Observer

Central Washington University
Students waste no time putting the new Student Union building to use after months of construction. Last Monday’s "soft” opening featured a cake in the shape of the new building, designed and made by Dining Services. The grand opening of the entire building will be celebrated fall quarter during Homecoming 2006 by which time it is expected to be fully operational.

See story on page 2
Staff reporter

For some students, the countdown to the opening of the new Student Union Building and Recreational Center (SUB/REC) began weeks, maybe even months ago. But for the SUB’s project committee, it began over a decade ago.

“This is my project,” said John Drinkwater, senior director of Campus Life and Student Affairs. “I’ve been working on it for 15 years and I’ve been very excited.”

A tremendous amount of students and faculty attended the new building last Monday at its much anticipated opening. The SUB/REC takes up approximately 345,000 square feet and required the removal of the old Holmes Dining Hall. The sheer size of it makes it look like a shopping mall.

“They did a good job,” Teddy McGill, freshman undeclared said, “They built it for the students, what more could we ask for?”

The new SUB/REC adds a whole new aspect to student life at Central Washington University. Based primarily around student opinions and support, it was designed to accommodate more activities and luxuries which students had been waiting for.

“This building is unlike any in the country,” said Jeff Rosenberry, Associate Vice President of Student Life and Student Affairs. “This building is opening up opportunities for students. More important, it will affect the current campus morale.”

The SUB/REC’s three-story rustic atmosphere contains a 345-seat theater, a quarter acre ballroom, numerous dining selections and a university bookstore. The building also provides a relaxing Barnes and Noble feature.

Food not ready for new SUB

by Marqise Allen

As students walked to their classes for the past week at the old SUB, they could not help but notice the new SUB/REC building and wonder what would actually be inside when it opened and would it ever open.

The building’s opening answered the latter question Monday with the “soft” opening of the new building, but the previous question is still unanswered as students wonder when they will actually begin to use it.

“To be honest,” said Jeff Rosenberry, vice president of Student Life and Facilities, “We knew dining services would be open later because of construction and electrical and cabinetry.”

The main reason dining services is not open is due to electricity. Director of Central Washington University Dining Services Bob Borngrebe, said that the electrical running and wiring is finished. This means that none of the old facilities can be moved into the new SUB/REC building until it is completed.

Another explanation is that even though the building will be ready, the staff will not be ready right away to serve food.

“It’ll be contractor clean but not ‘food service’ clean. And we have to train the staff on how to use the new equipment,” - Rob Borngrebe, director, Dining services

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Local WWII vet shares story about Holocaust

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Dee Eberhart, a former Central geography professor, served in the 42nd Rainbow Division during WWII and is a Kittitas County native. Eberhart recounted his experiences as a concentration camp liberator during a speech to commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day Monday night in the Science Building.

"The century that recently passed is probably the most horrific in world history," Eberhart said at the outset of his presentation. The speech, entitled, "Remembering the Holocaust: Remembering Dachau," was presented by the department of philosophy and religious studies with additional sponsorship from the newly reformed Jewish Student Organization (JSO).

Eberhart focused on the events leading up to World War II, the Holocaust in general and eventually, his role as part of the 42nd Rainbow Division rifle company's liberation of the Dachau concentration camp. Especially dramatic were Eberhart's tales of coming under fire from Nazi soldiers while being shot at by Nazi fighter planes.

While Eberhart was fortunate enough to have never been wounded in battle, he said that his combat experience with the Nazis left him with a lasting hostility toward German society. "I have this animosity toward these people and I maintain it," Eberhart said. "I'm not a 'forgive and forget' type of person.

Even so, Eberhart went on to talk about his change in attitude following a return to Dachau in 1995 and a few chance encounters with German's younger citizens. "The younger generation is an entirely different generation than my generation," Eberhart said. "I hate to give up [my] old prejudices, but I do believe there is hope for Germany."

Having grown up near Yakima and graduated from Toppenish High School in 1943, Eberhart enjoyed a standing-room-only turnout that included friends and family, as well as several Central Washington University students. Past Holocaust speakers have drawn similar numbers, but Eberhart is the first local speaker to come to Central.

"This year we thought it would be interesting to bring someone who was really from our community," said Heidi Szpek, assistant professor for the department of philosophy and religious studies. Szpek found Eberhart with the help of the Washington State Holocaust Education Resource Center in Seattle.

"It became important for our community to realize that it's not just somebody who lived in another part of the world or another part of the United States, but right here in our own backyard."

Spek added the speech was recorded and will soon be available in the library along with tapes of past Holocaust speakers.

The event was also a big draw for the newly reformed JSO. Originally established in 2004, the group has been in limbo recently due to the graduation and subsequent departure of its founding members. The group’s current president, Ariel Jacobson, officially rebooted the group at the beginning of winter quarter. Eberhart’s speech marked the group’s first involvement in a university event; an event that Jacobson said has helped the JSO promote their return to campus.

"It was nice because I was able to put out there that there was a Jewish Student Organization [on campus] and that we were involved in campus activities," Jacobson said.

Conservative talk-show host Mark Larson spoke about liberal manipulations of the media. He stressed using humor as a way to debate issues.

"I thought it was interesting [and] provocative," Alex Lykken, junior history major, said. "It's good to get another perspective.

Drawing on personal stories and recent news, Larson's speech played to a largely conservative audience. That isn’t to say that liberals weren’t part of the audience. Larson’s last segment was open for question and answer, which ranged from Iraq, to outsourcing and even on extreme conservatives.

The speech included criticisms of Democrats and liberals on political correctness and spreading conspiracy theories. Larson had some advice for the audience on how to get people thinking about politics. "You have the power you have in debating issues and do it with a sense of humor," Larson said. "It was great to just get people out, to see if we spark some more activism over the topics we were discussing.

College Republicans was the main sponsor of this event. The club usually brings a conservative speaker each year to Central Washington University. "I thought it was interesting [and] provocative," Alex Lykken, junior history major, said. "It's good to get another opinion at the school.

One of the reasons the College Republicans invited Larson to come to Central was his appeal to the masses. "It was great to just get people out, in different form other then the class room; to debate the issues," said Cory Erdi, senior political science and history major and vice president of the College Republicans. "There were some people that completely disagreed with him, and I think that's more than okay. It was a good opportunity for people to get together and talk about politics."
College of Education Works for kids

by Stephanie Howard
Staff reporter

"El Dia de los Ninos: The Day of the Child," is a holiday celebrated in countries around the world. The holiday originated in Mexico, where children are celebrated and honored for their value in society.

Beginning in 1925, the holiday has been celebrated as an event to promote bilingual and multicultural literacy to children in Mexico.

"It’s a really good opportunity for (Central) students because it gives us the chance to work with kids," said Lori Williams, senior elementary education major minorsing in bilingual education.

"It gives us the chance to be creative and try things out with kids in a no pressure situation."

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 29, the Central Washington University College of Education and Professional Studies, along with the Ellensburg School District, will be hosting El Dia de los Ninos. The event began at Central three years ago when a graduate student wrote a research paper on the topic.

El Dia de los Ninos is unique to Central because education students are in charge of the activities children participate in.

Activities include: arts and crafts, sports, science experiments, musical instruments, math and reading games, read alouds and face painting.

Cathrene Connery, assistant professor of bilingual and Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) education described the main goal of the event as a way to call attention to the bilingual community in Ellensburg and surrounding areas. The committee for El Dia de los Ninos promotes the importance of reading and writing in other languages as a necessity in society today.

Williams is participating in the event with a partner; her activity centers around the sunflower. She and her partner created a brochure that includes a simple diagram of a sunflower, a flower to color, a list of root words beginning with "sun," and directions for planting and growing a sunflower from seed.

Children will be given a chance to plant the sunflower seed and take it home to watch it grow.

The event allows college students the chance to work outside of the classroom in a less rigid atmosphere where children can learn and have fun at the same time.

"It’s a really neat opportunity for kids to do something fun on a Saturday when quite often they have cartoons and video games," Williams said. "It gets them involved and active."

This year El Dia de los Ninos will be held at Ellensburg High School at 10 a.m. The committee hosting the event expects approximately 700 children to attend, compared to the 500 who went last year.

All community members are welcome and the event is free to participants.

"El Dia de los Ninos" celebrates everything that is great about childhood," Connery said.

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GAS: Washington state reaches top
ten of gas prices, above national average

In the Energy Information Administration’s weekly listing of gas prices by state, the state of Washington climbed into the top ten with $2.89 per gallon. Compared to the nation’s leader in gasoline usage (California’s $3.07 per gallon), Washington’s prices are above average and rising.

We are going see it through the end and hopefully we can get through this drastic raise in prices without losing money," Anderson said.

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Steinem postponed

Gloria Steinem’s speech has been postponed to 6 p.m. May 4 in the new SUB ballroom.
Doors open at 7:15 p.m. and opening seatings begin at 7:45 p.m.
Steinem aggravated a back injury during a recent flight.

Memorial for Don Black set for Saturday

by Patrick Lewis
News editor

Don Black, longtime education professor, died Sat. April 22 from a heart attack. He was 68.
Black held his Central Washington University career in the 70s. He retired in 1998 but returned in 2004 to assist with the College of Education and Professional Studies as the director of field experience.

"The faculty looked to him as somebody who knew how it worked," said David Short, chair of the department.

Short said Black was a faculty member he looked up to, and when Black came back to the department they worked as colleagues. Black was instrumental in creating avenues for students to student-teacher overseas.

"When I reflect on Don’s contributions, there are many, but that was something that was new, and he really worked with folks," Short said.

Ian Case, program assistant to the director of field experience, said the accomplishment was a team effort.

With Heather Barclay Hamir, (director of study abroad and exchange programs) they implemented the global student teacher program," Case said. "(The program) is starting out small, but it is going to grow.

Case said Black stepped into an interim role when the university needed him.

"He was extremely caring and warm and willing to serve the students in the best way possible," Case said.

One of his huge strengths was to sit down with student teachers who were having problems and get to the problem, and being able to help counsel them.

Black is survived by his wife Ann, five children and 11 grand-children.

Memorial services will be held 2-4 p.m. Saturday April 29, in the old SUB ballroom.
Durr Road Cleanup helped by community effort

by Carly Petersen
Staff reporter

The sun shone a little brighter and the earth turned a little smoother on Saturday, April 22 as volunteers from the Ellensburg area worked together to pick up Durr Road in the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area.

The recreational area is used for shooting, hiking and other activities that lead to litter and junk covering the road. The Kittitas County Field and Stream Club, Kittitas County, the Kittitas County Solid Waste and volunteers worked together to get the area cleaned up. There were nearly 50 volunteers who started at 9 a.m., picking up litter on a one and a half mile stretch of Durr Road. It was a great day," said Tim Whitehurst, a member of the Field and Stream Club. "The weather was good, there were lots of people and we picked up a lot of garbage.

Each volunteer was out for different reasons, but working toward the same goal. "A friend and I came out here to do the Earth Day bike all the time and we just want to keep this place beautiful," said Drew Pokorny, a regular user of the recreation area.

"We all have the right to use the wildlife area. It feels good to do something to help the Earth on Earth Day," Colleen Semple, a local resident, said. "It was nice to have something organized."

There were even some younger people out to lend a helping hand. "I was community service hours to graduate," said Hannah Whitehurst, a sophomore at Ellensburg High school. "It was really supportive in this," Douglas said. (The dinner is at 7 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m., on May 6 at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds. Tickets are $30 at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds. Tickets are $30 at the Kittitas County Trading Co., Ranch and Home or from Dave Douglas at 899-2792 for more information. Tickets will not be available at the door.)

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Local raffle supports shooting sports, scouts

by Carly Petersen
Staff reporter

The local chapter of the Friends of the National Rifle Association (FNRA) is putting on a dinner to raise money for the National Rifle Association (NRA).

The FNRA is a part of the NRA foundation and works to raise money for the NRA. The money raised goes to many different programs, including wildlife and natural resource conservation, state fund endorsements, training and safety education and range development. In addition these programs 65.51 percent of money raised goes to youth programs.

"We are all about providing youth a safe shooting environment," said Dave Douglas, chairman of the FNRA chapter in Ellensburg.

The NRA, a non-profit organization, has funded more than 8,700 grants which equal nearly $61 million. "We are really supportive in this," Douglas said. (The dinner is at 7 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m., on May 6 at the Kittitas County Fairgrounds. Tickets are $30 at the Kittitas County Trading Co., Ranch and Home or from Dave Douglas at 899-2792 for more information. Tickets will not be available at the door.)

The $40 million proposed renovation plan will help improve current facilities in the Ellensburg School District. The school board will decide on the project May 10 where if passed it will be issued on the levy.

The building of a brand new high school in Ellensburg has sparked many new ideas within the school district to continue renovation of the school district facilities.

Even before the new high school was finished in Ellensburg, the school district had set its sights on improving educational facilities once again. It looks like the Ellensburg school district's facilities.

The goal is to improve education and make it more exciting for the students as well as the parents," said Rod Gossman, principal of Lincoln Elementary.

On May 10, members of the school board will be faced with another expensive decision concerning improving the district's facilities. A $42 million proposed renovation plan will be decided upon by the school district, whether or not it will be an issue on this year's levy.

"This plan has been talked about for two years now," said John Glenewinkel, Ellensburg School District Superintendent.

The proposed plan will split the $42 million three ways. The majority of the funding will go to rebuilding Morgan Middle School and a new elementary school. The rest of the funding will then go to refurbishing Lincoln Elementary. Locations of the new schools have not been identified.

"There are health and safety issues with the facilities," Glenewinkel said. "It would be wise for voters to pass this decision because of the rising population in Ellensburg.

If the decision passes, it will be issued upon the levy. The Ellensburg community will have to pass it with a majority decision.

Many of the volunteers were working to be sure they would continue to have the right to use the wildlife area. "I want to keep the right to shoot out here," Paul Gore Burrough, also a user of the recreation area. Some of the volunteers were there for different reasons, but to do something to celebrate Earth Day. "It feels good to do something to help the Earth on Earth Day," Colleen Semple, a local resident, said. "It was nice to have something organized."

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Board plans new school

by Kevin Haubrich
Staff reporter

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by Bryant Phillips
Staff reporter

It's a hot muggy day in Ellensburg; Central Washington University students are thinking of cool, shaded grassy hills and water to dip their feet in, but they just don't know where to go. Somehow the sludgy water of the town ditch just isn't cutting it.

Fortunately, Ellensburg has more parks in the city and surrounding area than most people probably realize. The City of Ellensburg has 14 developed parks with over 180 acres to relax in or make use of their recreational facilities. Tucked away in the Lions/Mount Community Park, located on Suttle Street, is an outdoor roller hockey rink.

Upon asking several Central students if they knew such a rink existed, many had no idea but were pleasantly surprised at the mention of it.

There is also an Olympic-sized swimming pool in the center of Memorial Park on Chestnut and Sixth Street, with a weight room, sauna, spa and winding pool area.

For those simply looking to find a green spot away from campus, local favorite Kiwanis Park offers a baseball field and a small creek shaded by willow trees, while Memorial Park offers grills and picnic areas.

There is also Reed Park at the top of the hill overlooking the Ellensburg Rodeo Arena.

While many fail to recognize the name of the park, its view of Ellensburg and the arena is well-known by local residents. A lesser-known park, and one that Case declared the "best kept secret" of Ellensburg's parks, is the new McElroy Park, located on Brick Road. It features a pond, walking trails and a natural play area for kids.

McElroy Park is only a stone's throw from campus, but in an area that unless you live in the neighborhood, you might not even notice it," Case said.

There are also many state parks in the Ellensburg area that are only a short drive away, including the Cimigik Petrof, Forest State Park (yes, a genuine petrified forest not far from Ellensburg), Wanapum State Park on the Columbia River (with a large dam open to tours) and Bridgeport State Park, also on the Columbia River (with a campground and a golf course).

The Ellensburg Rodeo Park is looking for students interested in working as groundkeepers during the summer and are accepting applications now. The City of Ellensburg and recreational services is also accepting applications for full-time positions, which can be picked up in the City Hall.

People move to Ellensburg for a variety of reasons, many including appealing weather, atmosphere, land availability for farms and ranches and the overall beauty of the area.

"We're only a quick drive to Seattle, the Tri-Cities or the mountains for a ski trip, or summer hike," Tennant said. "Ellensburg brings enjoyment to many who visit."

"Coming to Ellensburg for the weekend is such a blast," said Annie Jackson, massage therapist in Mukilteo, WA. "There is so much to do and the seasons throughout the year are beautiful. I will definitely be visiting again."

If an individual loves the country and a slow-paced environment, Ellensburg may be right for them.

Ellensburg appeals to newcomers

by Kayla Rousmeliotis
Staff reporter

Located in the heart of the Kittitas Valley and in the center of Washington State, Ellensburg is home to year-round recreational activities, numerous events, excellent shopping, dining and a variety of performing and visual arts, according to a brochure from City Hall.

Ellensburg, which is approximately 110 miles east of Seattle and 170 miles west of Spokane, is becoming a more popular town for outsiders to move to.

"It is a combination of many things. People look at the overall general area. They come to Ellensburg for many reasons," said Karen Stanley, visitor information center manager at the Chamber of Commerce.

There are many reasons why people move to Ellensburg.

"The climate, lower home prices, close proximity to lots of fun activities, driving distances to Northwest Washington and the quality of life are some of the many reasons," said Joyce Tennant, Coldwell Banker, Kittitas Valley Realty. Families might move to Ellensburg because of the dry climate and proximity to the mountains, rivers and hills. The prices of homes are a lot lower than most homes on the Westside, which makes property taxes lower.

"I come to Ellensburg from Seattle during the summer months because it is relaxing, and is a small town with many activities and organizations to take part in," said Michael Korah, sales representative for Western Data.com.

Not only are there activities to enjoy, but much more. "Just the plain beautiful attraction of Ellensburg drew me to the town," said Curtis Johnson, junior recreational management major.

"Ellensburg is a town of a much younger generation that is very family oriented," said Jordan Becker, Class of 2006.

People move to Ellensburg for a variety of reasons, including weather, atmosphere, land availability for farms and ranches and the overall beauty of the area.

"We offer the best of both worlds: It is a safe community, and there is a lot to do, such as going to the Ellensburg Rodeo," said Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce representative, Karen Stanley.

The City of Ellensburg is also appealing. "If you're a student, Ellensburg is a great place to go," said Stan Thrall, Ellensburg Junior Recreation Center manager.

"Ellensburg's central location is also a plus," said Ty Whitt, Ellensburg Junior Recreation Center manager.

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Boards offer students chance to participate

by Katie Haag
Staff reporter

For students who want to be involved in the Ellensburg community, there is 15 boards and commissions for people to work on, to fit interests of any kind. Students at Central Washington University can be a part of a board or commission.

"The City of Ellensburg likes to include students in policy making process," Ted Barkley, City Manager.

For those interested in the First Friday Art Walk, the Arts Commission is the perfect place to start. It advises the City Council about performing and visual arts, and promotes art activities of individual organizations and government agencies.

For the more technological side, the Information Technology Commission (CTI). It advises the City Council about the telecommunications franchise and CTI guidelines. It primarily deals with Ellensburg Community Television on channel 14.

"They have openings right now," said Beth Leaflant, staff contact for CTC. "They have community representation and students are more than welcome to serve on the CTC."

The Ellensburg Design Commission work to protect the historical resources of the city by reviewing new or updated buildings for new construction.

Say a building is listed as a landmark or historic, any exterior alterations have to be approved by the commission.

If any businesses in town want to add new signs, they must get approval from the commission.

History professor Thomas Wellock and biology professor Kristina Ernst both serve on EC, as well as Central student Scott Leadingham, senior double major in political science and public policy.

"I will have a better understanding of how city governments structure their policy, and its good all around policy for jobs in the future," Leadingham said.

The senior citizen advisory committee is more for a people person.

Various times we request or solicit information from the senior citizens attending the facility asking questions such as, "Is there something that can be changed in the activity to make it better?" said Earl Don Fuller, Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee.

If they are trying to use the $7,000 in their budget to purchase a new vehicle for offsite programs and events.

Any Central student can be a part of a board or commission and make a difference in the city.

"I think that the experience has been very valuable and these things I've come to learn are essential in the protection and governments of any city," Leadingham said.

There are many different boards and commissions. To be a part of one, fill out an application at City Hall.

Parks offer recreation, summer jobs

One of the many appeals in the area are all the outdoor activities available during the summer months people are able to enjoy the various parks, both local and state. For those looking for a summer job, the city has jobs available during the summer to help maintain the parks.
I hate fanboys. The term often refers to things in geek culture, including video games and technology. I would gladly take those over fanboys that exist in the political realm.

To clarify, my interpretation of a fanboy is someone who is not just a hardcore fan of something, but refuses to even consider that an actual or perceived competitor may have some good points. He or she would just take that competitor out of the equation, dragging them off.

What got me thinking about this was the title of the Mark Larson event, “How to Confound a Liberal.” Then I once took that view point, since political parties love setting you in one camp or another.

Isn't that how George W. Bush ran the 2004 election? The whole election, whether one is a Republican or Democrat, wasn't about the best decision, but only who you were voting against. It also makes it so that we can rarely, if ever, find the real answers.

Don't ignore the opponent's opinion, debate. If your opinion is right, prove it, and your opponent should do the same.

But the most important thing for you and everyone else to do is to find the answers yourself. Develop your own opinion. Only then should you decide on joining a political party or not. Just don't be intimidated to be on one side or another.

We may live in a system that really doesn't allow two major parties, but you shouldn't have to be forced to be on one side or another. Only if you fear the widening rift is that truth will be another casualty. As competition becomes more fierce, it seems that any sense of the truth is debased. Debate ceases and become shouting matches, where misleading claims or completely false assertions become a regular thing.

Politics may have elements of games in them, but politics aren't entirely a game. If you're a moderate, don't be afraid to say so; the same goes toward liberals and conservatives. It isn't that one side is always right, and the other side always wrong. To pigeonhole the opposition not only is the exact opposite of having a debate, it also makes it so we can rarely, if ever, find the real answers.

One reason I fear the widening rift is that truth will be another casualty. As competition becomes more fierce, it seems that any sense of the truth is debased. Debate ceases and become shouting matches, where misleading claims or completely false assertions become a regular thing.

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Writing for the editorial board

**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 963-1027.

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- Monday, 3 p.m. - Weekend sports information.
- Monday, 5 p.m. - Letters to the editor.

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The Observer is printed by Daily Record Printing, Ellensburg.

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by Robbie Miller
Staff reporter

Spider webs will fly, clouds will have hearts and chickens will lay eggs, all on stage and without the aid of special effects.

It took some imagination, but Central Washington University's Theatre Arts department has brought the Russian folktale "The Fool of the World" to life and now plans to share it with the Northwest as they begin a tour of 20 communities with 35 performances.

"It's really going to be a sweet show," said Leslie Caul, director of theatre arts department, who will travel with the cast. "As we keep adding pieces it gets more delightful. Everybody is really happy with it."

"The Fool of the World" is a children's story that tells of a peasant named Dmitri who has been called a fool his whole life. He travels to the Czar of Russia's palace on a magical flying ship made from spider's web to fool his whole life. He travels to the theatre, thinks it's a great message to the cast, this presented a whole new set of challenges, which the actors said they enjoyed.

Preparing for the play has been full of interesting experiences for all the actors. Griffith plays Dmetri, the main character, as well as his sidekick, Ivan, who is a puppet. Senior Theatre Arts performance major Eric Villiers said Griffith will probably develop a split personality by the time they're done. The two spiders that create Dmitri's personality by the time they're done.

"I really believe that somewhere in this quarter some kid or two is going to see this show and be inspired and changed because of it," Forier said. "I think everyone has had an artwork that move them and change them and I think it's great to be a part of that."

Forier's children's theater class made a study guide last quarter to go with the play, which covers Russian history and some of the play's major themes.

The cast will provide workshops at a few locations and interact with the kids after the show.

The entire cast is just five students who all play multiple roles. Forier and the cast have spent six to eight hours a day, six days a week for the past three weeks.

"It kind of consumes your whole day," said Jayda McGough, junior theatre arts performance major. "I, for one, can't stop laughing, and that's my favorite part." Forier said playing a spider was like nothing she'd ever done before and it presented unique physical challenges.

"Laughter is something there's been no shortage of during rehearsal. "I push my cast to be as ridiculous as they can," Forier said. "And sometimes I laugh so hard I fall down on the floor and I can't stop laughing, and that's my favorite part."

"I'm really excited to be involved and not just perform and leave," Ullery said.

"Mostly I want to go on the tour because they've worked so hard and deserve to feel good," she said.

Preparing for the play has been full of interesting experiences for all the actors. Griffith plays Dmetri, the main character, as well as his sidekick, Ivan, who is a puppet. Senior Theatre Arts performance major Eric Villiers said Griffith will probably develop a split personality by the time they're done. The two spiders that create Dmitri's personality by the time they're done.

"As we keep adding pieces it gets more delightful. Everybody is really happy with it." -Leslee Caul

director of marketing and development

"I'm really excited to be involved and not just perform and leave," Ullery said.

"This is what someone in professional theatre would be doing, working just like this," Forier said. "And some­times I laugh so hard I fall down on the floor and I can't stop laughing, and that's my favorite part."

"Mostly I want to go on the tour because they've worked so hard and deserve to feel good," she said.
City shows respect for its history

by Taishi Kanamaru
Staff reporter

Not many people know the city of Ellensburg almost became the Washington state capital in the nineteenth century, but many still feel its historical background should be preserved.

While the Ellensburg Comprehensive Plan is looking at the growth of the city, one of the goals is historic preservation.

The official Web site of the plan says it emphasizes the importance the community places on historic resources and the need to preserve and restore those resources as a fundamental part of maintaining the community's identity.

The plan also states that there are historic preservation issues in Ellensburg such as there are not many local designers and contractors who are experienced in the rehabilitation of historic structures in a manner that conforms to current life-safety building code requirements.

For that specific issue, some of the possible solutions include developing a program of incentives to apply to renovation, rehabilitation and the creation of a façade design assistance program.

Michael Smith, senior planner for the city, said the plan will focus on the preservation of the whole downtown. More specifically, the certain area they are looking for is the downtown area divided by Third and Sixth avenues.

"Changes to buildings in the area must go through a review process," Smith said. "It is historic district on national register, which is federal level and state level.

Ron Credlebaugh, executive director of the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce, agrees with the idea of respecting the tradition. "One of the reasons that the town likes to keep its historic preservation is it gives connection to the past." Credlebaugh said. "It also allows people to feel comfortable and peaceful when walking downtown."

The history of Ellensburg is something rich and gives people a chance to feel tradition. At the corner of Third and Chestnut is the building locals call "The Castle," which was built as a mansion to house the governor in 1888, when the city almost became the state capital.

During that same era, Central Washington University opened in 1891, the Palace Café has served in town since 1892, and the first Ellensburg Rodeo was held in 1923.

Chris Mills, senior music major, does not understand why such an historic place should bring any "big box" stores and bother the tradition. "I think they should do it in some different areas," Mills said.

Simple set allows children to imagine scene

by Brooke Saul
Staff reporter

Imagine a traveling set with two pillars and a curtain hanging down between them. It's more complicated than people think. Albie Clementi, the set designer for "The Fool of the World," has to make sure that the set is durable and easy to break down. Clementi, senior Theatre Arts, design and technology major with a specialization in scenic design, also has to keep in mind that the set will be handled a lot, must be light in weight and able to fit into a van, along with five actors.

Thousands of children around Washington and Oregon will be able to see the traveling play at elementary schools, high schools and at a couple of Central Washington University Centers, including Edmonds and Lynnwood. The set has been traveling since last Tuesday and will continue for the next five weeks.

"The set allows the children to engage in their imagination, so something simple as a couple boxes can become an entire world," said Brent Griffith, the actor who plays Dimitri, the main character, as well as his-stick-in-the-box, Ivan, who is a puppet.

"Russian folk art was my inspiration for the set," Clementi said. The set that Clementi made is considered a simple set, and took him just a couple of weeks to make and not a lot of man-hours.

"The Fool of the World" is a Russian folktale, which is similar to a fairy tale. "It's a taste of pre-revolution Russia," Clementi said. "The pillars have onion-shaped domes and the backdrop resembles a Russian nesting doll."

The director for "The Fool of the World," Else Forier, says the set is terrific because it is lightweight and packs beautifully in a 15-passenger van, which has to have room for the cast and their belongings.

"I think Albie Clementi was very smart and creative to leave the set simple, instead of trying to complicate performances with lots of shifts and exact representations," Forier said. "Instead, we have something fluid and portable and very, very pretty."

Senior theater arts performance major Eric Villiers believes that the set is spectacular. "The Fool of the World" is a Russian folktale, which is similar to a fairy tale.

"It was designed to be easy to move and set up, so that it is not a burden on the cast," Villiers said. "A lot of thought went into the construction, materials, and design and was executed perfectly."

Read the Observer online at www.cwu.edu/~observer

5 minutes with...Brent Griffith

by Jackie Molcho
Staff reporter

April 27 through June 2, Five Theatre Arts students will be performing in a traveling production of the Russian folktale "Fool of the World." Theatre Arts major Brent Griffith will be playing the lead and his alter ego. The junior transfer student from Olympic College in Bremerton plans to get involved in the Seattle theatre scene after school.

Griffith hopes to take his act to Chicago after building up his resume.

Q: What parts do you play?
A: I really only play one, Dimitri and his alter ego, Ivan. Ivan's kind of Dimitri's courageous side and does things Dimitri isn't brave enough to do.

Q: What's the deal with the puppets?
A: There's a few: Ivan and some chickens. In the script Ivan's a puppet and children pretend to be chickens. It's hard with some of the venues so we're using puppets. The puppets lay eggs too, so it's pretty cool.

Q: How many productions have you been in?
A: I've done shorts twice here, but I started my junior year of high school.

Q: Have you been in a traveling production before?
A: Sort of, in my senior year of high school. We did a children's play and visited some schools around Port Orchard. So I knew a little, but this is a larger scale, we're traveling to 20 or 21 different communities and performing 35 times.

Q: How do you feel about being on the road for so long?
A: I'm so excited. I can't wait. I've heard some good and bad things, but more good things.

Q: How did you get into theatre?
A: I originally took theatre classes because I was shy. I still kind of am. I thought it would help me to overcome my shyness and it did. Theatre is very therapeutic and I enjoyed it so much that I stayed. It engages me fully and keeps my attention.

Q: What do you like most about being involved in these productions?
A: It varies from production to production. With this, I'm excited to present theatre to kids. It's very rewarding to change kids' minds about theatre and get their minds beyond television.

Q: Do you still get first night jitters?
A: Sometimes.

Q: What's your most embarrassing moment on stage?
A: One moment was in a short last year, I blanked on line. It's the scariest thing, if the other person doesn't know what to do it's just silence on stage and five seconds can seem like five minutes. Luckily, the girl knew what to do and covered it.

Q: What are your favorite types of plays to be in?
A: It's hard to say. All of them, from serious, comedy, children's and student written produce different challenges. Not poorly written ones, these are hard.
Art exhibition reception to be held Friday night

The Student Art Council is welcoming everyone to the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition. The exhibition located in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery in Randall Hall opened on April 24, and will continue through May 6. This year the exhibition was juried by Mary Dryburgh and Seth D’Ambrosia, two Central Washington University alumni. An artists reception will be held tomorrow from 6 to 8 p.m. There will also be an awards ceremony at 7 p.m. Sarah Spurgeon Gallery hours are Monday - Friday 10-3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 12-3 p.m.

There is a reason cell rhymes with hell

by Lacey Stanton
Asst. Scene editor

Review

He is the Marilyn Monroe, Frank Sinatra and John Wayne of the book world. Stephen King has been hitting the top of the best selling book charts for decades and collecting book lovers from every generation.

His newest book “Cell” has once again proven what a flexible and evolving writer King is. He takes an everyday item and turns it into an epidemic.

When the phenomenon, known as The Pulse, is delivered to the population through every cell phone ever produced, humans are transformed into destructive zombies turning against one another and destroying everything in sight.

Clayton Kiddell, Thomas McCourt and Alice Maxwell had nothing in common on the morning of October 1 they all had the desire to live by that afternoon. Their story starts at the Atlantic Avenue Inn in Boston and continues north to Maine where the fate of Clayton’s son and wife will be decided. Along the way they are faced with difficult decisions and incredible danger.

On their journey they discover the Gaitan Academy, a prep school devastated by The Pulse. The two remaining residents are the headmaster and Jordan, a young boy and student of the school.

Together the five survivors decide to rebel and blow up an entire football field of zombies while they sleep. The decision is not one of their best.

After the mass murder, the zombies make it perfectly clear that they will not be easily killed.

In the following days they show signs of growing intelligence and even telepathy.

This makes killing the zombies nearly impossible. Instead, Clayton, Thomas, Alice and Jordan continue north to a town the zombies have renamed NO-FO (meaning no phones).

They soon realize that the zombies have told them where to go. Now they must decide if it’s a trap or the only future they will have.

Cell starts quickly and the reader is hooked within three pages. The book has a suspenseful and unexpected plot that keeps readers guessing. King does a great job describing the characters and the reader easily becomes immersed in the plot.

Faithful followers of King’s books will be equally as impressed with this one as with all his previous works.

Stephen King notes that he does not consider himself a cell phone person but he did write the book.

PUNCH Gallery opens in Seattle

by Thomas Stockton
Staff reporter

Many Central Washington University students, faculty and alumni have joined together to open a new art gallery. It’s called the PUNCH Gallery and is located in downtown Seattle.

“It’s an artist-run gallery, so no one is in charge of one thing,” said Justin Cibbens, artist and one of five PUNCH Gallery board members. “All decisions are worked out between the five of us.”

The gallery has nine members and plans to have a total of ten. Each artist member will be able to put on a solo show and also participate in the many group shows the gallery will host. Having ten artists will also allow the gallery to have a couple months of the year to include specialty art shows.

The gallery will feature two different group showings. The first is called “Round One” and will feature art from Central alumni Renee Adams, Jen Erickson, Justin Cibbens and current student Lucas Martin. Their art will include sculptures, paintings, drawings and photography. The show opened on April 6 and will continue until April 30.

The second show is called “Round Two” and will open on May 4. This show will also be part of Seattle’s First Thursday Art Walk. It will feature art from Central alumni Howard Barlowe, graduate student Justin Beckman, humanities major Joanna Thomas and Central photography professor Michael Sherevin.

“At this point in time everyone involved in the gallery has at some point been affiliated with Central,” said Beckman, president of the PUNCH board of directors.

The gallery is not limited to Central-related artists. There is currently an open call for artists from all over the state to join the gallery.

The PUNCH Gallery is located near Pioneer Square in Seattle on Prefontaine Place South. Its location is part of a vibrant art district surrounded by galleries, studios and artist lofts. It is open from noon to 5 p.m., Friday through Sunday or by appointment.

For more information about the artists and the gallery visit their Web site at www.punchgalley.org.

Do you design graphics? Do you want to make them for the Observer?

E-mail the Observer at observer@cwu.edu
Students to attend lecture and film series

by Katie Baker  
Staff reporter

Central Washington University will be hosting the ninth annual Videmus Lecture and Film Series at the new Student Union Building Theatre. Central's Diversity Education Center is one of the sponsors for Videmus Film Lecture. The film series was started in 1996 by Djordje Popovic, program coordinator at the Diversity Education Center.

The Videmus festival showcases films that encourage students to have thought provoking discussions. The films show a global perspective on issues regarding immigration, independent media in informed societies, gender expression and hip hop.

"The film and lecture series started as a bunch of friends and colleagues getting together to watch different types of films and then discussing what we saw afterward," Popovic said. "Now it's a community festival for students and faculty who choose the films they would like to see. These films are great for people who love films ranging from documentaries to major mainstream films."

More than 21 campus and local organizations sponsor the event. This year many of the films are in conjunction with the Classic Film series and the President's "One Book One Campus" Program.

Each film will be presented by a Central faculty member and will open up a discussion forum after the film to discuss issues facing today's society.

"Videmus is a great way to expose students to important social issues and having a chance to talk about the issues during the presentation is wonderful through the discussions led by the faculty and staff," said Lindsay Jacobson, Women's Issues and Violence Prevention programmer at the Student Empowerment Center.

The Videmus Lecture and Film Series is free and open to the public at the new Student Union Building Theatre. The film series begins on Monday, May 1 and will run until Saturday, May 6; each film will start at 7 p.m.

For more information, or for persons of disability to arrange for reasonable accommodation call (509) 963-1027, or for the hearing impaired TDD (509) 963-2143.
Rodeo bucks its way into Ellensburg

Amidst the flying dirt and the sounds of clapping horseshoes, the Central Washington University Rodeo rode through Ellensburg as junior Kayde Davenport earned herself a first place finish in overall points in the women's all-around competition on Friday.

"It was a great accomplishment," Davenport said. "Every point helped out.

Last weekend showcased Central's women, finding themselves on top of the leader boards when they finished third in both Friday's Northwest Regional and The Todd Anderson Memorial Rodeo on Saturday and Sunday.

Davenport also took second in both the barrel racing and goat tying in Friday's events. Junior teammate Cheryl Brown took fourth in the women's all-around competition in Saturday's and Sunday's events, roping third place in the barrel racing and fourth place in the goat tying.

"I actually survived," a cheerful Brown said. "I was really happy about it. It's hard to do well in all three events. I had a good rodeo and the rodeo itself went really well.

Central faced up against schools such as: Eastern Oregon University, University of Idaho and Washington State University, to name a few.

The Central women placed third as a team in Saturday's and Sunday's events, which according to club adviser Kay Davis, was far better than years before.

"Our women's team did really well," Davis said. "They work so hard. They're putting on the rodeo and trying to compete so it's hard for them to do well at their own rodeo. And when they do, it's a bonus.

Junior Sarah Jones finished fifth in the breakaway roping and sixth in the barrel racing events. Junior Sadee Shelton rounded up the women's team with a seventh place finish in the breakaway roping event.

The lone ranger for a young men's team came in the form of freshman Aaron Blanchard as he finished fifteenth in the bull riding competition. The men's team took seventh place in the Northwest Regional standings. Although the men's team didn't finish as well as the women's, their time will come. Davis believes the men are just building up, while being young and not as experienced as some of the women.

Keep the calendars open as the Central Rodeo Club takes part in regionals on May 12. They will also compete in the Blue Mountain Community College Rodeo on May 13-14 in Pendleton, Oregon.

For complete rodeo standings and statistics go to www.college rodeo.com.

Photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer
Wildcats struggle to get on track

by Jordan Monearney Staff reporter

The Central Washington University Wildcats kept their up and down season in tact this weekend versus the St. Martin's Saints with a split in their Saturday double header and losses on Sunday.

The Saturday two-game series against St. Martin's was full of anxiety, starting early in the day. The first game started two hours late, due to umpire showing up. The game was originally scheduled to start at 1 p.m. But commenced at 3:31 p.m. when local umpire Brandon Callahan filled in behind the plate and Steve Farrington, father of Central Washington University player Tyler Farrington, volunteered to umpire the field.

Down 1-0, the Saints struck in the top of the fourth inning. St. Martin's lineup, which had gone on for four innings against senior Wildcat starting pitcher Isaac Finch without much as a hit, finally found the ball and broke open their offense. Finch cruised for three innings, striking out three batters and allowing only one base runner. He found himself struggling against the Saints' offense.

With runners at the corners, catcher Richard O'Neill put one in left field for a single, earning a RBI. Two more singles, a walk, and a sacrifice fly gave the Saints a four-run inning off four hits. The Wildcats were down by three and did not respond. In the four innings of play, the Wildcats mustered one run out four hits. The combination of the Saints' starting pitcher Tip Wonhoff and good defensive plays, made scoring for the Wildcats difficult.

"We weren't playing our best and we were over-aggressive at the plate," said senior first baseman Tanner Swan­non. "We went after some bad pitches and didn't recognize the ump's zone early enough. They figured out the zone and waited for the good pitches-they just hit the ball. They were patient and we were over-eager."

The fire that ignited the Saints' offense after the third inning had not shown up. The game was low scoring, compared to the previous games in the series. "I didn't know I was going to go in, my arm felt good and I knew it was time to work," Templeton said. "I just did what all pitchers try to do, keep it low and on the corners, and let the defense do their job. They did a good job; there were a lot of ground outs."

The Saints' next half of the series was continued in Lacey on Saint's Field. The game, which was low scoring compared to the previous games in the series, became a duel between the two starters. Wildcats senior starter Scott Parish threw for all eight innings, keeping the Saints offense to a single hit and four runs. Parish gained six strikeouts during the game but ended up with the loss. His adversary, Saints' pitcher Brady Halvorson picked up his fifth win after pitching a very effective game. In his eight innings pitched Halvorson allowed six hits but only two runs, and accumulated five strikeouts. The game ended 2-4, a Saints victory.

The final game of the series began with a rocky Wildcat start. The Saints were able to hit Central's starting pitch­er senior Adam Kemp fairly well and, in the first three innings brought home four runs off him without a Wildcat response. However, in the top of the fourth, Central shocked the game with a one inning coming back. Saints starter Michael Sheblat, who had allowed only one hit in his first three innings, found himself on the ropes. Then Wildcat designated hitter junior Parker Smolens, senior first base Tanner Swanson, and sophomore outfielder Mike Carrigan all hit consecutive singles off him and loaded the bases. Smolens and Swanson came home when junior center fielder Bryan Maloney hit a single. Maloney, who had a great breakout series against California State Stanis­laus, proved yet again his value to the team. Both Maloney and Carrigan came home with a double, hit by Sepa­niski. In one inning Central was back in it. The momentum seemed to be changing to Central's favor only to be smothered in the bottom of the fifth when the Saints put another three runs on the board. The Wildcats mustered another two runs before the game was over and took the 6-5.

Central's next series is at Western Oregon on April 29 at 1 p.m. The Wolves are on top of the GNAC with a 13-3 conference record to go along with a 31-13 overall mark.
**Track and Field stays busy during weekend**

*by Tyler Lobe*  
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University track and field team split to compete at two separate meets last weekend, which included the University of Oregon Invitational and the Cougars Invitational at Washington State University (WSU).

Several athletes also competed in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Multi-Event Championships held here in Ellensburg on Monday and Tuesday.

**Central rugby looks to toward future with high expectations**

*by Elliot Stock*  
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's rugby team had one of its most promising seasons this year, finishing with a 4-1 record. The Wildcats only divisional loss was to Washington State University, who were ranked tenth nationally.

"It was a good season overall," said coach Bob Ford. "We have a lot of young players and we can only get better."  

Many Central players had standout seasons including first and second years Mike Nelson, Demetrious Ganney and Jeff Annis. All of Central's first year players started at least once during the season and in the playoffs.

"The first year players really came through for us this season," junior Jon Douglas said.

The Wildcats worked unselfishly as a team, getting tries from many players. Central's offense depended on the team which they were facing.

Going up against less physical teams, Central demonstrated their mental toughness when they played the University of Washington in the first half of the season. The Wildcats found themselves down 17 points going into the second half but were able to gain back themselves down 17 points going into the second half but were able to gain back their composure and win 33-22. The victory showed Central's ability to work as a team and their will to win when they were mentally rattled.

"Our core impact players are returning, so we're sure to make a splash in the future," Nelson said. "We know what to go for and how to succeed."

- Mike Nelson  
Second year player

Central was able to battle back from a 17-0 deficit early in the first half, to make it 17-15 at the half. However the rest of the game was dominated by Washington State, who scored four tries in the second half.

Central demonstrated their mental toughness when they played the University of Washington in the first half of the season. The Wildcats found themselves down 17 points going into the second half but were able to gain back their composure and win 33-22. The victory showed Central's ability to work as a team and their will to win when they were mentally rattled.

"Our core impact players are returning, so we're sure to make a splash in the future," Nelson said. "We know what to go for and how to succeed."

Over the summer there will to be a seven-a-side rugby team called the Ellensbough Bulls, which will give Central players an opportunity to keep on top of their game and stay physically fit during the off season. This will also give a chance for some new talent to be discovered by Central Rugby coaches.

For more information on the men's rugby team contact Jason Foster at 425-327-5804 or go to the CWU club sports website at www.CentralWashingtonUniversity.edu/rec/sports clubs/rugby.

**Women's hoops team adding and solidifying itself for next year**

*by Jerone James*  
Staff reporter

With four returning starters and a well-rounded recruiting class, the Central Washington University women's basketball team has a bright and promising future.

"We are extremely experienced with good leadership and direction to go along with our talent," said Coach Jeff Whitney.

Central lost first team all-conference player, Jaime Cowlin to graduation last season. This a big loss, and leaves some big shoes to fill, but with a strong returning team they are capable of doing just that.

"We have some key role players returning from last year," Whitney said. "Senior Stephanie McKinney, who transferred from Eastern Washington University last year, is someone who can really help us."

Central seems to attract transfer students, especially those from Eastern Washington University. Division I transfer, senior Brandie Bonds will join former Eastern teammate Stephanie McKinney.

"Central is a lot closer to home for me," Bonds said. "I thought was done when I quit at Eastern, but the more I watched the more I wanted to play. I thought it would be a perfect fit."

Bonds will bring additional experience to these core players and will provide another scoring threat as well.

"Bonds will contribute a lot to this team. She is a scorer and a big defender," McKinney said. "She brings a lot of potential to the team."

"Bonds is somebody who is a little more quicker and athletic at our four position with a scorer's mentality," Whitney said. "But you can't really replace Jaime. With some of our key reserves we have from last year and bringing in three or four new people, we are going to count on a more team attack with more balance."

Recent signees, Shana Alos, another Alaska product will be joining former Alaska prep star junior Kristina Klapperich. Alos has many basketball accolades following her to Central and will make an immediate impact on the team.

"Rebelling is something that we really lacked as a team last season," Whitney said. "We needed to find somebody who was physically and mentally tough and Shana brings that to the table. That's hard to find. Alaska is not very heavily recruited and we have been pretty fortunate these last few years to get some of the top players like Alos."

see BASKETBALL, page 16

Chad Acock cooks and fries the jaiilien during Tuesday's practice behind Nicholson Pavilion. The Wildcats will compete in split squad action this weekend at Western Oregon University and Western Washington University.

Central rugby looks to toward future with high expectations

Central's offense depended on the team which they were facing. Central then spread the ball out to the rod 13 7 feet. Sophomore Krissy Armstrong had a good 110 hurdle race, improving his mark to the GNAC's second-best time in that event (21.93).

In the GNAC Multi-Event Championships held here in Ellensburg on Monday and Tuesday, senior Cosep Watson claimed first place in the men's decathlon with 6,044 points.

He broke his own season's best score of 5,713 points while posting the best marks in the 100 (11.47), 400 (50.37), high jump (6-03.5), long jump (21-04), 110 hurdles (16.23) and the 1500 meters (4:44.19), among the five competitors; four of which were Wildcat teammates.

Sophomore Scott McCoy had the best shot put (32-01.5) and best discus throw (109-16) and finished second through the first day but dropped to fourth on the final day with 4,927 points. Sophomore Brandon Zauger pulled ahead to finish third with 5,090 points and freshman Ryan Johnson finished fifth (4,775).

The Wildcat's will have one last weekend to compete before the GNAC Championships on May 6, at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, Ore.

This weekend, some athletes will travel back to Bellingham to compete in the Western Washington University Twilight Open on Friday or the Duane Hartman Invitational on Saturday in Spokane. More stats available at gnacsports.com

For more information on the men's rugby team contact Jason Foster at 425-327-5804 or go to the CWU club sports website at www.CentralWashingtonUniversity.edu/rec/sports clubs/rugby.
Tricker warns Central athletes about the dangers of booze, carelessness on field

by Courtney Naccarato  Staff reporter

Student athlete at Central Washington University is required to attend sessions with various speakers throughout the year. The focus is to maintain healthy lifestyles.

The Wildcat Wellness Center puts on the events. They try to average between three and four sessions a year, but put on at least two.

Ray Tricker, a drug education profes­ sor for 20 years from Oregon State Uni­ versity, held a session on alcohol use with various speakers through­ out his session. The students were asked to think about how they responded to what he was saying and in doing so ruining lives.

Do not get your joy from alcohol...find your joy elsewhere," said Tricker.

Tricker stated that he was not there to threaten but to help. He wanted to show the athletes that they can still have fun without drinking.

He pumped the athletes full of facts and gave them various questions to think about, such as what is your mind­ set? Why do athletes drink? What works?

When college athletes drink they bring more than non-athletes. Plus ath­ letes are more social than non-athletes. Tricker said.

A NCAD survey was showed to the students. It showed that 83.4 percent of baseball players drink, 74.1 percent of basketball players drink, 86.9 percent of women's soccer players drink and 85.3 percent of softball players drink. In that same survey 60 percent of athletes believe that their teammates consume more alcohol then they do.

They were asked to think about how well they knew themselves and what that has to do with alcohol.

Alcohol abuse was explained as psychological, physiological and social. It gives a person delusional thinking, a euphoric recall and makes a person remember only the good stuff that had happened.

The social aspect plays a part with relationships and teamwork. Speed, endurance, balance and strength all are physiological. When a person drinks the ability to do what was once possible is now lowered.

"If you are interested in being better, why drink?" said Tricker.

The athletes were reminded that the roots of the problem to overcome alcohol lay within the mindset of the person.

Athletes tend to be optimistic. They underestimated the probability of encountering negative events according to Tricker. The athletes took into account the things that were mentioned that can happen in a second. They were reminded of how easy they can hurt themselves or someone else and in doing so ruining lives.

Suggestions were made about how to help one another. Some mentioned were to establish a team contract, dis­ cuss a passion and to set goals.

"Hopefully the kids will think twice before they drink next time," said Ken Klaudin, head athletic trainer at Central.

By the end athletes showed their appreciation to tricker tricker when he speech had concluded, by going up to him and talk to him in person.

"He did a good job of reaching the students and making them look at themselves," said Sheri Forrest, assis­ tant athletic director.

Student athletes concurred with for­ rest.

"He did a very good job presenting information about how alcohol abuse amongst athletes," said junior women's basketball forward Laura Wright.

Tricker said he did not know how well he got through to the students because there was not a question and answer period. But he was impressed by how they responded to what he was said.

"I wanted to direct them to think about who they are," he said.

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Wenatchee High School. Tandie credits her recent success to both her throwing Coach T.J. Crater's knowledge, and her work ethic. Both have made her stronger mentally and physically, which in turn has made her more confident in her ability.

"In high school I had a lot of different coaches, so T.J. has really helped me develop better form," Tandie said. Tandie's climb to the top began this winter, and can definitely be attributed to the effort she has exerted and the consistent coaching she has received. She won the conference indoor championship in both the shot-put and the 20 pound weight, which is indoor tracks version of the hammer throw. On her way to the shot-out title she also set a new school and conference record with a throw that was just less than 44 feet and eight inches.

After the indoor season was completed Tandie turned her attention to outdoor track, but she was focused for much longer than that. Crater noticed a change in her early in the year.

"After the summer she was more focused and mature, which showed in her throwing," Tandie said. "T.J. has already identified the first part of that correlation. If she continues to use the determination and talent that she possesses, Tandie will have no problems reaching her objectives.

"I just got back from a meet in Eugene, where there were a lot of older, talented throwers, so I just tried to beat my personal record," Tandie said. "I definitely want to make it to nationals," Tandie said. "I realized what it took to be the best at a national level."

That maturity has helped her realize the most efficient way to approach each individual meet, and continue to reach toward a trip to nationals. Tandie realizes that she can always improve, and placing first at a less competitive meet isn't as important as striving to do her personal best, and reaching toward a personal record when surrounded by more experienced throwers.

"I definitely want to make it to nationals," Tandie said. She has already identified the first part of that correlation. If she continues to use the determination and talent that she possesses, Tandie will have no problems reaching her objectives.