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Observer

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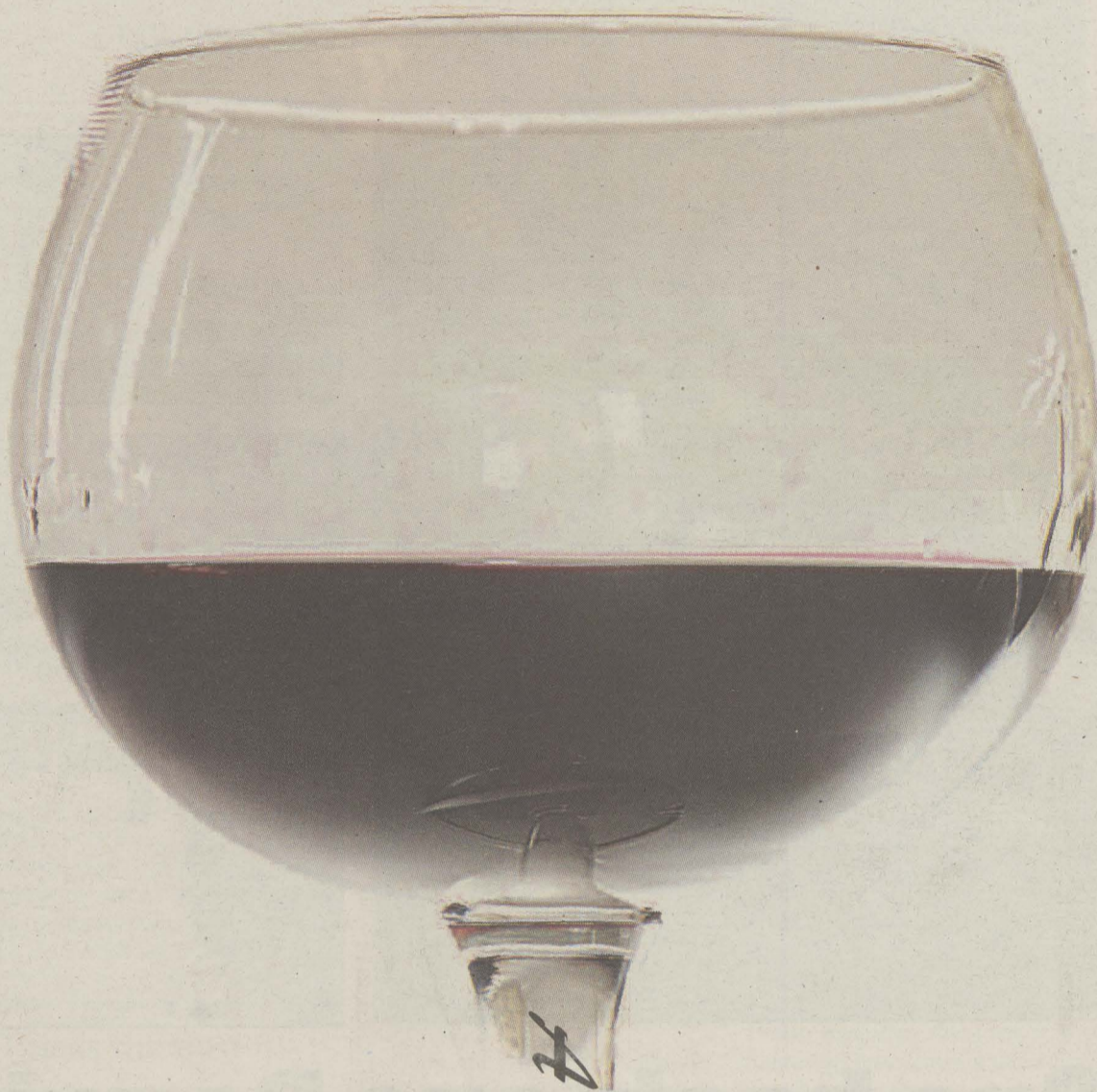
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February 22, 2007 - volume 80 number 15



A marriage in the mouth

of wine & chocolate

by Leah Hafterson
Staff reporter

Although Valentine's Day has come and gone, it's not time to put away the wine and chocolate just yet.

Ellensburg WineWorks is hosting "Red Wine and Chocolate," an event where red wines are paired with dark chocolates for customers to taste. Art and music from Central students will complete the event.

"A very bitter chocolate will break through the wine," said Marketing and Sales Director of Ellensburg WineWorks Matt Wollen. "It's like a marriage in your mouth."

Wollen will pair each wine with a different type of chocolate and leave his recommendations for the customers to try.

"The more bitter or robust the chocolate is, the bigger in flavor I want the wine to be," Wollen said. "That's the general rule."

Customers are encouraged to try whatever suits their palate when sampling the wine and chocolate, not just what Wollen has laid out.

"It's a lot more fun to let people decide on their own," Wollen said. "I will always give guidelines, but I will never put down rules."

The chocolates Wollen selected are all dark chocolates, containing a high percentage of cocoa. The more cocoa, the more bitter the taste.

The chocolates are from Seattle-based Theo Chocolate, the only roaster of organic cocoa beans in the United States. Theo Chocolates is also the first to roast Fair Trade certified cocoa beans in the United

States. Wollen contacted Theo Chocolates on the recommendation of customer Winnie Alberg from Stillwater Creek Vineyards in the Columbia Valley.

"When they sent me the samples, the chocolate was fabulous," Wollen said. "You can tell it's handcrafted. You can tell where they're getting the chocolate from the leading places in the world."

The featured chocolates for sampling come from Venezuela, Madagascar, Ecuador, Ghana and the Ivory Coast.

Wollen came up with the idea for "Red Wine and Chocolate" after he heard about a similar event in Yakima. This event took place over the course of three days and featured 50 Yakima Valley wineries.

"We wanted to figure out a more intimate way to offer the same thing at Ellensburg WineWorks," Wollen said.

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NEWS

Students explore Darwin's research/legacy

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CITY

Ellensburg plans \$100,000 sign project

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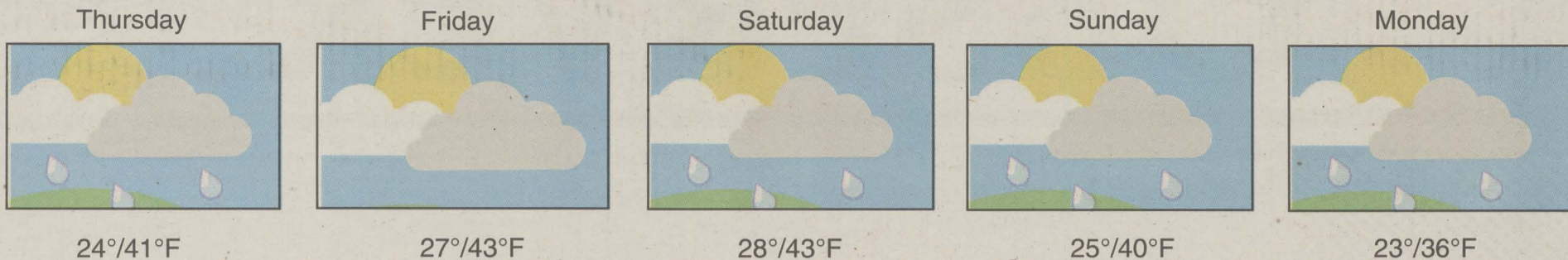


SPORTS

Central takes 5-game winning streak on the road

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EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST



Graphics by Stein Hansen/Observer

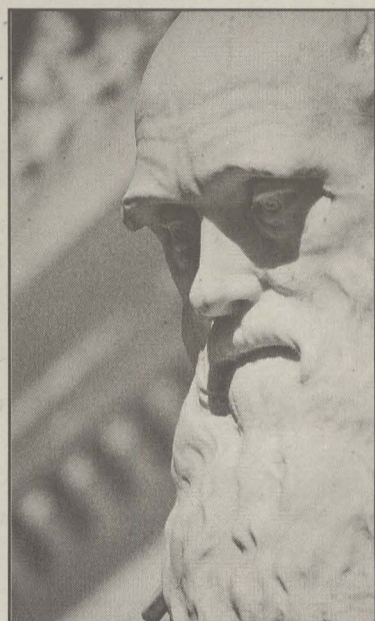
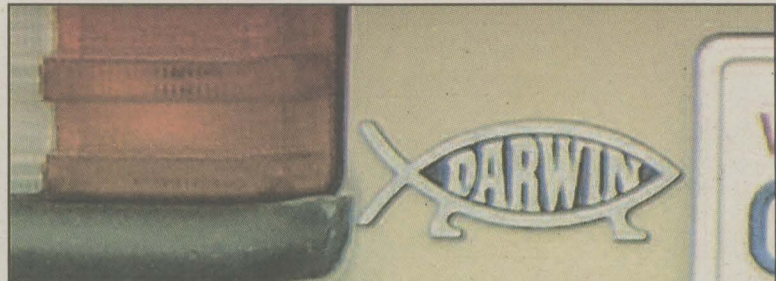
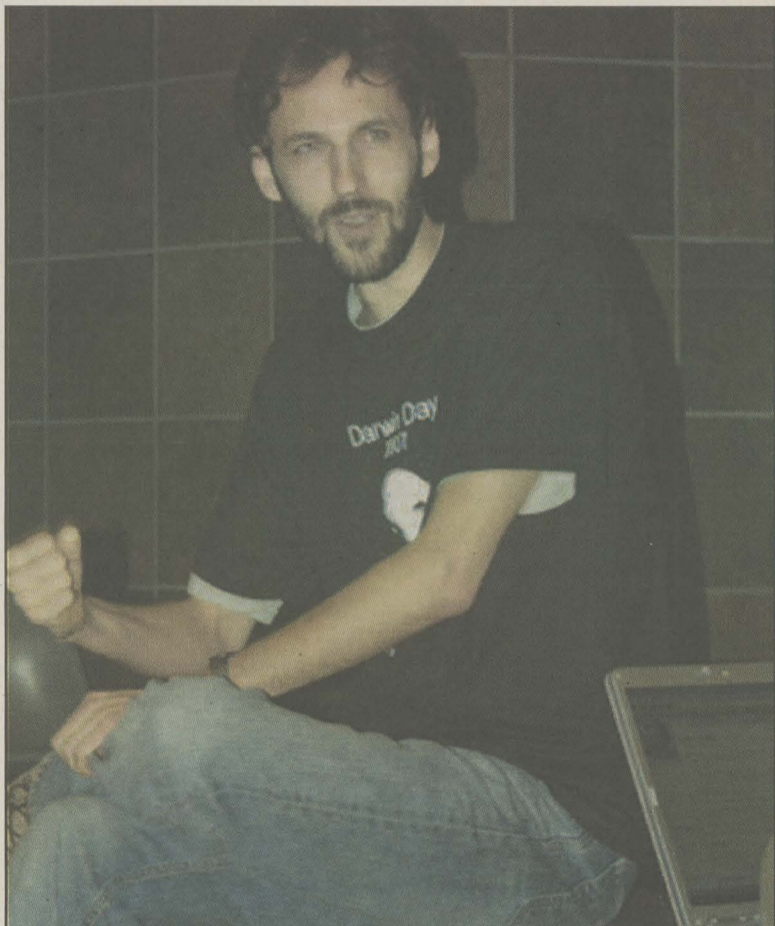
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The Observer is a class in which students are constantly learning how to interview, report and produce a newspaper.



Mary Ebenal, archive photo/Observer. Retrieved from Google

Left: Alex Glass, assistant professor of geology presents "Darwin's Dilemma: The Cambrian Explosion and the First Four Billion Years of Life on Earth." Top Right: The work and research of Charles Darwin's is significant in that counter centuries of religious teaching and attempts to provide a scientific basis for understanding the world we live and interact in. Bottom Right: A statue of Darwin Darwin's still influences school curriculum worldwide.

One book, one Darwin week

by Chelsea Krotzer
Staff reporter

In conjunction with Darwin Week, the One Book, One Campus (OBOC) program is featuring evolutionist Charles Darwin's achievements. This year's OBOC choice, Bill Bryson's "A Short History of Nearly Everything," discusses different scientific accomplishments, theories and theorists throughout history. "One of the things that led us to read the book was to get a general sense of sciences and society," said David Darda, biology department chair and an organizer of Darwin Week. Presentations covered material similar to that found in Bryson's book. The keynote speaker, Gene Kritsky, biology

professor from the College of Mount Saint Joseph, Ohio, shared information from Darwin's Singular Notion, Chapter 25 on Feb. 12. "This year, the department of biological sciences wanted to have a Darwin Day lecture about Charles Darwin the man, rather than simply discuss evolution versus creationism," said Jason Irwin, assistant professor of biological sciences and an organizer of Darwin Week. "This is why we brought in Dr. Gene Kritsky, a biologist who has extensively studied Darwin." Kritsky's study of Darwin includes work in the Darwin Library, research in England, the place of Darwin's birth, and interviews with direct descendants of Darwin. Another connection between the

presentations and Bryson's book "A Short History," was the Cambrian explosion, the period of time in which the largest variety of life on the planet of life occurred in the geologic record. Evolutionary disease was also discussed during a presentation by Holly Pinkart, Central associate professor of biology. Pinkart's presentation, "Evolution, Disease and Society," covered information that tied in with Chapter 20, "Small World," in Bryson's book. In a broader sense, the OBOC program and Darwin Week covered a shared concept about the importance of science and the influence of evolution. "[Evolution] is still a misunderstood concept and a concept that is controversial in America," Darda said. "It's what the university is all about. Students get information and have intelligent conversations of issues of today so people can better understand what evolution is and why it is such a concern in American society." Upcoming events relating to the OBOC program for winter quarter

include the final presentation of the Natural Science Seminar Series. The Friday presentation titled "A Few Lessons Learned from Humans that Move and a Lot from those that Don't," by Vince Nethery, professor of food science and nutrition was cancelled. The second presentation, on March 10, is hosted by the department of geography and land studies. Geography department adjunct Clay Arango, will discuss "Whole-stream Nitrogen Metabolism in Mixed Land Use Streams." Presentations are 4 to 5 p.m. in the science building, room 147. The department of anthropology will be hosting a spring quarter program to coincide with the OBOC program. Paleontologist Jack Horner, the consultant for "Jurassic Park" will be coming to Central, although no date has been set for Horner's visit.

For Information on OBOC, visit Central's Web site at: www.cwu.edu.

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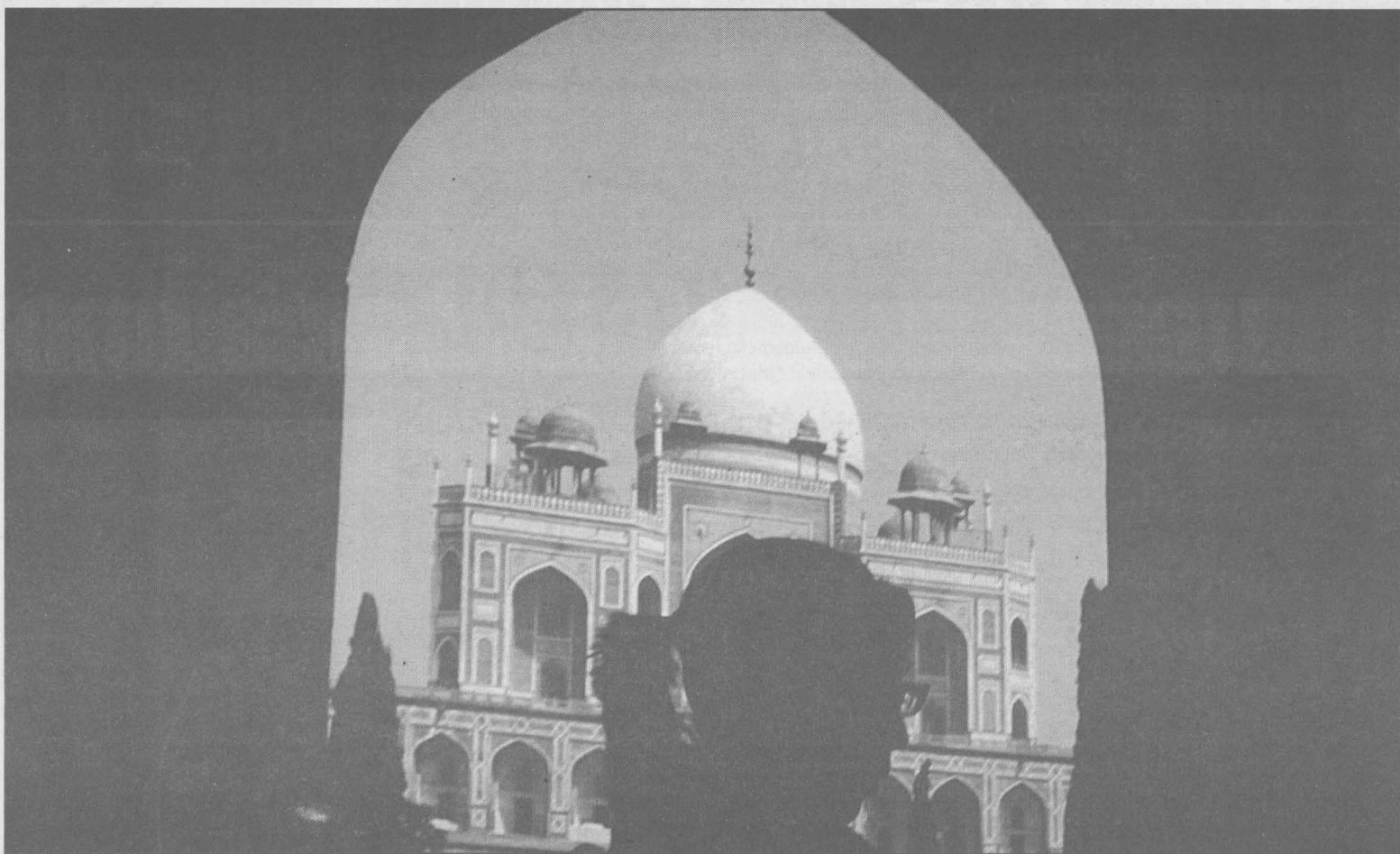
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Mary Ebanal/Observer

Winter Global Fest was established to inform students about other study abroad locations. Global spots Central students can visit include India.

Alumni support at Winter Global Fest

by Katie Murdoch
Asst. News editor

Aside from alumni and current students who studied abroad, no students attended the Winter Global Festival, an event aimed at students who haven't lived or traveled overseas.

"One of the reasons for having this was to inform students of travel abroad opportunities," Marji Morgan, dean of the College of the Arts and Humanities (CAH) said.

Another reason for the festival was to raise money for a scholarship for students participating in the CAH. To offer a scholarship, beneficiaries must obtain \$10,000 to endow the scholarship.

"To endow means the funds will stay in place and not be re-directed," Catherine Scarlett, CAH development officer said.

In order to raise the \$10,000, several hundred invitations were sent out along with donation envelopes, making it clear to recipients that the festival was a fundraiser.

Heather Barclay-Hamir, director of study abroad and exchange programs,

is organizing a grant to raise money for Central's study abroad program.

The meager turnout of Central students at the festival does not reflect how many students participate in study abroad and exchange programs total.

"This is the best time to go; you have no obligations other than school and yourself."

~Jobie Gores, senior math education

During the Winter Global Festival, Barclay-Hamir said 3.1 percent of Central students studied abroad during the 2005-2006 school year. Nationally, less than 1 percent of college students participate in study abroad.

If students earn college credit while abroad, they're eligible for student

loans and financial aid.

"It doesn't cost a lot more to study abroad compared to going to Central," Morgan said.

Students who attend exchange programs for one year pay Central tuition.

"I'd like to see at least 50 percent of students do a study abroad experience," Morgan said.

During the Winter Global Festival, two Central alumni and one current student presented pictures and scrapbooks from their study abroad and exchange experiences.

Jobie Gores, senior math education major spent two of her spring break vacations in China and India.

"People are different and you can't judge until you're fully immersed in their culture," Gores said.

Gores has almost 1,000 pictures from the 11 day trips combined. The pictures include Gores holding a red panda, monkeys she encountered at the top of a mountain that stole her water bottle, snake charmers, and the Taj Mahal at sunrise.

Gores encourages students to participate in studying abroad.

"This is the best time to go," Gores said. "You have no obligations other than school and yourself."

Gores earned three credits which she used to complete her minor in religious studies. Aside from rescheduling one final, she didn't have to miss classes for either of her trips.

After graduation, Gores would like to attend graduate school or take a year to teach math in Africa.

Studying in England for 14 months in the mid-1980s as a graduate student, Morgan is a strong advocate of spending part of the college experience studying overseas.

The time she spent abroad inspired Morgan to write her second book, on travel writing.

"I came back with a dozen journals," Morgan said. "I wrote every day."

Traveling and living in foreign countries gives students an edge in the workforce because some employers like to see they've had experience with diverse people, Morgan said.

"I think studying abroad helps you realize how you're part of a culture," Morgan said.

Top Study Abroad Spots in 2005-06

- Australia
- China
- Ireland
- Mexico
- England
- India & Zambia
- Japan & Spain
- Italy

LEGAL BRIEF

by Observer staff

The trial of former Central Washington University student Victor Manuel Robles-Rodriguez has been continued and will not begin till early April.

The trial was originally set for Feb. 13 but was continued because the "defendant needs additional time to obtain evaluations which will be part of an agreed disposition," according to court documents.

Robles-Rodriguez is being charged with first degree burglary and indecent liberties stemming

from an Oct. 8, 2006, break-in at an 18th Street apartment complex.

At about 4:30 a.m., Robles-Rodriguez climbed up a tree and through a second-story apartment window and got into bed with a female victim, according to a press release from Ellensburg Police Capt. Ross Green. The victim recognized Robles-Rodriguez, who fled the apartment and was later arrested.

A status hearing at Kittitas County Superior Court is scheduled for April 6 with the trial set to begin April 10, according to court documents.

BOD asks for half a million \$

by Korben Cook
News editor

Love wasn't the only thing in the room on Feb. 14 at the Services and Activities (S&A) Fee Committee meeting last week.

The Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors (ASCWU/BOD) dominated the majority of the meeting.

Other requests came from the Publicity Center and the Sarah Spurgeon Art Gallery.

The first of the BOD's requests came from Steve DuPont, ASCWU/BOD vice president for political affairs. DuPont requested \$44,823 for 2007-09.

The funds will mainly go toward travel expenses.

With an on-going legislative session, it is important for student voices to be heard, DuPont said.

"Without ASCWU/BOD, the only people testifying are university officials," DuPont said.

The Senate for Student Organizations (Club Senate), represented by Tony Aronica, ASCWU/BOD vice president for clubs and organizations, requested \$133,474 for 2007-09.

Fundraisers, activities and events for students are on plan if the funding is received, Aronica said.

"[The events] allow students to network and not search for jobs when graduated, but already have one through contacts," Aronica said.

Aronica attributes the large number of clubs at Central — there are roughly 116 — to the lack of fraternities and sororities.

Advocating for the BOD was Jadon Berry, ASCWU/BOD president.

The funding request of \$279,000 for 2007-09 will mainly go toward retreats, BOD wages and wages of other students working in the office.

"We serve students differently than any other department on campus," Berry said.

Some of those services include Wellington's Wild Night and the quarterly Fireside Chats.

The Publicity Center requested a total of \$357,492 for 2007-09.

The funding is for student internships, jobs and the hiring of a graphic design position.

"When we hired our marketing coordinator, they ended up doing a lot of graphic design," Lola Gallagher, publicity center manager said. "We want to get back to the reason why we hired them in the first place."

The graphic designer would supervise students throughout their internships, design pamphlets and advertise for other Central departments.

Last on the list was a request from the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery presented by William Folkestad, chair of the art history department.

The \$87,808 request for 2007-09. If received, funds go to security and increasing hours of operation.

The gallery will have to install security cameras and update its system to encourage other artists to show at the gallery, Folkestad said.

At the end of the night, S&A talked about the abundance of music officials asking for S&A funds.

The music department has come to S&A frequently this year, Wendy Williams, psychology professor and S&A member said.

There is no set plan yet for how the music department should approach, but S&A will make a proposal for future requests at the end of the year.

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Capitol opens doors to Central students

by Clare Jensen
Staff reporter

Central Washington University students went to the state capital Tuesday for Central's second annual Lobby Day.

Lobby Day was started last year by Steve DuPont, Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors (ASCWU/BOD) vice president for political affairs. Central didn't have a Lobby Day like other universities, so DuPont brought the trip back to the school.

The event is an opportunity for students to go to Olympia. Once there, students are free to roam the grounds. By providing a trip to Olympia, students can

partake in any of the hearings they choose, DuPont said. If they don't have their own plan in mind, DuPont has one for them.

The all-day agenda consists of local guest speakers, such as Representatives Janea Holmquist and Bill Hinkle and Senator Judy Warnick, as well as a tour of the capitol building itself.

Jake Stillwell, sophomore political science major, adhered to the agenda last year, and plans to do the same this time around.

Last year, Rep. Hinkle gave a speech for about 20 minutes, then answered questions and really engaged with the students, Stillwell said.

Both DuPont and Stillwell think visiting the capitol is important, even if students don't have a particular

bill or issue in mind to lobby for.

"It's important for students to experience the capitol to have a concrete image of what [it] is like," DuPont said.

A tour of the capitol and legislative buildings is part of the prepared agenda for this year. Stillwell looks forward to the tour again.

"It's a beautiful campus; I enjoy touring it," Stillwell said.

Stillwell also attends Lobby Day for other less superficial reasons.

"It's a great way to network with other students who are interested in politics," he said. "[It's also a way to] hear from representatives you wouldn't normally be able to.

Thesis garners regional award

by Marqise Allen
Staff reporter

When Walter Szeliga came to Central Washington University to get his master's in geology, no one realized how invaluable his math skills fused with his love for geology would be. No one thought that he'd be recognized regionally for his work.

Szeliga, Central graduate, was recently named a recipient of the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS) and University Microfilms International (UMI) Distinguished Master's Thesis Award.

Szeliga won the award for his work in geology, particularly on plate tectonics in Washington State.

He studied slow earthquakes, which occur every 14 months and release stress over a two-week span. This release of stress prolongs the date of the next cataclysmic earthquake.

Szeliga said the study was not his idea, but his advisor Timothy Melbourne's, a geological sciences professor at Central.

"My main contribution was writing the software and figuring out what the information meant," Szeliga said.

Szeliga received his bachelor's degree in mathematics, but while pursuing his degree in math, geology became a passion.

"I took [geology] classes as an undergrad for my general education requirement," Szeliga said. "The class was fun because you could go outside and touch things as you learned about them."

It was Szeliga's understanding of geology and math that made him perfect this project.

"He's extremely good with computers and math," Melbourne said. "He really likes math, and that's just what we needed."

Not only were Szeliga's math skills valuable to the project, but also his sleeping habits, or lack thereof.

"He didn't have a 24-hour clock," Melbourne said. "He went days without sleeping sometimes."

His skills in math and geology allowed him to stand out.

"He was so smart, he could absorb things as fast as I could put it out," Melbourne said. "Within the course of about six months it felt like I was talking to a colleague rather than a student."

Right now, Szeliga is working on his doctorate at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Even though he has moved on, his impact will be felt and he will be missed Melbourne said.

"I wish we had more master's students like him," Melbourne said. "Once in a decade is enough, though."



David Woodford/Observer

Math professor Timothy Englund receives his prize for earning the most money in their jar in the actuary club's fundraiser to support travel expenses.

Professors pucker up for pigs

by Rachel Thomson
Staff reporter

Some people cheered. Some wrinkled their faces in disgust. Others dropped their jaws and gasped as senior math major Alisha Zimmer closed her eyes, puckered up and laid one on the grunting, pink, seven-week-old mass of piggy.

"It was just a little peck on the snout," Zimmer said. "But my lips were a little wet afterward."

Zimmer, along with Timothy Englund, associate professor of mathematics, were chosen as participants in a pig-kissing contest sponsored by Central Washington University's Actuary Club.

Club members nominated five students and faculty members to be contestants. Each had a donation jar with their name taped on it. The two contestants whose jars had the most money had to kiss the pig before a crowd of onlookers in front of the Central science building on Valentine's Day eve.

Englund came in first place with \$63.55 while Zimmer narrowly missed him with \$61.55.

All the proceeds from the contest—about \$200—went to fund club travel expenses for students to meet actuaries around the state and learn about the business of assessing risks.

Trish Goedecke, grad student and president of the club, had to pick up the piglet from a local farmer and keep it at her house before the contest. She gave it a bath before bringing the animal to campus.

Although swapping spit with swine was for a good cause, Englund said winning the contest wasn't a typical prize worth bragging about.

"I think the real prize was that they [the other contestants] didn't kiss the pig, and that's why I think I may have lost," Englund said.

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Family obligations showcase lecture

The moral framework of balancing family responsibilities and a full time job confront a lot of American. It is also the topic of Sociology professor Judith Hennessy's presentation titled

"[Public policy] shaped by dominant cultural understandings that impact all women, with differing consequences for low-income as compared to more advantaged mothers," Hennessy said in a press release.

This is the last presentation of Central's Social Science Lecture Series.

Judith Hennessy's talk at 4 p.m. Feb. 22 in the Science building 142.

The presentation "Morality, Work-Family Conflict and Welfare Policy" focuses mainly on mothers.

The lecture is free to the public. For information or to accommodate persons with disabilities call: 963-2227.

According to a Central Washington University press release, one third of married mothers work full time and have their children in pre-school.

At the same time, employment rates for mothers dropped from 59 percent in 2004 to 51 percent in 2004, according to the U.S. department of labor.

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City

News from around the Ellensburg community

City works to revamp image with new signs

by Meagan Lind
Staff reporter

Ellensburg is getting an image makeover with \$100,000 worth of new welcome signs.

The first sign will be at the west Ellensburg interchange, the second at the south Ellensburg interchange, and the third across the street from Super 1 Foods.

"The signs will be a focal point for people coming in [to Ellensburg] so they can orient themselves with the town," Bob Witowski, community development director, said.

Each sign will be about 14 feet by 7 feet and made of brick and concrete surrounded by basalt columns.

Located at each sign will be a kiosk containing brochures and city maps.

The third sign may also have an electronic addition. A reader board would flash upcoming events being held in Ellensburg and at Central Washington University.

"They [Tax Lodging Advisory Committee] want to bring more people into the downtown area and felt the current

signs weren't appealing to the eye," said Beth Leader, Lodging Tax Advisory Committee member.

Although the new designs sound exciting, some couldn't care less.

"It sounds like a waste of money; it wouldn't do anything for Ellensburg's image," Carolyn Darimont, junior fashion merchandising major, said.

The Lodging Tax Committee will pay for the signs out of its budget. This money comes from tourist taxes intended for tourist projects. The electronic sign won't increase the budget, but Central plans on splitting the cost.

"Tourists brought that money in, and [the Lodging Tax Committee] wants to make sure the money is being spent to effect the tourists," Finance Director Ade Ariwoola said.

The welcome sign project is still under review and could possibly take a year or longer to complete. Representatives from the Downtown Association, the Lodging Tax Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Spirit of the West Committee and Central will meet next month to decide whether or not to continue with current designs.



Andria Cruz/Observer

The current "Welcome" sign, located at the west interchange, will be one of three signs replaced in the city. The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee will spend \$100,000 for the three signs out of its separate budget.

Ellensburg business: New faces of 2007

• Bailey's Bibliomania

A bookstore that just opened on Main Street and sells textbooks for students who wish to expand their options on textbook costs.

• Static

This skateboarding shop moved its location to Main Street next to the Recycle Bicycle Shop. It sells skate equipment and apparel.

• The Pita Pit

Located on the corner of 3rd and Pearl Street, next to the Oak Rail, the Pita Pit sells sandwiches and delivers until 3 a.m.

• Audio Attic

A new electronics store that offers a mixture of vintage and contemporary electronics for sale, located on Main Street.

Health Advisory

The Kittitas County Public Health Department has issued a warning to Kittitas County residents. There have been reports of both influenza A and B throughout the community. The public is advised that anyone experiencing the following symptoms stay home until symptoms pass:

- ~stomachache
- ~diarrhea
- ~sore throat
- ~earache without fever
- ~nausea
- ~headache
- ~cough

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advises hand washing as one of the best ways to prevent the spread of infectious disease. Flu vaccines are still available in the county. Contact your local pharmacy or Health Department.

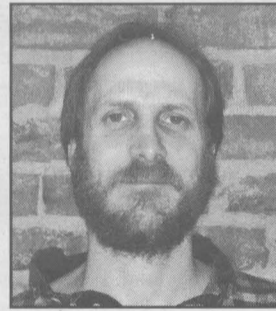
For more information, contact your local healthcare provider or the Kittitas County Public Health Department at 962-7515.

Word around town... Where do you spend your money?



Kari Braniff

"I do spend my money downtown, but mostly at Maurices. However, I eat locally. I am a local spender and love the local little shops. I also think restaurants here have good food and there isn't one that I don't like."



Ross Luck

"I shop here [downtown] as much as I can. The money that is spent here with local shops usually gets spent back in other local shops and causes. I have never seen Fred Meyer sponsor an event."



Amy Gibson

"I try to spend my money locally, but it's just not possible. I have kids. I know everybody hates the thought of a Walmart, but I cannot believe how much cheaper groceries are. It's worth the gas money that you spend."

Note: Quotes were taken at random selection in the downtown area.

WIC offers nutritional support

by Abby Lee
Staff reporter

Women, Infant, Children (WIC) is a free, supplemental nutrition program funded by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the federal government to help lower income families obtain basic food staples.

"We want to get the word out to local families and pregnant women about our program," WIC Coordinator Christine Scharpenberg said.

WIC offers many different services. They help people find housing, consult on medical issues, give checks for food and offer nutrition and breast feeding

education to persons with limited income.

"I was totally unaware that they had this program [WIC]," Amanda Miller, sophomore political science major, said. "I think that it's great for lower income families to be able to utilize this program."

In Kittitas County, WIC is able to help 740 clients a month, at least 25 percent of which are college students.

"If patients need help, we can also refer them to doctors and get them into a clinic quickly," said Debbie Sandvig, WIC's dietician lactation consultant.

The income requirement differs for every individual depending on the size

of family and how many sources of income the family has.

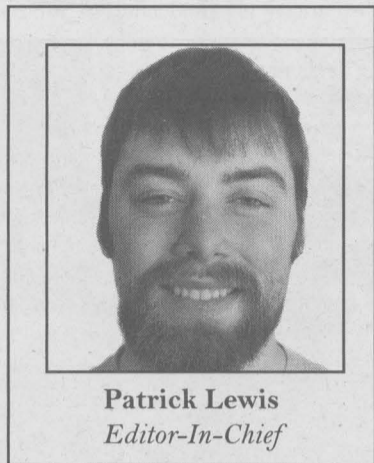
Applicants must be residents of Kittitas County and children must be five years of age or younger.

WIC provides nutritious foods that breastfeeding moms need, such as milk, cheese, eggs, cereal and tuna.

"Sometimes we can even detect learning disabilities and we are able to set up children with the right people," Sandvig said.

If you are a mother that could use the help of WIC's services and would like to contact them call 509-962-7077 or drop by their office located on 507 North Nanum in the health department.

OPINION



Patrick Lewis
Editor-in-Chief

For the first time in more than 10 years, Major League Baseball is "updating" their rule book.

First on the list is the automatic 10 game suspensions for scuffing or defacing a ball.

In a complex mess of verbiage, a game ending in a tie has largely gone by the wayside. Players are no longer allowed to enter dugouts to go after foul balls and pitchers are required to throw to the plate within 12 seconds of receiving the ball if runners are on base. There are also some rules about a pitcher being able to wear a multi-colored glove if the umpire allows it, and that "a batter who hits an apparent game-ending home run with less than two outs would be allowed to circle the bases if a runner ahead of him doesn't continue to home plate, thinking the game is over" (Yahoo News).

Is there really any reason for any of these changes? And do they have to be written denser than a Charles Dickens novel? People are supposed to enjoy going to baseball games, not hoping the umpire counts to 12 before the pitcher tosses home. The scuffing rule is applied only to position players, but is an obvious response to Kenny Rogers alleged "altering" of the baseball during last year's World Series.

The "official" rulebook from 2006 is more than 100 pages long, full of confusing and archaic bylaws that rule the game.

News reports about the rule-changes are confusing; the 2008 version might have to be 120 pages long just to explain that catchers can't dive over railings to get foulballs anymore. Watching a guy give up his body to make a play is one in the most exciting moments of the game, why take that out?

Ironically, it comes down to the Rules Committee. Essentially, the MLB has this committee, and it needs something to do. So this is how they pass their time.

Players have been scuffing baseballs as long as the game has been played. Cheating is always a part of the game, and getting away with it is just as important. Part of the shortstop's job is to confuse runners on second base and stealing signs is a huge part of game. Why do you think pitchers are always talking into their glove? It ain't 'cuz they like how it smells. It's part of the "small-ball" or chess aspect of the game.

So, Rules Committee, to give you something to do over the next few years, here are some rules I propose. Players are only allowed one cup of Gatorade every two innings, each player must eat 129 sunflower seeds per game, uniforms can't be more than 4 colors and players' salaries shouldn't exceed \$75 million (oh wait, that's a good one). We could install ghost-runners, bring in the Little League 10-run-rule or have the mascots serve as pinch-runners or base-coaches. What's next? Replace wood bats with the wiffle ball variety and have cheerleaders on the

warning track while we're at it.

Commissioner Bud Selig already marred the reputation of the game, with his ridiculous tie in the all-star game, his equally ridiculous "make the all-star game count" amendment and his utter lack of effort on the steroids scandal. Baseball's stance has been to close its eyes and pretend the steroid problem isn't there, and Selig is blind with the best of them.

Baseball has problems, but instead of dealing with them, I get to drive over to Safeco and see what inventive ways the Umpire comes up with to count to 12. Rule changes should affect the game, not water it down.

Patrick Lewis is the Editor-in-Chief and can be reached at LewisP@cwu.edu

OBSERVANCE

Tinkering with America's Pastime

Quit moving into my neighborhood



Caitlin Kuhlmann
Scene editor

I grew up with the incredible honor of having only three houses within a half mile radius of my house.

Summer days consisted of running around on my dad's four-hundred acre farm and coming home when my mom honked the car horn, beckoning me for dinner in the silence the country provides.

In the last six years the population of that mile diameter has doubled. That may not seem profound, but to me it feels almost claustrophobic. New houses now line the 16 miles to Tonasket, the nearest town.

This is a trend I've noticed across the east side of Washington state and one I'm not excited to see grow.

I am glad the east side of the state is finally gaining recognition for its

natural beauty and resources, not to mention the cash flow it provides to small communities in dire need. In fact statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau shows that the 2003 median annual income for Okanogan county, where Tonasket is located, was \$30,339; 18.7 percent of its residents were living below the poverty line, while the median income for King County was \$53,414 and 9.4 percent of its residents were living below the poverty line. The influx of money that more tourism can bring to the Okanogan is no doubt beneficial.

I am upset, however, that this rural, beautiful side of the state is filling up with city-minded individuals who often can't appreciate the environment the way locals do.

In 2005 alone, 244 building permits were issued in the county, which is significant for a region where there are only 7.5 people per square miles in 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

To many, having a summer cabin on the east side is a convenient escape from the city. Or perhaps retiring and moving the east side sounds like a nice, relaxing change of pace from urban traffic. What they don't see, however, is how used this makes many east-siders feel.

Suncadia is a perfect example. It has brought in a great deal tourism

and money into the area, but has also hiked property taxes for locals and created an exclusive community that imports its culture from the west side. It is very disappointing to watch newcomers move into an area and not embrace the local history and culture. And really, the two sides of the state have very opposite cultures, usually to the point where the two can be differentiated by appearances alone.

Although the growth here in Ellensburg is somewhat connected with the enrollment figures at Central Washington University, it still pains me to see so much farm land filled up with cookie-cutter homes. I know there must be plenty of local culture being lost to the thousands of college students flooding the city.

Sure, there's enough land to go around, especially if you're used to having neighbors twenty feet away on either side of your house. But to me, that's not enough breathing room.

I realize it's a Catch-22 to love the country so much, yet feel I have the right to deny people access to it. But it is the mindset of those moving into the area that offends me.

I feel that the eastside of the state, however rural and po-dunk, has so much to offer, that I hope those moving over to east side realize the richness of its history, the beauty of the land and how lucky we are to live in this region.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

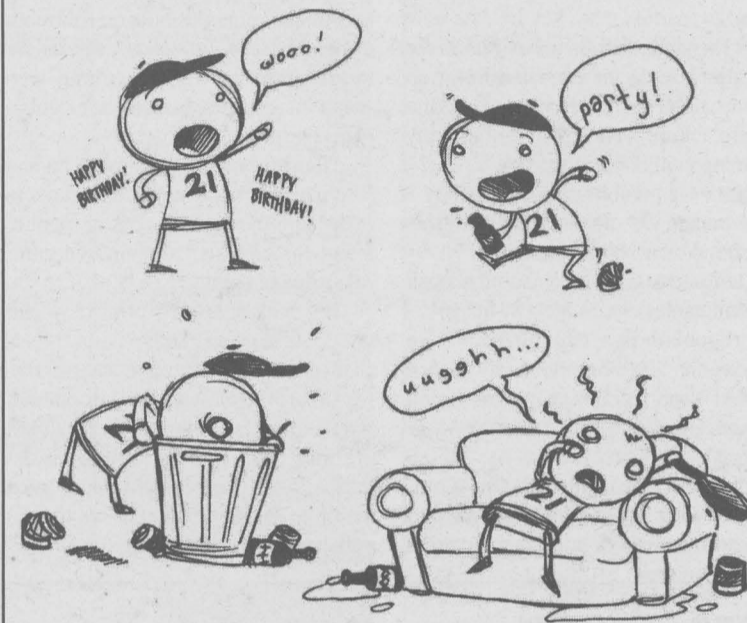
Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday the week of publication, must be less than 300 words, include your name and phone number and be E-mailed to the Observer. Only one letter a month will be accepted from an individual.

Anonymous letters will not be published.

The Observer reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar and libel. Please E-mail letters to: observer@cwu.edu or by fax to 963-1027.

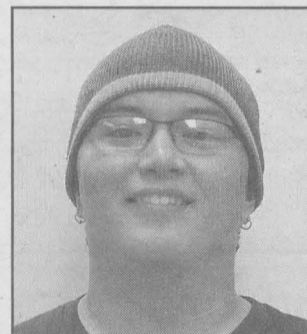
The Artist's Eye

THE HORROR OF THE 21 RUN!



Stein Hansen/Observer

Keep Netspeak on the 'Net



Frank Stanley
Copy desk chief

If u c a problem while reading this, don't worry: the "problems" r something that every1 will eventually have 2 get used 2.

Instant messenger speak, or "netspeak," has become a staple in how we communicate to one another over the internet or just through passing notes in class. But recently, students across the nation, from elementary school up to college, have opted to replace their "okay" with "k" and "later" with "l8r" in term papers, essays and other writings. Teachers are mulling its acceptance.

Two school districts so far the - Marietta School District in Marietta, Ohio and the Orange County Public Schools district in Orlando, Fl. - have confirmed that they have taken action against the use of Netspeak, as it condones the improper use of English and poor communication skills.

I'm willing to admit that I'm a badge-carrying member of the spelling and grammar police. As Copy Desk Chief for the Observer, it's my job to wear that badge. I cringe when I see

people confuse "your" and "you're," "there" and "their" and "affect" and "effect." Pointing out these differences was drilled into my mind so often throughout school, that it's now second nature to me. I don't mean to sound elitist, but I understand it is still difficult to differentiate between spellings and meanings of common terms.

However, if I read one "l8r," "gonna" or "ur" in any paper, as I began to see as early as my first year at Central Washington University, I feel that teachers have failed to make the effort to correct students' work and writing skills.

Several critics believe that using Netspeak is actually helping language skills rather than hurting them. One of the most outspoken critics in support of the "new language" is David Crystal, a historian of language at the University of Wales in the United Kingdom. He claims that Netspeak is bringing in "the beginning of a new stage in the evolution of the written language and motivation in child and adult literacy."

I'm sorry, but we are heralding in age of laziness, not improvement. Is it really that difficult to write out the words? Would we rather turn everything into a 15-letter acronym?

I won't lie, I use Netspeak now and then, but only on the Internet, or while instant messaging my friends. However, the notion of seeing such phrases professionally would dumb down our workforce and disgust our superiors, who were raised on an actual language.

I don't want to see myself and my potential children living in a world where "ppl write lyk dis." Seeing "lol" in a chat room is fine, but reading it in a term paper is unacceptable. Let's smarten up, plz?

Immigration first-hand: Building community, not fences

In conjunction with a forum about immigration in the Northwest hosted by Michael Ervin and Central Washington University at 7 p.m. Monday Feb. 26 in the Student Union and Recreation Center Theatre, The Observer invited Latino/Latina students to share their experiences and thoughts regarding the topic. For additional essays, log on to <http://www.cwu.edu/~observer>. There will also be translations from English to Spanish (and vice versa) on the Web site.

HABLEMOS HOY

"Justice too long delayed is justice denied."

Dr. Martin Luther King jr.

"Justicia muy retardada, es justicia negada."

Basta con ver los logros de nuestros hermanos afro americanos y de su lider, el Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. para ponernos en marcha y luchar por nuestra causa hoy. Es increíble lo que se puede lograr por medios pacíficos. Es por eso que ahora me toca poner mi granito de arena y utilizar nuestra poderosa arma, que es la palabra para decirle a quien demande justicia, americana(o) mexicana(o), que hoy es tiempo de hablar. Debo aclarar, que hoy escribo por los inmigrantes y acuso de nuestros males a los gobiernos, tanto americano como mexicano ya que ambos se benefician de la aportación laboral de los "ilegales"

Desde hace mucho, a los inmigrantes hispanos se nos ha dado el nombre de "ilegales". Este termino, de "ilegales", cada vez más se parece a las encomiendas utilizadas por los españoles. Es decir, el derecho a explotar por un tiempo el trabajo de los indígenas en 1550. Al decir hispano, me refiero a personas de centro y Suramérica, e inmigrante a cualquier persona que tenga bastante tiempo en este país sin ser reconocido legalmente. Este sobrenombre de "ilegal", les has servido a todos como excusa para;

negarnos acceso a condiciones de trabajo aceptables y a beneficios laborales como el seguro social, desempleo y mejores salarios. Es por demás decir que el acceso a la educación superior es casi imposible para un "ilegal", ya que se les niega ayuda financiera que según los motivos son porque no pagan impuestos. Cabe ahora recordar que si pagan impuestos de venta (sales tax) y que también se les quita dinero de su salario, para beneficios de seguro social y seguro medico.

Estamos agradecidos con este país porque con esfuerzo, entrega y dedicación muchos hemos logrado nuestros sueños. Pero sabemos que las cosas pueden estar mucho mejor, sólo es cuestión de seguir pidiendo, seguir organizándonos, seguir marchando, seguir reclamando una reforma migratoria justa y seguir hablando. Se nos debe dar un gran merito, como inmigrantes, por lo que hacemos y hemos hecho con nuestras propias fuerzas. Sin depender de ningún gobierno, ésta sociedad anónima, los "ilegales", crean la segunda fuente de ingresos en México por dinero que envían. Mientras que aquí recogen importantes cosechas y hacen ricos a muchos agricul-

tores.

Debemos defender nuestra dignidad y pedir ser reconocidos ya. No es justo, que en California, a los "ilegales" se les niege el derecho a conducir, a solicitar vivienda, educación superior y muchas otras necesidades básicas. Cabe recordar que California junto con otros estados, le fueron quitados a México por la fuerza en 1847. Pero aunque con tristeza recordamos esas pérdidas de territorio, hoy sólo queda mirar hacia el futuro y no decaer en nuestra lucha por la legalización.

Juan R. Monroy
Senior math education

"CITIZENS THAT UNDERSTAND AND BELIEVE IN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DIVERSITY OF THIS NATION SHOULD SPEAK UP IN SUPPORT OF IMMIGRANTS."

Martin Perez, president of the Latino Leadership Alliance of New Jersey (Ashbury Park Press, Wednesday Feb. 21)

History of abuse in the face of change

My mother jokes that I first became an activist when I was six-months-old while crying during a meeting she attended to advocate for a migrant day-care center in Tri-Cities, WA. She was born into a migrant farm-working family of 11 children. My grandfather was part of the Bracero program created to maximize agriculture profits. This program contracted over 50,000 field workers and an additional 75,000 railroad workers from Mexico. The program confined the workers to harsh living conditions, poor healthcare, and low wages. To ensure the country's access to cheap labor and perpetuate inhumane working conditions, the Braceros couldn't unionize. Much like today, the workers in my grandpa's time faced aggressive backlash that comes with a national economic crisis. It is so easy to point the finger at those that are supposed to stay hidden and silent, in fear of being treated like a criminal.

My mother, a second generation Mexican-American, entered her first day of kindergarten and was greeted by being put in a line with the other migrant children so they could have powder put in her hair. She was seated in the back of the classroom and told the powder was in her hair because all immigrants had lice. She remained in the back of the classroom until she learned English. Both of my parents regular routine was to rise at 5 a.m., work in work the fields, go to school, and then return to the fields after class. My parents taught me to stand up for the workers who put food

"JUST BECAUSE WE DON'T WANT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS BEING ABLE TO COMPLETELY DISREGARD THE LAWS OF OUR COUNTRY DOESN'T MAKE US RACIST."

Sarah Chambers, New York University College Republicans president (ABC, Wednesday Feb. 21)

on American tables. Never did my father let me eat a meal without first remembering those who had to endure an extreme amount of injustice to pick the vegetables on my plate. My mother continues her fight for farm worker rights today.

Inhuman immigration policies have affected many people throughout history, but it is especially poignant in the "love-hate" relationship of U.S. and Mexican laborers. In the 1930's, the U.S. blamed the economic depression on Mexican immigrants, deporting thousands to central Mexico regardless of citizenship status. The U.S. crafted a contract with the same railroad systems the Mexican immigrant had built, to transport them back. The immigrants were herded from the barrios and

streets like cattle. Anyone who "looked Mexican" or spoke Spanish was placed on these trains. Families were split, loved ones were lost, and the Mexican-American community was torn from their dignity. It was only several years later that my grandpa was contracted by the U.S. because our country needed the Mexican immigrant once again.

This cycle of violence and exploitation has continued for generations in thousands of families like mine. As I read the newspaper headlines calling for more money for border patrols, tighter security, and a strict hand on immigration policies, I realize that the same are oblivious to the continuation of this racism they perpetuated. The sentiment that blames the Mexican immigrant for the declining U.S. economy has created hate acts and a renewal of some of the things that were fought against during the Civil Rights movement. The immigrant, wherever they come from, has always had a hand in holding up the economy of this nation with their hard work, sweat and dedication. As a nation, dehumanize the immigrant as a subversive criminal. In reality, the immigrant shares and is driven by the same common dream that built this beautiful country centuries ago.

Elisa Miranda
Student Program Coordinator for
Diversity Education Center
and VP of Political Affairs for
MEChA

Immigration, an asset or a detriment?

Throughout American-history immigration to the United States has come to the forefront of many debates. I find it dim-witted when people say that immigration is a problem America is facing. Immigration is not a problem, since the United States was founded by immigrants.

Both my mother and father come from el estado de Tamaulipas en Mexico. My mother came over with her parents at the age of 7 to live in Washington state and worked as farm labor in the fields. My father left Mexico at the age of 14 to live in Florida with an uncle then left to Texas and then finally to Washington; working the entire way. They have worked their entire lives which can be seen and felt when you shake their hands; they have become

cost food items down.

Yes, we all benefit from immigrants and instead of embracing these people because of the benefits that we receive we push to throw them out. I see this as just a modern day form of discrimination against a group of people that are coming to this nation to lead better lives in the hope of achieving the "American dream."

No one should be denied that dream. Yet, thanks to groups like the minute men, homeland security, foreign policy, and politicians in Washington D.C. continuing to influence the ideas of Americans on immigration; saying that illegal immigrants are hurting our nation. They expect us all to go along with these so called "true American ideas" that they present. For instance, the border wall planned for construction, not along Canada/U.S. border, but along Mexico/U.S. border, will protect us. Yet we use the hard work of the illegal Mexican immigrants to build this wall exploiting their need for work in order to survive then throwing them back over this wall to deprive them of the right of the "American Dream."

We all need to open our eyes to these injustices going on at our front doors.

Understand that we are all Americans and that we or our family also immigrate in the pursuit of a better life that we cannot refuse to others. Borders are simply lines drawn by nations and their politics that are used to separate

rough from the years of manual labor. Many immigrants have stories of coming to America, and my parents are just one. Ask them about their story and they will describe some sort of struggle they have had to face and overcome.

We need to remember our country was founded by immigrants from other nations that have come in search of better lives. The United States, if you think about it, has actually even promoted the immigration of peoples from other nations which can be easily depicted through the Statue of Liberty:

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

America calls to people to come; representing liberty and escape from oppression and we are failing to remember this vital part that we stand for.

We have a problem with immigration at the moment; why? We are told immigrants are taking jobs that "normal" Americans can use, harming our economy, etc., but on the contrary, they actually help our economy. The illegal immigrants from Mexico fill jobs that Americans do not want, buy goods and pay taxes that contribute to our economy, and especially keep the

"There are few matters so important to the future of this country as immigration."

Mexican Ambassador to America, Arturo Sarukhan (Associated Press, Wednesday Feb. 21)

and suppress people by laws and beliefs of the rich that are said to be elected by the people. Immigration, be it legal or illegal, only benefits our country. It is an indignity for anyone to tell immigrants they should "go back to where they came from" because that most likely means one should go back to where their family came from as well.

Pedro Navarrete
Sophomore
history major

For more information on immigration, or community outreach programs such as MEChA and Gear Up log onto:
<http://www.cwu.edu/~mecha> or
<http://www.cwu.edu/~bridges>.

This week in Scene

The 'Burg Radio Station: Check out The 'Burg's new talk show program. **PAGE 9**

Saks: Ellensburg truck stop is open all night, every night. **PAGE 9**

Bakari Kitwana: Author presents "Wangstas, Wiggers, and Wannabees." **PAGE 11**

Igor Fyodorovich Stravinsky: Central showcases composer's revolutionary music. **PAGE 11**

Classic Films: Check out the upcoming 'Paper Clips' documentary. **PAGE 11**

Scene



New 'Pit' for grub caters to college students looking for after-hours fun

Healthier fast food alternative sets up shop near downtown nightlife

by Bryant Phillips
Staff reporter

The walls are splashed with red and green so bright it reflects off your clothes. The interior of the building is filled with caricatures of the "stars" of The Pita Pit, including "Petey" the pita, "Cooper" the chicken, "Swissy" the Swiss cheese, and other goggle-eyed ingredients.

This place is definitely not Subway.

Pita Pit is a national restaurant chain known for its energetic atmosphere, efficient service and excellent food.

Located on 3rd and Pearl, the Ellensburg Pita Pit opened its doors on Feb. 6 and has become a regular hangout for Central Washington University students thanks to its quick, healthy pitas and hours that last until 3 a.m. every day.

"Most college students already knew about [The Pita Pit]," said Josh Rozell, co-owner of the restaurant. "Ellensburg was really the last college town in Washington that didn't have a Pita Pit, and there was nothing like it in Ellensburg already."

Few chains have been as successful as Pita Pit in marketing toward college students and young adults, even making the top 500 best franchises list in Entrepreneur Magazine.

Rozell and business partner Josh

"Ellensburg was really the last college town in Washington that didn't have a Pita Pit."

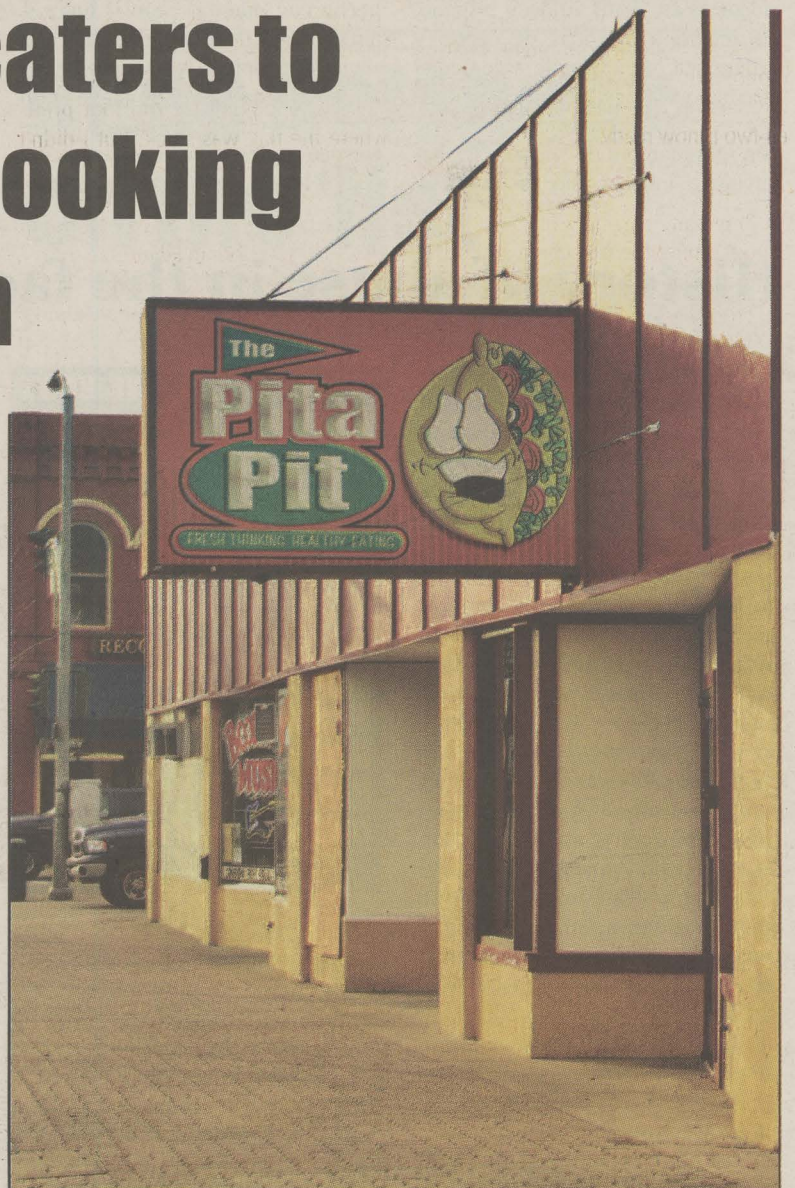
~Josh Rozell
Ellensburg Pita Pit co-owner

Friedman, a senior at Central, saw Ellensburg as an easy choice to expand The Pita Pit. The pair chose downtown Ellensburg rather than a location nearer Central because the culture and activity better matched the Pita Pit's environment, Rozell said.

"We're open after the bars close," Rozell said. "There's music, good food, good service. I didn't like the atmosphere and service in other Ellensburg restaurants, and I wanted to provide fast and friendly service."

College students aren't the only customers, and one shouldn't be surprised to see an elderly couple trying to converse over the blaring music, sitting at a table beside a young family.

"This is my first time at Pita Pit, and I think it's great," Erin Melton, Central alumna, said. "You get more food here for your money than you would at another place, where you might spend \$20 between two people easily."



Photos by Mary Ebenal/Observer

Top: Pita Pit employees make and wrap pitas for customers. **Bottom:** Pita Pit is located in the heart of downtown Ellensburg on Third Street.

This is old news for students from other college towns like Pullman. Brendan Weitzman, an alumnus of Washington State University, said his favorite place for lunch was The Pita Pit.

"They make things different at Pita Pit, they make things right," Weitzman said. "It's better than clogging my arteries with a burger any day."

Business hours

Pita Pit is open every day of the week from 10:30 a.m. to 3 a.m.

The fly on the wall

Saks Truck Stop

by Robbie Miller
Asst. Scene editor

Saks is the only sit-down restaurant in Ellensburg open all night, every night. On the table, Flying J Travel Plazas, the chain that Saks is a part of, advertises CB radios, electric blankets and the price of an Eye Opener omelet.

Anyone from a hungry trucker, a homework-engrossed student or an insomniac philosopher can find a comfortable booth anytime of day at Saks.

"It's absolutely symbiotic," Saks regular Isak Bergman said of the relationship between the self and the universe.

And the same can be said for the two corresponding sections of Saks.

The convenience store to the left of the main entrance offers snacks and novelty lighters; the restaurant to the right is where weary costumers can sit all night.

A large man with a gray beard and a receding buzz cut sits alone in the corner. He's wearing overalls with a red t-shirt and squinting at his lottery ticket as he scratches the numbers with an old pocket knife. Tattoos cover most of his right arm.

His name is Paul Newman. He's from Iowa and the whipped cream topping on his milkshake is starting to melt.

Newman is passing through on his way to somewhere, just like the rest of the drivers of the rigs lined up out back.

They're here at Saks because it's right off I-90. It has gas, a convenience store, a restaurant and showers. If you sit long enough, you might hear a monotonous female voice over the loudspeaker: "shower number five-seven-two is now ready."

Not everyone here is passing through, however.

Bergman, an Ellensburg High School senior, has been here all but 16 or 17 days since last summer. He usually comes here to be alone, but sometimes he talks about topics as in depth as the universe.

"The universe's contour, which is a

sphere, but it's more just like a reverse bowl and the next side of the sphere, instead of completing the circle, curves back in and completes the circle on the inside," Bergman said. "And that's how the universe functions."

Bergman can often be found in the corner of the long booth that runs along the partition of the dining area. He methodically tears pieces from a napkin to make ear plugs and reads.

Once or twice a day, Douglas Mac Arthur sits a few feet away from Bergman's spot, in the middle of the same booth.

From there he can see across the traffic of waitresses and caffeinated patrons out the window.

White hair flows from the back of his cowboy hat, while his thick white moustache and dark boots tell their own American story.

Someone is in Mac Arthur's spot tonight, so he's sharing a booth with his old neighbor, Shiela Boudreau, and Rudy Vanbuskirk, a friend of 10 years who works the graveyard shift at Saks as the maintenance man.

Mac Arthur steps outside and comes back with a large photo and an enormous camera lens.

"You could beat the crap out of somebody with that thing," Boudreau said.

Mac Arthur hands the photo to his new friend from Wyoming, sitting a booth away.

"You ain't gonna believe this," Mac Arthur said. "This is with that camera with that lens."

It's a detailed picture of a full moon.

"I was looking for the foot prints where the flag was stuck. But I didn't find it."

Mac Arthur has been coming to Saks since it opened as the Husky House in 1957. He was born in Ellensburg.

"Best damn place in the whole country," he said. "I've been almost everywhere."

Mac Arthur talks about the Kittitas Valley with the same distant gaze



Photos by Kathryn Dennehey/Observer

Isak Bergman, top, spends nearly every night at Saks. Paul Newman, bottom, stops to rest and read before continuing on his truck route.

Bergman gets when he talks about death.

"It's going to be beautiful," Bergman said. "You just rise and shrink and grow and expand and disappear and all of it."

Taya Fallis has been a waitress at Saks for four months.

"You got your cup," she notices as she refills Bergman's coffee.

Bergman's favorite mug is a darker

shade of brown than the rest and slants a little away from the handle.

Conversation gets strange as midnight approaches, and Mac Arthur claims he's the only normal one here.

"I didn't think normal people were allowed in here," Mary Patteson, another regular, yells from a corner booth.

"I know, we don't," Vanbuskirk said. "We've got a bouncer at the door."

New programs rock radio station

88.1 The 'Burg features new shows, DJs, equipment

by Taishi Kanamaru
Staff reporter

Die-hard sports fans, news seekers and video game lovers can tune their radios to 88.1 FM The 'Burg and have a friendly debate with DJs, because this station is more than just music.

Central Washington University's radio station is unique because of its indie music selection. But The 'Burg also features talk shows maintained by Central students' effort and talent.

One program hosted by the station was the winter quarter Fireside Chat, a discussion between Central administrators and students. The topics ranged from naming the Student Union and Recreation Center to air pollution.

"A lot of times the students don't feel like they have direct access to people in the position," said Chris Hull, general manager of The 'Burg. "That was the whole point [of the discussion]."

Another talk show is "The Sports Den," hosted by senior geology major



Laurel Ebenal/Observer

The 'Burg DJs Zach "Hawkeye" Hammond and Alisha Cleveland work the microphone for "The Noon Thing"

Jonathan Killingbeck and sophomore communication major James Puglisi. The program airs from 7 to 10 a.m. on Monday and Friday. It features the DJs' opinions about national sports (NBA, NFL, MLB and NHL) and Central sports.

The program tries to cover diverse topics that appeal to a variety of sports fans, Killingbeck said.

A high point for the program came when Killingbeck interviewed gymnast Shannon Miller, seven-time Olympic medalist.

"She seemed to be happy to help out college kids," Killingbeck said. "I don't know if the listeners thought it was a big deal, but I did."

Both Killingbeck and Puglisi believe

incorporating talk to radio programming is crucial, and would like listeners to become more involved with the show.

"When you do a rotation show, the talking is the glue that holds the show together," Puglisi said.

see BURG, page 11

February

22 * Music
Recital:
String Studio, 7
p.m., Music
Building Recital Hall.
* Women's basketball
vs. Saint Martin's, 5:30
p.m., Nicholson
Pavilion.
* Men's basketball: vs.
Alaska Anchorage, 7:30
p.m., Nicholson
Pavilion.

23 * Natural
Science
Seminar: Vince
Nethery, 4 p.m.,
Science Building, 147.

24 * National
Girls and
Women in
Sports Day, 9 a.m.
to 2 p.m., SURC.
* Women's basketball:
vs. Western Oregon,
5 p.m., Nicholson
Pavilion.
* Men's basketball:
vs. Alaska Fairbanks,
7 p.m., Nicholson
Pavilion.

25 * Stravinsky's
Psalms and
Stories,
4 p.m., Music
Building Concert Hall.

26 * Concert:
Anna Jensen,
guest string bass
recital, 5 p.m., Music
Building Concert
Recital Hall.

27 * Concert:
Central
Symphonic
Wind Ensemble,
7 p.m., Music Building
Concert Hall.

28 * March for
Equity and
Diversity,
noon, Student
Union Theatre.
* Guest Speaker:
Bakari Kitwana, 7 p.m.
Student Union Theatre.

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'BURG: Campus radio station talks it up with new student-run programs

continued from page 9

While the radio station broadcasts "The Sports Den" in the morning, "The Noon Thing" hosted by Zach Hammond, senior public relations major, airs at noon five days a week and features discussion of campus and community issues.

The program has covered topics such as stress as it relates to drug use in student life, holiday stress and campus crimes.

Hammond spends one or two hours preparing before the show by checking the local newspaper and talking to the Civic Engagement Center. Like Killingbeck

and Puglisi, Hammond would like to hear listeners respond, thus making the program more meaningful.

For video game fans, junior philosophy major Christian Mecham's three-hour talk show, "The Weekly Geek" could provide updated and useful information.

The program highlights video games, new technology, television shows, comic books, underground

hip hop and everything "geeky, nerdy and dorky," Mecham said.

Mecham tries to engage listeners and wants to put them on air whether they want to debate or simply tell him about things he might have missed.

"It's fun to sit and talk about the stuff I would do with my friends," Mecham said.

Although Mecham agrees that talking for three hours is a lot of work, he thinks it's worthwhile

because he is able to practice his communication skills.

"My roommate commented listening to my show was like having me at home talking," Mecham said.

"That's what I am aiming for."

Although these programs are on air regularly, Hull does not take these talk shows for granted.

"It's amazing to me that we have the students producing pretty much all of our shows and they can prepare for three-hour talk show plus maintain busy student schedule," Hull said.



Controversial music fills hall for Performing Arts Series

Music department to showcase music from revolutionary Russian composer

by Jon Schuler
Staff reporter

Ladies and gentlemen, meet Igor Fyodorovich Stravinsky. If you don't already know who he is, you should know one thing about him: he forever changed the definition of music.

Like Muhammad Ali changed the definition of boxing; like the Beatles redefined rock and roll; Stravinsky redefined symphonic composition.

Stravinsky wrote several ballets in the early 1900s that changed the way future symphonies, ballets and chamber pieces were written.

At 4 p.m. on Sunday in the music building Concert Hall, Central Washington University students will be treated to Stravinsky's musical revolution.

The event is part of the year-long Performing Arts and Presidential Speaker Series.

"Not only the music, but the ballet was unlike anything anyone had ever seen or heard," said Daniel Lipori, assistant professor in the department of music. "The audience was confused."

On Sunday night, the University Chorale, Chamber Choir and Orchestra

will present Stravinsky's "Symphony of Psalms" and "A Soldier's Tale."

"A Soldier's Tale" tells the story of a soldier's dealings with the Devil, and "Symphony of Psalms" is a symphonic recitation of three Biblical Psalms.

"He has a lot of good music that isn't played much," Jeff Lund, orchestra assistant conductor, said. "The soldier story is somewhere between a chamber piece, a musical and a symphonic composition."

"It's not pretty music; it's very dirty, angry music."

—Jeff Lund
Orchestra assistant conductor

According to Lipori, Stravinsky's music is comparable to "Phantom of the Opera." For some pieces, Stravinsky cut the violin, viola and clarinet parts completely. Those three instruments make up the higher sounds of an ensemble, and without them, the music assumes a mysterious, sinister feel.

"His style was definitely not traditional," Lund said. "It's not pretty music, it's very dirty, angry music."

The first three musical pieces

Stravinsky became famous for were a trio of ballets commissioned by the Ballets Russes: "The Firebird," "Petrouchka" and "The Rite of Spring."

"The Rite of Spring," first performed in 1913, was so unusual that a riot broke out.

Audience members either opposed the music or favored it, and began arguing in their seats. Stravinsky was forced to flee the theater.

"The audience was so loud that the dancers couldn't hear the music," Lipori said. "As for the music, it was very primitive, very barbaric-sounding. There are a lot of lower, darker-sounding elements."

After "The Rite of Spring" made him famous, Stravinsky went on to explore other types of music.

His next style was neo-classical, the same style as "Symphony of Psalms" and "A Soldier's Tale."

The final artistic period of his life was the serial period, also called the twelve-tone system. In this final period of his music, all 12 notes were given equal importance, and played with the same frequency.

Without Stravinsky, there may never have been the Beatles, Metallica or Bob Dylan. The public mindset might still be that only eighth notes are acceptable and dancing should only be done to the structure of a waltz.

Without his redefinition of music, perceptions of it today might not be the same.

Speaker explores cultural lines, origins of hip-hop, and race

by Lisa Jones
Staff reporter

Hip-hop has the potential to unite generations, races, and cultures. It has the ability to demand changes in society.

This is the platform of Bakari Kitwana, author, lecturer and former executive editor of The Source magazine.

Kitwana will be presenting "Wangstas, Wiggers, and Wannabes – The New Reality of Race in America," at 7 p.m. on Feb. 28 at the Student Union Theatre.

"I hope to build insight on hip-hop that goes beyond media perceptions," Kitwana said. "I also hope to raise awareness to the possibilities of hip-hop music and culture, and its abilities to impact society."

Kitwana has been lecturing about hip-hop since 1994. This month alone he has lectured at 11 universities across the nation prior to his visit to Central Washington University.

Kitwana is co-founder of the first ever National Hip-Hop Political Convention, held in 2004. He has written for several publications, including The New York Times, The Nation and The Village Voice.

He has also authored three books. His most recent book, "Why White Kids Love Hip-Hop," is an exploration into why hip-hop music crosses the lines of class, age and skin color.

Senior sociology and political science major Jen Ham is the driving force in bringing Kitwana to Central. As a program coordinator for the Diversity Education Center,

"Three years ago I was introduced to his book 'Hip-Hop Generation,'" Ham said. "I was impressed with how he touched on the intersections of race, class and sexual orientation."

Kitwana's presentation will also dis-

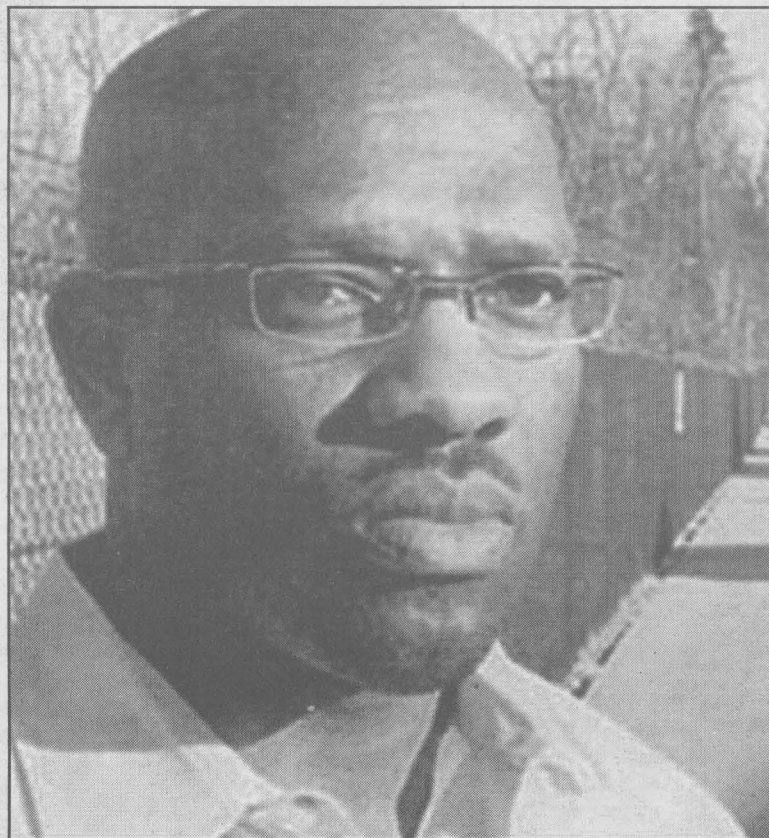


Photo courtesy of Publicity Center

Bakari Kitwana, author of books such as "Why White Kids Love Hip-Hop," and "Hip-Hop Generation," will speak Wednesday at Central.

cuss how and why hip-hop emerged from the civil rights movement and its progression through the years.

"It's about building coalitions to make our country better," Ham said.

Junior sociology major Natalie Washington hopes that the program will have a good turnout.

"I hope to understand more about hip-hop beyond the mainstream," Washington said. "I hope that other students are compelled to go and learn

too."

Kitwana isn't as concerned with the number of people who attend as he is with the impact that the lecture has on those who do show up.

"If I can help one person to realize their ability to change society, I'll be content," Kitwana said.

For more information about Bakari Kitwana's presentation, call the Diversity Education Center at 963-1687.

Classic Film: 'Paper Clips' documents effects of Holocaust

by Staci Bowlin
Staff reporter

A small town memorializes victims of the Holocaust in the film "Paper Clips," showing at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27 in the Student Union Theatre, as part of the Central Washington University Classic Film Series.

"Paper Clips" is a documentary directed by Elliot Berlin and Joe Fab. The film captures the reactions of students of Whitwell Middle School in Whitwell, Tenn. when they learned about the horror and tragedies of the Holocaust.

To better understand the extent of the Holocaust, along with a desire to honor and remember each lost soul, students collected a single paper clip for each victim. In the end, students had collected approximately 11 million paper clips.

The film illustrates how the students' experience with this project

has helped transform themselves and their community.

The 11 million paper clips are housed in a donated World War II rail car so the students would have a permanent tribute to the millions who died, and a permanent memory for the Holocaust survivors and the Whitwell community.

"Paper Clips" was named one of the top five documentaries of 2004 by the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, and has received audience and jury awards at film festivals across the country, including the Jury Award for Best Documentary at the 2004 Jackson Hole Film Festival and the Audience Award for Best Film at the 2004 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival.

The 82-minute film was made in 2004 and is rated G.

Tickets can be purchased at the Central Box Office for \$3 per ticket. For more information call 963-1301.

Scene Event:

Music Concert: Justin Klump, a musician from Vancouver, Wash. will perform at noon and 7 p.m. today in the Student Union Recreation Center pit. The event is free. Visit justinklump.com for more info about Klump and tour dates.

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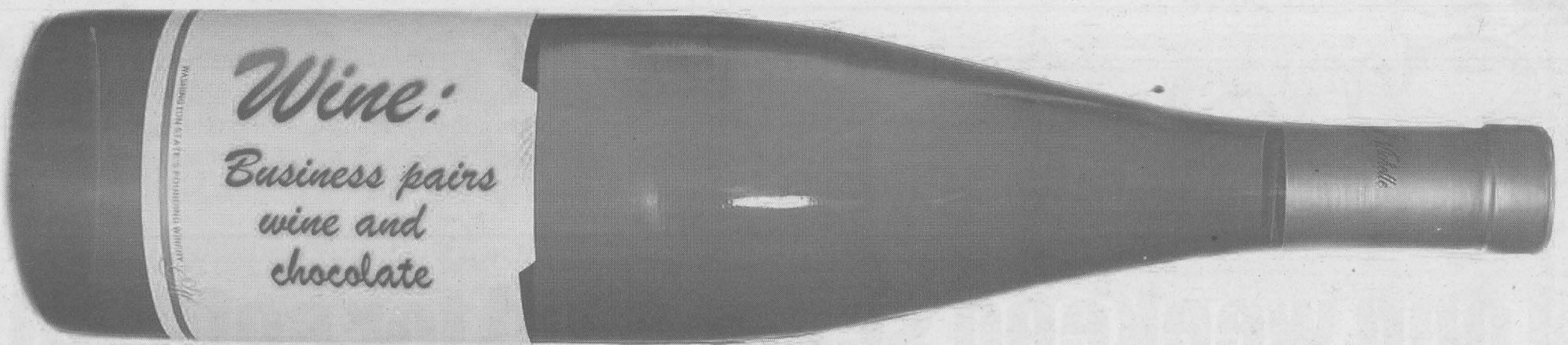


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Matthew Wollen, director of sales and marketing for WineWorks, pours a glass of red wine. WineWorks. The business, which opened in April 2006, is located on Main Street in downtown Ellensburg.

Laurel Ebenal/
Observer

Sweets & Treats

Red wines

- Frenchman Hills Winery Syrah, Columbia Valley (2005)
- Grant Burge Barossa Miamba Shiraz, Australia (1994)
- Wineglass Cellars Merlot, Yakima Valley (2002)
- 337 Cabernet Sauvignon, Lodi, California (2004)
- Ten Mile Proprietary Red Wine, California (2005)

Theo Dark Chocolates

- Venezuela Limited Edition Bar — 91% cocoa
- Blended Cocoa Ecuador/Chana/Panama Bar — 75% cocoa
- Ivory Coast Bar — 74% cocoa
- Madagascar Bar — 65% cocoa
- Bread and Chocolate 3400 Phinney Bar

continued from page 1

Ellensburg WineWorks, a wine shop and tasting room, opened in April 2006. Each month the business features a different winery and artist. Wollen is the nephew of owners, Cathy and Gordon Wollen, who also own the Yellow Church Café.

This month, Central Washington University student Steve Aldous has his work on display in the wine shop. "Red Wine and Chocolate" is providing a second event, other than the previous First Friday Artwalk for more people to view Aldous's work.

"Any opportunity for people to come in and see my artwork is an opportunity to gain recognition," Aldous said.

Central student, Luke Holtz will be performing at "Red Wine and Chocolate" at 7 p.m. Holtz, a music business major, plays blues and folk music on acoustic guitar.

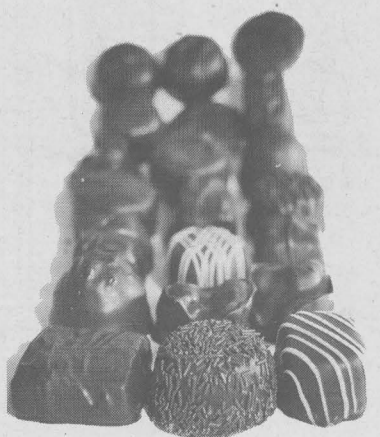
"It's [Red Wine and Chocolate] a good place to take a date," Holtz said.

Ellensburg WineWorks also has a wine club, aptly titled the WineWorks WineClub. The club allows customers to learn more about wine receive discounts on their purchases. The Wine-maker dinners are a reduced price for WineClub members. The dinner takes place every other month and is a four course meal where the of the month shows off its wines.

"The WineClub has taken off more successfully than we thought and we wanted to do something special," Cathy Wollen said, "We thought that red wine and chocolate would be great especially since its February."


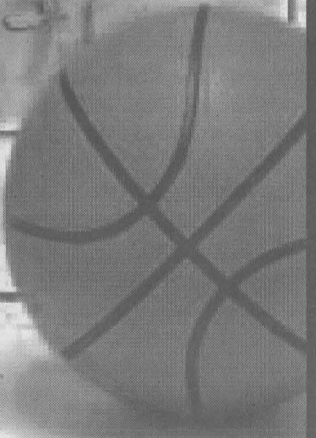
"Red Wine and Chocolate" takes place tomorrow from noon to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for WineClub members and \$10 for non-members.

For more information, call Ellensburg WineWorks at 509-962-VINE (8463).



Ross James Walette/Observer

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Women's Team

CWU vs. Saint Martin's


Thursday, Feb. 22 • 5:30 pm


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SPORTS

Women's basketball comes home after Alaska matchups pg. 15

Changing weather adds snow depth at local ski resorts pg. 15

Wildcats place at indoor track and field championships pg. 15

Long weekend scheduled for softball



David Woodford/Observer

Freshman catcher Whitney Osborne is part of the Wildcat's team projected to finish second in the GNAC

Wildcats head to Richland this weekend for nine game Central Washington Invitational tourney

by Jonel Jodock
Staff reporter

Grab your peanuts and Crackerjacks, it's time for Central Washington University's women's varsity softball.

After finishing 20-25 overall last season, the softball team is ready for another season under the direction of Gary Frederick who is in his thirteenth year as head Coach.

In the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) preseason coaches poll, Central has been chosen to finish second in the six-team conference behind Seattle University.

The Wildcats are expected to finish higher than third in the final conference softball standings, which has only happened twice since 1993.

Central welcomes back five of eight starters in the field and the addition of two new assistant coaches, Greg Gurtler and Caitlyn Cornell.

"Potentially I think our team could be very successful," Frederick said. "If our pitching is as good as I think it is, we should do well."

Last Thursday, the team traveled to the Schutt Sports/Division II Leadoff Classic in Phoenix, Ariz. They walked away with a 2-3 overall record.

In two weeks, the Wildcats will be hosting the 12th annual Red Lion Hotel Central Washington Invitational in Richland, Wash. from March 1-4. On March 8, Central will embark on the beginning of the GNAC season against Seattle University.

Frederick said the goal for this season is to make it to the Conference Championship and make the regional tournament.

Central's first home game is April 5 against Western Oregon University.

"I definitely believe that our season this year could be the best we have had historically," Frederick said.

TC heats it up on the court

by Michael Johnson
Staff reporter

Tremaine Curry walked onto the Central Washington University basketball team in 2005 with humble intentions, hoping that he could bring some spark to an already talented basketball team.

"I just wanted to finish up and get my degree, play ball and try to help the team as much as possible," Curry said.

Curry has stepped in and been a vital part in the team's push for a conference title.

"I'm cool with my role on the team, I just try to get out there and produce," Curry said. "It wouldn't matter if I sat on the bench all game as long as we win."

With such a passion for winning, dropping more than one overtime game was a tough pill for Curry to swallow.

"I've never seen anyone drop two in a row in overtime like that," Curry said. "It's like we went 90 percent of the way; we just need to finish games."

Curry says the combination of the energy he brings to each game and the way Central has been playing, the Great Northwest Athletic Conference title is in sight.

"I'm trying to do anything I can to help," Curry said. "I'm not vocal, but hopefully I can lead by example."

Curry has done exactly that, whether by starting or coming off the bench.

In the first overtime loss against Seattle University, Curry stepped in and provided a crucial 16 points in 38 minutes, his best performance this season.

"Curry brings a lot of energy to the court," junior guard Tyler Monk said. "He is a hard worker and doesn't complain. It's unfortunate that he doesn't play more; we just have so much depth at the guard position."

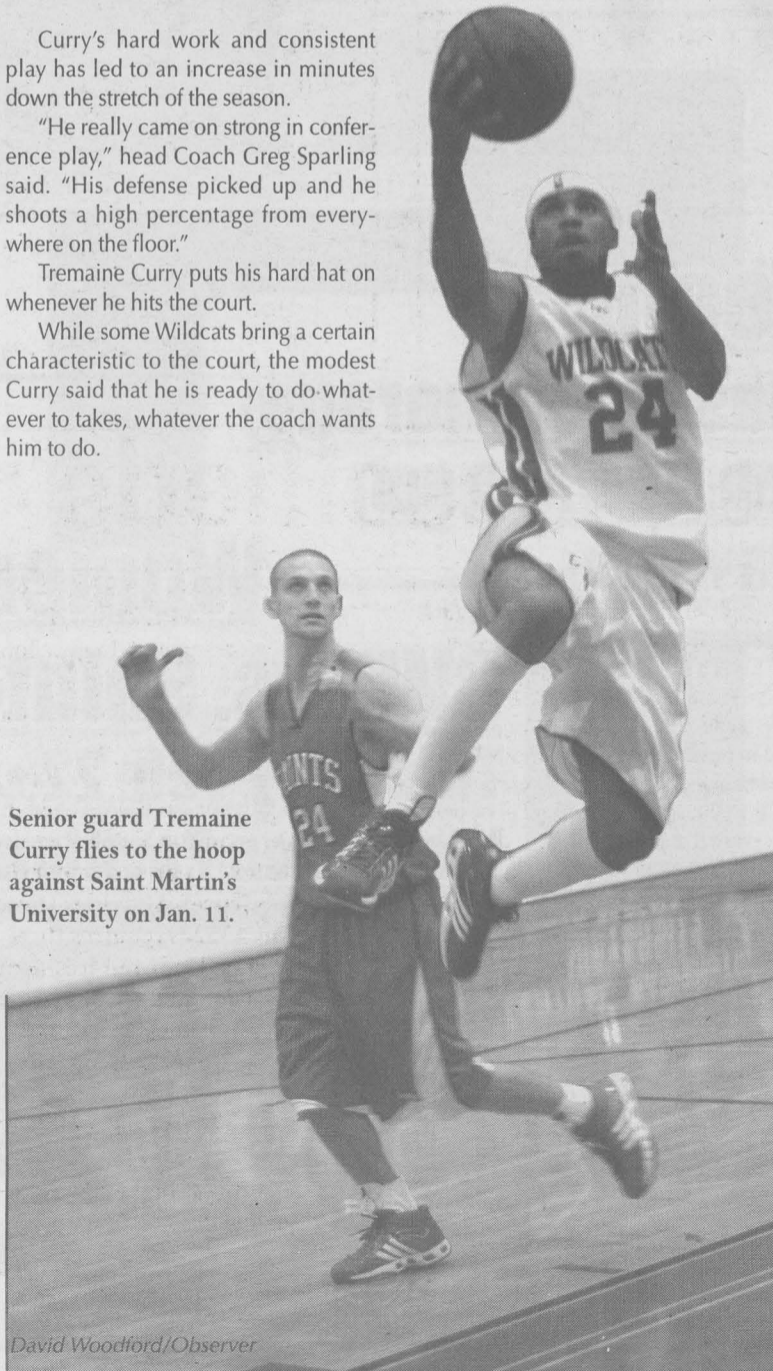
Curry's hard work and consistent play has led to an increase in minutes down the stretch of the season.

"He really came on strong in conference play," head Coach Greg Sparling said. "His defense picked up and he shoots a high percentage from everywhere on the floor."

Tremaine Curry puts his hard hat on whenever he hits the court.

While some Wildcats bring a certain characteristic to the court, the modest Curry said that he is ready to do whatever it takes, whatever the coach wants him to do.

Senior guard Tremaine Curry flies to the hoop against Saint Martin's University on Jan. 11.



David Woodford/Observer

Wildcats sit 6-2 after series in Colorado

by Brooke Saul
Staff reporter

Last weekend, Central Washington University's baseball team brought their game to Colorado to face off against the Colorado School of Mines Orediggers, hoping that weather would not become the Wildcats' enemy after last week's disastrous road trip to California.

The Wildcats went into extra innings on Friday evening against the Orediggers, losing 11-10. The defense committed two errors en route to two Oredigger runs in the seventh.

In the first game of Saturday's doubleheader, the Wildcats blasted the Orediggers 14-1. Central's first through fifth hitters accounted for 11 hits and nine runs batted in (RBIs), as junior designated hitter Hank Johnson went off, ripping three hits and driving in six runs. Junior shortstop Jamie Nilsen was just as effective, scattering three hits and scoring three runs.

"I felt great at the plate but was not so hot defensively," Nilsen said. "I need to work harder on my defense during practice."

Just as impressive was Central's starting pitcher Kevin Walkenhauer, allowing only two hits and one run in six innings, securing his second win of the season.

The Wildcats won in late innings in the second game, scoring in the seventh to hold off Colorado Mines 3-2. Tyler Levin secured the Wildcats' victory, pitching two solid

innings in the sixth and seventh, not allowing a single hit or run.

In the third inning, Central junior right fielder A.J. Gosney and senior center fielder Derek O'Konek each doubled down the right field line. Gosney scored on O'Konek's hit and Nilsen lined out to center, allowing O'Konek to score. Colorado came back in the sixth inning, scoring two runs. The Wildcats answered in the seventh off Farrington's RBI single.

The Wildcats defeated the Orediggers Sunday afternoon in a wild game. Central built a 15-6 lead, then held off a late Colorado Mines rally. Central's pitching was shaky giving up nine earned runs. Senior David Jackson pitched five innings to earn a win in his Central debut, giving up three earned runs.

Central demolished Orediggers' starting pitcher Matt Thome, scoring nine earned runs on 10 hits. Gosney went four for six at the dish, while five of his teammates finished with two hits each.

Central played a doubleheader last Monday against Colorado State University-Pueblo. The Wildcats won the first game 6-2 with Levin pitching the entire game. Levin allowed seven hits and two runs, striking out eight.

"I pitched well, I thought," Levin said. "I had good stuff on the mound."

In the second game of the doubleheader, Central lost 12-15. Central had five pitchers take the mound. Senior starting pitcher Rick Temple-

see **BASEBALL**, page 15

Wildcats finish 1-1 on Alaska road trip

Women's basketball prepares for three games at home sitting 5-7 in GNAC

by Michael Johnson
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University women's basketball team hit the road last week to play in the bone chilling Alaskan weather.

The Wildcats continued their tear, riding high from a big win against first-place Seattle Pacific University last weekend, defeating the University of Alaska last Thursday 75-63.

Central hit a brick wall in the University of Alaska Anchorage—second in the conference at 9-4—losing 75-65.

Central led at halftime, and led by as many as five in the second half over the Seawolves. The Seawolves answered, with an 18-6 scoring run.

"We went through a four-minute lapse in the second half," head Coach Jeff Whitney said. "That's where we got beat. They got the momentum, and we couldn't get it back. That happens sometimes on the road."

They left the minus-degree weather 1-1 and are back in Ellensburg for a three-game home stand playing Saint Martin's University tonight, Western Oregon University on Feb. 24 and Seattle University on March 1.

"Leaving Alaska with a split is good for us," Whitney said, "There have been a lot of teams who leave Alaska 0-2; it's a very hard place to play, so we are very fortunate to return home with a split."

Home is a good thing for Central, where the Wildcats boast a 7-2 record.

The same cannot be said when Central hits the road, with a meager 5-5 record. More importantly, the Wildcats are only 2-5 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC).

"It's vital for us to be successful during this home stand; winning these upcoming games will put us in a good position for the tournament," Whitney said. "Everyone has struggled on the road this year, that's why it's important to win games at home."

Central is hoping the road woes play to the hand of the Wildcats with the chance of the top teams knocking each other off. Central now faces the bottom half of the conference in their

"It's vital for us to be successful during this home stand."

~Jeff Whitney
head basketball coach

upcoming games, hopefully allowing Central into the postseason.

"We have to take care of the ball," Whitney said. "We are averaging around 18 turnovers, but that's what happens when you play uptempo. We have to run our sets and play within ourselves."

Against Saint Martin's earlier this season, the Wildcats turned the ball over 21 times, which led to 24 points. The Saints will try to play the spoiler role against the Wildcats again tonight. Saint Martin's is coming off a big win against Northwest Nazarene University, and a big win against Western Oregon.

The wins need to come now for Central. Winning the final three home games will put the Wildcats in good position heading into their final game against Western Washington University.

"Right now we are number 10 or 11 in the region, we need to be number 8," Whitney said. "If we can win out, our chances are very good, even losing one out of the last four would still give us a chance."

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93" at 5780'



Britany Hood/Observer

The men's track team finished first overall and the women fifth in the Indoor Track and Field Championships held last weekend in Nampa Idaho.

Track Results

GNAC 2007 Indoor Track & Field Championships

Men

60m Matt Rogstad 1st 7.15
60m Christian Demouchet 4th 7.28
200m Matt Rogstad 2nd 22.48
400m Charles Velasquez 4th 50.88
800m Scott Palmer 2nd 1:57.47
5000m Sam Scotchmer 2nd 15:08.92
60m hurdles Robert Edwards 1st 8.26
60m hurdles Christian Demouchet 5th 8.86
High jump Cameron Bailey 1st 2.05m
High jump Adrian Elmo 3rd 1.95m
Pole vault Scott McCoy 4th 4.33m
Long jump Nick Collins 2nd 6.7m
Long jump Cameron Bailey 5th 6.23m

Triple jump Cameron Bailey 2nd 13.88m
Triple jump Adrian Elmo 4th 13.65m
Shot put Cameron Neel 1st 17.47m
Shot put Matt Valdez 2nd 14.86m
Weight throw Evan Ruud 2nd 18.07m
Weight throw Tyler Fischer 4th 15.86m
Weight throw Cameron Neel 15.76m

Women

400m Chelsea Evans 2nd 59.38
400m Rachael Kaercher 4th 59.51
400m Amanda Gius 5th 1:00.25
1 mile Katie Hummel 4th 5:07.94
Triple jump Anjuli Spear 5th 10.7m
Shotput Krissy Tandle 1st 13.06m
Weight throw Krissy Tandle 3rd 14.25m
Weight throw Becky Scherer 5th 13.05m

BASEBALL: Team batting average at .341 after road trip to Colorado

continued from page 14

ton did not survive the first inning giving up two hits, five runs, and two walks. Central's pitcher McCurdy received the loss pitching three and two-thirds innings. Central had twelve hits during the second game. The Wildcats are now 6-2 on the season.

Central is scheduled to play a doubleheader at noon on Sat. Feb. 24 at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore. The Wildcats also have a doubleheader at noon on Sun. Feb. 25 at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash.

"Next weekend we are playing division three schools," said Nilsen. "I feel like we can be 4-0 after the weekend."

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