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# Observer

Central Washington University

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*The Central Washington University*

# OBSERVER

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April 5, 2007 - volume 80 number 18

## Happy house hunting!

Joel Thomas, a Kittitas county resident, has been a landlord in the Ellensburg community for more than 14 years. Thomas owns a number of rental properties and advises students to follow these guidelines when searching for the perfect off-campus residence.

### The most important aspect

is selecting the proper roommate(s). Once a lease is signed, all individuals involved have a legal obligation to fulfill that contract. Boyfriends, girlfriends, and strangers are usually not the best choice for a roommate selection.

### Students should be fully aware

of the process of all paperwork they sign. Know that once a down payment has been submitted to the landlord, legally that house is not available to be kept on the market.

### Inspecting the property

is an important part of any rental. Students should personally go and view the rental before making a commitment to make sure their personal needs are fulfilled by the property they're scouting. Students should also walk-through their rental to observe all its negative and positive aspects. Make sure that the walk-through is documented. If a walk-through is not done with the landlord, he/she cannot keep the down payment.

### Pick an appropriate area

for the style of living a student wishes to live in. Generally, students should search for rentals where other students live because they tend to stay up later. However, if a student needs a quiet place, he/she should consider that, too.

### Try to stay away from

month-to-month leases. They may appear simple, but landlords can raise the rent to whatever they choose on their rentals. As long as a notice is given, raising the rent can be increased legally without breaching a contract.

## Keeping costs LOW

With the arrival of spring quarter, Central students are weighing housing options for next fall

by Chelsea Krotzer  
Asst. News editor

The financial quandary of living on or off-campus is an ongoing decision for Central Washington University students.

Students seeking off-campus apartments are given numerous options varying in price, size and distance from campus.

"Off-campus was a lot cheaper because of being able to make my own food," Rondale West, sophomore psychology major said. "I would weigh the pros and cons first before deciding to live off campus."

Multiple apartment complexes can be found throughout the Ellensburg area, including the independently owned Grove Apartments which are currently under construction.

Students who prefer on-campus apartments have three options: Brooklane Village, Student Village Apartments and Getz/Short Apartments.

"I believe that living on-campus provides better options for students personally, academically and financially," said Richard DeShields, director of university housing and new student programs. "When students compare housing costs with off-campus apartments, they will find that costs are cheaper and that we have a variety of options."

Rates for off-campus apartments are set according to the landlord or corporation's digression.



Photo illustration by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

"It's whatever the market will bear," Perry Rowe, executive director of the Housing Authority Board of Kittitas County, said. "The off-campus landlords decide whatever profit they'll need on their investment."

On-campus rates are compiled by the cooperation of a committee of 12 students and the housing staff. Their recommendations are based on facility and salary needs and must be

approved by the board of trustees. "Rates have increased at similar rates over the past 20 years with some years being higher and some being lower, but very similar," DeShields said. "We attempt to keep our rates as low for the students as possible."

see RENT, page 2

## Central's SURC wins national design honors

### Award is second since building's construction

by Karena Shellman  
Staff reporter

Central Washington University accepted the national award in Excellence in Design for the Student Union Building and Recreational Center (SURC) in Atlanta last week.

The Associate of College Unions International gives out three awards annually and bases their decisions on total budget and overall design.

"Because we were the only student

recreational center in the country built at one time, lots of people were interested in that," said John Drinkwater, senior director of campus life and student union. "I think that had a lot to do with [winning the award]."

Buildings considered for union recognition are judged on overall unique structure and excellence in design, how well the facility operates and overall costs (at least \$35 million).

Central spent about \$58 million on the project and joined forces with Ambia Architects, a Seattle-based company, who helped with the application process.

"The architecture reflects students' needs and wants," Drinkwater said. "It's such a beautiful building."

**"It's truly becoming a place of belonging to the students"**

~John Drinkwater  
senior director of campus life and student union

Some are still warming up to the SURC and prefer the old Samuelson Union Building's smaller spaces.

"I like its design and its space because it helps me concentrate," Juanita Silva, senior family studies and Spanish major, said. "But it doesn't have the unity that the old [SUB] had, like the pit. It's not as homey."

However, plenty of other students prefer the SURC's central location and wide-open spaces.

"I like the theater and the [building] location," Dawn Sakai, senior informational technology major, said. "And I don't see a problem with everything being all together."

Drinkwater said the designers of the SURC aimed for a fusion facility with

dining, a bookstore, a recreation facility and theater, all within one central area.

Central has showcased the building by using it as a starting point for tours of the university.

"We've also received a national award for the recreational facility from NIRSA [the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association]," Drinkwater said.

Central will accept the award in May, but for now, Drinkwater said a celebration is in the works.

"We are going to take the NIRSA award and the Excellence in Design award and put them together in one spot," Drinkwater said. "We're pretty happy. It's truly becoming a place of belonging to the students."

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



Nichole Gaertner/Observer

Junior Maureen Thorson watches TV in her off-campus residence, which she shares with Rondale West at University Place Apts. Thorson shares her month-to-month lease with one roommate paying \$262.50 each.

## Renting: On-campus versus off-campus living cost comparison shows cost are about the same with addition of utilities and services.

*continued from page 1*

An on-campus, one bedroom apartment costs an average of \$526.66 per month, including utilities. An off-campus, one-bedroom costs an average of \$466 per month, excluding utilities. On-campus two bedrooms average \$621.66, while off-campus two bedrooms average \$609 per month, not including utilities.

"Off-campus, I was able to rent a place with a monthly lease," said Lisa Green, sophomore geography and land studies major, who lives in Campus Court. "Off-campus [was less stressful]

because I lived in a quiet neighborhood."

Green, who has one roommate, currently pays \$262.50 per month for her half of rent, along with approximately \$30 for utilities. Despite limited housing options, students on-campus are given other opportunities unavailable to those off-campus.

"We have a large group of students who return to campus each year who report that the proximity to campus, ease of parking and access to campus and community programs makes living

on-campus both personally and financially practical," DeShields said.

On average, students who live on-campus academically outperform off-campus students, DeShields said.

The average is derived from quarterly student reports accessed via the Safari system. The reports have been compiled over the past 15 years.

"Because of accessibility to resources and the ease of access, [on-campus] students do perform better," DeShields added.

Though on-campus living allows

students to be involved with campus activities, conditions of living can raise other problems.

"On-campus living is a little bit less stressful because I don't have to worry about my financial side," Kristina Lofgren, senior communication studies major, said. "It is less enjoyable because it is cramped. The off-campus housing where I lived was spacious and had a washer and dryer included."

Statistics were compiled by Observer staff who contacted off-campus apartments and averaged rates.

## Final SURC repairs near completion

by Karena Shellman  
 Staff reporter

Walking over the cracked concrete floors in the Student Union and Recreation Center won't break your mother's back. They have finally been repaired.

Contractors have nearly completed work on the building, which included cracked floors, problems with ventilation, unstable hand rails and improper installation of theater veneer.

"The project had a few items left on the punch list," said John Drinkwater, senior director of Campus Life and Student Union. "The primary concern was ventilation. Contractors came in with new equipment and installed new fans

and it appears that it is working."

The ventilation system was not balanced correctly, and the height of winter caused pressure to rise as well, so when facility doors were opened, air blew out instead of in.

"A lot of the items were just things the contractor just needed to finish," said Bill Yarwood, manager of Major Capital Projects. "It's typical, especially for larger projects and this huge building."

The punch list was expected to be completed by the end of fall quarter, but Drinkwater said, the list has just been completed by the contractors.

"We go through a final completion process with the contractors," Yarwood

said. "Then we go through a final acceptance process with [the Board of Trustees]. At this point, we're pretty much in between."

Drinkwater said the building is at a point of completion, and acceptance from the Board of Trustees should take place sometime this spring.

"The work being done on the building is routine finish work that is in line with the original project design and construction," said Jeff Rosenberry, Associate Students of Central Washington University vice president for student life and facilities. "Because this is a large project, and no different than any other major project like it, it has taken some time for the contractor to complete all the items on the punch list."

The building has seen a dramatic increase in usage since its opening last Spring.

Approximately 8,000 people walk

through it on a daily basis. Revenue in the bookstore increased by nearly 40 percent and about 3,000 students use the recreational facility daily.

"Too often we are caught up with a crack in the floor and not stopping to think about how great of an impact a building like this has made," Rosenberry said.

In addition to the punch list, the building of a U.S. Bank in one of the empty tenant rooms should be complete by June.

"Everybody is profiting from being here," Drinkwater said. "This is the students' facility and they're paying it off, so that was honored during this building process. It wouldn't have been built if they didn't want it."

"We believe we are at the end of the punch list," Drinkwater said. "And we are in the beginning of a new life with this building."

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Photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

There was an audience of about 100 people Friday evening in Hertz, a majority of them current or former military personnel. A third of the them were dressed in fatigues. While Mattis was there to talk about leadership with character, a majority of the discussion during the question and answer session afterwards was focused on the battle of Falluja and military decisions.

## General's visit ignites faculty email frenzy

by Megan Hansen  
News editor

When a famed Marine general came to speak at Central Washington University last Friday on the topic of leadership and character, his speech was far from the main focus of conversation on campus.

Instead, dismay and disgust ran rampant through faculty e-mail Friday in response to the press release about Lt. General James N. Mattis, a Central alumnus, on the campus' main Web page.

"I was appalled today to see on the front page of the university Web site the face of a Marine general who thinks (in his own unapologetic words) that it's fun to shoot some people," said Djordje Popovic, program coordinator for the Diversity Education Center, in an email sent out to many faculty.

The words in question referred to an incident in 2005 when Mattis spoke at a conference in San Diego and was reprimanded by superiors for controversial statements and told to speak more carefully.

"Actually, it's a lot of fun to fight. . . . It's fun to shoot some people. I'll be right upfront with you, I like brawling," Mattis told the audience in 2005. "You go into Afghanistan, you got guys who slap women around for five years because they didn't wear a veil. You know, guys like that ain't got no manhood left anyway. So it's a hell of a lot of fun to shoot them."

After learning about this incident many faculty responded to Popovic's e-mail with both positive and negative opinion toward Mattis' presence at Central. Some even suggested going to the presentation with signs of protest.

Popovic, however, responded that he wasn't opposed to allowing the man to speak, but rather opposed to how Mattis and the battle of Falluja were presented by the university.

"I was equally appalled to see the face of this particular Marine general on the front page of our university Web site," Stella Moreno, professor of Spanish, said in an e-mail. "Are these the chosen role models for a higher education institution?"

Despite the e-mail exchange, approximately 100 people attended the event and the presentation remained quiet and uninterrupted.

Mattis, who commanded the 1st Marine Division in the 2003 Iraq inva-

sion and led in the battle of Falluja, spoke on the topic of leadership with character to an audience of mostly military personnel. The focus of his speech was how to lead and train as a whole, incorporating the work of Confucius to build the body, mind and spirit.

"Major focuses of leadership include tests in physical, moral and mental issues," Mattis said. "Something is worth building, even when it becomes hard."

Many questions were raised via email as to why Mattis was chosen by the Center for Excellence in Leadership's honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) to speak on the topic of leadership and character.

"The general's experience with leading Marines was a factor in the choice. You don't become a three-star general in the Marine Corps without abilities as a leader," Randy Brazille, treasurer for

ODK, said. "The Marines have a strong emphasis on leadership and we were looking for someone with practical leadership experience who would be an authority on the topic."

After the presentation, Popovic received numerous e-mails and phone calls regarding his initial e-mail and responses to it. However, Popovic stood his ground about his opinion.

"What I did was in the best interest of the university," Popovic said. "I never said I didn't want him to speak. I want the university to think."

Popovic was pleased with the response to his e-mail because it generated conversation on campus and got people thinking.

"What are the five things we want students to know when they leave?" Popovic asked. "I would argue that taking pleasure in killing is not one of them."



Veterans and Ellensburg residents, Don Morris (left) and Tom Ruosell (center) attended the presentation and met Mattis after to shake hands.

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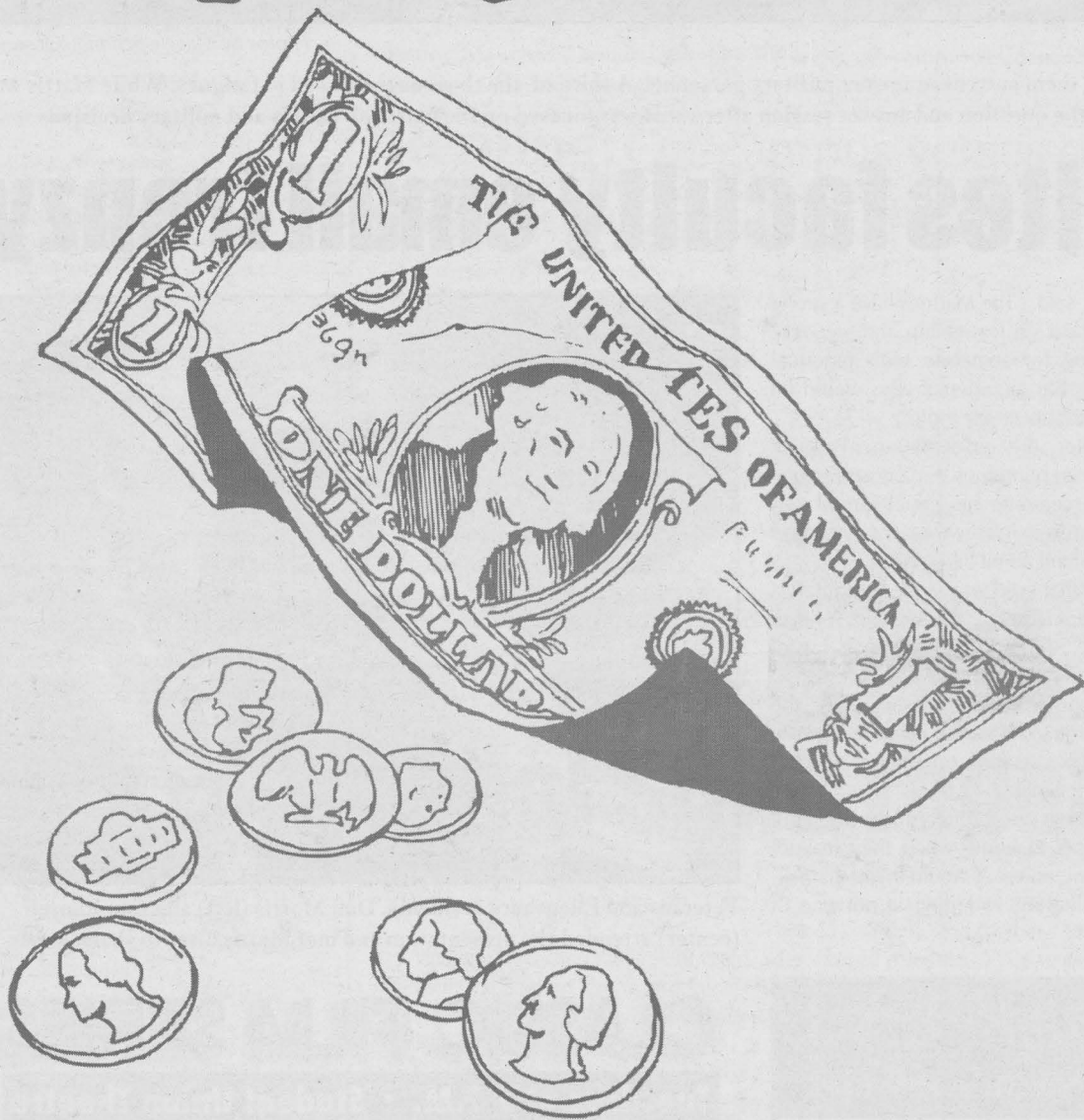
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## Spring Broke?



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# SUB fate still up for debate

by Brian Rowe  
Staff reporter

The fate of Central's previous Samuelson Union Building (SUB) has come to a crossroads recently as the South Neighborhood Planning Committee (SNPC) considers possible options for the structure.

The most popular consideration includes revamping the building and turning it into a one-stop shop. Students would be able to take care of financial requirements, as well as add and drop classes at an upgraded registrars office.

Katie Underwood, Associate Students of Central Washington University (ASCWU) vice-president for Academic Affairs, believes this option is the most viable and productive possibility for the future of the building.

"I hope the old SUB turns into a place where students can get issues dealt with without having the confusion of traveling to multiple buildings," Underwood said. "It simplifies the process, is beneficial for students, and will help with the overall image of Central."

The other two options for the old SUB are relatively simple and straightforward: one proposes tearing down the building and replacing it with a green space and the other proposes building a parking lot.

Both options offer solutions to viable issues as enrollment grows.

One of the biggest complaints about

Central's campus is the lack of available parking spaces. An additional parking lot located in such a central location sounds like great idea to students.

Nic Miori, junior communications major, thinks the parking lot is the best possible solution.

"I feel that after I coughed up money for a parking pass and still cannot find a spot in the morning without a ten-minute search is ridiculous," Miori said. "The extra parking lot would help the burden on other lots, as well as cut down on walking time, so it would be my first choice."

The SNPC has not set a date for a recommendation, which would then be passed onto President Jerilyn McIntyre. However, since the university must pay all utilities, the pressure to make a decision is mounting.

While Central students own and are paying for the new SURC, the university now owns the old SUB, which is costly to maintain.

Derrick Peacock, vice-president for Equity and Community Service, acknowledges that other factors should be taken into consideration before making a lasting decision.

"The significance of the names of the Yakama and Chief Owhi Rooms, as well as the Chesar Chavez Theatre, should be retained," Peacock said. "They were dedicated in an important manner and should not be forgotten."

A time frame for the committee's decision has not yet been set.

## Extensive service program gives back

by Brooke Saul  
Staff reporter

The Civic Engagement Center administered two AmeriCorps Educational Awards this year: the Bonner Leader Award and the Students in Service Award.

AmeriCorps was established in 1994 after the National Service Act was signed into law by President George H. Bush. They establish national service programs that include tutoring programs and cleaning parks and streams.

The Bonner Leaders Program offers an award for students who volunteer 900 community service hours. The recipient receives the \$2,362.50 AmeriCorps Education Award.

The Bonner Educational Award was established in 1989 by Corella and Bertram F. Bonner to help people who grew up in underprivileged areas.

The program emphasizes leadership and managerial development through community service. Any student is eligible for this award.

"Working with teens at the Youth Center has been a fun and beneficial experience because I know I'm making a positive influence on the kids," said Maggie McKinney, Bonner Leader recipient and freshman undeclared. "It's a great way to earn money and do a good thing."

The Students in Service Award is a one-year program that consists of 300 community service hours and encourages engaged and active citizenship.

A student who completes the program will receive a \$1,000 AmeriCorps Education Award.

"Many of the students are already doing community service," said Jake Stillwell, AmeriCorps Education Award

Coordinator and sophomore political science major.

In order to qualify for an award, a student must volunteer at a selected service site, which must be a non-profit organization. A site supervisor will then sign-off on hours logged.

"There are specific requirements for where a student can acquire hours," said Rita Dickmann, who will take Stillwell's position as the new AmeriCorps Education Award Coordinator. "It can't be political, faith based or for credit or pay."

Recipients must also document their service development and log all of their hours.

The money can be used for student loans, tuition, or expenses for participating in a school-to-work program, within seven years.

Dickmann, a junior political science major, said twenty spots are reserved for the Students in Service Award and five awards are available.

The Civic Engagement Center gives ten Bonner Leader Awards and there are nine left.

Application paperwork must be turned in within two weeks after the recipient meets with the Civic Engagement Center.

Applicants for this award range from freshman to non-traditional and returning students.

Dickmann said that in the past, people have volunteered at a variety of community based organizations including local schools, Abuse Support Education Prevention Now (ASPEN), the Civic Engagement Center and animal shelters.

For more information about the program contact the Civic Engagement Center at 963-1643.

# City

News from around the Ellensburg community

## Fire at former Darigold leaves businesses, belongings ruined

by Katie Murdoch  
Asst. News editor

Before the former Darigold building caught fire March 13, due to a portable heater that was left on, it was considered by the fire department to be one of the 10 most dangerous buildings in Ellensburg for firefighters. After the building burned down, their opinion did not change.

"When you walk in, there's no power and it's filled with smoke," Ellensburg Fire Chief John Sinclair said. "Firefighters become disoriented in the puzzle work of the structure, get lost, and that's how they die."

Other contributing factors that made the building a threat to firefighters were the levels of the building, multiple renovation projects where old and new materials were combined, and the number of total rooms forcing rescuers to scatter down many hallways.

"I'm sorry the owner lost the building," Sinclair said.

The owner of the building, Ken Fyall, was in Ravensdale without cell reception when the fire occurred. Fyall found out about the fire around 9 a.m. on Tuesday when his son, Trevor, and the fire chief called him.

"It looks like there may have been a faulty heater," Fyall said.

The cause of the fire is certain, but the location of the Vornado heater and the extent of its involvement is unclear.

"The tenant that had that space heater said it definitely wasn't on the couch," Fyall said. "It was on the structure above it."

Investigators are unsure if the heater malfunctioned or if the heater was operating properly and caught nearby combustibles on fire.

According to Sinclair, the heater was up against a couch.

The cost of the damages is still under active fire investigation and forensic investigators are sifting through debris to find heater parts.

The heater was resting on a structural support in a wall opening, Fyall said.

"I was told by forensic investigators

the heater may have been above the couch and not against it," Fyall said. "The investigator is not willing at this point to say it was on the couch."

The Darigold building contained a variety of businesses, including the hair salon Evolution and storage units where local bands kept their equipment.

Evolution owners, Joseph and Gretchin Kingston ran their business at the former Darigold building for more than a year prior to the fire. After the fire, Millennium Sun Tanning and Hair Salon offered to share their space. Kingston was able to file an insurance claim that night.



"By chance, we took our file box home for the weekend to do our taxes," Kingston said.

Kingston said the business has lost their walk-in clientele and sentimental items such as autographs, but by moving quickly, the salon hasn't lost many clients. However, she sympathizes with the musicians who used the building.

"I can't imagine what they lost," Gretchin said.

Jöel Ratcliff, Central freshman paramedics major, lost \$21,000 worth of uninsured musical equipment in the fire. His band, *Sarlacc*, shared the space with another band and used it as a prac-

tice studio. Ratcliff lost a PA system, two Les Paul guitars, paddleboards and a Mesa Boogie amp. Ratcliff's father is captain of the Ellensburg Fire Department (EFD). Joel is trying to file a homeowner's claim through his dad's insurance company with little success.

"The roof caved in our room and fell on our stuff," band mate Matt Clark said. "The owner took us in just to look and not to touch because the fire department had to take wreckage out."

Ratcliff was out driving with his girlfriend the night of the incident when they sighted the fire. Firefighters broke the lock off the door of the band's stor-

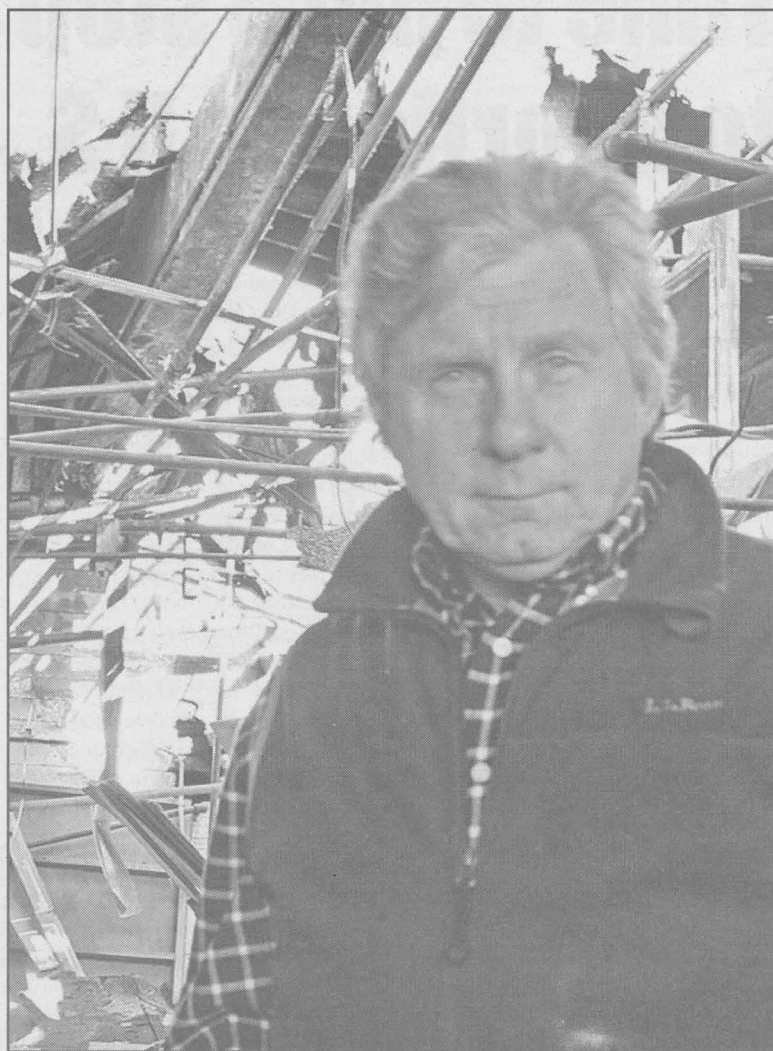
age space, but couldn't retrieve equipment due to heavy smoke.

"I thought it was pretty cool they tried to save our gear," Ratcliff said. "Stuff had sentimental value, but it can be replaced."

A benefit show was held for *Sarlacc* last weekend. Four bands played, including *Sarlacc* using borrowed instruments. Proceeds went to the band.

"I was amazed at how many people showed up," Ratcliff said.

In 1988, Fyall purchased the building from Darigold farms. The building was erected in the 1930s and one of the last renovation projects took place in



Photos by Nichole Gaertner/Observer

Above: Former Darigold building owner, Ken Fyall is waiting for the investigation to unfold. At this point, arson has been ruled out as a cause of the fire. Left: Two bands shared a space to store their instruments and utilize a practice studio. Firefighters attempted to salvage the musical equipment, but smoke and the collapsing roof forced them to retreat. The band members were allowed into the building after the fire to look at their property, but weren't allowed to touch their belongings.

1959. The owners processed ice-cream, cheese and butter. Until the production facilities became too small, Darigold continued to refrigerate products there until the 1980s.

Before purchasing the building, Fyall rented a space to run a custom furniture shop. He aspired to use the building as a microbrewery and planned for his son to join the business.

At approximately 2:25 a.m. on Friday, Trevor Fyall and a friend, Jessica, were sleeping in the building. The two awoke to find the Ellensburg Police Department (EPD) outside.

The EFD responded to the EPD alarm with two engines, one local and

one from Vantage, and three volunteer engines. Five firefighters arrived on the scene during the first few minutes of the fire. Within an hour, 40 firefighters arrived along with ladder trucks from two truck companies.

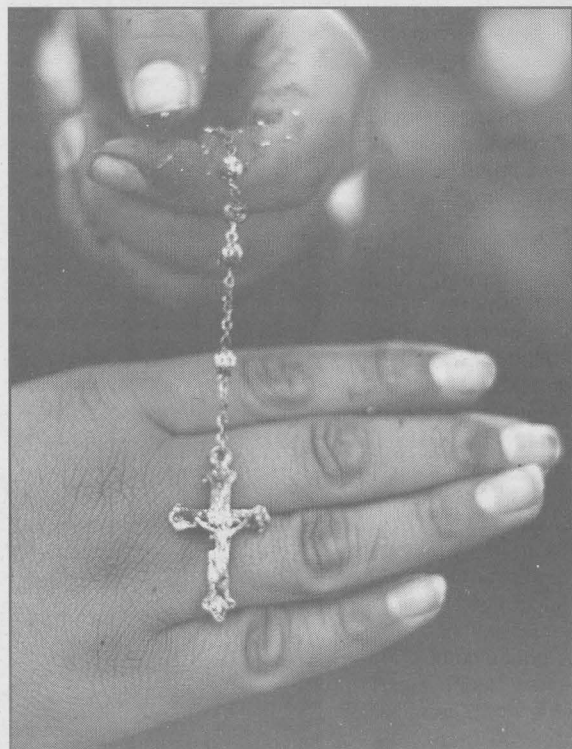
"By the time we had the fire stopped, it was around noon," Sinclair said.

Several days after the fire, the former Darigold building was released to the owner by the fire department.

"As we speak, the building is still a part of an active fire investigation," Fyall said.

The property and remnants of the structure are still barricaded.

## Family salvages belongings after fire destroys home



Photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Above: Freddy Lopez (left) and Ramon Lopez (right) were helping their cousin, Juan Lopez rummage through what was left of his home Monday. Juan said he didn't think this could happen to him. However, after seeing his neighbors' homes burnt down, he had a feeling this would happen to him. Left: The rosary was the only thing found in the mobile home still in good condition.

by Katie Murdoch  
Asst. News editor

At 10 a.m. on Monday, April 2, a fire in one mobile home spread to two nearby homes at the Branding Iron mobile home park at 505 S. Pearl Street.

"The official cause is undetermined," said Joe Seemiller, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue Fire Marshall. "We haven't been able to rule out if it was electrical."

According to reports, the owner of the mobile home was inside her residence when she heard a popping sound. She called the fire department when she realized her home was on fire.

The fire spread into the wall space of the mobile home and underneath the

structure. It took more than three hours for the two fire trucks and one medic unit at the scene to control the fire.

The combination of strong wind and warm air from the location of the fire ignited a home to the east. Heat radiating off the first structure caused a second mobile home located to the north, to catch fire as well.

The uninsured 1950s mobile home ran on electricity with old wiring.

"It's possible recent wiring had not been done by an electrician," Seemiller said. "This fire teaches us that any wiring should be done by a licensed electrician."

No residents sustained injuries in one of a few electrical fires this year.

# OPINION

The  
**OBSERVER**

The editorial views expressed are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the newspaper staff at large, the student body, the faculty or the administration and are certainly not to be considered as official views of Central Washington University.

## Time to put a stop to abortion in U.S.

One of America's perennial "hot-button" issues crept up once again while Central Washington University students were too busy getting drunk in Cancun to notice.



**Paul Balcerak**  
Editor-in-Chief

About a week after Texas legislator Dan Patrick proposed that his state pay women \$500 to not have abortions, the film "I Had an Abortion" was screened on Central's campus.

I don't really care how these two events managed to coincide, but their presence conjured up a question I've been asking myself since I was able to think: why is this still an issue?

First of all, full disclosure: I have a girlfriend who is 22-years-old because her birth parents chose to put her up for adoption instead of opting for abortion.

I'd like to appeal my question to two groups on campus that might be able to settle the two aspects of the abortion issue that confound me the most.

For starters, perhaps someone in Central's women's studies program can answer me this: how is aborting a child not cold-blooded murder? I can understand that if a woman was raped or if pregnancy threatens her life, exceptions would have to be made on behalf of that woman's well being. But to say that a woman who "accidentally" gets pregnant has the "right" to kill an unborn child is absolutely ludicrous.

Furthermore, why is it only a woman's right to choose? What if my girlfriend stops taking her birth control pills without telling me? Does that give me the right to punch her in the stom-

ach when I find out she's pregnant? No! I'm obligated by law to own up and take responsibility, either by raising the kid or paying child support. As long as liberal women's groups are arguing for equality among the sexes, let's apply these standards to both sexes.

My second call for clarification goes out to law and justice or political science majors who would be willing to explain Roe v. Wade to me.

I don't need to be told that it's the most harebrained decision in Supreme Court history, but I would like to know how the decision wasn't relegated back to the state of Texas. After all, as my pocket-sized Tenth Amendment tells me, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." I defy anyone—Supreme Court justices included—to find a passage in the U.S. Constitution that says anything about abortion.

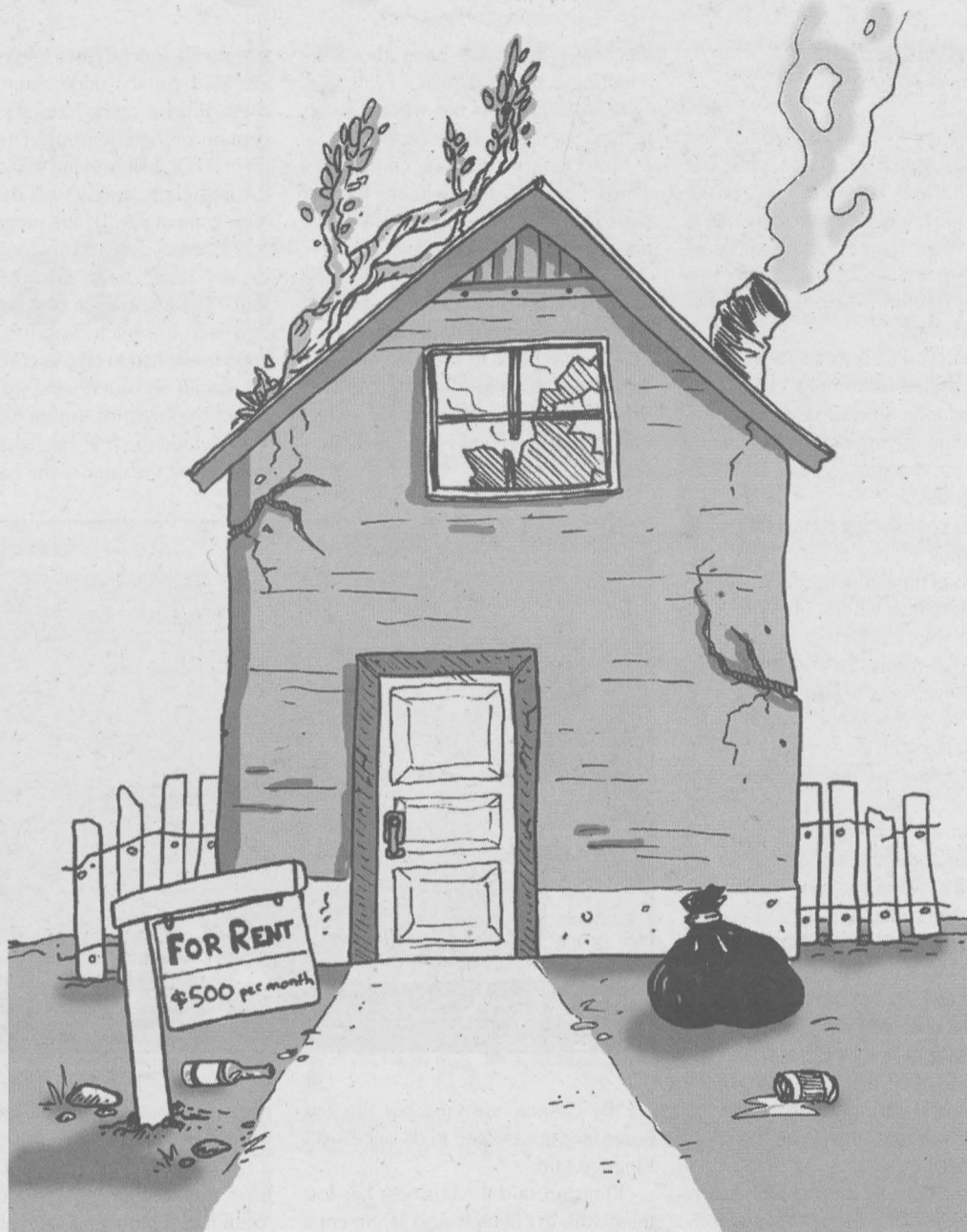
More than anything, I want someone to tell me why adoption isn't an acceptable substitute to abortion. A 1995 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that more than 2 million American couples were infertile. A 2004 U.S. Census Bureau report found more than 600,000 homosexual couples living in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

Surely among those 2.6 million couples, several thousand would have gladly adopted one of the 848,163 children who the CDC reported were legally aborted in the U.S. in 2003.

This country has abolished slavery, embraced women's suffrage and begun to extend civil rights to homosexuals. It's time we realized that outlawing abortion is just as progressive as any of those accomplishments.

## The Artist's Eye

"The luxury of off-campus living"



## Modern rockers clueless on issue of political statements

Over spring break, I attended a concert headlined by the "politically aware" punk group *Anti-Flag*. The band would stop playing every two or three songs to talk politics with the crowd.

Listening to their thoughts on the war in Iraq, last year's immigration protests and various other political hot topics, it dawned on me that anyone could have made similar statements by watching the news for a hour.

*Anti-Flag* voiced opinions throughout their set, which basically consisted of, "Bush sucks, the people rule, fight the power and don't forget to buy our new CD at the merchandise table in the back."

So, to all musicians out there wanting to hop on the political debate bandwagon, do me a favor and bring two things along with you: common knowledge and your own opinion.

I left the concert in the middle of *Anti-Flag*'s set. As it turned out, I wasn't the only one. Several other people made their way out of the floor that night, as well, some uttering "they [*Anti-Flag*] really need to grow up."

Musicians' involvement in politics has real-



**Frank Stanley**  
Scene editor

ly taken a nosedive since the Vietnam War. Bands and singers aren't in it anymore to let the word of the people be known. Now, they're in it to be edgy or to get more exposure.

People can mean well, which they usually do, but their message gets lost somewhere en route between the speaker's brain and mouth. The concert I attended was one stop in a tour dubbed "War Sucks, Let's Party!" Isn't there a better message to tell other than to forget the war and party away?

I have to make it clear that I divide musicians into two groups: those that simply voice their opinion and those that put it in their music. I have no problem with those that simply state their opinion. They have the access and the exposure; they can do what they want, so Bruce Springsteen, John Mellencamp, Dave Matthews and Eddie Vedder, you're fine. To those that can't come up with a better line in their music such as "Bush is not my president," find some new material.

Only one band in our time has truly been capable of voicing their opinion and acting on it, but *Rage Against the Machine* is no more. If you want to get active in your music, take a lesson from them, or pop in the soundtrack to Woodstock and take some notes. Figure out that if war sucks, there are better things to do than party.

## Littering not just a bad habit—it's disrespectful

I love being outside, walking, riding my horse, surfing, hiking, floating the river ... the list goes on. But I won't be able to enjoy all the earth offers me if people continue to trash it.

People who litter annoy me more than anything else.

By no means am I a "go-green" advocate who has never made the mistake of littering or abusing the earth. I still use aerosol hair spray, take hot 20-minute-long showers and drive an SUV. But I certainly realize the impact of my actions. There is no excuse for littering; it's sheer laziness.

In 2001, the Washington State Department of Transportation collected 1,400 tons of litter alongside our state highways; the Department of Ecology estimates another 8,000 tons were removed from other parts of Washington. These figures don't take into account the amount of garbage that washes up on our beaches, or the number of animals killed every year in forests and rivers because of litter. Not to mention that Washington state spends \$1.25 million annually to pick up and dispose of trash. There are certainly better things to be spending tax dollars on.

It disgusts me to think that people are lazy



**Andrea Rust**  
Asst. Scene editor

enough to throw garbage out windows and not care where it ends up after it leaves their hands. The Washington State Patrol issued 3,636 litter violations in 2005 alone.

And how about smokers who don't believe cigarette butts are litter? In 2005, as part of the International Coastal Cleanup, the Washington Ocean Conservancy noted cigarette butts and filters make up 31.4 percent of the garbage removed from U.S. shorelines and waterways. Cigarettes are the most common litter item in the world. They pose a fire threat and filters can take up to 15 years to decompose. This is why ashtrays were invented—use them.

While polls show most of the population only litters occasionally or never, every time someone does litter, it accumulates. Littering is not just an eyesore on roadsides, beaches, streams, and recreational areas; it has major environmental repercussions. People who toss fast food wrappers out the window, leave trash at campsite, or sink empty cans into a river cause more damage to the earth than they could ever imagine.

People shouldn't assume it's someone else's job to clean up after them. We all share this world and we need to start acting like we give a damn by showing some common courtesy.

Moreover, if anyone's too lazy to throw out their trash, they can keep it in the backseat of their car so the rest of us don't have to look at it.

# Unique vandalism in Stephens-Whit

You would think that by the time people get to college, they would have enough sense to use a bathroom when relieving themselves.

Earlier this week the janitorial staff had a rude awakening when feces was discovered inside one of the dryers in Stephens-Whitney hall. What exactly possesses someone to take a crap in a dryer?

Some people in this world amaze me. Then again, I can't really be amazed at a college student who has the mental capacity of a three-year-old. I'm sure I haven't pooped outside a bathroom since I was in diapers.

What really gets to me isn't the



**Melanie Lockhart**  
Asst. Sports editor

"why?" Rather, I'm curious about the "how?" Did the culprit crap in a container and plop it in the dryer? Or did they really take the time to stick their rear-end inside and do their business? -

I assume that they had an accomplice on the lookout. If so, what was the plan if somebody happened to pass by? Being told, "Sorry, you can't go in there. My friend is taking a crap in the dryer," would be nothing short of awkward.

As a resident of Stephens-Whitney, I don't even know whether to be disgusted, ticked off, or amused. It's disturbing to know that there are people on this campus that have enough intelligence to be admitted into college, but are immature enough to crap in a dryer. The laundry facilities will probably be taken away if this happens again.

Now that we're all in college, here's a concept: grow up, do what mom and dad taught us, and use a bathroom.

## Observer editor wins regional award

Sports editor Patrick Lewis was awarded first place in the category of sports writing at the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Region 10 conference on March 25.

The story, "Andrews will be missed," ran in The Observer's Oct. 27, 2006 issue. It will now be considered for SPJ's national awards which are announced in mid-May.

## Letter to the editor

# U.S. 'superiority' questioned

*Editor's note: This letter was received March 10 in response to the editorial, "If there's a God, he doesn't live in Saudi Arabia," from The Observer's March 8, 2007 edition.*

I recently came across [Editor-in-Chief Paul] Balcerak's article about a 19-year-old Saudi Arabian woman's unfortunate story.

Although I'm hesitant to criticize the article, which at least is supportive of women's rights, I'm nonetheless appalled by Mr. Balcerak's reasoning, his inaccurate terminology and poor word choice.

I am a citizen of Turkey, a secular country with a 99 percent Muslim population. For many years now, the Turkish people have upheld secular and democratic traditions. Our laws are based on a secular constitution and a rich history of secular jurisprudence.

Mr. Balcerak's labeling of Saudi laws as "Islamic" is ignorant and hurtful. It ignores many other Muslim countries and traditions that are equally "Islamic" but have very little in common with the Saudi circumstances he describes.

His generalization of Islamic laws is as absurd as if I were to claim that recent cases of torture and prisoner

abuse are a consequence of Christian law. Sure, some people in Saudi Arabia (and in the United States) will attempt to justify their abuse of human rights by referencing religious traditions. However, both Mr. Balcerak and I know our own religious and cultural heritage, and can easily see that the abusers are part of neither, right?

Mr. Balcerak also speaks of the "ancient texts" from which "archaic and outdated laws" are drawn. I assume he's referring to the Qur'an, which he should have attempted to read first since there isn't a single passage in the Qur'an addressing a punishment like this or anything close to that kind of brutality. Millions of other Muslims and I believe in the absolute equality of men and women.

We are sick of generalizations—carefully screened and politically framed pictures of twisted fanatics and their actions in the name of our

religion.

Perhaps doing some research prior to publishing his ill-informed article would have helped Mr. Balcerak realize that Christianity is not a "Western" religion as he claims. It's an old Abrahamic religion just like its two sister religions, Judaism and Islam.

Not to mention that the first uniform Christian doctrine and the first Christian state were declared in present-day Turkey, not too far from where I grew up in the "Islamic" East.

Using words carefully, knowing history, and understanding the extended subject of religions and cultures are all necessary if one wishes to make sweeping generalizations about a large portion of the human race.

So Mr. Balcerak, you are not really "superior," my friend, I am sorry.

-Burak Kayzum  
Senior Art Major

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Letters to the editor are encouraged and printed as space allows. Submissions should be no more than 300 words and include the author's name and position at the university, or name and place of residence for non-students. Letters may be edited for length, style, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially litigious elements. Letters that attack people will not be published. E-mail: [observer@cwu.edu](mailto:observer@cwu.edu). Fax: (509) 963-1027. Mail: The Observer c/o Central Washington University, 400 E. University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

## Keep on trucking



Harpreed Rai and Harjinder Brar of Quebec were injured when the semi-truck they were driving flipped at the Exit 109 off-ramp in Ellensburg on Tuesday. Firefighters and EMTs had to cut out the windshield to get the pair out of the cab. Both were taken to Kittitas Valley Hospital and treated for various injuries. A report by the Washington State Patrol cited excessive speed as the cause of the accident.



## This week in Scene

**Kick Butt:** Students learn how to “kick the habit” from an early age.  
**PAGE 9**

**First Friday:** Art Walk displays local and national artwork from Central alumni.  
**PAGE 10**

**Opera:** Tragic and comedic operas featured in an evening musical double-header.  
**PAGE 11**

**People on the street:** What did you do over spring break?  
**PAGE 11**

**Calendar:** See what events are happening around campus this week.  
**PAGE 11**



Photo illustration by Patrick Lewis/Observer

by Paul Balcerak  
Editor-in-Chief

On one of the biggest sports weekends of the year, the Qwest Field Exhibition Center—wedged between Qwest and Safeco Fields—was overtaken by geeks.

While sports fanatics across the Northwest packed into bars to watch the Final Four and MLB Opening Day, fans of a different type descended upon the Exhibition Center for the fifth annual Emerald City ComiCon (ECCC).

The con—short for convention—is one huge event for comic book fans, creators and dealers to get together and talk, sell and buy comics.

Sports editor Pat Lewis and I immersed ourselves in geek culture for the two-day event on March 31 and April 1 and kept a running diary of some of the more interesting things we saw.

Quick disclaimer: I'm a huge comic book fan, Pat pretends not to be.

### Saturday, 10:45 a.m.

We make a quick walk around just to see what we're dealing with and quickly realize that the place looks like a costume party that only five people took seriously.

There's a whole pack of Star Wars characters dressed to the nines—storm troopers, Darth Vader, Chewbacca and more—but everyone else pretty much showed up wearing a t-shirt with the Superman “S” on it.

Oh, and the guy/girl ratio is about 10-1.

### 11:35 a.m.

As we walked amongst the labyrinth of bookshelves and display cases that local comic book retailers had set up, we ran into Aaron Baker, owner of Odyssey Comics in Vancouver, Wash. Baker was a perfect example of why cons like the ECCC are able to happen in the first place—money.

“Typically we can do in a day what we'd do in a week—even with dis-

counts,” Baker said of the money made during the weekend.

That amount shakes out to about \$1,600 per day after travel and lodging costs, but it can easily be more.

Baker's big sellers were zombie books and movie-related books (Marvel's “Spider-Man” and Dark Horse's “300,” in particular) but he had plenty of copies flying off his shelves and lining his pockets.

“We knew [the convention] was going to be pretty big with the amount of people here,” he said.

### 1:50 p.m.

In a sea of people from all over the Northwest, Pat and I ran into Central Washington University student Corey Hough. Hough, senior philosophy major, was doing his best to keep within his budgetary constraints, which can be a hard thing to do with so much merchandise available.

“You run around, you get pretty good deals here,” Hough said. “That's

pretty much why any of us go [to the con].”

It wouldn't be hard to find a deal, either. In some cases a “deal” can run about \$3,000, such as the case with a copy of *Amazing Fantasy* #15 (the first Spider-Man comic) that Pat and I spotted.

The same book has gone for upwards of \$100,000 in the past.

Hough is keeping his costs under \$100, but admits he'd like to spend more.

“If I could, I'd drop about \$200,” he said.

### 2:05 p.m.

We found a surprisingly short line in front of Ed Brubaker's table. Brubaker is the Marvel Comics writer who recently killed off Captain America in last month's *Captain America* #25.

see COMICS, page 11

# Local kids give a kick to butts everywhere

by Bryant Phillips  
Asst. Scene editor

Balloons were floating all over the Central Washington School of Karate as students, all under 13 years old, kicked at them in a flurry of giggles.

There was a feeling of barely controlled chaos, but each student was alert and focused on defeating their balloon combatants.

"So what are you guys doing?" shouted Sue Young, owner of the karate school.

"Kicking!" her students shouted back.

"That's right, kicking the habit before you even start it."

Young and her students held a Kick-a-Thon as part of Kick Butts Day on Wednesday, March 28, where children nationwide participated in activities designed to raise awareness about the effects of cigarettes and tobacco.

The karate school raised more than \$200 from local residents who pledged donations. All proceeds collected for the event will go to the After School Safe Place, a non-profit organization that provides a safe environment for students, said Sarah Bedsaul, a health promotions educator who helped organize the event.

"It's important [for children] to have a community service project," Young said. "It teaches kids to get donations, and they're aware it's going toward fighting cigarettes."

The Kick-a-Thon included an activity in which students lined up kicking bags and pretended each was a cigarette, seeing how many times the students could kick them.

"I think the earlier you get the message to children [to fight cigarette



Sean Guffey/Observer

A group of children practice kicking as part of national Kick Butts Day last Wednesday at the Central Washington School of Karate. All of the activities, such as the balloon kick, focused on educating kids about the harmful effects of smoking throughout the Kick-a-Thon.

addiction] the better," said Jared Thomas, a junior mechanical engineering technology major and an instructor at the karate school.

The Ellensburg Youth and Community Center also participated in Kick Butts Day. This was the youth center's first time, while this was the fourth year the karate school participated.

Bride LaPlatney, a Central Washington University alum and program coordinator for the youth center,

said she is always on the lookout for alcohol and drug prevention activities to do with kids, and Kick Butts Day seemed like a fun event.

"We talk with kids a lot about smoking, but we don't judge them," LaPlatney said. "Some of our activities [for Kick Butts Day] were inspired by the 'No Stank You' anti-tobacco ads on TV. They illicit a reaction... they show gross stuff, and kids love gross stuff."

Kids at the youth center participated

in several anti-tobacco activities during the event, such as drawing chalk outlines of people on the sidewalk to represent those who have died from tobacco-related causes.

Stu Spence, the youth program coordinator with the Ellensburg Youth and Community Center, also filmed a movie to send to tobacco companies, with many of the kids telling the camera what they thought of cigarettes and the companies that sell them.

More than 2,000 events were held during Kick Butts Day nationwide to help discourage kids from smoking and educate those who do smoke about the harmful chemicals in cigarettes.

Tobacco use kills more than 440,000 people every year, including 8,000 in Washington, according to statistics from the US Department of Health and Washington State Department of Health.

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# First Friday spotlights Central alumni

by Tim Kukes  
Staff reporter

The first Friday of each month is a special time for art lovers. It's a time when Ellensburg holds the First Friday Art Walk, which displays the talents of local and national artists in downtown galleries and businesses.

Venues include the Clymer Museum of Art, D&M Coffee downtown, Gallery One Visual Arts Center, Kittitas County Historical Museum, Sarah Spurgeon Gallery, and The Frame Express.

Connie Bess, chair of the Ellensburg Arts Commission, said that Jade Moon, a downtown wine and gift shop, will also exhibit art.

The centerpiece for this month's Art Walk is the Central Washington University Art Alumni Exhibition, "Crossroads and Connections 2007." The exhibit features work from nine Central alumni who attended Central prior to 1980.

Catherine Scarlett, development officer for the College of Arts and Humanities, said the idea was conceived by the alumni themselves. Featured artists are Carol Wild-Delano, Bill Ritchie, Candace Beardslee, Merrily Tompkins, Chris Hinrichs, Linda Grebmeier, Susan Ginalick Maakestad, Nancy Worden, and Richard Elliott.

The exhibit will consist of a variety of media including painting, sculpture,

glass, ceramic and 3-D displays.

There will be more than 60 participating artists, some of whom will be in attendance, said Heather Horn, director of the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery.

"We could turn this into an exhibition series," Horn said.

The Central Washington University Foundation's Carrico Endowment, Central's College of Arts and Humanities, and the Central Art Department will sponsor the exhibit.

Following the Art Walk, the First Friday Dance Club will host a night of live music. Music group Manazma Sheen will open for Flowmotion, a Seattle-based funk band. Flowmotion is known for its lively performances.

The members of Flowmotion consist of lead vocalist Josh Clauson, Sabu Miyata on bass, Zack Stewart on guitar and vocals, Scott Goodwin on drums and vocals, and Bob Rees on percussion.

Mollie Edson, a member of the First Friday Dance Club, said Flowmotion has played at previous First Friday Dances before and is well worth coming to see.

The First Friday Dance Club started five years ago when 15 Ellensburg residents decided they wanted to dance to live music. Edson said she hopes to get the word out to as many people as possible.

"Success depends on students coming and enjoying [themselves],"

Edson said.

The dance is open to all ages and starts at 8:30 p.m. at the Ellensburg Moose Lodge, located at 208 N. Main Street. The club charges \$10 for admission with all proceeds paying for the bands.

The First Friday Art Walk downtown venues are open 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The alumni art exhibition venues run from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery located on the Central campus in Randall Hall off 14th Avenue, and Gallery One Visual Arts Center, located at 408 N. Pearl Street.

For further information contact Catherine Scarlett, development officer, at scarletc@cwu.edu or call 963-3083.



Observer archives

Dick and Jane's Spot, created by artist Richard Elliott, is located on Pearl Street, Richard and his wife have lived in the Ellensburg fixture for years.

## Local artist to showcase work

by Ila Dickenson  
Staff reporter

Richard Elliott is one of 61 artists who will be spotlighted at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery's "Crossroads and Connections" alumni exhibition beginning this Friday.

Elliott graduated from Central Washington University in 1971 and soon after began working on an art piece he calls "Dick and Jane's Spot," which is the now-famous house that he and his wife live in on Pearl street.

Elliott will be displaying two pieces at the upcoming exhibition. "White Light," the largest and most minimal in a reflector series, will be on display.

"White Light" is an 8 foot by 8 foot piece composed of two layers of reflectors

"The scale gives it an opportunity to do what it does," Elliott said of the piece. The idea is that the piece is constantly changing and allowing optimal viewer interaction.

Elliott is also displaying a large painting entitled "Primal Op" which is inspired from a drawing he created 20 years ago.

The "Crossroads and Connections" exhibit is designed to connect Central art graduates from before 1980 with their alma mater.

Heather Horn, Sarah Spurgeon Gallery manager, said that the exhibit is about fundraising, but also about

bringing people back and getting artists involved.

"It's like a big class reunion," Horn said.

The exhibition will run from April 7 through April 28 at both the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery in Randall Hall and at Gallery One Visual Arts Center located on Pearl street in Downtown Ellensburg.

A free public opening reception will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. on April 6 at both locations with a free shuttle running between venues.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Central Department of Art, the Central College of Arts and Humanities, and the Central Foundation's Carrico Endowment.

## US Air Force Winds teach, perform for Central Students



Leah Halterson/Observer

The USAF Golden West Winds performed for Central students, faculty and community members last Tuesday, March 27, in the music building Concert Hall. The group is part of the USAF Band of the Golden West, the only remaining active Air Force band west of the Rocky Mountains.

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Close To Campus!

# April

# Two operas, one night of music

by Taishi Kanamaru  
Asst. Scene editor

Central Washington University's Music Department will feature alternate ways to enjoy classical art: tragic and comedic opera.

One-act operas "Dido and Aeneas" and "Meanwhile, Back at Cinderella's" will be performed by Central music students and faculty at 7 p.m., on April 6 and 7 in the Music Building Concert Hall.

"Dido and Aeneas" is a Baroque opera piece written by English composer Henry Purcell in the 17th

century. The opera tells the story of Dido's affair with her political enemy and her eventual death.

"Meanwhile, Back at Cinderella's" is the traditional Cinderella story told from the stepsisters' humorous point of view.

Director Diane Reich said Central features a full production opera with orchestra every other year. Her job as a director involves everything from choosing the opera to getting permission to perform it to casting it.

"We want our productions to be accessible and enjoyable to the audience," Reich said. "Especially if

you've never seen opera... you should come because our shows are a lot of fun."

Rehearsals for both of the operas began in January.

Laura Thoreson, vocal performance senior, will play Dido. This will be her first time playing a main character although she has been involved in opera for the last four years.

The difficulty of performing opera is the need to balance both acting and singing. Sometimes the actors focus more on the singing, but they still have to pay attention to their posture and other structural points, Thoreson said.

During rehearsals, the director of orchestral activities, Nikolas Caoile, has coached the solo chorus singers at the piano, as well as on language.

Besides coaching, Caoile will also play the harpsichord in the small chamber orchestra for "Dido and Aeneas" and conduct the full orchestra for "Cinderella." This will be his first time conducting at Central.

"It's just entertaining," Caoile said of the events. "Everyone should come because they can learn a lot from the show."

Ticket prices are \$5 for Central students and \$10 for general admission.

**5** Softball: CWU vs. Western Oregon, 2:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., CWU softball field.

Music Performance: Trombone Studio Recital, 7 p.m., Music Building.

**6** Natural Science Seminar: Patrick Lubinski, "Results of Two Seasons of Excavation at the Wenas Creek Mammoth," 4 p.m., Science Building 147.

One-Act Operas: "Dido and Aeneas" and "Meanwhile, Back at Cinderella's," 7 p.m. Music Building Concert.

**7** One-Act Operas: "Dido and Aeneas" and "Meanwhile, Back at Cinderella's," 7 p.m., Music Building.

**8** Baseball: CWU vs. Western Oregon, noon, 2 p.m., CWU baseball field

Guest Artist Recital: Renee Eckhardt, piano, 8 p.m., Music Building Concert Hall.

**9** Baseball: CWU vs. Cal State Stanislaus, noon, 2 p.m.

Tibetan Buddhist Lecture: "Returning to Tibet: ZaChoeje Rinpoche's Long Trip Home," 7 p.m., SURC.

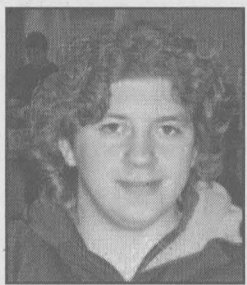
**10** Diversity Center Documentary Presentation: "Who Killed the Electric Car?" 7 p.m., SURC theatre.

Faculty Recital: Jon Hamar, bass, 7 p.m., Music Building

**11** Women's History Celebration 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Black Hall 152  
Bigger Than Us 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. in SURC Theatre (210)

## People on the Street...

# What did you do during Spring Break?



**Adam Houlk**  
junior physics

"I went to Oregon and met my girlfriend's father. It went well."



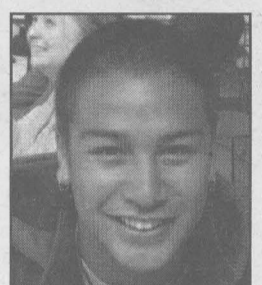
**Ryan Hollon**  
junior social science education

"I rebuilt an engine. I didn't go anywhere. It was an 'exciting' break."



**Allie McFee**  
sophomore elementary education

"I packed apples in a warehouse. I was the youngest person there."



**Tony Foland**  
sophomore sociology

"I went to Africa. I volunteered in an orphanage."

## COMICS: Day two with a dead hero, cheap art, and a comic legend

continued from page 8

"I was nervous in some ways 'cause I thought I'd get death threats," Brubaker said of the storyline that killed Cap.

"When [Marvel writer Brian Michael] Bendis killed off Hawkeye a couple years ago he got a threat from someone and Marvel actually had to hire a legal guy."

Fortunately for Brubaker, no one's threatened to kill him yet and in fact, most people have responded positively to the story, he said.

### Sunday, 10:35 a.m.

Tony Dela Cruz, Jazel Riley and Levi Skeen were madly sketching away at a table called "The \$5 Sketch." A white piece of paper with a laundry list of names and requests for art sat on their

table. "[We've been drawing] pretty much all our lives in one form or another," Riley, a Bellingham resident, said.

In the meantime, he, Cruz and Skeen were sketching any superhero con-goers could name for \$5.

### 11:30 a.m.

We made it to the front of Bendis' line and he was gracious enough to allow us a few minutes to chat. Most creators extend this kind of courtesy to fans, but Bendis was by far one of the most candid and entertaining.

He's also one of the most successful.

Recently, he and artist Mark Bagley broke Marvel legends Stan Lee and Jack Kirby's record for the longest continuous run on a comic book with Ultimate Spider-Man #103.

"It comes in waves," Bendis said of

his success. "First I can't believe I got the job, then I can't believe I didn't get fired, then there's a record?"

Comics aren't the only things Bendis has been writing. He just finished a screenplay adaptation of his graphic crime novel "Jinx," which is set to star Charlize Theron. Still another one of his projects—the movie adaptation of "Powers," another creation of his—is spinning its wheels.

"Sony just sold us back the script," he said. "Your ears would bleed if you knew how much money they spent [doing nothing]."

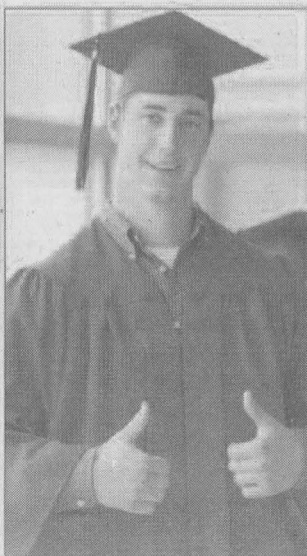
### 12:45 p.m.

We headed over to the World of Warcraft card game tournament under the stairs at the Exhibition Center. About 20 people were competing for prizes that included...more cards.

I started talking with a guy who had organized the tournament, but was quickly confounded by his Warcraft vernacular.

In all honesty, once we got to the point where even I—a seasoned comic book nerd—didn't know what was going on, we knew it was time to call it a weekend.

## Call for Commencement Speakers!



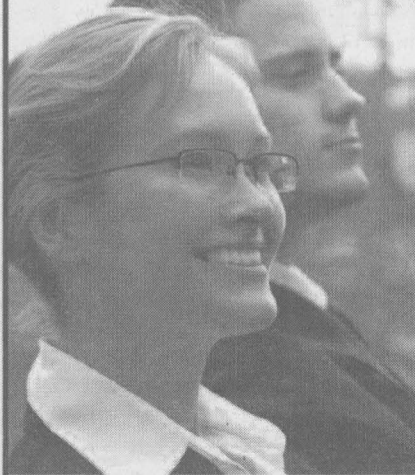
### Attention Students Eligible for Commencement Honors!

The CWU student commencement speaker committee will select students to present valedictory speeches at the two Eastside Commencement Exercises in Ellensburg Saturday, June 9, 2007, (9:30 am and 1:30 pm). One speaker and one alternate will be chosen from among four finalists for each ceremony. Speakers will receive \$200 honorariums and alternates will each receive \$50.

If you have a 3.5 GPA, you should receive an invitation by mail. Submit written entries to Tina Morefield, Registrar Services, by Wednesday, April 18, 2007. Additional information is available at the Registrar's Office or from Tina Morefield at 509-963-3012.

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# SPORTS

The first five NFL draft choices explained, ridiculed. pg. 13

The campus phenomenon that is intramural softball. pg. 14

The Mariners' Opening Day Roster: What a wild ride. pg. 14

## Wildcats live and die by the longball



by Marqise Allen  
Asst. Sports editor

Even with two blasts to deep right field from Jamie Nilsen, the Wildcats were unable to hang on in the first game of Sunday's double header against Saint Martin's University.

"Jamie Nilsen is a tough out," said Joe Dominiak, Saints head baseball coach. "He's a catalyst for that team; he's the best lead-off hitter I've seen in a while."

Nilsen, junior shortstop, kicked the game off with his fifth home run of the season, a solo shot to right field in the bottom of the first to give Central Washington University the lead, 1-0. In his next at bat, he hit a three-run home run to right center to give the Wildcats a 4-0 advantage in the bottom of the second inning.

"I got to face a lefty, the wind was [blowing] out the opposite way," Nilsen said. "I got lucky and ran into a couple."

Being down did not faze the Saints as they continued to pick at the Wildcat lead and eventually took it in the top of the fourth with a three-run home run of their own from Adam Siler, senior first baseman.

"We didn't press and tried to stay within our game, and bunting and stealing was part of that [approach]," Dominiak said. "We haven't got those [hits], and now they're starting to come."

The Saints hung on to the lead, after several attempts by the Wildcats to claw their way back into the game, winning 10-14.

Wildcats coach Desi Storey attributed the loss to a breakdown in pitching.

Steve Franich/Observer

Senior right handed pitcher Rick Templeton goes after the base runner with his throw to junior first baseman Nate Rylaarsdam against Whitman College.

see **BASEBALL**, page 14

## Track and field springs into outdoor season

by Mindy Jafek  
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University track and field team competed at the Whitworth Invitational in Spokane last Saturday. Both the men and women finished strong, placing second in the tournament overall.

Sophomore jumper Adrian Elmo won the triple jump with a 44'-3.5" and placed second in the long-jump.

"I jumped through the pain and turned it on in triple and long [jumps]," Elmo said.

Along with Central, Whitworth University, Gonzaga University, Northwest Nazarene University, Lewis and Clark University, University of Puget Sound, and Community Colleges of Spokane were in attendance.

"The main goal of this first week back was to get a great week of practice and place well in the tournament," head Coach Kevin Adkisson said.

With spring break just past, Adkisson was concerned if the players would be ready.

Having extra time off, he said, sometimes leads athletes to slack on their athletic duties.

"You don't quite know how people will [perform] coming off a break,"

Adkisson said. "It was really nice to get impressive performances."

Four Wildcat men won. Junior Scott McCoy placed first in the pole vault with 14'-5.25". Michael Ingman was impressive with a javelin throw of 194'-11", and freshman Tyler Fischer won the discus with 142'-6".

The Wildcat women also looked sharp, with several outstanding performances. Sophomore Rachael Kaercher took the 400 meter dash with a time of 59.51 seconds, senior Anjuli Spear dominated the long jump with 16'-4.5", and standout freshman Shaina Afoa won the shot put with a distance of 39'-10".

Track conditions were less than favorable over the weekend.

"The track was really hard and if you have never had shin splints you probably do now," sophomore runner Britany Hood said.

There are several different places the teams will be traveling to. This weekend there is the Willamette Invitational in Cheney, Wash. and the Spring Forward Multi Event and Ralph Vernacchia in Bellingham, Wash.

"I am looking forward for this week's because it will be the first time the 4-by-100 'A' squad will compete together," Brittaney Hood said.

### Weekend Track Results

#### Women

##### 1st Place-

Rachael Kaercher:  
400m Dash (0:59.51)  
Anjuli Spear:  
Long Jump (4.99m)  
Shaina Afoa:  
Shot Put (12.14m)

##### 2nd Place-

Sarah Benson:  
800m Run (2:33.47)  
Becky Scherer:  
Discus Throw (39.67m)

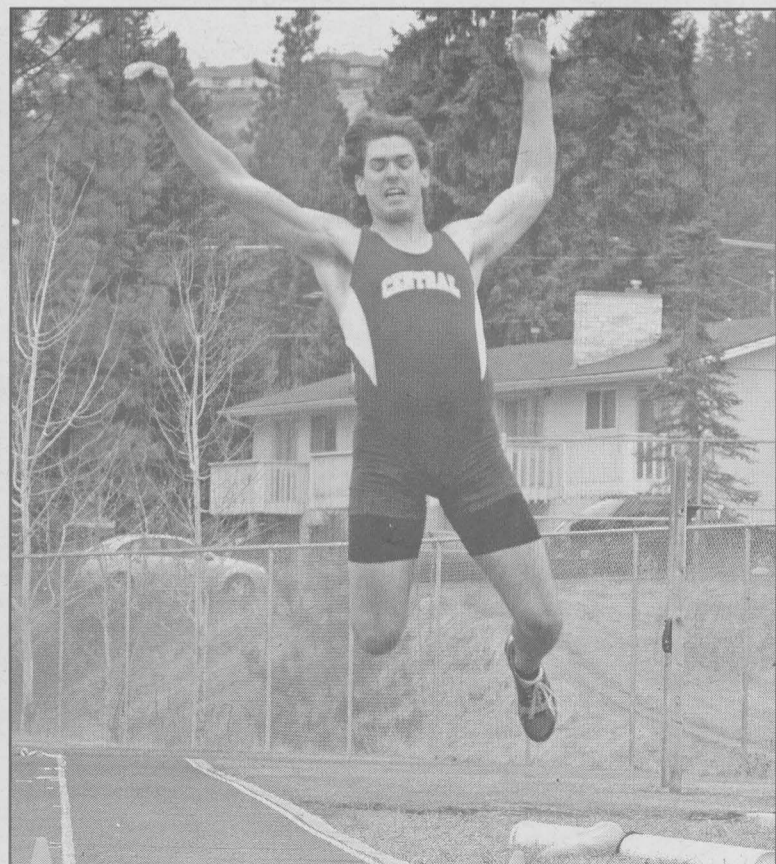
#### Men

##### 1st Place-

Matt Rogstad:  
200m Dash (22.22)  
Colby Brydson:  
400m Dash (50.26)  
Scott McCoy:  
Pole Vault (4.40m)  
Adrian Elmo:  
Triple Jump (13.50m)  
Tyler Fischer:  
Discus Throw (43.43m)

##### 2nd Place-

Central Team "A":  
4x400 Relay (3:24.80)  
Adrian Elmo:  
Long Jump (6.46m)  
Tyler Fischer:  
Hammer Throw (47.91m)



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Junior Nick Collins placed third in the men's long jump at the Whitworth Invitational last weekend. He finished with a mark of 6.41 meters.

# The Weekly Sports Face-Off: Who's going #1?

In this week's face-off, I'm taking a look at the five most dynamic college football players of 2006-07, and pairing them by order and \ team I believe will pick in this year's NFL Draft, April 28-29.

The Oakland Raiders hold the number one pick in this year's NFL Draft, and after a lackluster 2006 season, the Raiders should take Louisiana State University quarterback JaMarcus Russell as the number one pick.

The Raiders finished last in the league in total offense, and the team was led by several quarterbacks failed to get the ball to its playmakers. Russell weighs in at more than 260 pounds and he has a big, strong arm and playmaking ability. With Randy Moss in the fold, Moss and Russell resemble the duo of Moss and Daunte Culpepper when they were in Minnesota. Culpepper and Moss enjoyed immense success for the Vikings.

The Detroit Lions hold the second pick, but have multiple holes to fill in their roster. The Lions are known for drafting underachieving wide receivers, and shouldn't take a chance on Georgia Tech wide receiver Calvin Johnson, with Central Washington University alum, Jon Kitna, aging and on his way out. Brady Quinn seems to be the perfect pick at number two, but I believe Quinn's success would be minimal with the Lions; the system is not set up for his success, since they're

unsure of what style of ball they want to play. I say the Lions should take a look at University of Wisconsin offensive tackle Joe Thomas at number two and either keep him, or trade for a package of picks and veteran players.

The Cleveland Browns hold down the three spot, and I expect the Browns to take Notre Dame QB Brady Quinn. The Browns desperately need a franchise quarterback and their situation is just as bad as the Raiders. Quinn has all the tools to lead the Browns, and possesses great leadership skills as well. He's operated in Charlie Weis' pro-style offense for two years; Weis and Romeo Crennell were coordinators for the New England Patriots two years ago, so Crennell is familiar with Weis. Weis guaranteed Quinn's success at the next level. Quinn is a no-brainer at number three.

At number four, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers should take Calvin Johnson. This would be a steal. Johnson is being touted as the best player in the draft. The Bucs finished 29th in the NFL last year in total offense. Johnson would give the Bucs another fast receiver alongside with Joey Galloway. They also have a young talented running back in Cadillac Williams, and adding Johnson to the team will help stretch the field even more.

I then predict Adrian Peterson to fall to the Vikings. The Cardinals and Redskins are set at running back, and Peterson would be a great pick up for the Vikings. I could see them keeping this pick, or trading for an established wide receiver, or quarterback.

For teams that flamed out last season (we're looking at you, Oakland), the NFL draft is one of the crucial places to acquire new talent and bring one's team out of the dumpster.

Here's what I hope to see out of the first five picks of the upcoming draft.

**1) Oakland Raiders: (Too proud to trade down) JaMarcus Russell, quarterback, Louisiana State University.** The Raiders desperately need to trade this pick. Washington is sold on Russell, and Dan Snyder has a history of atrocious trades. I feel bad for Russell in this situation; yes he's going to make millions of dollars, but even with such a big frame (6' 5", 265 lbs.), he'll be lucky if he can still walk and talk when he's 40. The Raider's offensive line is bad; don't be surprised if Russell spends more time on the ground getting woken up with smelling salts than attempting passes.

**2) Detroit Lions: Oh man, here we go again. Joe Thomas, offensive line, Wisconsin.** Matt Millen, the Lion's general manager, will find a way to screw this up. Thomas is the most surething in this draft. A monster at left tackle; Thomas is one of those guys that is going to anchor an NFL line for the next 10 years. There are plenty of teams that should be knocking on Millen's door to offer him a whopping trade for

the chance to take Thomas. Plus, our boy Jon Kitna needs all the protection he can get in the Motor City.

**3) Cleveland Browns: Gaines Adams, defensive end, Clemson.** The Browns are an interesting team. Riddled with injuries—losing star free agent pickup LeCharles Bentley the first day of training camp hurt the worst—they never played to any sort of potential. The "draft wizards" have the Browns picking up Adrian Peterson, and that may well happen. However; the Brownies just signed Jamal "Time in the Slammer" Lewis, and they still have Reuben Droughns on the roster. It doesn't matter how great your offense is if you can't stop the other team from scoring.

**4) Tampa Bay Buccaneers: Calvin Johnson, wide receiver, Georgia Tech.** The Bucs are my team; I've followed them religiously since those horrendous orange jersey days. This pick's been good to them. Two years ago they drafted franchise halfback Cadillac Williams and adding Johnson will free up running room for Caddy. After adding Cato June to a perennially solid defense, the Bucs need to upgrade at offense, where it seemed like the pirate ship was taunting them more than welcoming them in the end zone.

**5) Arizona Cardinals: LaRon Landry, safety, LSU.** In a week, everyone is going to put the "darkhorse" tag on this team and declare they're going to win the division. And every year they disappoint. The team's "all or nothing" style of defense requires a bigger guy who can play the run. If they don't address the Swiss cheese they call their offensive and defensive lines, you can



Michael Johnson  
Staff  
reporter



Patrick Lewis  
Sports editor

VS.



Kareen Black/Observer

Freshman righthander Katy Jones works to perfect her pitches with freshman outfielder Ashley Fix at practice.

## Softball strikes again, flames out in Tournament of Champions

by Michael Petterson  
Staff reporter

Wildcat softball seemed to be headed in the right direction this season, but the team has recently hit a rough spot in their season after the trip to California.

"[The season] has been up and down," said Gary Fredrick, head coach. "Before we went to California we were doing really well. We hit the ball well, but we did not play defense very well."

However the team did not perform well at the Tournament of Champions with two losses on Friday and one on Saturday.

The team had a great game on Saturday with the help of junior outfielder Kasey Druffel going 4-5 at the plate to help get their heads back into swing of things and get another "W" under their belts.

"Kasey had a really good tourna-

ment overall," Fredrick said. "She hit over .450 for the whole tournament."

Even with the California setback, Fredrick and the team looks forward to a prospective winning season. He just wants to try and focus on defense.

"It's the type of thing we need to keep working on," Fredrick said. "We've played good defense before so it's there, we just have to work on it more."

The team hopes to turn things around against Western Oregon at 2:30 p.m. today. Central beat Western Oregon earlier in the season.

Another win, it would boost their standings in the conference. This would push them closer to their ultimate goal.

"Obviously we'd like to be sitting better after the California trip," Fredrick said. "We have the potential to win conference if we play up to it, and that's our main goal."

### By the Numbers

3/17: @ Saint Martin's  
9-2(W), 8-1(W)  
3/25: @ Seattle  
5-3(W), 3-1(W)

### Tournament of Champions in Turlock, Calif. 3/30-4/1

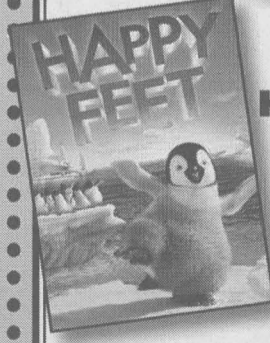
3/30: Sonoma State  
3-5(L)  
3/30: San Francisco State  
4-5(L)  
3/30: Chico State  
1-7(L)  
3/31: Cal State Bakersfield  
8-4(W)  
3/31: Cal State Dominquez Hills 4-9(L)  
4/1: Cal State Monterey Bay  
5-6(L)



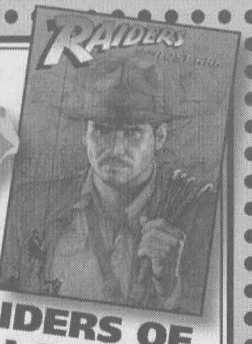
Kareen Black/Observer

Softball pitchers and catchers warming up for practice.

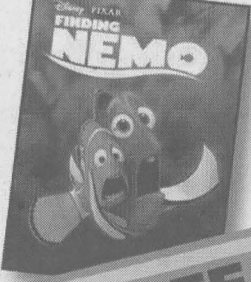
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# Out of Bounds: Losing a member of the Central family



**Curtis  
Crabtree**  
Staff writer

The last three weeks have been, by far, the worst of my life.

On March 19, my cousin and a Central Washington University graduate, Shane Wyrch, was involved in a head-on collision with an alleged drunk driver on State Highway 410, near Buckley.

Shane was driving home from a meeting for the United States Forest Service around 10:30 p.m. on Monday night when his truck was hit by Kenneth Clark, a 43 year-old man from Tacoma, who was driving with a suspended license.

While Clark was released from the hospital last week, Shane didn't get that opportunity; he died early the following morning at Tacoma General Hospital.

Shane graduated from Central in 1994 after four very successful years as a linebacker on the football team. He was a first team All-State selection his senior year at Mount Si High School and chose to play for Central after the University of Washington said he was "too small."

He was a team captain his final two seasons at Central, and was co-captain with Jon Kitna, who is currently the starting quarterback for the Detroit Lions.

As a senior at Central, Shane recorded 105 total tackles, which is still the sixth best in Central's history for a single season, and was named to the Columbia Football Association Mount Rainier's all-star first team.

Shane graduated from Central with a bachelor's degree in law and justice and worked for the Forest Service until the accident just over two weeks ago.

His wife, Zoë, is also a Central graduate and they have two sons: Marcus, 5, and Kye, 3.

The last couple weeks have been extremely hard on our whole family. Shane has always been the glue that kept us together.

Nearly 1,200 people, 400 of which were law enforcement officers, attend-

ed Shane's funeral at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Enumclaw. The funeral procession took us on a five-mile trek through the city toward Evergreen Memorial Park. As we drove through the city, people lined the streets with their hands over their hearts, and cars pulled to the side of the road to wait with their headlights on. Even as the front of our procession reached the cemetery, there was still a line of cars waiting to leave the church.

The whole funeral process was incredibly impressive with all of the ceremony, cops and people, but it was just so hard to get over how wrong the whole situation was. There should be no reason at all why we were burying Shane at 35 years of age.

Shane was someone I had looked up to all of my life. He always had a positive outlook on every situation and as my mother would always say, "he could fall into a bucket of crap and come out smelling like a rose."

In fact, he's probably the leading reason I chose Central myself.

Both Mount Si and Central are going to retire his numbers this fall. Mount Si will retire his #39 and Central will retire his #56 that he wore in honor of former New York Giants linebacker and NFL Hall-of-Famer Lawrence Taylor. That gesture made me realize just how much of an impact Shane had on the people in his life.

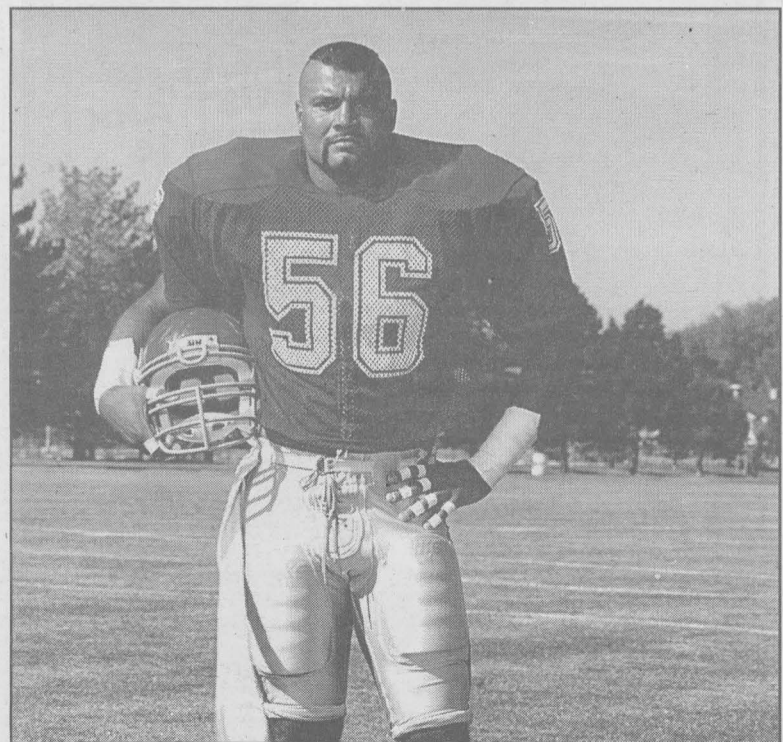
Shane would have loved to have received such an honor, even though I doubt he would have felt like he deserved it. He was a humble person who never told anyone about the accolades he received because he did not find it necessary.

I would like to think that my cousin's memory will force someone to rethink getting behind the wheel while drunk. If that happens maybe his death won't be completely in vain.

It's just hard to deal with knowing that a three-time felon couldn't stay off the road that night despite being intoxicated and having a suspended license. His lack of judgment caused the death of the best man I have ever known.

Marcus and Kye have to grow up without their father and our holiday get-togethers will be missing the most beloved member of our family.

I love you Shane, and miss you. Rest in peace, my brother...



Curtis Crabtree/Observer

Shane Wyrch co-captained the Wildcats with Jon Kitna in the early 90's. He chose Central after being told he was "too small" to play at UW. Wyrch was killed by an alleged drunk driver in March.

## Intramural softball soars

by Tom Mengelos  
Staff reporter

The grass is cut, the baselines chalked and the dirt raked smooth. Intramural softball is here.

With spring comes the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball tournaments, the National Football League draft and a new Major League Baseball season. At Central, however, comes the highly anticipated intramural softball season, which remains the most popular intramural sport. There are 16 teams, each at least ten players strong, and the field is full of promise.

"Intramural softball has the most participation due to league attendance," said Jacob Galloway, graduate assistant for intramural sports.

Intramural softball is comprised

of two leagues: the open recreation league and the competitive league. The open rec league is more laid back, while the competitive league is just that: competitive.

In the open competitive league, score is kept and teams are in it to win it, so to speak.

Hitters start with a one-ball and one-strike count in both leagues. This speeds up the game. Teams play four different games simultaneously for an hour each, from 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The regular season kicks off on April 10. Each team has seven regular season games. After the regular season, playoffs are held with single elimination format until a champion is crowned. The championship game will be held on Student Appreciation Day, with the game

played during the festivities.

April 11 is the cut-off date for teams to register; a \$60 fee is divided between the players. Each team needs a minimum of ten participants. A mandatory meeting will be held at 9 p.m. on Thursday April 12, in the Student Union and Recreation Center room 202.

"Most of the time it's laid back. A couple of teams and players give us a hard time, but it's to be expected," second year umpire Nate Seitz said. "Overall it's pretty fun."

Intramural softball is a great way for students to have fun and be competitive. Matt Pelliteri, manager for "The Ballers" in the open competition league, issue a warning to the competition.

"They better watch out," Pelliteri said.

## BASEBALL: Early deficits gave way to strong pitching as the Wildcats prevailed over the weekend

continued from page 12

"Our pitching lost focus, that's the bottom line," Storey said. "We got in some situations and we didn't do too well."

**"I think we're going in the right direction. We've done some positive things on the baseball field."**

~Desi Storey  
head baseball coach

If pitching let down the Wildcats in the first game, it picked them up in their last one. Freshman pitcher, Kevin Walkenhauer, threw a solid six innings.

"Walkenhauer just flat-out did not give in," Storey said.

Storey was most impressed with Walkenhauer's mental toughness after



Steve Franich/Observer

Junior third baseman Dean Tomlinson tags a runner from Saint Martin's as he slides into the plate. Central went 1-1 in the double header.

it was all over.

"He sat there for three games and watched us lose," Storey said. "He knew he'd have to come out here and give us a chance."

Walkenhauer gave them more than a chance, and the Wildcats were able to come back from their early deficit to take the win, 7-6, splitting the two games with St. Martin's and bringing their record to 13-8 for the season.

Central's next game will be at home today against Puget Sound. Storey hopes the team will continue to

do well and become more consistent.

"I think we're going in the right direction," Storey said. "We've done some positive things on the baseball field, but we can get better."

### By the Numbers

3/28: vs Whitman 11-10(W)  
3/31: @ Saint Martin's  
3-5(L), 0-4(L)  
4/1: vs Saint Martin's  
10-14(L), 6-5(W)

## The M's: Hope springs eternal

by Casey Donovan  
Staff reporter

The Seattle Mariners are completely revamped this season. New faces have filled old places in an attempt to make the Mariners contenders this season unlike those in the past, something that has happened fewer times than Richie Sexson has struck out. Sexson, with his ungodly 154 strikeouts last season, earned \$84,415 per whiff. Way to go, Richie.

In a strange, oxymoronic way, the Mariners are not really a baseball team at all, but like a really good version of the "Bad News Bears." They have no real strength, unless randomness is something that might be cherished.

And that all came at the hands of general manager Bill Bavasi. It almost seems like Bavasi stuck his hand in a hat filled with names and picked players to garner new positions for the Mariners. Most of these guys are so old they could be collecting Social Security in a few years.

Heck, even purchasing a Rascal to get around and possibly taking a trip to the Grand Canyon like on the commercials.

I have a great friend who rings people up better than a major league umpire. His name is Paul Klingberg and, yes, he is the best ringer-upper I have ever seen. He does his job because he loves it.

You see, he is like the Mariners ace Felix Hernandez. They both make minimum wage in their respective jobs, although Hernandez makes a few more dollars. While Paul is ringing up customers for a meat lover's slice of pizza, Felix is ringing up batters left and right, no pun intended. Just as the campus has a solid player like Klingberg for a fraction of what he should really be making, the Mariners are throwing pennies at Hernandez, 34 million of them to be exact.

With Major League Baseball having no salary cap, they went out shopping, and definitely didn't head to Wal-Mart. Oodles of money were thrown at either unproven players or those who made their

stay at other teams just a bit too long.

They picked up pitchers like Jeff Weaver, who is ridiculously inconsistent. It scares the crap out of me thinking of him pitching. Migeul Batista, weird and creepy, has good stuff every once in awhile. Horacio Ramirez is like the girls at a bar during the weekend: sometimes good, but usually very disappointing.

But bright spots remain in the Mariners' lineup. Ichiro Suzuki heads into this season with practically more gold than Kay Jewelers. He has won six straight gold gloves, and now will have to do so from center field. I really like that idea since the cheapest seats at Safeco are in centerfield and beer alley is right behind the centerfield fence.

Even with all the money spent, there's still garage-sale value to be had this season.

Ebay, Griffey, \$13 bucks. Authentic Mariners jersey, and if I can find something like that, anything can happen including the Mariners pulling off this season in a big way.

## Calendar

### Baseball

4/5: vs Puget Sound 3p.m.  
 \*4/7: vs Western Oregon  
 1 p.m.  
 \*4/8: vs Western Oregon  
 NOON  
 \*4/9: vs Cal State  
 Stanislaus NOON  
 \*4/13: vs Northwest  
 Nazarene 1 p.m.  
 \*4/14: vs Northwest  
 Nazarene NOON  
 \*4/21: @ Western Oregon  
 1 p.m.  
 \*4/22: @ Western Oregon  
 NOON  
 \*4/28: vs St. Martin's  
 1 p.m.

### Softball

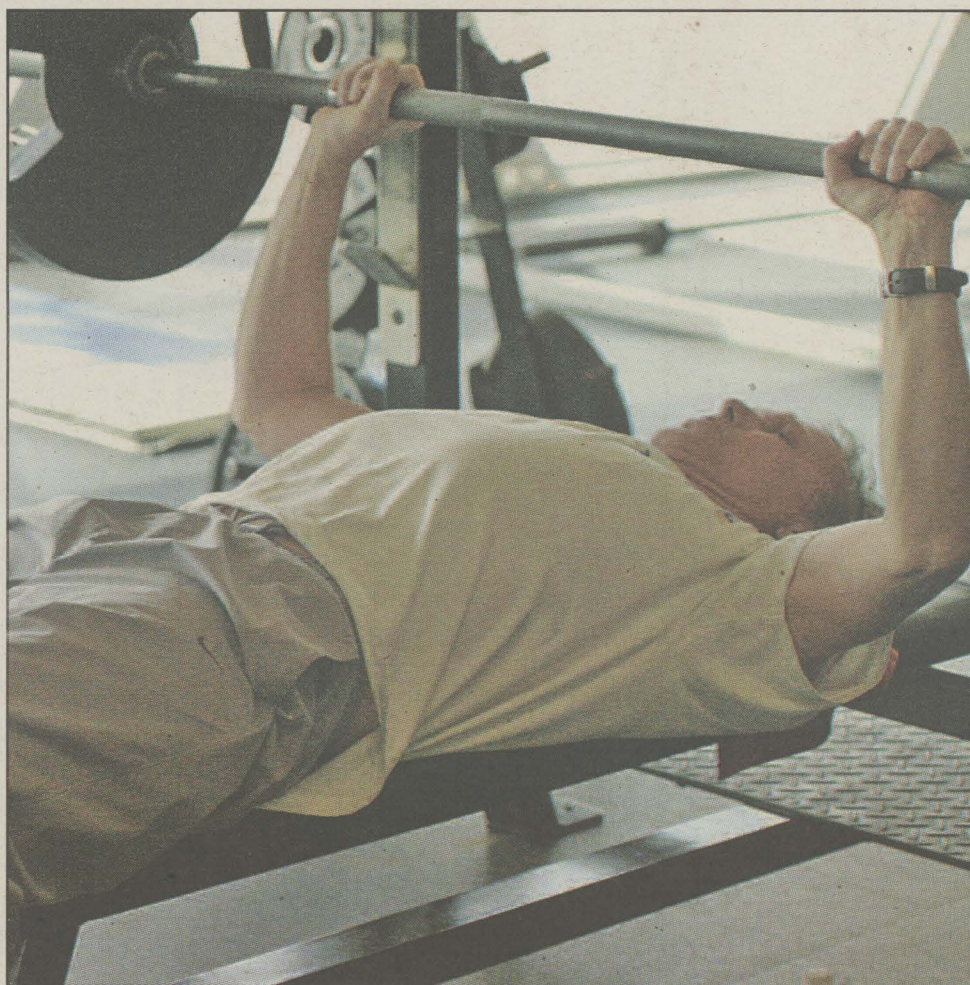
\*4/5: vs Western Oregon  
 2:30 p.m.  
 \*4/7: vs St. Martin's  
 NOON  
 \*4/9: @ North Idaho  
 1 p.m.  
 \*4/14: vs Northwest  
 Nazarene NOON  
 \*4/15: @ Western Wash.  
 1 p.m.  
 \*4/19: @ St. Martin's  
 2 p.m.  
 \*4/20: @ Western Oregon  
 2:30 p.m.  
 \*4/21: @ Western Oregon  
 11 a.m.

\* Double Header

### Track

4/6: @ Pelluer Invite  
 4/6-7: @ Willamette  
 Invite  
 4 p.m./10:30 a.m.  
 4/6-7: @ Spring Forward  
 Multi-Events  
 4/7: @ Ralph Vernacchia  
 Team Classic  
 10 a.m.

# Spring activities bloom in sunshine



Photos by Maggie Schmidt and Kareen Black/Observer

Central faculty and students taking advantage of warm weather activities from various locations around campus. From playing football on Barto lawn to biking around campus. Weather is expected to reach the 70s this weekend, giving students the opportunity to enjoy the sun.

The intramural sports deadlines are approaching,  
 but there is still time to get a team together!  
 The final deadline is April 11,  
 and sports begin on April 15.

## Pregnant?

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## WANTED:

### Summer Conference Services Assistant

Approximately 70 positions available in the following areas:

- Custodial, Laundry, Registration Office
- Must be able to work 40+ hours/wk.
- Wage: 8.25-9.25

Positions expected to begin on or before June 1 and end between Aug. 15 & Sept. 15, 2007

Pick up applications and job descriptions at  
 Tunstall Catering Office Mon-Fri 9AM-5 PM

Applications must be returned by April 30, 2007

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**3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, GARAGE W/S PAID.** Close to hospital and schools. \$1,000 per month. 1st, last and dep. 925-6326.

**IS YOUR MATH CLASS DIFFICULT?** Don't wait until after the test! Private tutoring available for all courses and skill levels. \$15/hr. Over 10 years experience. Call Paul, 925-5221 or email gamonp2004@yahoo.com to schedule an appointment.

**MOVING - MUST SELL! BLUE WATER 20' BOAT.** 1992, ski, fish, play. Well maintained, excellent shape. \$6000. 509-929-0889

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 A qualified candidate must demonstrate an understanding of GAAP, trialbalance entry, and account reconciliation. Must have the ability to datamine using Oracle systems and perform analysis in Excel when appropriate. Candidate must also demonstrate the ability to multi-task while supporting senior level staff accountants. Degreed required and prior work experience desired.  
 When applying please include expected graduation date and current GPA. Salaried position starting at \$2,850+per month. To apply, please send resume to Chief Accounting Officer, P.O. Box 2779, Wenatchee, WA 98807 or E-mail to david.millheisler@stemilt.com.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS**  
 Is your life affected by someone's drinking? Al-Anon is a support group, join us. Wednesday ? Noon Central Washington University at Student Health & Counseling Center 11th and Poplar, Wickerath Lounge, Ellensburg

**SUMMER CAMP JOBS** for men and women. Hidden Valley Camp (Granite Falls, WA) needs resident staff (6/16/07-8/24/07) Room/Board/Salary. Positions include: Counselors, RN, lifeguards, drivers, riding staff, kitchen staff, program staff and more. Spend your summer in a beautiful setting while in worthwhile employment. Contact us by phone: (425) 844-8896 or email: hiddenvalleycamp@earthlink.net for more information.

**SUMMER JOBS** - Receive contact information now for summer employment at US National Parks, Western Dude Ranches and Theme Parks. You must apply early. www.summerjob-research.org

**WEST WING SEASON ONE ON DVD** for sale. Best offer or interesting trade? 253-335-2226

**FREE TWIN MATTRESS.** Good condition 253-691-1887

**R U LOOKIN 4 A PHOTOGRAPHER?** Student photographer looking for work and to practice technique through a variety of jobs. Call Maggie 509-607-0089

**THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ART** invite you to attend the CWU Art Alumni Exhibition: Crossroads and Connections. The exhibition opens for the Ellensburg 1st Friday Art walk Friday, April 6 at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery and Gallery One Visual Arts Center. A special welcome reception is scheduled from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery. For more information visit [www.cwu.edu/~art/gallery.html](http://www.cwu.edu/~art/gallery.html).

## The Observer

provides free non-commercial ads for students on a space available basis. The non-student and commercial advertising rate is \$5 for the first 15 words and 20 cents per word after that. Email your ad to [pagec@cwu.edu](mailto:pagec@cwu.edu), and you will be contacted regarding charges.

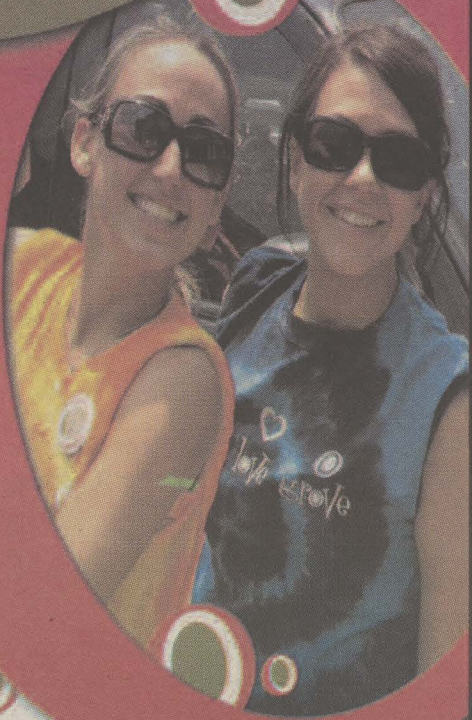
**DON'T FORGET TO DO YOUR TAXES! THEY ARE DUE APRIL 16!!!!**



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