Women's basketball forward Jamie Corwin scored 33 points in Saturday's game, the last home game of her career at Central.
What began as a modest and heartfelt program created by Civic Engagement Center program coordinator, April Williams, grew into a project with so many volunteers that it attracted media attention all over the county.

When Williams started planning Total Relief Week three months ago, she did it out of general concern after seeing the devastating effect an earthquake had on northern Pakistan last October. “There was no interest in Pakistan because there was not enough media attention,” Williams said.

The earthquake killed more than 70,000 people, injured another 70,000 and left up to 3 million people homeless with minimal access to survival supplies.

“Money (the way) to make an impact quickly,” Williams said.

The week included a Pakistan survival drive, a 30-Hour Famine, a Hunger Banquet and a Friday Night Hunger Fight. The turnout of participants for the week exceeded expectations and got the attention of many people.

Initially there were 220 shirts ordered for participants in the 30-Hour Famine with the hope of at least getting 150 people to participate. By Wednesday of the week before, it was clear that more shirts were needed.

In the end close to 400 people participated in the fast, catching the attention of local media outlets and World Vision, one of the organizations working with Total Relief Week.

“World Vision is encouraged by the achievements and efforts of the 400 college students at Central Washington University who are taking a stand against hunger through participating in the 30-Hour Famine,” Brad Stave, Church Relations, Marketing, World Vision, said in a press release. “Every day, nearly 30,000 children die from hunger related diseases. Students at Central Washington University should take pride in the action they have taken to tackle this huge statistic. As one of the largest collegiate responses around the country, all of Central Washington University should be amazed by such an overwhelming response within their university to fight poverty and hunger.”

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“We never anticipated getting 400 people,” Williams said.

With the success of the 30-Hour Famine, the week continued on with a Hunger Banquet organized by Mariah Torrez, co-coordinator for Total Relief Week.

Torrez said the banquet was set up for people to experience how some of the world eats.

There were three tiers of people, the first tier of people sat at tables and were served pasta, salad and juice. The second tier of people were served a cup of rice and a cup of beans and sat in chairs. The third tier of people were served a half of cup of cold rice and had to sit on the floor.

The purpose of the banquet was not to serve food, but to educate participants on how other populations of the world eat.

Many people who participated in the banquet did so to understand more about hunger.

“I decided to participate in the hunger banquet because I have had the chance to travel to a third world country and see how hunger is killing people,” Emily Sandbo, sophomore undeclared major, said.

“I was hoping for a chance to learn some new information about hunger and what we can do to put a stop to it.”

The week concluded with the Friday Night Hunger Fight where two local businesses, the Bar 14 Ranch House and the Matternhorn Inn, donated 3 percent of their total sales on Friday to Ellensburg food banks, World Vision, and Oxfam International.

A final count of money raised, not including money donated from the Friday Night Hunger Fight, totaled nearly $1,000. “A small amount of money is useful to organizations,” Williams said. “Eleven dollars will feed a family for one week.”

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Students suffer from winter blues
by Michael L'Esperance
Staff reporter

Every year, an estimated 500,000 people are affected by a type of winter depression called Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D.). For many people S.A.D. is experienced in a mild form which is commonly known as the "winter blues." For others, S.A.D. is a seriously debilitating condition that keeps them from functioning normally if left untreated.

Symptoms of S.A.D. vary from lethargy and overeating to resting and sleeping problems. College students and people in their mid-to-late 20s are particularly at risk because the onset of the disorder is often between the ages of 18 and 30. Students who feel they are suffering from S.A.D. or any form of depression should make an appointment to see a counselor at the Health and Counseling Center.

"We see a lot of students who suffer from depression during the winter months," said Rhonda McKinney, director of counseling at the Student Health and Counseling Center. She said the Health Center does not keep track of the number of students who are diagnosed with S.A.D. However, she noticed an increase in cases over the last few years.

"The last few years have been particularly gray," McKinney said. "The winter blues is a natural phenomenon, but for some it is extreme."

There is no doubt that the long winter months take a toll on everyone though some are affected more seriously than others.

"I don't think I am seriously affected by S.A.D. but the short, cold days really start to get to me," Nancy Kunst, senior public relations major, said. "By this time of winter I am definitely ready for warmer, longer days when I can spend more time outside."

There are three different treatments for people who suffer from S.A.D. Counseling and antidepressants are two possible forms of treatment, but light therapy is effective in about 85 percent of diagnosed cases. The brightness of light is measured in lux and the minimum dose necessary to treat S.A.D. is 2500 lux. Average household lighting emits an intensity of 200-500 lux, compared to an intensity of 100,000 lux from the sun on a bright summer day.

The counseling center has two light boxes that can be borrowed if a student is found to be suffering from S.A.D. Some students don't mind the dark winter months.

"I actually like the crisp cold winter days because they are refreshing. I soak up the sun whenever I can and when it does get dark and gloomy, working out helps," Lauren Kaufman, freshman undecided, said.

According to McKinney, the best way students can deal with the winter blues is to spend as much time in the sun as possible. Students can increase their exposure to sunlight by doing simple things such as turning a desk toward a window and taking short walks during the day. Even when it is overcast, the natural light is better than sitting indoors.

For more information students can contact the Counseling Center at 963-1391.

Students offer tax assistance
by Robbie Miller
Staff reporter

Students moving out of the house for the first time may find it stressful to start cooking their own food, doing their own laundry, and worst of all, doing their own taxes.

Central Washington University's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program can do taxes even better than parents, and they'll do it for free.

Central's College of Business (COB) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are sponsoring the program, which is also a two-credit class called Accounting 492. Student volunteers get credit for assisting people with their taxes, while students get their taxes done by students who have passed the IRS test on filing tax returns.

"We know what we're doing," Fred McDonald, Accounting 492 professor, said. "We have all the IRS software. We've done it for a million years."

McDonald is always available to answer any questions students may have, and make sure returns get done accurately.

Student Tracy Walker has worked at H R Block while serving as an adviser. Walker has her bachelor's degree and is now finishing the 225 credits required to take the CPA exam.

"Any one of these people could do their own return, they just don't know," Walker said. "A lot of people get scared because it is the IRS and they don't want to mess up."

Walker estimated that the services VITA provides would cost anywhere from $50 to $150 if done by a professional. The program is open to anyone in the community, but McDonald said they're not trying to put the local CPAs out of business. If a person's return is extremely complicated, VITA will answer any questions they can and send the student to a professional.

"We give out advice when we can," Walker said. "But I'm not in here telling people what they need to do 10 years down the road."

Most returns don't take more than 20 minutes, but senior history teaching major Randy Fairfield had a complicated return that took nearly one hour to complete.

"I'm pretty well informed about how taxes work," Fairfield said. "I just wanted somebody else to do it to make it sure it was right."

The program takes place every year from the beginning of February until the end of winter quarter and is open to anyone.

Students who want help with their taxes should bring their W-2 along with any other relevant tax forms to Shaw-Smyser Hall 109 on Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. or Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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Bad prices, shortfall in revenue, management decisions send dining services into the red

by Tech-Pai Chen
Senior reporter

The red flag around December 2004 and January 2005, several plans were still being made about losing money that resulted in a lower cash flow. According to the January 2005 report, dining services revenue of $3,664,690 had total expenses of $3,074,190 – an operating loss of $594,501.

When you see the cost of goods was up and the revenue was down, the red flag was raised, said Patrick Stanton, enterprise financial manager. "And that's when they started saying the accounting can't be right. You've got to redo the accounting."

Dining services had been a profitable entity since its inception on campus and the high operating loss seemed to make sense.

According to Rich Corona, vice president for Business and Financial Affairs, the dining services management team reviewed the numbers, and there were some issues but they didn't expect it to go into the red. Corona said the computer system to track inventories was changed from an old server to another server around January. "It's easy to blame it on some aspect. Inaccurate inventory numbers was one of the factors contributing to confusion later in making decisions."

We had some significant problems with the computer system and inventory," said Robert Borngrebe, director of dining services. "It made the decision making more difficult because you didn't know if the variation you had was accurate or not. So you're trying to shoot in the dark."

Because of the inaccuracy, assistant vice president for Financial Services, said not having the most accurate inventory numbers contributed to them not knowing what the bottom line would be. They later found the cost of goods sold was higher than what was believed and inventory was a lot lower.

"Some of the information coming back to the cost of the goods for the ingredients was faulty," Corona said. "We were wrestling with the information during those months. That has an effect on the profitability of the system because when we sell the food we have to know exactly how much an ingredient cost. That affects the revenue."

Although it's difficult to say how much the incorrect inventory number influenced the many financial report, some people believe it is not an adequate reason to explain January's loss.

"If the manager's statement was accurate, even if the inventory was incorrect, it could not change the result in any significant way," said Ed Day, student manager of the Bronze plan.

"I wouldn't give the statement out if I didn't think they were right," Stanton said. "There was a little disbelief (of what's shown on the statement), because cost of food percentages always worked out as planned and dining services has always been profitable."

Housing and dining share the same fund called 573 for surplus carry for the end of winter quarter, which was a little disbelief. "I feel like I need to take some responsibility for not addressing the issue in a more comprehensive way. I'm more minded of myself for not being transparent."

The decision to provide students the Bronze plan, a $625 meal plan for fall term 2005 and now unavailable to new applicants, was made around the same time as the spring quarter rebate plan. We were wrestling with the issue of why dining services decided to provide an even smaller plan, which would bring in less revenue, if they knew they were already losing money.

"I don't make all of the decisions for my department," Borngrebe said. "I can have input to them, but I don't make a lot of these higher-level financial decisions. I feel responsible because I was one of the people making the decision."

The fund 573 seven months financial data shows by the end of January 2006, dining services has made actual revenue of $1,179,077 with an expense of $2,271,462 – $492,385 loss that is a good portion of the $3,684,690 deficit. According to a source who asked to remain anonymous and was only few people in dining services who are minding the business.

"They can have some problems with the system, and it could have made it more difficult for them to find out the data," the source said. "There was somebody in the decision department who found out the problem because he said they didn't try.

Although the January numbers showed dining services was operating at a loss, two decisions were made in March that would end even less revenue. At the end of winter quarter, 2005, dining services found students were not swiping their cards, and there might be a half million dollar voided out by the end of spring quarter if that spending pattern continued. Corona said for the purposes of public relations and public consensus, dining service management decided to bill the students only for the amount up to the smallest meal plan, instead of requiring everyone to purchase a meal plan for spring 2005. For example, a student who left $400 in the account at the beginning of spring quarter would only pay an additional $425 to reach the smallest meal plan requirement, instead of purchasing a whole $825 meal plan which would result in a total of $1,252 in the account. As a result, there was a $276,355 difference from what dining was supposed to charge and what the students actually paid. "If even they really made $300,000, that's still $1 million oil and it's not acceptable to be $1 million oil."

Tony said, "I feel like I need to take some responsibility for not addressing the issue in a more comprehensive way. I'm more minded of myself for not being transparent."

The production of student's meal plan is what really hurts our stability," said Kevin Kimball, associate vice president for business and financial affairs. "I don't know if the variation you had was accurate or not. So you're trying to shoot in the dark."

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"I decided that I needed to concentrate the focus of a single administrator on the auxiliary services," said Rich Corona, vice president for business and financial affairs. "Steve is an excellent leader who is a relationship builder and constantly creates to identify opportunities to help the university. That's the kind of leadership I'm looking for.

According to Corona, Kimball's responsibility had been broad enough that he believes this change will increase management oversight for the better interests of the university.

"I had too many things on the same plate and there are some items that need my attention. I mean, including credit card security, EMS software upgrade," Kimball said. "I'm only one person and I can only do so much. The bottom line is I want the university to be successful."

Personnel change should improve dining operation

by Tech-Pai Chen
Senior reporter

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Letters to the Editor

Burg DJ bashes Observer for abusing the 1st amendment

In your last publication, you had two different articles about your rights under the First Amendment and your ability to offend in regard to the comics already exists. You do have the right to offend people, you have the right to make people mad and to complain but you don’t have the right to cause violence and dangerous situations. Under “The Clear and Present Danger” limitation of the First Amendment, you can’t knowingly create a dangerous situation. Because of the last seven months, it has already been shown through riots and death threats that danger from comics already exists.

On the flip side of the argument, do you believe that the original publishers of the comics knowingly created a dangerous situation and acted outside of their freedom of speech protection? No, they were within their rights. I do not agree with the commonly argued idea that all ideas are created equal, or that the First Amendment and the areas that are protected are actually pretty narrow.

In your last publication, you had two different articles about your rights under the First Amendment and your ability to offend, the First Amendment and the areas that are protected are actually pretty narrow. 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, mailed to Observer at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.

Letters to the Editor Online

For your information

In 2005 Jylland’s-Posten, the Danish newspaper that originally published the cartoons depicting the Prophet Mohammad, refused to publish satirical cartoons depicting the resurrection of Jesus. To read the second installment of Rebecca Thornton’s analysis go to the Observer Online at http://www.cwu.edu/~observer.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday the week of publication, must be typed, less than 300 words and must include your name and phone number. Only one letter a month will be accepted from an individual. Anonymous letters will not be published. The Observer reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar and libel. Please mail or e-mail letters to: The Observer, Central Washington University; observer@cwu.edu or by fax to (509) 963-1027.

Letters to the Editor Online

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

Submissions

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, mailed to Observer at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.
The Central Washington University Theatre Ensemble's winter play will have its first performance tomorrow night in McConnell Auditorium. "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" will be shown four times this weekend. The production will also go on the road, traveling to other locations such as Olympia, Shelton and Bremerton.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer' comes to Central

by Ryan Fudacz  
Staff reporter

Beginning tomorrow, McConnell Auditorium will host one of Mark Twain's most acclaimed novels, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." Twain's text will come to life when the story hits the spotlight Friday night at Central Washington University.

Directed by Emily Rollie, graduate teaching assistant, Twain's classic story has been transformed into a 60-minute stage performance.

"It is very close to the book," said Rollie. "One of my main goals in producing this [the play] was I wanted something that was pretty similar to the classic story because the story itself is so rich, there are some things that are different, but it stays true to the story."

Historically, the performance will stay faithful to the time period of the 1840s. Rollie and cast members researched the characters and the wardrobe crew took into consideration the setting, fashions at the time and the circumstances of each character.

"[The audience] will have an indication of what people wore back then and what was considered fashionable in Missouri [during the 1840s]," Laura Reinstatler, costume designer, said.

The characters of Tom Sawyer are made up of nine cast members and five of them play multiple roles.

"We have a phenomenal cast with a wealth of energy and you can tell that they're having fun and that they are enjoying what they are doing," Rollie said. "To see them all work together to shift the scenes, to become other characters and just connect with one another is my favorite part."

Daniel Zertuche, senior theatre arts performance major, will be carrying the biggest load with three characters. Zertuche is playing Judge Thatcher, Doc Robinson and Ben Rogers.

"They [students] get used to it [playing multiple roles], but it can be tricky," Rollie said.

Thomas Ohrstrom, a sophomore theatre arts performance major, who plays Tom Sawyer, said if audiences can put themselves in the mindset of a child then their experiences will take on a different meaning.

James Frasca, senior theatre arts major, plays Sawyer's sidekick and best friend, Huckleberry Finn. Frasca prepared for his part by talking to his stepfather, who is from the south. Frasca said he listened to his stepdad's southern childhood experiences and used it to his advantage.

"You get as much information as you can and you start applying it your character and applying it to the show," said Frasca.

The Tom Sawyer production will be a traveling show. The cast members will perform at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts for Olympia Junior Programs, the Evergreen Children's Theatre in Bremerton and at Shelton High School for Shelton Junior Programs.

The play is recommended for fourth graders and up. The play will have public performances along with a matinee series, which many elementary schools from the community will attend.

"I think it is a wonderful family show in that both age groups or any age group can connect with it and they take different things away from it," said Rollie. "I hope people will come and enjoy this production cause we’ve had fun putting it together."

Audiences can catch public performances March 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7 p.m., and matinees March 4, 5 and 11 at 2 p.m. All shows will be in McConnell Auditorium and tickets are $7 for general admission and $5 for students.

Purchase tickets online at www.cwu.edu/-theatre!tix or at the box office. For more information contact Central's box office at 963-1774.
'Mirrormask's' fantasy images and special effects draw viewers in

by Laura Graves
Staff reporter

A: How long have you been involved in acting?
Q: How do you find time in your schedule to get everything done with school, homework and the play?
A: My first play was in fifth grade, so about 10 years. It was called, "A Fisherman and His Wife." It was a fairy tale.
A: It is really hard. If I am not in class, then I am rehearsing. If I am not rehearsing, then I am doing homework. It is definitely worth it because it is something I love to do. I am honing my craft.

A: What made you decide to audition for The Adventures of Tom Sawyer?
Q: How often do you practice for the production?
A: Well, all theatre majors have to audition for all of the shows. Out of all of them though, this is one that I really wanted to be in the most. I really like the story of Tom Sawyer and have worked with the director before and really enjoyed the experience. I also like the idea of touring. We go on tour to Olympia, Shelton and Bremerton for one weekend during spring quarter.
A: We practice 3-5 days a week for 3 hours a day, and an additional time if it is necessary.

A: Do you find it hard having to switch between two roles throughout the production?
Q: Is this your first time acting in a play at Central?
A: It is really different because the two roles are very diametrically opposite. Sid is the young, pseudo-innocent character, while Muff is the town drunk. I find it very rewarding to create two separate characters that are both very different than me as an individual.
A: This is my second production, but my first main stage.

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Q: What is the most rewarding aspect of putting on a production?
A: For this particular show, because it is a children's show, seeing the children invest in a show and the characters are so rewarding. Children can be brutal and if they don't believe you as a character, they will let you know. Seeing them invest and believe in the characters is really cool.

'Mirrormask's' fantasy images and special effects draw viewers in

"Mirrormask" was never shown at the Grand Meridain, despite the petition. Which is a shame. I would've liked to see it on the big-screen, where the film's fascinating special effects are meant to be seen. The plot is definitely aimed at kids. The main heroine, Helena, is a creative, typical teenager that young readers can relate to. Her journey is a bizarre one, and it goes at such a fast pace, it's hard to care about its success. Helena's life was turned upside down when her mother contracted a fatal illness. Then she was transported to a world where sphinxes are pets, fish swim through the air, people wear masks all the time and magic is abundant. The balance between the dark and light forces has been broken and destruction of the world is imminent. Helena volunteers herself and her new friend Valentine to find the one thing that can restore the balance, the fabled Mirrormask.

The film is filled with strange creatures, spells and images much like "The Dark Crystal" and "Labyrinth" (which, like "Mirrormask," were created by the Jim Henson Company). They could've slowed the pace of the story down a tad so it would be possible to care about the fate of the interesting, dream-like fantasy world and the characters in it. The actors do their best to give their characters personalities, but that's hard to do when the characters have hardly any personality to start with. Watching them is like watching flat figures waltzing across a beautiful painting. But considering that the background of the fantasy world looks like a drawing out of a fairy-tale book that might have been the writer and director's intention.

The special effects of the movie are cool, almost on par with the Harry Potter movies. Not surprising, since one of "Mirrormask's" creators was an animator on the second and third Potter films. The funny-looking computer generated creatures, from the ape-like birds to the rainbow-winged sphinxes, blend well with the live actors. "Mirrormask" works better as a work of art than a story. The imagery is like a beautiful, yet odd painting. There is an interesting story winding through it, but it's more art than plot. Check it out if you're into that sort of thing.

Reviewer Grade: B-

College of Arts and Humanities

Everyone's heard of the Oscars, the Grammys and the Tonys! Now is the time for the CAHAAs, the College of Arts and Humanities Achievement Awards. The College of Arts and Humanities is now accepting entries and nominations for its annual Achievement Awards.

Call for Entries – Undergraduate Student Achievement
Thomas Gause Award for Achievement in Musical Composition
Betty E. Evans Award for Achievement in Creative Writing: Short Fiction
George Stillman Award for Achievement in Art: Photography or Digital Media
Raymond Smith Award for Achievement in Scholarship

Call for Nominations – Graduate Student and Faculty Achievement
Outstanding Graduate Student Scholarship Award
Outstanding Graduate Student Artistic Achievement Award
Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award
Outstanding Faculty Research Award
Outstanding Faculty Artistic Achievement Award
Outstanding Non-tenure Track Faculty Teaching Award

Each recipient will receive a cash award and will be recognized at the annual CAH Awards Banquet on May 16, 2006. All submissions must be received in the Dean's office by 5 p.m. April 5, 2006. For more information, call 963-1858 or see our website www.cwu.edu/CAH and click on Latest News!
Window washer one of few to climb on top of Barge Hall

Terry Letson gets ready to go home as he prepares to wash the last window of the day. Letson is the first in Central's history to hold the window washer title. He has been employed by Central for 15 years. Letson is one of the few people that has been to the top of the historic Barge Hall.

by Andrea Rust
Staff reporter

Every morning at 5 a.m. Terry Letson arrives on campus, hops in an old blue truck and heads to his destination for the day: washing windows and doing work no one notices. This is the man who keeps all the university windows in great shape, and has been working hard at his job on the custodial crew at Central Washington University for the past 24 years. Central never had a job title for what Letson does until now and he is the first man in the university's history to hold the Window Washer title.

"Terry is a very steady and excellent worker who cares about his job," John Stolte, Central's transportation supervisor said. "He is self-starter and is always thorough."

When Letson isn't high up on an aerial lift, a ladder, or scaffold washing windows, you can find him joking around with his co-workers and getting to know people.

"We joke around a lot," Letson said. "When we aren't working we are always talking and staying busy keeping people happy."

While Letson's job is to wash windows day in and out on all the academic buildings, the rest of the maintenance custodial crew are busy doing everything else imaginable on campus to keep it in good shape, most of which happens without anyone noticing.

"We do stuff behind the scenes that no one is aware of," Stolte said.

Letson might be the man responsible for washing windows, but that doesn't mean he isn't busy helping out wherever else he is needed.

"Terry is one of the top hands I have on my crew," Stolte said. "He is one of my aces. I use him anywhere to do any project that I have."

Letson might be well known for being a jokester, but he will never joke about it: washing windows outside of work.

"People always ask me to do their home windows," said Letson. "And I always say no."

Letson doesn't plan on slowing down anytime soon, and will continue to work hard keeping our campus, buildings and windows looking nice.

"I get a lot of input from the faculty," Letson said. "I am a very happy person. I like working for Central because it is such a good atmosphere to work in."
Rusty Bucket opens at First Friday

by Clare Jensen
Staff reporter

Attention all live music lovers: local bands Open Country Joy and Rusty Bucket will be playing March 3 at Ellensburg’s First Friday Dance.

“Open Country Joy was very popular with the college crowd last year,” said Mollie Edson, Cornerstone program coordinator. “They had produced a CD and were on their way to big time fame until they suddenly disbanded.”

Open Country Joy is a popular local jam band who played around the Northwest for seven years, and is now back together with lots of new material and an intense, very danceable style. Sam Albright, bassist for Rusty Bucket.

Rusty Bucket is another local band that has played around the area with an eclectic mix of rock, pop and soul for the past three years. They will be opening for Open Country Joy.

The First Friday Dance has been a tradition following the First Friday Art Walk for the past three years. It is a place for people of all ages to come together to enjoy live music and dance their hearts out. The music is usually highly danceable rock and roll and a good place for everyone to party.

This month’s First Friday dance will be held at the Moose Lodge. Rusty Bucket will play at 8:30 p.m. with Open Country Joy at 10:30 p.m. General admission is $7 at the door and $5 with student I.D.

The Art Walk is free and is from 5-7 p.m. with venues open throughout downtown Ellensburg. The Moose Lodge is located at 2nd North Main Street.

For more information on the First Friday Dance contact Mollie Edson.

Brooklyn Comedy Tour comes to Ellensburg

by Meghan Hanley
Staff reporter

Brooklyn, New York has a reputation of producing great comedians, and tomorrow three such comedians will take the stage at Central Washington University.

Student Activities is presenting Da’ Brooklyn Comedy Tour, a collection of three nationally known stand up comedians.

“There are three comedians from Brooklyn, New York and they’re just going around the country touring,” said Buddy Keller, senior elementary education major and comedy director of Student Activities. “One of them is Jay London from Last Comic Standing.”

In 2004 London competed in sea­son II and III of the stand up comedy television show, Last Comic Standing. Joining London on stage are headliners Jimmy Delia Valent and Tom adres.

“These are all old Brooklyn guys,” Scott Drummond, director of Campus Life said. “They packaged up the tour like music would.”

Della Valle has appeared on television shows such as The Sopranos’ and performed at many clubs across the country. Savitt has headlined the venue “Caroline’s on Broadway” and competed in many comedy competitions.

“This is a national tour,” Keller said. “They’re going around all across the country and we thought we’d get a national act here.”

The comedic style of headliner London is unlike the comedy most people are familiar with.

“London’s comedy is very one lin­er oriented,” Drummond said. “He’ll throw something out there that might almost seem a little surreal and out of place then all of a sudden two seconds later it’ll hit you. It’s a different approach that is still funny.”

The three comedians have very dif­ferent, very distinct styles.

“New York [comedy] is a different flavor; it’s a different point of view,” Della Valle said in a press release. “I’m rapid fire. Tommy is very slow. Jay is a different kind of comedy all together. The show is three different types of comedians; it’s kind of like a combo meal.”

Attending live comedy is a very dif­ferent experience than watching a half hour comedy special on television.

“There are a lot of students that come here that really haven’t been that accustomed to live entertainment, espe­cially comedy,” Drummond said. “They know what they see on TV, but what they see on TV is filtered.”

Comedy audiences and rookies alike will hear something they enjoy with three different comedians perform­ing in one show.

Da’ Brooklyn Comedy Tour will be presented by Student Activities at 7 p.m. on Friday March 3 in Club Central. Tick­ets are $5 for students and $8 for gener­al admission.

Brooklyn Comedy Tour will be at Ellensburg’s First Friday Dance.

The show is three different types of comedians; it’s kind of like a combo meal.”

Lose weight while becoming cultured

by Katie Murdoch
Staff reporter

Central Washington University students can enjoy artwork without paying to stand around and whisper in a stuffy old museum.

The Ellensburg Arts Commission is hosting the First Friday Art Walk on March 3.

“It began as a collaboration with Gallery One and Kittitas County Historical Museum,” Edna Madsen, president of the board of directors at the Clymer Museum, said. “The directors of those facilities got together and expanded to include other places.”

Participants guide themselves through selected venues in downtown Ellensburg to see artwork.

“They’re very knowledgeable and they can direct you to what you want to see,” Madsen said.

This month’s art shows include Gallery One and the Ellensburg Museum.

“The Clymer Museum will showcase the Western Art Association’s pre-auction show during Friday’s Art Walk. More than 100 paintings will be displayed for the pre-auction. Falcioni was on a panel of jurors who selected which artists would be displayed at the pre-auction show. This Friday’s Art Walk will also be the first chance for patrons to come to the Clymer Museum for the pre-auction show.”

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Participants guide themselves through selected venues in downtown Ellensburg to see artwork.

“This town really supports the art community,” Melanie Falcioni, curator of exhibits at the Clymer Museum, said.

The Clymer Museum will showcase the Western Art Association’s pre-auction show during Friday’s Art Walk. More than 100 paintings will be displayed for the pre-auction. Falcioni was on a panel of jurors who selected which artists would be displayed at the pre-auction show.

“This Friday’s Art Walk will also be the first chance to see John Clymer’s permanent collection re-mounted since the museum was renovated in January. Clymer was captivated with Northwest Indian culture,” said Falcioni.

The Art Walk is free and is from 5-7 p.m. with venues open throughout downtown Ellensburg. The Moose Lodge is located at 2nd North Main Street.

For more information on the First Friday Dance contact Mollie Edson.
Corwin scores 33 in last home game

by Casey Donovan
Staff reporter

Having won six of their last eight games and riding a two game winning streak, the Central Washington University women's basketball team hopes to finish the season with a bang.

After splitting their last home stand at Nicholson Pavilion, it became do or die time for the Wildcats, ranked fifth in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. They answered, winning big conference games against the Seattle University Redhawks 68-58 and the Saint Martin's University Saints 90-70, with fantastic performances from a number of players.

In Thursday's game against the Redhawks, it was junior forward Ashley Blake who set the table for the Wildcat's victory with a career high of 23 points. Coach Jeff Whitney said that all her offensive prowess came from her defensive toughness.

"My teammates were getting me the ball and I was feeling it offensively," Blake said.

The forward's "feeling it" captivated the crowd, as she cut inside for dazzling offensive onslaught, as the Wolves continued their offensive woes, only allowing the Wolves' offense to make 36.7 percent of their shots.

They have to go on the road tonight to play Northwest Nazarene (10-6) and then Seattle Pacific (15:1-5) on Saturday. Seattle Pacific is currently second in the GNAC behind first place Western Washington, and the Northwest Nazarene Crusaders are third in the conference. The Wildcats playoff chances are grim; last week's NCAA Division II regional rankings had the Wildcats in tenth. With two possible wins this weekend, Central could move up the poll enough to grab a spot in the playoffs. This is important since only the top six teams in the region go to the playoffs.

"They missed a lot of easy shots," Corwin said. "I was just looking up at the clock cause I didn't want it to end." Whitney couldn't have been happier for his only senior on the team to finish off her play at Nicholson Pavilion in front of hundreds of fans saluting Corwin with shirts that were handed out before the game with her name and number on them.

"I wanted Jamie to go out with a big game and win senior night," Whitney said. "From my perspective, it is important for our seniors to go out the way they want to go out. She is a great basketball player and even better person." Corwin wasn't the only senior on the court with something to prove however.

The Saint's Beth Layton went off on the Wildcats for 40 points and a new Saint's single game scoring record. Whitney classified it as a senior duel with Central coming out on top. Like all season long, the Wildcats had an edge on defense as well as offensively. The Wolves shredded the Wildcat's defense going on an 10-0 run; making 22 points on 8-11 shooting in the Wildcats 102-110 loss to the Lumberjacks.

One win and Central will need help from other teams. Even after coming off a heartbreaking loss on Saturday, the team showed no weaknesses in practice.

"We believe," Sparling said. Every year, the playoffs are held at the home court of the number one ranked team in the division. Western Washington University is currently first in the conference but Seattle Pacific is only a game back.

The entire playoff scenario is just a mess. Two wins should solidify the opportunity of playing for a possible national championship.

Men's basketball fights to get into playoffs

by Jake Paquette
Staff reporter

A road trip to Alaska is a tough way for any team to close out their regular season. The Central Washington University men's basketball team doesn't have cold weather and Kodiak bears on their minds though. If the Wildcats were ever in a do or die situation, this is it.

"It's going to be a war," coach Greg Sparling said. "We're playing for our lives. I told the guys it's like the NBA finals, it's do or die." The entire playoff scenario is just a mess. Two wins should solidify the opportunity of playing for a possible national championship.

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"We believe," Sparling said. Every year, the playoffs are held at the home court of the number one ranked team in the division. Western Washington University is currently first in the conference but Seattle Pacific is only a game back.
The game was closed out by junior closing Morr...
H. STATE: Overtime loss against the Lumberjacks adds importance to this weekend's games

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their home court and winning streak on Saturday against Humboldt State University. Despite senior guard Chris Ban­nish's clutch performance down the stretch, the Lumberjacks' junior guard Jeremiah Ward carried his team to an overtime win.

"It was one of those nights, it wasn't like we were giving him clean looks," Sparling said. "He was on fire, and when you get someone like that you ride him, and they did.

The first half was quite sluggish for both teams. Both came out unenergetic and made many errant passes, which ended up with a total of 18 turnovers in the half; each team shot well below 40 percent in the first 10 minutes of the game.

The remaining 10 minutes of the half, both offenses came alive. Both teams raised their shooting percentage to almost 50 percent. A total of 60 points were scored in the last 10 minutes with mostly jump shots. Both teams went into the half with great momentum, but Central went in down, 44-48.

The second half began as both teams came out with their best shots, shooting over 50 percent from the field. It was not until the final eight minutes that both teams' guards, Bannish and Ward, took control of the game. Both teams remained relatively close as Central lead, 90-86, with two minutes left to go. Bannish nailed a three pointer, giving the Wildcats the lead, 90-86, with a little over a minute left. The crowd exploded in pandemonium.

"Coach put the ball in my hands late," Bannish said. "They were hounding Lance all night, so I had to step up.

Cheers did not last long as the Lumberjacks ran down the court making an easy transition basket; making the score 90-88 with one minute left. Central made crucial free throws down the stretch, but Ward continued to throw dagger after dagger hitting two three pointers, tying the game at 94, with 11 seconds on the clock. The Wildcats once again put the ball in Bannish's hands as he drove to the basket, with six seconds remaining. A questionable charging call was made by the officials giving Humboldt State the ball, which sent the game to overtime.

"I feel it should have been a no call," Bannish said. "I got fouled, if anything it was a block.

As overtime began, each team traded shot for shot until the final minute. Central could not catch a break and committed crucial turnovers and fouls. The Wildcats could not hang on and lost in overtime, 102-110.

"They beat us to too many loose balls," Sparling said. "They had 13 offensive rebounds. Take one or two out and we win that game.

The Wildcats will be on the road for their final two games taking on Alaska Anchorage and Alaska Fairbanks, Thursday and Saturday. Even though Central lost on Saturday, they still have a good chance to make the playoffs. Sparling admits that it will be an unbelievably tough trip.

"Well, tonight we could have clinched [a playoff spot], Bannish said. "We have to go to Alaska and split.

PLAYOFFS: Alaska games will decide Wildcats postseason fate

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Alaska Anchorage (18-10, 9-7) and Alaska Fairbanks (8-8, 15-10) are the last two teams in the way of Central's possible playoff run. The Wildcats (14-11, 9-7) sorely over their but their con­ference record has them tied for third. In tonight's game at Alaska Anchor­age, Sparling hopes that the good prac­tices will mean something.

"We went after it a lot more," Sparling said. "I was frustrated with the teams hustle plays and rebounding on Saturday. I really heated up practice.

Anchorage is on a current nine game winning streak at home. Satur­day's game at Alaska Fairbanks will decide the outcome of all the pain, sweat, and hard work the men's basket­ball team has put in all year. Although Central held both Alaska teams to under 75 points during their last meetings, Sparling expects these next two games to be much higher in scoring.

"You have to remember we were coming off winter break and it was their first conference games," Sparling said. "It's going to be a lot higher scoring affair. Everybody elevates their game in the playoffs.

Alaska Fairbanks biggest threat to defend is the scoring of sophomore guard Chris Jordan (16.4 PPG) and sen­ior forward Andrew Smith (15.7 PPG).