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Central Washington University

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McIntyre announces Quirk as new provost

FREE, Take One

Another admin resigns

Paul Baker feels partially at fault for misuse of CWU credit cards

by Joseph Siemandel and Jason Davis

On Wednesday morning, Paul Baker, Central Washington University vice president of University Relations announced his resignation from Central effective on Feb. 29, 2008. According to Interim Vice President for University Relations Jen Gray, Baker stepped down to spend more time with family and because of the controversy surrounding the misuse of Foundation credit cards.

“He holds himself personally accountable for letting this situation with Julie Cloninger get out of hand,” Gray said.

Recently, two former University Relations staff members, Julie Cloninger, former vice president of development, and Nate Harris, a staff member with the alumni relations’ office, were found to have abused funds on the Central foundation credit card. The amount of credit card funds abuse was more than $10,000.

Baker, who ran the records from July 1, 2006, to Dec. 31, 2007, identified the $8,850 in charges that Cloninger was responsible for. In the week since Cloninger’s resignation, several reports have surfaced detailing not only the extent of the questionable charges but also the amount of time the university knew about the charges and their lack of disciplinary action.

According to a report describing an internal audit conducted by Margaret Smith of the CIA, charges were made between October 2004 and September 2007, ranging from personal clothing purchases to family vacations to Montana.

SEE BAKER PAGE 2

Keith Edie brings the stage life to students

Men upset Seawolves in last second of overtime

The Central Washington University

February 21, 2008 - volume 81, number 15

LEFT IN THE DARK

DSS students feel excluded during third week without transcribers

by Chelsea Krotzer

At first glance, McKenna Tinker is similar to any other Central Washington University senior. She takes a full load of classes and is planning to graduate this spring with her bachelor's degree. However, Tinker is not like all the rest. She, as well as seven other Central students, has a hearing impairment. Since she was a child, she used her shoulder-length brown hair to cover up her "plastic ears" to avoid the taunting of classmates on the playground. Those same plastic ears provided her the ability to hear something as simple as a cricket for the first time at the age of four.

“My Dad squatted down next to me and said, ‘Can you hear that?’” Tinker said. "I didn't know what [crickets] sounded like before. It was the sweetest, most romantic sound.

At 23, Tinker recently received a new pair of hearing aids and now has the ability to hear the click of a door handle for the first time.

SEE TRANSCRIBERS PAGE 3

Tears fell last Tuesday afternoon during a meeting discussing the options for providing accommodations for Central’s deaf and hearing-impaired students. From left: Cortney Peters, Mary Ebenal and Laurel Ebenal began to cry after Rob Harden, director of Disability Support Services and ADA compliance officer, left mid-meeting, claiming he didn’t “want to intimidate” the students. Five transcribers gave their 24-hour notice on Feb. 11.

Translator Andrew Brune signs for several hearing-impaired students during last Tuesday’s meeting. Next to him is a projection of the TypeWell system, used to aid DSS students.

Rob Harden addresses students’ concerns during their meeting Tuesday.
Quirk named Central’s new provost

Wayne Quirk

Baker: Administrator’s resignation sparks further controversy

continued from cover

During this time, many of the questionable charges surfaced and were made known to the accounting department. According to the report, normal procedure for dealing with this indictment involved notifying the card holder to repay the charges and reporting this to the vice president.

Smith noted that this procedure was "ineffective for repeated and excessive charges." According to the report, University officials were aware of Cloninger’s card misuse as early as December 2005, yet all allegations of indiscretion concerning the cards were denied and Cloninger was promoted this past June. Even on the eve of the controversy going public, the University issued and stood by the statement that Cloninger’s demotion was due to her desire for more family time.

Before his resignation, Baker did assemble a special work team headed by Gray aimed at reviewing fiscal policies and strengthening operational procedures.

Baker said that he appreciated the support CWU Jerilyn S. McIntyre pro­vided to ensure through fiscal reviews of records and was grateful for her support. In his letter of resignation he submitted to President McIntyre, Baker said he would return to Arizona and explore his options and return to his family home.

Since September 1 2002, Baker managed the University Relations division, which establishes and maintains relationships between the university and its donors, alumni and the public. Baker served as the vice president for university advancement at Northern Arizona University.

The University will appoint an inter­im vice president for University relation­ships as soon as possible.

Baker’s resignation had been a topic of conversation between him and Presi­dent Jerilyn McIntyre.

“We had been talking over the last couple of months about my expecta­tions,” McIntyre said. “He let me know last week he was considering resigning.”

McIntyre admitted that the timing of the resignation was a bit of a surprise.

“it’s good timing. The university can now move on with fresh leadership.”

JERILYN McINTYRE, CWU PRESIDENT

The Observer • is a class in which students are constantly learning how to interview, report and produce a newspaper.
Transcribers: DSS deals with lack of transcribers while students wait for appropriate accommodations

Continued from cover

Such new technologies have provided a door to what Tinker describes as the "beating world." Programs and accommodations in the classroom setting, such as ASL translators, note takers and the TypeWell system have given Tinker and other students like her the opportunity to interact the best they can with hearing students in a classroom setting.

TypeWell is a computer software system that involves having someone type what is being said in the classroom. The transcription is then sent wirelessly to the student who is reading another laptop. Students are then able to follow along with the discussion in class with a 10- to 15-second time lag, depending on the typing speed of the transcriber.

Up until Feb. 13, this system was in effect and accommodating students' needs. On Tuesday, Feb. 12, five of seven transcribers turned in their 24-hour notices to Rob Harden, the director of Disability Support Services (DSS) and American Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Officer.

Two transcribers were left, though one had an injury. The final transcriber is only a part-time employee.

The reason the transcribers resigned included a lack of confidence in Harden, as well as injuries, such as carpal tunnel, due to being overworked.

Harden said that limited information can be given because of personnel issues. According to Harden, DSS had no prior knowledge of the transcribers' resignation.

"We're in an odd position because the university is saying that we're not supposed to share a lot of information about this stuff," Wilson said. "Yet we know the students don't have the whole story and we would love to tell them what's going on.

Since then, the students have been left in the dark.

"It's heartbreaking to not get the education like everyone else - to be left out," Tinker said. "You're not alone, but you are. It brings me back when I was alone on the playground. It's not fair.

Tinker and five fellow hearing-impaired students expressed their concerns to Harden at a meeting last Tuesday.

Freshman undeclared Cortney Peters was among the students. She was recruited to Central based on the TypeWell system.

According to Peters, her high school years consisted of struggling in classes getting by with 2.95 and 3.25 without the use of TypeWell.

"I worked harder than any other 4.0 student would but I still didn't come out on top," Peters said.

"We basically became mute. We're unable to voice our opinion. We do have voices, but we can't use them if we are lost and confused.

Cortney Peters,
FRESHMAN, UNDECLARED

Once Peters came to Central, her GPA rose to a 3.6. She credits the improvement to the TypeWell system.

Currently, Peters' grades, as with the others, are in jeopardy.

"We basically became mute," Peters said to Harden during Tuesday's meeting. "We're unable to voice our opinion. We do have voices, but we can't use them if we are lost and confused."

According to Tinker, she recently received a failing grade on a project due to the lack of adequate accommodations.

"I can't keep rewriting my life," Tinker said. "I did that, my life would be a double life, trying to fix what I missed.

The students present at the meeting covered six main points that they wished to see happen, including the re-hiring of their former transcribers. Each of them averaged between two and five years' experience.

"I don't want to hire people who walk out on students with 24-hour notices," Harden said. "I think it's unprofessional and it's unethical.

Pam Wilson, associate director of disability support services, was also present during Tuesday's meeting.

"I know that this is really difficult for you guys because you don't have the facts," Wilson said. "If we could tell you, we'd look really good in the process.

According to Peters, the students felt the meeting was for them and their concerns. Included in the meeting was a demonstration of a new CART software system that could fix the current dilemma.

I wish we'd had more time to talk," Harden said. "I'm not sure if I'd had more time if it had been more helpful. It sounds like you're stonewalling but you're not, you're following policies and procedures of the institution you work for.

To the shock of the students, Harden left approximately 40 minutes into the meeting.

Prior to his leaving, Peters had commented on how she felt intimidated by Harden during a one-on-one meeting she had with him.

"I honestly don't believe I have the privilege to trust you enough to get this fixed," Peters said.

Harden claimed that he was frustrated by this comment, not understanding how someone could be intimidated by someone they hardly knew.

"You try not to intimidate them by letting other people [tale] and then get blamed for leaving the meeting," Harden said. "It's awkward at best. It's awkward.

According to Wilson, Harden's leave was planned ahead of time.

Kyle Gilliss, a TypeWell transcriber, left the meeting the same time Harden did, claiming that 40 minutes of typing was too much for him.

Gilliss' leaving concerned the students because without TypeWell, some of the students could not follow along with what was being said during the meeting.

CART was used instead of TypeWell as a demonstration. It lasted for one hour and was actually implemented in classrooms yesterday.

Harden pointed out that CART was not being used as a replacement for TypeWell, but as a technological addition.

CART works similarly to TypeWell, though it takes words verbatim and transcribes them into a caption on a computer screen.

Professors and students would speak into a microphone that would then be written up by a captionist hired by the company.

Harden and Wilson informed students they could file a complaint through the Office of Equal Opportunity.

"The institution is protected," Harden said. "Our hearts are with the students, not the legal stuff and I wish it would end."
As the quarter comes to an end, we take a look at the $S & A$ revises policy about fund requests

Committee worries about overspending by Kevin Ospahl Staff reporter

The Services and Activities (S&A) Fees Committee revised its policy and proposed a new continuity plan on Wednesday to make it easier for providers to get the funds they request. The new plan will allow for the distribution of up to $10,000 in funds per provider for services. The committee recommended the policy changes to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Committee member Wendy Williams, professor of philosophy, explained the reason for the shortfalls. "Providers given numerical rather than letter grades and the effects of reducing with-drawals and incompletes."

Other ideas discussed included class-rank system, sharing information about grade distribution among the different departments, and creating a database for self-correction of grades.

Finally, Howard is also working with the Academic Affairs Committee to research the effect of numerical versus letter grades. A proposal was made to include a new location for classes. The committee will make final changes to its policy so it can be sent for approval from the Board of Trustees. The final draft will include the priority-based funding created by Student Funds Financial Management.

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The S&A policy revision is a work in progress. If approved, Central’s academic departments, clubs and campus services will be able to get more of the money they requested and need.

The committee will make final changes to its policy so it can be sent for approval from the Board of Trustees by April 16. Committee member member Wendy Williams, professor of philosophy, explained the reason for the shortfalls. "Providers given numerical rather than letter grades and the effects of reducing withdrawals and incompletes."

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Aviation department to order new flight training equipment

by Sarah Hazel
Staff reporter

In this less, not necessarily out with the old, the aviation department is currently in the process of ordering new flight training devices in order to improve the technology available to students.

According to Amy Hoover, Ph.D., associate professor and chair for the aviation department, that is looking at different types of Approved Aviation Training Devices (AATDs). These devices are not flight simulators; the average cost of a simulator is between $15-20 million, far exceeding the budget allotted for the project.

The current instruments used by flight technology students are Flight Training Devices (FTDs), which are more expensive than AATDs. FTD prices range from $120,000 and $800,000. Two of the training devices will be replaced with AATDs due to budget concerns.

"What we are looking at are called AATDs, which serve the same purpose as an FTD, but usually don't have the fidelity or some of the features of an FTD," Hoover said via e-mail. "In a nutshell, we are doing the best we can with a limited amount of money to get students what they need to train to meet curricular requirements, and to be competitive with other colleges, universities and flight schools."

The budget for the proposed purchase has not yet confirmed until the city council meets to review options related to Bill Yearwood, director of facilities planning and construction. The cost of the new devices will be covered by state capital funds.

The new devices will not be placed in the current Flight Technology Center due to size and accessibility issues, according to Yearwood.

"We're still in the process of developing where they are going to be located," Yearwood said.

Right now, there are two FTDs located in the Flight Technology Center. According to Teresa Sloan, associate professor of flight technology, these are two that are used for initial training of students who are not going to be replaced, located in Mertz Hall. The two that will be replaced are larger training devices located in the Flight Technology Center; a piston twin engine, and a turboprop simulator.

"They were 16-years-old and they're well beyond their warranty period, although we get good support from the company that we purchased them from," Sloan said. "They're still getting to the point where they need more maintenance. And the aviation world has changed dramatically in the past 10 years as far as the radars that are being used in airline type operations, in fact even in small aircrafts, and so we're upgrading the fleet to keep up with the changes in avionics."

According to Hoover, the Frasca 242 piston twin engine and the Frasca 242T turboprop are extremely outdated.

"The industry doesn't use that type anymore," Hoover said via e-mail. "It was developed back in the day using an old Apple computer or a BetaMax VCR in today's world."

The project is being facilitated by the aviation department, the purchasing department and Chris Pratz, the information technology representative who maintains the instruments.

The aviation department is attempting to determine exactly what type of new devices to purchase.

"One of the criteria for the piston twin is to try and get something that is similar to what the students are using for their twin engine training," Sloan said. "There's a whole mix of things we're taking into account, including what our industry partners currently have, and then we're looking at ultimately getting something in the jet field which we haven't had before, and expanding our classes more to incorporate that as well."

According to Jesse Hallenbeck, junior flight technology major, the new devices are necessary and will benefit all of the flight technology students.

"What the flight tech [aviation] department is right now; it's in growing pains," Hallenbeck said. "It's starting to get more and more students and I think that, considering the tuition we pay, we are in need of some new equipment. They have a good program here, they have a lot going for them, but they really need to invest in a little more."

The decision on which training devices to purchase, according to Sloan, should be made by the end of this quarter. Once the decision is made, the aviation department will work with the purchasing department regarding requests for proposals.

"The funds available for the purchase may not be able to cover the cost of the jet training device," Sloan said. However, according to Sloan, purchasing a jet device some time in the near future is high on the aviation department's list of priorities.

"Unfortunately, we probably only have the money to purchase two out of the three," Sloan said. "So that's what we're deliberating on right now, what we need."

Ellensburg city council meets to discuss local zoning concerns

by Ian Tracy
Staff reporter

Land-use issues dominated discussion at the Ellensburg City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce President Bob Hansen, proposed reassessing the types of business that are currently allowed to build within the city's light industrial zones.

Hansen hopes to follow the example of west side communities that take a more relaxed approach to light industrial zones, especially with industries that are potential polluters, like electronics manufacturing.

The issue was referred to the city's Planning Commission for further review.

In a separate discussion, council members reviewed a proposal by the Anderson Hay and Grain Company to purchase approximately 100 acres from the city for future development. Although Anderson Hay and Grain made their desire known two years ago, the two parties have yet to reach an agreement.

Council member Obie O'Brien expressed concern that the issue highlighted a more serious lack of coordination between the city with respect to its overall development goals.

"I think we need to develop a real model of where we're going," O'Brien said.

The council called for a special study session to review options related to Anderson's request as well as overall development in the city.

ASCWU-BOD Vice President for Equity and Community Service Derrick Peacock addressed the council regarding existing conditions between Central campus and the new Grove apartments on Airport Road. Currently, the area has no street lights or sidewalks.

Peacock also expressed concern that the current speed limit of 35 miles per hour was too fast for the increased volume of traffic created by the apartment complex.

City Manager Ted Barkley acknowledged the problems and noted that talks were ongoing between the officials from Ellensburg, Kittitas County and the university to find solutions.

Earlier in the meeting, the council approved the applications of Susan Grindle for service on the Landmarks and Design Commission and Robert Temlison for the Arts Commission.

Ellensburg weather

Today: High: 48°F Low: 31°F 20% chance of precipitation

Cloudy

Tomorrow: High: 48°F Low: 27°F 20% chance of precipitation

Mostly cloudy

Saturday: High: 48°F Low: 27°F 20% chance of precipitation

Mostly cloudy

Sunday: High: 48°F Low: 31°F 20% chance of precipitation

Mostly cloudy

Mountain pass report

Today: Snow level: 3,500 ft Chance of rain and snow. Temperatures will be in the mid 30s with light winds.

Tomorrow: Snow level: 3,500 ft Snow and rain mix. Temperatures will be in the mid 30s with light winds.

Weekend: Snow level: 2,500 ft Partly Sunny

Gas Prices

West Interstate exit 106: Lowest Price: $3.05

Dolarway

Mid-town Eburg: Lowest Price: $3.07

Corner of 8th Avenue and Main Street

East Interstate Exit 109: Lowest Price: $3.07

West Side of Canyon Way

Road to the White House results

Democrats

Barack Obama 1,301 delegates

Hillary Clinton 1,259 delegates

John McCain 918 delegates

Republicans

Mike Huckabee 217 delegates

These numbers were accurate as of press time.
THE ARMY ADVANTAGE FUND.
BECAUSE SOLDIERS DESERVE MORE.

Now the Army gives you more choices for your future. Earn up to $40,000 to start the business of your dreams or buy the home you always wanted. Log onto goarmy.com/aaf to learn more about the Army Advantage Fund.
ASCWU-BOD elections: Student involvement not too much to ask for

One would think that with seven positions open for student government at Central, more than seven students would run. Forgive me - that more than eight students would run.

Last year's pitiful turnout proved otherwise as the elections reached an all-time low. Only one ASCWU-BOD position actually had a worthwhile campaign last spring. Current Vice President for Student Life and Facilities Pedro Nazarea used his “Voice for Pedros” slogan to push past Will Montgomery last May.

Despite the pathetic turnout of candidates, students running uncontested for positions still made an effort to get their name out to the student body. However, come election day, a humbly low number of students voted - roughly 10 percent of the student body (the same as in the 2006 election). It’s a number that has been steadily declining for the past few years.

This number is disappointing because a candidate is required to get 500 signatures even to run in the first place. With around 900 students voting, those initial 500 students will win an election, given it’s even contested in the first place.

Whether it’s a lack of advertising or a lack of interest - or a combination of both - Central’s elections are suffering not only in numbers, but in candidate-quality as well.

By the end of next week, the current BOD hopes to approve the elections packets and make them available to students wishing to run this year. That gives people roughly two months to apply before the normal April deadline. There are always reasons why each position shouldn’t have multiple candidates.

I constantly hear people complaining about things at the school - things that students have the capability to change. Yet those same students don’t seem to care enough to vote let alone run for student government. You can’t expect to see change if you’re not willing to help it happen.

The 2004 elections saw five candidates run for BOD president alone. It would be nice to see those numbers again, even if it means being flooded with promotional flyers to and from classes during the two weeks prior to election day. More numbers equal more awareness. More awareness equals more involvement. We can all see where this leads.

Last year, The Observer’s coverage of the elections was mediocre at best. There was a single article published on election day, too late to bring much awareness to the student body. This year we have increased coverage, whether the BOD are actually doing anything worthwhile or not. Our goal is to inform students about their government, as well as their ability to run for various positions. I can only hope that more people will run this year.

There are many positive aspects to being involved in the BOD. First and foremost, your voice is heard. Not only can you speak up for your beliefs, but you can pass on the thoughts of others and put their views to work.

It’s also a huge resume builder. It shows that you aren’t afraid to lead, and that you can ideally work with others. Plus, I’m willing to bet the paychecks aren’t half bad for a college student.

Sure, the positions take time, dedication and an interest in politics. There are a lot of meetings involved, and I’d imagine quite a bit of paperwork at times as well. There is the pressure of pleasing everybody when the task is impossible. Plain and simple, the BOD isn’t for everybody.

However, on a campus with more than 9,000 students, I can guarantee that there are more than seven students who are qualified to run.

The seven current BOD members stated that they are willing to answer any questions students may have regarding each position. There is information on the ASCWU Web site (www.cwu.edu/~ascwu), and the BOD office is open during the day, I, for one, don’t want to see a lame repeat of last year. So I would encourage students to take advantage of the opportunities before them. You’re only in college for so long, and you pay to be here. There is no reason not to get involved.

In December of 2006, while I was a student at Liberty University in Virginia, my roommate and I went for a drive to pay rent.

We were on our merry way home, enjoying the festive Christmas lights along an empty four-lane street through a large residential area when it was going to be at the expense of the front end of my Jeep. How inconsiderate of him.

I was caught so off-guard by a deer racing toward me that, despite my efforts to avoid colliding, he was just too damn close. I caught his right shoulder with my left lights. What remained of them didn’t work any more.

His face smashed into the center of my hood, where he left some tooth marks in the paint, along with a nice dent for me to remember him by. His rear bashed my left fender to the point where I couldn’t even open the door to get out. To top it off, I no longer had a bumper or a grill; they broke off completely.

To say the least, I was pretty pissed off when I saw the mangled pieces of the poor Jeep skidding down the street along with a waste of a beautiful white-tailed buck. But I guess the deer got what was coming to him for trying to eat my hood.

There was also a bad deal because I had to drive across the country to come home to Washington. Winter quarter at Central started in less than two weeks and I was out of cash. I had to find some way to fix the damages fast so I could leave on time. This was a somewhat interesting, yet expensive experience. At least I got a deer that season. It cost me more than usual, but I got a nice white-tailed buck. It was fun, I admit, but the fact is that wrecking your car and possibly injuring yourself and others is not. I’m glad no one got hurt - except for the deer. I was just lucky it wasn’t a small child that ran out in front of me. Then I would have been really late for winter quarter.

The next time you find yourself complaining about the ridiculously slow speed limits in Ellensburg, consider the fact that it’s for your own safety as well as the crosswalkers, jaywalkers and sometimes, the wildlife. I was only going 35 mph when I hit that deer and he didn’t make it. If 20 or 25 mph is too slow for you, try walking. You might even get where you’re going a little faster.

Observer - Opinion - February 21, 2008

The Observer welcomes brief letters (300 words or fewer) from readers of The Observer on current issues. Letters must include the author’s full name and Central Washington University affiliation, year and major for students, department for faculty and staff or degree and year graduated for alumni. The Observer will not publish letters that fail to provide previous letters, unless they offer meaningful additions to the discussion. All letters become property of The Observer and may be edited for length, style, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially libelous elements. Letters may be reprinted at cwoobserver@gmail.com.

The Observer Opinion Forum

Designed to generate discussion and encourage reader interaction with The Observer.

Question: What are your views on Central’s parking system? What are some suggestions you have for change or improvement?

Please e-mail your answers along with your year and major to The Observer’s e-mail at cwoobserver@gmail.com

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Alistair Patrick, senior family studies major, climbs the Recreation Center's rock wall during last year's "Outdoors for All." Patrick has spina bifida and has no movement below the waist and very little feeling. He is a member of the student group "ABLE."

Central strives to show they care

by Brooke Mortensen
Staff reporter

Central has made adjustments and shown support in various ways around campus for those with disabilities over the years.

"With the Disabilities Services Office, it's really easy to help and assist as much as we can," Steve Waldeck, director of the Recreation Center, said.

Much of the planning for the building of the Recreation Center on campus was based on how accessible it would be for wheelchair users.

"We were sure to look at how much room there was to get between machines and thought out the traffic patterns of the people using the facility," Waldeck said.

The elevators were put in for those who cannot access the stairs. In addition, the locker rooms were made without doors for easier entrance and exit.

The Recreation Center also has three adaptive fitness machines that allow people to remove the seats and bring in a wheelchair. These machines make it possible to do assisted arm and leg exercises. Even the track is made in a more accessible way.

"We have had it made as flat as possible and have our lanes labeled so that those slower are on the inside so that they can hold onto the handrail," Waldeck said.

The Recreation Center has also taken part in hosting the Quad Rugby games, put on by Access, Belford said. "The Quad Rugby games began as a scrimmage between a Portland and Oregon team and it was such a hit it became an annual event every year," Pam Wilkson, associate director of Central's Disability Support Services (DSS), said.

ABLE also organizes and puts on Disability Awareness Week, which features the Quad Rugby games, speakers, workshops, and a chance to talk with disabled high school students about college life.

"On the last day of Disability Awareness Week there is a conference held for the high school students," Wilson said. "A panel of Central students talks to the high schoolers and gives them advice."

There is also an adaptive technology lab on campus in Blanchill, room 211, where students can receive training on the equipment and the software.

"This computer laboratory provides a wide range of cutting-edge technologies for CWU students," Doug Ryder, academic facilities planning officer, said. "We're very proud of the assistance in learning it provides."

Central's DSS is recognized by many DSS programs to provide authoritative help here. I got very little of the help I needed when I was at home. And I've got absolutely nothing of the kind of help I need in terms of technology devices like Dragon Naturally Speaking writing software and Time Management Mobile Assistive technology and ensure equal access to university programs and services by providing flexible exams, early registration and help with note taking.

"The capability is there if it's needed," Waldeck said.

Disability Central student makes it her way

by Nora Duncan
Staff reporter

"She's just a normal girl who just wants to fit in and be friends with people too," Shavonne Spaetig, education major, ABLE secretary and friend of Shavonne. "She thinks and acts normally. Other students do not look at her differently than when an abled-body student calls her name."

Belford was born with spina bifida and hydrocephalus, conditions that result in the fluid in her brain being unable to naturally go down her spine, rendering her unable to walk.

"I got my first wheelchair when I was three," Belford said. "I was born premature. My mother had a hard time adjusting to my disability."

Belford entered the Tri-Cities when she was 10 and experienced a whole different world in her new school district.

"You could say I was popular at my old school," Belford said. "I was accepted by my peers. But when I moved to the Tri-Cities, I was treated coldly and rejected by my fellow students. I couldn't start school with everyone else because the school district said they weren't prepared. I've been told 'no, no, no' by the Richland School district the whole time."

"People were making assumptions," Belford said. "They weren't taking time to get to know me as a person. People fear what they don't know and understand, and that's what I experienced my whole life."

However, life has improved for her since she came to Central.

"I'm 10 times happier here than I am at home," Belford said. "I've got friends that see me for what I really am, and I have authoritative help here. I got very little of both of those things at home. And I've got Tris."

Tris is a state-funded program for disabled low-income college students. However, the number of participants is low because so few students know about it. The office is located in Herzl Hall.

However, not everything has been easy for Belford since her recent move into the residence halls.

"Because this place is really snowy compared to where I came from, trying to deal with the ice and the slush is the biggest challenge," Belford said. "In the worst case scenario, I have a hard time getting inside proper walking arrangements for me in classes I have to arrange that myself. But the maintenance staff seems to respond quicker when I call them than when an abled-bodied student calls them. If my room isn't in top shape I'm in big trouble. It isn't like I can fix my room problems as easy as an abled-bodied person."

Though walking arrangements have been a challenge for Belford, trouble in the classroom is nothing new to her; coupled with her spina bifida is a learning disability.

"I just learn math a little slower than most," Belford said. "I can't comprehend things as well as other students, but it just makes me work harder."

Belford is the first to formally graduate in her family.

"In middle school they told me there was no way I'd graduate on time," Belford said. "But I did. Not only that, I graduated in the top 60 percent of my class."

Belford has stayed active in her academic career, working closely with Access, Belford said. "I've had a hard time getting proper walking arrangements for me in classes I have to arrange that myself. But the maintenance staff seems to respond quicker when I call them than when an abled-bodied student calls them. If my room isn't in top shape I'm in big trouble. It isn't like I can fix my room problems as easy as an abled-bodied person."

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Performance group owns its moves

by DaJonica Wilson
Staff reporter

Color guard is a competitive group that uses equipment to supplement its movements. The group incorporates several styles and gears into the show to create a unique experience for the audience.

"It brings dance and theater and all sorts of things together into one activity," said Tim Donnell, junior English education major and color guard co-captain. They perform during halftime at football games in the fall and spend winter doing competitions and performing at basketball games.

Central's color guard gives students a chance to coach, choreograph and perform their own shows.

"Every show that we create is ours," said Tyler McLain, sophomore elementary education major and co-captain. The co-captains, who both come with their own experiences in dance, write the choreography for each performance. McLain has been dancing since she was 4 years old and has experience with jazz, lyrical and hip-hop. Now, in addition to leading color guard, she dances for Central's Orchesis dance group.

Donnell, who started color guard in high school and has been on the team since he was a freshman, initially chose Central because it is the only university in the state with a color guard.

During practices, the group runs through its routines and works on perfecting their technique with equipment. Safety is crucial when working with heavy rifles or awkward flags.

"It's a lot easier to hurt yourself than with other types of dance, because you're tossing things in the air and then catching them with proper technique, and then sometimes you'll jam your finger on your rifle," Donnell said. "When I was in high school, a girl broke her nose in the middle of an assembly with a flag."

Donnell helps his team practice being safe by knowing when to take a break. He suggested to his team to "release your bad energy toward your rifle" during a recent practice.

With so much movement going on, it can be difficult to keep the 14-person team in sync with the music and with each other.

"The hardest part is being with so many people, cleaning the work and making sure we're all the same," Michelle Manry, freshman English education major, said. Anyone can join color guard at any time. If interested, contact the music or marching band department.

Carol Bubulaker, junior family and consumer science education major, joined because she wanted to get out and do something athletic.

"I wanted to do something besides sit around in my apartment and watch TV," Bubulaker said. "I love the fact that it's athletic and takes endurance -- it takes a lot of hard work."

This Saturday, the dance group will compete in its first competition of the season at Embry-Riddle Secondary School in Silverdale, Wash. Donnell expects that it will be a great show.

"We anticipate doing very well," Donnell said. "I'm confident. This year is a remarkable jump ahead of what we've done in the past and I'm expecting to be well prepared."

The color guard is performing tonight during halftime of the girls' basketball game at Nicholson Pavilion. The game starts at 7 p.m.

Students talk fair marriage rights

by Doona Bae
Staff reporter

The fight for same-sex marriage rights continue, showing that gay couples want the same marriage rights as heterosexual couples.

"Freedom to Marry" week, from Tuesday, Feb. 12, to Thursday, Feb. 14, was not just at Central Washington University.

"Freedom to Marry is a national event," Natalie Washington, education coordinator for GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance), said. "It's a full movement that comes together to work for marriage equality."

GALA is an organization designed for gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual students. It is designed to educate students on unconventional issues in a safe environment.

"Same-sex couples exist in society," Washington said. "They're in very stable relationships. But they're not given the same rights as heterosexual couples."

There are 1,138 federal rights for married heterosexual couples, such as having sick leave to care for their partner. Diesal certificates will also recognize them as a domestic partner. However, they cannot file jointly for tax returns. They don't have the right not to testify against their partner, nor are they ensured automatic respect for the relationship in other states.

To raise awareness of this issue, Jen Ham, a political programmer for the Ellensburg Planned Parenthood, talked about the evolution of marriage.

On Tuesday, Feb. 12, there was a "Speak Out" in the Student Union Recreation Center (SURC) Pit. On Wednesday, Feb. 13, there was a couple's panel in the SURC. Two couples talked about their experiences as same-sex couples.

"I don't understand why we have to be treated different," Ayla Matthews, sophomore sociology major, said. "Love is love."

Even if same-sex couples get a domestic partnership in Washington state, it may or may not be recognized in other states. Washington state does not recognize marriages entered into by same-sex couples in other states, either. So those couples have to register in Washington state to receive the benefits provided by Washington law.

On the night of Feb. 13, there was a bachelor/bachelorette party. The Freedom to Marry ceremony and reception were held on Feb. 14 in the SURC. There, both dressed nicely, Allie McFee and Molly Riordan went before the Rev. Jane Newall and carried out a symbolic marriage.

"It's to raise awareness," McFee said.

But when they cross into marriage ... I have a serious problem with that," Rex Newall has been overseeing the Freedom to Marry ceremony at Central for 10 years.

"Central is one of the first universities to do it," Newall said.

However, not all students were happy about the demonstration.

"Marriage was defined by God to be between a man and a woman," Jonathan Thorsvik, senior computer science/ electrical engineering major, said. "I personally think civil unions are okay.

The mock interviews will be conducted by Director of Employee Services Lori Simmon, from the Federal Way School District, and Assistant Superintendent Steve Coal from the Wenatchee School District, said San ­dra Stewart, program assistant for the career center. "They will conduct a panel where they will ask questions typical of what a school district would ask them, and the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions as well."

Before the Career Fair starts, students will have an opportunity to attend workshops put on by career counselors the week before the event. These workshops will teach students specific skills they will need in order to be successful in the education work place such as creating cover letters and resumes, and honing interviewing skills.

"The more information our students can collect, the better they can make decisions," Johnson said. "We are always looking for ways to support them in what they are doing." Held for the first time in the SURC Ballroom, the Education Career Fair is a popular event, and would usually fill Black Hall, where it has been held in previous years. Over 100 students are expected to attend the fair this year, and the benefits of those who participate in previous years.

"The biggest advantage of attending is face to face contact with the school district," said Emily Fehlen, a career advisor, associate director of Career Services. "Any time a student can do this it is much more effective."

For more information on the Education Career Fair, or the career workshops prior to the event, contact Central Career Services at 963-1921. 
Edie: teaching the way of the stage

by Kayla Schrader
Staff reporter

In ninth grade, while being driven to school in his hometown of Mattawa, Wash., Keith Edie leaned forward and announced to his mother and father that he would be auditioning for the next local community theater production. It was then that his journey to the stage began.

Edie received his B.A. in theatre arts while attending Central and later attended Florida State University, where he received his MFA in acting.

Edie joined Central's theatre department as a lecturer in the fall of 2007 and now fills the role of teaching five theatre courses. He also performs in various productions such as "A Christmas Carol."

In addition, Edie coaches Central candidates competing for the Irene Ryan Scholarship who, with his assistance, prepare monologues and scenes in hopes of making it past the first two rounds of competition and on to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival finals in Washington, D.C.

"Being on the other side of the desk has been very eye-opening," Edie said. "I learn so much more about acting from teaching it. Having to articulate concepts and ideas to students solidifies them in my mind." Edie has been inspired by both his father and Wesley Van Tassel, who now teaches in phased retirement and worked as Central's theatre chair when Edie attended as a student. Tassel taught Edie what it means to be a professional in the business.

Through his own experiences in the theater business, Edie has learned always to keep a thick skin and strong perseverance.

"You've got to be able to take the hits and stick with it," Edie said.

Samantha Birkland, junior costume design and theatre management major, said, "He relates well to the students because he went to Central himself."

Leslee Caul, director of marketing and development for the theatre department, feels Edie is an outstanding undergraduate. According to Caul, Edie has successfully established himself and the students are fortunate to have him and his "vast wealth of knowledge."

Keith Edie directs students in the Basic Acting class he teaches Tuesday and Thursday. This year marks Edie's first as an instructor at CWU.

Samantha Birklid, junior costume design and theatre management major, spends her Monday nights as Edie's teaching assistant for Theatre 101.

"He is very funny and personable," Birklid said. "He relates well to the students because he went to Central himself."

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Information Session
Thursday, Feb. 28
7 - 8 p.m.
Central Washington University
Student Union (Room 135)

Life is calling. How far will you go?
Inside Afghanistan: a chance for redemption

Based on one of the most acclaimed novels in recent history, Khaled Hosseini’s “The Kite Runner,” the movie by the same name is a profound and emotional tale of friendship, family, devastating mistakes and redeeming love. It is a fascinating historical saga set in 20th-century Kabul, Afghanistan. In 1978, Amir, played by Zekeria Ebrahimi, and Hassan, played by Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada, are young boys living in Kabul. Ali, played by Nabi Tanha, works as servants for Amir and his father, Baba, played by Homayoun Ershadi. Despite the difference between their classes, the boys share a strong friendship.

Amir is the son of a powerful public figure, while Hassan is the child of the family’s caretaker. Hassan is loyal to a fault, protecting Amir from bullies. One of those bullies points out that part of Amir seems embarrassed to have a servant for a friend. Yet they are inseparable, and whether combining their powers to win a local kite-flying contest or carving their names into the bark of a tree, theirs is a friendship sure to stand the test of time—or so they thought.

After a victory in a kite-flying competition, Amir’s friendship is put to the test when he witnesses something horrible happen to his friend, as he watches from a distance without helping. His guilt pushes him to try to get rid of Hassan and his father so that he wouldn’t have to look in the eye and feel ashamed every day.

Later on, the Russian invasion takes Amir and his father out of Afghanistan and into San Francisco, putting an end to Amir and Hassan’s friendship.

Years pass and a now middle-aged Amir, played by Khalid Abdalla, marries and becomes a successful author, but nothing he does can change the guilt he still feels due to what happened back in Afghanistan. Thoughts of what he could have done haunt him all the days of his life, until suddenly, the photo rings. Amir returns to a Kabul he barely recognizes, where he is introduced to the Talib’s iron-fist rule to face the dark secrets that still haunt him and take one last daring chance to set things right.

This is a very dramatic and emotional movie. The use of music is outstanding throughout—at times somber, at others joyous, earning the movie an Academy Award nomination for Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Score). Furthermore, the ensembles of actors in “The Kite Runner” is exceptional. Even though most of the actors are unknown to the American public, with the exception of Shaun Taub (“Crash”), the acting is captivating. Homayoun Ershadi, who plays Amir’s father, is a respected actor in Iran and is dazzling in his performance.

Some parts of the movie could almost be considered as an attempt to put the public on what is going on in Afghanistan. It also gives a reality check to what the Taliban has done to Afghanistan and its people. It is almost impossible not to be affected by what you see in this movie. On the other hand, the movie sketches a smart and subtle portrait of Kabul before the fall—before the Soviet tanks rolled in, before the Taliban took over, back when Afghanistan’s soul belonged to more than its mul­lahs.

 Altogether, the Golden Globe nominees for the best foreign language film, Marc Forster’s “The Kite Runner,” is one of the year’s best movies. It is an emotional and heartwarming movie that will have you coming back for more even after it’s over.

“The Kite Runner” is an important film for our modern world because it shows us more than just the story. It is a reminder that show the reality of war, and what really happens to the people who live through it, not just action movies that glamorize the violence. I highly recommend reading the book in addition because the book goes into much more detail. Some critics say that something was lost in translation. But if you don’t bring the baggage of the novel into the screen­ing, you will be very moved.

Committee: Local outdoorsmen with disabilities gain a political voice

Manager of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. "We want everyone to be able to recreate in the manner they choose.

Kane has been a member of the Fish and Wildlife Commission since November of 1999. She is an active supporter of the formation of this committee.

"The purpose of the committee is not just about the sports, but rather allowing friends and family to recreate together," Kane said.

The limitations that disabled individuals live with are a fact of life, but through cooperative effort with the state department at large, the state government strives for accommodation.

According to the WDFW Web site, in its mission to "provide sound stewardship of fish and wildlife" through leadership, sustainable management, policy development and public interaction. This advisory committee ensures equal representation.

"Keeping this kind of thing going is very important," said Bryan Nuss, state fisheries biologist for LGL Northwest Research Associates. "Writing your representation with your support is the best way to be involved.

Along with being an avid outdoor sportsman, Nuss is also an individual living with a disability. Born with a condition known as subluxation, Nuss lives with a permanent partial dislocation of the shoulder due to an underdeveloped socket. Despite his interest in the sport, Nuss' involvement with archery and bow hunting came to a halt after an incident caused by his disability.

"I was using a bow and my shoulder popped out when I drew back," Nuss said. "The arrow fired off-kilter. It was a dangerous situation. After this happened I said, 'OK, that's it for me.'"

Working with the WDFW, Nuss became involved with the advisory committee, and as a result was issued a special permit allowing the use of a crossbow instead of traditional archery equipment.

"I would've lost access to archery if it weren't for this opportunity," Nuss said. "It's given me and my son something to do together."

In a report to the Legislature, as stated in a bill analysis from the Washington State House of Representatives, the Commission stated that "the advisory committee presented information that led to rule-making decisions that benefited the community of disabled hunters, fishermen and wildlife viewers.

Based on this analysis, the status of the committee was changed from a pilot project—requiring periodic evaluation and extension—into a permanent entity of the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

"We've had a lot of hunters give us positive feedback [about the changes]," Kane said. "It's nice getting that feedback because it lets us know we're accomplishing something."

College Student Starves to death

Well, we don’t want this to happen to YOU, so at Wing Central’s Roadhouse Grill, we came up with the most amazing breakfast buffet ever. It is full of mouth watering ingredients made from scratch: like our Prime Rib Hash, Country Fried Potatoes, Eggs Benedict, Pancakes, Waffles, French Toast, Biscuits and Gravy, Chicken Fried Steak, Fresh Fruit, Sandwiches, and the list goes on and on...

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Red Robin Matterson
Sports

Bryce Daub bringing strong effort to Wildcats

Women's hoops drop two more to GNAC leaders

Wildcats upset #4 Alaska-Anchorage on last second lay-in

Streaking Wildcats

From left to right: Senior guard Nate Jackson, junior guard Giovonne Woods, senior guard Tyler Monk, junior forward Nate Sadewasser and junior guard Brandon Foote celebrate in the closing seconds of a 74-72 victory against #4 Alaska-Anchorage.

Photos by Brianne Jette / Observer

by Marc Boese
Staff reporter

Looking to keep their winning streak alive and get back into playoff contention, the Central Washington Wildcats faced off against Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) and Alaska-Anchorage (UAA) last week.

Alaska-Fairbanks is second to last in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) and had already lost to the Wildcats this year. Alaska, however, is in sole possession of first place in the conference and is also ranked fourth in the nation in Division II. Before the game, the Seawolves were on a 18-game winning streak, a school and GNAC record. UAF had not lost to any D-II opponent so far this year. The Seawolves 70-3, 11-0

The pivotal match-up of the weekend took place Saturday night against the University of Alaska-Anchorage. UAA had not lost to any D-II opponent so far this year. The Seawolves (20-3, 11-0 GNAC) beat the Wildcats 78-73 in Alaska, but Central started this game looking for the upset.

As the number one and two teams in the GNAC manned up at tip-off, the players came out with high levels of adrenaline but also nerves as each team did not score for almost the first three minutes of action.

Central's junior guard Colton Monti and junior forward Brandon Foote both hit three-pointers early to get the Wildcats on the board.

Down 16-12, UAA began to figure out Central's aggressive defense and went on an 18-2 run to take a 12-point lead, their largest of the night. Although Central was able to contain UAA's triple threat - guard Chris Bryant, forward McCade Olsen and forward Carl Arts - in the first half, guard Luke Cooper was able to lead the way for the Seawolves with his eight first-half points - 20 total - and seven assists.

With only 35 seconds left in the half, Central made four straight points in 15 seconds to close the gap. Junior forward Jake Beitinger scored off an offensive rebound to get within five.

On the inbound pass, Foote stole the ball and quickly flipped it to junior forward Matt Penoncello for an old-fashioned three-point play. Ending the half with an 11-4 run, Central went into the locker room down 34-29.

"[Coach said] to just stay poised," senior forward Bryce Daub said. "A lot of times, against a great team like that, they're going to make runs on you and they did. They kept it close, so in these types of games you just got to make sure to keep your head on straight and take care of business."

The teams came out for the second half knowing this game could come down to the last seconds. The lead changed several times.

A lay-up by Daub triggered a 25-10 run to give the Wildcats the lead. The lead changed in the fifth minute of the half and the Wildcats were able to keep that lead with help from Beitinger, who led the team with 21 points and 10 rebounds.

Comeback: The Wildcats closed a 10-point first-half deficit. An 11-4 run to end the first half got Central back in contention.

Clutch Defense: The Seawolves were held without a basket for the final 2:32 of regulation and only had two field goals in overtime.

Game Winner: Matt Penoncello's lay-in with 0.6 seconds to play gave the Wildcats their fifth straight victory and the Seawolves their first D-II defeat.

Photos by Brianne Jette / Observer

SEE UPSET PAGE 15
Football coach Picha shows loyalty to Central

by Cody Gapp
Staff reporter

Sometimes people come along who will be remembered forever. These people hold characteristics that represent care, respect and dignity. It seems that in this day and age these people are getting harder to find, but one of the best examples of these people can be found at Central.

John Picha, the offensive coordinator/offensive line coach of the football team, is one of those people.

Football has always been an immense part of John's He played center at CWU under legendary head coach Tom Parry and won a couple Best Blocker awards, but that's not what defines him as a person.

Picha first and foremost is a humanitarian. He loves his job and he loves the life-long relationships he builds with his players.

"It's all about the players," Picha said. "We have won a lot of ball games, but sometimes you get a group of kids where a couple of the guys are disruptive, but we can work through it." 

Some might ask why hasn't Picha taken over the head coaching position. In a previous report, coach Baldwin was surprised when he learned that Picha would not be applying for the head job.

"I have told coach Blaine Bennett on what I do," Picha said. "There is a lot of things that go along with being a head coach, and that's just not what I wanted to do. There's more to it than football. Is that I wouldn't like to do it, it's just not something that I want to do right now."

Great moments have come upon John Picha on the football field, but it's the off-field events that he values the most. "I have told them, the team didn't think we were going to graduate, and that's the biggest thing to me," Picha said.

Picha also recalls other notable games, such as this year's Wildcats beating Nebraska-Omaha, a team to whom they previously lost for the North Central Conference title, to advance to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division II playoffs, and two years back at Eastern Washington, a Division IAA team.

"Being a Division II school, beating any Division I school is always a feat," Picha said.

Athletes who have played under the coaching of Picha truly admire his work ethic, and his ability to not only be their coach, but to be a mentor as well.

"Picha is great. He's a players coach, and we all appreciate the job that he does," junior right fielder Jason Brown said.

Along with being the offensive line coach, Picha has dedicated his job to making his players more than excellent players; he wants them to be excellent people.

"He showed us how to be leaders on and off the field, and this helps us with real-life situations," senior offensive line man John Gaviano said.

When talking with Picha, people can truly see why people respect him for who he is and what he does. He has built many close friendships over his years as coaching, and one of those friends being last year's head coach, Beau Baldwin, with whom he remains in close contact with.

"Coach Picha has done a tremendous job building great relationships with players over the years," Baldwin said. "I have a ton of respect for him, and I absolutely working with him. He's a great friend and a great person on and off the field." 

John Picha is more than just a football coach: he respects all assets that this university has to offer, as well as all universities across the globe.

"The biggest thing with what I do here is not only with the players, it's with the college atmosphere," Picha said. "I care that people get into the extra-curricular activities that a university has to offer. Whether it's going to a theatrical production or going to a football game, it's all about truly getting that college experience."
Senior forward Daub brings strong work ethic to Wildcats

Standing 6-foot-6 inches tall, Bryce Daub looks just like your everyday college basketball player.

He walks around campus wearing a grey Central basketball sweatshirt, short, NBA logo shorts and expensive basketball sneakers.

He attends study groups and goes to the library to work on projects that will affect classmates.

Bryce, however, isn’t your average basketball player.

Growing up with a father that works for the Seattle SuperSonics, you would think it possible for Bryce to have picked up some of the overbearing, egotistical attitudes that can be found amongst today’s professional athletes, but that just wasn’t the case.

What you find in Daub is a caring, energetic individual that absolutely loves his life and the sport of basketball.

A lot of my memories are with the guys while playing basketball growing up,” Daub said.

Bryce originally lived in Utah. His dad, Dwight, was the strength and conditioning coach for many sports at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

The Daubs moved to the Seattle area when Dwight was offered a job as the strength and conditioning coach with the Seattle SuperSonics. His dad had that job ever since.

“He and our daughter Gentry went to a Lutheran school all the way until sixth grade,” Dwight said.

“Just little experiences like that, get you to their feet and throw them into the pool with all your clothes on just wherever you are,” Daub said.

“Every once in a while, I do the same thing. It’s fun,” Dwight said.

One thing that didn’t change was his dad, Dwight, was the strength coach for him during his time at BCC.

“He did everything with me; from then on, his whole life basically.”

His father would take him and his sister out to the Furtado Center, the Sonics practice facility, to hang around Gary Payton, Nate McMillan and all the other players to pass through the city of Seattle.

One particular relationship was with current San Antonio Spurs shooting guard Brent Barry.

“Brent was a really big influence,” Daub said. “I think he saw the guys that work real hard and that’s a credit to his dad.”

His high school career was spent at Newport High School in Bellevue. While Newport experienced success early in his career, his senior year fell short of expectations.

“We had three different injuries to key players,” Daub said. “The biggest one was to Lawson. He tore his ACL, my senior year. So I was left with a bunch of young guys and thrown into that situation.”

Due to the lack of success, there weren’t many offers to play collegiately straight out of high school. The only offer was from the Bellevue Community College.

“Bryce was a kid that was in our program. He had plus, the kind of upside he had and the kind of personality he had,” Eggers said.

Doub joined Lake Landdeck and Newport teammate Lawson to lead BCC to two straight Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges north division championships.

Landdeck had played against Daub in high school but didn’t get to know him until meeting at BCC.

“I didn’t like him,” Landdeck said. “Just naturally you don’t like someone when you are going against them in high school, but we played a lot together at BCC. There were three of us that really played well together, me, Bryce and Earl.”

Daub won the MVP award for the north division his second year at BCC and was the cornerstone of the team. They reached the semi-finals of the playoffs before losing to Highline Community College, the eventual champions.

During his time at BCC, Daub befriended Sonics center Robert Swift.

Swift was only a month and a half old to the time Daub was drafted straight out of high school and thrown into the world of the NBA.

Daub knew Swift was having trouble adjusting so he sent him to play basketball with Bryce during open gym sessions at BCC.

“He had been up here living in Washington for six years at the time and I didn’t have anybody up here,” Swift said. “So he showed me around, introduced me to people, his friends, and basically just helped me get adjusted up here.”

Following his time at BCC, Daub had the opportunity to transfer to Central Washington University to finish his career.

“We only watch about a handful of times but we just liked how he worked,” Spalding said. “Everyone possessed him played harder and worked harder so that was a major piece of their success there.”

Daub was impressed with the coaching staff at Central and realized after school offering him a scholarship for his full tuition.

“I think Bryce is very unselfish, he doesn’t have a lot of outside jokes and stuff like that,” Spalding said.

“We play poker on the road and we have this big suitcase with two couples in it. We are all back playing poker and playing poker together.”

His devotion to team拓展s extends off the court as well. His encouraging personality and humor keep the team on road trips.

“He’s always laughing and jokin’ a lot of inside jokes and stuff like that,” Spalding said.

“We play poker on the road and we have this big suitcase with two couples in it. We are all back playing poker and playing poker together.”

Daub played an integral part in the Wildcats’ upset victory over the fourth-ranked University of Alaska-Anchorage on Feb. 16. He had two clutch baskets in the final minutes that were huge in helping Central win.

“He brings his defense without a doubt,” Spalding said. “He did a great job on Carl Arts here against Anchorage. He does a lot more rebounding and I think he’s known for his defense.”

Daub has started 14 of 22 games this season, including the last seven games. The Wildcats are 6-1 since he reclaimed his starting job with a win over Alaska-Anchorage and only one loss to Seattle University.

His contribution is sure to be an important factor in the closing weeks as the Wildcats make a push for the postseason.

“I guess the biggest thing is being at BCC and being able to go to the playoffs for three years and it’s been a huge opportunity to win championships and win divisions doesn’t come very often anyway,” Daub said.

“Dwight is my dad, like we do right now, you have to take advantage of all the opportunities you can.”

Daub is majoring in exercise science and will graduate with a bachelor’s degree in the spring. He then plans to return to Central for graduate school to get his masters.

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Senior forward Bryce Daub gets a dunk against Alaska-Anchorage on Feb. 16.
Women lose pair on road

The Wildcats hit the road this weekend for a two-game road series against the toughest teams in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC).

Central traveled to undefeated Seattle Pacific University (SPU) on Thursday night in the hopes of keeping its winning streak alive and ending the Falcons' perfect season.

SPU jumped out early, taking a 5-0 lead before the Wildcats were able to score a quick four to get within one. The Falcons took control after a 26-13 scoring run which gave SPU a 14-point lead, the largest of the game, with just under two minutes to play in the half. Central was able to cut the lead to nine by halftime with a score of 53-42.

After mixed shots in the first and second over three minutes without a score, freshman forward John Foote broke the streak with a three-pointer with just over 16 minutes to play to bring the score to 13-27. Joab Blake added another three-pointer to bring Central within three with 13:28 to play.

The Wildcats were able to keep it close to the remainder of the game but were never able to gain the lead. The game ended with an eight-point Central deficit and a score of 61-53.

Two Wildcats scored in double digits; Joab Blake led Central with 16 points, 11 coming in the second half, and senior guard Kristina Klapperich added 12 points.

Coming into the game, Central was leading the GNAC, and sixth in the nation, in points scored with an average of 87.7 points per game. The Wildcats were looking to raise that average as the Nanooks are on top in the GNAC.

Central came out firing as junior guard Johnny Spevak hit two straight three-pointers as part of a 20-6 run to start off the contest. The Wildcats shot 67.6 percent for the game — the highest in Central's last 362 games — and were 19-26 from the field in the first half. As shots continued to fall for the Wildcats and missed shots continued for the Nanooks, the score read 55-28 in favor of Central.

Senior guard Nate Jackson's nine points and five assists, along with the team's six three-pointers in the first half, helped Central gain a lead.

"I thought our guys did a nice job," head coach Greg Sparling said. "Every time they went on a little run, we answered."".

At the start of the second half, UAA's guard Kevin Campbell tried to help his team get back in the game, but the deficit was too much.

Foote scored 10 of his 18 points in the second half as he went 4-for-5 from the field and made both of his three-pointers. Foote and Jackson led the team in points, and four other Wildcat players finished the night in double figures.

With team-play on both sides of the court, the Wildcats were able to knock off the Nanooks with a 108-77 performance.

"Coach (Sparling) just told us from the beginning, if we play together it's going to be an easy game and it's a kind of turned out that way," Jackson said.

Spevak's 15 points, seven rebounds, five assists, four steals and strong defensive play on Bryant in the game against UAA, earned him GNAC player of the week honors.

The Wildcats go back on the road next week as they play Western Washington on Feb. 23. Central has already beaten WWU this year at home and will be going for their sixth straight victory Saturday.

"We can have fun tonight and celebrate this one (win against UAA) and then get back to it Monday and get ready for Western Washington," Sparling said.


timeout.

Central returns home this weekend, with games against Rainier Nazarene University tonight and Saint Martin's University on Saturday night.

Dunk Ball Tournament

The Student Recreation Center is holding a dunk ball tournament from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

The basketball hoops will be lowered to eight feet. Cost is $10 by Feb. 22 or $15 by Feb. 27. Space is limited to the first 12 teams to register.

For more information contact sco@uwson.edu or call 509-899-5437.
Rogstad sets 400 record at Championships

by Matthew Hartmann
Staff reporter
and Frank Stanley
Sports editor

The Central Washington University Track and Field team participated in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Indoor Track and Field Championships in Nampa, Idaho this past Monday with some positive results and one shining star.

The men's team, who are the defending indoor track and field champions, placed fourth.

The women ended the day in fifth, out of eight teams.

"Our season has been going well," head coach Kevin Adkisson said. "We have especially started to build some momentum in the past two weekends, with many improved marks in our previous two meets at the University of Idaho."

The Wildcats' top performer overall was junior runner Matt Rogstad, who set a new GNAC record in the men's 400-meter dash with a time of 49.58 seconds.

Rogstad's performance, his first conference indoor title, would be the only win between both teams. He was also edged out of another victory in the men's 200-meter dash, beaten by Western Oregon's Ashtin Mott by four tenths of a second with a time of 22.16 seconds.

The women's top performer was freshman thrower Jordan Stueckle, who placed third in the shot put with a throw of 38 feet, 2 inches.

According to hurdler Stephanie Druktenis, since the team is smaller this year more new athletes have had the opportunity to rise through the ranks to become better known than they might have otherwise.

Many of the athletes this time around are first-time competitors in this year's meet.

"I think my motivation also comes from a need to compete," Druktenis said. "I enjoy competition regardless of the outcome of the race. The anticipation and excitement that builds up to the meets makes the long, hard exhausting workouts worthwhile." Other top male performers include sophomore Jonathon Hamilton, who placed second in the men's high jump, the men's 4x400 meter relay team, who holds the current meet record from last year's performance finished second as well and sophomore thrower Tyler Fis cher placed third in the weight throw.

The women had four other fourth place finishers: both the 4x400 and the distance medley teams, sophomore thrower Alison McWeeny in the weight throw and junior runner Marcie Mullen in the 5000-meter run.

Male and Female Athlete of the Meet awards went to Zeb Udell of Western Oregon and Jessica Pixler of Seattle Pacific, respectively. Udell set a conference record in the long jump and Pixler won the mile and 800 meter run.

The Wildcats have two remaining in hopes to qualify for the 2008 NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field National Championships, which will be held March 14-15 in Mankato, Minnesota.

The first is the Washington State University Indoor Open in Pullman, and the Division II "Last Chance" Qualifier meet at the University of Washington's Dempsey Indoor Facility in Seattle.

Senior sprinter Tisha Wells lines up for the preliminary 60-meter dash in the GNAC Indoor Track and Field Championships at Northwest Nazarene University. Wells placed sixth in the finals heat.