Central ROTC best of the best
in Pacific Northwest

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 firsthand, 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."
Homecoming, Ware Fair request from S & A

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 is for a Master’s in the history program because of our out-standing faculty. All of us have received awards in other teaching or scholarship." History isn’t the only graduate program Central offers. Some other include accounting, actuarial sciences, education, chemistry, English and family and consumer sciences.

"There are many fine graduate programs nationwide," said Katrina Rooney, first-year masters in choral conduct 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 recreation.

Grad program offers more on-one

by Karena Shellman  
Staff reporter

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 the 2007-2009 biennium, requested for the right fit for themselves." 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 used only for headlining acts. The entertainment for Homecoming and has recently seen mixed reaction from students and 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. "We pay more than the requested amount because we want it to be worth the act costs more than the requested amount because we want it to be worth the.

Drummond made the S&A request, he got word that the S&A fund, Waldeck said. We're certainly not looking to bring in acts that cost more than $49,000.

If an act costs more than the request, Drummond said, "We need this funding because we have been spending and crafts fair, asking for $3,635 for the agenda last Wednesday.

And Activities (S&A) Fee Committee.

"There are many fine graduate programs in the history program is because of our outstanding faculty. All of us have received awards in other teaching or scholarship."

"There are many fine graduate programs nationwide," said Katrina.

"There are many fine graduate programs nationwide," said Katrina. Rooney, first-year masters in choral conduct and cognate in music history, said. "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 recreation.

"Because beautiful hair should be easy..."

(509) 925-7485

106 South Water Street

THE OBSERVER

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.

DON’T FORGET THE DAYLIGHT

Daylight Savings Time (DST) goes into effect this Sunday at 7 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."
The selection process for a new Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies (AVPUS) is winding down as the three finalists 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 have worked in Central over 20 years of working with undergraduate students as a faculty member and administrator," Behr said.

Behr has worked with issues concerning 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."

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

"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, 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 President's Teaching Scholar Award in 2004. He also has authored and edited various publications in relation to his sport pedagogy background.

Pellett emphasizes with students who are traditionally considered at risk, or need in 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 profession that care and an administration 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 career 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 Solt, 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.
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 the project, and the experience has helped them in other activities at Central, like NewsWatch.

"This was one of the very few 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.

Films by Schultz, Wasserburger and Fudacz were recently shown in a long time. 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.

Majors "entitled 'A Blessing Named Mar­

The shaded area on this map of the Ellensburg city limits connotates 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 increasing if a plan to annex 894 acres of uncor­

portation 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 indus­

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Senior citizen survives semi truck collision

by Megan Lind
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.

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.

Eileen Hoffman, 86, was taken to KVC 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.

District upgrades up for vote

by Megan 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 Recreec 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 reconvene," 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.
My lungs don’t like your secondhand smoke

Melanie Lockhart
Asst. Sports editor

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 hallway, oblivious to those forced to walk through their smoke. Is it really that hard to step away from traffic areas? Do we need a morality police to make us aware that what we are doing is wrong?

The Artist's Eye

"The Roots of Rap"

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 detriment to the case. 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 study 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.

Editorials lambasted both sides. I have to agree with Nicholas von Hoff, the President of the campus chapter of the Philosophy Society who told a fellow colleague that something “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@wcwsa.edu

We need a morality major

Korben Cook
News editor

Ladies and gentlemen, our morals are sliding 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 is a difference between narcissism and confidence.

"Swearing is another reason people think college students are narcissistic and don't care about anyone. It does not help us in 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 hear 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 all bad.

Here's an idea: if you really want to "stick it to the man," prove them wrong. If you hold the door for someone or take the time out of your schedule to say thank you, then people will start to listen.

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.

It's not often an international news story makes me almost choke on my own vomit, but I couldn't hardly breathe 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 marrying 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 Abdullah bin Abd al-Aziz.

The "law" that Saudi courts referred to in sentencing the woman was 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 off than them. Things like this prove that the United States benefits far more from having a diverse country than to support 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. For starters, not even the cruelest 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 the governments of nations like Saudi Arabia.

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

You bet I'm still talking 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.

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Paul Balcerak
Senior reporter

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Dear Editor,

Does diversity mean having a lot of people who look different? Does it mean having a large homogeneous 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 Have No 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. While 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 fail 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 conservative stance on immigration is "go back 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, they are bigots. Americans don't want to be bigots, so conservatives and moderates sit down and shut up, despite that First Amendment thing.

Diversity 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, but here's why." Instead of saying, "I'm right, you're very wrong," say "I have different ideas instead of angry and hurtful personal attacks. We're not running for office, after all.

Ironically, through pop culture and an over-abundant media, left-wing politics' gone the way of fascism: it's no longer an idea, it's a form of life. 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.

Laurel Johnson
Copy editor

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Dear Editor,

As February came to an end last week, so did Black History Month, along with the opportunity to learn about influential African-Americans, and 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 that class es had been put on reserve, meaning they're in the catalog but are not currently offered.

I was even more devastating 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.

I do think that Central is deliberately and blatant ignoring a part of history. Instead of removing classes, they should list that something has to change in the future.

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 some other teacher hired during that entire 10 year span?

Another reason is some people feel that the demographics at this university 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 Diaspora Minor in the 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 Performance 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.
Ailey II: Word-famous dancers hit Central last Tuesday.

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

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

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

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

Guest musicians play cultural tunes

Two Central students join artists to perform authentic Japanese music

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

Northwest comic cracks up audience

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.

Curtis Brinkman/Observer

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

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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1-866-820-5653
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 corner speaking or chanting in dialogue. The first act is rife with tense moments, poetry and visual overstatement.

“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,” said Brent Griffith, senior Theatre Arts major and actor in “Boshibari.” “It was opposed to idiotic.”

The second act of “Noh Telling” is called Kyogen, and is the comedic relief. It is intended to clear the viewers’ minds 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 servants’ 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 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 go, 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 Koomer, director of the University Writing Center.

The top scoring poets win prizes donated by local businesses including Idaho’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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Plays showcase student talent

5 minutes with... Madison Renglini

by Stacy Bowler
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 star. The plays are designed, written and directed by Central students. Madison Renglini, sophomore theatre performance major, is an actor in "Out at Dinner."

Q: When did you get started in theatre?
A: I've been doing theatre for as long as I can remember.

Q: What's most the rewarding part of the One-Acts play?
A: Being able to work with a bunch of different people.

Q: What's the most challenging part?
A: Because it's winter quarters, 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 to 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.

by Caitlin Kuhmann
Scene editor

Original scripts and student-produced plays are hitting the stage at 7 p.m. tonight and will continue through Saturday in Milo Smith Tower Theatre. The Dr. Betty Evans Original One-Act Play Festival is showcasing three plays that are being offered titled "Goodbye Drama," "Out at Dinner" and "The Dinner Party."

"Goodbye Drama," was inspired in 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 the choice of your past," 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 for the Microsoft X-Box game. "It's a story of control and dealing with the choice of your past," Wooldridge said. "But I'm used to it. I don't talk or people hitting on me," Wooldridge said.

"The Dinner Party," written by senior Theatre Arts major Brent Griffith, is a lyrical 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 Scheupbach, 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," Scheupbach 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 and Central Washington University is bring games to children. The club will host Machinima Night, involving short movies that take in-game footage and are shown before a performance. The games are usually multi-player online role-playing games where the player's creations and actions affect the in-game world. Other popular Web sites to play online games include Gamefly.com, EB games.com, Gaemplanet.com and Gametap.com, which allows players to try many older games for free.

The plays are designed, written and directed by Central students. Madison Renglini, sophomore theatre performance major, is an actor in "Out at Dinner."

March

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

Jazz Nite, 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.

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

13
Retirement party for Dr. Art DelPama, 3-5 p.m. in the Mary Grupe Center.

14
Final exams begin.

14
Have a great Spring Break!

Observer — Scene — March 8, 2007

Plays take over at Central

by Bryant Phillips
Staff reporter

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

Fantastical names like "Tartarus," "Azernoth" and the "Luxions" 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.

"Gaming is one of the most social people," said Evan Belliglio, president of Central Washington Gamers Club.

"You laugh, but it's true — we spend a lot of time together."

"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 computer players.

"I think the reason "Halo 2" is the most popular is because it's easy to get into, but difficult to master," said Raymon Damasco, secretary of Central Washington Gamers Club. "I personally like "Civ: Wars of the States." 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 tournaments from New York City to Seattle and everywhere in between. She was also featured on MTV's "True Life," and on the USA and G4 television networks.

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

—Evan Belliglio
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 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 network work. Belliglio 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-Boxes into the wall and game with others across campus.

"Everyone brings a console of some kind with them," Belliglio 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 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. "This (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 RPGs and a network that allows on-campus residents to play games like "Halo 2," Central and very much integrated. Just be sure not to trade grades for grades.
PHYSICIANS

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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 fishing 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 Elaine 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 (P.E.D 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 Bonfino, 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," Bonfino 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 the fly, Sport editor Stout said. "We lined up and cast for casting techniques."

Once a week, the instructor offers an opportunity to take a fly fishing class (P.E.D 150) each quarter to learn the basics.

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

"I only got to go once all quarter, but it was worth it," Stout said. "The worst part, Stout said, was the cost of equipment. He estimated that he paid $400 for the class.

"It's a once-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 flies for $350. Within the two shops, reels range from $175 to more than $600. Rods start around $70 and work up from there.

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

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

Fishing trips offered by the shops include the Yakima River, Methow River, Kittitas River, Desert Creek, 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 look like a real bug."

For more information on guide trips: www.worleybuggerflyco.com www.theeveninghatch.com

Above: The Evening Hatch guide Jack Mitchell advises senior geography major Jemer Sliskat 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.
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 Ashlyn Brown to score 21 points. Sophomore point guard Ashley Feniore scored 19 points. In the second half, Feniore connected on a three-pointer, giving Central their first lead of the game 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 it out of the way, leaving guard Cassidy Wright with 50 percent from the floor, totaling six points. Center Laura Wright scored 11 points, and grabbed six rebounds. Wright was named to the second team all-conference team for the second time in her career.

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.

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."
Controllable 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 mound with nothing in mind. Something that he has pitched at a time, something that he has embraced baseball. The baseball lifestyle is much the same; simple.

Templeton grew up in the small town of Collux, Wash., which sits on the outskirts of Pullman. While growing up, he was part of a community that embraced baseball. The baseball program in Collux was a pipeline to Colfax. While growing up, he was part of a community that embraced baseball. The baseball program in Collux was a pipeline to Colfax.

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.

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's. The team's unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record and unselfishness led to an 8-2 record.

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.

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Donny's Top 10 Reasons to hate the Mariners organization

Casey Donovan
Sports editor

His swing was about as perfect as grilled cheese and tomato soup. Ann-M quarry, good.

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

2. Putting Bobby Ayala in rotation. From his grizzly mitten, to his batting practice pitches, this guy served it up consistently and lost key games. I remember watching so many walk-off innings, it makes me sick thinking about it.

3. Letting Pettis and Rick Rizzos commentate. I hate is when Rizz says "Hey, firsts. First of all, I'm 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. Changes uniforms. Those old teal jerseys were so 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."

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 can't 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 5 blunders. I think it got needed 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 Felix. Theighton was the worst spot for the Mariners. Why must they dominate on other teams and then come to Seattle and lose to the minors?
CASH FOR BOOKS

March 7-16, 2007

March 7-10
Wednesday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday
10:00am - 5:00pm

March 12 - 16
Monday - Thursday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Friday
8:00am - 4:00pm