

3-8-2007

Observer

Central Washington University

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March 8, 2007 - volume 80 number 17

Central ROTC best of the best in Pacific Northwest



File photos by Patrick Lewis/Observer

LEFT: Central ROTC members compete in a skills challenge against three other regional schools. Part of ROTC education is field work including combat, survival training and equipment care. Competition in challenges like this is part of the ROTC process, and establishes national rankings.

TOP: On the course, dummy grenades are thrown at a variety of "enemy combatants" who are in fortified bunkers. The grenades are thrown from varying distances, and "explode" with smoke and noise.

by Clare Jensen
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's military science program is ranked number one in the Northwest, and 14th in the nation, out of 272 Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

Every year, Central is charged with commissioning 14 army officers. Central will exceed that goal by producing 16 officers this year and 18 next year, said Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Solem, professor of military science.

Chris Franco, senior cadet and battalion commander, said he came to

Central in 2003 because it had some of the best training in the nation.

A number of things have made Central's military science program number one in the region. First, the evaluation scores of the senior cadets' Leadership Development Assessment Course (LDAC). The LDAC is what assistant military science professor Tyler Oxley, calls "the final exam" for the cadets.

"A lot [of students] have spent three years preparing for that assessment," Oxley said.

The LDAC is a four-week assessment of a candidate's ability to be an army officer. It tests leadership skills, physical

fitness, navigation and response to stressful scenarios.

Franco went through the LDAC last summer, but will return this summer after he becomes a commissioned officer to help evaluate future students.

Central also has the number one recruiter in the Pacific Northwest, Major DeAnna Bridenback, and looks for scholars, athletes and leaders (SALS) to bring into the program.

Central's program recruits by itself, because of its realistic training and opportunities for additional training, such as Mountain Warfare School, and the Airborne School, Solem said.

"It's high speed training they may not be able to get at other places," Solem said.

Central Washington's natural environment is also a factor that makes Central's training program stand out.

"[Central] is the best location in Washington for training," Franco said. "The environment provides the best training possible."

While other universities may trek to Fort Lewis to train, Central cadets head to the Yakima Training Center.

"[We have] training opportunities at our doorstep," Oxley said.

Central's program has been created

for varying reasons, but the key to a successful military is its cadets.

"Central attracts the type of student that excels in military leadership," Oxley said. "It really comes down to the cadets and their commitment."

As Franco is on the verge of becoming a commissioned officer and has worked with the cadets and been through training first hand, he agrees that the commitment level of the up-and-coming officers is high.

"Every person who has joined the program [recently] has known they were joining in a time for war," Franco said. "That says a lot of their character."

CITY

Elderly woman survives collision with semi

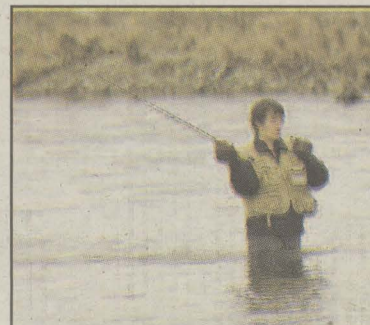
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SCENE

Japanese guest musicians play on traditional instruments

page 8



SPORTS

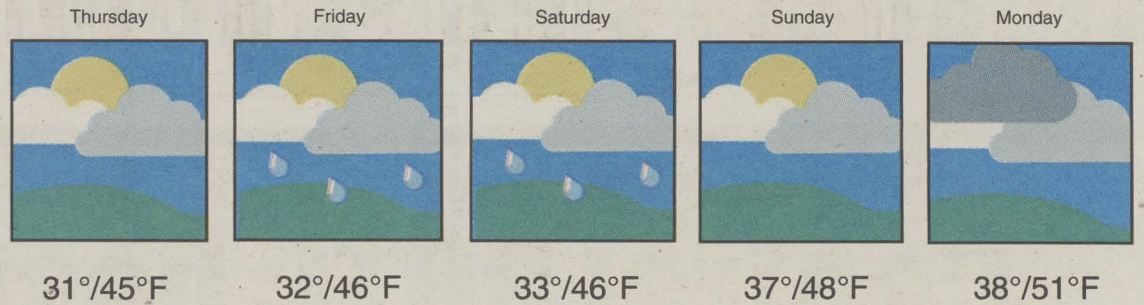
Get your rod bent in the Yakima River

page 13

DON'T FORGET THE DAYLIGHT

- ☀ Daylight Savings Time (DST) goes into effect this Sunday at 2 a.m.
- ☀ We're turning the clocks forward one hour, so: **2 a.m. will actually be 3 a.m. after the clocks are changed.**
- ☀ DST is occurring three weeks earlier than usual this year. President Bush is attempting to conserve energy by "springing forward."

EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST



Graphics by Stein Hansen/Observer

Homecoming, Ware Fair request from S & A

by Korben Cook
News editor

As winter quarter's classes wind down, so has the business of Services and Activities (S&A) Fee Committee.

The Ware Fair, Homecoming, Campus Activities and building a new challenge course were on the committee's agenda last Wednesday.

Scott Drummond, associate director of Campus Life, started the requests with Ware Fair, Central's annual arts and crafts fair, asking for \$3,635 for the 2007-2009 biennium.

"We need this funding because there's a lot of money that needs to be spent before Ware Fair starts," Drummond said.

Funds will go toward more decorations around the Student Union and Recreation Center and accommodating prices for vendors.

Instead of charging different fees to Ware Fair vendors, Drummond would

like to charge a flat rate.

"A lot of craft shows saw a 50 percent drop last year due to high gas costs," Drummond said. "We lost 20 vendors this year."

After the Ware Fair proposal, Drummond talked about Homecoming.

Drummond, who requested \$49,325 for the 2007-2009 biennium, said the requested Homecoming funds would be only used for headlining acts.

The entertainment for Homecoming and has recently seen mixed reaction from students and the community.

One of the more expensive acts in past years, comedian David Spade, cost roughly \$85,000 to bring to Central Washington University. Students told Drummond that Spade was a disappointment, even though the event sold out.

"You never count on a sellout crowd," Drummond said.

If an act costs more than the requested \$49,325, the rest would come out of

the campus activities budget. Drummond would still like to keep the cost for the act around \$49,000.

The Campus Activities budget, proposed by Drummond, has a connection to Homecoming.

A total of \$395,907 for 2007 and 2009 was requested. \$5,000 of that budget will go towards Homecoming.

"We're certainly not looking to bring in Metallica or anything," Drummond said, but smaller and less expensive acts are in Central's future.

A supplemental request was made from Steve Waldeck, director of University Recreation, for the construction of a new challenge course.

A challenge course is a structure, much like an obstacle course, designed to utilize teamwork.

Earlier that day, before Waldeck made the S&A request, he got word that all principal funding for the project was given by the President's Office.

Waldeck changed his request to ask

for a contingency budget for the construction of the challenge course.

"It's a mutual process to build it from state money and the students," said Ryan Hopkins, coordinator of Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals.

Traditionally, a contingency of 20 percent is set aside for emergency use during a construction project. The contingency fund will need \$32,000 for the construction project.

The total cost for the challenge course is \$160,000.

Any contingency funds not spent during construction would be returned in full to the S&A fund, Waldeck said.

"We are talking to other universities who have already installed the exact same challenge course about their operations," Waldeck said.

The challenge course will be accessible to all types of physical handicaps.

The next S&A meeting is at 5:10 p.m. on March 7 in SURC 301.

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Newsroom
(509) 963-1073
Business Office
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The Observer office, located in Bouillon 222, is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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Grad program offers more one-on-one

by Karena Shellman
Staff reporter

College graduation doesn't seem to come soon enough for some students. To others, it comes too soon.

For students considering grad school, Central Washington University faculty believe Central is the place to go.

"[The school] is very convenient," Daniel Herman, associate professor of history, said. "Part of the reason students should attend [Central] for a Master's in the history program is because of our outstanding faculty. All of us have received awards in either teaching or scholarship."

History isn't the only graduate program Central offers. Some others include accounting, art, biological sciences, education, chemistry, English and family and consumer sciences.

"There are many fine graduate programs nationwide," said Katrina Rooney, first-year masters in choral conducting and cognate in music history. "I recommend that a student search for the right fit for themselves."

Additional programs include geological sciences, industrial engineering technology, mathematics, music, health, human performance and recre-

ation, psychology, resource management and Theatre Arts.

"[Graduate programs] can serve as a sort of enhancement, but also a springboard for a doctorate," said Jeffrey Snedeker, graduate studies coordinator in the music department. "It serves as a niche for the field they want to go in."

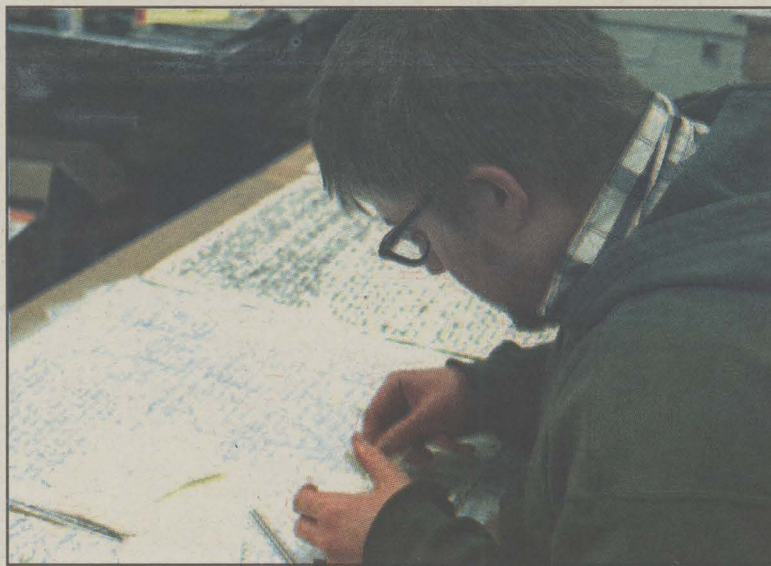
Unlike undergraduate programs, graduates have more faculty interaction and outside experience.

"I love the smallness of our little biology community, professors and grad students," said Helen Lau, second year masters in mycology, the study of fungi. "We all have a great relationship and we're very supportive of each other."

Students work closely with faculty, and it's good for graduate students because they can be role models for undergraduates, Snedeker said.

According to the Graduate Research Studies Department, there are currently 458 students enrolled in a graduate program. Many students take a leave of absence or a quarter off to work in their field before starting graduate school.

"We want students to go out and teach for a while," Snedeker said. "[They should] figure out some things in life, then come back with a focus."



Kathryn Dennehey/Observer

Justin Martin, a graduate student in the Master of Fine Arts program, works in his shared studio. There are 458 grad students at Central.

Students are normally required to write a lengthy thesis paper and, in some departments, a written or oral exam is required for degree completion.

"I would say the best thing [about the masters program] for me personally is being able to address my weaknesses," Rooney said. "Having taught [music]

before, I know the areas that need improvement and I now have the time and the excuse to take care of it."

Rooney said she's getting the education she wants because of Central's excellent program and professors, but time and determination are also key traits to being successful.

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

Finalists come nation wide to Central

by Chelsea Krotzer
Staff reporter

The selection process for a new Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies (AVPUS) is winding down as the final three candidates have been selected for faculty review.

The selected candidate will replace the current AVPUS, Linda Beath, who will retire in August after 15 years at Central Washington University.

"The three candidates were chosen through a search process of assessing their written applications by the search committee, which is made up of nine Academic Affairs personnel who were chosen by the Provost," Director of University Research Roger Fouts said.

The position entails academic program planning and review, assessment reports, specialized accreditation, overseeing Central's writing and math center, and managing academic advising.

The candidates are in the midst of a campus visitation interview process.

The first candidate, Michelle Behr, Western New Mexico University's associate provost for academic initiatives, came to Central's campus on Feb. 26 for an open forum.

"I bring to Central over 20 years of working with undergraduate students as a faculty member and administrator," Behr said.

Behr has worked with issues con-



"I am excited about the possibilities of putting my experiences and knowledge to work in service of the students at Central."

~ Michelle Behr, Western New Mexico University associate provost for academic initiatives

cerning undergraduates, including general education, assessment of student learning, curriculum development, internationalization, and diversity.

"I'm excited about the possibilities of putting my experiences and knowledge to work in service of the students at Central," Behr said.

Tracy Pellett, Minnesota State University's executive director of university



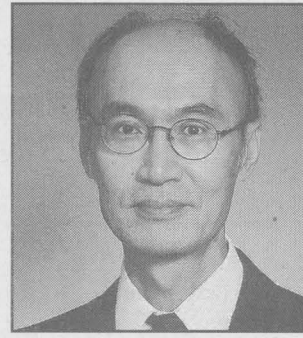
"I believe our mission as educators is to help all learners become responsible, knowledgeable critical thinkers and productive citizens."

~ Tracy Pellett, Minnesota State University's executive director of university assessment

assessment, is the second candidate.

"My background and experience as a teacher and administrator relate heavily to improving student learning," Pellett said. "I would certainly bring a spirit of caring, support and empathy for all students to the position."

Pellett won the Minnesota State Presidential Teaching Scholar Award in 2004. He also has authored and edited various



"I will bring to Central the same passion that I have for undergraduate teaching and learning."

~ Edmund Tsang, Western Michigan University associate dean for undergraduate programs and assessment

publications in relation to his sport pedagogy background.

Pellet empathizes with students who are traditionally considered 'at risk,' or are in need of extra guidance.

"I empathize because I was one of these students myself during my first year as an undergraduate," Pellett said. "Thus, I know how important it is for students to have professors that care and an admin-

istration that supports them."

The final candidate is Edmund Tsang, Western Michigan University's current associate dean for undergraduate programs and assessment.

"I have been a professor for almost 30 years, and I have administrative experience as a department chair and as an associate dean," Tsang said.

One of Tsang's many professional interests includes engineering design.

Tsang has garnered more than \$4 million in external funding from federal and state agencies for curriculum development, laboratory improvement, student development and student retention and recruitment.

"I will work with faculty and staff across the disciplines and administrative lines to create a nurturing academic environment for students," Tsang said.

The final decision will be made by Provost David Soltz, based on the feedback of faculty and staff that have been present during the campus reviews of each candidate.

Tsang's forum and presentation takes place today from 3:15 to 4 p.m. in Black Hall 152. It is open to the public.

For more information regarding the candidates visit the Office of the Provost page on Central's website at www.cwu.edu.

Faculty Senate passes class

by Marqise Allen
Staff reporter

Most universities do not have African-American studies programs in their curriculum. Central Washington University is one of the few that do.

"[The class] will look at African-American oral history," said English professor Bobby Cummings. "For example: folk tales and songs, and how these have evolved into rap and hip-hop. We can trace those roots and processes, and that's what we plan to do."

The class will be called English 110: Black Performative Culture in United States Global Context. Students should be able to enroll in the class fall quarter 2007. The proposal for the new course passed the Faculty Senate.

During the Faculty Senate meeting held in February, there was some confusion when the class was originally supposed to be voted on.

"A number of us showed up to the meeting to observe the vote, but there was no vote because it wasn't on the agenda," Cummings said. "Our question is, what happened to the course?"

After being approved by the General Education Committee, the course had to go in front of the Faculty Senate to be voted on.

"In the meantime, between the General Education approval and the senate meeting, [the Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities] requested to remove it from the agenda," Jeffrey Dippman, faculty senate chair said.

The reason behind the removal wasn't known at the time. Without an explanation as to why the topic had been removed, some attendees became upset.

"I heard there was some opposition to the course and I wanted to find out why," said Marji Morgan, dean of the

"It's going to be a unique program...we feel students' right about this part of history."

~ Bobby Cummings
English professor

College of Arts and Humanities. "It was about where the class was going to be placed."

Originally the class was going to be cross-listed as English 110 and History 110. This raised concern because some people saw the class as an English course. In the end it was not cross-listed. It will be in the catalog listed solely as an English course.

The Black Performative Culture course is the first of a new group of classes that will eventually become a new minor, African-American, African and Black Diaspora Studies, which will be the first program dealing with these issues to be offered at Central.

"It's going to be a unique program," Cummings said. "The staff is really dedicated, because we feel it's students' right to learn about this part of history."

Not only is a new minor in the works, but also a new Living Learning Community (LLC), called Realizing the Dream, which will work in conjunction with English 110 and the minor.

"We want everybody in there, so we can begin to learn cross culture," Cummings said.

Students set new 'Standard'

by Paul Balcerak
Senior reporter

Come spring quarter, *The Observer* won't be the only student publication on Central Washington University's campus.

A group comprised of members of Central's College Republicans (CR) chapter has banded together to form *The Central Standard* a politically conservative publication set to debut this spring.

"We're just a political avenue for people to get their ideas out," Standard staffer Tony Swartz said of the publication. "It's hard to have students get their ideas to the other general student population."

The Standard will operate exclusively online in the beginning, due to costs associated with printing and distributing a tangible publication. The club has already purchased a domain name at www.cwustandard.com.

Unlike *The Observer*, *The Standard* will function as an official university club. *The Observer* is a mandatory

class taken by all communication specialization offered by Central's communication department and receives funding from Central's Services and Activities Fee Committee.

Currently, *The Standard* has no official funding resources.

However, the members of the CR are striving to obtain financial assistance through a variety of sources.

The Standard will function more as a political commentary publication as opposed to a traditional news publication, *Standard* creator Alex Lykken said. While issues on campus will be tackled, they won't be *The Standard's* main focus.

"We want to do everything," Lykken, senior political science major, said.

Despite appearances, the publication is not intended to compete with *The Observer*. Rather, it was intended to contrast the liberal attitudes Lykken saw in Central's curriculum.

"I thought a conservative publication would be a good antidote to what goes on in classrooms," Lykken said.

Even so, Matthew Manweller, *The Standard's* adviser and a political science professor at Central, said a little competition never hurt anyone.

"I've never been a big fan of any monopoly and media monopolies fall under that heading," he said. "Regardless of whether [The Standard is] a conservative paper, a liberal paper, or a libertarian paper, it's always good to have more voices."

The Standard plans to feature as many voices as they can handle, President Jonathan Thomas said.

"We're mainly a moderate-conservative paper, but [are] open to liberal points of view," Thomas, sophomore political science major, said.

The club has not set a date for when *The Standard* will debut. For the time being, they're busy compiling stories from a staff of four to five regular contributors and 15 freelance reporters, Thomas said.

Students wishing to contribute to *The Central Standard* can contact Tony Swartz at swartzt@cwu.edu.

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Spotlight shines bright on Central students' films

Documentaries take second and music video chosen by band.

by Bryant Phillips
Staff reporter

Hollywood would do well to pay more attention to Ellensburg.

Recently, three Central Washington University students received national recognition for films they created. Brandon Wasserburger, Steven Schultz and Ryan Fudacz have each been recognized for their unique talents in video production and the skills they contribute to Central.

"The beautiful thing about making movies in college is I can make movies about whatever I want whenever I want," said Wasserburger, a senior film and video studies major. "There's a lot of opportunity in college that you might not get outside for a long time."

Wasserburger took home three awards at the National Broadcasting Society Northwest Regional Contest for films that he submitted this past January, including second place for a documentary entitled "Amidst the Ruins" on the restoration efforts in Louisiana post Hurricane Katrina.

He and Fudacz, also a senior broadcast major, took first place for a documentary they collaborated on entitled "A Blessing Named Margaret," which follows a 97-year-old Ellensburg resident who is motivated by her faith to help many people within the community.

"The experience I'm most thankful for is 'A Blessing Named Margaret' because just to be able to know her and make a movie [about] her [life] is a blessing," Wasserburger

said.

The film also placed in the top 15 nationally for a competition hosted by The Christophers, a religious foundation that encourages college students to submit films for cash prizes.

Fudacz said he and Wasserburger had less than a week to compile their project, and the experience has helped them in other activities at Central, like Newswatch.

"[This] was one of the very first projects that I actually ran the camera," Fudacz said. "To be nationally recognized was a huge accomplishment."

Wasserburger is also a member of the Motion Picture Club at Central, created this quarter by Schultz. The club offers students interested in video production a place to socialize and make films.

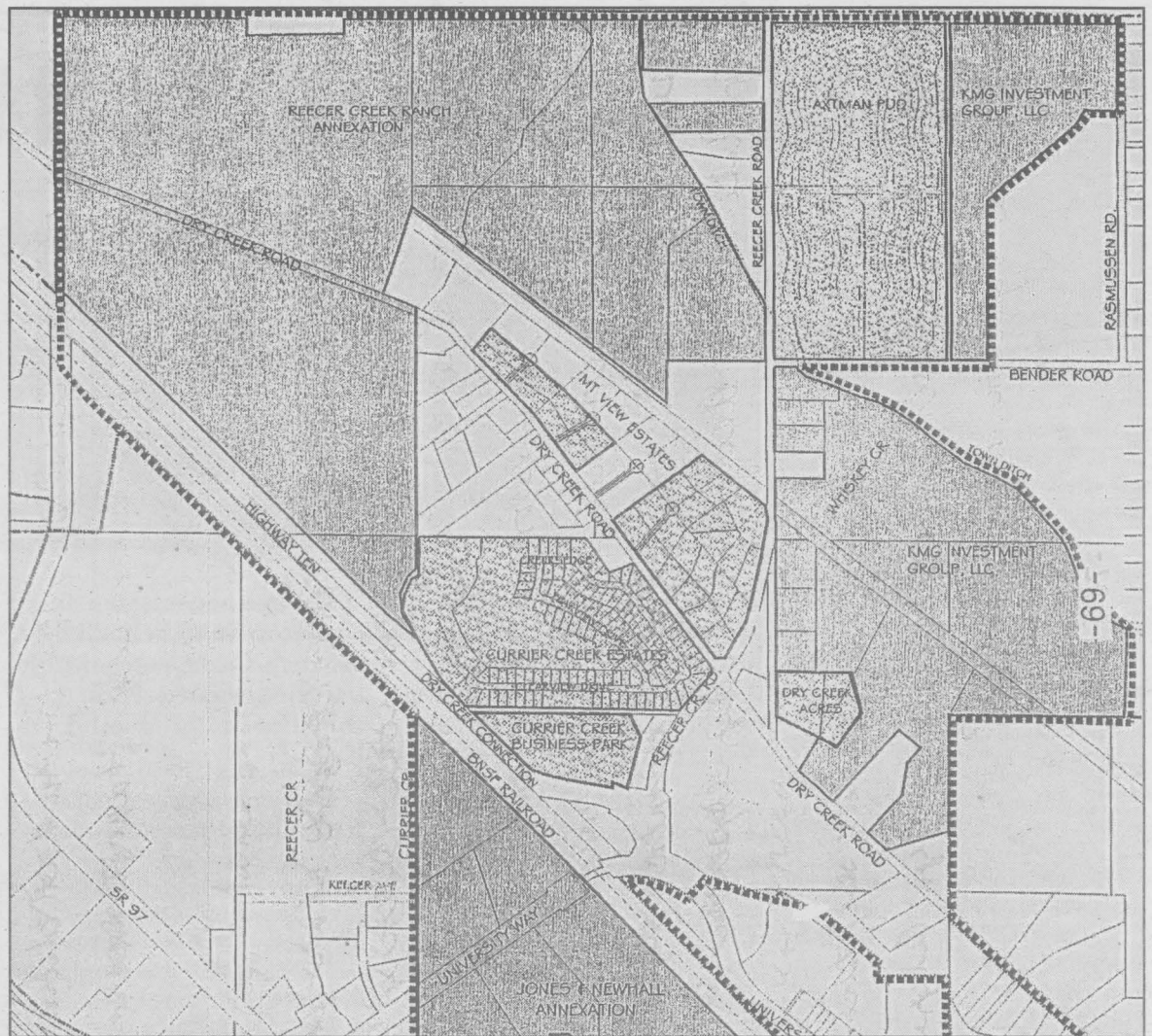
"We really didn't have a place where we could network and make films together," said Schultz, senior video production major. "None of our classes are really about making films, they're all business and [technically] oriented."

Schultz has recently been recognized for his submission to a YouTube contest hosted by Seattle rock band Emery to create a music video for the band's next single.

Schultz' video, which featured choreographed dancers dressed in red and white, was one of two videos chosen by the band.

"I want to contribute creatively to the world... it's such a magical opportunity to give back to society and not just accept what society gives you," Schultz said.

Films by Schultz, Wasserburger and Fudacz were recently shown in the Student Union and Recreation Center theatre as part of a collection of award-winning documentaries and films from Central students.



Graphic courtesy of Ellensburg City Council

The shaded area on this map of the Ellensburg city limits connotes the area of the proposed annexation.

City of Ellensburg set to grow if annexation is approved, but no promise of 'big box' business

by Abby Lee,
Staff reporter and
Paul Balcerak
Senior reporter

It may be time to expand Ellensburg. The city boundaries may increase if a plan to annex 894 acres of unincorporated county land is approved.

Central Washington University students and Ellensburg residents hoping for a "big box" retail store like Target or Wal-Mart shouldn't hold their breath.

"We haven't been approached by those companies," Brandi Eyerly, associate planner for the City of Ellensburg, said.

The proposed annexation area is located off the west I-90 interchange, near University Way, State Route 10 and Dry Creek Road. It includes zoning for

residential, commercial and light industrial properties.

"The property will be a mix of commerce and residential areas," Eyerly said. "Ninety percent of it will be single-family residential homes," which would total about 140 homes.

Private property owners have made three different requests for annexation. A petition to approve the annexation is being circulated amongst all property owners in the annexation area. A 60 percent of the proposed area must be approved by property owners for the annex to take place, according to the city of Ellensburg. In this case, 527.47 acres would need to be approved.

Not everyone's happy with the idea. "Some residents do not want the land to be annexed because they purchase it thinking that it's going to be

rural," Eyerly said.

As of February 20, 288.6 acres had been approved for annex while 153.1 had been denied. Another 441.7 acres have yet to be decided upon.

Annexation is a complex issue because the city may have to annex more land than originally anticipated.

"It becomes complicated to annex the land because the parcels in between may have to be annexed," David Miller, chair of the Community Planning Commission, said. "This plan is fairly large-scale [and] I expect it to take some time."

Annexation proposals usually take around six months and this one should be no different, Eyerly said.

A city council meeting will be held March 8 to further discuss the plans of the annexation.

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SURC Hours Finals Week

- The Student Union will stay open until 1a.m. March 12 through March 14 for an extra place for quiet study.
- Free cookies and coffee will be provided in the Student Union and Recreation Center pit.
- Laptops will still be provided during the extended hours for student convenience.
- To relieve stress, students can enjoy free massages between 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., March 12 and 13.

City

News from around the Ellensburg community

Senior citizen survives semi truck collision

by Megan Hansen
City editor

An 86-year-old Ellensburg resident was crossing University Way near B Street Monday morning when she was struck by a semi truck and caught between two of its tires.

At approximately 10:25 a.m. Ellensburg police officers responded to the collision, which left University Way closed for almost four hours. Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue also responded and removed the victim, Eileen Hoffman, from under the truck.

"It's going to take an investigation to determine the cause," said Captain Ross Green of the Ellensburg Police department.

Authorities are unsure whether Hoffman was crossing in a marked crosswalk or not, but she was crossing legally according to Washington State law, said Green.

There were three people at the scene who initially helped Hoffman, Eric Peterson, senior retail management major said. Peterson didn't see the entire collision.

"I saw the semi swerve to a halt so I ran over to make sure everything was okay and that she was conscious," Peterson said. "I sat with the older woman

and held her hand until the ambulance showed up."

Hoffman was transported to Kittitas Valley County Hospital and later taken to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. As of Tuesday morning, she was listed in serious but stable condition.

The driver of the semi was interviewed and later released.

Questions have been sparked throughout the community as to whether or not the driver had been drinking or talking on his cell phone.

"There is nothing to indicate drinking or cell phone [use] that I'm aware of," Green said.

The case remains open and Washington State Patrol is working on the investigation. They will map out the scene and later be able to recreate the collision, Green said.

There will be no definitive answers until the investigation is complete, which could take weeks to finish.

This is not the first pedestrian-vehicle collision on University Way. Last summer, a woman with a stroller was struck by a vehicle while walking across the street.

"Crosswalks aren't the problem on University Way; 17,000 cars drive daily on that road. It's a dangerous area," Green said.



Andria Cruz/Observer

Eileen Hoffman, 86, was taken to KVCH by Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue after she was struck by a semi truck Monday morning while crossing University Way by Shirtworks. The street was shut down for almost four hours.

Depot renovations in the works



Laurel Ebenal/Observer

For eight years, the Ellensburg Historical Society and the City of Ellensburg have been working together to purchase and renovate the historic Railroad Depot. The depot was purchased in March 2006, and once the city finalizes a lease with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, who owns the land the depot sits on, they will make minor repairs and turn the building over to the Historical Society. The society hopes to include a restaurant and transportation hub for public use in the project. The transportation hub would include a taxi service, as well as bus and railroad options. A early estimate by the society of renovation costs was more than \$5 million.

District upgrades up for vote

by Meagan Lind
Staff reporter

A bond for a new middle school and improvements to Lincoln elementary school is up for a new vote.

Last Wednesday, the Ellensburg School Board held a meeting at city hall and resolution 14-02-07 was passed.

The bond to replace Morgan Middle School and make structural repairs to Lincoln Elementary School will be on the April 24 ballot.

The bond needs a supermajority of 60 percent of the vote to pass.

"I think we need a new middle school," Pat Young, a public school employee said. "I'd like to see which site they're going to choose, because

that will make a huge difference to the public."

The location is not yet set, but there are a few options. One option is to build near Reecer Creek Road and option two is to build on privately owned property east of Bull Road. The Ellensburg School Board hopes to come to a decision during the upcoming meeting March 14.

"We're not at the point where we're ready to name a site because we still need to do a traffic analysis," said school board member Bob Haberman.

The entire project is going to be funded by no more than \$39.9 million of general obligation bonds that will be paid back by annual property taxes.

"We will involve the public of

course if we have to reconfigure," Dick Wedin, school board member said.

According to Wedin, the need for a new middle school has been an issue for quite some time.

"Morgan Middle school was built in 1929, and after the '97-'98 earthquake, the school became structurally inferior," Wedin said. "If there were to be a level three earthquake, it would come down."

The same goes for Lincoln Elementary School. The school poses structural, health and safety issues.

Details about what the new middle school will look like are still undecided, but the plan is to increase the property proposal from 6.8 acres to 20, and have a student capacity of 900.

HUNGRY HIPPO CLOSES DOORS

The Hungry Hippo, a local sub sandwich shop located on Pine Street, closed its doors after several years of business. The owners made a quiet exit from downtown Ellensburg and gave no notification as to why the business was shutting down.

The economic situation has not been beneficial for business owners in Ellensburg, according to Timothy Bishop, director of the Downtown Association, who has attempted to attract more customers for local business.

The Hungry Hippo was not the first to close its doors this year. Other stores including the Silver Iguana, Luna Moon and Moser's have closed their doors in the last year due to declining fast traffic and sales.

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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

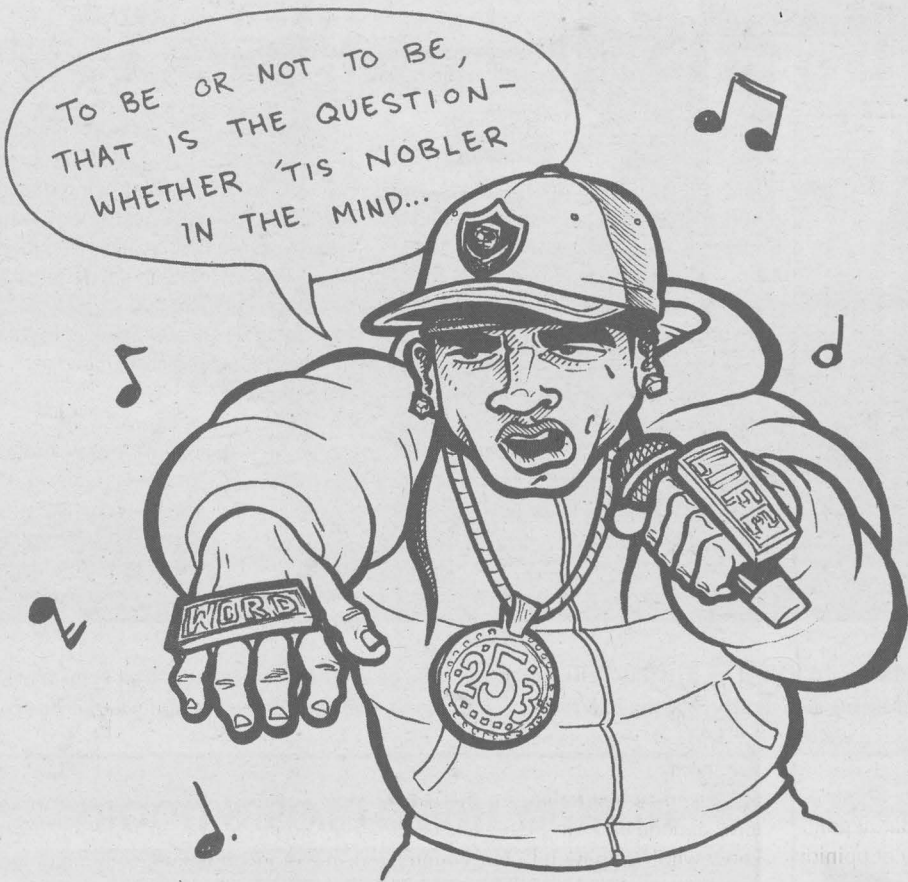
Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday the week of publication, must be less than 300 words, include your name and phone number and be E-mailed to the Observer. Only one letter a month will be accepted from an individual.

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 Roots of Rap"



Stein Hansen/Observer



Patrick Lewis
Editor-In-Chief

Scooter Libby was convicted after seven weeks of his highly publicized trial about the leak of a CIA operative's identity, but mass media is the entity taking the hardest hit.

Libby became the second highest government official convicted in a federal court in a political scandal. He was found guilty on one

count of obstruction of justice, two counts of perjury and one count of lying to the FBI. He could face a maximum of 25 years in prison, but trial analysts say he will serve less than three.

System hypocrisy aside, Libby wasn't the real defendant in the case. While he received a slap on the wrist, mass media ended up with the black eye. Libby can probably expect Martha Stewart-esque house-arrest for breaking the law, while newspapers were literally on trial for most of the seven-week case.

Five journalists, editors and reporters were called to testify. While everyone knows about Judy Miller, the outspoken reporter who served a stint in

jail for refusing to name her source, the rest were *New York Times* employees and Tim Russert, from NBC's "Meet the Press." They told their side of the story and explained how the information had leaked from Libby.

What the general public saw was how shady the business of covering the federal government really is. They learned from Russert that he takes every conversation with government officials as off-the-record, and lets them say pretty much whatever they want.

The terrible part about Russert's testimony is that sources are what make the journalism industry run. People are generally screaming at a reporter to give their side of a story and to provide accurate information. People generally want anonymity for no reason, and what they have to tell a reporter isn't useful. They want to sling mud against their boss or company and not have their name attached to it.

Editorialists lambasted both sides. I have to agree with Nicholas von Hoffman from "The New York Observer." He argues that journalists, especially those on Capitol Hill, have given out confidentiality like party

favors, and now it's no longer a useful tactic.

The Watergate scandal worked because the reporters had a credible government source who was giving them real information and had to be protected. The Scooter Libby trial came about because a CIA agent's identity was leaked, something that never really became news on its own.

If we, as a news industry, are going to get shield laws for confidential sources, we have to be willing to give anonymity only to those sources that actually break a story, not just anyone looking to avoid face time on national television.

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

OBSERVANCE

Popping the hot air balloon of government reporting

My lungs don't like your secondhand smoke



Melanie Lockhart
Asst. Sports editor

mates and I have recently started opening our windows in Stephens-Whitney Hall. We live on the first floor, which isn't usually a problem. Until, of course, a group of smokers gathers right outside our window, causing smoke to waft into our living room. The Washington Clean Indoor Air Act prohibits smoking within 25 feet of doorways and ventilation openings. That means, smokers...stay away from my room!

The problem isn't isolated, either. It's hard to avoid secondhand smoke when walking between classes. As smokers walk with a cigarette in hand, those around them are becoming victims of secondhand smoke.

I have no desire to inhale the 4,000 chemicals found in cigarette smoke that include carbon monoxide, ammonia and arsenic.

Thousands are affected annually by the repercussions of secondhand smoke. There is an increased risk of cancer, heart disease, lung infections and even miscarriage. About 49,000 non-smokers died last year from secondhand smoke. With a little extra effort, it's easy to limit the consequences of lighting up. I don't want to become a part of the nation's statistics.

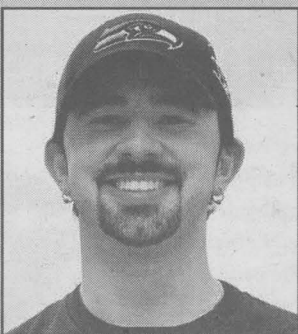
Just as smokers have the right to light up, I have an equal right not to. Don't force myself and others to breathe in the toxins of secondhand smoke.

Now that sunshine is making its way back into our lives, I find myself wanting to be outside. But I don't enjoy the inescapable plumes of smoke around the corner of every Central Washington University building.

Everyone is entitled to his or her own way of life. It's the inconsiderate act of smoking where passersby are unable to avoid breathing in secondhand smoke that ticks me off.

I walk into the Student Union and Recreation Center daily. Usually there is a group of people smoking at the top of each walkway, oblivious to those forced to walk through their smoke. Is it really that hard to step away from traffic areas? Due to warming weather, my room-

We need a morality major



Korben Cook
News editor

Ladies and gentlemen, our morals are swirling down the toilet.

College students pass other cars on the shoulder, swear too much in public places and very rarely do good deeds anymore.

A study by two university professors just came out last week saying that college students today are more self-centered than college students in previous years. I completely agree. I try not to be, because I believe that selfishness does not help society and unnecessarily hurts people.

Throughout our lives, our parents tell us how special we are. Because of this, we are starting to act like we are the most important people in the

world. This is not the case, so stop acting like it, people! You are just like me; an average person who wants to accomplish a goal for the betterment of the future.

There's a difference between narcissism and confidence.

In an interview done by the Associated Press, co-author of the study W. Keith Campbell said that narcissism leads to the breakdown of close relationships.

With the aid of the entertainment industry, destroying relationships is the new cool trend. Just listen to any Pussycat Dolls song and you'll understand.

With celebrities getting married and divorced every two days, it's not shocking that a lot of regular people do not care about each other's feelings, either.

According to the study, college students tend to be more controlling and display violent behavior more often than older individuals.

The overuse of swearing in public, I think, degrades our generation. As far as what you do in your own home; drink a soda, wear a helmet, slaughter a goat, whatever. But the public use of profanity is too much.

I'll let you into my head for just a second; I think that when you are in an argument, the instant you use pro-

fanity, you just lost the fight. It does not take a genius to say f*** every other word, but it does take some brain power not to.

I am not exempt from this issue. I cuss like a sailor, but have recognized that it is a serious problem.

Swearing is another reason people think college students are narcissistic and do not care about anyone.

It does not help that we hear it every time we turn on the TV or radio. Thank you, Quentin Tarantino.

A study a few years back said an infant hears all the curse words that they will ever use within the first week of life. I do not think that we need to add insult to injury.

Maybe the older generations do not understand us completely, but they are not far off.

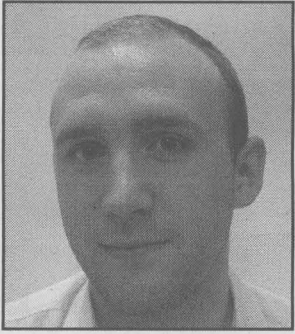
Here's an idea; if you really want to "stick it to the man," prove them wrong. Treat your fellow humans with respect and offer help.

In my experience, you get what you give. If you hold the door for someone or take the time out of your schedule to say thank you, then people will do that for you.

While I agree that college students are some of the most narcissistic people in the U.S., I do think we can change.

It beats a hard kick in the face.

If there's a God, he doesn't live in Saudi Arabia



Paul Balcerak
Senior reporter

It's not often an international news story makes me almost choke on my own vomit, but I could barely hold it back when I came across this article on FoxNews.com Tuesday morning:

A 19-year-old Saudi Arabian woman has been sentenced to 90 lashings for being alone with a man not related to her.

That's not even the worst part, so get ready to get sick.

About five months ago, the woman was blackmailed into meeting a man who threatened to tell her family she was having a relationship

prior to marriage. When she met the man, she was abducted by seven others who proceeded to gang rape her 14 times over a three-hour period. They took pictures of her while she was naked and threatened to kill her.

Five of the men were charged with rape and given prison sentences of 10 months to five years.

Meanwhile, the woman is still awaiting her 90 lashings and is desperately trying to appeal her case to Saudi King Abdallah bin Abd al-Aziz.

The "law" that Saudi courts referred to in sentencing the woman is drawn from Islamic law.

Imagine my surprise.

Islamic fanaticism is nothing new and I probably shouldn't be surprised by the court ruling at all. But all I can bring myself to think is that this is why we're better than them. Things like this prove that the United States is morally superior to all these Third World countries that hippies and liberals accuse us of oppressing.

Look, I've got nothing against Islam as a religion; Christianity and other "Western" religions have equally crazy laws. But there are two fundamental differences here. For starters, not even the craziest Christians observe archaic and

outdated laws from ancient texts. And even if they did, the U.S. would sure as hell not uphold them.

I'm tired of hearing words like "ethnocentrism" and "religious intolerance" thrown around when smart people raise opposition to cultures like this.

One of my professors once asked me: "Does tolerance mean tolerating intolerance?" I say, "Hell no."

You bet I'm intolerant toward a culture that condones rape and punishes its victims. And I'd challenge anyone who thinks I'm wrong in my thinking to speak up. After all, we're allowed to do that here.

Letter to the editor

ASCWU/BOD money request explained

In the February 22 issue of The Observer a story entitled, "BOD asks for half a million \$" ran in the news section. This article outlined the results of the February 14 Services and Activities meeting.

During the meeting, many BOD members presented biennium requests for sub-organizations and the ASCWU-BOD. The funding requested is not only for the ASCWU-BOD budget, but for other student services overseen by the Associated Students.

Central's student government as a whole oversee various entities that serve the student population in different capacities. Club Senate and Legislative Affairs are both overseen by BOD officers, but they are separate entities.

Club Senate's budget is designed for student use by Central clubs. Organizations can request money for programs and travel and then the senators vote to pass funds to support groups. This directly benefits students.

The vice president for political

affairs oversees Legislative Affairs. The money allocated is used for Central programs to promote voter registration, the Washington Student Lobby and other items of legislative interest. The money also is used to have Central students travel to both the state and national capitol to lobby for issues directly effecting higher education.

The funding allocated directly to the ASCWU-BOD ensures wages for officers and office staff in addition to programmatic pieces such as Senior Celebration, Student Appreciation Week and Fireside Chats. The money also is used for travel costs for conferences where BOD members represent Central on a region and national level.

S&A funds many departments on campus from the marching band to *The Observer*. Student Government and the Associated Student are just one of many departments requesting money. Overall, the money allocated by the S&A committee to the ASCWU-BOD is only \$139,000 for the entire 2008 fiscal year.

-Danielle Martinez
senior
public relations

Republicans are people, too



Laurel Johnson
Copy editor

Does diversity mean having a lot of people who look different? Does it mean having a large homosexual community? Sure, maybe. But true diversity comes from a mix of not only colors and preferences, but also a mix of ideas. Unfortunately, the current political climate makes diversity of opinion almost non-existent.

Take the immigration debate. I went to Phil Garrison's reading of "Because I Don't Have Wings" last week, mostly because I admire him as a writer and

teacher. Garrison told stories of real people instead of spouting political talking points. Yet during the question and answer portion, several audience members brought up political questions, ultimately leading him to make statements on the validity of border security and whether or not America was ready to fall as Spain had. Still, there was no preaching from Professor Garrison, and I was glad to see it.

Public opinion leans toward the left side of the immigration issue, especially here at Central. Because public universities are liberal places to begin with, and because of our large Latino community, Central students are only exposed to one point of view. We're led to believe that the conservative stance on immigration is "go back to where you came from," and that's a shame.

Another conservative stance, one people may not hear often, is that the U.S. needs immigration, for the work force and the economy, but we need to know who's coming into our country. There's nothing hateful about it.

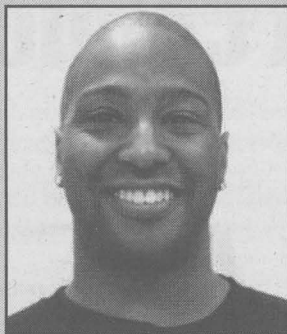
When it comes to immigration, foreign policy, gay rights, etc., the popular (left-wing) message is simple: "we're right, you're evil." Americans are told

over and over by professors, pundits, and celebrities that if they disagree, even a little, with the left-wing stance, they are bigots. Americans don't want to be bigots, so conservatives and moderates sit down and shut up, despite that First Amendment thing.

True diversity acknowledges that there are several points of view, several sides of any one issue, and that none of them is completely correct. I'd like to see an actual debate on any one of these topics in which liberals, independents and conservatives make their arguments without insulting one another. Instead of saying, "you're stupid/bigoted/ignorant, shut up" or "you're a bad person," say things like "I disagree, and here's why," arguing with facts and ideas instead of angry and hurtful personal attacks. We're not running for office, after all.

Ironically, through pop culture and an over-zealous media, left-wing politics' gone the way of fascism: to disagree is not an option; conform or face exile. There are many brilliant Republicans, Libertarians and Independents out there, and they're not as bigoted and evil as most people think. So maybe we should let them speak.

Central curriculum should include black history, too



Marqise Allen
Staff reporter

As February came to an end last week, so did Black History Month, along with the opportunity to learn about influential African-Americans, and their impact on this country.

The reason I'm saying this is that as it stands right now, there are few classes or opportunities to learn about these influential people at Central Washington University.

As a history minor myself, I was very excited when I saw that Central had several African-American history classes.

This excitement didn't last long, because I soon found out these classes had been put on reserve, meaning they're in the catalog but are not currently being offered.

I was even more devastated when I found out these classes have been on reserve for more than 10 years.

Central has gone 10 years without a single African-American history class; this is a travesty at best and a disgrace at worst.

Do I think that Central is deliberately and blatantly ignoring a part of American history? No, but it is clear that something has to change in the future.

As it stands, Central is the only four-year university in the state of Washington that does not offer at least some kind of African-American studies minor.

The main reason behind this is that the professor who taught these classes retired some time ago, and no one has come in to fill the void. My question to this is why wasn't someone else hired during that entire 10 year span?

Another reason is some people feel that the demographics at this uni-

versity would not warrant and bring the necessary student interest for these courses. I feel like the demographics at this university speak volumes for why we need African-American studies classes.

With national and global ignorance and intolerance on the rise, what better way to teach students that black history is more than slavery and that black culture goes beyond the misogynistic and materialistic images portrayed on MTV and BET?

With the implementation of the new Black Performative Culture in United States Global Context class, the planned Living Learning Community, and the eventual addition of the Black Diaspora minor, it is clear that Central is trying to move in the right direction.

I just hope that the Black Performative Culture class is only the beginning, and new classes and the new minor become a reality. Maybe at some point the minor may even warrant becoming a major. Then maybe the vast history of African-Americans and other minorities in this country might not be confined and condensed into a month.

*Retirement Party in honor of
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3-5pm

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Sponsored by the Student Health, Counseling and Wellness Service

This week in Scene

Ailey II: Word-famous dancers hit Central last Tuesday. **PAGE 9**

Spring Break: See what concerts are scheduled for the Seattle area. **PAGE 9**

"Noh Telling": The Theatre Arts department brings Japanese drama to life. **PAGE 10**

One Act Plays: Students write, produce and design theatre productions on campus. **PAGE 11**

Gamers: Check out the options video-gamers have at Central. **PAGE 11**

Scene



Mary Ebenal/Observer

Chikako Kanehisa (left) plays the koto while Koizan Nagahiro plays the shakuhachi to a piece called "Mizuumi no Uta," the second of twelve songs.

Guest musicians play cultural tunes

Two Central students join artists to perform authentic Japanese music

by Leah Hafterson
Staff reporter

The sound of a shakuhachi and a koto in the music recital hall was the result of the Japanese Culture Association's (JCA) desire to teach students about Japanese culture.

Shakuhachi player Koizan Nagahiro and koto player Chikako Kanehisa performed a series of Japanese music for

students and community members last Sunday. Nagahiro and Kanehisa were also accompanied by Central Washington University students, pianist Mayu Takahashi and vocalist Naoko Iwanari.

"I thought it was very interesting to have the opportunity to hear the different instruments," said Mike Mocerri, freshman music education major.

A shakuhachi is a flute made from bamboo with four holes on top and one on the bottom.

A koto is a six-foot-long harp with 13 strings and 13 adjustable bridges. The bridges are moveable so the pitch of the instrument can be changed to fit the piece being played.

"There are few opportunities to listen to Japanese music here [at Central]," said Kenichiro Kanehisa,

senior marketing major and JCA member. "We wanted to have really traditional Japanese music."

The concert's program included a sheet for audience members to read the English translation of the Japanese lyrics during songs when Iwanari sang. Other songs were all instrumental, and featured only the Shakuhachi and Koto.

Both Nagahiro and Kanehisa performed solo pieces during the concert.

"Everywhere I go I always try to play the best stuff I can, especially since it's the United States of America," Nagahiro said. "I picked a solo that reminds people of the real taste of Japanese music."

The JCA invited Japanese musicians to Central using the connections of Kenichiro, who is Chikako's son.

"I don't think there is a border

between music [from different countries]," Chikako said. "The music can cross over any language, any country. I hope I provide the bridge between those different places."

The cultural experience didn't stop with the music.

While the koto was being tuned, master of ceremonies Ayami Shigeta took the opportunity to answer questions from the audience about the Japanese language.

Shigeta translated the banners hanging from a music stand on stage. The banners displayed the names of the songs performed.

"We want to share our culture in this community," Kenichiro said, "I hope [the concert] will be the start of gaining interest in our culture."

Northwest comic cracks up audience

by Taishi Kanamaru
Staff reporter

All Dan Cummins needed was a microphone to keep people laughing.

Last Friday, Central Washington University's Campus Life hosted the second Comedy Night of the quarter, featuring comedian Dan Cummins at the Student Union and Recreation Center Theatre.

Cummins describes himself as having a "dark sense of humor." He changed the topic of his jokes often and seemed to enjoy pushing the limit with the crowd.

"I know Central has been a little conservative, but the crowd tonight didn't seem [like it]," Cummins said.

Cummins also enjoyed making fun of some audience members.

"If you're not having fun, you blame yourself," he said. "If you don't understand this joke, I think you're stupid."

Cummins covered about 50 topics, his fast-paced style bringing more than 70 audience members to laughter.

"How about a strip club and day-

care?" he said. "Mommy is working and daddy is home with his real family."

Chris Cook, senior physiology major, had never been to a comedy show before and came to the show after his friends convinced him.

"He was really funny," Cook said. "I had a really good time."

Carter Thomas, student coordinator for comedy shows on campus, said the point of this series is to give Central students opportunities to see big acts.

Normally students would have to drive to Seattle and pay more money to see someone like Cummins.

Thomas decided to bring Cummins to Central after watching his DVDs. He liked how Cummins cutting-edge comedic style was aimed toward younger crowds.

Cummins, who is now on a national tour, did not know he would be a comedian when he was studying psychology at Gonzaga University.

His wife convinced him to be a comedian and supported him financially for the first couple of years.

"I thank her in a lot of ways," Cum-

mins said.

Cummins has been a professional comedian for six years, and always tries to be original.

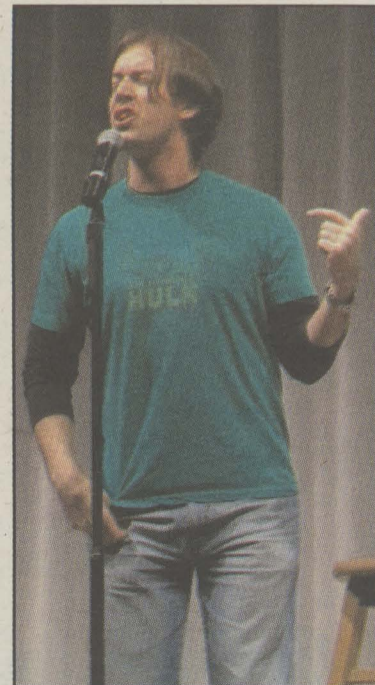
"Some people think [dark humor] is too mean, but that's the thing I think is the funniest," Cummins said. "It's so much fun to write whatever you want and see the strangers like it."

Cummins appeared on "The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson" last year and has started gaining national exposure; he wants to bring the audience into his world.

"If I perform in front of 100 people, I would rather have 10 people really like it and 90 people not really into it, than all 100 people just kind of like it," Cummins said.

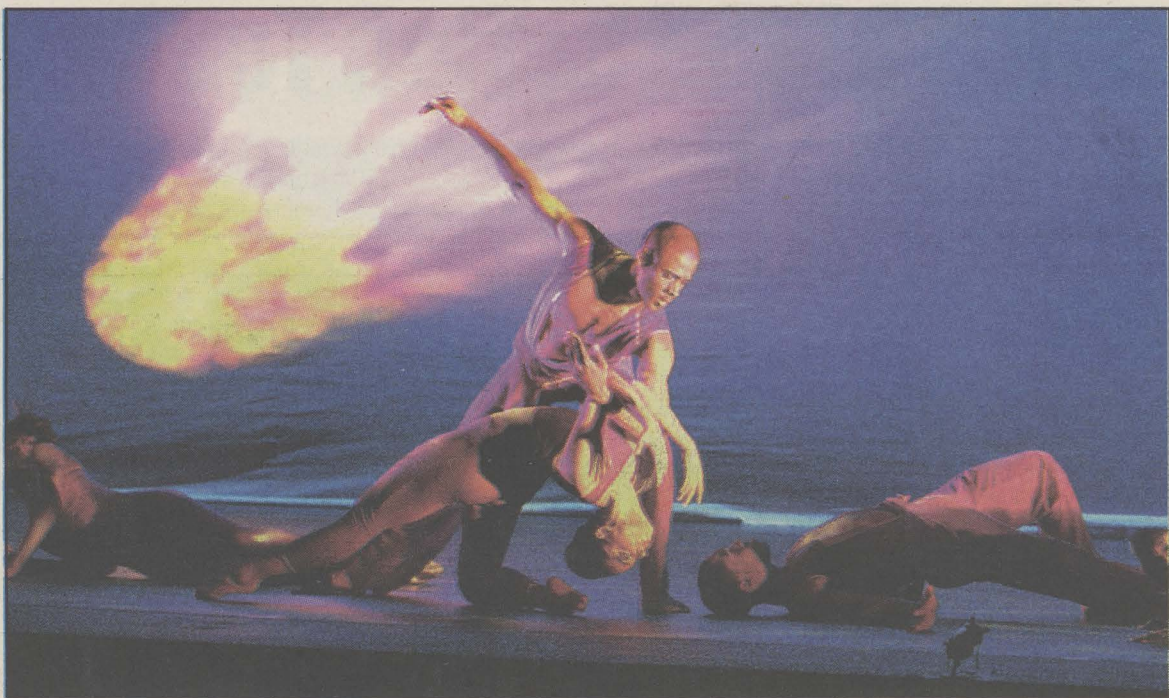
Cummins had never attended a stand-up comedy show before he started doing stand-up himself. He believes attending shows is "more fun than watching comedy on TV."

"It's a really different experience," Cummins said. "I think people will be surprised by how much fun they will usually have."

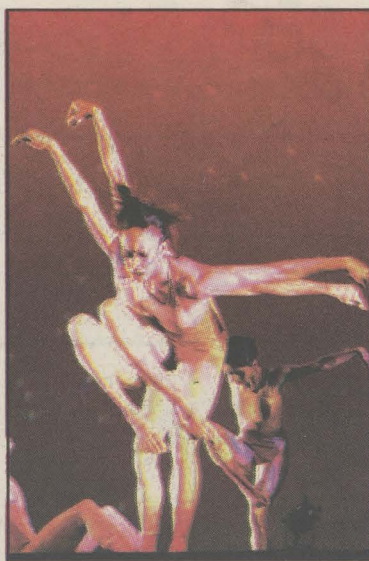


Elizabeth Witkowski/Observer

Fast-paced comic Dan Cummins delivers a joke during his performance last Friday.



Mary Ebenal/Observer



Laurel Ebenal/Observer

Members of world renowned dance company Ailey II captivated the Central audience with their dramatic performance on Tuesday.

Ailey II dancers grace Central stage

by Staci Bowlin
Staff Reporter

The seats slowly begin to fill, the sound of chit-chatting ticket holders begin to envelop the auditorium. Underneath the curtain you see the feet of performers practicing, preparing to give their all to the hundreds of people that have paid to watch them.

Ailey II, one of the nation's most popular dance companies, came to Central Washington University on March 6 and gave the audience a dramatic performance. The group continues to earn critical praise as they perform at colleges and universities across the country, as well as elementary, middle and high schools.

The group arrived a day early to hold three modern dance and jazz classes for the aspiring dancers at Central.

Bob and Sherry Bayles came to see the group perform live after seeing them on television.

"This is great; incredible, these guys are awesome," said Bob, a local out-of-home painting contractor.

Four segments made up the performance, each evoking a different emotion from the audience.

The first segment, Celestial Landscape, incorporated vibrantly colored costumes and a number of dancers to convey a sense of rebirth.

The second, Takedeme, was performed by a solo dancer and brought

the audience to laughter with its humorous theme. No music was used during this segment, but rather a woman's voice making sounds in a pattern.

The third segment, Splendid Isolation II, had two lead dancers that captivated the audience; a man and woman that seemed to be reaching for one another but couldn't be together. The third segment gripped the audience just by the use of costume.

"That was inferential, the use of the dress was phenomenal," said Sherry.

The female lead wore an extravagant white dress with layers of thick fabric stretching out across the floor.

The dancer moved and twisted her body to get the dress to conform to her shape, and eventually the bottom of the

dress lifted off her, as the male lead clung to it as his only remembrance of a love lost.

The fourth segment, Nahum (The Comforter), was performed by all the dancers and created a sense of comfort to the audience when the dancers seem to die and one person touches one that is dead to give them a new life, and the chain is now set in motion, each dancer eventually living again.

Beverly Ormbreck was the artistic director for Orchesis at Central for several years starting in 1983. She now teaches dance classes at Stage door Dance Studio.

"The program is powerful, magnificent, it makes me wish I was twenty years younger," Ormbreck said.

Spring Break Concerts

The Showbox

17 - The Paperboys
20 - Anti-flag
24 - Sevendust
25 - Mat Kearny

Key Arena

22 - Eric Clapton

El Corazon

16 - Plain White T's
17 - Anberlin & Bayside
20 - Haste the Day & From Autumn to Ashes
21 - The Ataris

North Shore Performing Arts Center

23 - Blue Scholars

Neumo's

26 - Badly Drawn Boy

The Paramount

16-18 - Rain: The Beatles Experience
26 - Killswitch Engage

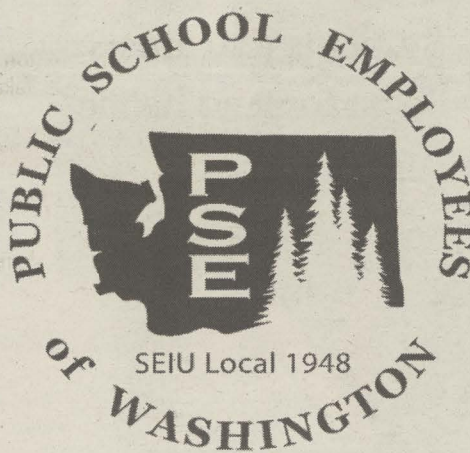
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Classified Educational Support Professionals work hard to make Central Washington University a quality institution of which the citizens of our state are justifiably proud. The Classified Staff of CWU make many, many important contributions to the university's core mission of preparing our children to succeed in an increasingly complex world. Please take a moment this week to thank our classified staff members for their hard work.

WE'LL BUY YOU LUNCH ON MARCH 15. JOIN US IN SURC 137 A-B FROM 11:00 to 2:00 pm. MEET SOME OF THE CLASSIFIED PROFESSIONALS WE REPRESENT AT WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

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Japanese theatre styles blend in 'Noh Telling'

by Jon Schuler
Staff reporter

Central Washington University was treated to two nights of theatre last weekend, with double showings of the Central production "Noh Telling."

The production features contrasting styles of drama and comedy.

The first act of Central's production, called "Komachi," tells the story of the poet Komachi, a legendary figure in Japanese culture. The play tells of her courtship with a prince named Shosho, his death and how he haunted her eighty years later.

Masked actors move across the stage silently, while other actors sit in the cor-

"There's a lot of symbolism in Noh plays; it's more like a piece of visual poetry."

~George Bellah, III
Director of "Noh Telling"

ner, speaking or chanting in dialogue. The first act is rife with tense moments, poetry and visual overstatement.

"There's lots of symbolism in Noh plays; it's more like a piece of visual poetry," director George Bellah III, said. "The whole idea is that you watch it and think about life. In real Noh theatre, there's no applause, you just sit there and contemplate life."

The second act of "Noh Telling" is called Kyogen, and is the comedic relief. It is intended to clear the viewers' mind of the preceding drama and is often performed with slapstick humor. Loud laughter and brightly colored costumes highlight the production.

Bellah selected a play called "Boshibari" to depict the Kyogen theatre, which tells the story of two ser-

vants' attempt to steal and drink their master's sake.

The master ties them up before he leaves on a business trip, but they still find ways to drink the sake, even while bound.

Hilarity ensues when their master returns to find them drunk, but still tied up.

"There's no subtlety in that piece," said Brent Griffith, senior Theatre Arts major and actor in "Boshibari." "It was very simplistic, but you have to believe in what you're doing. If you commit to it, it becomes fun and believable as opposed to idiotic."

Bellah wanted to do justice to traditional Noh art while making the play

palatable for an American audience. The format was the same as traditional Noh, with only slight variations.

"We were doing a fusion of Noh theatre with Western acting," Bellah said. "In real Noh, there is a chorus that chants the dialogue for the masked actors. We got as close to chanting as we could."

Friday night held the largest crowd, but there were only about 150 people in attendance.

"Some people don't realize that if they don't attend, they'll miss something intriguing and interesting," Bellah said. "But I'm very pleased with how it all came together. This was a very pleasurable experience, and not stressful."

Writers rock to words at poetry jam

by Andrea Rust
Asst. Scene editor

Three words, 30 minutes and a pencil is all it takes. Maybe some guts too.

It's called a poetry jam, hosted by the University Writing Center. People show up and write poems that must include the three words they receive when they walk through the door.

Once the timer starts, writers have 30 minutes to write a poem, then read their work to a judge in front of an audience. The whole event is televised on KCWU channel 15.

"Doing this [poetry jam] is an interesting experience," said Lacy Meeks, one of the poetry jam's organizers and University Writing Center consultant. "There are a few poetry events on campus, but nothing where you write and perform what you did immediately."

Not only do writers have the opportunity to share work with others, they are judged on craftsmanship, content and performance.

A poetry jam isn't about "slamming" others' work, but rather about sharing and creating a positive atmosphere for poets, Meeks said.

"I think poetry gets to something a lot deeper than everyday communication does," said Teresa Kramer, director of the University Writing Center.

The top scoring poets win prizes donated by local businesses including Jerrol's Book and Supply Company, Grants Pizza and Hollywood Video.

"This is a free chance to strut your stuff and share your take on things," Brian Hamill, senior history major, said.

The poetry jam is a free event held on the last Tuesday of every month in the University Writing Center.

"You don't have to be a good poet to participate," Meeks said.

If people aren't comfortable writing, they are welcome to just come listen.

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Poetry Reading

Brown Bag Lunch Series features Central Washington University professor and poet Katharine Whitcomb at noon today in the University Writing Center.

Plays showcase student talent



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Rudy Schuepbach and Eric Villiers perform in "The Dinner Party," one of three original plays produced and performed by Central students.

by Caitlin Kuhlmann
Scene editor

Original scripts and student-produced plays are hitting the stage at 7 p.m. tonight and will continue through Saturday in the Milo Smith Tower Theatre.

The Dr. Betty Evans Original One-Act Play Festival is showcasing three plays this year which are titled "Goodbye Drama," "Out at Dinner" and "The Dinner Party."

"Goodbye Drama," was inspired by events in the life of the playwright, junior Theatre Arts major Samantha Armitage. The story follows a college student who tries to pull her life back together after a family tragedy.

"It's a story of control and dealing with mental issues," Armitage said. "But it has a happy ending."

"Out at Dinner," written by senior Theatre Arts major Allison Wooldridge, is set in a universe where 90 percent of the population is homosexual. A dilemma arises when a young man has to 'come out' as being straight.

"I wrote the play for a play writing class and it just blossomed into something else," Wooldridge said.

The final play, "The Dinner Party,"

written by senior Theatre Arts major Brent Griffith, is a farcical drama set with a hilarious twist.

One benefit of the One-Acts is that the students get more say in decisions related to the production, said Rudy Schuepbach, senior performance major and actor in "The Dinner Party."

"We're also on a tighter budget so you have to work with what you've got," Schuepbach said. "I'm really lucky they found a jacket for me; I'm a bigger guy."

Although the directors and scripts are chosen by Theatre Arts department faculty members, the majority of the work is done by students, including casting, technical work, rehearsal scheduling and costume coordinating.

"This is people in the process of becoming great artists," Elise Forier, Theatre Arts assistant professor, said.

Forier joined Theatre Arts professors Michael Smith and Jerry Dougherty in advising the productions this year after Wesley Van Tassel, founder of the festival, retired last year.

"Supporting new works by students is problematic, but there is no other way to learn how to write a play except to put one on," Forier said.

5 minutes with... Madison Rengli

by Staci Bowlin
Staff reporter

Cheerful comedies, thrilling dramas and everything in between are coming to Central Washington University this weekend as part of the Dr. Betty Evans Original One-Act Play Festival. The festival is in honor of the late Dr. Betty Evans, a Central Theatre Arts professor. The plays are designed, written and directed by Central students. Madison Rengli, sophomore theatre performance major, is an actor in "Out at Dinner."



Kathryn Dennehey/Observer

Q: When did you get started in theatre?

A: I've been doing theatre for as long as I can remember.

Q: What's the most rewarding part of the One-Act plays?

A: Being able to work with a bunch of different people.

Q: What's the most challenging part?

A: Because it's winter quarter, we have a shorter amount of time to rehearse. Winter quarters are always crazy.

Q: What is your background or experience in theatre?

A: I was involved in every play and musical in high school. Since I've been here, I've been in four.

Q: Why would you encourage people attend the plays?

A: I think it's a good way for people to see what we're doing, a good chance for someone to be well-rounded in a variety of things.

Q: What character in "Out at Dinner" do you play and what kind of character is it?

A: I play Annie, the girlfriend of Chris. She's a modern girl that's obviously different since she's straight in the gay world.

Q: What's the plot of the play you're in?

A: It's set in a universe where 90 percent of the world is gay. My boyfriend is straight and he has to tell his parents he's straight.

Q: Who's your favorite character in the play?

A: The mom, because this character is very gay. The play is very flamboyant and full of comic relief.

Gaming takes over at Central

by Bryant Phillips
Staff reporter

Gaming is everywhere these days, and Central Washington University is no exception.

Fantastical names like "Tartarus," "Azeroth" and the "Luxons" are commonly tossed around in conversation throughout the campus. Gaming has become one of the most enjoyable ways to pass the time and socialize for students in Ellensburg.

"Gamers are some of the most social people," said Evan Belfiglio, president of Central Washington Gamers club. "You laugh, but it's true — we spend a lot of time talking online and in person."

"Halo 2" is the most popular game to come out for the Microsoft X-Box and is played all over campus. Massive multiplayer online role-playing games (MMORPG) "World of Warcraft" (WoW) and "Guild Wars" are popular for the computer.

"I think the reason 'Halo 2' is the most popular is because it's easy to get into, but difficult to master," said Raymond Damasco, secretary of Central Washington Gamers. "I personally like 'Guild Wars' because you can just hang out with friends or you can be competitive, but you don't have to."

Halo 2: The Big Game on Campus

Megan Eichmeier, senior tourism management major, is something of a celebrity in the "Halo 2" universe, having attended dozens of national tourna-

ments from New York City to Seattle and everywhere in between. She was also featured on MTV's "True Life" and "Total Request Live," and on the USA and G4 television networks.

"I think consoles have become standard equipment for college students."

~Evan Belfiglio
Central Washington Gamers Club president

"I've been going to 'Halo' tournaments for 3 years now, and I've seen them grow," Eichmeier said. "It gets hard with all my school work, but if it wasn't fun I wouldn't do it."

Eichmeier said one of the drawbacks to online gaming is the trash talk she receives from other gamers.

"To be a girl and be good in 'Halo,' they think you have to be overweight or ugly... a lot of the time it's either trash talk or people hitting on me," Eichmeier said. "But I'm used to it. I don't talk trash back to them. Sometimes I'll want to, but I'll just leave the game instead."

"Halo" and "Halo 2" owe a large part of their popularity at Central to X-Box Live (Microsoft's online gaming network) and ResNet, the campus net-

work. Belfiglio said he remembers when he was a freshman in the residence halls four years ago and how excited everyone was that they could plug their X-Box consoles into the wall and game with others across campus.

"Everyone brings a console of some kind with them," Belfiglio said. "I think consoles have become standard equipment for college students."

Central Washington Gamers Club

Central students recognized the popularity of gaming with the creation of the Central Washington Gamers club three years ago. It is the only official gaming club on campus with sponsors that include Microsoft.

Members hold events at least every other week including going to the Youth Center to bring games to children.

They also host LAN (local area network) gaming nights where everyone brings their laptop computer and connects to the same network. Plans are being made for an all-night LAN event outside beneath a large tent at the end of spring quarter.

The club will host Machinima Night at 6 p.m. Friday in Black 152, which features short movies that take in-game programming for popular games like "Halo" (as seen in the "Red vs. Blue" series) to make the movies, and are usually comedic in nature.

Where to Buy Games in Ellensburg

Although the only store that sells

video games in Ellensburg is Fred Meyer, Damasco doesn't think this is a problem for Central students.

"People find a way around the lack of gaming stores," Damasco said. "The [residence halls] encourage online buying at places like Amazon.com."

Other popular Web sites to play and purchase video games include Gamefly.com, EBgames.com, Gameplanet.com, and Gametap.com, which allows players to try many older games after signing up.

With online access to games, the popularity of online RPG's and a network that allows on-campus residents to play games like "Halo 2", Central and gaming are very much integrated.

Just be sure not to trade grades for games.

March

8 * First Amendment Festival: "The First Amendment on Campus," 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., SURC Pit.

* One-Act Play Festival, 7 p.m., Milo Smith Tower Theatre, \$7 all seats.

9 * One-Act Play Festival, 7 p.m., Milo Smith Tower Theatre.

* Jazz Nite I, 7 p.m., Music Recital Hall.

10 * One-Act Play Festival, 7 p.m., Milo Smith Tower Theatre.

* CWU Guitar Ensemble, 7 p.m., Music Recital Hall.

11 * Second Sunday faculty series, 4 p.m., Music Concert Hall.

* Andrea Wallis, voice recital, 2 p.m., Music Recital Hall.

12 * Prep Strings concert, 7 p.m., Music Concert Hall.

* Retirement party for Dr. Art DePalma, 3-5 p.m. in the Mary Grupe Center.

13 * Final exams begin.

14 * Have a great Spring Break!

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SPORTS

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postseason for men's
Basketball
pg. 14

Two losses finish
out women's
basketball season
pg. 14

Donny's top 10
reasons to hate the
Mariners
pg. 15



Photos by David Woodford/Observer

Student anglers cast for Yakima trout

by Melanie Lockhart
Asst., Sports editor

Large, beautiful trout thrive in the Yakima River year-round. Fortunately for fly fishers (anglers), or those interested in the sport, "The Yak" flows right through Ellensburg's backyard.

"Not a day goes by where you don't learn something new out there," said Worley-Bugger Fly Co. guide and salesperson Danny Snider. "The river changes with the seasons. Water levels fluctuate and you have to learn to adapt."

For those interested in the sport, Central Washington University offers students the opportunity to take a fly fishing class (PEID 150) each quarter to learn the basics.

Jason Stout, senior art major, attended the class earlier this year.

"I'd gone fishing before, regular style," Stout said. "I was curious to see how different fly fishing was."

Jason Boitano, owner of The Evening Hatch Fly Shop in Ellensburg, will teach the class spring quarter.

"I plan to help students develop various techniques, such as casting strokes and tying knots," Boitano said. "They'll learn about different bugs and get a basic understanding of fly fishing lakes and streams in the Northwest."

The class meets in Nicholson Pavilion and sometimes moves out to the science building lawn, allowing students to practice casting in open space.

"We never had hooks in class," Stout said. "We lined up and cast for most of the class period, learning different casting techniques."

Once a week, the instructor offers a chance for students to go to a portion of the Yakima River that runs along the trail to People's Pond. They can practice their technique with a fly and hook.

"I only got to go once all quarter, but the best part was being able to practice on the river," Stout said.

Though learning technique takes patience, it doesn't take a professional fly angler to enjoy the sport.

"Everyone starts at the same level-knowing nothing," Snider said. "Just be open minded and willing to learn. Have patience."

The worst part, Stout said, was the cost of equipment. He estimated that he paid \$400 for the class.

"It's a one-time expense, though, if you do it again," Stout said.

Whether one has never fished before or is ready to host a TV show, Ellensburg's fly shops can accommodate.

Worley-Bugger Fly Co. and The Evening Hatch are both pro-shops, offering everything from entry-level gear and equipment to top-of-the-line reels and rods. Both shops are located off Main Street.

The Evening Hatch offers a 10 percent college discount to students with I.D. while Worley-Bugger Fly Co. sells a package with rod, reel, case, leader and lines for \$350. Within the two shops, rods range from \$175 to more than \$6000. Reels start around \$70 and work up from there.

Day and overnight guide trips are available from both shops. Food, flies and comradery are provided, as well as the knowledge of experienced guides.

"Any day on the river is better than a day in the office," Boitano said.

Fishing trips offered by the shops include the Yakima River, Methow River, Klickitat River, Desert Creeks, Jurassic River, Rocky Ford Creek and Blackstone Lake, all located in Eastern Washington.

The Evening Hatch Guide Service offers guided trips in Montana, on the Kanektok River in Alaska and in Chile. They provide shuttle services on the Yakima River as well.

"We drift boats down the river," said The Evening Hatch store manager Ron Little. "We'll drive your truck and trailer down to where the boat ends up after drifting. There's no need to bring two vehicles on the trip."

Fly Fishing 101 is offered by Worley-Bugger Fly Co. and various clinics are available through The Evening Hatch.

For those who have any questions about what to use or where to go, the employees at Worley-Bugger Fly Co. and The Evening Hatch are more than happy to assist with suggestions.

Before purchasing equipment and gear, first determine how much time you plan to spend on the water. Look at warranties and the quality of the

merchandise when getting started.

Don't forget to research bugs.

"It's more about the bug than the fish," Stout said. "It's about how well you can make the fly seem like a real bug."

For more information on guide trips:

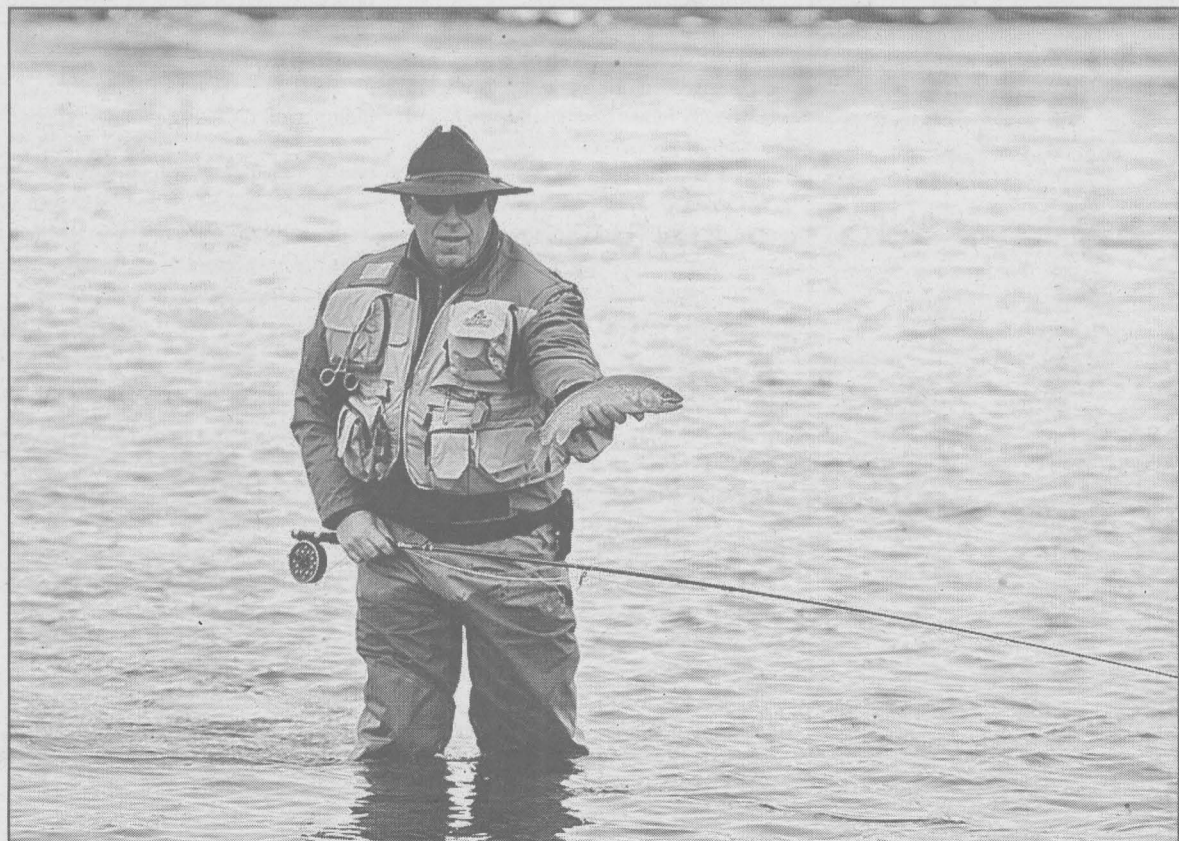
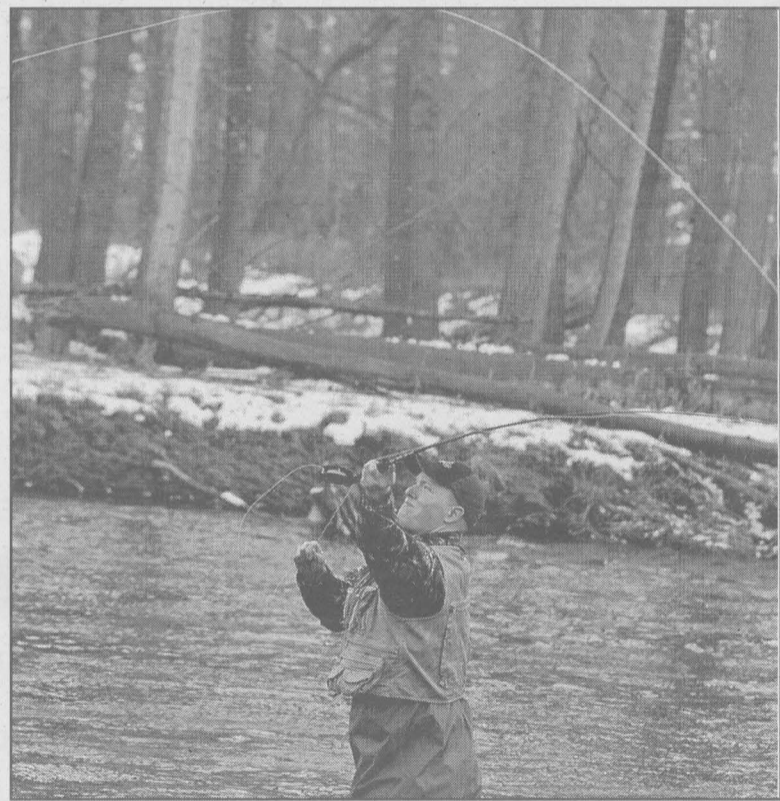
www.theeveninghatch.com

www.worleybuggerflyco.com

Above: The Evening Hatch guide Jack Mitchell advises senior geography major Jomer Siasat and freshman history major Nick McLean prior to going fishing on the Yakima River last Friday.

Right: Junior law and justice major Jeff Frankenberger casts off on the Yakima River.

Below: The Evening Hatch guide Jack Mitchell shows off a trout caught in the Yakima River.



Wildcats miss out on postseason

by Michael Johnson
Staff reporter

When The Central Washington University women's basketball team took the court Saturday night, they were in must-win territory. Winning was their only hope, and a hope was putting it lightly.

"Heading into this weekend it was bleak that we would get into the postseason," head Coach Jeff Whitney said.

The Wildcats lost their playoff bid following a 75-63 loss at Western Washington University.

The season is now over for the women's basketball team.

"We needed to win our last two games," said sophomore guard Elyse Mengarelli. "We also needed some teams in the poll to lose to teams we have beaten. Then we could have moved into the top eight."

The Wildcats were plagued with injuries all year; senior center Laura Wright had trouble with her knee, recovering from last season's surgery. Mengarelli was out for two games with a severe concussion and was injured against Western Oregon a couple weeks ago. The Wildcats were forced to face Seattle University and Western Washington University without Mengarelli.

"I tore my ACL and won't be back until next winter," Mengarelli said.

The Wildcats graduate both Wright and senior guard Brandi Bounds, but return a strong core of guards next year.

"Our players got a lot of experience this year," head Coach Jeff Whitney said. "We were young and that should help us out a lot next year."

The Wildcats still had a shot at postseason play after battling through adversity and injuries.

"We had a competitive season," said Whitney. "We had an opportunity during the last week to make the playoffs and that's all you can ask for," said Whitney.

The men's chance at postseason play came to a halt in similar fashion Sunday night. They finished ninth in the region and weren't playoff bound.

"I felt pretty good about heading into the playoffs, I felt good about our season," head Coach Greg Sparling said. "We won eight out of our last ten."

The Wildcats needed more. The men struggled early in conference, going 2-4.

Central regrouped and gave themselves a shot at the playoffs after posting a 6-1 record.

"We started playing at home, and switched some things on offense and defense," Sparling said. "We got to play at home; it's a lot easier to play in front of your home crowd and your friends."

They finished 10-6 in conference play, behind three playoff bound teams.

Missing the playoffs is disheartening, but plenty of positives came from the season.

They beat first place Seattle Pacific University twice, won critical games down the stretch and faced tough opposition.

Senior Night ends on sour note for women's basketball

by Brianna Berg
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University women's basketball team was shut down by Seattle University last Thursday, taking a tough 85-79 overtime loss.

In the first half, Central made only 44 percent of their buckets from the field. The Wildcats turned it around in the second half, making 70 percent of their field goal shots.

The Wildcats defense struggled with rotation the entire game against the Redhawks. Seattle University continued to get open shots, allowing guard Ashley Brown to score 21 points.

Sophomore point guard Ashley Fenimore led Central with 18 points. In the second half, Fenimore connected on a three-pointer, giving Central their first lead of the night with just over a minute in regulation.

"It showed a lot of character when the girls came back in the second half," head coach Jeff Whitney said. "I am proud of what we did in the last eight minutes, coming back when it looked like the game was over."

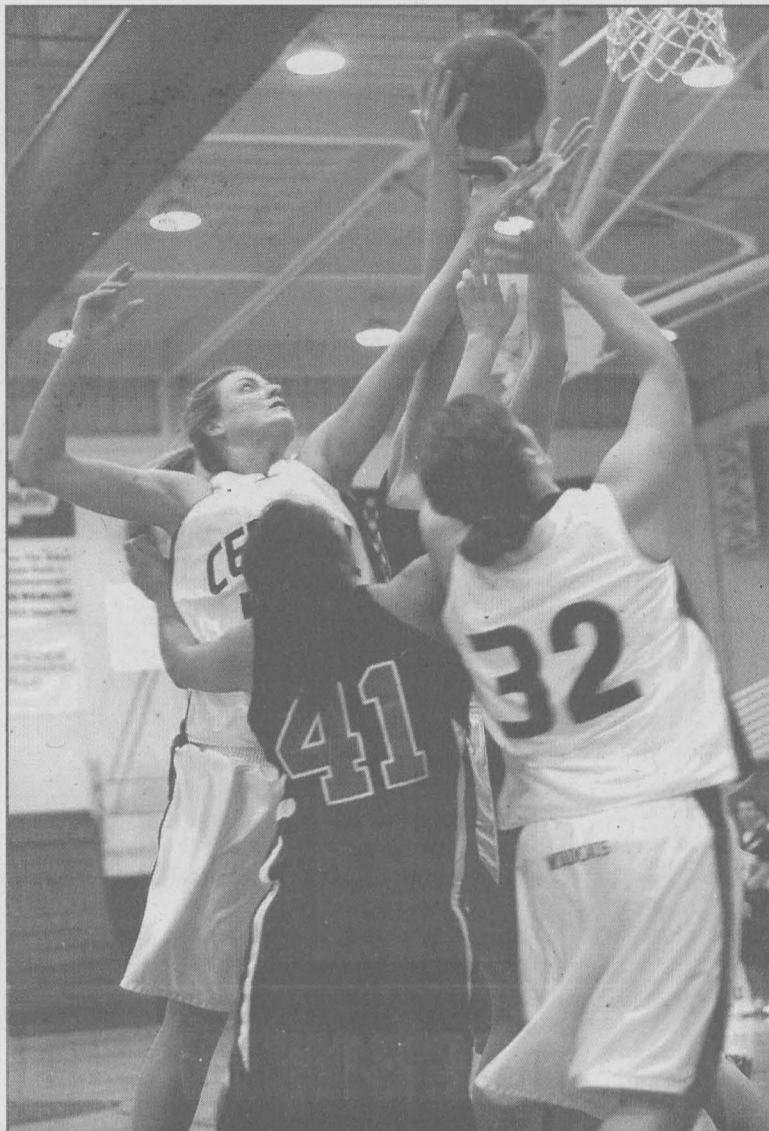
The pivotal point of the game came with three seconds left in the second half.

The Redhawks set a high screen and rolled out of it, leaving guard Cassidy Murillo wide open for a three. Murillo knocked it down, tying the game at 73 and taking the game into overtime. The team was devastated.

"The plan was to switch if the matchup was right," Whitney said. "The problem was both defenders followed the ball, leaving a wide open shot. It was one miscommunication that cost us the game."

Senior guard Elyse Mengarelli was missing on Thursday due to a torn ACL suffered during the Western Oregon University game. Her absence created a negative impact on the team.

Mengarelli averages 12 points, three rebounds and two assists each game. She received honorable men-



David Woodford/Observer

Senior center Laura Wright battles for the ball during the first half of Thursday's game against Seattle University. Central lost in OT, 85-79.

tion all-conference this year.

The Central seniors finished strong in the game against Seattle University, accounting for 36 points. Forward Ashley Blake shot 50 percent from the floor, totaling six points. Center Laura Wright scored 13 points and grabbed six rebounds. Wright was named to the second team all-conference team for the second time in her career.

On Saturday night, Central lost to Western Washington University 75-63, finishing their season with 17-10 overall and 7-9 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"We needed to win both of these games," Whitney said. "To go from 11 to eight in the regional poll was tough to do, there is no guarantee involved."

Men's b-ball postseason airballs

Den Boer scores 30+ points five times, earns GNAC Co-Player of The Year

by Curtis Crabtree
Staff reporter

Despite losing the chance to play in the postseason, the Central Washington University men's basketball team found golden nugget in senior forward Lance Den Boer.

Den Boer achieved GNAC Co-Player of the Week honors along with Leigh Swanson of Seattle University for his performance last week. On Monday, Den Boer was also named Co-Player of the Year in the GNAC along with Seattle Pacific's Dustin Bremerman.

The Wildcats traveled to Seattle University (17-8, 9-5 GNAC) last Thursday night, one game behind first place Seattle Pacific University in the conference.

Central got off to a fast start, building a 21-10 lead in the first eight minutes of action with Den Boer contributing 15 points.

Seattle mounted a comeback, slowly chipping away at the Wildcat lead, taking a 35-32 advantage with 1:39 to go in the first half. With eight seconds left, Den Boer scored to give the Wildcats a halftime lead, 36-35.

Central wasn't able to regain their early momentum as Seattle took full

control in the second half. The Wildcats only managed to shoot 33 percent and struggled defending the Redhawks, who shot 63 percent from the field.

The Wildcats could only watch as their playoff chances seemingly slipped through their fingers with an 88-73 defeat at the hands of the Redhawks.

Central finished the regular season at Northwest Nazarene University (10-16, 5-10 GNAC) on Saturday. Even with a win, playoff chances were slim to none.

The Wildcats were on fire early, shooting 58 percent from the field en route to a 55-40 halftime lead. Den Boer led the Wildcats with 13 first half points. Sophomore guard Colton Monti, junior forward Bryce Daub and senior center Bryan Freshwater each contributed eight points.

Central was able to coast in the second half, defeating Northwest Nazarene 105-91. It was the Wildcats' second time going over the century mark and highest offensive output of the season.

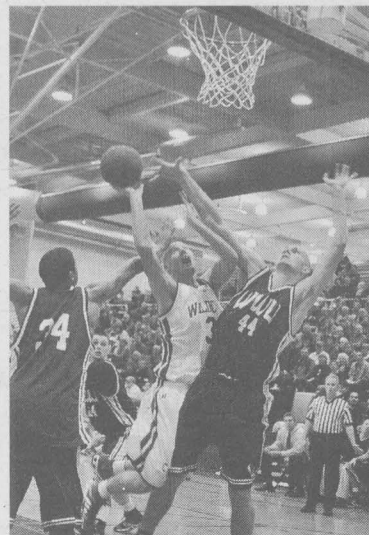
"We beat some good teams throughout the year, but our record wasn't good enough to get us into the tournament even though the strength of our schedule was so high," Den Boer said.

Den Boer led the Wildcats with 32

points, his fifth 30-plus point game of the season. Freshwater contributed his own 18 points on 8 for 10 shooting from the field.

The Wildcats graduate five players from this year's squad. Guard Tremaine Curry, and forwards Grant Assink, Julius McMillion, Den Boer and Freshwater have all suited up for the last time as Central athletes.

"I am glad I transferred to Central and have made a lot of great memories," Den Boer said. "I will keep the relationships that I have formed with me for the rest of my life."



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Senior forward Lance Den Boer earned GNAC co-player of the year.

GRADES

2006-2007 WOMEN'S B-BALL

DEFENSE

CENTRAL HAD TROUBLE IN DEFENDING OPPONENT'S TOP PLAYERS, ESPECIALLY ON THE ROAD.

C

OFFENSE

THE WILDCATS ESTABLISHED A STRONG PRESENCE FROM THREE LAND THIS YEAR, FROM GUARD PENETRATION.

B-

COACHING

WHITNEY FELL SHORT BY JUST A FEW GAMES ONCE AGAIN THIS SEASON. WHEN CENTRAL NEEDED A WIN THE MOST, THE ASSISTANTS STEPPED UP AND PICKED UP THE BIGGEST VICTORY.

B-

OVERALL

THE WILDCATS HAD ANOTHER FINE SEASON BUT MISSED THE POSTSEASON WITH A STRONG SQUAD. NEW FACES HELPED BOLSTER CENTRAL'S TEAM THIS SEASON.

C

GRADES

2006-2007 MEN'S B-BALL

DEFENSE

THIS YEAR HAD ONE OF CENTRAL'S FINEST INTERIOR CORES, DOMINATING THE GLASS ON BOTH ENDS OF THE COURT.

B-

OFFENSE

DEN BOER SCORED 30+ ON FIVE OCCASIONS THIS YEAR, BUT THAT WAS ABOUT IT ON OFFENSE.

B

COACHING

SPARLING DIRECTED A TEAM THAT SEEMED TO NOT HAVE MUCH TEAM CHEMISTRY, BUT A SQUAD THAT WAS VERY TALENTED NONE THE LESS.

B

OVERALL

HINDERED BY INJURIES FOR MUCH OF THE SEASON, THE WILDCATS PROVED THAT THEY COULD HANG WITH ANY TEAM, BEATING FIRST PLACE SEATTLE PACIFIC TWICE THIS SEASON.

B

Controlled analysis: a Templeton trademark

by Brooke Saul
Staff reporter

The 6'0 righty walks to the pitching mound with nothing in mind.

The Central Washington University senior is not even thinking about the next batter he is going to face.

Rick Templeton's routine is one pitch at a time, something that he has done the last two seasons at Central.

Like Templeton's pitching style, his lifestyle is much the same; simple.

Templeton grew up in the small town of Colfax, Wash., which sits on the outskirts of Pullman. While growing up, he was part of a community that embraced baseball. The baseball program in Colfax was a pipeline to success, well organized and has produced many college baseball players.

Templeton played football, basketball and baseball in high school, but it is his love of baseball that made him play after high school. He played at Big Bend Community College along with teammate senior outfielder Derek O'Konek before coming to Central. Templeton is now co-captain of the team.

Once Templeton got to Central, he made it clear that his control of his pitches controlled his game. Templeton's finesse style of pitching makes him rely on the defense behind him.

Controlling the game is what Templeton does best. Keeping walks to a minimum, working quickly and maintaining an up-tempo game style has earned him a 1-0 record this season.

"He is a controlled type of pitcher and considered a three or four guy in the rotation," head Coach Desi Storey said.

Templeton earned first team all-Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) pitcher last season and GNAC pitcher of the week honors during the final week of the regular 2006 season.

However, Templeton has struggled with not maintaining focus during key

"He is a good guy, excellent student, good citizen, laid-back and everyone respects him."

~Desi Storey
head baseball coach



Rick Templeton
Senior pitcher

moments of a game.

"Staying focused is the key aspect of every game," Templeton said. "Sometimes I struggle with that."

When Templeton does struggle, that's when he decides to go back to the basics, reminding himself of what has gotten him to this point.

Templeton spends time analyzing charts and doing his homework so he knows who he will be facing days before a game is scheduled.

Before Templeton takes the mound, he spends time getting loose by running, playing catch and stretching for about 45 minutes.

Templeton said that his goal in every game is no different than any other Central player; win. The team's unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and fourth place ranking in the current regional poll.

Storey said that Templeton is an important piece to the team because of the success that he has had along with the leadership role that he possesses.

After this season, Templeton has plans to keep baseball part of his life. Templeton is a business administration major who has a finance specialization, and hopes to get a job and eventually become a baseball coach after graduating.

AT ST. MARTIN'S TOURNAMENT

MARCH 9 VS WEST. OREGON

MARCH 10 VS ST. MARTIN'S

MARCH 11 VS WEST. OREGON

MARCH 11 VS ST. MARTIN'S

3-GAME HOMESTAND

MARCH 17 VS MONTANA ST.

MARCH 18 VS MONTANA ST.

MARCH 28 VS WHITMAN

Donny's Top 10 Reasons to hate the Mariners organization



Casey Donovan
Sports editor

So why have the Mariners been so terrible lately? They may not have the curse of the Bambino, but the team did have Bobby Ayala pitch for them.

1. Trading Griffey away - By far, bar none, the most exciting and fun player to watch in the history of baseball. Who cares if he got injured. I would go to 50 times as many games as I have if he still played for the Mariners.

His swing was about as perfect as grilled cheese and tomato soup. MmmmMmmm, good.

2. Putting Bobby Ayala in rotation - From his greasy mullet, to his batting practice pitches, this guy served it up consistently and lost key games. I remember watching so many walkoff dingers, it makes me sick thinking about it.

3. Letting Ron Fairly and Rick Rizz commentate - I hate it when Rizz says "Hey friends." First off, I am not your friend, and second off I don't need Fairly to tell me that pitchers need to throw strikes.

4. Shipping A-Rod - Sure I hate the guy now, but getting rid of him was a gigantic mistake. When he left, it reminded me of a time in my life when my cat ran away. I was sad at first, but then I didn't really care after that.

5. Changing uniforms - Those all teal jerseys were so sick. Sick in a good way. I found a jersey on Ebay for \$13 that had the teal sleeves. Teal is where it is at.

6. Winning 116 games in regular season and not winning the World Series - The Mariners had a great chance, but found out that it doesn't matter how many games you win in the regular season.

7. Wherever Norm Charlton went - I miss that guy. Crazy story though, I saw him at Les Schwab and told a friend that I saw Norm Charlton, AKA "The Sheriff". My friend gave me the "you dumbass" look and said, "Dude... Norm Charlton was a pitcher."

8. Signing Richie Sexson - Too bad he isn't a pitcher because he has led the majors in strikeouts the last two seasons. The only problem is that he is the guy swinging and missing and still cannot hit a fastball.

9. Lou Piniella's gone - Even if the Mariners were horrible, at least we can see Piniella on The Best Damn Sports Show's top 50 blowups. I think he garnered six spots, all in the top 20 for chucking bases at umpires.

10. 3rd Base - From Mike Blowers, to Russ Davis, and all the way to Jeff Cirillo. The hotspot has been the worst spot for the Mariners. Why must they dominate on other teams and then come to Seattle and get sent to the minors?

Observer Classifieds

RETIREMENT PARTY IN HONOR OF DR. ART DEPALMA, Medical Director at CWU Student Health and Counseling Center. You're invited to join us in celebration of years of service to the CWU community. Monday, March 12, 3-5pm Mary Grupe Center. Casual Open House. Health and Counseling Center will be closed from 3-5pm on Monday, March 12. Please call to schedule an appointment. Sponsored by the Student Health, Counseling and Wellness Services

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Available positions are **Resident Hall Director for \$3960 (requires a Bachelor's degree & supervisory experience), Activities Director for \$3520 (requires three years of college) and Resident Advisor for \$3080 (requires 2 years of college after high school). Room & Board and insurance provided. Call (509)793-2008 or**

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The Observer

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