Lakeside Landing: 
New project highlights center of state

by Shawn Gagnon
Special to the Observer

With all the construction going on along South Canyon Road, residents and travelers can look forward to two new hotels, two restaurants and an indoor water park.

Real Estate Agent Gary Maybee made an announcement about the 98-acre building project, labeling it “Lakeside Landing.” Maybee is the owner of the Inn at Goose Creek and will be overseeing the operations of the two hotels for the site.

The more than $20 million development includes a convention center, a miniature golf course and an array of shops.

The $20 million development includes a convention center, a miniature golf course and an array of shops.

Gary Maybee, REAL ESTATE AGENT

Funds for the project will not be coming out of the city’s pocket; Martin himself will be paying for it all through a private lender.

In July 2010, the idea of cancelling the Ellensburg Wine Festival will be made by the city within the next 60 days.

According to Maybee, the project “will be a boost to Ellensburg’s economy,” as it is expected to bring approximately $1.4 million in tax revenue to the city of Ellensburg on an annual basis.

“The project will provide four to five hundred new jobs to the city, half of those being student jobs,” Maybee said.

Construction on the project started nearly two years ago by clearing land with the expectation of the site being opened by July 2010.

“Projects like this are difficult for Berry. However, the light wasn’t always green for the “Lakeside Landing” site as the city’s traffic impact fees almost killed the project.

On the other hand, as of April 18, the idea of cancelling the development was eliminated when the city gave the go ahead on a 50 percent reduction on fees for commercial and industrial zones, giving leeway to other new businesses.

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Inagural Wine Festival flows through Ellensburg

by Ryan Ricigliano
Staff reporter

For those tired of getting lost on the same rehearsed Hallmark card or the traditional stand-by of lilies for Mother’s Day, Ellensburg offers something new to break tradition.

The first annual Ellensburg Wine Festival will be held from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday May 9, at various downtown businesses. Tickets are currently on sale at the Chamber of Commerce for $20. Sponsors believe the festival has the potential to bring locals and visitors together for an afternoon of wine tasting and shopping with the theme of Washington’s fastest growing agricultural industry. “Here in Ellensburg, we are the gateway to wine country,” said Leslie Berry, executive assistant at the Chamber of Commerce and organizer for the event.

Berry said she wanted to pair Ellensburg’s central location with its small-town allure to draw wine enthusiasts from around the state. After seeing the success of the University of Washington’s World Wine Tasting event for two years, Berry said it was time to organize a wine festival geared towards Ellensburg’s downtown area.

It’s this type of exposure that local business owner Jon Fitterer is counting on. His store, Fitterer’s Furniture, is one of the nine businesses that will be hosting the event. “It’s diverse and brings in a different group of people that we wouldn’t get into the store,” Fitterer said. “The new and different ones—those are the ones we want to see.”

Fitterer said he’s confident that the event will benefit business as well as Ellensburg’s image.

One downtown business directly involved in the wine industry is Ellensburg WinWorks. Manager Matt Wooley will provide recommendations on different wines and help to select from more than 30 wineries featured at the festival. He’ll also be giving a short informational speech.

Wooley said that since this event is public, the wineries can’t sell their wines on site. He has taken it upon himself to try and stock every wine featured at the festival. Wooley feels that the wine culture in Ellensburg is growing fast and both casual drinkers and wine aficionados are branching out to find new tastes. He hopes to bring wine into the everyday lives of Ellensburg residents.

Wooley echoes Berry’s sentiments that the Kittitas Valley truly is the gateway to wine country and that by being in the center of the state, the area has a certain obligation to promote our state’s agricultural gem.

“We are the culture seekers, not the cultural creators of wine,” Wooley said. “As we become more known [for our wines], this will become our tourism.”
Economy forces staff cutbacks at Suncadia

by Quinn Eddy
Asst. news editor

On April 15, Suncadia Resort decreased its overall workforce by 10 percent. These 43 employees previously worked in accounting, finance, human resources, marketing, and community services.

"It's a difficult decision to lay off anyone but due to the condition of the economy we were forced to make proactive business decisions," said Tom Luersen executive vice-president for Suncadia.

Luersen said, the loss of these jobs has impacted all areas of the resort.

Despite rumors of bankruptcy, management strongly denies this as the case. Several of my co-workers and friends lost their jobs," said Karen Porter, director of marketing for Suncadia. "I am hopeful that market conditions will turn around soon and there will be opportunities for Suncadia to rehire some of those people."

Suncadia representatives hope there will be no future reductions but stress the difficulty in predicting what will happen with the economy.

"We have a very strong plan moving forward, an amazing team of employees, and are optimistic about the emerging positive economic indicators," Porter said.

In order to boost exposure throughout the Northwest, Suncadia has planned several events, such as Wine in the Pines, Harvest Festival and a summer concert series.

They've also taken marketing initiatives in Seattle, specifically direct mail and online advertising.

According to Porter, Suncadia actively advertised in the Seattle Times, Seattle Magazine, In-Flight Magazine; Alaska Airlines and in the local Northern Kittitas County Tribune.

Suncadia has also been working "closely with our Seattle-based public relations firm to secure timely and relevant stories in a variety of publications," Porter said.

Despite these employee cutbacks, Suncadia remains positive as they brace for their busiest season of the year.

Visual Stimulation

"Turn your lights off cause it's night on the sun." 

Modest Mouse

by Quinn Eddy
Asst. news editor

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Students protest for campus weapon control

by Allie Mathis
Staff Reporter

As we near the second anniversary of the Virginia Tech tragedy, many students are reminded of the present campus policies on carrying weapons.

During the week of April 20 through 24, groups of students protested against the current campus firearm laws. They passed out information to other students, wore informative T-shirts as well as empty gun holsters to class and throughout campus.

Students taking part are joined by others nationwide, as part of an organization called Students for Concealed Carry on Campus (SCCC). Those involved in the organization believe that students who can legally carry a weapon should be able to do so on college campuses as well.

WAC Title 106-120-022 states that students who bring any type of weapon onto campus without the permission of the university will be disciplined. Students in protest against this policy argue that if someone meets the criteria to obtain a weapon anywhere else, that should also carry over onto college campuses.

"As far as getting the policy changed with the school [Central Washington University] there hasn't been any real dialogue," said junior law and justice major, Matt Treich. "We're still a pretty small group of people, part of a national effort."

In order to obtain a concealed weapons permit in Kittitas County, you must be 21 years old, a U.S. citizen, live permanently in Kittitas County or a state in the US, and have a valid picture ID.

While some students support the SCCC and believe that being allowed to carry a weapon onto college campuses could do as much as prevent further school shootings and tragedies, others are working to maintain the current weapons policies.

"The CWU Police Department will continue to enforce and support the laws of the State of Washington and the codes and policies established by our University," said Central's Police Captain Mike Luvera. "Firearms ownership, possession and usage continue to be heavily debated and this specific issue is not different." Though there may be differing opinions on the issue, there is one aspect of the debate that is appreciated by everyone. "We not only uphold and respect the rights of citizens to peacefully protest, but appreciate the manner, spirit and cooperation given by all of our students on both sides of this issue," said Luvera.

Disrespecting the Japanese Garden

by Loren Hammersberg
Staff Reporter

The Donald Garrity Japanese Garden on the Central Washington University campus features an astounding sand and stone garden considered to be a wonderful meditation and Zen area.

"I like the solitude," Kyle Littlefield, junior computer science major said. Unfortunately, people have been defacing and disrespecting the sand and stone garden area by treating it like a beach front. This makes me feel sad that they don't understand the meditative and beauty of that particular area of the garden," said local volunteer Sherry Kaufman.

Kaufman and her husband David volunteer to groom this part of the garden with a rake daily. The raking can take up to 45 minutes to get it in pristine condition.

"We have been raking the garden for three years, but at times it [the vandalism] gets so bad people were digging in it and making holes in there, making it hard to get it all even again," Kaufman said.

Kaufman would really like to see this pattern of defacement and disrespect come to an end.

"Last week we went in there and raked it, then went back at lunch and it was a mess again. So it gets to your gut," said Kaufman. The reason for her concern is the fact that the public comes to enjoy and appreciate the garden on a daily basis.

"There's tours everyday, when we go in the morning and we see mess then David will quickly rake it while I am picking up a few pieces of litter. Then we come back and there it is, a mess again," said Kaufman. "You don't want the public and other visitors to see that it has been disrespected."

This problem seems to be a result of not only disrespectful citizens, but also a lack of signs and brochures that clearly explain the rules of The Donald Garrity Japanese Garden.

"The bullet of the no walking specifically in the Stone and Sand Garden is missing," Kaufman said.

The rules of The Donald Garrity Japanese Garden are as follows: Please, sit meditate and respect the garden by not walking on or changing the patterns in the sand.

Please leave the garden as you found it for others to enjoy.

"I would really like to see people really going in there and enjoying the beauty of it and obeying the rules," Kaufman said.
Ellensburg jail ready for remodel

by Kevin Opsahl
Senior reporter

Kittitas County police and other officials want to remodel and repair the current corrections center in Ellensburg, and as a result, the Sheriff’s administration office is moving to a new location.

Sheriff Gene Dana said he met with contractors Rasmussen Triebelhorn and Hultz BHU Cross Consulting Engineers Inc. to discuss how they can use existing jail space before going with the alternative of moving to a new location.

“We want to answer as many questions as possible before we remodel a building,” Dana said.

Within the proposed $5 million budget for both projects, the plan for the corrections center would include a complete revamping of the jail’s sewage system, restrooms and plumbing that have to be made.

The massive project would allow architects and engineers in the Tacoma area to construct additional rooms with 50 to 60 jail beds, and a recreation area for inmates. The rec area would extend from the first floor of the existing Sheriff’s Office into the courtyard of the corrections center at Sixth Avenue and Main Street in downtown Ellensburg.

That portion would cost approximately $1.5 million according to Kittitas County District-Three Corrections Center Manager Mark McClain.

In repairs and upgrades to the old jail’s drain age system, sewage lines, plumbing and a number of restrooms, and improvements and expansion of the jail’s laundry and kitchen.

So in order for the repairs to happen, the Board of Commissioners recently approved for the Sheriff’s office to move with the purchase of a new, 12,000-square-foot building at 307 S. Umpqua Road, costing approximately $1.88 million.

Dana said the office is a much better location for his employers, citing the fact that the location itself is better for responding to incidents on the interstate and county roads.

Dana said the building ventilation is bad and the space is cramped, causing many germs, deputies and detectives to work in the basement.

Those problems need to be fixed, Dana said. “It’s a great space ... We don’t have to raise taxes to do this.”

In 1995, voters passed a sales tax for criminal justice, where only that money can be spent on public safety.

They will move in late May, but an exact date has not yet been decided, according to Sheriff Dana.

There will be a grand opening event for the public.

As part of the remodeling for the corrections center, McClain wants to include a room for video conferencing for a person who wishes to visit an inmate. This would make it easier so that the visitor would not have to enter a secure part of the corrections center event building. They also want to provide space for inmates to participate in Alcohol Anonymous and other self-help programs.

Originally, the commissioners had come up with a plan of their own for the corrections center that fixing the building’s drainage and utility systems and adding more bed space; but the contractors and engineers came up with an alternate plan—-one that the commission declared was too expensive.

That portion would cost approximately $300,000 and Kittitas County spends approximately $800,000 on corrections.

Currently, Kittitas County spends approximately $300,000 on corrections.

In Kittitas County are taking up with an alternate plan—one that the commission declared was too expensive.

The Commissioners have stated that this project is not moving as fast as they would like and want full public support on it. They want to have a comprehensive approach in place for the city.

Mark McClain, Kittitas District Three Commissioner

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Campus and county keep close eye on swine flu

by Kevin Opsahl
Senior reporter

Central Washington University can test for type A virus, which is what form swine flu is, but they cannot test for swine flu, according to Bob Trumpy, Senior Director of Health at CWU Student Health and Counseling Center—that testing must go to a professional medical lab.

Trumpy also said the general flu immunization put this year does not provide protection against swine flu, but there are many good antiviral drugs that do.

“[Students have] got a fever stay home,” Trumpy said. “typical flu precautions.”

In the event of a possible outbreak in the state or a pandemic, the university would respond according to the public health department.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

WEATHER

Thursday, April 30
Partly Cloudy
64° 35°

Friday, May 1
Partly Cloudy
70° 34°

Saturday, May 2
Partly Cloudy
71° 39°

Sunday, May 3
Rain/Partly Cloudy
65° 45°

Monday, May 4
Partly Cloudy
66° 40°

Tuesday, May 5
Light Rain/Cloudy
65° 40°

Wednesday, May 6
Rain/Partly Cloudy
64° 40°
courtesy of myforecast.com
Close eye on swine flu

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The Kittitas County Public Health Department released a public service announcement. They will keep residents up to date on any new developments on their website.

They are also preparing for the annual update of antiviral medication from the Washington State Department of Health as a precaution, and are conducting a review of the existing Kittitas County pandemic influenza plan.

"People should not panic because there is a threat," said Amy Diaz, the department's public information officer. "Medication will be arriving. The earlier the treatment starts, the better."

There have been no reported cases of Swine flu in Washington, but antiviral medications will be arriving to Kittitas County regardless because the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is releasing medication for the Strategic National Stockpile.

"Swine flu" is an influenza A virus normally found in pigs. The virus currently causing human illness is a new type of swine flu that has developed the ability to infect people and be transmitted from person to person, according to the Washington State Department of Health.

The symptoms of Swine flu are similar to the typical winter flu; those infected may experience a fever, with coughing, sore throat or a headache. The Public Health Department encourages people to wash their hands regularly and avoid sick people.

According to a public service announcement from the Kittitas County Health Department, as of April 27, there have been 40 laboratory-confirmed cases of human swine flu infection confirmed in the states of California, Kansas, New York City, Ohio, and Texas. Cases have also been reported in Canada and Mexico.

Of the 40 confirmed cases in the United States, there has been one hospitalization, and no fatalities.

Officials are concerned it might cause a wave of infections around the world. As of Monday, the death toll in Mexico came to 149 people. Health authorities cancelled all schools across the country until May 6.

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Study Abroad: They come but they don’t go

by Alyssa Schultz
Special to the Observer

The number of American college students studying abroad is very few compared to the number of foreign students coming to the U.S., especially when compared to exchanges between the United States and Japan.

"I'm sure it's hundreds of thousands of Japanese students that come to the United States, either in high school or college to study here, and I don't think we send 10,000 students to Japan," said Joshua Nelson, chair of the foreign language department.

According to the Study Abroad Department, some students are slow to see the value of an exchange to Japan because of the language barrier. But many students might not know they do not have to be a Japanese language major to study abroad in Japan.

"There are a set number of programs where you don't have to know any Japanese, but it does help if I think, for students to at least have had one quarter of Japanese here at Central," said Ray Bates, study abroad coordinator.

The main problem with American students not studying abroad is that many don’t find studying abroad important to future career aspirations. American students can’t see how learning another language such as Japanese or studying in another country could possibly contribute to successful careers.

"It is a very valuable experience that students should participate in," said Shannon Walker, senior foreign language major.

Not only does a student grow as an individual and gain more independence, he or she gains valuable perspective while studying abroad. Study abroad students are able to look upon the U.S. through another culture's eyes and see how he or she can improve on American culture upon returning home.

"In order to question ourselves and to guide ourselves as a society, we need people who have left us, who have gone abroad, who have done this, who have gone through this process of assimilation and turned around and looked back," said Nelson.

Even if students only exchange for as short of a term as spring break, those students will bring back with them more cultural and personal insights than if they had not gone at all.

"I expect to gain cultural experiences...and happiness, I really want to go [abroad]," said future study abroad student and sophomore theater major, Caitlyn Cowan.

Central students say no to tuition increases; walkout/sit-in planned

by Quinn Eddy
Asst. News Editor

Due to the State House of Representatives voting in favor of raising tuition 14 percent next year, followed by an additional 14 percent for the following year, Central students will be staging a campus wide walk-out.

Despite the previously established 7 percent cap over the next two years students will be looking at a 30 percent increase in tuition.

"There's no way. I'm going to be able to afford tuition," Makallie Battles, freshman, undeclared said. "It's already expensive enough."

At 12:10 p.m. on April 29, students participating will be walking out of class and meeting on the west patio of the SURC. Once assembled the rally will march to Barge Hall to take on the Board of Trustees and voice concerns about those tuition increases.

"I'm very excited that the students are taking a stand and making their voice heard to the Board of Trustees," said Brent Weisel, ASCWU Executive vice president.

Despite efforts of the walk-out on Friday May 1, the Central Washington University Board of Trustees will be sitting down to evaluate the specific amount for tuition increase.

"This walk-out is an awesome way for students to voice their concerns about the affordability of a college education" Weisel said.

You are encouraged to join us

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Matt Penoncello
CWU basketball star
Central's GroupWise e-mail hiccups

by Quinn Eddy
Asst. News editor

With the update of Central's GroupWise Web e-mail system over spring break, came reports of students and faculty not receiving expected e-mails.

According to Information Technology Services, the majority of these problems stemmed when people accessed their e-mail with Microsoft's Internet Explorer Web browser.

When the update took place, Internet Explorer was thrown off by a leftover address of the old GroupWise system still remaining within the browser. Because this "cookie" was left within the system, students and faculty accessing their e-mail accounts with Internet Explorer may have experienced issues.

"I would consider using more than one type of browser," said Carmen Rahm, assistant vice president for information technology.

"It's a one-to-one connection between user and post office," said Greg DeLuca, information technology systems specialist for networks and operations.

In addition to being more secure, the client offers more features than the web-based GroupWise, available through the Wildcat Connection.

Within the next three to five weeks Central's Information Technology Services Dept. will be updating the Novell GroupWise client loaded on all 3,600 desktops of computers across campus.

New beer tasting class could spur series

by Amy Thompson
Staff reporter

The Office of Continuing Education will put on its first craft beer and microbrew tasting class on May 8. The tickets for the class were sold out less than 48 hours after becoming available.

"I think it's really exciting," said Douglas Lonowski, associate director in the Office of Continuing Education.

"We're trying to gauge public interest at this point."

According to Lonowski, the now five-year-old wine program was met with popularity and enthusiasm by a wide range of people. The wine program's popularity stemmed the idea for the coming beer tasting class.

"We thought it would be interesting to have a series with beer as well," said Lonowski.

Depending on participant's reactions to the class, beer tasting could follow in the footsteps of the popular world wine program at Central Washington University.

Mike Reilly, a previous Central employee and creator of Ellensburg's acclaimed WinterHop Brewfest will be the class instructor.

With 20 years of home brewing experience and travels around the western United States to breweries, Reilly will guide attendees through the evening of beer tasting.

According to Reilly, beer is sometimes viewed with little sophistication in people's minds. The class will help participants to realize that special skills and science are a key part in the production of quality beer.

As well as the fact that beer is a growing industry in Washington, meaning brewing has economic impact on the state.

Tasting distinctive and some more unusual beers, participants will be able to learn about the differences in each, along with brewing techniques, styles, historical lessons, and what makes each beer unique.

"I called about 20 seconds after I read the e-mail on the class," said Kevin Camarillo, executive chef of Central's Dining Services. "There have been no big issues with it."

"I'm just looking to see if there are more people like me, I like to pair my food with beer. I'd be all over it if it became a series."

Vandalism hit apartments

by Megan Cyr
Staff reporter

Ellensburg's popular University Place Apartments has been vandalized with graffiti.

Mischa Venables, Assistant Manager for the University Place Apartments said that all sides of their fences were damaged, as well as several buildings. She also pointed out that 18th Street Grocery and Deli was also marked with graffiti during one of the incidents.

The apartment staff is baffled why anyone would want to damage their property.

"There is no one in particular that has been angry with us," Pamela Saltz, Community Manager for the University Place Apartments said. "There have been no big issues with it."

The majority of the spray paint was unreadable but the word "Yeti" was found in big letters on the side of one building. It is unknown if there is a certain meaning to this or if it is a gang related message.

University Place employees are working to clean the mess off their buildings and fences.

Dustin Millett, one of the grounds maintenance employees at the University Place Apartments gave details on how much work they've done to clean up the vandalized areas.

"We've had to repaint and scrub a lot to get the mess off," Millett said.

Millett also explained how the Ellensburg Police Department has no idea who has damaged the property.

CORRECTION:

In last week's issue it said the Campaign kick-off meeting for the ASCWU-BOD meant the beginning of the general election. It is the start of the PRIMARY ELECTION May 7 and the General is May 21.
They tell us journalism is dying. Al Tompkins of the Poynter Institute bluntly asked us at the mixer Friday night, why? We need to demand change. David replied that he didn’t want to be confined to 50-word broadcasts. “I just like to write,” I responded. We want more freedom to expand our stories and explore our subjects. Al said the readers’ dwindling attention span is causing longer writing pieces to die out. He was a fascinating man who wasn’t afraid to give us a reality check.

It’s true, the newspaper industry is struggling. The Seattle PI was forced to merge with the Detroit News, and a little piece of history died. The economy has taken one hit after another and industries everywhere are reaping the repercussions. I’m not deterred. I think the present-day writers of this generation. We cannot allow ourselves to grow anymore weary and lazy, unable to think more than a thousand-word story. We have so much more to learn. We need to recognize the value of free press and the art of story telling. We need to constantly read and educate ourselves if we wish to keep up with the changing times. Otherwise, we will be the downfall of this nation. It’s time to grow up and take the baton. It’s time to move away from a spoiled, lethargic demeanor. Keep your spirits high and hold onto an optimistic outlook even in the middle of this storm.

Another advisor gave us hope by identifying “change” as the key to the success of journalism. She noted how crucial it is for students to adapt and shift as the picture changes. “We need to step forward, as we step into tomorrow. It is up to us what waits ahead. This is our world. What will we do?” I’m not afraid, nor discouraged from achieving my goals. I will continue to pursue the path to my degree. I will continue to support un censored news outlets and the idea of accurate media coverage in both news and lifestyle. I hope you will join me. Stay tuned.

New York flyby rattles citizens

On April 27, New Yorkers were rattled by the roar of a low flying Boeing 747 trailed by two Air Force F-16 fighters. The city was in sheer panic as some fighters to scare the crap out of New York City and not lose his job, I’ve completely lost faith in our nation’s Air Force. I can’t even imagine what they would expect to do with these photos. I sure as hell wouldn’t buy a poster that President Obama was absolutely furious.

“It was a mistake,” Obama said to reporters following the incident. “It was something we found out about along with all of you. And it will not happen again.” From our hot dog stand perspective, this must have had like an Air Force attempt to shoot down a hijacked aircraft.

“They’re traumatized,” said Garcia-Rose. “They’re asking ‘How could this happen?’ It was something we found out about along with all of you. And it will not happen again.”

“We’re nervous. Their anxiety levels are high,” she said. According to CNN former presidential candidate Sen. John McCain in response to Caldera’s orders said that he was “profusely disturbed” by the flyover “against the backdrop of September 11.” I truly and deeply feel Louis Caldera is a complete idiot and I disapprove at the fact that some one like him has the ability to give such orders to our military aircraft. 

Dear Editor,

My name is John Dahl and I am a senior Public Relations student who is finishing up my degree with an internship at the Center for Student Empowerment. As I was frantically searching for an internship, it occurred to me that many students are required to complete some type of cooperative education program for their degree, and if they are anything like I am they struggled to find one that fit both their time and financial commitments. While the economy has inhibited the number of jobs that are out there, it has also drastically cut back on the number of paid internships that are available to students. This has left many students, such as myself, in a precarious position. While as many as 12 majors require internships to graduate, they don’t always take into account the ability of the student to finance that internship. Even if a student is lucky enough to get a paid internship, that student still has to pay the tuition costs for it as well as relocation costs if they apply. With all these obstacles, the prospect of an internship can be very daunting.

This is where the school can come into play. Many different departments at Central’s Ellensburg Campus are in dire need for student interns. Especially the centers in the Student Union and Recreation Center. These centers provide a very valuable opportunity for students to get much needed work experience while staying in Ellensburg to finish other classes. Without my internship at the Center for Student Empowerment, I don’t know if I would have even been able to apply.

I believe that this is an issue that would be of great interest to students, especially those looking for internships to graduate. While the Career Center does help find internships for students, they sometimes are unaware of the potential availability of on-campus organizations such as the Center for Student Empowerment. Thank you for your time and I am looking forward to continuing the discussion about this topic.

John Dahl
Senior Public Relations

The Observer welcomes brief letters (300 words or less) from readers on current issues. Include the author’s full name and university affiliation: year and major, degree and year of graduation. Interact.

All letters become property of The Observer. E-mail letters to cuvobserver@gmail.com or visit our blog at observerlettersblog.blogspot.com.

Random words

* What if you caught the Swine Flu? I’d call my mom because I’m a mama’s boy and she’s a nurse... I love my mom.

* How do you feel about tuition increases? Ugh... I’m glad I’m a junior. I already have some loans. That’s gonna make it hard to go to school and get an education.

* What is your most missed home-cooked meal? My mom cooks good meals but I’d have to say my dad’s tomato gravy. It’s a family recipe.

* Bubble baths? I’ve never taken one but I’d be open to it. I’d definitely have to make sure I have a rubber duckie.

* If I caught a leprechaun... I would tell him to stop making Lucky Charms because I hate that crap!
Manners disappear, from Disneyland vacations to Kittitas Valley

Erica Spalti
Staff reporter

Over spring break, my mom and I took a trip to Disneyland for some people my age. I was completely immature. However, I loved it and was a complete child the entire time. While touring along Main Street I couldn’t help but hear something that made my jaw drop. A little girl was looking at a stuffed Mickey Mouse. She turned to her mother and said “Mommy, I want this.” Her mother replied “OK hon- eyp” and grabbed the toy and walked away to the register. I was dumbfounded! I entered the store and noticed parents everywhere with loads of stuff for their kids. I couldn’t believe it. When did Disneyland get like this? I remember when I was young Disneyland was about buying young and finding Mickey Mouse. I still, to this day, get all giggly and giggle when I see him. I mean, he is a rare find these days!

I figured that this new turnaround of parents spoil- ing their kids could work on all levels, so I tried it on my mom. I asked her to buy me a sweatshirt. I used the ever so popular “mommy, I want this!” She laughed and said “You’ve got money, buy it yourself.”

Finding that this strategy only works for curly haired, freckle faced, four-year-olds, I ignored the ridiculousness of the subject and enjoyed the rest of my trip.

When I got back to school the following week, I noticed something about some of the kids on campus. Many of them have really good style, nice designer things and re- ally fancy cars. Thinking of this reminded me of my day at Disneyland. It also remind- ed me of something that hap- pened a very long time ago in high school, when everyone was just turning 16. When I turned 16, I did not get a car until three months after my birthday. It was a 1992 Toyota stick shift with scratch- es under the front bumper. It came equipped with a cassette player, a nice smokers’ seat and a teriyaki menu. While I got a used car (which I now love so much I can’t bare to part with) some kids at my school got brand new BMVs and Mustangs for their sweet 16.

As I brought myself back to present day and looked around at all the kids on campus wearing Juicy Coutu- ure, True Religion, Lucky and other top designers as well as the cars in the park- ing lots, the brand new jettas and the supped up Subarus. I couldn’t help but wonder: how many of these kids actu- ally use their own clothes or their own cars?

Now, don’t get me wrong, I love fashion and design things. I would love a new car as much as anyone, but most of the nice things I own, I bought myself, with my own money. Yes, a few of my designer things were bought by my parents as gifts. Still, others I had to work for in the form of yard work, working around the house and making honor roll. A lot of my friends have the same situations. All their designer possessions were pur- chased with their own hard- earned money.

So then I posed a question: How many of the kids today make a “mommy want this” plea and get what they want, no questions asked? When did kids start making their par- ents for granted?

Now, this is what shocked me the most. I did a little re- search in Ellensburg to see if maybe things were different in a smaller town.

In one of the stores, some- one pulled a “mommy please” and it worked, but nothing came after the purchase. No “please?” no “thank you?” no “mom you’re the coolest,” absolutely nothing. I always thank my parents for getting me things when I really don’t need them and I probably still don’t thank them enough. Since when is it OK to disre- gard manners and simply be prideful?

Majority of people are taught manners at a young age and they seem to stick. When I was little, I have been here at school, I have the manners get thrown out the window. Maybe three times a week, do I see someone say thank you? You’re the coolest, or for a stranger picking up someone’s belongings.

If people can’t do this for their fellow students then who knows how they treat their parents? If you have ever pulled the “mommy please” and it worked (and don’t be ashamed, we have all done it, myself included) make sure you say thank you. Especially with Mother’s Day swiftly approaching, why can’t we just call each other on the phone anymore, or God forbid, talk face-to-face.

I wait beside going to school and it never fails to amaze me how many children come in with their parents for a nice dinner, yet their heads are stuck in their Nintendo DS; they’re ignoring the world with their iPod’s in hand, while checking their Twitter on their brand new cell phone that puts mine to shame. Mind you, this is of ten a 7 or 8 year old. How has it become acceptable in society for the children of our fu- ture to not even look at their parents while out to dinner? Maybe they are just sending their parents a Tweet to pass the bread.

Imagine 10 or 15 years from now. Will we even consider the idea of meeting a friend for coffee? In moderation, I’m sure all of this is fine, but peo- ple have become so obsessed. Obsessed with Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, iPhones, and now Twitter. If your phone dies tomorrow and with this awesome economy, phone companies go out of business, would you survive? Try to go a day without your phone. Yes, an entire day. I dare you.

The next time you feel the urge to Tweet, call your mom. Have a real conversa- tion, and you’ll be surprised about the connections you can make instead of reading bulk text. It feels as that as a society we have a loss of personal connection and we should not underestimate the power of building a true relationship. Yes, without your phone.

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Culinary Corner:
Fried Saimin Noodles

Rachel Guillermo
Culinary Columnist

Noodles, noodles, noodles. There’s nothing more comforting to me than eating a big bowl of noodles. I would eat them everyday after school for a snack as a kid growing up in Hawaii. On the mainland you call them ramen noodles, but we called them Saimin noodles.

There are a number of ways local Hawaiian restaurants would fix them up but my favorite by far would be when they are fried.

This recipe is how I would make them at home with regular ramen noodles from the store bought packages. Quick easy and cheap! If you really want to go native on this dish, make it with Spam… I dare you. Ho, easy try.

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Marissa McDonald
Staff reporter

Do you Tweet? I do not. I’m not even sure how to say it correctly! Although an avid fan of texting, what’s with all the Twittring? Is it e-mail or is it texting non-stop? Why can’t we just call each other on the phone anymore, or God forbid, talk face-to-face.

I was beside going to school and it never fails to amaze me how many children come in with their parents for a nice dinner, yet their heads are stuck in their Nintendo DS; they’re ignoring the world with their iPod’s in hand, while checking their Twitter on their brand new cell phone that puts mine to shame. Mind you, this is of ten a 7 or 8 year old. How has it become acceptable in society for the children of our fu- ture to not even look at their parents while out to dinner? Maybe they are just sending their parents a Tweet to pass the bread.

Imagine 10 or 15 years from now. Will we even consider the idea of meeting a friend for coffee? In moderation, I’m sure all of this is fine, but peo-
Theatre students add modern twist to classic tale

by Rachael Duff
Staff reporter

With less than a week until show time, the cast of Central Washington University's spring production, "Shakespeare's R&J," is getting their unique act together fast. "Shakespeare's R&J" will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, April 30 and May 1, and at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, in the Milo Smith Tower Theater.

This production is the same timeless tale of Romeo and Juliet, but with a modern twist. Although the original dialogue will be used, the set and props are anything but traditional. The set takes place in 2008, at Verona Catholic High School for girls. Modern technologies, such as cell phones, iPods and contemporary music will be included and the characters will be dressed in modern attire.

Another unique aspect of this performance is that all characters will be played by four actresses. This is a dramatic adaptation from Shakespeare's original cast of all men. "Romeo and Juliet" follows two females entangled in forbidden love with one another. "Not being able to love the one you want to love is an issue, but hopefully with some awareness it won't always be an issue," said Keith Edie, lecturer in the theatre arts department and director of the production. Edie got the idea for this modern rendition of "Romeo and Juliet" from a previously produced script off Broadway that had four males portraying all the characters.

"We needed a smaller play and I had seen this play in New York and I thought, 'what happens if you do it with four women?'" Edie said. "I wanted to explore the feminine energy in Romeo and Juliet." The faculty agreed with Edie's proposal and "Shakespeare's R&J" was put into action. Edie believed the play would work because the themes, such as forbidden love, are universal. "It's the classic tale of the one person you love being the one person society doesn't want you to love; anyone can relate," said Ali Doyle, junior theatre arts major and stage manager for the production.

"I wanted to explore the feminine energy in Romeo and Juliet."

Keith Edie Theatre Arts Department

"It's not something everyone will be comfortable watching and I am worried about how the audience will react to it," said Anna Newbury, junior theatre performance major. "We are pushing the limits which is a great experience, but nerve-racking at the same time."

The cast was given only four weeks to prepare for the show, meeting six days a week, four hours a day. This is one of the smallest theatre productions put on at Central, the entire team consisting of only nine people working full time. Those nine, with a little help from the rest of the theatre department, are responsible for putting together the entire show.

"I don't think people realize our students do all of the lighting, sets, costumes, hair, makeup and everything else that goes into the production," said Leslee Caul, director of marketing and development. "Every set you see on our stage has been built from the ground up and every costume you see is made in-house."

Tickets are still available in the box office located in the McConnell Auditorium lobby or online at www.ewu.edu/theatre/tix.

Showtimes: April 30 at 7 p.m. May 1 at 7 p.m. May 2 at 2 p.m.
Inner beauty exposes raw self

by Marissa McDonald
Staff reporter

For students who have been curious about how their body compares to others, here’s the chance to discover more at Inner Beauty Week. More than 20 male and female naked body casts will be displayed at the Central Washington University Student Union and Recreation Center in room 137 May 4 through May 7, all to emphasize the differences in the human body and empower students.

The Center for Student Empowerment at Central is holding its first annual four-day event called the Body Image Project. One objective of the event is to create female and male body awareness, using moral support from faculty and students.

This is all done to empower people, especially women, and to let them appreciate their “natural” selves throughout the event. It will run Monday, May 4 through Thursday, May 7, and many different events and activities will also be held.

“Beauty is really what’s inside. We want to get awareness out there that the media portrays [women] in an un natural way,” said Stephanie Sype, women’s event programer for the Center for Student Empowerment and a junior Public Relations and fashion double major.

Beginning Monday May 4, the week starts with “Natural Day,” where students, especially the ladies, are encouraged to expose their true, raw selves. This includes no make-up and dressing down in casual wear. Sype says this is the time to “be your natural self...don’t do your hair!” She is the title in casual wear. Sype says this is the “liberty” to live up to.

To end the Inner Beauty Week, an “Inner Beauty Pageant” will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the SURC ballroom on May 7. Several CWU students, both male and female, have already signed up to compete in the “blind” beauty pageant.

Students will be behind a screen to give a speech they prepared about the media’s portrayal of body image and how it affects college students. They will be asked three impromptu questions and the audience will vote for the winner. But in the end, only one can be crowned Miss (or Mr.) Inner Beauty.

Over 20 male and female nude body casts will be on display in SURC 137 from Monday, May 4 to Thursday, May 7.

Zach Hammond
Staff reporter

I’m Zach Hammond, Observer videographer and beer expert. I’m that friend who loves trying new things, and telling you about them.

I’m that friend who gets really excited when a soda company comes out with a crazy new product, or a new candy, or a cool new gadget that not too many people know about but would just have to have if they did.

I’m the first to try things that are...maybe a little off. Like Sire Blue. I was the first kid in class to bring Orbitz to school (remember the fruity drink with the little jelly babies?). Now, I’m all grown up and I’m on to beer.

I try the new beers and the old favorites that I’ve never tried yet. On this page, I’ll tell you all about it.

This week, we’ve got a few new videos on the site from Iron Horse Brewery. There’s also another good beer to know about: Session.

Session is from the Full Sail Brewing Company. This beer is awesome because it tastes great, it’s got a good history behind it, and it comes in a stubby bottle.

Alcohol prohibition sucked, right? One day you’re in your living room drinking a brewsky, the next day you’re a criminal. All those little breweries closed up shop and out the window went all the traditions of American beer-making.

So some guys got together and wanted to make beer the way it used to be before Prohibition. That beer is Session.

Session’s got a nice floral hoppy taste; sweet. It tastes kind of like Corn Pops, or maybe an apple-like undertone.

The brew is very crisp, but hoppy taste; sweet. It tastes kind of like Corn Pops, or maybe an apple-like undertone. The beer is good, the way it used to be before Prohibition. That beer is Session.

Session’s got a nice floral hoppy taste; sweet. It tastes kind of like Corn Pops, or maybe an apple-like undertone. The brew is very crisp, but...
Teatro Chicana addresses injustices

by Rachael Duff
Staff reporter

Five members of Teatro de las Chicanas promoted their new book “Teatro Chicana” on Wednesday, April 22, in Central Washington University’s Student Union and Recreation Center. The group performed a collection of excerpts from their book, including skits, plays, and personal stories that address social, gender, and political issues of the working class and the Chicano Movement.

“Basically, we want the younger generation to be aware of the power of theatre... and to address the breeding of ignorance in our community,” said Felicitas Nuppo, author and editor of “Teatro Chicana.” “We are bringing a message that never really gets out in the mainstream.”

Teatro de las Chicanas was a grassroots theatre group created in 1971 by feminists in San Diego, Calif. They came together to participate in political theatre to bring social awareness to the community and to practice peaceful political activism. Although this group was strongly opposed and the members were subject to vicious name calling, they became a strong support group and were able to use theatre as an outlet for expression.

“Teatro taught me to act out my feelings, real life taught me to hide them,” said author Guadalupe Beltran, when reading an excerpt from a poem she contributed to the book.

Seventeen members of Teatro de las Chicanas reunited to write a book, which details why they joined the theatre group and how it changed their lives.

“Teatro Chicana” is a memoir that tells the history and present-day story of the main writers, as well as excerpts from the group’s original materials and seven of their original short play scripts. It was awarded the Susan Koppelman Award for the Best Edited Volume in Women’s Studies in Popular and American Culture in 2008 by the Popular Culture/American Culture Association.

“Throughout the Chicano Movement, a lot of people were unaware of the women’s role; this [book] is one of the best ways to show the courageousness of these women who stood up to men and fought for their rights and for the rights of their family,” said Yecenia Valdivia, senior sociology major.

Four of the main authors are currently touring colleges and junior colleges in Washington and performing short scenes and readings that address their experiences with social injustice.

“It was a great performance,” said Victor Ruiz, senior law and justice major.

Laura E. Garcia introduces an episode from “Teatro Chicana” to audiences on Wednesday, April 22.

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SURC 137A

7 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
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Earl Klugh
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Another year, another celebration for Central Washington University's own radio station 88.1 'The Burg, which will be celebrating 10 years on the air. Stick around Ellensburg to enjoy a jam-packed weekend May 1 and 2.

Festivities will begin Friday, May 1 on the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) east patio from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., with a pre-party barbecue provided by Dining Services.

On Saturday, May 2, 'The Burg takes over downtown Ellensburg on Pine Street between Third and Fourth Avenue. There will be additional food, drinks, games, contests and prizes.

Live Nation, who works through Ticketmaster and hosts concerts all over the nation, will provide the event with Sasquatch Fest and D peche Mode tickets for giveaways.

"We're celebrating 10 years on the air that we're all really excited about," said Justine Fowler, promotion and development associate. "The 'Burg is even bringing back alumni disk jockeys for Saturday to be a part of the festivities."

The event doesn’t end there. This birthday bash will include a street fair with interactive contests, live on-site broadcasting from 'The Burg', food vendors such as Hot Diggy Dog, Field Avery and Espresso, free Wired Energy drinks, prize pack giveaways and a Battle of the Bands competition.

Concluding the evening will be a live performance from Half Acre Day, a band that started and created on Central's campus.

"I think our first show was in the courtyard of the Baset­" tis or maybe Student Village, I can't remember which," Matthew Cory, bassist and vocal­ist, said. "A few months later we recorded our first cassette demo in this little studio downtown around the corner from the Boot Barn, if that’s still there."

According to Half Acre Day's MySpace page, the band coins its sound as infectious, vivid, catchy and weird orchestral pop.

Half Acre Day is repre­ented by indie label Right Mind Records' Hidden Peak Record Label.

"Special thanks to the help of the students on campus and the 60 to 70 volunteers at the station, giving their time and dedication to make this event possible," Fowler said. "The 'Burg wants to give back to our listeners for being so supportive."

The Birthday Bash Battle of the Bands reached out to all musicians, bands and musical artists to submit a demo to 88.1 'The Burg, located on the Central Washington University campus in SURC room 150.

"We haven't done some­thing to this degree...it's our milestone," Chris Hull, gen­eral manager of 'The Burg, said.

The six bands that will be performing in the Battle of the Bands concert will be Eden, Losing Daylight, Kill Above Top, The Stogies, Jan Jaaf,Band and Skinny People Kissing.

First place prize will be $200, second place prize is $100 and third place prize will be a $50 gift certificate to Boogie Man Music.

For more information check out www.881theburg.com

Students display passion for Tango

by Katie Tigges

Staff reporter

Sashaying, bending and swaying as one unit, dancing tango challenges a couple's physical abilities and communication skills.

Live music and refreshments will give the students of Central Washington University a passion for dance an opportunity to show off their moves at the "Spring Milonga," hosted by CWU Tango Club.

"We're all about experi­encing Argentinian tango," said Clara Gutierrez, a junior chemistry education major and the president of CWU Tango Club. "The media has given tango such an unfair rep of [being] promiscuous and we're trying to correct that image."

The "Spring Milonga" will begin with a dancing lesson at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 30, in room 137 of the Student Union and Recreation Center.

During the lesson, there will be a slight break at 7:30 p.m. and then the night will con­tinue with a social dance lasting until 10 p.m.

The event costs $3 per per­son and $5 per couple with no charge for members of the CWU Tango Club.

"Tango is very much a conversation that gives the lead the opportunity, more than most dances, to speak back [to their partner]," said Thomas Hamilton, a senior music performance major and also the vice president of the CWU Tango Club. "It's an invitation rather than an order, especially when incor­porating embellishments."

Tango began as a deriva­tion of imported dances such as the Cuban habanera and the Uruguayan milonga and candombe, sometime around 1880 in Buenos Aires, Argen­tin­ia's bars, brothels and gam­bling establishments. 

Dancing in a melting pot of European and Afri­can immigrants, it was intro­duced as a ballistic dance in 1902 when the Teatro Opera began featuring the tango in their halls.

When the tango was ex­ported to Europe in 1912 and the United States in 1913, it was modified to have less body contact.

The international standard for tango was established in 1922 by the English where it has remained a part of ballroom competition repertoire ever since.

The Tango Club meets at 7 p.m. on Thursdays in Nich­oleon Pavilion's upper gym where they give lessons for the first hour and then let couples practice their moves during the free dance follow­ing the lesson.

New members are always welcome and can expect an encouraging environment with instructors willing to lead them at their own pace.

"I think what we're doing here is cool," said Stephanie Karlak, senior music major and Robert Collins, senior music major tango at a CWU Tango Club meeting.

Photo courtesy of The 'Burg

Photo courtesy of Clara Gutierrez

By Danielle Gagnon

Staff reporter

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Honorin Holocaust through music

by John Redifer Staff reporter

The Main Recital Hall was a flurry of compositions, notations, and 20th-century strings and piano players from institutions such as the Seattle Symphony and Cornish College of Music. Music included “Dance for String Trio,” “Passacaglia and Fugue,” “Serenade” and “Kyttica,” “Cosmic Spring” and “five Pieces for String Quartet.”

They visited Central Washington University for an evening of chamber music drawing on works banned by the Third Reich and the extraordinary musical legacy of the Terezin concentration camp.

“I think it’s a great program to reach out and others of what happened in the events surrounding WWI,” said Stephanie Oberlander, senior anthropology major and Civic Engagement Center fellow. “It’s a positive way for everyone to register in both their brains and hearts the consequences of past actions, which can be seen recently in the Congo and Darfur. It’s great more and more people are raising their minds to what the human condition is capable of doing for the betterment of society.”

Between compositions, artistic director Mina Miller spoke of the atrocities faced by majority of the composers during World War II, like Hans Krasa and Egon Ledec that both passed away in Auschwitz in 1944.

“Oppression cannot still the human spirit,” Miller said. “It’s only in the process that societies move forward as whole that they are able to share and experience the beautiful creations human life has to offer.”

The night featured a number of surprises, such as Mara Finkelstein’s left-handed cello pizzicato picking, and score appearances from exotic influences like the tango.

“It was wonderful coming here and playing for an enthusiastic audience at Central Washington University,” Miller said. “With Music Of Remembrance, we perform music that was hidden in the ghettos and concentration camps during the Holocaust. In essence, this is ‘new music’ when you take into account the few people that have heard these compositions.”

Who attended did in fact seem enthusiastic about the performance.

Motorcyclists show off for charity

by David Guzman Staff reporter

Ellensburg biking enthusiasts and fans look forward to a day of bikes, stunts and more this weekend.

The Kittitas County chapter of American Bikers Aimed toward Education (ABATE) is holding its first annual Iron Horse Trail Motorcycle Show this Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show will take place at the Red Horse Drive-In on University Way in Ellensburg.

All attendees are invited to showcase one or more bikes and enter in the competition. Participants can sign up at 10 a.m. on the day of the show, and the registration fee is $10.

Riders can enter their bikes under several different categories, including stock, custom, sport, classic, Japanese, European and more. The winners for each category will compete for the first Best of Show trophy.

Attendees can vote for their favorite bike at noon, and trophies for the winners will be presented at 3 p.m.

The Red Horse Drive-In is the location for a motorcycle show in Ellensburg, according to owner Bruce Crossett.

“We have good food and beer, and a lot of asphalt,” Crossett said. “Plus, the Red Horse attracts a lot of out-of-towners, and we’ve had car shows there in the past. So, we have some name recognition.”

ABATE is a nationwide motorcycle rights organization that addresses safety and legislative issues pertaining to riding.

Members of ABATE are also active in the community, supporting civic and charitable causes.

Kittitas ABATE Deputy Coordinator Brian Ingalls expects to see a wide turnout at the event, with participants ranging from Eastern to Western Washington.

“It’s starting to be riding season again, and this is the first good weather we’ve had this year,” Ingalls said. “We hope to see a lot of riders.”

Ingalls expects plenty of Harley Davidson motorcycles to be on display — “that’s a given,” he says — but he hopes to see more sport-bikes at the event.

Acknowledging the popularity of sport-bikes among college-age riders, Ingalls also hopes that plenty of students from Central Washington University will showcase their rides.

“We’d love to see some younger people out there, and we’d love to recruit some new members too,” Ingalls said. “Everyone is invited to join — we don’t care who you are or what kind of bike you ride.”

Net proceeds from the event will go to a child with a life-threatening medical condition in Ellensburg. If no child is available, the money will go to a child somewhere else in Kittitas County.

“What could be better for a dying child than to be able to grant a wish for them?” Ingalls said.

In addition to checking out the array of motorcycles and voting on their favorites, those in attendance will be treated to a performance by the Seattle Cossacks Motorcycle Stunt Drill Team at 1 p.m.

The team, which has connections with the Kittitas ABATE, performs at charitable events across the state.

Everyone will also have an opportunity to meet and hang out with Ellensburg’s very own world-class off-roader Jonah Street.

Street was the winner of the Stage 5 Dakar Rally in South America earlier this year.

Two live bands will provide music throughout the event.

The show is appropriate for the month of May, which is Motorcycle Awareness Month, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Through events such as the Iron Horse Trail Motorcycle Show, riders bring a more personal connection to riding. The Kittitas ABATE is looking for donations from sponsors, vendors and volunteers, in order to cover all expenses of the show.

To get involved, visit the Kittitas ABATE chapter at kittitasabate.org, or contact Deputy Coordinator Brian Ingalls at 509-962-5039.

Corrections
In last week’s Observer Castellanos’ name was misspelled in “Castellano Shares Life, educates students on page 9.”
**Kristof speaks to need for awareness**

by Mimi Oh

Staff photographer

The Human Rights Awareness Week and a visit from The New York Times' Nicholas Kristof on Monday, aims to bring human rights issues to college students. OP-ED columnist Kristof's columns on the human rights crises will be distilled into a focus on Darfur and the sex slave trade.

Before that, the Human Rights Awareness Week is educating students. All week, in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC), the Human Rights Tour (HRT) is hosting speakers and soliciting student contributions for their displays.

In the SURC Pit, a giant skeleton waits for students to help braid yarn "muscles" to build up the strength of the human rights movement. It is joined by an equally large Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and a "Face of Global Warming" mask hanging up at the front of the Pit, which represents melting glaciers.

Speakers and an environmental sustainability fashion show are designed to make this event accessible to all students and faculty.

John Corkery, HRT Director is all about accessibility. Corkery started HRT as a student at the University of Connecticut. In turn, he wants to get students interested in human rights.

"University students are the agents of change," Corkery said. "They're people who have resources and tools and passions ... We are alive as a tour group because of passionate young college advocates." Kristof also touched on college students' role in the human rights movement. According to Kristof, the Darfur human rights crisis is a prime example of college students' leading role.

In fact, he questioned whether the Obama administration would catch up to the leadership shown by many college campuses across the country. The sentiment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is shared by Kristof, who believes that human rights are indeed universal. However, human rights missions must be done sensitive. For example, there may be different beliefs about gender in the Muslim world that must be respected.

"Especially in the Muslim world, it's much more effective if we support local women leaders," Kristof said.

He debunked the reasoning to not take action in certain areas around the world, calling dictators' bluffs that their subjects do not care about human rights.

Another human rights problem, the sex slave trade was elaborated on. Kristof encounters people who believe that reports about the trade are exaggerated, or that there is no real slavery involved. However, in his repeated travel to afflicted areas, he was shocked that slavery still exists today.

"I do think that when you try to galvanize people, you do risk coming across as preachy," said Kristof. "I try to tell stories a lot, and I think that people tend to be moved more by stories than by intellectual arguments. Although, it takes a little bit of both."

The columnist talked up the journalism craft, too. Aspiring international journalists should go abroad and work at English-language newspapers, imperfect as they may be.

Great journalists try to find the perfect story to make their point, and will often interview "zillions" of people to find that story.
This weekend was all about boots, chaps, cowboy hats, and country music; the Central Washington University Rodeo Club hosted the third Northwest regional rodeo and the seventh annual Todd Anderson Memorial Rodeo at the Ellensburg rodeo arena.

Central's President, James Gaudi­no, attended his first CWU rodeo Friday night and Wellington the Wildcat helped fans cheer all weekend.

Friday's rodeo was 'Tough Enough to Wear Pink' night, all club members wore pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness. All funds raised through donations and merchandise went to the Ohana Mammography Center in Yakima.

"We hope to have raised as much as last year," Kay Davis, rodeo club advisor said.

Last year the team raised approximately $1,000 through donations and merchandise sales.

The Todd Anderson Memorial Rodeo was established seven years ago after club member, Todd Anderson passed away in a house fire where he lived with two other club members his senior year at Central. Anderson was the only one to lose his life in the fire.

"I'm so glad we started the rodeo in his memory," Davis said. "We celebrate his life every year, it keeps growing. It's special to all of us [in the club]. All club members know him even though they were not in the club when he was. We continue to be there for him."

Fans came out to see the best-known rodeo event, bull riding. According to Mike Charlton senior sociology major, bull and bronc riders don't get to pick what animal they ride.

The bull/bronc's name is put into a hat; the judges then pull a name out and go down the list of competitors to see who gets to ride what animal.

"I watched [bull riding] when I was a little kid, at 16 I got a chance to enter in to ride one [bull]," Charlton said. "Since then, I've been hooked. Everyone behind the shoots are rooting for you. It doesn't matter if they are from a different school. We're pretty much family."

These bull riding cowboys aren't the only ones risking it all. Bull fighters are there to distract the bulls after the rider is bucked off.

"It's scarier riding [bulls] than fighting them," said Noah Wagner, Central alumni, bull fighter. "You gotta be scared a little bit to get out there."

According to Davis, the rodeos were free for spectators; the team is as successful as the football and baseball team.

With the being free, it's the students who come out and support the team.

"I hope that it continues to be free," said Bob Garret, rodeo announcer. "It's unique."

Winners from Friday's rodeo events included; bareback rider, Nick Gutzwiller (WWCC), tie down roping Shane Smith (UID), breakaway roping Britni Thorp (VICCO), saddle broncs Roy Johnson (TVCC), steer wrestling Johnson (TVCC) goat tying Mandi Mellerdaard (CWU), barrel racing Matea Gabiola (TVCC), and bull riding Jarrod Roberson (BMCC).

Sundays were; bareback rider Jesse Tennant (BMCC), tie down roping Steven Peebles (WWCC), breakaway roping Thorp (VICCO), saddle broncs Johnson (TVCC), steer wrestling Scott Roesser (BMCC), goat tying Gloria Kind (TVCC), and barrel racing Kortney Fisher (WWCC).

Central competitors have two more rodeos before the College National Final Rodeo June 14-20 in Casper, Wy. Competitors compete all season for points, after the regional finals rodeo in Pendleton, Ore. the three competitors in each event with the highest points get a chance to compete at the finals.

Sports Trivia
What 1990 championship sporting event attracted a TV audience of one billion people?

Brianne Jette/Observer

(far left) Carl Bisonette finally flips his steer during steer wrestling. (middle left) Joey Bergevin flips his calf in order to tie it up during the slack event. (middle right) David Butler of UID took quite a spill during Friday night's Saddle broncing event. (far right) Bailey Minor competed in the break away roping competition during the slack event.
Longboarding takes the sidewalk

by Matthew Carstens
Staff reporter

Outdoor Pursuits and Rental (OPR) held Central Washington University’s first longboarding competition Thursday on the main walkway between the SURC and the Central campus residence halls.

Approximately 50 spectators watched from the southern end of the course near the OPR entrance and along the perimeter of the course on the Barto Lawn.

The starting line was located across the main bridge connecting the SURC and the Music Building parking lot. The location was a concern to a great deal of students who had afternoon classes on the north side of campus.

Thomas Bloom, freshman, undeclared, has been longboarding for six months and loves to the consequence.

"It's ride the path where the petition was set. a good spot to learn," Bloom said. "Since it's not very steep it's a good place to practice technical stuff here like sliding and stand up sliding, carving and pumping. There's a lot of different things you could try."

Besides the lack of concern for pedestrians, the event went off without a hitch. Each rider got one practice run to get a feel for the course and then two judged runs.

Two of the judges were experienced longboarders with knowledge of the sport, while the final judge knew nothing, providing a "non-judgmental" view of the riders. The participants were judged on speed, accuracy and style.

The longboarder's ability and experience ranged from beginners to experienced. For most, this was the first longboarding competition they had ever participated in.

"[It was] hard, really hard," Jay Kim, freshman undeclared said. "A lot of really tight turns, I've never done anything that intense before. I'm really disappointed in my second run, I gave up. Really pissed actually. I don't think I did too bad on the first run, I think I did pretty solid."

The winner Tanner Phillips, freshman business major, was crowned after beating the second place opponent by a tenth of a second.

"I've been riding for over a year," Phillips said. "My buddy got one [a longboard] and I liked it. I got one and I've been riding every since."

The closest bridges that were open were by Stephens-Whitney and behind the Central campus residence halls.

The way the course was set up caused pedestrian detours of more than seven minutes depending on where students needed to be.

"Yeah it could have been avoided for sure," Hopkins said. "But we talked to facilities to make sure it was OK. That's part of having big events on campus."

Symposium brings outdoor toys

by Elizabeth De Vos
Staff reporter

Every year Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) puts on an Outdoor Symposium. This year was the fifth annual symposium, held last Thursday, on the east patio of the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC).

"The event is held every year to educate people, and get people stoked for the spring and summer outdoor education," said Dan Int-Hout, senior recreation and tourism major.

The event took months of planning and constant emails and phone calls to vendors to get them to appear at the event according to Int-Hout.

Vendors came from as far as Colorado, such as Creature Craft. The inventor Darren Vancil patented the triangular air raft, which will stay upright in class five and six white water.

After the event was over, there was a demonstration in the campus pool to show rafting enthusiasts the abilities of this raft.

Other vendors included: Diamondback Bikes, Hyper lite Wake Manufacturing, Evo Skateboards, Kavu and Mad Rock climbing gear.

While many vendors were not from the local area, some students would have liked to have seen more local things.

"If there was food from D&M coffee company, it would feel more like Folktale," said Alii Howard, sophomore graphic design major. "Smoothies and maybe a booth from Winegars."

Like many campus events, 88.1 The 'Burg supplied event goers with music.

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University Place Properties
Wildcats win 30th game in Oregon

...by Garrett Atkinson
Staff reporter

The Wildcat softball team came home Sunday from its road trip against Western Oregon University with new feats accomplished, and a tougher challenge to come. After playing six games in three days, the Wildcats split the series 3-3, giving them their first 30-win season in the school’s history, leaving them just three games behind Montana State Billings for first place in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC).

The only series left to be played on the season just so happens to be Montana State Billings.

In the upcoming four-game series, the Wildcats will have the GNAC Championship on the line against the only team that stands in their way.

The action against Western Oregon started on Friday with the Wildcat seniors putting on a great first game performance to lead the Wildcats to a win of 4-3.

Central fell behind 3-0 early in the game. The offense started with senior Liz Wallace, who hit her second home run of the season, giving the Wildcats the one-run victory.

Senior starter pitcher Linse Vlahovich picked up her 19th win of the season, pitching a complete game and striking out eight.

In game two, Central scored in the third inning, when Hawkins touched home on a wild pitch after hitting a triple. After that, Central was held scoreless for the rest of the game.

Wildcat junior Katrinya Reime was holding on to a 1-1 tie until a two-run home run by Western Oregon freshman Bailey Rueck in the fifth inning, the first of her career.

The home run was enough to defeat the Wildcats 3-1, Reime pitched 4 2/3 innings, scattering six hits and gave up three earned runs. Wildcat freshman Lindy Baxter finished the game on the hill allowing just one hit while striking out four batters in her 19th win of the season, giving the Wildcats the one-run victory.

In game one on Saturday, Vlahovich put up another masterful performance, striking out eight and only allowing three runs on two hits in her second complete game of the series. Taylor Sutherland of the Western Wolves hit a home run in the first inning by taking advantage of two more infield errors by the other teams.

In the top of the fifth, an RBI single to right by Wallace tied the game. Freshman Jennifer Schwartz drew a walk that loaded the bases for junior Ashley Fix. With a swinging-bunt, Fix plated pinch-runner Devin Larson, giving the Wildcats the lead 4-3 win. Holly Rosman, had two hits in the game, and broke the CWU single-season record for most hits with her first hit of the game.

In game two on Saturday, Central broke the 4-4 tie on a Western Oregon offense. The runs chased Baxter out of the game early, but Reime and Vlahovich would work the most of the game, leaving the Western Oregon offense, Central came back with vengeance in the top of the second inning by taking advantage of two more infield errors by the Wolves and scored four unearned runs and took a 4-2 lead.

With two singles by juniors Taylor Trautmann and Danielle Monson, Central started to stage a comeback on two Wolves’ errors.

Rosman then cracked a two-run double that gave the Wildcats the 4-3 lead. To tie the game at 4-4, WOU batters Amanda Fleer hit her second homerun of the contest.

Rosman reached base on an intentional walk to start the seventh inning. Kopeczynski then sacrificed to move pinch-runner Larson to second.

Then an infield single by Wallace put runners on first and third. Schwartz scorched a line drive to left but the second baseman fielded cleanly, however, in an attempt to nail Larsen at home, the throw from the plate sailed wide and the Wildcats took the lead 5-4.

“The biggest ups during the series were having our seniors come through with a homerun each,” said Trautmann.

SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 23

Flag football has big turnout

Freshman Paul Heer, pre law major, runs to defend Andy Harris during their game on Sunday.

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Bouillon Room 222
cwubossports@gmail.com

by Jessica Hirschkorn
Staff reporter

Ankles clipped by cleats and piles of sweaty players are a common sight in an afternoon of intramural flag football.

On Sunday April 26, 20 intramural sports teams met on the Music Lawn to play the second round of games for the spring season.

“You can’t match the intensity or competition of intramural flag football,” said Cam Bailey, senior math education major and referee of intramural flag football.

The games began at 2:15 p.m. with teams Dominatrix and If You Grab My Flag I’ll Pull Yours, on field one. On field two, teams Weekend Warriors and D D TD’s faced off.

Dan Wright, a junior sociology and law and justice major is a teammate of Weekend Warriors. He was the star player of the game even though his team lost.

Wright made a touchdown at the very end of the game but it was not enough to overcome the D D TD’s.

A swinging-bunt, Fix plated pinch-runner Devin Larson, giving the Wildcats the lead 4-3 win. Holly Rosman, had two hits in the game, and broke the CWU single-season record for most hits with her first hit of the game.

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“The biggest ups during the series were having our seniors come through with a homerun each,” said Trautmann.

SEE SOFTBALL PAGE 23
Sammy Henderson
Staff Reporter

The majority of mock drafts leading up to last weekend’s National Football League (NFL) draft had the Seattle Seahawks taking University of Southern California quarterback Mark Sanchez with the fourth pick. As a loyal Seahawk fan, I was having nightmares of Dan McCwire and Rick Mirer all week. McCwire and Mirer are the only quarterbacks the Seahawks have ever drafted in the first round and both players never lived up to their hype.

On top of that, I had questions about Seahawks General Manager (GM) Tim Ruskell and his decision making his story concerning NFL drafts. But as the draft ended, my nightmares faded away and I may now have a slight man-crush on Ruskell.

My infatuation with Ruskell began when he drafted Wake Forest University inbacker, Aaron Curry, with the Seahawks’ first-round pick. In my eyes, Curry was the best player in the draft and he fills a void in the Hawk’s linebacker core left by former Seahawk Julian Peterson. The Seahawks could have easily traded this pick, drafted Sanchez or one of the many offensive linemen in the draft, but instead, Ruskell took the best player available route and I thank him for that.

In addition to choosing the best player in the draft, Ruskell also traded away our early second-round pick to the Denver Broncos for their 2010 first-round pick. This move was a stroke of genius on the GM’s behalf. Denver traded away all-pro quarterback Jay Cutler, they have a new coach, Josh McDaniels and they filled their team needs during the offseason about as well as Shaun Alexander fills a hole in the offensive line. It looks as if Ruskell traded away the Seahawks second-round pick for a potential top-five selection in next year’s draft.

Ruskell didn’t stop here. I grew even fonder of Ruskell when he negotiated the Seahawks back into the second round by trading with the Chicago Bears and drafting University of Oregon offensive lineman Max Unger. Since Unger can play any position on the offensive line, he adds depth to a Seahawks line that has battled injuries the past few seasons. Unger is a steal for Seattle since he was projected to be drafted late in the first round of the draft.

Just when I thought Ruskell was done dealing and dealing, he allured me even more by pulling off another brilliant move, trading for Penn State wide receiver Deon Butler. Butler adds blazing speed and durability to a receiving core that has seen more injuries than a triage nurse.

What I enjoyed the most about the Seahawks draft was the fact that Ruskell drafted ready now players, players that can put on a Hawks jersey next year and have a huge impact. What I enjoyed the most about the Seahawks draft was the fact that Ruskell drafted ready now players, players that can put on a Hawks jersey next year and have a huge impact.

I’m not distracted though, the final round of the draft is by far the most rewarding. Plan to eat lunch at the Parkway Pancake House and set your legs on fire. Not this hike will bring you up to 3900’ of elevation bringing you up to 3900’ almost on accident. While the way there is offers sparse views and occasional prairie the pay off is well worth it as the forest uppens into the oasis known as Pete Lake.

The views at the top are incredible after your break through the old-growth into exposed rock. On a clear day a panoramic view of the Olympic range is not uncommon.

This Alpine Lake is the perfect place to rest for awhile and soak your feet in the ice cold water to prepare for the trip home. The views off Lemah Mountain and Chimney Rock will aid in offering some serious time to reflect on life and wind down.

Hiking I-90 corridor at-a-glance
Quick guide to the trails off the freeway

by Eric Haugland
Sports editor

Just because the snow at Snoqualmie Pass is finally entering its waning phases does not mean that all recreation has to cease.

Throw your ski poles in storage and dust off your trekking sticks, here is a list of some of the more worthwhile day hikes along interstate 90.

For those of you who travel back and forth along I-90 regularly try to take the time to make a stop and hit the trails. Enjoy the fresh air, take in the spectacular sites, and be happy trails!

Trail: Mirror Lake
Length: 2 miles round trip
Location: Off of exit-62 on Forest Road 5480
A beautiful lake reflecting Tinkham Peak, a quick trek across switchbacks gives you a small taste of what some of the mountain lakes in Washington look like. Be forewarned, visiting Snow Lake will make you want to take up the task of visiting the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Trail: Mt. Si
Length: 8 miles round trip
Location: Off of exit-32 on Mt. Si Road
Looming over North Bend this hike will bring you to 3900’ and set your legs on fire. Not for the weak of heart, the switchbacked trail seems as easy as first but quickly feels never-ending. Plan to eat lunch at the summit to regain energy for the run down.

Don’t be fooled by the mileage, this is actually one of the easier hikes available and is by far the most rewarding. The hike is a relatively flat grade bringing you up to 3900’ almost on accident. While the way there is offers sparse views and occasional prairie the pay off is well worth it as the forest uppers into the oasis known as Pete Lake.

This Alpine Lake is the perfect place to rest for awhile and soak your feet in the ice cold water to prepare for the trip home. The views off Lemah Mountain and Chimney Rock will aid in offering some serious time to reflect on life and wind down.
Fads hit the television screen

Guts of Glory? Famous athletes go extreme

Garret Atkinson
Staff Reporter

My original thought of “Nitro Circus” was that the show would be nothing more than a spin-off of other MTV shows that were finding less time on the air, such as “Jackass,” but instead they created something much more intelligent, and very entertaining.

Instead of the theme “there is nothing we won’t do,” Nitro Circus brings together some of the best extreme sports stars and well known faces to travel across the country in search of extreme sports and games they have yet to try.

Instead of just placing themselves in danger, like shows of the past, these cast members are competitive, and usually have a goal in mind while attempting stunts.

Each stunt includes some of type of extreme sport, whether it be biking, skiing, dirt biking, snowboarding, or inner tubing and the list goes on.

Although all of the cast members excelled in one area, they may lack in another, making all of the cast fun to watch on any episode.

Today’s TV viewer needs a lot to be entertained, especially at the generation being marketed by MTV’s target audience. The extreme sports fan base has continued to increase, with many of it’s biggest stars becoming household names.

I grew up with football, baseball and basketball, but I can’t help but stop flipping channels when I see someone doing flips thirty feet in the air with a dirt bike. As entertaining as these lunatics are with moving objects, the TV shows produced solely on their daily lives have become very even becoming pop-culture in the case of “Rob and Big.”

So now you take all of these extreme sport athletes and give them the production they need for a show, and you have “Nitro Circus.”

The stunts, if you are rewatching, the cast is full of entertaining thrill seekers, and you even learn a little about the local sports and the famous athletes that dominated those towns growing up.

Fand of movies produced by Warren Miller will see a similar theme style.

I can’t end this without talking about the stunts more. In the most recent episode I watched, one of the cast members jumped out of a helicopter at the top of a mountain to send her sliding down the mountain on an a large, black inner-tube.

She crashed after sliding several hundred yards down the slope, and although the crash looked pretty, she was perfectly fine.

Stunts like these look incredibly dangerous and are probably more difficult than you would think at first, but they still look like something I would want to try. Many of the stunts have a higher level of difficulty, but it only adds to the value.

I’m tired of watching shows where the dangerous element is what a show relies on for the entertainment, and I’m on to “Nitro Circus,” which cuts out the gross humor and attempts incredible stunts. If you have grown up from the shows of the past on MTV, this is the show to watch now.

As for the cast of this new show, they interest me even less than the concept does.

“I’ve never done anything like this before,” one of the cast members said.

“Me neither, but I think it’s time we try something new,” another replied.

“When are people going to realize that hurting yourself is not funny?”

The days of “Jackass” are long gone. There was a brief period in the early 20000’s when Johnny Knoxville and the gang were riding the big wave of success.

From dropping coffins out of hearses in the middle of the street, to piercing Steve-O’s butt cheeks together, those babbling buffoons made millions. But you can only do that for so long before the audience just gets plain worn out.

That is why the show is no longer on the air. Just because you dress up your same characters in a new environment doesn’t make it funny anymore.

“Nitro Circus” does not have the same charm as its predecessors did. Just because Travis Pastrana is an award winning motocross rider doesn’t mean I want to watch his dumb, friends ride tricycles over dirt ramps and smash their testicles on the handlebars.

This humor just does not get me like it did when I was in seventh grade. Back then, when I watched that kind of stuff, I felt like I was getting away with something. It was part of the appeal of tuning in every week.

Maybe that is still the demographic that MTV is reaching for but to me it is not cutting it anymore. I need clever humor on my television.

My favorite thing about those “Jackasses” of the past is when they would put people in uncomfortable situations.

They would jump out with wolf masks on a crowded subway and scare people. They would go to a car wash with blood all over the wind shield and ask them if they could wash it off.

They would pretend to be one legged and go to try on roller blades. It’s that kind of stuff that is missing from MTV’s line up these days.

The hidden camera tricks were always “Jackasses” strength and instead of just focusing on the dumb, hurting themselves segments, they should focus on what got us all laughing in the first place.

As for the cast of this new show, they interest me even less than the concept does.

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As a fad, the Nitro Circus is nothing more than a spin-off of other MTV shows but I can’t help but think that it is still the demographic that MTV is reaching for.

Matthew Carstens
Staff Reporter

When are people going to realize that hurting yourself is not funny? The days of “Jackass” are long gone. There was a brief period in the early 20000’s when Johnny Knoxville and the gang were riding the big wave of success.

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As for the cast of this new show, they interest me even less than the concept does.

Why should I care about them? They are just normal, lazy leeches. Sure I would do mean it is a good idea.

I guess what I’m trying to get across is that people should not be satisfied with the lame attempts at programing MTV is putting on the table.

MTV has brought us great shows like “Rob and Big” and “Viva La Bam,” but it continues the trend of showing us people getting hurt over and over again.

This is not entertainment. This is not funny. It is as painful to watch as it is for the viewers on the stage. Please MTV, no more.

Garret Atkinson
Staff Reporter

Matthew Carstens
Staff Reporter

Mike Reilly:
Former Central Washington University quarterback, Mike Rielly, took part in the National Football League (NFL) over the weekend. He went the first two rounds without being picked before signing as a free agent with the Pittsburg Stallers. Reilly will be the fourth quarterback on the Stallers roster this season.

Jared Bronson:
Former Central Washington University tight end also went two rounds without being selected in the NFL draft. Bronson was given the opportunity to play for the Miami Dolphins as a free agent. He is walking on to the team with a few more players in front of him just as Reilly is.

Both of these athletes graduated the last academic school year and shortly there after a pro day was held for them on March 9, 2009. the pro day gave coaches and scouts another chance to watch Bronson and Reilly demonstrate what they can do before the first-year draft picks.

CWU TO THE NFL
Softball: Splits with Western Oregon

Continued from PAGE 23

On Sunday, the Wildcats battled hard against Western Oregon, but came up short in both games. In game one, Central Washington got the scoring started with an RBI single by McSorely, who would then score later in the inning to give them a 2-0 lead.

Western Oregon came back immediately with two home runs in the bottom half of the second, and took the lead 3-2. They then piled two more runs in the bottom of the third inning, and held the Wildcats at a score of 5-2.

Vlahovich took the loss in a complete game effort, giving up 10 hits and five earned runs while striking out four. She took only her seventh loss of the season.

In game two, Central Washington started the scoring again with a run in the second inning from Larson who scored on a wild pitch. This would be the only run in the game for the Wildcats though, and Western Oregon would score two runs in the fourth inning, and four more in the sixth, defeating the Wildcats 6-1.

"The mood was down knowing that we have dug a deeper hole for ourselves but our heads are up were going to go to montana and do the best we can," said Trautmann.

Central's first 30-win season in school history was achieved in this weekend's series. The series also improved the Wildcat's GNAC record to 26-8. Western Oregon's GNAC record dipped to 21-23.

The Wildcats will now be facing Montana State Billings on their home field Friday and Saturday, May 1 and 2, in a series that will ultimately decide the first place team in the GNAC. With the Wildcats three games behind Montana State Billings, they will need a sweep to take the top honors.

Trautmann finished by saying, "to prepare for the next series we are going to flush the games we've just played because what's done is done, now we have to go Montana and win we have to do what we have done most of the year and to play our game; playing smart defense and stringing hits together."

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Monday, May 4
4 p.m. | Free | SURC Ballroom
Tickets Available at the Diversity Education Center, SURC 253
Available to CWU community April 27 | Available to public April 30
For more info, contact lennma@cwu.edu or 509-963-1685

www.cwu.edu/~symposium

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, McCormick Tribune Foundation, and the Symposium Group Partners

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