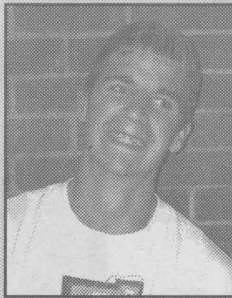
"Probably over a thousand at least."

-Kelly Wiggins  
junior biology major



"At least one a night, probably 400."

-Tom Jackson  
sophomore political science major



"Thirty weekends, four every weekend, 120."

-Cameron Bailey  
freshman



"Thirty four, every time they come over they don't do anything."

-Rian Nilsen  
senior studio art major

**120 noise violations were issued in 2004.**

visit [www.cwu.edu/~observer](http://www.cwu.edu/~observer)

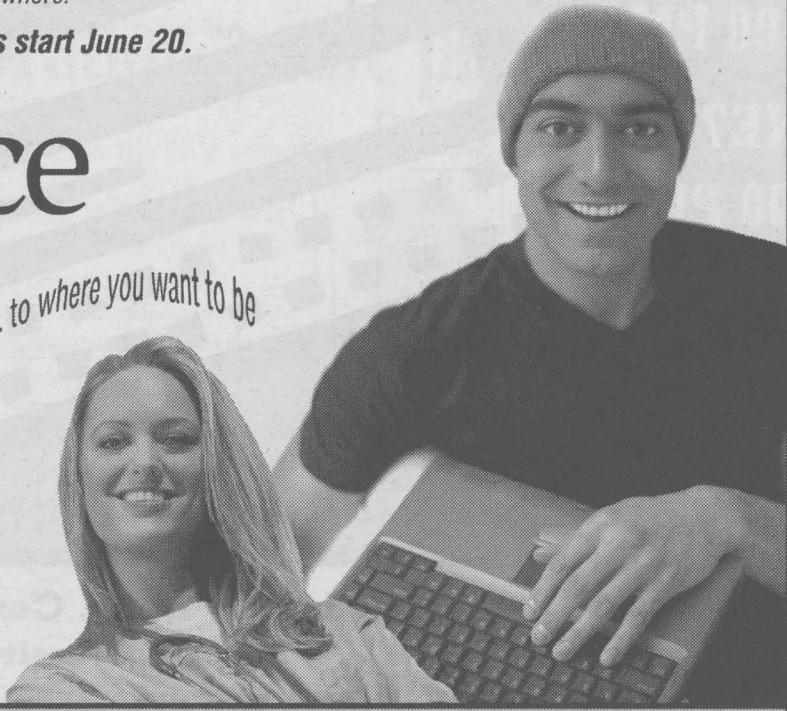
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# Doc Hastings visits Central

by Taishi Kanamaru  
Staff reporter

Doc Hastings, United States Congressman for Washington's Fourth district, made his third visit to Central Washington University Tuesday. Hastings spoke and answered questions in front of a political science class in the Psychology Building.

Todd Schaefer, associate professor of political science, said he invited Hastings to the class because Hastings' role of serving this district in Washington D.C. fits the theme of the class, legislative process. Students took the rare opportunity to ask questions from a real politician.

Miles VanRijin, senior political science major, thinks he learned the sense of "real" politic.

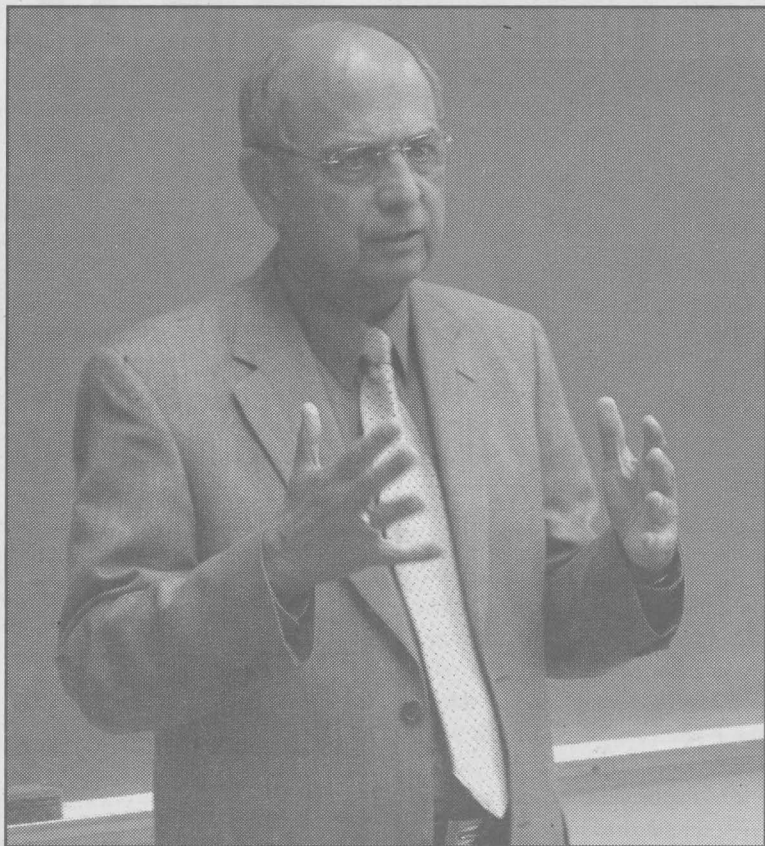
"I thought it was cool," VanRijin said. "He informed the class what is going on in the district."

Hastings covered topics including his duties as a congressman, the process of budgeting and nuclear waste issue in the Tri-Cities.

"My duty changes accordingly," Hastings said during the speech. He said his duties were from authorizing bills to taking care of people who have problems about the federal government such as the loss of Social Security.

When Hastings talked about the long process of developing a budget, he said a budget is a broad document, but it is a blueprint which sets up the fiscal plan for the federal government throughout the year.

The issue of cleanup projects across the nuclear reservation near the Tri-Cities was one of the key points as Hastings himself is the founder and chairman of the House Nuclear Clean-



Pat Lewis/Observer

Doc Hastings spoke to a class of political science students on Tuesday in the Psychology Building.

Up Caucus.

According to Hastings, there are 177 underground tanks near the Tri-Cities which range from 500,000 to one million gallons with radioactive and hazardous waste accumulated from the time the United States started manufacturing the atomic bomb in 1945.

After Hastings' 10 minute speech, the students were given the opportunities to ask him questions.

One student asked what it feels like to represent the district. Hastings mentioned that being elected every two years is like a test, he is renewed or

rejected.

"I don't see anything wrong with that," Hastings said about the process of running for reelection. "The real test is how you do it."

According to Hastings' Web Site, Hastings studied business administration at Columbia Basin College and at Central Washington University.

He won election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994 to serve the citizens of Washington's Fourth Congressional District.

He was re-elected to a fifth term in 2002 with 67 percent of the vote.

# Career field open to college grads

## More lucrative opportunities for graduates with business education

by Allison Maddox  
Staff reporter

Finding a job after graduation is becoming more difficult each and every day. Students are possibly more stressed out about getting a job rather than graduation.

Whether or not students have a career lined up after graduation day, the fact remains that they are now eligible workers in the big and open job market where they will find millions of other job hunters competing for the same jobs.

According to Randy Williamson, associate director of career services, the most popular careers are teaching, accounting and construction management.

Along with those popular career options are sales and services. "Sales and service corporations are generally

the top recruiters in the world," Williamson said.

Salary may also be a key factor in finding a career. An actuary degree, which specializes calculations in insurance, offers the best available income which is associated with the Central Washington University Math Department. According to Williamson, this job offers a starting annual salary of \$45,000 to \$50,000.

Accounting also has a reasonable income according to Williamson. "Accounting is the most solid as far as wages go with an annual income of \$35,000 to \$40,000."

Some students have a job lined up prior to graduating. "I will be working for promotions in Seattle for passage events and promotions," said Jason Russell, senior marketing major who got the opportunity from a family member.

A job that offers further advancement is also essential for a college graduate to have.

"Jobs that require a good business background tend to give more security," Williamson said about career advancements. "Sales and service managing generally have a good background."

In order to gain a career in these jobs, there is work to be done prior to graduating. Williamson advises to act aggressively on preparing for a career.

"Don't wait to graduate to start your

search and utilize any and all methods such as the Internet," Williamson said. "Begin working on your application skills with resumes and cover letters. That is the first impression you leave on an employer."

There is also a career builder through the school called the Wildcat Career Center that is available for student use. According to Williamson, job fairs and career days are a good way to begin a job search as well.

According to the Agriculture and Life Sciences Web Site, "Begin by thinking of everyone you know that might in some, even remote, way help you find a job. This includes as many people as you can think of. These contacts do not have to be CEOs of companies, but just common people who know you and might be able to help."

In an article on [www.about.com](http://www.about.com), entitled "Five Smart Money Moves for New College Graduates" by Deborah Fowles, the number one smart move is to choose a career carefully.

"Accepting a job in an unrelated field, simply because it pays more, either delays your career progress, or traps you in a field of work that may not make you happy," Fowles said.

With only a week until graduation, the clock of opportunity keeps ticking so get those resumes and cover letters in and begin your career in the working world.

# ASCWU-BOD addresses year's accomplishments

by Rachel Thomson  
Asst. news editor

Achievements and challenges for the current and newly-elected student board of directors were presented at the ASCWUBOD state of the university address last Friday.

"Last year's board had a lot of problems communicating with administration and staff," said Lucas Westcoat, student body president. "Our [BOD] first objective was to rebuild those bridges and relationships."

According to Westcoat, one of the ways the BOD accomplished this was by creating a new code of ethics for elected board members to be held accountable to. Prior to this year, the BOD had no such code.

"The current board has done a wonderful job establishing lines of communication," said Jerilyn McIntyre, Central's president. "They set the bar really high and the greatest challenge for next year's board is to continue to build on that."

Another reason for the BOD's success, according to Westcoat, was holding regular meetings with different clubs and organizations throughout the university.

"Just seeing student representatives care about what they're doing really yielded a positive outcome," Westcoat

said.

Westcoat said one of his major accomplishments as president this year was appointing a new director of community affairs. The director's responsibility is to work with city entities to discuss issues affecting students. He cites the bike helmet law proposition as one of those issues.

"We brought information to the board and created an effective argument for students," Westcoat said.

The law originally required all citizens to wear helmets but because of students' efforts, the law only requires those under 16 years old to wear one.

Other accomplishments mentioned in the address included Central's lobby for more tuition waiver authority in the state legislature, the planning of the Senior Celebration, and the setting aside of \$3,000 of S&A funding to jump-start next year's board activities for the transition from summer to fall.

"It's going to be a seamless transition from this board to the next," said Westcoat. However, "As much as our association has improved, it is not without future challenges."

Improving representation at university centers, making affordable, predictable tuition rates and increasing financial aid proportionally with tuition increases are a few of the expected challenges the new BOD will face, according to the address.

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Jenn Turner

You've heard it at least a thousand times.

"You'll do better next time."

Some people actually do

learn from their mistakes. I assume they continue on, leading fulfilling and successful lives. But what about the rest of us who make the same mistakes time and time again with no clue as to why or how?

Some of us have lived our whole lives under the delusion that is perfection. We see the magazine clips, the television images, we read the crisp and colorful scenes; but they are only that — images, and nothing more. These facades are constructed and edited and in our reality they do not actually exist. They are comparable to ghosts.

Yet we compare and hold ourselves up to this notion of perfection. It makes absolutely no sense to me. I guess what I'm saying is that right now I am struggling with how to find a way to explain to my generally supportive and understanding parents why I won't be graduating next Saturday. I know there are other

people in my position. I wonder what they've told their parents.

Yes, I've been here four years. No, I am not an idiot (although I know a handful of you that would probably disagree). I'm just not ready.

It's not that I haven't tried. I've made myself crazy with sleep deprivation, starvation and obsessing over other's people's expectations for me. And do you know what I've finally come to realize?

It's okay to just be okay.

education, ship us students off to school and expect us to return, four years to the day, in our caps and gowns, with an encyclopedia where our brain used to be and a fistful of job offers. But it just isn't that simple.

Don't get me wrong. I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to pursue what interests me, in lieu of joining the work force straight out of high school, and I haven't taken the time I've spent at Central for granted.

I absolutely adore the people in my life and will always cherish the experiences I've had with them.

But on the other hand I also feel a tremendous amount of pressure. Sometimes it seems like someone handed me a ticket and said "Go choose what you want to be for the rest of your life — you can choose from almost anything, but be careful because you only have one shot." Maybe that's why I push graduation further and further out of sight.

Or maybe, just maybe, people have overestimated my potential and I actually am working to the best of my abilities. Either way, right now all I'm concerned with is pursuing what's best for me and what feels right. I think that might mean coming to terms with being just "okay."

Jenn Turner is the Editor-in-Chief and can be reached at [tunerj@cwu.edu](mailto:tunerj@cwu.edu)

# OBSERVANCE

Mediocrity is okay!

I'm not saying that you should never try because, let's be realistic, perfection in most cases is not attainable. What I am saying is a recent realization I've come to. These four to six to fill-in-the-blank years we spend here aren't actually about grades or GPA. It comes down to the experiences you'll have with the people you meet and the subsequent skills you'll obtain. People stress far too much about getting that 'A' or spending 78 hours on that final project.

I feel like parents, especially those that haven't participated in higher

# Opinion

## Thumbs Up

- \* Meatball sandwiches
- \* Aderol, Diet Coke
- \* The Oprah show
- \* Graduation!
- \* Robber's Roost pizza
- \* Ice cream from Winegars
- \* Burgers from the Tav
- \* Kanye West
- \* Last Observer of the quarter
- \* Seeing bunnies in downtown Ellensburg

## Thumbs Down

- \* \$8 beers
- \* Summer classes
- \* Back arthritis at 22
- \* Skanky women
- \* Studying for finals
- \* Crappy weather in the spring
- \* Change in general
- \* John Basedow
- \* Leaving your friends behind after graduation

-contributed by Observer Staff

# the observer staff

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Listed below are the deadlines for the Observer. The Observer office, located in Bouillon 222, is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Submissions can be brought to the office, e-mailed to [Observer@cwu.edu](mailto:Observer@cwu.edu), mailed to Observer at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.

## NEWS

- Friday, 5 p.m. - Entertainment, meetings, calendar events.
- Monday, 3 p.m. - Weekend sports information.
- Monday, 5 p.m. - Letters to the editor.

## ADVERTISING

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

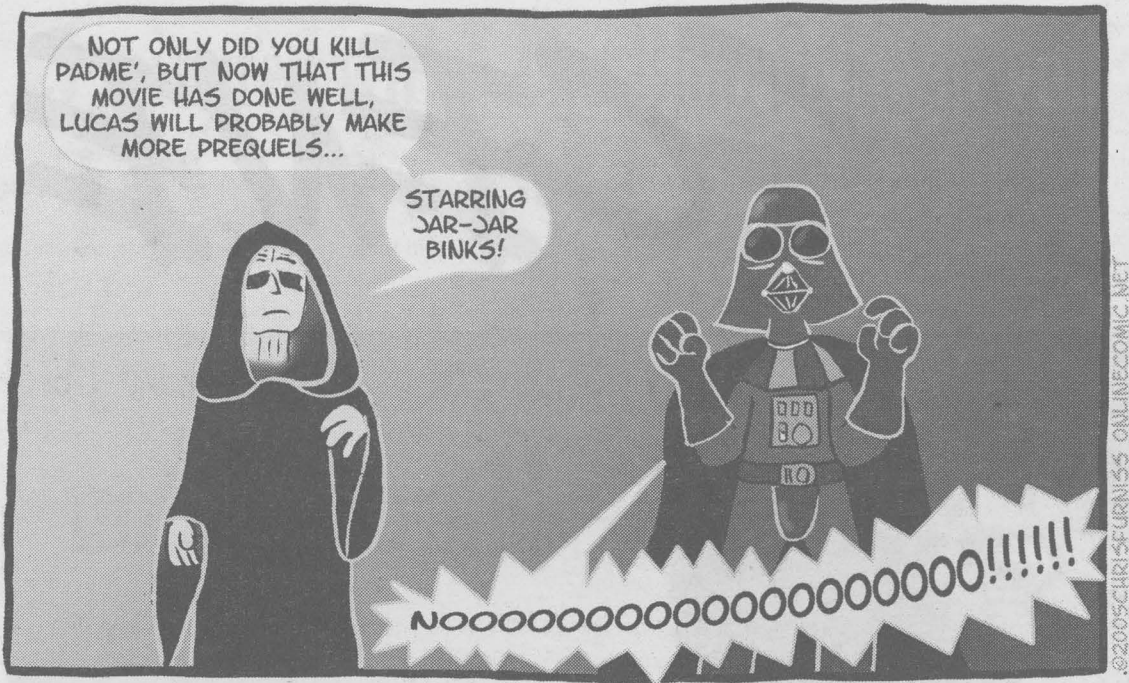
The Observer welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday before the week of publication. Letters must be typewritten and less than 300 words.

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 98926-7435; [observer@cwu.edu](mailto:observer@cwu.edu) or by fax to (509) 963-1027.





## WANTED: new cartoonist

for fall '05 and beyond!

\*Chris Furniss will no longer be the Observer's cartoonist at the end of this quarter and we need to continue the comic tradition! This is a chance to have the "artist's eye!"

\*If you think you have what it takes, e-mail your submissions to [observer@cmv.edu](mailto:observer@cmv.edu).

## letters to the editor

### Love or hate it? Hate it

I would just like to comment on your last week's paper. Over the years I have been a student here, you have nearly weekly proven to me that the quality of *The Observer* is low and going even lower. This last week's paper, I must say, was by far the worst and most pointless paper I've ever seen.

I used to pick up your paper every week just to see if I could actually learn something, but consistently you have proven otherwise. I personally just wanted to tell you that I have slowly come to the point where I don't even read them anymore. It is highly unprofessional and lacks quality information and worthy articles.

Thank you for making the front page communicate the contents so well that I knew not to even bother reading it. Actually, it was quite offensive.

I have spoken with several students and faculty and members of the community who don't even touch your paper anymore for the same reasons.

So, your slogan isn't exactly working, guys. Love it or hate it, you know you're losing readers. That's all

I have to say.....very disappointing.

And you should thank me for actually sharing my opinion as well, because if your readers aren't happy and aren't even reading anymore, maybe you should change something.

**Lisl Nixon**  
senior, music performance

### Reader gives thumbs down

Regarding your new tag line: "Love It or Hate It...We Know You Read It."

I've been planning to tell you that I like the new layout, and that you all were doing a good job. That was just after the first issue this quarter. You know how life is, I just kept forgetting to write in.

Then there were the photographs on the cover two weeks ago. Interesting choice. A little edgy. OK, that's not my thing, but whatever.

Then came Jenn Turner's "opinion" piece last week. I agree that hate crimes are appalling. But so are ALL violent crimes! And non-violent crimes, for that matter. So I should be ashamed because I didn't get all worked up about it?

The final straw is last week's cover art. There is no value to these

photos other than to shock the reader. When did *The Observer* strive to become *The Stranger*? Since when does the First Amendment (which is the argument I am nearly certain will come up...) negate responsibility?

Responsibility to the tuition-and-fee paying students who do not share the values of the editorial staff of this STUDENT newspaper? When did conservative values become intolerance? Why are my values less valid than yours? If you are gay, that's fine. It's your life. Why must you put it in my face? I really don't care. I know I am not alone.

I thought there was hope, when I read the headline about students balancing school and kids. Nope. Missed again. This story was less about a non-traditional student, and more about Planned Parenthood.

Where is the story about students (like me) who are truly balancing family and children, with school? There is a story worth writing. But that might be too much work, and it is certainly not shocking enough.

It's time to grow up, now. You are journalists. Act like it. This is not a newspaper. This is a rag. (Sorry, Cynthia Mitchell! I know there's nothing you can do about it.)

**Kristine Foreman**  
senior human resources management major

## Citizens on the borders

Illegal immigration is one of the hottest issues burning in Americans' minds. One debate I have been hearing a lot about is the vigilante movement to protect the U.S. border along Mexico.

One group among many on the border is called the Minutemen. This group of citizens gathered in Arizona last month to patrol the border and send illegal immigrants home. This might be a great way to stop illegal immigrants from crossing into the United States.

The Border Patrol spends millions each year, using high-tech equipment and thousands of personnel to capture people. Border Patrol agents must be highly trained and fluent in Spanish before they patrol, and still thousands of people cross over.

Students probably have not heard about the incidents of abuse by groups of citizens like the Minutemen. According to the Border Action Network, there have been thousands of incidents reported about people being dragged by their hair, beaten by night sticks and even shot at during their crossings.

The Minutemen are nothing new; there are several groups that have been actively patrolling the border and committing abuses against illegal immigrants as well as Mexican American citizens. These groups have also been advocated by many neo-Nazi and hate groups.

I'll break for a minute to say I don't

think every citizen that volunteers to patrol the border is a racist. That is like saying that every immigrant that comes to the U.S. is here to commit a violent act, traffic drugs or take advantage of our freedoms. That is not the case, but it should be questioned whether it's a good idea that citizens

armed with guns and clubs should be left to patrol border areas with the assumption that nothing bad will happen. We should also ask how these groups are handling illegals and, when captured, are these groups accountable for human rights violations?

I think these groups are not accountable for abuses and need to be stopped or heavily regulated. I am not saying to do nothing about the illegal immigration problem. Instead of building walls or pouring money into the ineffective Border Patrol, we should look at improving identification programs and opportunities for workers to have some legal status, which is being done, but has flaws.

For those who complain that illegal immigrants are abusing health care programs and Social Security, remember that these people do pay taxes. In fact, according to an article in the New York Times, illegal immigrants paid roughly \$7 billion to Social Security last year and \$1.5 billion to Medicare.

Hand it to the Americans to want to do what the government is failing to do, but nothing good can come from allowing angry people to wander the desert hunting for Mexicans.



**Joe Castro**  
News editor

## PERMIT: Sendoff promises safe alternative to Senior Golf; no beer garden

◀ continued from 2

was Senior Golf into something safe and responsible. Now that dream may die because of a permit.

You may wonder what power you have in a situation like this as students and community members. Well, this year we have seen an unprecedented level of cooperation between the Ellensburg City Council and the student body.

I whole-heartedly believe that in this council we have advocates who are willing to stand up for the safety and welfare of their constituents and all they need to hear is the voice of our campus and of this community.

The City Council can be reached by calling (509)-962-7220 or by e-mailing them at [CityCouncil@ci.ellensburg.wa.us](mailto:CityCouncil@ci.ellensburg.wa.us). So my fellow Wildcats, let's dash the image of apathy that exists regarding the young men and women of our generation and show this community a vision of a student body that cares about the community where they live...let this be your call to arms.

### Thank You

First and foremost I want to thank the Daily Record staff for tolerating our craziness this quarter. I also want to thank my advisors Cynthia Mitchell, Lois Breedlove and Christine Page for their endless support. Thanks also to my parents and siblings, for always reading. Aaron Miller, Tamra Himmelman, Doreen Harrington, Allison White, Rachel Guillermond and Jon Mentzer — you have been my support system this quarter and I could not have done it without you. My amazing editorial, advertising and distribution staff, you guys exceed my expectations and keep me looking forward to the coming quarters. Huge thanks go to the reporters and photogs. You guys do all the grunt work and don't get nearly enough credit but I love you for it and without you there would be no Observer. Big thanks go out to each of the businesses that buy our ad space, it's you guys who have kept us afloat all of these years! Also to all of the readers, thank you for picking up *The Observer*, even if it was only for a minute. Last but definitely not least, I want to thank the Lord for allowing me to have this incredible opportunity.

-Jenn Turner, Editor-in-Chief

## The Cover

This week:

The image was provided by Chris Gianunzio.

Design was handled by the Mighty Raccoon Trifecta.



**Allison White**  
Fall 2005  
Editor-in-Chief

Sign up for the Observer  
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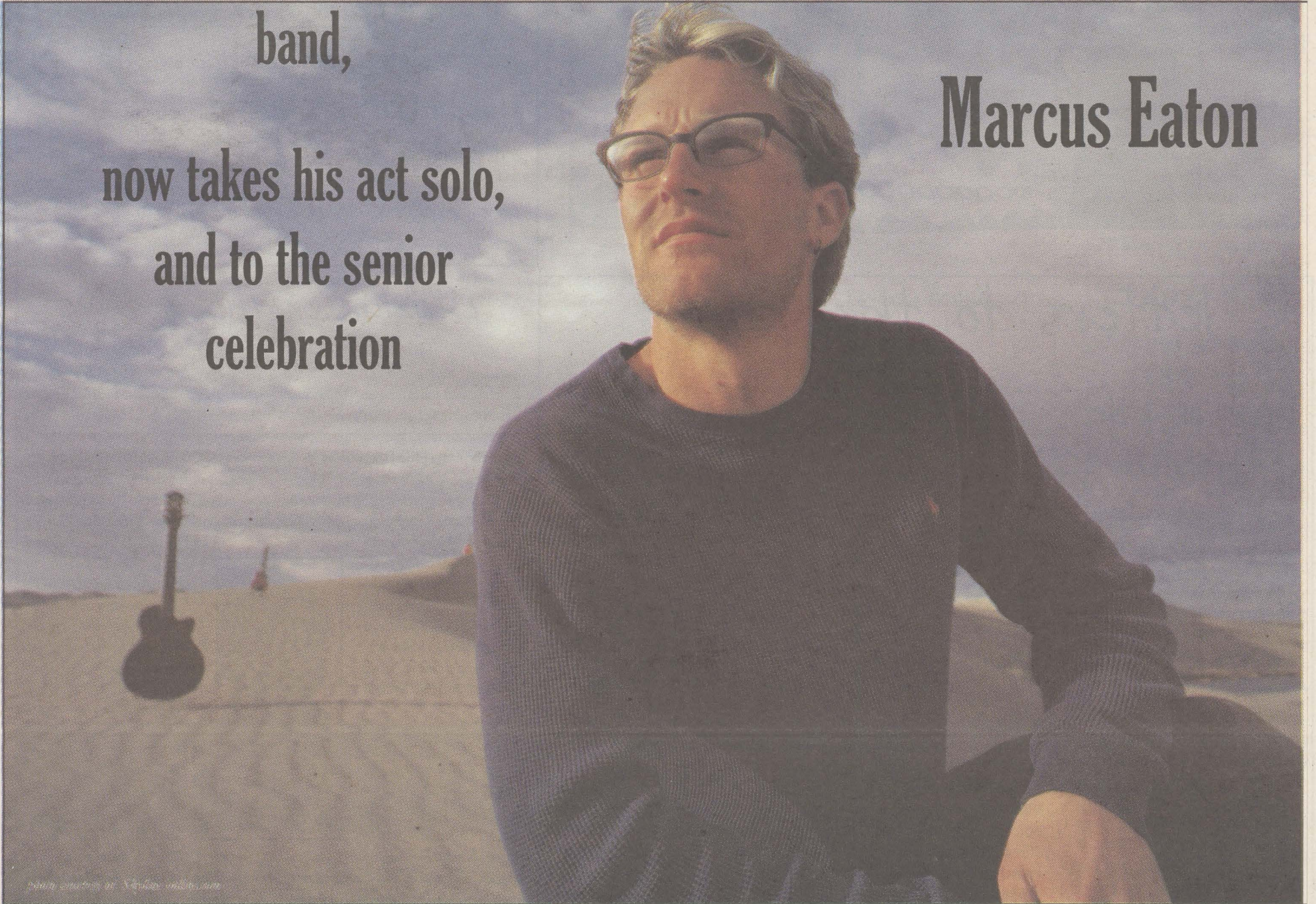
Reporters are always welcome!



## SCENE

After eight years with his  
band,  
now takes his act solo,  
and to the senior  
celebration

Marcus Eaton



by Brent Littlejohn  
Staff reporter

Senior Golf had been a problem year after year, and finally Central Washington University decided to do something about it. A large budget was put together in hopes of having a day-long celebration with food, beverage and music, all topped off with a popular headlining band. The event is to take the place of Senior Golf this year and if all goes well, in the years to come.

Marcus Eaton will be playing on the evening of June 4th at Central's first ever Senior Celebration. Although Eaton may not be a household name, many believe he has the potential to soon become one.

Annie Phelps, junior business administration major, has been a fan of Eaton's for a long time.

"Marcus Eaton opened for Jason Mraz in June of 2003 at the Roseland in Portland," Phelps said. "He's a very

talented guitar player with a great voice."

Hailing from our neighboring state of Idaho, Eaton is best known for his time with his last band The Lobby. They were signed to a label branching off of MCA, that ended when Universal purchased it all as a package.

"His CD that was released when he was still with the band is full of very catchy songs," Phelps said.

Now Eaton is taking a different route, playing as a solo artist. When he plays in Ellensburg, however, he'll be backed by a full band.

Derrick Peters, ASCWU executive vice president, helped book the band and is excited about them coming.

"Right now (Eaton) is in the recording studio with Tim Reynolds, Sting's bassist and another guy on drums," Peters said.

Tim Reynolds is a famous musician who's collaborated with multiple artists including Dave Matthews. Some believe

that Reynolds might show his presence at this weekend's concert.

"We don't know for sure," Peters said, "but we think there's a chance they might all be coming with Eaton for the show."

If Eaton does bring his famous friends, the show will end up being a steal.

"If that's the case, I'm stoked," Peters said.

Other bands and musicians will be filling the earlier hours of the celebration, including Bill and the G-Strings, Translated, Below Average, Pick Pocket, Oxbow Scar and Blue Scholars.

Blue Scholars is the biggest act behind Eaton. They are a two-piece hip-hop group, consisting of Geologic on Vocals, and Sabzi on turntables. They've shared the stage with De La Soul, Del the Funky Homosapien, and

see Eaton, page 10 ▶

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WHAT  
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BLUE SCHOLAR:  
THE SEATTLE BAND  
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COLORS OF  
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COLORS  
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# 5 minutes with...The Blue Scholars

by Rachel Guillerma  
Scene editor

The mass of bodies pulse to the crushing beat of the music and looming over the crowd is MC Geo, encouraging them to push faster, with more fury, and to go out of their freaking minds. Welcome to Senior Celebration, with the Blue Scholars' leading the way.

Blue Scholars is a Hip-Hop group based out of Seattle. Alexi Saba Mohajerjasi, aka DJ Sabzi, and George Quibuyen, aka MC Geo, both attended the University of Washington where their common interest for underground music led to the group's existence. Before their big debut in Ellensburg, I got to interview DJ Sabzi to get an inside look into Blue Scholars' underground world.

**Q:** Can you tell me little about your musical background?

**A:** I started playing piano at a young age. And I played saxophone as

well as the clarinet. I played in a jazz band in high school and I used to listen to a lot of hip-hop in elementary and junior high. I tried to rap. And failed miserably. Somewhere around '96, I really started to get disconnected to the hip-hop world in general. Because the music was not as tight as it used to be. I started going to a lot of underground punk-rock shows. That was about what time I discovered the independent music scene. So I really really got into that regardless to what form it took.

**Q:** How did you and Geo come together?

**A:** Back in 1999 a group called the Student Hip-Hop Organization of Washington was formed (The SHOW). Marc, our manager, founded it and Geo and myself were members of the group. I knew Geo through that activity for a few years and then in 2002 after he heard a beat CD that I had distributed. He contacted me through Marc. So we goofed around a little bit, just to have some fun with it while we're not

really doing anything else. We started to record some tracks but eventually we started to work more seriously and became much better friends in the process. And as a result the music has evolved to kind of what it is.

**Q:** When did you start making beats?

**A:** Officially I'd say around 2000, well before that say like around '97. Ever since I figured out how to do electric music on the computer. I used Cake Walk, and I used to write music for punks and Ska bands I used to be in. So I experimented a lot with just kind of being a composer and producer in early high school.

**Q:** Who are your musical influences?

**A:** It ranges from folks like NOFX, Charles Mingus and 2Pac. Oh, especially Roger Troutman.

**Q:** How do you feel about the music you create?

**A:** I'm glad people like it! It's kind of humbling because in a way I feel like



photo courtesy of Blue Scholars

DJ Savzi (right) and MC Geo (left) form Blue Scholars. Their official album re-release party is June 17 at Chop Suey in Seattle.

the music Geo and I create is something other folks are able to draw inspiration from which why they like it. The reason why someone might like a song is not necessarily the reason I intended when I produced the beat or when Geo wrote the lyrics. So in a way I see

myself as merely being someone that is able to channel something. I look at myself as being influenced by a lot of other great musicians and good musical teaches I've had. Now I am able to create something other people like. I don't necessarily take full credit for.



## THE COLORS OF CENTRAL

by Caitlin Rainsberry  
Staff reporter

### What Could Have Been

Imagine Wildcat athletes wearing blue jerseys on their backs or fans sporting blue sweatshirts and caps symbolizing their support for Central Washington University.

This wouldn't have been a figment of our imagination if the history surrounding Central's chosen colors had gone any differently.

### The True Story

It all began nearly 114 years ago when Central, known back then as the Washington State Normal School, formally opened on September 6, 1891. Four years later, in 1895, a committee was appointed to determine the school's colors. The committee recommended blue, but apparently no action was taken.

There is no known reason why blue wasn't proclaimed as the school color, but it wasn't for another nine years that the topic of school colors would be discussed again.

In 1901, the faculty decided to tackle the situation once again and chose cardinal as the color, but for practical

purposes red was to be used. This time the decision stuck and led the school to adopt the present crimson - shade of red.

The exact reason and meaning behind why red was chosen is unsure but Dan Jack, executive director of the Alumni Association and director of Alumni Relations, said, "I think it had something to do with loyalty and life."

For nearly a decade, red was the only color used and recognized as a representation of the Washington State Normal School. However in 1910, the student body determined the crimson letters should be mounted on a black background.

### The Many Colors of Red

Central's colors have varied slightly throughout the years. If you take a close look at historical memorabilia, "the red Central uses ranges from a purple/red to a bright red," said Bret Bleggi, director of Central graphics productions. "Historically the altering of colors probably had to do with what was available from vendors. The colors weren't consistent from vendor to vendor."

Today, the color variations depend more on clothing and home fashions, the current color trend and the cus-

tomers' preference over what vendors can offer.

"The graphics production department tries to stay as close to the official color when it comes to publications," Bleggi said. "In print, the official red tends to be a little bit darker than on clothing where the red appears brighter."

However, the colors used in clothing, with Central signage showcased on it, varies greatly by what is popular, what is selling and what the customers like.

"People are affected by color very much subconsciously," Bleggi said.

### Wellington, The Wildcat the unknown history

The wildcat was adopted in 1926 as the official team mascot for the Washington State Normal School.

Why a wildcat was chosen is unknown, as is the use of the name Wellington.

"Maybe it's because of where we live," Jack said.

*Reporters note: A majority of this information was obtained from Dan Jack and the book by Samuel R. Mobler entitled The First 75 Years, A history of Central Washington State College.*

## Senior Celebration Timeline

### Time

### Event

12:40

Akademix

1:00

Bill & The G-Strings

1:40

Akademix

2:00

Below Average

2:40

Akademix

3:00

Pick Pocket

3:40

Akademix

4:00

Translated

4:40

Akademix

5:00

Oxbow Scar

5:40

Akademix

6:00

Blue Scholars

7:00

Akademix

7:30

Marcus Eaton & Special Guests

8:00

Marcus Eaton & Special Guests

To all the loyal readers of the Scene section, I bid you a farewell. This will be my last issue as Scene editor. I hope you've enjoyed reading it.  
-RG

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## Pick your poison...

### RANDOM THOUGHTS OF A SINGLE LAD

**Where's the rest go?** — So the committee in charge of the Senior Golf/Celebration didn't bag a band that costs \$25,000, which was its budget. They got Marcus Eaton playing for around 7 Gs. That's great, at least there will be someone. For how short of notice they were giving bands (mostly because of not knowing its budget until late) it could have been a lot worse. But now where's the rest of the money go to? Of course you need to pay the staff, production and other elements of the event, but they were going to have to do that whether they booked a \$3,000 band, or someone for the full 25. Why don't we take that money, some \$18,000ish and book a big band for the fall? Most bands do a fall tour, there's plenty of time to find one at this point and people are burnt out by spring anyway, making the autumn a better choice to begin with. Like I said, getting Marcus Eaton is sweet, I hope he puts on an excellent show, but let's kick the new academic year off with a bang. In my book, (and I just looked it up for verification) two shows are better than one.

**Bigfoot rocked my socks** — While we're on the subject of



**Brent Littlejohn**  
Staff reporter

music, did any of you attend Sasquatch? I did and fully enjoyed the event. Though not important to my point, The Dears stole the show, and my heart. Nothing like a burly, 30-something black dude, that looks like a British pirate, rocking out on stage with a super pregnant keyboardist. Sasquatch had a gang of 84,500 workers roaming around, all looking for illegal beverage drinking. No drinking beer without ID or wrist band, no drinking drinks from the bar outside the bar area, no beer after 8:30 p.m., no chugging your beer without pants on and no bringing your own booze. With so many ways to get busted at Sasquatch, I only managed to notice one safe way to get messed up; smoke marijuana openly and obviously while a band plays. During Wilco and Kanye West alone, I'd see a big cloud of smoke pop up every 15 to 30 seconds. And not once did I see someone do anything about it. Sure there were too many to bust them all, and obviously alcohol could harm you more than a bit of cheeba in the 95 degree weather. But it's still illegal. It really seemed like an extreme case of "pick your poison," and this time, the drunks got the shaft.

## EATON: Headlining the Senior Celebration party.

◀ continued from 8

even Pedro the Lion. Most recently, Blue Scholars played the Yeti stage at this year's Sasquatch music festival.

With the Blue Scholars playing, the event will appeal to a wider range of music lovers. No matter your musical taste, be it rap, rock, indie or acoustic, there should be something for everyone.

"Having an opportunity to see any band play in Ellensburg is something everyone should take advantage of,"

Phelps said. "As for seeing Marcus Eaton play in Ellensburg, I'd say it's a must."

The Senior Celebration will take place at 4th and Ruby in downtown Ellensburg. Music is from 1 to 9 p.m., with other activities from 2 to 6 p.m. Eaton, with or without an extended band, should put on an exciting show packed with energy.

And even if you don't like his style, there are plenty of other reasons to attend.

"It's always fun to watch a good guitar player," Phelps said.

## Famous Central grads, will you be one?

by Carter Thomas  
Staff reporter

It's the dream of many Central Washington University students: to graduate, get a real job and trade in their Top Ramen for some real chow. Though nowhere near as selective as Yale or prestigious as Stanford, Central has racked up quite a few graduates in high places over the years.

According to the official list of famous Wildcat graduates and the records of distinguished alumni award recipients, this school has been the stomping grounds for everyone from sports stars to brave service people.

One name that many students on campus know is Jon Kitna. Kitna graduated from Central in 1996, and went on to become the quarterback of the Barcelona Dragons.

He earned Most Valuable Player in

the victory over Reign Fire. He had a 74.2 completion percentage (a game record), and later went on to be the starting quarterback for the Seattle Seahawks. Kitna now plays for the Cincinnati Bengals.

Annette M. Sandberg graduated from Central in 1983, and immediately applied to be on the Washington State Patrol. She was hired onto the force and five years later was named Trooper of the Year for King County.

In 1995, Sandberg was appointed head of the Washington State Patrol by Governor Mike Lowry, making her the first woman in the U.S. to head a state police agency. She was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award for Central in 1998.

"In talking to these individuals, we find them very interesting and passionate about Central Washington University," said Dan Jack, director of the Alumni Association. "This seems

to be something very important to them."

But don't expect the names of famous Central grads to stop anytime soon. Seniors getting ready to graduate this spring and next fall have big plans, and are planning to make it onto this list shortly.

Leigh Fernandez, senior primate behavior, ecology and psychology major, plans to graduate fall quarter of next year.

According to Fernandez, she will be spending this summer studying primates in China, as well as searching for a school to continue her education.

"I'm looking into grad school right now. I'm hopefully going to get my PhD somewhere on the East Coast," Fernandez said. "I'm wicked excited about the prospect of going to grad school."



## Cell phones: they are not worth it

Ten years ago I hardly noticed cell phones. You would see them in movies or with men in business suits. They used to be so big and bulky. Today, most people can't imagine talking on a phone that is bigger than their palm.

It amazes me how many times people ask for my cell phone number and when I mention I don't have one, the look on their faces is priceless.

They think I'm from some third-world country and cannot function properly if I don't own a cell phone.

I admit, I used to have a cell phone. I was one of those people in high school who just wouldn't be cool if I didn't have one.

My parents thought it was a ridiculous idea, but they said I could have one if I paid for it. I spent all my money on that damn phone and because of that I came to college with only a few hundred dollars.

I had my cell phone until last November, when I realized all my money was going to pay for my phone. I was spending \$80 a month because I never seemed to have enough minutes,

ring tones or games.

It was hard to give it up. Everyone told me they could never live without their cell phones. I am still alive and I don't miss it as much as I thought I would. A cell phone is nice to have in emergencies, but I haven't come across many emergencies in Ellensburg.

When I walked down the main walkway to Bouillon Hall the other day, I counted 29 people on their cell phones and it was only 9 a.m. Who needs to be talking to people that early anyway?

It also amuses me when I am at work at Tunstall Dining Hall. I can't believe how many people walk in there on their phones and point to the food while they're yelling at someone on the other end.

I notice a lot of people eat alone, then halfway through their meal I think they get lonely, so they call someone. People seem to think that if they're on the phone, it's not embarrassing for them to be sitting alone. But I didn't want to pay \$80 a month to call friends when I was lonely.

One of my biggest pet peeves is when a cell phone goes off in class. I will admit, I had my phone go off in class once or twice. But what about those people whose cell phones go off at least once a week, if not more? Don't they know how to turn it off or at least put it on vibrate?

What about those ring tones? Some people personalize their ring tones to their favorite song. I know people who have missed calls at parties because they think it's just the music.

Don't even get me started on drunk dialing. When people are drunk, they feel the need to call every person in their phone book and it quickly becomes one of their hobbies. It's not fun to get a phone call at 2 a.m. from a drunk person yelling in your ear.

I'll admit the person who invented cell phones was a genius. It was a brilliant idea, considering there are 1.5 billion cell phone subscribers globally. I just don't understand why almost every person needs one. So, are they really worth it? I'm not telling you to get rid of your cell phone.

Some people can afford it, but next time someone tells you that she doesn't have a cell phone, don't look at her like you've seen a ghost.



**Heather Watkins**  
Staff reporter

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## JUNE

- 4 107.7 THE END PRESENTS ENDFEST 14 AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 11 LEEANN WOMACK AT THE PUYALLUP FAIRGROUNDS
- ROLLING STONES AT THE KEY ARENA
- 14 MICHAEL BUBLE PARAMOUNT THEATER
- 18 BROOKS & DUNN AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 24 GIN BLOSSOMS US BANK CONCERT AT MARYMOORE IN REDMOND
- 25 KENNY CHESNEY AT THE TACOMA DOME

## JULY

- 7 KENNY ROGERS AT THE YAKIMA NATION'S LEGEND CASINO
- 9 VAN'S WARPED TOUR '05 AT THE GORGE AMPHITHEATER
- 10 ALANIS MORISSETTE AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE
- 17 ANGER MANAGEMENT TOUR 3 AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 23 KUBE 93 SUMMER JAM '05 AT THE GORGE AMPHITHEATER
- 30 MOTLEY CRUE AT THE WHITE RIVER AMPHITHEATER

## AUGUST

- 8 AVRIL LAVIGNE AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 11 OZZFEST 2005 AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 13 JACK JOHNSON AT THE GORGE AMPHITHEATER
- 16 COLDPLAY AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER
- 19-21 DAVE MATTHEWS BAND WITH NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS AT THE GORGE AMPHITHEATER
- 31 EARTH WIND & FIRE WITH CHICAGO AT THE WHITERIVER AMPHITHEATER

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# Saying Goodbye to Central

## GRADUATING SENIORS TELL THE WHOAS AND OHS OF THEIR DAYS AT CENTRAL Moving on with few regrets Done with studying, onto the great outdoors

by Kelsey Wheeler  
Staff reporter

As June 11 draws near, the graduation buzz and excitement surrounds seniors like Nicole Tabert, sociology and family studies double major. Tabert, like many others, will graduate from Central Washington University next weekend and leave homework to the underclassmen.

Tabert graduated from Snohomish High School in June 2000 and attended a small college in Oregon.

"That wasn't a good year," Tabert said. She decided to transfer to Central and is pleased she did. Tabert had a lot of fun and late nights her first year.

"My roommate and I were dorks.

We'd stay up late hanging out, visiting with friends and singing to Moulin Rouge. One night we [toilet papered] our friend's door...just the door because it was a dorm," Tabert said.

Those late nights weren't Tabert's most exciting memories.

"I got married! That would probably take the cake," Tabert said.

Nicole married Marcus Tabert on Dec. 18, 2004 and they spent Christmas vacation honeymooning in Puerto Vallarta.

"Coming back to school was not so nice," Tabert said.

Tabert feels grateful for her time here.

"[My major] helped me in life in general not just a specific career. I think I'll be a better person for it. I've done that whole cliché 'find myself' thing," Tabert said.

Years of college life weren't just

spent doing schoolwork. One night during her sophomore year, Tabert and her friends decided to go camping, but the weather turned bad. So they roasted marshmallows over a burner in the courtyard by their dorms, and set up a tent in one of the dorm rooms.

"My friend had one of those white noise tapes that plays the sounds of a creek and stuff," Tabert said.

A lot of Tabert's time at college was also spent on her passion for music.

"I like that I can express my emotions [through singing] and hopefully reach people. It's kind of a stress reliever," Tabert said.

Tabert does have some advice

for freshmen.

"Study abroad! Do it the first two years or else you won't," Tabert said.

Tabert regrets not studying abroad. She also encourages freshmen to major in something even if they don't know what they want to do.

"So many of my friends my sophomore year dropped out because they didn't know what to major in. Now they can't advance career wise, but don't have money to go back to school," Tabert said.

Tabert is anxious for graduation but never thought she'd get this far.

"I don't think I've realized the magnitude of my accomplishment," Tabert said. "[College has given me] a desire to keep on learning throughout life. I'm glad I'm more aware of the world and myself."

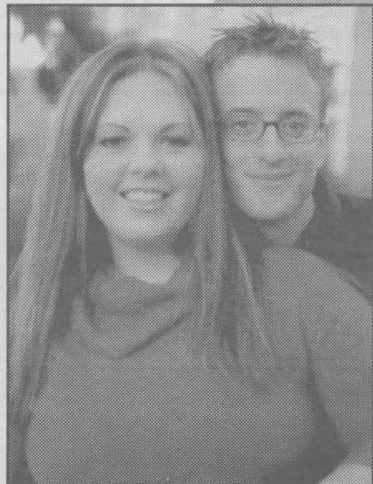


photo courtesy of Nicole Tabert

by Heidi Corbin  
Staff reporter

When it comes to having a social life, being an excellent student and graduating on time, Garrett Grubbs is on top of his game. Grubbs, an East Wenatchee native, came to Central Washington University two years ago, after completing his first two years at Wenatchee Valley Community College. He is a business administration major with a specialty in marketing.

Grubbs is thrilled to be graduating next week, but does not find it important enough to walk at the graduation ceremony on June 11. He may be one of the many students watching his own graduation on TV and sipping on his favorite beer.

Grubbs will miss the great friends he has made here at Central.

"I'm not quite ready to grow up and leave the community," Grubbs said. "I like Ellensburg, and will miss it."

One of Grubbs' fondest memories was created two weeks ago at Wing

Central. Grubbs is a devoted Wing Central fan, and joined the Beer 101 Club. Two weeks ago, May 19, Grubbs became a Beer 101 Graduate at Wing Central.

"I drank a total of 101 beers since becoming a member of the club," Grubbs said. "I got a mug, but the best part was singing karaoke with Jim, the owner."

After graduation, Grubbs will be the manager at Slidewaters in Lake Chelan during the summer. Once the summer is over, instead of looking for a career right away, Grubbs will be enjoying the outdoors.

"I want to do a lot of hunting and fishing before I jump into any kind of career. I need to take a break for a while," Grubbs said.

When hunting season is over and the job search begins, Grubbs dreams of working in the hunting and fishing industry somehow. Whether it is selling hunting gear, teaching people how to fish or managing a store, he will be happy. His biggest dream is to one day own a hunting and fishing lodge that

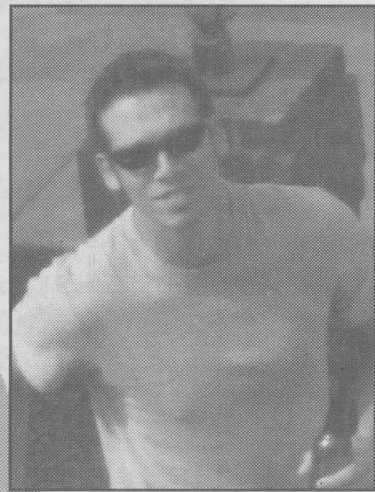


photo courtesy of Garrett Grubbs

will be strictly used to accommodate hunters and fishers on their hunting getaways.

Grubbs has a few words of advice for remaining and incoming students. From the graduate himself, Grubbs says, "Always drink in moderation, moderation is the key. And don't be afraid to do your own thing. Don't worry about what others think, just be

## CONSTRUCTING A NEW FUTURE

by Billie Foster  
Staff reporter

For Colin Dana senioritis has hit. With just a few days left of his college career at Central Washington University, Dana will soon move onto bigger things.

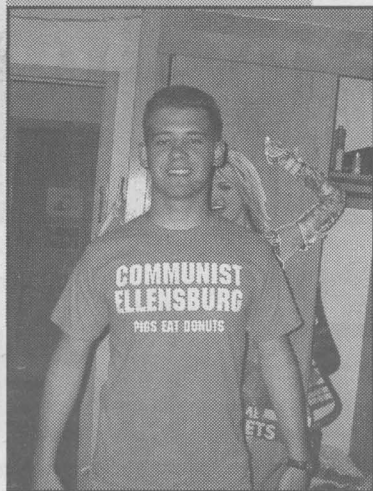
Dana came to Central in the fall of 2001. He's put in his four years and will be getting a degree in business administration with a specialization in human resources management.

Although senioritis has kicked in, Dana found time to kick it into high gear this quarter and start job searching, between the occasional Halo playing and studying.

He was successful and now has a job lined up with General Construction Co. and will be working somewhere along the west coast.

"It was a three-and-a-half-hour interview process," Dana said.

In bidding adieu to Central, one of several things Dana will miss is People's



Casey Wagner/Observer

Pond. At the pond you can find him in constant motion swinging off the rope swing and taking in a little swimming.

Another thing Dana will miss are the friends he has made over the years. However, one thing he won't miss is getting stalked by the police.

While driving back to his dorm

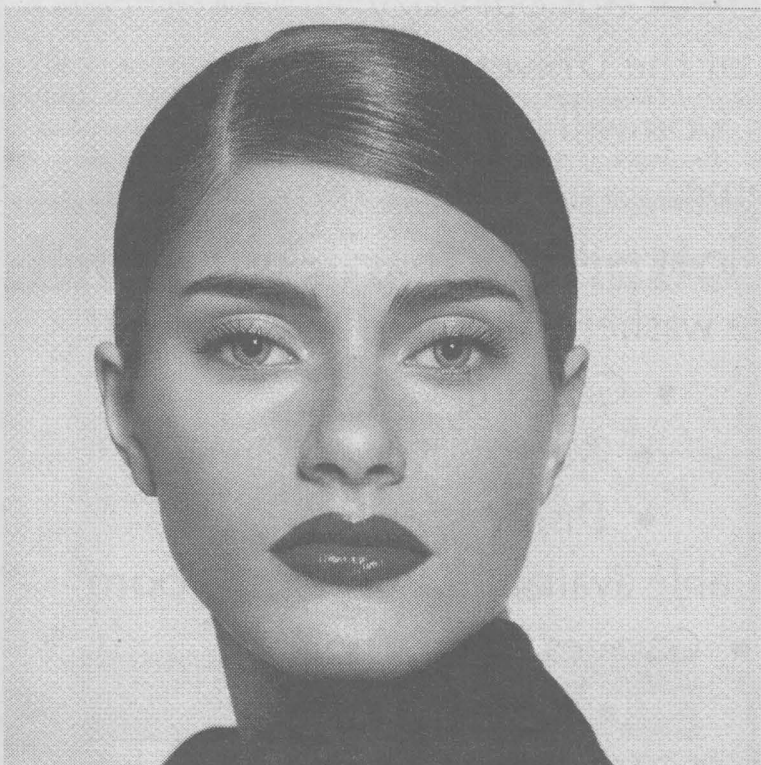
from the library during finals week one winter quarter, Dana got pulled over for not having a license plate.

"During the conversation with the police officer I was asked to step out of the vehicle. He then asked me what was in the bag that was sitting on the passenger's seat. I told him books! He then asked if I had weapons. Oh...no, I don't have weapons. Then the officer left," Dana said. "Be careful of communist Ellensburg, there is one cop per student."

When it comes to deciding on a major Dana's advice is to, "ask for results, ask for the demand and what the salary would be."

This is how he decided on specializing in human resources - it gave him figures, which is what he wanted. He chose to go into business because you can get a job anywhere with a business degree.

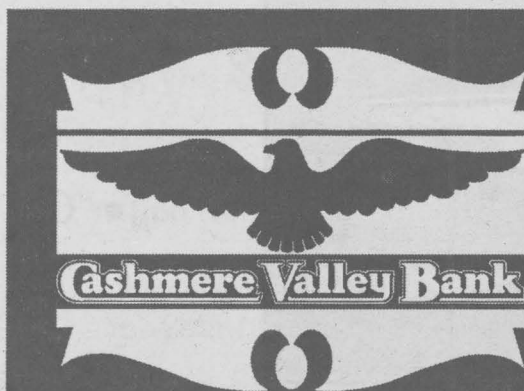
"Stick out the four years and don't give up," Dana said.



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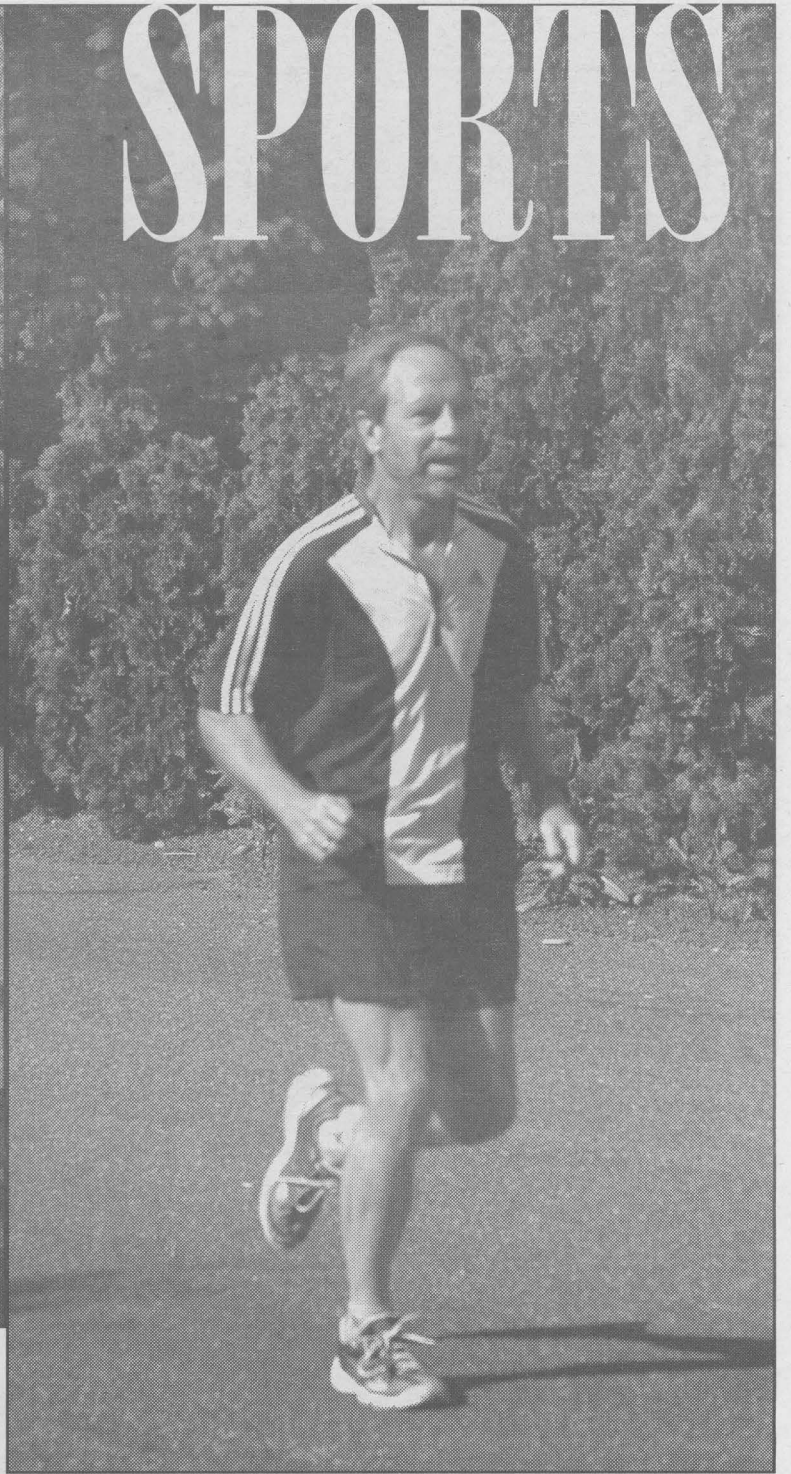
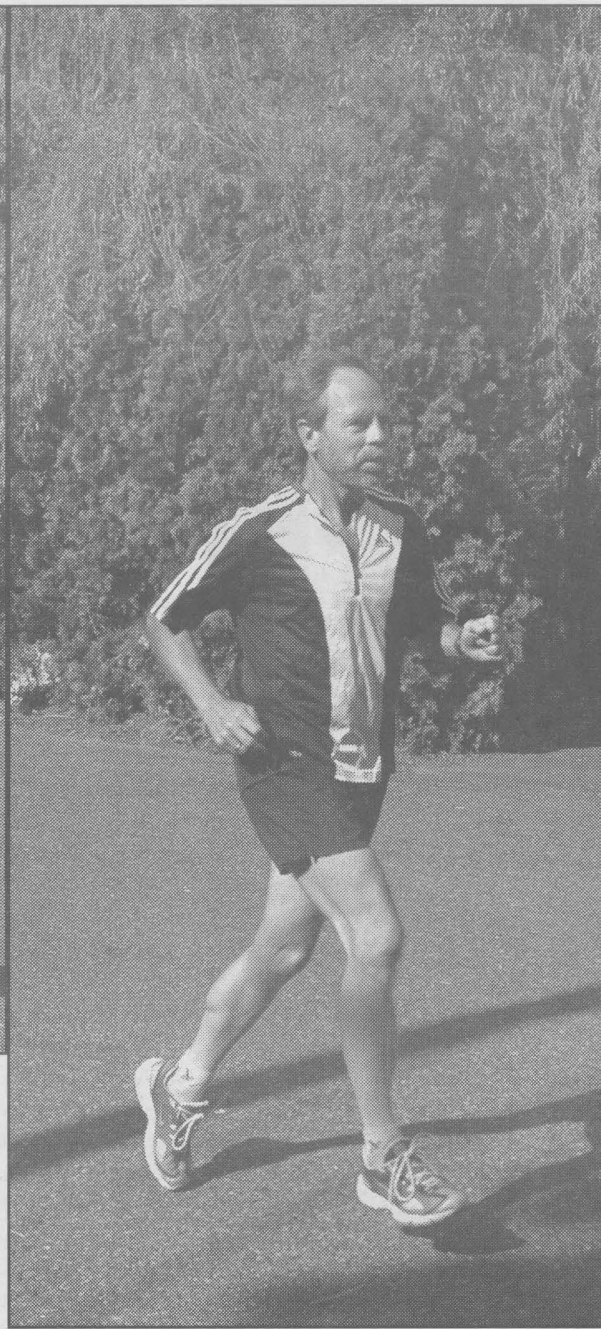
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## SPORTS



Pat Lewis/Observer

**Runnin' wild.** David Lygre trains on pavement in preparation of the pavement surface he will be experiencing in South Africa.

## The Comrades Marathon

# Going the distance: Chemistry professor to run in Africa

by Rhiannon Holbrook  
Staff reporter

He has run over 30 marathons, 50 ultra-marathons and at least 25 runs of 100 miles or more, and holds two United States distance records for his age group. He mountain biked the continental divide from Canada to Mexico, battled cancer and won. You have probably walked right past him without ever realizing it.

David Lygre, 62, is a chemistry professor at Central Washington University. He is one of many teachers who enhance this campus not only with academic and professional strengths, but physical strengths as well.

To add to his myriad of accomplishments, Lygre will be traveling to South Africa this month to fulfill one of his greatest dreams: running in the Comrades Marathon.

The Comrades Marathon is a race steeped in history. According to its Web Site, it's "the ultimate human race where athletes come from all over the world to combine muscle and sinew and mental strength to conquer the approximately 90 kilometers (54 miles) between the cities of Pietermaritzburg and Durban."

"It's a really big thing," Lygre said. "The race ends in a stadium of 30,000 people."

According to Lygre the last 10 min-

utes of the race is the most watched television event in the country.

"The race usually has runners dropping, crawling for the line, helping each other and risking the loss of their own medals in the process. At the final gun, they pull a tape across the line and shut the gates so that you can't even finish," Lygre said.

The South African race has particular significance to Lygre, who lived in the country for four years as a child while his father was a missionary to the Zulu people. Lygre said that he will not be traveling alone, as his brother and sisters will be going with him to go back and see the place where they grew up.

The build up to this dream has taken over 25 years of training and preparation, and it all started here at Central during Wellness Hour.

"I thought 'I bet I can run a mile,' and I couldn't," Lygre said, remembering his first attempts at running with a wry smile. He kept at it and within three months he had graduated to running a four mile loop.

"I'd never really run before. I guess it kinda got out of hand," Lygre said.

Now Lygre is an accomplished ultra-marathon runner and holds two U.S. records in his age group: Fastest 100 Kilometer and Furthest Distance in 24 Hours.

Training for Lygre is a daily routine. He runs around five to seven miles per

day during the week.

"I alternate one long day with one short day, and run from Ellensburg to Selah on Saturdays," Lygre said. "Sometimes I'll build in a longer run during the week."

Now Lygre finds camaraderie in running and relies on training partners to help him reach his goals.

"For years I trained by myself. You have to be able to handle being alone for long periods of time."

Running alongside Lygre are several of Central's faculty members from various areas of the campus. Jody Scheffellaier, Ethan Bergman, Steve Varga and Pat McLaughlin are all accomplished long distance runners. Tim Englund, 38, associate professor of mathematics, accompanies Lygre on his weekly runs to Selah in preparation for the Western States 100-mile run in California.

Englund said that Lygre helped pull him into the world of distance running.

"I don't know why I started doing these races," Englund said. "To see if I could, I guess. Some say 'because I can,' but I never know that until I've reached the finish."

Lygre believes much the same thing. "Nobody makes money running ultras," Lygre said. "The challenge is what draws you, both physically and mentally. It's too easy for something to go wrong and you can fail."

Lygre remembers a time when his ability to run was nearly taken from him. Twice the same version of cancer Lance Armstrong suffered from tried to kill Lygre.

"They thought they had it the first time, but five months later they discovered that they hadn't," Lygre said.

The cancer had spread, and Lygre was forced to go through chemotherapy.

"Chemo was much harder than any of the ultras or 100 milers I've ever done," Lygre said. "When I start thinking it's hard on the trail, I think of those who are still going through chemo, and I can keep running."

Lygre said the same principles of ultra-running were what enabled him to get through chemotherapy.

"At the worst moments, I literally thought 'How am I going to get through the next five minutes?' It helped to be stubborn," Lygre said. "It means that you're willing to put up with adversity."

Adversity is something that Lygre is familiar with.

"The doctor said that I wouldn't be able to run anymore because my lung capacity had been reduced. An ultra in Colorado was my test for that."

The high-altitude ultra-marathon in Leadville, Colo. would serve as a test, which would tell Lygre whether he still had what it took to run long distances.

"I remember it clearly," Lygre said. "I was 70 miles into the race, all alone at 10,000 feet in an open section of the trail. The sky was clear and beautiful, and there were zillions of stars just flung across the heavens. I was getting tired, and all of a sudden I noticed a greenish-yellow glow all around me. It gave me a sense of peace, well-being and confidence. It felt like God was with me, telling me that I was going to be alright. I knew then that I could complete the run. When I crossed the finish line, I felt like I was healthy and whole again. I knew then that nothing was going to hold me back."

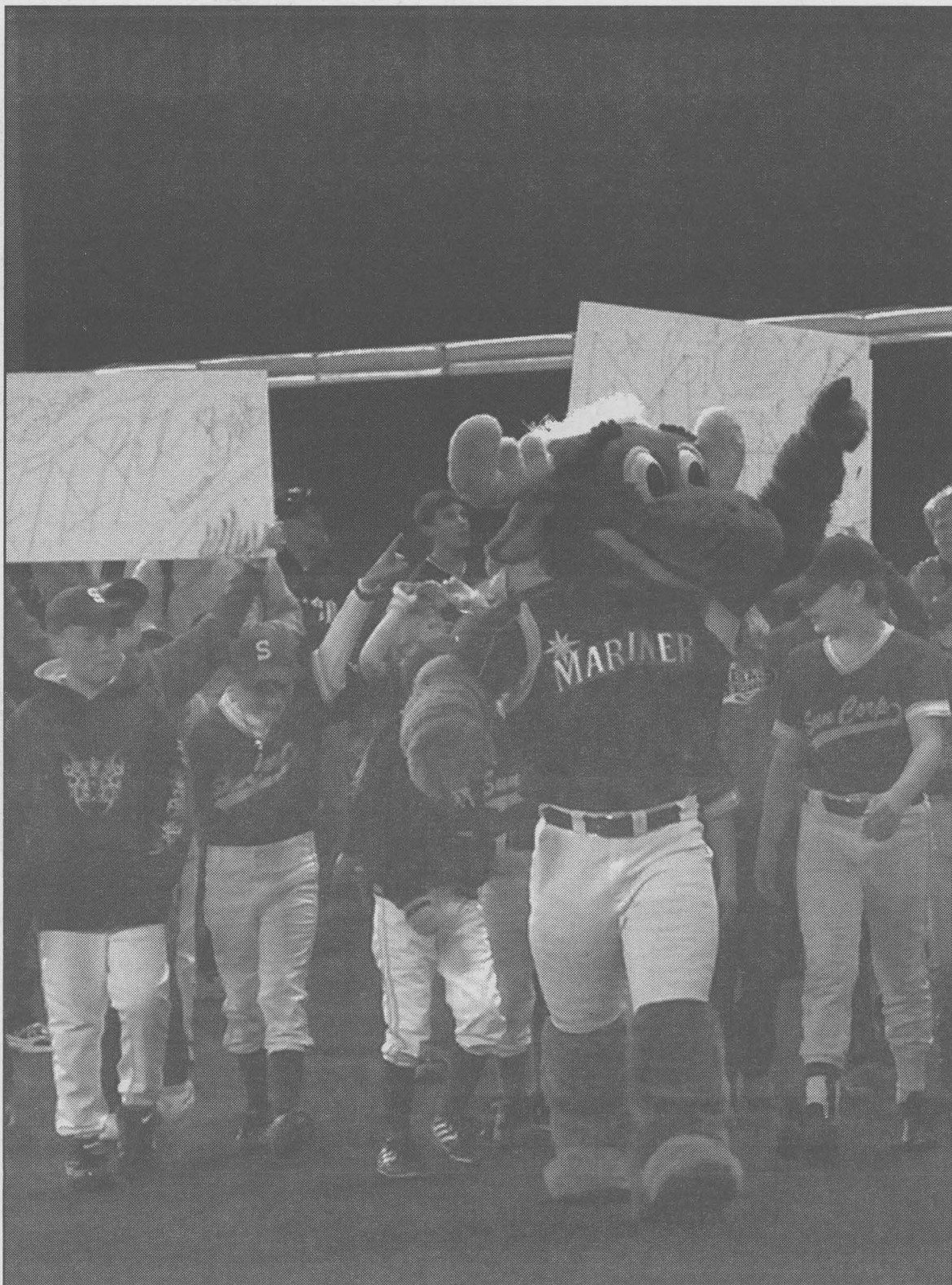
Since then, nothing has. Lygre will be traveling home from South Africa to meet up with Englund, only seven days after Englund finishes his own race, to start a 200-mile mountain bike trip through Alberta, Canada.

"It's just a short one," Englund said. "You don't think about it, you just do it."

Later in August both Lygre and Englund will also compete in the Cascade Crest 100-mile run. The race has an elevation gain of over 21,000 feet - a distance likened to climbing Mount Baker twice over.

Challenges like these are part of his nature. "People gravitate towards what they do best. For me, [the Comrades Marathon] is just the frosting on a wonderful cake."





Chris Thompson/Observer

Follow the leader. The Mariner Moose leads the parade of Little Leaguers around the field

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# Unlocking the Safe:

## A behind-the-scenes look at Safeco Field

by Chris Thompson  
Staff reporter

Note: This game took place on May 21, 2005.

Deep in the bowels of Safeco Field sits Garrett Cook, his feet on his desk and his tie slightly loosened. The coordinator of Event Services and Tours for the Seattle Mariners has just made it through the eighth game of a nine-game homestand and is already working on his staff schedule for game nine.

Cook is in charge of the Fielders, a group of college and high school students that help out with the promotional aspects of the game. The group also includes some more specialized jobs, such as the ballgirls and hand-operated scoreboard operator.

"The kids keep me coming to work," Cook said. "I'm really proud of who they are and what they do. I love the fact that I am around them. They give me a lot of energy."

Today's game was the first of two honoring Little League players from around the Northwest. Not only did all children 14 and under receive a free Mariners' gym bag, but they were given an opportunity to walk around the warning track at Safeco Field.

Led by the Mariner Moose, about 5,000 Little Leaguers took advantage of the invitation. While parents used the opportunity to take pictures of their future all-stars on a big-league field, Mariners' groundskeeper, and former Wildcat baseball player, Bob Christofferson cringed every time someone stepped on the grass.

Christofferson, who's in charge of the 106,000 square feet of turf, knows that the Major League players and coaches expect the grass to be in great shape. He understands how much strain 10,000 little feet can do to a custom blend of four kinds of Kentucky bluegrass and two kinds of perennial ryegrass.

While these future stars of tomorrow parade around the warning track, another 30,000 fans enter the stadium to see if the Mariners can stop the San Diego Padres' eight-game winning streak. In order to make sure all these fans have the best time possible, the Mariners employ around 1,800 employees.

It is up to vice president of Human Resources, and Central Washington University graduate, Marianne Short to hire all those workers. Before joining the Mariners' staff in October of 1998, Short was vice president of Labor and Employee Relations for the Bon Marche Company (now owned by Macy's). A special education major at Central, she went to work for the Bon right after college, eventually spending 15 years in its human resource department.

As part of her day-to-day duties, Short is responsible for dealing with the worker's compensation issues for not only Safeco Field staff, but the players, coaches and trainers as well.

"When players get hurt, it's a huge issue with us," Short said. "Sports is such a unique industry as far as injuries go."

Not only does Short complete the worker's compensation claims for the Mariners players, coaches and ballpark staff, but in the fall she deals with work-

er's compensation issues for the Seattle Seahawks. For all the athletes, baseball and football alike, their bodies are their livelihood and it is up to Short to make sure that they get help when they need it.

"If you blow out an arm, or what Bobby Madritch is going through, it's very emotional for them," Short said. "If you or I got hurt, they would give us a light-duty job at a desk or something. With them, they just need to get better and rehab."

So while Short makes sure that the human resource issues are met, Cook is still down in his office rounding up his troops for the game. While he makes sure everyone knows they are at the ballpark to work, he keeps the mood light.

"Two years ago, at the trade deadline, I called a kid in who I thought had a good sense of humor," Cook said. "I closed the door and tried to convince him that he had been traded to Cincinnati for a popcorn vendor and a soda machine to be named later."

It is two hours until game time and the gates are now open. Cook is walking around the ballpark, making sure all his workers are where they should be and that tonight's giveaway is going smoothly. When he is satisfied that everyone is doing the best they can, he heads back to his office to meet with tonight's ball girls and the guy who will run the hand-operated scoreboard for tonight's game.

Tonight, Kai Myers and Nicole Nuemiller will be down the lines fielding foul balls. Brett Moses, son of former Mariners' first-base coach John Moses, will be out in the left-field hand-operated scoreboard. Cook makes sure that the three college students know what they are doing for the evening and lets them get ready for the game.

As game time approaches and the fans begin to take their seats, public address announcer Tom Hutylar begins his pre-game introductions and it's time for everyone to assume their position.

Myers, a 19-year-old student at Highline Community College, has the unfortunate task of returning an unsigned baseball to a season ticket holder. The ball, along with a letter, was left in the locker of New York Yankees left-hander Randy Johnson, but Johnson did not sign the ball and it was up to Myers to break the news.

Moses, a 19-year-old student at Bellevue Community College, begins the walk down the left-field foul line, into the visiting team's bullpen and up a ladder to his perch in left field. Moses, who used his family connections to get the job with the Mariners, hopes to get a bachelor's degree in sports management and maybe get a front office job someday.

Regardless of the future plans, Gil Meche is ready to deliver his first pitch to Padres center fielder Dave Roberts and the game is underway. For Cook, his staff is where they should be, doing what they should be and he is able to relax, be it briefly, for the first time today.

Up in the press box, reporters from around the region are watching the game, taking notes and beginning their

see SAFE, page 16 ▶



# Orioles, White Sox top the American League

There have been many surprises this year around the American League, from the success of the Chicago White Sox and the Baltimore Orioles to the disappointment of the Seattle Mariners and the Oakland Athletics.

Many baseball fans would never have guessed that the White Sox would be the hottest team and boasting a winning record of .600. Two of their top three pitchers, Jon Garland and Mark Buehrle are leading the American League with wins. First baseman Paul Konerko is another player the White Sox can count on because he is fifth in the American League for home runs. The success of second baseman Tadahito Iquchi is also helping the White Sox. Tadahito is second in the American League in batting average for second basemen.

Another successful team is the Baltimore Orioles, who lead the American League East.

They share the division with the New York Yankees, defending champions the Boston Red Sox, the Toronto Blue Jays and the Tampa Bay Devil

Rays. Brian Roberts is the leading American League second baseman in batting average.

Another key player for the Orioles is Miguel Tejada who is second in batting average for all shortstops in the



Brooke Saul  
Staff reporter

American League. Pitcher Erik Bedard is in second place for the best ERA in the American League. Anyone who follows baseball should not forget the addition of one of the best right fielders in baseball, Sammy Sosa.

He just came off the DL and is not that hot right now, but will be just fine

and will eventually get back into the swing of things.

With successful teams come other surprises with teams that are not so hot. Last year, the Seattle Mariners finished in last place. They are currently in second to last.

When Lou Pinella managed the Mariners in 2001 the Mariners made it to the American League Championship Series. Once Pinella left to manage the Devil Rays, it seemed the Mariners lost their touch and have gone downhill.

The Mariners improved a little over the off-season by adding first baseman Richie Sexson and third baseman Adrian Beltre. Sexson leads the Mariners in RBIs and home runs.

The Mariners need another young pitcher and another big bat in the lineup to add to their wins. Mike Hargrove was also signed during the off-season to hopefully manage the Mariners to a successful season.

The Mariners have improved their record from last year, finishing the season with a record of .389 and now the Mariners are currently at .420.



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This is the last  
Observer  
for 2004-2005



# Nationals name two All-Americans

by Frank Stanley  
Staff reporter

Four athletes represented the Wildcat track and field team last weekend at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field competition in Abilene, Texas, and came home with impressive performances.

Two athletes made top-10 finishes in their events to receive points for the men's team, with sophomore Cameron Neel placing fourth in the men's shot put and junior Mike Pankiewicz placing sixth in the 800-meter run.

Pankiewicz placed fourth in his heat and ninth overall in the preliminaries,

then ran the finals with a time of 1:52.36, giving him sixth overall. Both Neel and Pankiewicz were named to the NCAA Division II All-American team.

As for the other two athletes, senior Christin McDowell, the lone female representative, placed 14th in the women's hammer throw and senior Jacob Galloway placed 15th in the men's discus.

Neel, who was the only dual-event athlete for the Wildcats, also competed in the discus and placed 11th. Neel's final throw in the shot put also bested his own conference record with a distance of 57-10, taking third in his heat and fourth overall.

Although the meet formulated team scores, they were too variable based on the number of athletes representing each school. Regardless, the Central men totaled eight points, three from Pankiewicz and five from Neel, to take 25th overall.

The winning teams were host Abilene Christian University for the men and Pennsylvania's Lincoln University for the women.

Other notable athletes from the GNAC came from Seattle Pacific University, where Chris Randolph won the men's decathlon, becoming the first Seattle Pacific male in 13 years to win a national title in any event.

## SAFE: Going beyond the game

◀ continued from 14


stories. Tonight, the press box is about half full and many news organizations are not represented in house. With game notes and press releases sprawled across a counter, both the Mariners and Padres are making sure reporters covering the game have up-to-date and accurate information.

After Seattle right fielder Ichiro Suzuki leaped above the wall to steal a home run away, all the reporters turned to one of the televisions to see a replay.

The Seattle press grinned, the San Diego press shook their heads and the Japanese press knew they had their highlight of the game.

After Adrian Beltre and Richie Sexson hit back-to-back home runs to begin the bottom of the sixth inning, it became apparent that the Mariners were going to break the Padres' eight-game winning streak.

As the game winds down, Cook finds himself in his office, already preparing for Sunday's game. He is able to look up to his television as the final out is recorded and the Mariners congratulate themselves on the field for winning their 17th game of the year. It's after 10 p.m. and he knows that gates will open at 11:05 a.m. the next day, giving him 13 hours to get ready for the last game of the homestand.



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