6-4-2009

Observer

Central Washington University

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Students exchange free speech for free food
by Quinn Eddy
Asst. News editor

Under the First Amendment, citizens of the United States are given the freedom to speak their mind, assemble peacefully, practice any religion they wish and petition the government.

From 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today, these rights will be revoked on the old tennis courts near the West Patio of the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC).
The event is a part of the First Amendment Free Food Festival.
"It's supposed to educate students on what it would be like to live without our First Amendment rights," said Stephanie Olson, senior journalism major and coordinator for the First Amendment Free Food Festival.

Before entering the event, students will be asked to sign a piece of paper to give up their First Amendment rights.

Upon the signature, students will not be able to talk about religion, they will not have the right to assemble and will not have the right to petition the government.

In exchange for First Amendment rights, students will be offered free pizza. Along with the free food, there will be a complaint box without a slot in order to demonstrate what it is like in countries where the right to free speech is denied.
"I don't think people really realize how it would be to live without First Amendment rights," Olson said. This event gives us a glimpse at that world.

In addition to the outdoor event, Central's Wildcat Shop will have a display featuring commonly banned and challenged books.
"These books serve as an eye opener to students for what pieces of literature have been banned," Cynthia Mitchell, professor of journalism and advisor for Central's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, said.
"Some parents have tried to ban Harry Potter and in some places Huck Finn is considered racist.

Online opinion: www.cwu.edu/~observer
Random ramblings, from the 'Quinn' view

Students exchange free speech for free food
Observer June 4, 2009

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Observer is printed by the Yakima Herald-Republic in Yakima.

We Want Your Opinion

The Economic Development Group of Kittitas County is putting together a comprehensive county-wide economic development strategy and we want your input.

Please take a moment to take our online survey at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=X4_2bjy61obyVGvUanPPJ0Rw_3d_3d

You can also E-mail comments or receive the link via email at:
edgkc@kittitasedc.org

509-962-7244

Every artist was first an amateur.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

Economic Development Group of Kittitas County
Graduation time, Central students get ready for big day

by Loren Hammersberg
Staff reporter

Let the gowns flow in the wind and the caps fly high in the air, because graduation is just around the corner for hundreds of Central Washington University students.

"I'm a little nervous, I've got to start my life now," said Joey Fleck, senior law and justice major.

The ceremonies begin Friday, June 12 with an Honors Convocation ceremony hosted by the Provost Office. The ceremony will begin at 8 p.m. in McConnell Auditorium, where 154 students will be honored.

"These students are the top honors so it's our president's and dean scholars," said registrar's Tracy Terrell. "There will also be a medallion award too."

Following the festivities on Friday, there will be two east side commencement ceremonies on Saturday, June 13.

I'm personally not looking forward to the ceremony itself, but I know my family will be excited to see me on that day," said Matt Romano, senior law and justice major.

The first will be held for the College of Arts and Humanities, College of the Sciences, Interdisciplinary and Individual Studies Major. This ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. in Tomlinson Stadium.

During this ceremony, 585 students will walk, Terrell said.

The second ceremony will be held for the College of Education and Professional Studies and the College of Business. The ceremony will begin at 1:30 p.m. also at Tomlinson Stadium.

During this ceremony 661 graduates will walk, Terrell said.

Then, on Sunday June, 14 there will be a west side Commencement for the west side campus centers. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m. and take place at Benaroya Hall in the Mark S. Tepper Foundation Auditorium in downtown Seattle.

During this ceremony, there will be 360 graduates walking. Terrell said.

"It's going to be a little sentimental. My whole family is going to be there," said Joey Fleck, senior law and justice major.

During the graduation ceremonies there will be a variety of speakers.

President James Gaudino will be speaking at all three ceremonies because it is his first year as president, Terrell said.

There will be three student speakers; Amber Goedrich, mathematics major, Summa Cum Laude; Logan J. Seeleye, information technology and administration management major; and Yuki Matsui, accounting major, Magna Cum Laude.

"It's going to be a little sentimental," Fleck said.

It's going to be a little sentimental. My whole family is going to be there.

Joey Fleck
senior law and justice major

Central seniors react to their approaching graduation

by Allie Mathis
Staff Reporter

Amy Linde and Miriam Karbassi are both graduating seniors. After living together for the past year, they are both getting ready to say goodbye to Ellensburg and move on to the next chapter of their lives; the workforce.

"It's terrifying to leave my home here," said Amy Linde, a business administration major with a specialization in human resources. "Leaving the relationships is hard, but I'm very optimistic about where things are going to take me."

Both Linde and Karbassi did Running Start in high school, allowing them to graduate a year early.

"It's terrifying to leave my home here. Leaving the relationships is hard..."

Amy Linde
senior business administration major

"It's terrifying to leave my home here. Leaving the relationships is hard..."

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senior business administration major

"It's terrifying to leave my home here. Leaving the relationships is hard..."

Amy Linde
senior business administration major

The poor economy creates an uncertain feeling for many seniors graduating this spring.

"It's scary to go out into the workforce right now because there is no guarantee," Karbassi said.

Though graduating means the end of homework, all-nighters, and the inevitable end of quarter finals, both seniors agree there will be things that won't be easy to leave behind.

"I'm going to miss the people and the small-town life," Lind said. "I loved knowing everyone I worked with on campus."

"It's nice to be able to drive and see people you know," added Karbassi. "I'll miss that."
Non-academics to see cuts for next year

by Kevin Opsahl
Senior reporter

The non-academic divisions at Central Washington University are bracing for some of the worst cuts to their departments in years, and the buzz throughout the administration is that there is risk of more to come in the years ahead.

Last week at the final Budget Advisory Committee meeting, President James Gaudino announced that the university would be seeing a 10 percent across-the-board cut to the 2010 Operating Budget.

The proposed plan involves the five divisions absorbing $3.8 million in cuts for next year, according to projections from the president's office. Gaudino said certain divisions would be allowed to dip into the $11 million reserve funds. At an earlier meeting the CWU Board of Trustees gave Gaudino the option of using a limited amount of those funds due to the economic situation in the state.

A representative from the university said they're trying to take as little as possible from academic-related departments, so the president plans to cut services before laying people off. The Board of Trustees will review and possibly approve the budget on June 12.

Members of the cabinet remain realistic and aren't holding back their feelings towards the cuts, as the president said, "We've stepped off a cliff" for funding of higher education for the next four to six years.

For example, the presidential speaker series sponsored by the president's office is getting cut down to $25,000. Gaudino said the university would pay for the series with more donations. Also, they will be more selective in who they choose to speak or perform.

Of the most drastic cuts, the president's office expects to incur a 10 percent cut, equivalent to approximately $355,000 of their operating budget. They will be freezing an eliminating some positions, including freezing an associate director position in the Office for Equal Opportunity, eliminating a half-time event planner in the president's office and reducing a secretary 2 position in the president's office from full time to half time. Overall, their budget went from $3.7 million (including $46,000 that had been held in reserve for the presidential salary) to $3.2 million.

"It's a pretty big cut when you realize it's a fixed cost ... We've tried to minimize layoffs," said interim Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs Bill Vertrees.

Aside from the president's office, the office of the vice president of business and financial affairs will take an 8.1 percent cut and experience the largest financial burden with $1.74 million cut from its budget.

"We've stepped up to the plate this time to help out and help the university meet the financial cuts," Tullos said. "I see this as the first cut. With this economy, we're looking at [possibly] some more."

Tullos also said that had been held in reserve from former President Jerilyn McIntyre, Spheres of Distinction, was also cut out of their budget.

Business and Financial Affairs is taking the brunt of the cuts, reducing their workforce by 14 FTE, and cutting goods and services by 1 million. That includes travel, office supplies, utilities, software, printing, purchased services, subscriptions and registrations.

"It's a pretty big cut when you realize a significant portion of the BFA budget is fixed costs," said interim vice president for business and financial affairs Bill Vertrees. "... We've tried to minimize our layoffs by taking the alternate route of not replacing positions of retirements and resignations."

"If we don't have enough money to pay for the series with the largest financial burden, we may have to cut to the 2010 Operating Budget."

"... We've tried to minimize our layoffs by taking the alternate route of not replacing positions of retirements and resignations."

"We've stepped off a cliff" for funding of higher education for the next four to six years.

"I didn't hire open positions, and we moved some of our positions over to self-support," SAEM's vice president, Charlotte Tullos said. "We made it all work ... everyone is so worried about their jobs. I worked diligently to save all of that."

Tullos said that it was difficult to see what the division could do without, but felt that SAEM helped offset some of the cost for the other divisions.

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"We've stepped off a cliff" for funding of higher education for the next four to six years.
Guitar music, food from the Ellensburg Pasta Company, and a view of the valley at sunset greeted guests attending the "Roots of Hope" event at the Wild Horse Wind Farm on Saturday night, May 30.

The auction was intended to raise funds and awareness for the Bridges Program, an outreach program where mentors from Central Washington University are encouraging Washington state's underrepresented low-income middle and high school students.

Empowering youth since 1997, the Bridges Program is a grant-funded, non-profit program centered on helping low-income youth find success in their academic futures and careers. This is accomplished through offering after-school events, such as book and video clubs, and various workshops and college campus visits.

"When I came here, it was obvious there was a need [for intervention] with only 50 percent of students graduating from high school," said Lois Breedlove, communications department chair and founder of the Bridges Program. "Journalism [among other programs] is a wonderful way to give [these students] a sense of voice, which is how the Bridges Program started and then it grew and grew and grew." In the decade since its founding, the Bridges Program has seen a difference in the percentage of students graduating from 50 to 78 percent. The event touched on these points but focused mainly on the successes that it has experienced, as well as honoring the individuals involved in making the Bridges Program a success.

"From what I can see, I don't think that people outside of Central can see how valuable the Bridges Program is," said Keith James, newly elected ASCWU-BOD. "It's a team effort and it's about maturing and educating ourselves because these [students] are the ones that need it the most," wonderful to see it come through. It's wonderful to see people who say [the Bridges Program] is important to them."

The Wild Horse Wind Farm was a venue on a hill with windows in all directions maximizing its exposure to the setting sun. The "Roots of Hope" event was, according to guest Janine Graves fabulous. "[I] love the venue and the variety of entertainment," said Graves a tutor and supplemental instructor coordinator at Central. "The sunset is going to be great."

For more information Bridges Foundation www.cwu.edu/bridges/
Civic Engagement Center collects school supplies for charity

by Katie Tigges
Staff reporter

Each American, in their lifetime, generates 600 times their adult weight in garbage according to the Recycling Services of the University of Colorado (RSUC).

If the average weight of an American adult is 175 pounds then, in combination with the U.S. Census Bureau statistic that there were 304,059,724 Americans as of July 2008, that would create the potential to generate approximately 31 trillion pounds of waste.

"Wow! That's a lot of garbage," said Melissa Connington, junior nutrition major after she was shown the statistics. "I think Central needs to do more recycling."

Central Washington University's Civic Engagement Center has decided to alleviate some of these statistics with "Don't Waste, Donate" a program designed to collect reusable school related items that would normally be thrown away. These items would then be donated to non-profit community based organizations that have requested school items such as backpacks, scissors, desk lamps and other reusable supplies.

"It's sad when people throw stuff away when it's perfectly useable," said Sam Hanson, senior, computer science major and the Civic Engagement Center's web master. "When people move out of the dorms they leave a lot of stuff that goes to the dump."

Students will be able to drop off donated goods Thursday, June 11 in large 14 foot moving vans around the resident halls until the following Saturday.

Some of the locations will be Stephens Whitney, Brooklane Village, the cul-de-sacs outside of the north and south campuses and in the Bassetts.

"It is a good program because students would [either] have to haul [their unwanted supplies] home or throw them away [in Central's dumpsters]," said the Civic Engagement Center's Environmental Stewardship Liaison Amanda Appel, sophomore safety and health major. "[Also] some students can't or don't want to bring some of their supplies items home."

America is facing statistics such as recycling a four-foot stack of newspaper is the equivalent of saving a 40 foot fir tree or the fact that every three months the American people discard enough aluminum to rebuild the entire commercial airline fleet, according to the RSUC.

The Civic Engagement Center staff acknowledged the presence of waste on Central's campus as an important issue.

"We [the Civic Engagement Center] go through a lot of paper and other office supplies," said Austin Walsworth senior health major and member of the Civic Engagement center staff. "I've seen people throw away bottles in the trash can when the recycling is literally a foot away, especially in classes. We should be doing better; after all we're the evergreen state."

"Be That Friend" teaches mental health awareness

by Amy Thompson
Staff reporter

Suicide is the third leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 and 24. Many college students fall into this age range. Information provided by an assessment group listed suicide as one of the topics people would like to see covered more often at Central Washington University.

On May 27 in room 137 of the Student Union and Recreation Center, a presentation called "Be That Friend" was sponsored by the Family Resource Center. Information on several types of mental illnesses was provided. Topics such as suicide, depression, bipolar disorder and also general health topics were covered.

"This is something that's really supposed to help students reach out when they're having difficulty," said Cindy Bruns, event coordinator and Counseling Center psychologist. "I think it's really important that people feel empowered to know how to talk to their friends when difficult situations come up."

The presentation helped to increase awareness and also ways to understand and know what actions to take with friends that could be affected by certain issues. With its relaxed, interactive and simple delivery, the people who attended were able to ask any questions they had as well as discuss different scenarios, making the information easy to retain.

"Hopefully people will remember the scenarios, how to be a friend, what the issues were, and how they can help," said Kristina Johnson, junior double major in psychology and sociology and event co-coordinator.

A strong point that was covered is that if a person feels that they need help or that something is wrong, it is OK to seek assistance. Help can be found in family, friends, the counseling center, student affairs, campus faculty, the hospital or a crisis line.

It's important to learn the skills to help a friend," said Nan Doolittle, program coordinator of the Family Resource Center. "There are many departments here that are great for students to use too."

This was the seventh presentation on "Be That Friend," however it was the first public presentation. The previous times it was presented took place in several 100 level academic courses and at one residence halls, "Be That Friend" is expected to continue in the fall.

"Be That Friend" was taught by Amy Thompson, program coordinator of the Family Resource Center. "There are many departments here that are great for students to use too."

Art by David Guzman/Observer

WEATHER

Thursday, June 4

Mostly Sunny/Warm
90°
52°

Friday, June 5

Partly Cloudy/Warm
86°
58°

Saturday, June 6

Sprinkles/Cloudy
74°
57°

Sunday, June 7

Cloudy/Mild
75°
50°

Monday, June 8

Sprinkles/Cloudy/Mild
71°
52°

Tuesday, June 9

Sprinkles/Cloudy/Mild
73°
49°

Wednesday, June 10

Sprinkles/Cloudy
75°
50°
courtesy of myforecast.com
End of an era

Kayla Schroader
Editor-in-chief

18 years and 12 stages of primary education before children are set free, given a new grip on independence, free of bedtimes and curfews. They are handed a voting ballot and the authority to choose the leader of the country. With the keys to a second-hand car and a complicated road map, they are set off on their own course. No longer are they children, but still far from capable adults.

And then, four years pass and conclude another chapter in life. Graduating seniors, pack your bags and bid your friends, every year, including Danielle, my other half - my career goals. Now, I know myself. I rebuilt myself in a stage of self-discovery.

Now, I know the roads and the shortcut to the river. Now, I know my professors and how to survive an 8 a.m. class. Now, I know I can handle the responsibility of my career goals. Now, I know my strengths, my weaknesses, my real friends and my career goals. Now, I know myself.

Congratulations to those of you who paid your own way instead of breaking your parents' wallets; to those of you who made homes out of cheap, ugly apartments; to those of you who clipped coupons and learned how to shop on a budget. Congratulations to those of you who leave your mark; those of you who made the most of every day, embracing young, independence while it slowly slips from your fingertips.

This is my final observance, after 18 issues as Editor in Chief and two years on this publication. It has become a part of me and now I pass it onto another: my final late night at how stiff and uncomfortable the new mattress was. It was my first case of homesickness. I cooked in that tiny community kitchen for a Valentine's Day dinner. It was the first of my many attempts at cooking, but he was thankful. I lived through those nights I barely remember. I made new friends, every year, including Danielle, my other half - without you I wouldn't be who I am.

Thank you for making this experience so doggone enjoyable, even on the bad days, you kept me smiling. Thank God Darcy Wytko is embracing the baton, leaving my mind at ease. I know she can handle the responsibility better than anyone. Perhaps better than I ever could. You will be in good hands Central. And you will be missed. Have a good summer and good luck out there.

Stephanie has managed scene for the past three quarters while specializing in online journalism. Her creative genius with page design has improved the section and overall appearance of the paper drastically. Never a dull cover, or moment, with our feisty little Ewok. The next step is unclear but success is sure to follow her wherever she ventures in the future.

Brooke earned her position as scene assistant after writing strong stories over the course of two years. She plans to relocate to Colorado where her writing skills will be featured in a local music magazine. She completed a strong scene team. Her spirit is pure yet driven and her beautiful smile will surely be missed.

Barb's talent spans from writing to editing. She has held down a strong copy desk as chief for the past two quarters. Her vigor for journalism is currently being well received by the Daily Record while she completes her internship and possibly seeks a permanent position. Ellensburg will be lucky to keep her at home, where her heart is.

Charles is a character, with many artistic talents aside from his willingness to manage the news section for two quarters. He hopes to earn his fame in music in the bright and busy city of Seattle, after exploring Spain for the summer. We wish him the best of luck in any endeavor and can't wait to say, 'I knew that guy.' The newsroom wouldn't have been the same without you.

Tetsu is an amazing photographer and we were so thankful to have him contributing to our publication. His smile and colorful sense of humor spiced up the newsroom, like his fish snack mix. He was always a great sport and up for any sort of adventure. Tetsu, even when you return to Japan, you will not be forgotten. Forever our favorite!

The hall of shame: Biggest f#@* ups of Observer 08/09

1.) The wrong "Colonies"
- In Winter, issue 1, the Colonies story was written about another band from New Zealand with the same name.

2.) "Honoring the Holocaust"
- In Spring, issue 3, an article was mistakenly titled with the wrong word choice. It should have read "Remembering the Holocaust."

3.) "Ch----- face" (We don't EVER want to repeat it)
- In one opinion, a poor description was perceived by some readers as an unintended racial slur.

4.) "Carl something"
- A place holder was printed instead of Carl Razazi, graphic designer.

Thanks for being such a good sport, Carl.

5.) Student walk out preview mix-up
- A story ran previewing the May 1 walk out. Dates and tenses changed in the story, suggesting some sort of impossible time travel.

Thank you to our readers for standing by us even through mishaps and understanding our errors as students. We are still learning and growing into future professionals.

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

Tetsu Takiguchi
Asst. photo editor

It's been five years since I started my new life in the United States. Leaving my friends, my family and my country -- everything was pretty much a first time for me. Although I had always dreamed of living abroad since I was a kid, the reality wasn't any easier than I had imagined.

My six years of English school was completely useless. All I could come up with during conversations was "yes," and sometimes "no." I had to start from the beginning at the language school.

Besides the language barrier, I had to face some cultural differences and stereotypes, too. In my country, Japan, there are certainly some stereotypes about Americans. The major one is "every American has a gun." I don't know if they still have that stereotype, but it was definitely there at the time I left. I still remember what my grandma said at the airport, "don't put your hands in your pockets, or you'll get shot." It sounds crazy, but I believed her at the time. It was winter, and it was freezing outside. But I never put my hands in my pockets -- I didn't want to die young.

I didn't want to die young. I had to face some cultural thing. In fact, I used to remember what my grandma said at the airport, "don't put your hands in your pockets, or you'll get shot." It sounds crazy, but I believed her at the time. It was winter, and it was freezing outside. But I never put my hands in my pockets -- I didn't want to die young.

I'm graduating from Central this quarter, and probably going back to my country. Five years of my journey in the United States is about to see its end. Looking back at the path I have traveled, I have nothing but all of those wonderful and priceless memories to take back with me.

Now, I can say these words without any hesitation:

I love you, my friends.
I love you, my teachers.
I love you, America.

Positive living worth the release

Erica Spalti
Staff reporter

As summer vacation nears, I find myself thinking of one word: goodbye. I realized that I will eventually have to say goodbye to my roommate, my friends, my boyfriend and all the people that matter to me. However, this past weekend, I almost lost someone that means the world to me -- my grandfather.

He went into a routine surgery for his back, and less than 24 hours later, he was hooked up to a ventilator that was trying to rid him of medication. Caught between prepping for finals, goodbyes and worrying about my grandfather, I realized one very important thing. Life is too short. I spend so much time worrying, trying hard to impress professors and find the time before goodbye.

I have always been a firm believer in living life to the fullest and not letting the bad things affect you. However, with the possibility of someone I love so dearly being taken from me, I have found that I have been so fixated and so worried about the end and saying goodbye that I have forgotten to enjoy the time I have left with my friends and those that I care about. One day, we are all going to go our separate ways, but don't let that day ruin the many that you have together.

People need to stop worrying about the sad times in life. Focus on what you have. Life is too short to get caught up in the bad emotions and objections of life.

Believe in the possible and believe that good byes are never the end because life is far too short to live in the negative.
My name is Brianan F. Stanley and I am a senior at CWU majoring in Communication studies. For my spring internship, I traveled to Morocco, which is located in the Northwest corner of Africa. I accompanied a small French company named "On Se Barre," for three weeks on off road paths through the Sahara desert and Atlas Mountains, bringing shoes and clothes to villages not found on any map. I also served as the group photographer and public relations personnel during the trip.

I can describe my travels beautiful, intense and sad. The landscapes are so diverse and offer panoramic views that one would expect to see in the centerfold of National Geographic. This year, Morocco received a substantial amount of rain. Usually desolate and void of life, the Moroccan countryside was transformed into fields of flowers because native residents now have water to irrigate.

One aspect I remember most is the poverty and pollution. At one stop, I gave three pre-packed meals to malnourished children. They attacked the food with the fervor of a wolf pack. It was then that I realized that often, under beauty lays misery. Pollution is prevalent—all waste dumped into the see is thrown back on the beaches. The carcasses of two dead dolphins were only a small fraction of the destruction unreincled items are doing to their environment.

Whether on dangerous treks in the Atlas Mountains, driving through a desert sandstorm, and finally being detained by the Moroccan Army this experience represented an adventure of a lifetime. This immersion in Moroccan life and culture has helped to shape me as both a professional and empathic humanitarian.
Comedy Improv Club emerges on campus

by Rachael Duff
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University Comedy Improv Club has expanded this quarter. Beginning the year with roughly nine regular members, they have grown to a count of over 17 regulars and have three live performances scheduled over the next two weeks.

"We are like 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?' but without Wayne Brady," said Viliami Pahulu, sophomore theatre major.

Currently, the improv group meets from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. every Friday in Hebler Hall 118. Meetings are open, no experience is required and anyone who wants to learn and have fun is welcome. Next year, the group hopes to resume meeting in their original location, McConnell 119.

The club is designed to teach members about the art of comedy improvisation. Improv is acting without a script. Lines are improvised and scenes are composed offhand. Meetings consist of warm-ups, rehearsal techniques, short games, critiquing and practicing long form.

"It never hurts to have the skills to be able to adapt," said Jimmy-Dean Candella, sophomore film and production specialization major.

The improv group originated over five years ago. Last year, however, the club was off to a rocky start and was on the verge of dying out. Between 2006 and 2007, a large majority of the members graduated and Andrew Shanks, senior theatre performance major, the newest club president, was left to rebuild the entire group in 2008.

"I love doing it and I love organizing it even though I will pull out my hair every week or so," Shanks said.

By winter quarter 2009, the group was growing, strengthening and gaining popularity. They recently took on a different name to show how they are reformed and to emphasize unity. The former name was "High Impact" but they now call themselves "Sharks with Legs." They are in the process of agreeing on team shirts, which will help them to distinguish themselves and show unity, Shanks said.

"This is probably one of our strongest years as a group," Shanks said.

Sharks with Legs premiered their new name and group at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, which took place mid-February in Idaho.

The group was featured in an improv showcase, along with improv members from other universities in the region. They hope to appear again next year.

The club has had a slow year until now because they must work around other theatre projects.

Nearly all club members are involved with other productions within the theatre department. Now that all the major theatre productions are over, the improv group is ready to emerge into the public eye.

"There is a lot of theatre and this town and this campus have always been supportive of this theatre department, which is great," Shanks said. "We want to start showing them a different aspect of theatre. Improv comedy has been around for a long time and it is an art."

The group is scheduled to host the Stickman Productions festival at 7:30 p.m. on June 5 and 6, in the McConnell Tower Theatre.

It is a one-act and playwriting festival where students' original works will be showcased.

Sharks with Legs will be performing improv games between shows. They will also be performing at a "dead day" event at 7 p.m. Monday in McConnell 119.

"Practicing improv has helped me gain confidence," Pahulu said. "If you can have confidence on stage you can have confidence off stage."

For live shows, generally eight members are chosen to represent the group and perform. They are cast based on their commitment and talent. Having more than eight members perform at one time would be too chaotic, said Shanks.

The group is attempting to build bridges with other improv groups.

They have been speaking with other universities in the state to coordinate an improv festival where competition-style games could be preformed.

The club is starting to incorporate more musical games into their shows and now have a piano player and two guitarists to accompany their performances.

Next year, their goal is to offer a biweekly performance on campus. They are also in the process of working on a long form show called "Vampire Squid, Attack!"

Long form shows generally last from 20 minutes to an hour and are completely improvised. They move from scene to scene to tell a longer story. The group is attempting to build bridges with other improv groups.

They have been speaking with other universities in the state to coordinate an improv festival where competition-style games could be preformed.
Valley residents tune up for Jazz

by Mackenzie Opp
Staff reporter

Take a walk through historic downtown Ellensburg, bring the family, taste some premier microbrews and wines, enjoy delicious food, and of course some amazing live music.

"It's a fun event located right downtown within walking distance of everything," said Larry Sharpe, president and original founder of Jazz in the Valley. "You can park your car for the day and visit the beer gardens and not have a thing to worry about."

From July 24 through July 26, Ellensburg will host the 12th annual Jazz in the Valley. The event is located on Fourth and Pearl and will begin Friday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m. The band Sidewalk Stompers will entertain the crowd until 8:30 p.m., where those who wish to stay out later can view bands that are playing until 12:30 a.m. On Saturday, the Festival will start at 2 p.m. and the later portion will also be from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., the same as the previous night.

"It's a great event for downtown Ellensburg," said Mitch Cook, owner of Dakota Cafe. "It brings a lot of people to town and we're very excited about it."

Some of the bands playing at the festival are Alice Stuart and the Formerlys, Red Hot Blues Sisters, All Star Big Band, Reggie Miles, Total Experience Gospel Choir and many more.

The events are family friendly and children are welcome at all venues. Along with the music, there will be weekend activities. An example of one of the events is the "Sip N' Sample." Guests can taste some of the Northwest's premium wines, teamed up with specialty foods and artwork. Two locations will offer tastings from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Gallery One will feature fine wines, Seattle Chocolates and Chimney's specialty breads.

A silent auction of wine and art will also be featured. The Clymer Museum of Art will offer Washington wines and samples of cheeses. Also, $10 per person includes a souverein wine glass at both venues.Kids can enjoy the Children's Activity Museum, which will be open 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. throughout the weekend.

Full festival prices are $35 and will grant admission for all three days, children 10 and under are free. Tickets are also available for those interested in attending just one night. Friday night is $15, Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. is $10, Saturday night is $15, and Sunday is $10. Tickets are available online, or by phone at 509-925-3137 or 888-925-2204.

"The main thing is to get your tickets early," Sharpe said. "For the last four or five years we've had a sell out, so get your tickets early... we sell about 4,000 tickets a year."

For more information on the bands, events, tickets and the weekend schedule, visit www.jazzinthevalley.com.

The 11th Annual Jazz in the Valley was held from Friday, July 25 to Sunday, July 27 on Fourth and Pearl in downtown Ellensburg.

The sponsors for Jazz in the Valley are Rodeo City Bar-B-Q, Edward Jones, Puget Sound Energy, Bank of the West, City of Ellensburg and Kittitas County.

Musically gifted students amp up Open Mic

by David Guzman
Scene reporter

Original music, talented performers and even a real keystone were on display last Thursday night.

On May 28 at the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) Pit, Campus Activities hosted its final Open Mic Night for the quarter. A total of six acts showed their talents on Thursday night, including John Redifer, Denny Goyton, Lauren Short and Mike Champoux – as well as groups Afro Panda, Animal Noises and Podunk Funk.

Opening performer John Redifer put a more sensitive, laid back spin to a couple covers songs – "Closing Down the Pattern Department" by Dephyne Loves Derby and "What's My Age Again" by Blink 182. Redifer sat while strumming on his seafoam green Fender Stratocaster.

The following performer, Denny Goyton, provided the most stripped-down performance of the night, singing an a capella version of "Hold On My Love" by Buddy Miller. The pure performance was an standout as the night went on.

Woodard stabbed out synthesized chords on his instrument while Castillo jammed on a miniature Fender bass guitar. The old school video game-inspired rhythm tracks were provided by a laptop computer.

"We're only two guys," Woodard explained. "We have to have some software to make it happen.

Woodard's keytar is an obscure '80s relic combining a keyboard and functionality of a guitar.

Guitar/vocal duo Animal Sounds followed Afro Panda. Allie Doyle provided the acoustic guitar accompaniment while Emily Usher sang expressive, eclectic vocals.

Senior music performance major Isaac Castillo of Afro Panda lays down a smooth bass line at last week's Open Mic Night.

Mike Champoux charged up the musical stylings by performing several original hip hop tracks from an upcoming album. He showcased his own beats, which blasted through the PA.

Champoux attracted the largest crowd of the night, and interacted with them throughout his performance.

"Make some noise if you like hip hop," he instructed, and the audience complied.

The evening came to a close with a performance by acoustic trio Podunk Funk, with junior music composition major Nick Sokol on mandolin, Castillo of Afro Panda on upright bass, and senior jazz major Tarki Bentlamsani on acoustic guitar.

The trio played two originals, both open and improvisational – the musicians had opportunity to show their chops.

The group's talent and energy brought the biggest applause of the night.
Historical dance teaches foreign cultures
by David Guzman
Staff reporter

Marte Fallshore, veteran international folk dancer, shuffles through a stack of audio cassettes, and throws a random one into a Sony boombox. A light exotic rhythm warbles from the boombox, an upbeat violin melody leading the song forward. The sound slips slightly out of tune from time to time, due to a weathered and overplayed audio cassette.

"My tapes are ancient," says Fallshore, a professor of cognitive psychology at Central Washington University.

The opening dance is called Setnja, a traditional Serbian dance characterized by a lively exotic rhythm warbling from the boombox, an upbeat violin melody leading the song forward. The sound slips slightly out of tune from time to time, due to a weathered and overplayed audio cassette.

That was lovely, thank you," Whitaker says. At 8 p.m. in the Ellensburg Room at the Hal Holmes Center on Ruby Street, a number of Ellensburg residents get together once a month to immerse themselves in foreign culture and dance.

This particular session is the last of the season. Whitaker has taught international dance lessons at the Hal Holmes Center since last October. Some international folk dancing groups perform at events such as the Northwest Folklife Festival. But this group dances for recreation. For over two hours, Whitaker leads the group through various dances from Eastern Europe, including Bufcansko (Macedonia), Alunelul (Romania), Mayim Mayim (Israel), and Iste Hendek (Turkey).

The sense of community among the dancers is apparent. Joined hand-in-hand throughout each dance (the dances taught are group activities), everyone shares smiles and laughter during the event.

One dance, Susa, is new, but she has past dancing experience, as does everyone else present. Everyone, except this reporter, affectionately dubbed "Clark Kent" by the group.

"Let's get Clark up here," laughs dancer Susie McColaugh, forcing this reporter to participate.

Although "Clark Kent" did not personally know anyone or have any dance experience, he was instantly made welcome and part of Ellensburg's folk dancing community. This feeling of "community" is the goal of the folk dancing lessons, the participants say.

"It's a nice way to meet people," Whitaker says. "It's not a bar or anything like that." McColaugh agrees.

"It's a fun social event; it's not a dating scene here," she says. "It's socially non-intimidating.

For Whitaker, it's the music, characterized by its complex rhythmic timing and unorthodox melodies that attract her to international folk dancing.

"As a musician, I'm just turned into strange rhythms," Whitaker said. "I love the music.

Additionally, several members say that learning traditional dances is a good way to learn about history and foreign cultures. "You really feel like you're part of history," says participant Nancy Parks. "You're learning about centuries of tradition ... These dances are often done at village dances and weddings. You can travel the world and see these same dances."

And judging by some of the more physically-demanding dances and off-beat comments regarding sweat, "it's a decent work out too. One particular dance from Croatia, Sukako Kolo, is more vigorous.

"The Croatian style is real jiggly," Whitaker says to the group. "If you don't want to jiggle too much, you don't have to hop!"

The group is allowed to practice once a month in Holmes for no charge. Fallshore credits the library, and specifically director Debby DeSoer. "The library has been amazingly helpful to the community for allowing the use of this space for free ... [DeSoer] allows groups to come in free of charge as long as the groups aren't charging," Fallshore added. "It's very wonderful of her.

The group pools together money each session in order to give back to the library. Students on campus looking for a fun, enriching activity are encouraged to look into international folk dancing lessons. Only a few Central students attended lessons during the season, which came as a surprise to Fallshore.

"It's something we do for free," Fallshore said. "Free entertainment. We thought we'd be flustered with students.

Fallshore said Central dance program director Theresa Young offers extra credit for students who attend international folk dancing lessons.

"We would absolutely love to see more college students when we start up again," Fallshore said.

Whitaker and Fallshore look forward to starting lessons in the fall. Fallshore said they are looking to get live musicians to replace the old audio cassettes.

"Dancing just feels good," Fallshore said. "You feel a sense of accomplishment when you get something down.

Brubaker nods in full agreement. "It feels cool when everyone's doing something together," Brubaker said. "There's always an energy, and a sense of community."
Savage Love highlights Pride Week

by Megan Peters
Asst. Online Editor
by Brooke Mortensen
Asst. Scene Editor

Pride Week at Central Washington University kicked off on Monday with many workshops to cultivate open discussion about gay and lesbian relations but nothing could prepare students for the open discussion Dan Savage brought to campus.

“I think it was important to bring him here because he broke down barriers between the LGBT and straight community,” said Tony Foland, senior sociology and ethnic studies major and Diversity Center student programmer.

Savage took the stage before an enthusiastic group of students letting them know “wherever we go tonight it is because you fucking perverts took us there.”

The casual question and answer format of the night brought about many personal, comical, serious, and educational moments.

“This is my second time seeing him and I’ve been reading The Stranger for a few years,” Brittany Thompson, junior psychology major, said. “I think it’s really neat that we could get him to come to Central and I am really glad that I got to go.”

Savage answered questions ranging from how to get a guy to notice you, to his thoughts on Proposition Eight, to his “Savage Love” column, to parenting and even threesomes.

His answers were not just for the LGBT community, in fact the majority of the audience identified as heterosexual.

Savage addressed every aspect of every question; men with men, women with men, and women with women.

“Tetsu/Observer

Dan Savage, author of the sex and relationship column “Savage Love” published in Seattle’s The Stranger spoke and answered audience questions last Tuesday, June 2 in the Student Union and Recreation Center Theatre.

He broke down barriers between the LGBT and straight community,” said Tony Foland, senior sociology and ethnic studies major and Diversity Center student programmer. “He made the issues come to a common ground.”

Savage addressed every aspect of every question; men with men, women with men, and women with women.

“I think it was important to bring him here because he broke down barriers between the LGBT and straight community,” said Tony Foland, senior sociology and ethnic studies major and Diversity Center student programmer. “He made the issues come to a common ground.”

His no nonsense attitude and witty comments made even the most crude statements feel normal.

Savage talked about the difference between gay and straight sex lives.

“When gay couples hook up at a bar gay men ask ‘What are you into,”’ Savage said. “It is the most open-ended question ever. But when a man and a woman go home together, you know at the end of the night [all that will happen is] she will get fucked.”

On a serious tone Savage discussed the importance of a monogamous relationship, citing the spread of HIV/AIDS as the wake up call to the LGBT community.

He said a relationship is about molding yourselves to one another and keeping lines of communication open.

Before starting his column for The Stranger, Savage studied theater and history at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

He also founded Seattle’s Greek Active Theater. Savage and his partner Terry have been together for 15 years and have an 11-year-old son.

Pride Week ends today with a semi-formal Ally Prom in Holmes Dining Room.

The dance, which includes free refreshments, will begin at 8 p.m.

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Cruising car show rolls for a good cause
by Danielle Gagnon
Scene reporter

On June 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Ellensburg on Pine Street between Second and Fourth Avenue, the 10th annual “Cruisin’ for Hospice Car Show” will take place.

The car show is free to the public, and is intended to raise funds for Hospice Friends.

Hospice Friends is a non-profit organization with a mission to provide peace, comfort and care to the elderly and anyone facing a life-threatening illness in Kittitas County.

Hospice Friends works in coordination with Kittitas Valley Home Health and Hospice to provide quality care in a professional, empathetic and confidential manner.

All of Hospice Friends services are free of charge.

Gene Ketzenberg, organizer for the car show, started this event in honor of his late mother, Florence Ketzenberg.

“Hospice was there for my mom the last four months of her life,” Ketzenberg said. “I could give [Hospice Friends] all the money in the world, but that still wouldn’t repay all the love and hospitality they gave to my mother. She was a terrific woman.”

Guests will have much to see and do while they are at the car show.

There will be oldies music from the ’50s and ’60s and The Veterans of Foreign Wars will have a booth selling hamburgers and hot dogs.

An auction and a multi-item raffle will also take place.

Winners will receive a Shop Vac, automotive supplies and gift certificates generally associated with auto care.

The two items up for auction will be an old refrigerator with a customized paint job, and a brand new gas barbecue grill.

“We hope that people come out, have a good time and bring family to our family-oriented event,” said Roger Hiles, executive director of Hospice Friends. “We also hope to generate funds at the same time for a very worthy cause.”

Kellher Motors is sponsoring the event and will also be judging the competition. Each year, the number of cars varies.

Last year, approximately 200 cars came out to the event.

Some cars come from all over the state and even as far away as California.

A few of the cars will be supplied from dealerships in Pendleton, Oregon, as well as Kittitas Valley Cruisers and La Grande Cars in La Grande, Oregon.

“It’s a wonderful show - it’s neat that people from out of town come to join and help the people in our community,” said Deborah Richards, secretary at the car club in Kittitas County. “It’s a big challenge; we’re a nonprofit group. We aim to do the best we can for our community.”

Jim Richartz’s 1938 Chevy was one of the many classic cars featured at last year’s “Cruisin’ for Hospice Car Show” on Saturday, June 7.

Photo courtesy of Roger Hiles

For more information on the Car Show please contact Roger Hiles at 509-962-7379 or friends@eburg.com.

Trophies are up for grabs in 32 different categories. Only one first place trophy will be awarded.

Other awards at the event include People’s Choice, Police Officers’ Choice, Fire fighters’ Choice, Ladies’ Choice, and the Florence Ketzenberg Memorial Award, which will be handed out by Gene Ketzenberg himself.
Looking back on
Central Washington University's record setting 2008-2009 athletic year.

Sports Trivia
Name the only team to turn two triple plays in a single MLB game?

Sports

(Top left) Senior Frank Donangelo readies himself in the batter's box during the 2009 season. (Top right) Senior Matt Penoncello looks for the basketball against the Washington athletic club. (Middle right) Senior Liz Wallace heads to first base. (Bottom right) Freshman Miranda Heslep steals the ball from a Seattle Pacific University midfielder. (Bottom left) Johnny Spevak holds the ball for a field goal attempt during the 2008 Battle in Seattle.
Central athletics reflect on success

Wildcat sports excel throughout 2008/2009 school year

by Matthew Carstens
Staff reporter

Wildcat athletics provided much excitement during Fall quarter. From football’s nearly perfect season to women soccer’s numerous accomplishments, there was never a dull moment.

Football started off the year winning its first four games, two of which came in blowout fashion. The first and only loss of the regular season was against Montana, the Wildcats’ only NCAA Division I-AA opponent of the year. Montana won the game with a 42-yard field goal with only five seconds remaining.

Central football then proceeded to run the table, winning their last six games of the regular season, including taking the Cascade Cup at the last Battle in Seattle against Western Washington University.

Unfortunately, their national championship ambitions were quickly put to rest as they were defeated by West Texas A&M in the first round of the NCAA Division II tournament.

They did not go quietly however, as Central quarterback Keith Null battled West Texas quarterback Mike Reilly. Reilly signed with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

“Back when I was in high school, I was really into watching football. That’s when I started watching the Pittsburgh Steelers,” said Null. “Mike Reilly was my favorite quarterback. So, to be able to play against him was a really big deal.”

women’s soccer had a fantastic year, racking up the most Division II wins in school history.

They were regionally ranked for the first time at the Division II level and ranked seventh in the coaches’ poll. Four of the team’s seven losses came against the number one team in the country, Seattle Pacific University.

“We came into camp thinking we had a chance to be good,” said Head Coach Michael Farrand. “That was the goal all year, to compete and try to keep ourselves in the mix. We had a couple games we let slip away, otherwise I think we would have made the regionals. We had a great group of girls and they represented Central Washington really well.”

Only two of the starting 11 players are graduating seniors. Lynde Clark and Hannah Bridges, who combined for 60 shots over the last three years, will be missed, but a good recruiting class is going to help solidify a strong returning core.

“We signed four girls in February,” Farrand said. “Farrellly and one’s a forward and one’s an outside mid. Another girl is a defensive mid to replace Bridges and the last one is a defender. We had them up here a few weeks ago and they looked good.”

The women’s volleyball team finished 16-12 overall with an 8-9 record in conference play. They only missed the NCAA tournament by one spot, finishing ninth in the regional poll.

“We had a good year, we started out real well,” said Head Coach Mario Andaya. “Going into conference we had a good run. We were 7-1. We hit the injury bug a little bit, kind of struggled in and out of conference. We went five matches with a lot of teams. We just couldn’t get over the hump here and there. But overall it was a successful year. A lot of young kids got a lot of playing time.”

Individually, Brandie Vea was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association Division II All-American Team.

“Brandie had a very good year and I am thrilled she has been recognized as an All-American,” Andaya said. “Her work ethic and ability to perform consistently at a high level has made her one of the best in her position.”

Vea stands as the seventh Wildcat to receive these honors in the last five years.

Despite going through somewhat of a rebuilding year, the team managed to come out successful.

“I think we did a good job,” Adkisson said. “All the guys made it through the year and they’ve come a long way and are going to be ready for some big things this fall. The fact that we have a really good looking squad as far as the newcomers we have for next year.”

As for the women’s side, the loss of stand-out senior Marcie Mullen will be hard to get over. Mullen was named GNAC Co-Athlete of the Week as well as finishing third overall in the Apple Ridge Run Invitational.

“[Mullen] was almost an all-star,” Adkisson said. “She was just outside the top 10, which would have been her repeat for her because she had been a conference all-star. She had a really solid season. She just missed out on all-region as well. She came real close to being a national qualifier.”
Winter quarter brings sports indoors

by Garrett Atkinson
Staff reporter

This Winter saw senior shortstop Krissy Tangle become Central’s first individual NCAA Division II National Champion.

Tangle went to nationals in Houston and out threw her competition by almost a foot with a mark of 48-9.12.

The Central Washington University men’s basketball team was picked as the favorite to take the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) title during the pre-season. Six seniors lead the team to what would be their third postseason trip in three years.

Senior guard Matt Penoncello led the scoring for the Wildcats during the season with 13.6 points per game, totaling 365 points on the season. He also had 36 points in a win over Saint Martin’s University on January 12. Other top scorers include senior forward Brandon Foote, who averaged 12.9 points per game, and seniors Scotty Dotson and Jake Beitinger with 13.2 points per game.

Penoncello and Beitinger also averaged just under six rebounds per game. Beitinger accumulated 1.3 blocked shots per game.

By the middle of their season, the men’s basketball team was sitting in fourth place in the GNAC Division II Men’s Basketball Regional standings, the highest of any team in the GNAC. The Wildcats lost their last game of the season to Western Washington University, dropping them out of first place in the GNAC. They then earned a playoff spot with their position in the Division II West Regional rankings.

The men’s basketball team ended its season with only one loss to their season. They were 12-4 in conference play.

“The team is now done with the season and they will be looking to reload for next season with scorers, as well as return their leading scorer, Jacobs.”

Spring athletes set new records

by Laura Mitteldorf
Asst. sports editor

The beginning of each quarter doesn’t mean the end of another. Each quarter is the start of a new season for athletes. This past academic year, teams have been setting records and deciding on new goals for themselves.

Spring quarter has been a big season for teams, with players just starting their careers at Central, and seniors playing their final game. Every team has experienced different situations.

Central baseball struggled this past season but the team has high hopes for next year.

“It was a tough year,” said Head Coach Desi Storey. “We fell way below normal expectations, but we have a great group of guys, just together we struggled.”

Baseball had six seniors this year and nine freshmen. According to Storey, there are going to be many new faces next season. He wants to get back up to 30 wins, get back on track and head to regionals.

Despite baseball having a hard year, the women’s softball team had a winning season. The team had a record-setting season.

Wildcat softball won a school record 33 games this season shattering the previous record by nine wins.

Senior catcher Holly Rossmann set school records in four offensive categories: hits (67), doubles (17), runs (58) and batted in (44).

Senior pitcher Linse Vlahovich set a single season record with 219 strikeouts in route to being named the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) pitcher of the year, while Head Coach Gary Frederick was named GNAC coach of the year.

Four of the players- Rossmann, junior outfielder Danielle Monson, designated player Taylor Trautmann and senior shortstop Liz Wallace- were selected for the all-conference team. In addition, freshman first baseman Michelle Torre received honorable mention all-conference honors.

The team was unfortunately kept out of the regional playoffs, even though they were in the top two for the division.

“This was also their third time nominated for the team but they selected for the team but we need to improve upon our California play.”

The team is now done with the season and will be stepping back up again once school is back in session fall quarter. According to Frederick, regionals are in the works for next season.

The team’s scoring leader was sophomore guard Jenn Jacobs, who averaged 10.3 points per game. Senior forward Hillary Tanneberg averaged 9.3 points per game, and senior guard Stephanie Wenke averaged 8.5 points per game in her final Wildcat season.

Tanneberg was also a low-post force, averaging 6.7 rebounds a game. Other notable stats came from junior forward Shaina Afoa, who averaged just over a block per game, and Wenke who lead the team with 3.6 assists per game.

“In most cases, when teams aren’t successful and are losing, you find that players don’t get along or care for one another,” Afoa said. “But we still enjoyed each other off the court and never stopped working hard.”

Senior guard Tanna Radtke finished her season averaging 5.7 points and 2 assists per game, along with 21 steals on the season.

The women’s basketball team finished its season with a record of 7-20 overall, 4-12 in conference play. They will be looking to reload for next season with scorers, as well as return their leading scorer, Jacobs.

Senior catcher Holly Rossmann swings for the fences during one of the 2008-2009 games in the season.

It was a wonderful group of young ladies,” Frederick said. “It made for a great season.”

To add to the softball records, track and field made its mark in the record books.

Track and field had 11 athletes named to the academic all-GNAC honors team.

The team sent seniors Nick Collins, Cameron Bailey and Marice Mullen to the all-GNAC academic team. Not only were they selected for the team but this was also their third time receiving such honors.

Joining them on the 102-member team were second-time nominees Raquel Gonzalez, Mary Seidler, Tyler Fischer and Mary Bakeman.

The first-time nominees this spring were junior sprinter Kyle Williams, sophomore throwers Daniel Ramirez and Tish Wells, and junior pole vaulter Cindy Glenn.

In order for all 11 of these athletes to receive this award they must achieve a grade, point average of at least 3.2 and be in their second year of play.

This quarter has set a new standard for all the athletes and the coaches they want to improve and take it one step further next season.

Spring quarter athletes set new records

Senior Joshua Murillo swings for the fences during one of the 2008-2009 games in the season.
Central's OPR offers summer fun
by Elizabeth DeVos
Staff reporter

Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) is going to be offering summer day trips, something that they have not done in the past.

Outdoor adventurists who love hiking and fly fishing will have an opportunity to do so this summer through OPR. The shop also offers raft guides for rafters who don't want to go alone, and would feel safer with a guide.

"Rafting is a big thing. In the summer," said Rhean Perkins, senior Spanish major. "We lead rafting trips during discover orientation for incoming freshmen."

For rafters who would feel safer floating down the Yakima River with a raft guide, they can be hired through OPR. OPR currently has 20 rafts available and the best way to ensure one is by reservation, Perkins said.

Besides rafts, OPR also offers inner-tubes, inflatable kayaks for one or two people, and rowing frames with oars. Equipment can be rented for a day, a weekend or a week.

In July, they will begin new activities not normally offered during the summer months including hiking and fly fishing trips, said Darrell Kangiser, senior nutrition science major, and OPR shop manager.

"There will be lots of diversity in the shop. Next year will be full of new staff and fresh new people with good ideas," Kangiser said.

Day hiking trips will include Manastash Ridge and the Umptanum Recreation Center.

As the summer progresses, interest arises, they might consider some three to four day overnight hikes.

Day trips to the Yakima River will be offered to experienced fly fishermen who have their own poles and know how to tie the lines.

In order for the fishing trips to take place, Lance Larsen, freshman recreation and tourism major said approximately six people would need to sign up as a minimum number for the day trip to happen and a maximum of 10 to 15 people would be able to go. Larsen said.

"We could camp and then fish at dusk and dawn, that'd be cool," Larsen said.

Depending on how well the fly fishing day trips go, OPR is thinking about allowing beginners to join in for fly fishing experience.

If students and staff are interested in getting into fly fishing there are three shops in town that will help them get started.

Rodeo represents

by Observer staff

Both women earned a chance to compete at the CNFR against other top collegiate rodeo competitors.

In last week's rodeo article, Charli Bergevin was pictured instead of Bailey Minor.

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Boullion Room 222
cwuobserver sports@gmail.com
Women's water polo makes a splash
Central introduces first all female team

by Jessica Hirschkorn
Staff reporter

This is the first year that an all women's water polo team has been available. In past years, the teams have been coed only. Fall quarter of 2009 will mark the start of Central's very own Collegiate Water Polo Association team. "[Women's water polo] is going to stay a club on campus, but is really a full fledged college sports team," said Mark Lewis, senior physical education and health major and co-president of women's water polo.

Fall quarter, Lewis realized that the existing coed team could be split into a women's and men's team. Lewis became the co-president of the team along with Amanda Smith, sophomore biology major.

"I brought it up because Western Washington University has had a team since around 1995 and our school size is very similar to Western," Lewis said.

According to Lewis, the first women's practice had nine players. The team built up to 16 players and soon jumped to 24 players in the winter season. "There is still a lot of work to do...the plan is to build the team so the players can run the program themselves," Lewis said.

In the first year of competing, the team has participated in two tournaments. Currently, their main opponents are high school teams. "I am really excited, [moving up to the Collegiate Water Polo Association] will allow us to play more tournaments with college teams instead of high schools...we will be recognized as a collegiate water polo team," said Sarah Clark, sophomore biology and biochemistry major and co-captain of the team.

The highlight of this year's season was a game that happened on Saturday, May 30. When the women's team beat Auburn at the very end of the game. "We were down eight to six with three minutes and 13 seconds to go in the game...we scored three goals to win," Lewis said.

There were a lot of honorable mentions to be made according to Lewis. "Nicole Jarvis had stellar defense, Ashley Knapp had great shots, Sarah Clark had three awesome goals, and Ariel Walker stole countless balls that led to fast breaks," Lewis said.

The team plans to make advances next year and increase participation throughout campus. "Many of our girls were brand new players and a lot of them had never heard of water polo, now they are out scoring goals and doing awesome," Clark said.

Clark, co-captain of the team, has high hopes that there will be an increase in participation. "We are really excited for next year, we will have a lot of new blood...we have been recruiting a lot," Clark said.

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