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Observer

Central Washington University

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Pursuing the "Ultimate Truth"

Central Karate Club Welcomes IKO President

by Garrett Shawstad
Staff reporter

Some of the best and most experienced fighters from all across the world will be traveling to Ellensburg this weekend in an open international tournament hosted by Northwest Kyokushin and Central Washington University's Kyokushin Karate Club.

Not only will karate be on display but all other forms of Martial Arts, such as Muay Thai, Taekwondo, Goju Ryu, Kung Fu, and mixed martial arts (MMA), featuring both amateur and professional fighters and professionals.

"That's why it's an open tournament," said Karate sensei and Central biology professor Ian Quitadamo. "Anyone that chooses to fight can come and fight." Be an open tournament, all fighters can come in and see how their skills measure up against other opponents of the same style or different fighting styles.

"It's put up or shut up," Quitadamo said. The action will surely not disappoint as he expects there to be multiple knockouts in the tournament, which features bare-knuckle and full contact categories.

It will be some of the best fighting you've ever seen," Quitadamo said. "And the cheapest entertainment in town." Flying in from Japan will be Ninth-degree Black Belt and current head of the International Karate Organization, Yoshikazu Matsushima. The organization consists of more than 60 countries worldwide, including Spain, Great Britain and Canada.

According to Quitadamo, Matsushima is the guest of honor and may officiate over the final matches. "He is humble and witty and highly skilled," Colin Morton, senior math and actuarial sciences major, has been involved in Kyokushin Karate for two and a half years.

Although he doesn't plan on fighting in the event Saturday, he still plans on being there to watch the fights.

By Garrett Shawstad
Staff reporter

George Bellah, director of "Noh Telling," gained his inspiration for the piece after his recent travels to Southeast Asia. The Japanese Noh Theatre was the focus of his interest. "This, to my knowledge, has never been done at CWU," Bellah said.

Central was selected to host the international conference in Seattle and Bellah was asked to make a presentation. "The kids are really excited," said Theatre Arts Department Chair Scott Robinson. "The work we are doing here compares to some of the best schools out there."

The production was performed at an academic conference in Seattle, with a show open to the general public on the CWU campus as part of the World Language Day celebration.

The Theatre Arts department has had productionscontending at regional competitions roughly every two to three years but "Noh Telling" is the first to be considered for a national conference.

"This was truly an ensemble piece," Cartwright said. "It will be some of the best fighting you've ever seen." Quitadamo said. "And the cheapest entertainment in town." Flying in from Japan will be Ninth-degree Black Belt and current head of the International Karate Organization, Yoshikazu Matsushima. The organization consists of more than 60 countries worldwide, including Spain, Great Britain and Canada.

According to Quitadamo, Matsushima is the guest of honor and may officiate over the final matches.

Instructors and students alike are proud to host the event and are excited to have him come to the tournament. "It is a tremendous honor to have him in attendance," Quitadamo said. "He is humble and witty and highly skilled."

The Theatre Ensemble group has introduced a movement class focusing on Suzuki this quarter and the accolades of the department have helped encourage more students to join the program.
Visual Stimulation

"But the place which you have selected for your camp, though never so rough and grim, begins at once to have its attractions, and becomes a very centre of civilization to you: 'Home is home, be it never so homely.'

-Henry David Thoreau

CALL FOR
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

If you have a 3.5 GPA or better, you are eligible to deliver the valedictory speech at your CWU Commencement. One speaker and one alternate will be selected for each ceremony (two in Ellensburg, one in Seattle). Each speaker will receive a $200 honorarium and alternates will receive $50.

Submissions are due April 21. Contact Tina Morefield at 509-963-3012 or morefieldt@cwu.edu.

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Your future is Central.

Election Sign-up looming

by Ilia Dickenson
Staff reporter

Spring quarter means election season for Central Washington University. As America gears up for presidential elections, Central gets ready to elect a new Board of Directors (ASCWU-BOD) for the 2008-2009 school year.

Students this year seem ready to get involved and have their voices heard.

"There's been a really strong interest," Sarah Morrison, director of elections, said.

Central's voter turnout is on par with other Washington schools. Approximately 500 students voted in elections last year. That accounts for about 10 percent of the student body, the same ratio as the University of Washington's average, said Morrison.

Anyone with 45 credits completed - including at least 10 from Central - who is in good academic standing can run for a position on the BOD. Potential candidates must pick up a packet at the Student Union office, get signatures from 500 students and pay a $25 filing fee. That fee pays for campaigning and advertising costs, Morrison said.

Students have received the chance to interact with potential candidates as they rally for signatures. This campaign has sparked conversation among students about the role of the BOD and their ideal representatives.

"What I look for in a candidate is someone who will follow through on their promises," Houston Hamilton, sophomore political science major, said. "If you don't vote, you can't complain.

"I'm a person who's open to change," he added.

Pedro Amezola, freshman construction management major, says his ideal candidate would be someone who is responsible, takes care of student concerns, and is a good representative of Central students.

Raul Castro, junior math major, appreciates that the BOD allows students to take ownership of their education and time at Central.

"I think the elections are a great way for people to take more responsibility," Castro said.

Kiley Baker, freshman undeclared business major, is open to the idea of getting involved in student life and facilities who is running for BOD president, wants students to be educated about candidates and the issues.

"I hope people get involved with elections," Navarrette said. "Listen to the candidate and listen to the position and make the best decision."

Navarrette is running in the upcoming election and wants students to know that the BOD is a group of students who are passionate about helping fellow Wildcats.

Navarrette decided to run again because he loves the level of student interaction he gets in his job.

"I loved working with the students and for the students," Navarrette said.

Primary elections, if needed, will be held at midnight on April 17 online. General elections will follow on May 1. Students can register either online before voting day or at voting stations in the Student Union and Recreation Center on voting day.

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The Observer is a class in which students are constantly learning how to interview, report and produce a newspaper.
Sherry Guderjohn, senior and president of the Fair Trade Club, ran the first meeting for Fair Trade last Thursday night. She hopes to be more active and have the club contribute during Total Relief Week.

The Central Washington University Board of Trustees (BOT) approved six new degree programs last quarter.

The number of the program additions is a campus record, up from the one or two baccalaureate degrees that usually receive approval from the board each year.

The programs include new BS degrees in global wine studies, general science teaching and environmental sciences.

The board also gave approval to a BFA in theatre and an MS in both primate behavior and nutrition.

The university is attempting to bring in degrees that are in demand by employers in order to meet the needs of Washington state and the interests of students, according to Judy Yu, BOT chair.

She also added that the new programs are a good way to keep students studying and working in the area after graduation.

The global wine studies degree is taught under the instruction of program coordinator Amy Mamna.

“Students will visit a field site in China to look at the interaction between monkeys and humans and do research at the Chimpanzee Institute,” said Lori Sheeran, primate behavior and ecology program director.

“The number of the program approvals is a campus record, up from the one or two baccalaureate degrees that usually receive approval from the board each year.”

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The global wine studies degree is taught under the instruction of program coordinator Amy Mamna.

“This new degree brings increased federal support for a wine quality initiative and research methods in chemistry to discover wine faults.”

Students will participate in workshops on campus, do an internship with a winery and have an opportunity to study abroad.

They must choose an unrelated minor of their choice as part of the program.

The BS in general science teaching provides a broader science background than its particular degree counterparts.

Students can specialize in either physics, earth science, biology or chemistry.

These students must also take the same professional education sequence of an education major.
Minuteman responds to campus-wide outcry

by Mimi Oh
Staff reporter

The College Republicans have had a stressful month. President Mike Menonides relays the experience of being branded a racist by association in the wake of Minutemen Project president and founder Jim Gilchrist’s appearance on campus in February.

Mensonides says that the College Republicans invited Gilchrist with the understanding that he would be a respectful speaker. “We ... contacted a number of people to find out what Gilchrist was like and everything we heard was good,” Mensonides said. “So we expected someone who would speak well. ... We were really disappointed that he resorted to insults and name-calling.”

Gilchrist, who holds a B.A. in journalism, said that some people in attendance at the event actively derided his right to speak and behaved rudely.

He explained that it was natural for him to escalate the uncivil behavior. He argued for “the marketplace of ideas,” a common theme that views unrestrained free speech as a tool that eventually weeds out bad ideas and allows good ideas to flourish.

“[My appearances generate so much controversy] due to a handful of anti-free speech scoundrels, including professors and faculty who do not have the slightest clue what free speech means,” Gilchrist said. “They are dangerous for America. They risk compromising our First Amendment.”

Staff reporter

expected someone who would speak on campus in February. People to find out what Gilchrist was calling for.

and founder Jim Gilchrist’s appearance of anti-free speech scoundrels, including professors and faculty who do not have the slightest clue what free speech means,” Gilchrist said. “They are dangerous for America. They risk compromising our First Amendment. I could listen to the acting head of the Nation of Islam, Louis Farrakhan quickly, and then at the end have a very good question for him. What we have there was a circus atmosphere. They were not taking the debate seriously.”

Security measures

Gilchrist explained that he brought private security because in the past, students at other universities had physically threatened him or injured people working for him.

“Two of my supporters have been seriously injured,” Gilchrist said. “Dolly Dalton was hospitalized and has to go through an MRI. Dennis Sister was escorted to the hospital by two illegal aliens. They ganged up on him and smacked a brick into his head.”

The League of United Latino American Citizens (LULAC) Communication director Lizette J. Olmos said that universities should engage in debates and forums with people of different views but that events should not be disrupt or threatening.

“Grunlevhattan had an event with the Minutemen, Olmos said. “MECHA was present at these events and private citizens co-president and founder Chris Simons insinuated that a disruptive fire alarm was caused by protesters.”

Mensonides said that he is against illegal immigration, but that he supports legal immigration. He felt that it was unfair of people to call him a racist because of his position. He also said that illegal immigration posed a number of problems, including poor working conditions for the illegal immigrants.

“Don’t you have the right to be protected when you find highly offensive...”

DOUG HONG

Mensonides said that his father and many of his friends are immigrants, and to be labeled a racist was hurtful.

“There are two ways that I think that we can reform illegal immigration. First, secure the borders. Second, we need to come down hard on people who hire illegal immigrants. They are enabling illegal immigration,” said Menonides.

Communication director for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington Doug Hong added that while the ACLU does not support Gilchrist’s views on immigrants, they do support his right to free speech. Hong said that universities occupy a vital role in bringing diverse viewpoints to students should be exposed, and that while universities must ensure that events are not disruptive or threatening to students, there is a way that they can ensure speakers’ behavior.

“You don’t have the right to be protected when you find highly offensive, and that means that people who are racist have the right to express their opinions,” Hong said. “By the same token, speakers cannot say things which target the individual or makes someone feel reasonably unsafe.”

Immigration concerns

LULAC National Executive Director Brent Wilkes discussed the reasons why illegal immigrants, whom he referred to as undocumented, rather than illegal, cross the border in large numbers without documentation.

Wilkes cited Mexico’s 50 percent poverty rate, the lack of legal avenues for immigration in America, the U.S. military and drug trade involvement in Mexico as factors for undocumented immigration.

“Compared to previous generations, there is now an arduous process of getting in,” Wilkes said. “The economy is chiefly their problem. The disparity in income is huge, which contributes to the problem. Drug trade fuels corruption. The US is not blameless. We’ve invaded the country over 32 times.”

Wilkes said these reasons are why it is important to ask of Mexico: “why can’t they get their act together?”

Gilchrist said that the Minutemen cannot purge racial superacists who inflitrate their organization fast enough.

However, he believes that racial profiling is appropriate, given the prevalence of illegal immigrants from Latin America.

Gilchrist said that the Minutemen no longer need members because he felt that changing people fees for his cause was ridiculous.

During the forum, a student expressed how the lack of membership registration detracts from the organization’s legitimacy. Gilchrist supports assimilation for immigrants.

“English immersion, no exception,” Gilchrist said. “If we are to remain a cohesive nation, we have to have a cohesive bond with which to conduct our commerce and communication... We don’t want to learn a different language for every person from a different country that’s here. It would be everyone engaging in mutual accormony because they can’t understand each other. Multiculturalism and diversity are good concepts, but they need assimilation. Without it, it is just social engineering. If we want to have a homogeneous nation that engages in domestic tranquility, we need English as a universal language.”

Creating jobs at home

Wilkes took an opposing position. Wilkes said that not only do illegal immigrants wish to assimilate; they also benefit America, rather than steal jobs.

“They stimulate the creation of jobs,” Wilkes said. “I don’t want the job picking grapes. It’s not one-to-one. If we import workers from Central America rather than grow them in the US, the trade deficit goes up ... We don’t have the proven growth that population growth of the workers that’s not. What threatens our unity of culture is [people who attack other people] who are not necessarily speaking English. Forty percent of all people who fought in our wars been immigrants. ... They want to assimilate — they are learning English at a faster rate than previous generations.”

Sales tax increase

Last Tuesday, the sales and use tax increased by .003 percent — up to 8.0 percent — for Kittitas County.

The funds attained from the increase will help criminal justice and public safety services.

Demolition plans seal fate of Courson and Muzzall Halls

by Kelly Merschel
Staff reporter

The year 1966 played an important part in American history. The Vietnam War was on everyone’s mind, singer Cindy Crawford was born, the hit single “I Want You” by the Bee Gees was released, and lastly, Central Washington University’s own Courson and Muzzall Halls were built to house on-campus students.

According to Yarwood, the overall estimate for the deconstruction is set at roughly $1.9 million. Students and faculty in the Ellensburg community have raised questions about the method of deconstruction. Schreiber Engineering and the architects of Seattle provide expertise in mechanical deconstruction and controlled collapse, and have been put in charge of safety and efficiently deconstructing the two buildings.

They have provided solutions to most concerns, including the removal of lead and the disposal of hazardous materials, so that all parties involved will feel safe during the deconstruction period.

Between April and June, the interiors of both buildings will be slowly taken apart. They will take down the exterior walls, rerouted so that a new creek will run through the middle of the park.

“Excited to have a park on campus, it will add a lot of beauty to the campus, especially in place of the current vacant dorms,” said Rebecca Paul, junior political science major.

The current portion of Wilson Creek will be covered and protected during the deconstruction period to avoid any harm to the animals and water. Trees to remain at the site throughout the next several months will also be protected throughout the building process.

Replacing the two buildings will be a new park with native trees, plants, and shrubs. Wilson Creek will be rerouted so that a new creek will run through the middle of the park. “I’m excited to have a park on campus, it will add a lot of beauty to the campus, especially in place of the current vacant dorms,” said Rebecca Paul, junior political science major.

The current portion of Wilson Creek will be covered and protected during the deconstruction period to avoid any harm to the animals and water. Trees to remain at the site throughout the next several months will also be protected throughout the building process.

Demolition plans seal fate of Courson and Muzzall Halls

Courson and Muzzall Halls will be demolished after towering over the Central campus for 46 years. Demolition will begin early next week. The current portion of Wilson Creek will be covered and protected during the deconstruction period to avoid any harm to the animals and water. Trees to remain at the site throughout the next several months will also be protected throughout the building process.
Committee continues search for Central’s new president

by Sarah Hazel
Staff reporter

An executive consultant firm, hired to help find potential presidential candidates for Central, has connections. Storbeck, Pimentel and Associates Inc. has been hired by the Presidential Search Committee and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Alberto Pimentel, the primary contact for the firm, will be visiting the campus in the next couple of weeks. Pimentel has four degrees, including two masters’ degrees in education and public administration from Harvard University.

His firm was chosen by the Presidential Search Committee as a result of positive references from other universities, as well as the connections the firm has.

"[The university representatives] all talked about their reliability and the connections he has to individuals in the higher education system who are interested in presidential positions," said Wendy Bobroes, chair of the Presidential Search Committee.

The firm will initially assist the search committee with creating a job description and a university prospectus. According to Bobroes, the university prospectus is essentially a description of the university designed to attract suitable candidates. The firm will also create a formal job description.

In order to create a university prospectus and a job description that will help to find the right candidates, the Presidential Search Committee and the consulting firm will compile a set of questions and are hoping for as much student feedback as possible.

"We definitely want student involvement," Bobroes said. "This position, even though it may seem a little distant to you when you’re taking your classes … has a huge influence on the academic and the student life side of the university."

According to Derrick Peacock, ASCWU-BOD vice president for equity and community service, the Presidential Search Committee will soon establish a Web site that will allow students to voice their opinions about potential candidates. The Web site will also let students provide feedback regarding what they would like to see in a search candidate.

Pimentel will also speak to students when he arrives on campus to begin the candidate selection process. He will speak to student groups, such as the Board of Directors, and anywhere there are concentrated bodies of students.

The hiring of the consulting firm and the primary consultant was necessary, according to Peacock.

"Storbeck, Pimentel and Associates Inc. have, through their organization, multiple contacts with places to advertise, places to recruit from, places to draw the type of candidates that we want to draw," Peacock said.

All expenses involved in the presidential search process, including travel expenses and payment for the consulting firm, will be allocated from the university budget, according to Judy Miller, secretary to the Board of Trustees.

The official budget for the search has not been approved, but a general budget of up to $150,000 has been estimated.

According to Bruce Porter, CWU director of business services and contracts, the consulting firm, as payment for their services, will receive approximately one third of the new president’s first-year salary.

"The main objective in hiring this firm, according to Presidential Search Committee members, is ultimately to find the most suitable presidential candidates possible. The people who apply for this job, and the ultimate person we choose, need to be well-versed in a lot of different areas," Bobroes said. "They need to be an academic at heart."

$162,000 grant for science department

by Paul Boutte
Staff reporter

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is giving Central a grant worth $162,000. The money will fund Teachers on the Leading Edge (TOTLE), which is a joint venture between the University of Portland, Portland Community College, Pacific Lutheran University and Central.

"The money will be used for travel, stipends, food and busses," said Dr. Beth Pratt-Sitaula, assistant professor of geological sciences at Central.

Pratt-Sitaula will be the lead instructor when the program comes to Olympia, Wash., next year. According to Pratt-Sitaula, about two thirds of secondary teachers who teach earth science never took a geology course in college.

Over the next three years, TOTLE will put on summer workshops for K-12 and community science teachers. The workshops will feature two weeks in the field and three in the classroom. Educators will be taught how geologists survey and study plate tectonics, volcanoes and earthquakes in our region.

According to Pratt-Sitaula, TOTLE is the largest geophysics initiative to understand Northwest crust deformations and seismic activity in the Northwest.

"The money will be used for travel, stipends, food and busses," said Dr. Beth Pratt-Sitaula, assistant professor of geological sciences at Central.

"Earthscope is funded by the government; they’re like NASA, but not as big," Pratt-Sitaula said. "Earthscope is the largest geophysics initiative to understand Northwest crust deformations and seismic activity in the Northwest."

According to Pratt-Sitaula, Earthscope will use a network of global positioning receivers called Plate Boundary Observatory to scan the country.

They will start on the west coast, then move to Montana, going across the country and eventually ending on the east coast.

"The money will be used for travel, stipends, food and busses."
Burglary over spring break raises student concerns

by Mimi Oh
Staff reporter

Over spring break, burglars broke into the Student Health and Counseling Center.

A mass e-mail from the school says that no records were pilfered.

Central Washington University police chief Steve Rittereiser, police lieutenant and emergency management coordinator Mike Coppin and Senior Director of Health Counseling and Wellness Bob Trumpy all confirmed that no health records were stolen.

“On March 20, 2008, at 5:53 a.m., our custo­
dial services folks . . . saw a lot of property strewn on the floor,” Rittereiser said. “After making sure there was no one in the building, we secured the scene . . . . We were able to determine that basical­ly, there were laptop computers, a couple of other pieces of electronic equipment and a small amount of money that was missing . . . . There were no drugs or medical equipment compromised . . . . Entry was gained to the Health Center through a broken window. Likely, there were more than one suspects involved.”

Despite the burglary at the Student Health and Counseling Center, Natalie Garcia, sophomore undeclared, feels secure at Central.

After reading the mass e-mail notification about the burglary, Garcia wondered why some­one would burglarize the Center.

“It’s weird, because I never thought anyone would break in,” Garcia said. “But it makes me think, where else could the suspects break in? I didn’t think, where else could the suspects break in? I didn’t think, where else could the suspects break in?”

The affected businesses include the attorney’s office on E. 3rd Ave., a pharmacy on 444 N. Pearl St., Central Hand Therapy on 300 E. 2nd St., a medical office on 511 N. Pine St., a dental office on 313 N. Sprague St. and George Orthodontics on 315 N. Sprague Street.

Police arrested two people in connection with the pharmacy burglary but they believe that the pharmacy burglary is unrelated to the other downtown incidents.

Coppin and Laveria remind people to practice basic safety procedures. The mere fact of being on a university campus does not isolate people from crime.

According to Coppin, there are over 200 burg­laries a year in Ellensburg.

Coppin encourages people to buy an alarm or security system if they can afford one.

Laveria said that currently, University Police does not have any suspects. However, they do have persons of interest who they may want to interview.

“I think the investigation is going very well,” Laveria said. “The officers involved are out every day trying to interview people.”

Rittereiser said that University Police believe the burglars were motivated by the desire to steal electronic equipment, and that the location at the Health Center is not a significant factor.

“We are working with our local police depart­ment as well,” Rittereiser said. “They have some cases that are of a similar nature: people who broke in and stole similar equipment. We think there’s some similarities. These break-ins were recent as well. There was an attorney’s office bro­ken into.”

Ellensburg Police Department Detective Sergeant Mike Coppin described six open burglary cases in town, which the police are currently investigating.

The greater part of the nation’s wineries are small operations that don’t have laboratory facilities or testing expertise to guarantee con­sistent wine quality. The Wine Quality Testing and Education Initiative will help those in the industry gain the knowledge to better under­stand the chemical and biological “errors” in different regions and how the quality of wine is negatively impacted. To help winemakers pre­vent “errors” this initiative will also provide information to avoid adjusting their processes.

There will be two phases to this initiative. Phase one will be based on research. The proj­ect calls for random samples from five different regions: Washington, Oregon, California, Texas and New York. Each region’s wine will be tested to verify the most common “errors.”

After the research phase is completed, phase two of the project will focus on education within­-the-five regions.

The goal of the education phase is to build awareness of these “errors” as a general issue and disseminate region specific findings from the research. This is where Central becomes involved. The World Wine Program offers classes and seminars for undergraduate students, industry professionals and consumers who are interested in learning more about wine trade, tourism, and the business of wine making.

“We’re really excited to offer this program,” said CWU President Jerilyn McIntyre. “It extends a chance for students to actually have a choice to major in the World Wine Program and learn more about the industry side of the business.”

Student recognition of the industry is already on the rise.

“The wine industry is really booming,” said senior psychology major, Jene’ Daulley. “I took a wine class last summer and gained a lot of expe­rience with wine and its impact on society. The expansion of the wine program will be good because it will further increase student know­ledge of the manufacturing and help them com­municate with a more diverse group of people.”

Congressman Hastings also supported a similar proposal submitted by Central last year, which had been approved. However, the appropriation was lost when Congress didn’t reach final passage on the bill.

The funding for the initiative this year was included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill, which was recently signed into law by President Bush.

Wine program expands

by Katrina Smith
Staff reporter

Central Washington University’s Wine Edu­cation Program is expanding. Thanks to the sup­port of Congressman Doc Hastings, Central will receive $191,600 that was recently signed into law to assist this effort.

The funding will be used to launch the Wine Quality Testing and Education Initiative, a comprehensive research, analysis and edu­cation program.

Director of Central’s World Wine Program and the International Wine Woman of the Year from 2005-2007, Amy Mumma, will guide this endeavor.

“In order to improve the reputation and com­petitiveness of the United States’ wine, the Wine Quality Testing and Education Initiative’s goal is to offer awareness, analysis and educa­tional benefits to students.”

“Central Washington University has estab­lished itself as a leader in wine education and research,” Hastings said. “This educational pro­gram and the resources at Central play an important role in the quality and growth of Washington wine.”

The greater part of the nation’s wineries are small operations that don’t have laboratory facilities or testing expertise to guarantee con­sistent wine quality. The Wine Quality Testing and Education Initiative will help those in the industry gain the knowledge to better under­stand the chemical and biological “errors” in different regions and how the quality of wine is negatively impacted. To help winemakers pre­vent “errors” this initiative will also provide information to avoid adjusting their processes.

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“The wine industry is really booming,” said senior psychology major, Jene’ Daulley. “I took a wine class last summer and gained a lot of expe­rience with wine and its impact on society. The expansion of the wine program will be good because it will further increase student know­ledge of the manufacturing and help them com­municate with a more diverse group of people.”

Congressman Hastings also supported a similar proposal submitted by Central last year, which had been approved. However, the appropriation was lost when Congress didn’t reach final passage on the bill.

The funding for the initiative this year was included in the Fiscal Year 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill, which was recently signed into law by President Bush.
Tax services free for students

by Sara Hoober
Staff reporter

Millions of Americans struggle annually with correctly filing their taxes before the deadline on April 15. At Central, students have the opportunity to get their taxes done for free.

Each year, the College of Business and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) sponsor the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. The program is held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday in Shaw-Smyser Room 109. The program begins on the first Saturday of February and runs until the last Saturday before taxes are due on April 15. Central accounting students, supervised by College of Business faculty, offer free help in preparing and filing U.S. income tax returns.

In order to assist taxpayers in filing their taxes, accounting students must take the income tax course, Accounting 346, and pass three online tests administered by the IRS.

Zachary Howe, junior double major in marketing and accounting, finds the opportunity valuable.

"This is one of the most practical classes I've taken," Howe said. "For most of the people in here, this is what they will be doing after they graduate."

Senior accounting lecturer, Fred McDonald, who oversees the program, also speaks highly of its benefits.

"It's a real good experience for the students," McDonald said. "There's nothing quite like it."

The program was already in place when McDonald came to teach at Central Washington University in 1997. The University of Washington and Heritage College are two other schools that offer this service. Here in Ellensburg, the Senior Center also holds free tax preparation.

For Andre Sella, junior business major, visiting the assistance program marked the first time he filed his taxes. His friend, one of the students filing taxes, encouraged him to come. Sella was impressed by the program.

"It's pretty easy. They know what they're doing and I don't know what I'm doing," Sella said. "It only took like 10 minutes."

In addition to gaining practical knowledge, accounting students also have the opportunity of seeing firsthand how filing taxes can impact a person's life. Their work results in imparting good news—a refund, or bad news—taxes are still owed. Sometimes, that news can be fairly substantial.

According to Howe, some people, including those who do not make much money and have a family to support, can walk out with a $6,000 refund check.

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NEED A LITTLE HELP
WITH YOUR TAXES?

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Football Blood Drive
Central's football team is holding their first American Red Cross Blood drive today from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Nicholas Pavilion Field House.

The team hopes to collect 100 pints. Those who wish to donate are to schedule an appointment by calling the Central Training Room at 509-963-9238 or e-mail Ken Kladnich at kladnich@cwu.edu.

Safari Outage
Central applications, including Safari, PeopleSoft, Blackboard, etc. will be offline tomorrow from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students with questions should call Central IT at 509-963-2292.

Free Concert
Central based band Mon Marie will be holding a free concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 in the Student Union and Recreation Center Ballroom.

City Council Meeting
A city council meeting is being held at 7 p.m. on Monday, in the City Council Chambers. Those interested can contact Coreen Reno at 509-962-7204 for agenda items.

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Former Central star arrested
Moses Lewis, a former Central student and wide-receiver, was arrested for burglary and malicious mischief second degree early Sunday morning.

Student BOT member
Student Board of Trustee applications are now available. The position will last one year.

Applications are due April 16 at 5 p.m. in SURC 236. For more information, contact ASCWU-BOD President Katie Underwood at underwood@cwu.edu or call 509-963-1700.

First Friday Brown Bag Concert
"Children in Music in Ellensburg" is being held noon tomorrow at Gallery One as part of Classics In Ellensburg.

Performers will include Central faculty and students, as well as community members. The Concert runs from 12:05 p.m. to 12:50 p.m.

"Those attending are encouraged to bring a lunch. For more information, contact Carrie Redholf at 509-963-1240 or e-mail rekhlof@cwu.edu.

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CENTRAL STAFF MEMBER DIES
Paulette Bond, Central costume shop supervisor and lecturer, passed away last Friday at the Yakima Regional Medical Center due to an extended illness. She was 61.

Bond was a Central alumna from 1983. She had a BA in Theatre Arts and graduated with honors.

Bond had a hand in the costume-making for numerous organizations in the community, including Central Theatre Ensemble, CWU opera productions, Ellensburg High School and Ellensburg Youth Ballet.

Starting in 1986, Bond began working in CWU's Theatre Arts department in the costume shop while she was still a student. In 2001, she attained her permanent staff member position as costume shop supervisor. Bond created designs for costumes, hair, wigs and makeup to supplement her supervision.

She taught costume and makeup at Central and hair and makeup at other campuses, including the University of Ohio, Louisiana State University and Tulane University.

Her memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on April 20 in the Sue Lombard Reception Room.

Bond's family requests that contributions rather than flowers be given to the Paulette Bond Memorial Scholarship at www.cwu.edu/theatre/BONDdonationform.pdf or at 509-963-1700.

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800-533-0822
Students’ future grin with apathy on the rise

Each year since I’ve been a part of The Observer staff, I like to give a sort of motivational piece asking everyone to get involved and active somewhere on campus—anything ranging from joining or creating a club to attending a speaker series, or even just a movie in the theater.

Being a former Central RA, I took it upon myself to let students know how to maximize their experience and, frankly, their money spent and get them aware of how to make the most out of what they can accomplish on campus.

Regardless of whether or not my residents—or readers of The Observer—listened to me, I felt that I did my part, even if so much as to just try and influence one person to leave their mark at Central.

As for a different approach, I didn’t want to take, but it’s becoming the only way to know how to get a point across.

I had a rather starting concept begin to develop through high school up to now: apathy is very quickly becoming a new trend.

With this new group of students I see make their way on campus: no one cares about what happens with the university—it’s just you and your friends that matter, followed distantly with grades.

I can’t say I was surprised to see this happening. For me, it started all the way back in middle school at Bellevue, Wash., where success was top priority and school spirit became the unfortunate victim.

Is anyone actually aware of the state of Central outside of what they can find out here? Does anyone actually care how the Services and Activities Fee Committee is spending their money to improve their college experience?

Last year in particular, it seemed our outcome has become a double-edged sword: new Clubs are on the rise but member volume is dropping. Despite the candidates’ growing enthusiasm, student government has hit an all-time low.

Whether it be the Residence Hall Association or Central’s campus—do you think they deserve those paychecks? I didn’t think so. The end, no one can really complain, since it’s our fault that we let it happen.

I’m hoping that I can make it clear just how angered this makes me, but at the same time, I guess it’s caught up to me: I really don’t care what happens anymore. It’s like an acquired helpless sword: new Clubs are on the rise, student government has hit an all-time low. The year prior, in what could be the unfortunate victim.

I remember my father talking to me when he heard I was accepted into college. I think he was used were, “You better bust your ass so you can pay for mine later.”

He’s since passed away, but the thought still lingers. My freshman year, I met barely anyone and did hardly anything outside of classroom work and even then, I was pretty bad at getting that done. I tried every several things, such as RHA, but the whole time I just felt disconnected.

Then I was recommended to an RA position and the rest is history.

Now, I’m hoping that I can make it clear just how interested I am in taking my RA position and the rest is history.

Regardless of whether or not my residents—or readers of The Observer—listened to me, I felt that I did my part, even if so much as to just try and influence one person to leave their mark at Central.

This is how I’m taking a different approach. One I didn’t want to take, but it’s becoming the only way to know how to get a point across.
Dear spring, you really suck.

Central students are getting sick of this dizzying Ellensburg spring and the evidence is everywhere.

I was walking to a meeting in jeans and a light sweater the other day when the weather quite suddenly turned from a cool, but sunny, afternoon to a virtual blizzard. By the time I arrived at my destination, it was as if the snow had never fallen and spring was really here.

I almost thought I had hallucinated, until I looked around and saw a familiar look of expectation on the faces of fellow Wildcats.

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McIntosh brings Anjuman home

Multi-cultural performance led by
Central alum features guest sitarist

by Kayla Schroeder
Staff reporter

After traveling to India, Central Alumnus Brandon McIntosh returns to Ellensburg with his Indian, Afro-Cuban Ensemble, Anjuman.

"Their mix of culture is what makes Anjuman unique," Mindy Holiday, marketing supervisor for Central's Publicity Center, said. "It's my impression that they strive for each member to bring their own talents and experiences to the group as a whole."

McIntosh received his percussion degree as well as the Departmental Honors Award in music from Central and soon after relocated to Kolkata, India where he studied the sarod with Pandit Biddhahad Daugpaut. McIntosh also utilized his time in India by teaching at the Calcutta School of Music. In returning to America, he continued to pursue his musical education and in 2005 received his masters in music composition from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"I love being able to share Indian classical music with a group who probably has little exposure," McIntosh said. "[Our sound] combines melody from India with rhythm from Cuba, like a fusion or jazz group."

In the three years since then, McIntosh has joined musical talent with drummer and previous bandmate Seth Littlefield and bassist Phil Georges. Together, the Seattle-based Anjuman has performed at various venues such as the Northwest FolkFest, The Seattle Art Museum and Seattle University. The group recently released their debut album with London Bridge Studios and producer Jon Plum.

"This is a genre different from what we've had in the past," Jenny Ekins, Campus Activities programmer, said. "It gets you in touch with a culture different from your own. It's always good to see someone [such as McIntosh] succeed from Central."

At 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, April 3, Anjuman visits Central for the first time as a musical ensemble. The group's live performance will be held in the Student Union Recreation Center Pit, free of charge. The performance will also include featured guest and award-winning sitar player Neeraj Prem.

"Campus Life really tries to bring different styles and themes of entertainment from around the world," Holiday said. "It's educating but also opens eyes to different types of music."
Central Washington Gamers: A Virtual Reality

by Stephanie Sype
Staff reporter

Since the dawn of their existence video games have influenced many people, and have influenced a race of people known as gamers.

Video Games are not defined as their own genre, but the Central Washington Gamers (CGW) club redéfines the art of gaming with their club, which was established in 2003 by gradates Bradford Cox.

The club was establisched and dedicated for those who share a common interest in video games. The club plays all platforms of gaming from the Atari system to the Nintendo Wii. But the club offers much more than video games for the gamers of Central Washington University.

“We support all consoles, all platforms, and all game genres... basically anything video game related. We have a good time, it’s a lot of fun to join,” said Evan Belfinger, senior information technology major and CGW president.

Several times a year the CGW host events for the campus to promote and to get people more in touch with their virtual selves. In the past, big events hosted by the CGW were the 50 Man LAN, and Evil Dewer. Other events include the occasional Guitar Hero contest that usually take place in the SURC.

“It’s great to have a Guitar Hero in between classes, I think it’s awesome that the Central Washington Gamers get together and make it happen for us,” said junior accounting major Ryan Garrett.

The big event that all of Central has been waiting for is the Running of the Bulls LAN. Students can come play or network with other people who want to be a part of the adventure.

The event dedicated a whole entire weekend to gameplay where participants can challenge, be challenged, or just play with others. The CGW club is sponsored by Red Bull, so Red Bull is complimentary for those that are pumped to play.

The Running of the Bulls LAN is scheduled to take place from 5-10 p.m. on Saturday, April 12 and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday April 13. This big event brings gamers from all over the state.

There are plenty of tournaments to go around such as the new Super Smash Bros. Bowl, Halo 3, Counter-Strike: Source, and Call of Duty 4. The cost is $5 for members, $10 for general admission and $7 for those who choose to join the CWG and attend the event.

The club meetings are held every other Tuesday, with the Tuesdays in between set aside for free game play. During meetings aside from the busy work it takes to host special events. Sometimes during the meetings members watch trailers and reviews of upcoming games. Don’t worry, the meetings are not all work and no play for the president of the CGW club and its members.

“It's a little stressful. Sometimes you have to do the nitty gritty stuff of events. Like the upcoming LAN party, and making sure everything is in order, and that the finances are straight. It’s rewarding to see that it all works out and when you see people show up and having fun,” said Belfinger.

There are other benefits in store for holding member status. Not only does the club welcome all gamers and platforms but all types of people with all types of interests.

“There are so many gamers, it's like its really great to be the vice president and to show other girls its not just a bunch of dudes. So don't be intimated, we are very open and a little bit silly. Our meetings are a little bit of formal stuff...and then video games. If you like to play at all, stop on by,” said Erin Masterson, junior art education student and vice president of CWG.

For more information, visit www.centralwashingtongamers.net.

An epic missing the meaning of an epic

by Myja Freese
Staff reporter

Beginning this month, students have the opportunity to show off their talent during Open Mic Night, hosted by Campus Activities.

What makes Open Mic Night such a great event is the diversity of the performers, according to Sarah Grant, Campus Activities student programmer. In previous nights there have been performances of spoken word, a rapper, acoustic acts, as well as instrumental.

“I'm hoping that this will keep up because it makes for an entertaining and unique night,” Grant said.

The first Open Mic Night begins at 7 p.m. on April 17 in the Student Union and Recreation Center Pit. Open Mic Night is held multiple times a quarter. The other nights are: May 1, 15, and 29.

If you are eager to show off your new martial sign up start at 6:30 p.m. and there are guaranteed spots, with 15 minutes stage time per act so get there early. All types of acts are welcome and there is no cost for students who just want to enjoy an evening of entertainment.

A cappella group sings with CWU

by Darcy Wydro
Staff reporter

Last night at 7 p.m., Central Washington University's Choral Studies Program presented a vocal performance featuring the Haven High School A Cappella Choir from Havre, Montana. The a cappella group joined Central's Chamber Choir and Women's Choir for a free concert featuring selections with and without instrumental accompaniment. The ensembles performed styles ranging from early Baroque to contemporary folk, covering selections by Anton Bruckner, Gabriel Faure, Arvo Pärt, and Eric Whitacre.

The performance took place as part of an ongoing choral exchange program hosted by Central which allows choirs from other universities, high schools, and junior high schools to perform and attend workshops through CWU's choral program. Next Wednesday, April 9, at 7 p.m. CWU's Choral Program will host a joint concert featuring CWU's Chamber Choir and Pacific Lutheran University's Choir of the West, one of the most well-known vocal groups in the western United States.

The event is set to take place at the Music Building Concert Hall and will be free to the public.

Photo from screenhead.com
American Storyteller comes to Central

by Megan O'Malley
Staff reporter

Exploration of how America came to be was never so lively or personal until Ken Burns began filming.

The noted documentary maker, whose works have made him the face of PBS for the last thirty years, will be speaking on campus on April 8. He comes as part of the Presidential Speaker Series, whose theme this year is "Lessons from History".

Burns first came on to the scene in 1982 when his Academy Award nominated documentary "Brooklyn Bridge". Since "Lessons from History", he was never so lively or personal until Ken Burns began filming.

The noted documentary maker, Exploration of how America came to be was never so lively or personal until Ken Burns began filming.

Burns' documentaries focus on the everyday man, and what they had to go through to bring the United States to where it is today. One of his first major works, "The Civil War" aired on PBS in 1990. The ten-part series explores the Civil War and the effects it had on the country. The series became a pop culture sensation. The story does not focus on the heroes of the war, but rather the civilians and soldiers who dealt with it every day. As with Burns' other documentaries, the focus is on telling their story.

"He pretty much has his finger on the pulse of American society, we always root for the underdog," Lien said.

Burns focuses on everyday people who happen to be involved in great things. His most recent production "The War" focuses on this aspect during the harrowing days of World War II.

When coming to campus, Burns will discuss his latest film and how he developed the story. His documentaries tell the story of America, and how we came to be. They transcend the traditional movie markets and allow generations of viewers to reclaim a personal sense of history.

President Jerilyn Mcintyre professes that her favorite work is "The Civil War." When choosing speakers for this year's theme but also brought "kind of a "industry. You will gain a greater understanding of this dynamic business.

When coming to campus, Burns will be speaking about "Sharing the American Experience" at 7 p.m. on April 8 in the SURC Ballroom.

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A Moss Adams representative will be on campus for a Q&A session on April 8th at noon in Shaw Snyser room 111. Come hear more about the 2008 Navigate Your Career Conference!

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**Going all in:**

Central's card sharks duke it out

by James Anderson

Staff reporter

Texas Hold'em is sweeping Central in a series of tournaments sponsored by the Campus Activities office in which students will put their pride on the line for a chance to go to the final winner's table.

"I love poker, it's so intriguing, I love everything about it," said Sarah Abouhamad, Campus Activities programmer and tournament promoter.

The poker tournament has a total of eight individual rounds including a final round in which the winners from the previous rounds will come together to duke it out over a bluff-filled game of Texas Hold'em.

It costs five dollars to reserve a spot in the tournament and every player's entry money is pooled for a grand prize that will be given out to the winner of the final round.

"I won't reveal the details about the grand prize clouded in secrecy although she commented that it would probably not be a simple cash prize.

The tournament, which began earlier this year, has been a massive success with the students at Central due to the low cost of entry and the experience of meeting new people.

"The turn out has been great," Abouhamad said. "The player count has ranged from 15 to 40 people."

Thane Prather, senior business major, was the winner of the second round of the tournament, and has played poker around the nation at different schools he has attended. Prather had an exhilarating time at the Central Texas Hold'em tournament.

"Even if you're not good at cards, it's great just to sit around and BS with people," Prather said. "It was a lot of fun."

The next round of play is taking place on April 9 and is being held in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) Ballroom. The tournament is played around five or six tables, depending on the turn out size.

Prather thought the competition in the tournament was great, but that it shouldn't scare off amateur poker players.

"We are all amateurs," Prather said. "I just got called out on good hands."

Abouhamad, who doesn't actually take part in playing at the tournaments, feels that playing poker against a variety of different people is not the only reason for playing in the tournament.

"Everybody plays differently," Abouhamad said. "You can tell a lot about a person from the way they play their hand. It's a great way to meet new people."

The last two rounds of play, April 9 and April 23, are still open for entry.

"In the past it's been a gentlemens game," Abouhamad said. "But with the popularity of the Central poker tournaments, we're hoping the younger generation can keep it going."

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**CWU Poker Tournament**

Last two rounds: April 9 and 23

Location: SURC Ballroom

Admission: $5

Grand prize: ???

Open to: Everybody!

Contact: abouhamads@cwu.edu

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**Turk's azymes Central students with comedy-magic**

by Rachel Gallierno

Staff reporter

A tall, caped figure emerges from a cloud of smoke. He says nothing at first but simply removes his hat and places his white glove into it. The audience's eyes begin to water from the smoke but he says nothing at first.

"That's my dad!" Rose Turk said. "I thought it was the coolest thing ever and I wanted to be a magician when I grew up."

Jack Turk grew up in a small town near Colon, Mich., home of one of the top magic factories in the country. Every year, people from around the world gather for a magical festival, officially known as Abbot's Magic Get-Together. Jack Turk has fond memories of these festivities.

"I use to go to this magic shop as a kid," Jack Turk said. "I would beg, plead, whine, whatever until my mom would take me to this magic shop. And she did, many, many times."

The Central Washington University Opera Club will try to bring that feeling back to the audience tomorrow evening as it sponsors a night of illusion and fun starring Turk the Magic Genie. The show will start at 7 p.m. on April 4 in the CWU Music Building Concert Theater.

"Turk is a full-time magician over on the west side," said Rose Turk, CWU Club Fundraiser Coordinator.

"He specializes in family shows with lots of audience participation."

He calls it a "comedy-magic" show, created to make kids laugh. Rose Turk, a vocal performance major alumna from Central, happens to be the genie's daughter.

"That's my dad!" Rose Turk said. "I thought it was the coolest thing ever and I wanted to be a magician when I grew up."
Fighting over your queries

Welcome to The Observer’s brand new advice column! Any questions, concerns or dilemmas you send in will be reviewed, and if chosen will run in this space, with both a male and female response. E-mail us at cwwobserver@gmail.com.

HE SAID:

Guys, I’m here for you. As a self-proclaimed philosopher by hobby, my brain enjoys being picked. However, it seems to be the simple day-to-day situations that are the most difficult to fix. Whether your girlfriend is pissed for some unknown reason or you find yourself fighting a daily battle in the campus parking lots, I promise you are not alone. People can relate, everyone has drama. Allow me to help, that’s what I’m here for.

SHE SAID:

As humans, we all need a shoulder to cry on every once in awhile. Or someone to just listen. Life is complicated, and nobody should have to experience it alone. Whether your roommate is the most horrible person on the planet, or Mom refuses to spare you that extra buck, there are people out there who can offer you a few words. That’s where I come in. Seek wisdom, and I will listen. Ask, and I will answer.

OPR leads hikers into sunset beyond Manastash Ridge

By Stephanie Olson
Staff reporter

Fresh air, fitness and stress relief are just the start of the path with sunset hikes.

Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR), combined with Group Fitness, are offering a sunset hike near Manastash Ridge every Tuesday. Participants will meet at 5 p.m. at the OPR shop to catch the van and will return at 7 p.m. to the shop. The hike is three miles of tough terrain and participants should expect a challenge.

“The hike is going to be steep and kind of rocky,” said Geoff Curtis, Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) shop worker and hike leader. “It’s on a ridge: it’s actually a hike out of the canyon.”

In addition to fitness and a physical challenge, Curtis hopes to give hikers a new outlet this spring.

“Hiking is stress relief for anyone that really just needs to get out of town,” he said.

“He has given it a great twist,” said Ryan Hopkins, OPR Coordinator. “It is kind of that ‘lets-unwind-from-work thing.’”

According to Corey Sims, Fitness and Membership Services coordinator, students enjoy the social atmosphere that comes with group fitness, and combined with OPR, that atmosphere will be taken outside, where Group Fitness normally doesn’t go.

“(The program) is something different, something new that we haven’t seen in the past,” said Sims.

The cost is $2 for the ride, $10 for eight weeks of hikes or is free for those with a Fitness Pass. The Fitness Pass allows access into the Group Fitness classes University Recreation offers. The Fitness Pass is available for $10 for 10 classes, $20 a month for unlimited classes and $45 for a quarter of unlimited classes.

Registration for the hike is available in the OPR shop and is open to anyone within the campus community at any fitness level. Hikers should bring water, snacks, hiking shoes and as it can get windy during the day Curtis suggested everyone should bring clothing to layer, but try to keep light weight.

Artist shares techniques with local youth

ABOVE: During his two-hour session with students attending a watercolor workshop, Mexican artist Javier Lopez Ortiz produced this drawing as a demonstration. Ortiz’s work was on display at the Allied Arts of Yakima through the end of March.

RIGHT: Hannah Crowley looks over the drawing made by Javier Lopez Ortiz during the demonstration on Wednesday.

BELOW: Javier Lopez Ortiz, along with his friend and interpreter Noe Gutierrez, speak with Jose Guizar, junior graphic design major, Jessica Moskua, executive Director of the Allied Arts of Yakima, and Michael Ervin, director of the Center for Latino and Latin-American studies on Wednesday after the drawing demonstration.

Photos by Amanda Umberger/Observer
Realistically, 30 to 35 wins will allow the Central Washington Baseball team to make postseason play. An 0-7 is not the ideal start for achieving that goal.

The Wildcats have since rallied to take each of its last four series in Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) play and is atop the conference standings at 9-2.

"We got off to such a bad start," head coach Desi Storey said. "Our focus was not where it should have been. Everyone was gunning for us and it really took its toll on us."

Central junior Tyler Levin - last year's GNAC pitcher of the year - had a rough start to the season; it wasn't completely his fault. In his first three games, Levin gave up four earned runs in 19 1/3 innings pitched en route to an 0-2 start with a no decision.

But since that time, he has won three games in a row, Levin is a star with three complete games, 43 strikeouts, and a 2.45 earned run average.

"My arm is feeling really good," Levin said. "I've just been focusing on going aggressive after hitters. The wins are going to keep coming if the hitting and defense stays strong on our team."

The complete transformation from losing to winning is really beginning to grow on the baseball team. After taking a series from Western Oregon for the first time in three years, Central moved into third in the rotation.

"We got off to such a bad start," Storey said. "It puts so much pressure on teams to start their final at bat, she denied a game-winning blast by Toros right fielder Katie Garcia.

The one-run defeat spoiled a solid pitching performance by CWU junior right-hander Lime Vilovich, who allowed just three hits while striking out six.

However, one of her two walks to Jodi Nakawatase came around to score. CSU-Dominguez Hills then scored the game-winning run in the eighth inning thanks to the International Tie-Breaker Rule, with Nakawatase driving home the final tally with a sacrifice fly.

In game two, Central struck first as Holtman reached base on a two-out error; junior catcher Holly Rossman then delivered the Wildcats' only extra-base hit of the day, a double to right field. Central then scored four more for the Wildcats to put them up by a 16-1 margin. Central would allow six runs over the next two innings but the damage by Anderson had been done.

Highlighting this year's play has been Shoemaker and senior shortstop Jamie Nilsen. Nilsen, who owns 11 career records, including hits, total bases and runs, is on pace to break several more records this season.

In Shoemaker's past outings, he shut down Montana State-Billings in a complete game and earned himself GNAC Co-Pitcher of the Week honors. He is now slated in the second spot in the starting pitching rotation, pushing left-handed senior Jordan Moore to the fourth spot.

Senior right-hander Travis Bertholf delivers a pitch during baseball team practice earlier this week. Central plays host to a four game series with Northwest Nazarene this Friday and Saturday.

The Wildcats batted around, combining for 14 hits, and took game three of the series 11-8.

In game four, the Wildcats pitching staff continued to shut down the Yellowjackets bats. Moore went the distance, allowing only four hits and striking out eight in seven innings of work.

Central enters this weekend's four game set against Northwest Nazarene having won 15 of its last 18 games.

Central women's softball team got off to a slow start at the Tournament of Champions in Turlock, Calif last weekend. Losing the first game of the day 2-1 in eight innings to Cal State Dominguez Hills, and losing their second game of the tournament again in the final at bat against 20th-ranked Humboldt State, 4-2.

In the first game of the day on Friday, senior first baseman Mallory Holtman went 2 for 4 and at one inch away of winning the game with a two-run home run in the bottom of the eighth. However, after fouling off five consecutive pitches to start her final at bat, she was denied a game-winning blast by Toros right fielder Katie Garcia.

The one-run defeat spoiled a solid pitching performance by CWU junior right-hander Lime Vilovich, who allowed just three hits while striking out six. However, one of her two walks to Jodi Nakawatase came around to score. CSU-Dominguez Hills then scored the game-winning run in the eighth inning thanks to the International Tie-Breaker Rule, with Nakawatase driving home the final tally with a sacrifice fly.

In game two, Central rallied again to come from behind and defeat the Wolves, 6-2.

Despite giving up a pair of early runs, junior right-hander Derek Shoemaker was able to go the distance allowing only four hits and striking out seven.

"Baseball is starting to be fun," junior outfielder A.J. Gosney said. "We are confident. We are having fun, playing but just how we play each game."

Senior first baseman Hank Anderson homered twice in the first game of a double header against the College of Idaho on March 18. His first shot, a two-run blast, came in the second inning and came as part of a run from winning.

His second homer of the afternoon came in the seventh inning, this one scored three more for the Wildcats to put them up by a 1-6 margin. Central would allow six runs over the next two innings but the damage by Anderson had been done.

Highlighting this year's play has been Shoemaker and senior shortstop Jamie Nilsen. Nilsen, who owns 11 career records, including hits, total bases and runs, is on pace to break several more records this season.

In Shoemaker's last outing, he shut down Montana State-Billings in a complete game and earned himself GNAC Co-Pitcher of the Week honors. He is now slated in the second spot in the starting pitching rotation, pushing left-handed senior Jordan Moore to the fourth spot.

Behind Shoemaker, the Wildcats took the first game of the four game set 4-1.

Anderson had another big game with his third home run of the week in game two. His two run blast came in the fifth inning to extend the Wildcats lead to 7-2. Central would tack on another run in the bottom of the sixth to round out the 8-2 victory.

Nilsen took over in game three, going 4-5 with two RBIs and two runs scored.

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Edgar Martinez: Is he Hall of Fame bound or not?

October 3, 2004. That was the last night we saw the Mariner great, Edgar Martinez, on the playing field. I was there, that day in October, to witness the end of an era for the Seattle Mariners.

The feeling still runs wild for Mariners fans when they see this man, for what he not only did for this team and the city of Seattle, but also the State of Washington.

For long-time Mariners fans, the 1995 American League Division Series lives on as probably one of the most powerful and emotional times in the team's history. At the time the league was looking to move from Tampa Bay because of poor performance, and it came down to an amazing season to save the team and baseball in the Emerald City.

Martinez, hit a whopping .317 with 18 hits and a huge grand slam during series to beat the Yankees, and could have possibly saved baseball in the Emerald City single-handedly.

Martinez, who was inducted into the Mariners Hall of Fame in 2007, now looks forward to a new chapter in his amazing career. In 2008, Martinez's name will appear on the ballot for the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

Sports writers across America have gone round on whether or not Martinez belongs in the Hall, primarily because he was a designated hitter for most of his career.

Numbers don't lie: Martinez, who got a late start at the age of 27 and acquired 2,247 hits, which is more than Hall of Famers Mike Schmidt, Willie Stargell, Joe DiMaggio, and Willie McCovey. He hit 309 home runs in his seventeen-year career, putting him above former Rogers Hornady, Ryan Sandberg, Joe Morgan and Brooks Robinson. His career batting average of 312 is better than Jackie Robinson and Paul Molitor.

The stats don't just tell the story for Martinez: though he wore AL batting titles in 1992 and 1993. He was a five-time AL Silver Slugger, and was voted to the AL All-Star team seven times. More importantly his entire career was all spent in Seattle with the Mariners, which in the age of free agency is rare. Off the field, Martinez dedicates his time to helping the community and in 2004 was awarded the Roberto Clemente award which is given to "the player who best combines outstanding baseball skills with devoted work in the community."

But does all of this help Edgar Martinez get into the Baseball Hall of Fame, and become the first Seattle Mariner in the Hall?

In my opinion, yes—Edgar hands down will be a Hall of Famer. Let's just look at the facts, his numbers alone show that he is Hall quality. His loyalty to the team is also Hall quality. He never gave up on the Mariners and Seattle fans still embraces him as a god. If Martinez was in Greek mythology, he would be the god of running, along with Nolan Ryan as the god of pitching and Billy Martin as the god of coaching. He put in a good run on baseball and played the game the way it should be played—everyday, as hard as possible.

With the drug scandals of today's players, a true gentleman of the game like Martinez put a good face on baseball's dark times.

The only thing that goes against him is being a designated hitter. In this day, however, DHs are one of the most important positions on the team. Look at David Ortiz, and don't say that he will be a Hall of Famer someday. The Red Sox would not win without him. That may be the only small hurdle in Edgar's path to the hall.

It also depends on who will compete against him on the ballot. Martinez will not only compete against fellow Mariner Ken Griffey Jr., former Boston Red Sox Manager, and Barry Bonds, but also former teammates, Nick Smith, out run him by 26 milliseconds. Cronkhite said that it was exciting because they have not run against each other since high school.

"He's coming along very well for 800 meters," said Adkisson about Cronkhite. "He's been doing a great job competing."

Other men who competed from Central in the Oregon Preview were junior Matt Rook (800 meters) with a time of 1:57.65 in the 800 meter dash; freshman Tom Johnson, with a time of 4:11.64 in the 1500-meter Run II Section; senior Brian Reckenbach with a time of 6:26.49 in the Men's 2000 Meter Steeplechase; senior Scott McCoy who did not height, meaning he did not have enough height to be placed, and senior Ian Wells who threw 47.88 meters in the Men's Discus.

Women who competed from Central included senior Britney Hoo with a time of 32.44 in the 200-meter Dash and 27.33 in the 200-meter Dash. Senior Chelsea Evans finished with a time of 26.96 in the 200-meter Dash and 1:00.09 in the 400-meter Dash.

"There were a lot of solid performances," Adkisson said about the team. He added that he thought it was a good race.

The Spring Break Open, which took place on March 22 in Edmonds, included two runners from Central. Sophomore Mary Bakerman, with a final time of 11:16.20 the 3,000-meter run, and freshman Jeff Knutson, with 4:34.51 in the 1500 meters.

Adkisson added that while Central's spring break caused a low turnout for the Spring Break Open, he expects numbers to rise soon.

"April is a really big month for us," said Adkisson.

Central has to four more weeks to qualify for conference and it's important for the runners to do well so that they can compete nationally.

Upcoming meets include the Willamette Invitational, in Salem, on Friday; the Stanford Invitational, in Stanford, Calif. this weekend; Western Washington University Combined Events in Bellingham this weekend; and the Sherwood Invitational, which will take place on Saturday in Tacoma.

Adkisson added that Stanford is a "special meet" and is one of the hardest meets to get into because of the number of spots available.

by Brooke Sauf
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's Track and Field team recently competed in two meets: the Oregon Preview and the Spring Break Open. At The Oregon Preview which took place in Eugene, OR. - Central was represented particularly well. Central won the "B" section of the Women's 3,000 meter with Senior Marcie Mullen, with a time of 10:12.81. The "B" section is made up of runners who are not from private or big schools, whose athletes run in section "A." Mullen's main event was the 10,000 meter run.

"Marcie's really showing that she's in amazing shape as fitness goes," Central's track and field coach Kevin Adkisson said.

Mullen beat out 18 competitors, including teammate Sarah Benson. Benson came in 9th with a time of 30:19.15.

"It feels very good," Mullen said in response to winning. "It was a surprise."

Corey Cronkhite, a junior from Poulsbo, took a second place finish in the "B" section of the Men's 800 meter race, with a time of 1:58.94. Cronkhite is a former high school teammate, Nick Smith, out ran him by 26 milliseconds. Cronkhite said that it was exciting because they have not run against each other since high school.

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A stack of old floor boards at Nicholson Pavilion show evidence of the renovation at the Central landmark. Construction on the Pavilion should be complete by late August or early September.

Nicholson Pavilion receiving much needed renovations
by Marjorie Allen
Senior reporter

Students walking past Nicholson Pavilion wouldn’t be able to notice the massive overall remodeling that is underway inside the building. The building is currently in the third phase of a four-phase project to renovate the inside of the building. A complete remodel of the gym is the focus of this third phase, with the bleachers currently being removed.

“We definitely have the nicest facilities in the league when the renovations are complete,” said G.C. Coleman, assistant basketball coach. “Along with the court, the front lobby windows, doors, floor coverings, and the women and men’s restrooms at the west end of the lobby will also be remodeled. Some new additions to the Pavilion will be a concession and ticket booth and new offices for administrators.

Construction on these projects will begin sometime in April after the bid for the contract is completed. No-floor seating is focusing on the bleachers and will add a reserved seating section, but the bid for the renovation of the gym and lobby began yesterday.

“It was a challenging project to say the least,” said Jack Bishop, Central Washington University athletic director. “We start high and things get cut out. We saw a rise in prices because of the cost of gasoline.”

The estimated cost of the project is $2 million and is taken from a pool of money allocated by the state for structure improvements.

Bishop says that after this phase is completed in August or September of this year, that 65 percent of the renovation plans will be completed. The expansion of the offices on the second floor will be the final phase of the project, but Bishop says that the start of that phase is uncertain.

What is certain, however, are the benefits that will be gained by the renovation of the court and the other additions to Nicholson Pavilion. The biggest impact will probably be felt and seen on the court says Greg Sparling, men’s basketball head coach.

“It helps recruiting immensely,” Sparling said. “We’ll have the nicest facilities in the GNAC, and that does nothing but help recruiting.”

Sparling also anticipates that the renovation will bring more people into the gym to watch games and create bigger crowds, which helps the team on the floor.

Though there are benefits to remodeling the court in Nicholson, the change will bring an end to an era.

“There are four teams ahead of us in the GNAC,” Sparling said. “For us to just play one game at a time, no opponents are looked up to. It doesn’t matter if it is a conference game or a non-conference game.”

Baseball ready for home series this weekend
by Casey Donovan
Senior reporter

Bad blood usually happens between teams, this is between coaches.

This Friday and Saturday the Central Washington University baseball team will host the Northwest Nazarene Crusaders in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference play.

In 2006, umpires called a game between the two teams after rain drowned the field. Nazarene Head Coach Tim Onofrei and Wildcat Head Coach Desi Stover began to discuss rescheduling when Central let it rip.

The two coaches got face-to-face at home plate after Onofrei accused Central of having umpires that were against the Crusaders.

“I’d like to sweep them, honestly,” Stover said. “I think it’s realistic.”

And that is what Central plans to do with their newly defined approach to each game. In the past, personal goals were the contributing factor to a bad start.

There is no better time for the team that the Wildcats love to hate to come to town.

“There is a new guy that steps up for us every weekend,” pitcher outfilder A.J. Gosney said. “Everyone is playing for each other. I don’t really think that was happening early on in the season.”

The Wildcat new found offense is blustering with a 3.25 average during their four-game winning streak. The starting pitcher showed up as well, giving up only five runs.

The Crusaders come to Central with a disappointing split against Montana State-Billings at home. Their mark of 20-12 is a bit exaggerated as their non-conference schedule was full of Division III schools. They are 4-6 in the GNAC.

“This is a major stretch of conference play,” Onofrei said. “For us we just play one game at a time, no opponents are locked up to. It doesn’t matter if it is a conference game or a non-conference game.”

Elk shedding occurring around Kittitas County
by Jay Remick
Staff reporter

Hunters and outdoor lovers alike can now hunt something else with elk season long gone. Elk are now starting to drop their antlers around the Kittitas area and you might just happen to stumble upon a nice elk shed while walking through the forests surrounding Ellensburg.

Although there is no set season for shed hunting, elk usually start to drop their antlers around the third week of February and can keep their antlers well into March and early April. Some of the best places to find elk sheds have a set season, and those places are the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area and the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area.

Both the L.T. Murray and the Whiskey Dick Wildlife Area’s are elk feeding stations ran by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Whiskey Dick area is closed from Feb. 1 through May 1. The L.T. Murray area works different. There is no set time to start and the closing time is usually around 12 December. The charge are $500 fine and a mandatory court date.

Shed hunting can be a great way to get out and enjoy the outdoors while getting exercise, but it’s not easy.

According to Wayne C. Hunt, a Wildlife Biologist for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, people new to shed hunting think that it’s something easy to do, but elk sheds are hard to spot.

If you do plan to go shed hunting in the Kittitas area make sure you know your surroundings and watch for changing weather conditions. Be aware of bear, cougars, and many other animals that may be in the area.

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Central Catcher junior Andrew Snowdon waits for the pitch as Central took on Montana State Billings on March 22nd. Central swept the four game weekend series against MSBU.

Fact of the Week
Ron VanderSchaaf is the only CWU basketball player drafted in the NBA. He was selected by the Lakers in the 1987 draft. He earned a championship ring as a part of the Lakers in 1988.

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C Campus Burger Basket and Medium soft drink $5.95 + tax

Brianne Jette/Obserev
The Wildcats huddle around assistant coach Karl Albrecht during a timeout with 11:55 to play. Central struggled from the free throw line down the stretch and only managed to go 6 of 11 from the charity stripe.

by Curtis Crabtree
Sports editor

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - For the second time in 14 months, Seattle Pacific guard Marques Echols hit a buzzer beater against the Wildcats.

The difference? This one ended the Wildcats' season.

With only 5.2 seconds to go, Echols took an inbound pass, drove three quarters of the court around a double-screen. After pulling up, he shot the ball. The shot snapped the net and gave the Falcons a 58-57 victory over the Wildcats in the first round of the NCAA West Regional Tournament at the Wells Fargo Sports Complex in Anchorage.

The Falcons came off the bench to swarm Echols as the Wildcats were left to look on in disbelief.

On Jan. 27, 2007, Echols launched a desperation three-pointer from just inside the three-point arc to win that game by Dado. The Falcons then fouled Woods to send him to the line for a one-and-one opportunity with nine seconds to go. Woods missed the free throw and the Falcons rebounded and called timeout.

Echols then lifted the Falcons as the ball was in his hands the whole way. "Echols is the go-to guy for them, we knew he was going to get the ball," Woods said. "He just knocks them down. That's what good players do, they come through in the clutch and he came through."

The game was a stark contrast to the 105-96 overtime victory the Wildcats earned only six days prior, back in Ellensburg. Fifty-three fouls were called between the two teams at Nicholson Pavilion.

"The difference? This one ended the regular season finale," Daub said. "They're a great team, we're a great team. It was a good match-up and they just hit one more shot than us."

Senior guard Colton Monti converts a breakaway layup after forcing a steal against Seattle Pacific. The Wildcats would lose the game 64-57.

Junior guard Colton Monti converts a breakaway layup after forcing a steal against Seattle Pacific. The Wildcats would lose the game 64-57.

Alaska-Anchorage emerges as West Regional champs

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - Cal State-San Bernardino became the first upset victim of the West Regional tournament falling to seventh seeded BYU-Hawaii, 67-63.

Lucas Alves and Jerome Odjegba each had 16 points in knocking the Coyotes from the tournament.

ALL THREE CCAA teams would lose on day one of the tournament. BYU-Hawaii would go on to average three regular season losses to Chaminade to earn a berth in the West Regional final against Alaska-Anchorage.

The slower pace played into the Falcons favor.

"We have not won a game when a team scores over 80 points," Echols said. "So we knew we wanted to keep the score down so our focus was on the defensive end and luckily we prevailed."

Also different was the contribution from junior forward Matt Penonicki. Penonicki's play in the first half hindered his performance as he could only play 16 minutes and was held scoreless on only one attempt from the field after dropping 34 against the Falcons in the regular season finale.

Central lost the NCAA Tournament two seasons ago when it also dropped a first round contest to Seattle Pacific. The Wildcats finish the season at 21-7 and will lose Daub, Nate Jackson, and Tyler Monk to graduation.

"We knew exactly what we were up against," Daub said. "They're a great team, we're a great team. It was a good match-up and they just hit one more shot than us."

Observer Sports editor Curtis Crabtree can be reached at ccrabtree@cwru.edu.
Softball: Wildcats struggle at Tournament of Champions in California

continued from page 15

Linse Vlahovich pitched two complete-game victories, helping lead the Wildcats to a 2-1 record on day two of the Tournament. Vlahovich (7-8) combined to throw 242 pitches over 14 innings of work on Saturday, including her first shutout of the season in the Wildcats' 7-0 win over Chico State.

In that contest, she allowed just four hits, all singles, while striking out six and not walking a batter. The CWU offense also gave her plenty of support, with the assistance of five Chico errors.

Junior Catcher Holly Rossman had the first of her two home runs on the day with a two-run blast to left field, driving home senior Mallory Holtman, who had tripled, in the process.

In the day's second game against Sonoma State, the Wildcats scored the game's first run after three straight two-out singles in the first, but the Seawolves then scored nine unanswered runs against two Central Washington pitchers to carry a 9-1 lead into the bottom of the seventh.

CWU put together four runs in its final at bat with four hits and an error, and both Jackie Hawkins and Holtman had run-scoring doubles in the inning. However the effort put forth by the Wildcats didn't produce a win, giving the girls a 2-3 record in the tournament by the end of Saturday.

As a result of its games on Saturday, Central Washington earned the top seed out of Pool D thanks to the tournament's tie-breaking policy.

The Wildcats, Seattle University, and Western Oregon all finished with 2-3 record in their pool, while Western Washington was 1-4.

As a result of the tie-breaker, Central Washington will make its second-ever gold bracket appearance in the seven-year history of the tournament on Sunday.

Central Washington University junior Holly Rossman had two hits in each game, but the Wildcats lost twice to 20th-ranked Humboldt State, 4-0 and 7-3, in non-conference softball action on Monday morning at Warrior Field.

With the losses, Central finished its eight-game California trip with a 2:6 record and fell to 12-18 overall. Humboldt State improved to 34-12 overall and finished its stay in Turlock with a 9-0 record.

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SAFARI, Blackboard, Email and the entire Central Computer Facility will be down for maintenance on April 5th and April 12th

The ITS and Facility Management Departments want everyone to know that the entire Central Computer Facility will be "offline" for maintenance on April 5 and again on April 12. These outages are necessary to complete electrical work to increase the available power for additional equipment. Tentative schedules are:

- April 5: 7am to 2pm
- April 12: 2pm to 11pm

What will NOT be available:
- Safari, PeopleSoft, Blackboard, File Server access, CWU Websites, etc.
- Local Area Network access
- Internet access (administrative network and ResNet)
- Network printing services
- Email, Web access
- 4-digit dialing to/from University Centers, ITV
- ALSO off campus access to these services

What WILL be available:
- Telephone Service
- Your personal computers (PC and Mac)
- Local printing - direct connect

If in doubt, it’s probably out!!

Contact the ITS Help Desk at helpdesk@cwu.edu if you have questions/concerns regarding these outages.

For updates DURING the outage, call ext. 2992 for up-to-the-minute information.

in the GROOVE

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