

10-22-2009

## The Observer

Central Washington University

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# the Observer

by the students and for the students of CWU

FREE, TAKE ONE  
VOLUME 83, NO. 4  
OCT. 22-28, 2009  
WWW.CWU.EDU/~OBSERVER

## Talking Money

**Last year Central Washington University's students received an unprecedented \$101 million in financial aid funding. Yet with this fall's record-breaking enrollment totals, the future of financial aid as we know it is at risk. See p. 5 for more.**

**Spheres of Distinction threatened, p. 2**

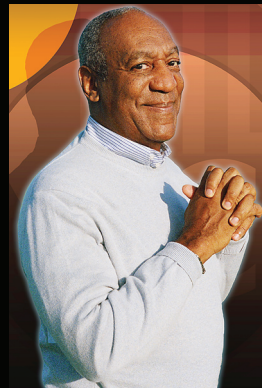
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Fund requests up

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Dance tribute

**Cosby** p. 9  
Brings the funny

**Football** p. 12  
Battle well won



# McIntyre's Spheres of Distinction on the chopping block

by Kevin Opsahl  
Asst. news editor

Ask anyone who has received a Spheres of Distinction grant and they will tell you how fantastic it was to start a new program to diversify Central.

Ask them about it now, and it's a different story.

The James Gaudino Administration is not funding Spheres of Distinction proposals this year, and will not ask for requests in the future. So the programs are having to pull money from more outside sources. The future of the initiative is in question.

"President Gaudino is looking at every penny we spend," said Elizabeth Street, interim vice president for university relations. "All budgets are in flux for this year so I think anyone can say, 'I don't know what my budget is yet' ... spheres is not being singled out."

Street maintains that the projects that are permanent will go on because they are apart of the base budget.

The president will not withdraw funds from a sphere that has base funding, but a dean, director or Vice President can for a number of reasons

For the fiscal year 2010, vice presidents have not decided whether to move forward in funding their spheres, according to Street.

The budget for the next biennium will be decided after next years leglative session in Olympia, Wash.

Then-President Jerilyn McIntyre announced the Spheres of Distinction program in the summer of 2005

and it began the following year. It was designed to fund proposals made by anyone at the university as long as it met one or more of the five "spheres" adopted by the CWU Board of Trustees.

Those "spheres" include interdisciplinary programs and research, preparation of professional educators, programs and activities related to students or the community, activities addressing regional needs and any projects concerning the six other university centers.

"These projects, and others which were not funded, reminded us that we are rich in 'innovative and resourceful approaches to academic, student, and campus life giving regional, national, or international prominence to Central Washington University,'" McIntyre wrote in a memo to the campus community in January 2008.

The proposals do not have to initiate permanent projects or programs. Street maintains that the projects that are permanent will go on because they are apart of the base budget, which is partly funded by the state.

The initiative garnered more than 60 proposals during its first two years from which 22 projects were selected. For 2008, there were 35 proposals, according to a memo from David Soltz, former provost and senior

vice president for academic affairs.

For the 2007-2008 academic year, the initiative was still being funded \$500,000, but by 2008-2009, that amount had been cut iby more than half, according to budget director Shelly Johnson. Only \$185,000 was allocated as base funding.

Once faculty proposes them, the spheres projects have to be endorsed by the vice president of that department before they can be given the grant by the president.

Street said that academic affairs is receiving the least amount of cuts this year, so that division will probably have more money to spend on spheres than others.

Street also said that programs that recieve base funding will continue unless the vice presidents believe that the spheres money should be devoted to other areas.

"You could have a sphere where everyone thinks it's worked well, it's great ... but it's not the highest priority," Street said.

The Center for Latino and Latin American Studies (LLAS) and the Africana and Black Studies program can give credit to spheres for being present on campus. They have both gotten a 15 percent cut in their goods and services, as have all interdisciplinary programs.

"I know there's budget cuts out there, but I hope as they look at the academic side"

**Bobby Cummings**  
Director, Africana and Black Studies

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**Deadlines:**  
Weekend sports information:  
Monday, 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
**Letters to the editor:**  
Thursday, 5 p.m.  
Entertainment, meetings, calendar  
events: Friday, 5 p.m.

## Corrections

\*On the cover of issue three (Oct. 15-21) we incorrectly attributed the faculty senate as lobbying for tuition increases. This should say the faculty union.

\*On page two of issue three (Oct. 15-21) we titled Mike Luvera as Lieutenant of the Department of Public Safety and Police Services. He is the captain of the department.

\*On page seven of issue three (Oct. 15-21) the women's suffrage 100-year logo should be credited to Tim DeSelms.

\*On page five of issue two (Oct. 8-14) we referred to GALA as Gay and Lesbian Association. The correct name is GALA-GLBTA: Gay and Lesbian Alliance-Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Straight Alliance.

**TONIGHT!**  
**CWU STUDENT RALLY, FOOD, MUSIC, CHALLENGE COURSE AND MORE!**  
**WELLINGTONS WILDFIRE**  
Thursday, Oct. 22 • 6-8 p.m.  
Community Fields on N Alder St.

Sponsored by ASCWU BOD,  
88.1 The Burg & University Recreation

# Student Services turns to S&A fees

by Lura Treiber  
Staff reporter

Many Central Washington University student services have seen an increase in workload and cuts in state funding, causing some services to respond by turning to the Services and Activities Fee Committee.

"In an economic downturn with budget pressure, it would be reasonable to ask the S&A committee to perhaps pick up the cost of some of these student services," said Ed Day, assistant vice president of Financial Services and administrative committee member.

The S&A Committee is in charge of allocating student fees to student-centered campus organizations. The funds come from the fee that students pay each quarter with tuition.

Last year's committee had set the fee rate at 7 percent, but raised it to 14 percent to keep pace with the 14 percent increase in tuition. They had \$5.04 million to disburse this year up from \$4-6 million in the current base

Most services requested an increased amount from the committee last spring, and many received an increased amount of proposed funding.

"The reason we asked for more is because we are always trying to do more," said Mal Stewman, assistant director for the Center for Student Empowerment. "The reason is basically that all the programs got a basic increase to cover increased salaries and increased programming costs."

The Center for Student Empowerment brings in speakers for programs, but recently has become more limited in choosing the speakers they can hire because expenses have gone up.

"Everything has kind of gone up and I guess that's just the way of the world right now," Stewman said. "We've got to kind of weather the storm and hopefully things will turn around so that we can continue to grow."

The center has also had to take both student and staff salaries into account.

"Some of the salaries in our office were covered by state money and so when we lost state monies we had to get some S&A monies to cover...the difference between the state monies that were lost," Stewman said.

The current economy and state cuts affect CWU services in other ways.

"There's always an increased workload because if there are challenges in the social constructs of a community then our work becomes far more important," said Lorinda Anderson, director of the Don and Verna Duncan Civic Engagement Center. "Then when you add to that perhaps environmental challenges that we might have been facing, flooding



Doris Torres/Observer

Clubs and organizations on campus are turning to the S&A committee during the budget crisis.

“Everything has kind of gone up and I guess that’s just the way of the world right now.”

Mal Stewman  
Asst. director,  
Center for Student  
Empowerment

and drought in some cases, those are all compounded, so the work of the center becomes even more accentuated or necessary in times of need."

The Civic Engagement Center is mostly a student run volunteer service. Their goal is to educate both the campus and local community.

"If you look at the increase of individuals that are utilizing our program and the types of programs that stu-

dents are now directing, I think you're going to see the indication or the need for [increase in funds]," Anderson said. "I felt very confident in asking for additional funds."

According to Day, the S&A Committee portion of the university is financially healthy. He believes that the S&A committee has been good stewards of the money and have made sure that there are adequate reserves for future allocations. They also adjust the fee to keep pace with the desired level of services and activities.

The Student Empowerment Center and the Civic Engagement Center are just two of the many student oriented services funded by the committee. Other services include the Equity and Services Council, the Diversity Education Cen-

ter, the Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Trustees, the Club Senate and the Observer.

"It's our job to make sure they can provide the services they said they would... That's our top priority," said Wendy Williams, associate professor of psychology and a faculty member of the S&A committee.

The organizations funded by the Student Services and Activities Fee Committee provide many important services to students and the community. This is made possible in part by fees students pay out of their tuition.

The committee has to deliberate on how much to give each group based on how valuable their services are to students.

## General Education program to be swept and rebuilt

by Katie Reese  
Staff reporter

The General Education Committee at Central Washington University has been designing a new general education program over the last year.

The goal of the committee's new program: clarity.

"[The current program is] disjointed," said Aaron Montgomery, mathematics professor and committee member. "It's unclear why students are taking what they're taking."

Montgomery says he would like to see more coherence between the courses students are required to take and the outcomes of the courses.

"We'd like to slightly reduce the credit load, as well," Montgomery said. "We can't go below 60 credits, but it would be nice to get it closer."

Andria Hoyle, sophomore ESL major, feels that the current program makes it diffi-

cult to arrange a schedule.

"The course availability makes it difficult and it just ends up being a pain to arrange your schedule with what you need," Hoyle said. "And because of the course availability, you get stuck taking classes within the gen ed options you'd least want to take."

The current proposal consists of six categories: essential skills, breadth courses, diversity awareness, midstudy seminar, foreign language and capstone.

If the proposal is approved, students will be expected to complete each category within a certain amount of credits or before they graduate.

The essential skills category

contains five sub-categories that will be completed within the first 75 credits. Students will be expected to complete up to 19 credits in the following categories: General Education Forum, Writing and Critical Thinking I, Writing and Critical Thinking II, Quantitative Reasoning and Critical Thinking and Communication and Information Literacy.

Students will also complete two courses in each of the four breadth areas before

they enter their major, which include Natural Sciences, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Aesthetic Experience and Hu-

“It’s unclear why students are taking what they’re taking.”

Aaron  
Montgomery  
committee member

manities.

A diversity awareness course must be approved by the Faculty Senate and be completed before graduation, but students will most likely complete the course during the breadth requirements.

Within their first 115 credits, students will be required to complete a five-credit mid-

study seminar on earth stewardship. Before a student can take a midstudy seminar, they must complete all essential skills and at least one course from each of the four Breadth categories.

Like the current program, students will still be required to have completed two years of foreign language in high school, or one year in college, to graduate. Students will also be required to complete a capstone course, which are already included in many majors programs.

"We are putting together the best gen ed program that we can," Montgomery said at

the General Education Forum held Oct. 13.

The committee has held seven forums over the past year and is planning three more. The next forum which will discuss the interdisciplinary requirement, will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 26 in Barge 412.

The forums are an opportunity for faculty and students to comment on the proposed program before it comes to a vote at Faculty Senate, which the committee hopes to submit by December.

The program will likely be put into place a year after the Faculty Senate approves it.

"We're hoping for it to get voted on this year and then put the pieces together over the next year," Montgomery said.

For more information on the proposed general education program, visit [www.cwu-gened.pbworks.com/FrontPage](http://www.cwu-gened.pbworks.com/FrontPage) or contact Aaron Montgomery at 509-963-1906.

# Shredding event helps keep identity safe

by Katie Reese  
Staff reporter

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will be holding its Free Document Shred event for the Ellensburg community.

This year the event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 24 in the Super 1 Foods parking lot.

A second event will take place Saturday Nov. 7 at the Cle Elum Police Department from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"It doesn't matter who wants to participate," said Carol Findley, director of RSVP. "It's to provide a free service."

Due to the popularity of the event, people are asked to bring no more than two boxes of documents. Attendees have the option to either drop off their documents or stay and watch.

"People call me asking when our next shred event is going to be," Findley said. "Last spring the truck was bulging."

Database Secure Records Destruction provides a shredding truck that pulverizes the documents. They destroy the materials and the take them to Seattle where they are recycled safely.

"People need to be destroying and shredding their documents," Findley said. "A lot of people have boxes and boxes of stuff in their attics."

For the past several years, Findley has requested grants to fund the cost of the truck and staff.

Each year, she writes grant letters to receive

enough funding for two events, which take place in the spring and fall. This fall, the Kittitas County Law and Justice Council provided a grant for the event.

For people who do not have documents to shred, but want to know more about identity theft and prevention, packets will be available for pick up. These packets include information on how long to keep certain documents, tips on

**"A lot of people that are victims really need to tell somebody**

Carol Findley  
RSVP director

how to keep your identity safe and a "Refusal Script" to end telemarketer phone calls.

"It's important to note that this is not for businesses," said Gene Dana, Kittitas County Sheriff.

Sheriff Dana and Deputy Sheriff Jerry Shuart, both trained in fraud prevention, and will be at the event to answer any questions residents may have about preventing identity theft or other suspicious activity.

"The most important part of this event is the education," Dana said.

Each year in Kittitas County, the Sheriff's office investigates an average of 80 fraud and identity theft complaints alone, in addition to the countless number of destroyed mailboxes, which could be linked to identity theft.

While most victims never find out how their information has been stolen, many thieves get what they are looking for by stealing purses, wallets or account information out of mailboxes.

According to the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book, from Jan. 1, 2008 to Dec. 31, 2008, Washington state ranked 14th highest in identity theft complaints and fifth highest in fraud and other complaints.

If a person feels victimized by identity theft or fraud, they should contact local law enforcement immediately.

"Many times it goes out of state, but we have ways of sharing information with other agencies," Dana said.

When giving out personal information on the Internet, always make sure it is a secure Web site and do not give out information if you feel uncomfortable.

"A lot of people that are victims really need to tell somebody," Findley said. "It costs thousands and thousands of dollars and it just ruins your life."

For more information on the Free Document Shred, or information on how to volunteer, please contact Carol Findley at 509-962-4311 or RSVP@fairpoint.net.

## Tips for identity protection:

\*Never give out your social security number, mother's maiden name or account numbers.

\*Pay attention to what time of month your bills arrive.

\*Guard your mail from theft.

\*Put passwords on phone, bank accounts and credit cards.

\*Do not carry your social security card; remember your number!

\*Do not carry cards you do not need; credit cards and IDs.

\*Tear or shred personal information - charge receipts, credit applications, insurance forms, physician statements, checks, bank statements, credit offers and old cards.

\*Request free credit reports annually [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or 1-877-322-8228.

## WEATHER

Thursday, Oct. 22



Partly Cloudy  
63°  
37°

Friday, Oct. 23



Mostly Cloudy  
60°  
35°

Saturday, Oct. 24



Partly Cloudy  
59°  
33°

Sunday, Oct. 25



Rainy  
55°  
34°

Monday, Oct. 26



Rainy  
51°  
34°

Tuesday, Oct. 27



Cloudy  
54°  
29°

Wednesday, Oct. 28



Partly Cloudy  
53°  
30°

**HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY**  
JOIN US ON OCT 31<sup>st</sup>  
AT THE QUALITY INN  
CATTLEMAN'S  
STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Cash prizes**  
1st place \$100 Cash & \$50 Gift Card  
2nd place \$50 Cash & \$50 Gift Card  
3rd place \$50 Gift Card

LOUNGE IS OPEN AT 4PM  
COSTUME JUDGING STARTS AT 10:30PM



QUALITY INN & CONFERENCE CENTER, 1700 CANYON RD, ELLENSBURG, WA 509-925-9800

# Enrollment is up, financial aid at risk

by *Daysi Calavia-Lopez*  
Staff reporter

Last year Central Washington University disbursed \$101 million in financial aid. CWU has spent \$29 million this quarter alone -- an increase of 25 percent more applicants in comparison to last year.

"There are more students, more people applying for aid," said Agnes Canedo, director of financial aid. "It's the first time we've run out of money this quickly in a decade. It's bothersome but we're still here trying to do the best we can with the resources we have available."

One result is that students will "absolutely have to meet deadlines," Canedo said. "It's very important to apply early and have your verification in early also. As of last week, anyone who hadn't paid past due accounts of \$200 or more lost their financial aid."

Anyone who had financial aid canceled has the possibility of getting it back if they regain eligibility.

The priority deadline for financial aid is March 15 and the verification deadline, which was June 30, has been moved up to June 1.

As of today, 4,873 students are receiving financial aid, that's almost half of all enrolled students. After financial aid reductions in merit-based scholarships, 1,014 students are receiving

merit-based aid.

"We spent the same amount of money but we tried to spread it around," Canedo said. "Give students less money but give money to more students."

When asked if she felt that the Financial Aid department had overcommitted in the amount of awards offered, Canedo replied, "We're right on target but we have awarded all the aid that's available."

When students drop their classes, choose to go to other schools, or fall into academic suspension they lose their financial aid awards, that money is then routed to other students.

"Worst case scenario is that spring quarter aid gets reduced if there are insufficient funds, but as of right now I can't imagine having to cancel spring aid," Canedo said. "I doubt that action will be necessary."

Canedo expressed her concerns about the possible consequences of admitting nearly 11,000 students when the state is only funding 8,500 and the school has only budgeted for 9,200 full-time equivalent students (FTE).

"You have to be careful financially because you're not going to get full support for the number of students that you have," Canedo said. "There are worries about enough classes and enough support services to adequately serve the stu-



Brian Iiyama/Observer

Nearly 11,000 students have been admitted to Central. The state is helping for 8,500 of those. The school only budgeted for 9,200.

dents."

Kelley Cadman, Research Analyst for Central Washington University's Institutional Research department, notes that universities always experience high enrollment rates during fall quarter.

"Fall quarter is considered our peak enrollment," Cadman said. "It's not an uncommon nation-wide trend and is consistently the highest enrollment for the year in most universities across the country."

Cadman said many people have misconceptions about FTE.

"FTE is the full time equivalent number based on credit loads not headcounts," Cadman said. "So,

say there's a student that comes in and takes one or two classes. They're not considered or counted as an FTE but are still included in the total head count."

Every year, Institutional Research releases a Trends in State-Funded Enrollment Report, but because the Public Centralized Higher Education Enrollment System is currently being revised at the state level, the report for this year is not yet available.

"We are aware that it is going to be higher than what we budgeted for but that was anticipated for by the administration. I think they were counting on tuition dollars but I'm not sure," Cadman said.

Canedo considers that the university was probably trying to serve a purpose in the state.

"A lot of other schools closed their doors," Canedo said. "When University of Washington and Western Washington University would not take more students than they were budgeted for, Central did not do that."

Funds for financial aid awards will not be available again until next fall quarter. If students have not received their aid yet their only options are pell grants, foundation scholarships (CWU awards individual department scholarships yearly, i.e. Music Scholarship etc.) and loans.

## Central celebrates building completions

by *Shannon O'Hara*  
News editor

This weekend Central Washington University will be hosting three different ceremonies recognizing building completions.

Featured are the Wendell Hill Hall grand opening, ribbon cutting ceremony, and open house for the department of aviation and building dedication ceremony for Purser Hall.

### Wendell Hill Hall Grand Opening

At 1 p.m. on Friday at the music building concert hall, the beginning ceremonies for the grand opening of Wendell Hill Hall will take place. This portion features speeches, refreshments and a slide show.

"Those attending will hear about the project, view a slide show that is an overview of the project, learn about the green features of the building, hear from people who worked on the project and helped bring it to fruition, hear live music, take tours and enjoy refreshments," said

Teri Olin, assistant director of public relations and marketing for Central.

Following the ceremony at the music hall, participants will be taken to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and an open house at the hall.

"They will also hear from coordinators of the two Living Learning Communities (Music and Aviation) that are housed in the buildings and find out how each of the groups benefit from the buildings," Olin said.

Featured speakers are: James Gaudino, CWU President; Richard DeShields, Senior Director of University Housing and New Student Programs; Patricia Notter, CWU Board of Trustees; Charlotte Tullos, CWU Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Delaney Lafond, CWU Student; Dennis Erwood, Studio Meng Strazzara (architect); Ed Palmer, Niles Bolton Associates (architect); and Jeremy Carroll, President of Spokane Branch Office, Graham Construction and Management, Inc. (con-

tractor).

For more information visit [http://www.cwu.edu/~housing/reshalls/halls/wendell\\_hill.html](http://www.cwu.edu/~housing/reshalls/halls/wendell_hill.html).

### Aviation Building Open House

From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new aviation building at Bowers Field. An open house will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday at Bowers Field.

"It's a time for people to come out and look at our facility, look at our equipment, and if interested in the program, sign-up," said David Clark, admissions director for the Aviation Department.

During the open house, guests will have a chance to see the new flight training device. The devices should be a big draw for prospective students.

"One nice thing is it makes us very comparable to other high aviation programs around the country," Clark said. "They have some of the same simulators we purchased. So for

people in the Northwest, it gives them another option than going further away."

Guest speakers include: Wayne Quirk, Central Washington University provost; Robert Hansen, Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce; LaMar Haggard, chief pilot for Horizon Air; James Guadino, president of Central; and Amy Hoover, professor and department of aviation chair.

For more information visit <http://www.cwu.edu/~flight/>.

### Purser Hall Dedication Ceremony

At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday the dedication of Purser Hall will take place in the lobby of the building. The building was renamed after Dorothy Purser, a former Central Washington professor and coach.

She began teaching at Central in 1957 and went on to receive the CWU Distinguished Professor in Public Service Award. She became a member of the CWU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1985.

The signage was due to be replaced, and instead of replacing it with the same name, the board changed the name to honor Dorothy Purser, who passed away in 2002.

"The dedication ceremony gives those who knew Dorothy an opportunity to reconnect, tell their stories, and even give back to the program that meant so much to her," Olin said.

The event will feature memories of Purser as well as guest speakers from the department that knew Purser.

Some speakers scheduled are: James Guadino, president of Central Washington University; Ken Briggs, professor and chair of Department of Physical Education, School and Public Health; Vince Nethery, chair of Nutrition, Exercise, and Health Sciences; Jean Putnum, dean of Continuing Education; and Gary Fredrick, Director of Athletics.

For more information visit <http://www.cwu.edu/~hhpn/paramedics.html>.

# opinion

The editorial views expressed here are those of the writers and not necessarily the views of the newspaper staff at large, the student body, or the faculty and administration.

They are not to be considered the official views of CWU. Please send your letters to the editor to

[cwuobserver@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserver@gmail.com).

## Cosby for \$115,000? Not funny.



**Darcy Wytko**  
Editor-in-chief

As child in the '80s, I wanted to be a Huxtable more than anything - Denise Huxtable, specifically. I wanted it all - the crazy hair, the nose ring, the stretch pants, and even the braces. But more than anything, I wanted Bill Cosby to be my dad.

So when I heard that Bill Cosby - Heathcliff Huxtable himself - was coming to campus after six long years of work to get him here, I was ecstatic. Then I heard it cost

\$115,000 to bring him here to perform for Homecoming.

I was no longer ecstatic. I freely admit that I do not understand the complexities of our university's entertainment budgeting process.

I'm sure that we've spent comparable amounts in the past, and that ticket sales will make up for a decent portion of the expense. Plans for Cosby's appearance were most likely solidified well before the budget crisis began, and I applaud those who made them.

I keep telling myself that there must be a strong rationale for that kind of spending amidst a recession that happens to be driving the price of our tuition up and the quality of our education down.

Yet I can't help wondering, what if the money, or even a small portion of it, had gone

elsewhere? We have faculty like Diversity Education Center Director Marian Lien taking a four-week leave without pay to keep her

“I would love to see Cosby live, but I can't afford it. The way I see it, neither can CWU.”

program going, yet we're paying over \$100,000 for comedy?

Both Campus Activities and the Diversity Center are funded by the student activity fees we pay.

A good laugh is priceless, but so is a good education. I feel that student fees should be going towards diverse programming, not just one night of laughs from a big name.

I would love to see Cosby live, but I can't afford it. The way I see it, neither can CWU.

**Cosby comes to campus**  
See page 9 for more.

## Deep Thoughts by Quinn Eddy



**Quinn Eddy**  
Asst. photo editor

They said that the boy who "accidentally" flew off in his parent's hot air balloon-thing was a hoax! The family conducted a publicity stunt to market themselves for a reality show.

That's a reality show family I have to see. Those guys are definitely a brick short of a load.

They named their kid Falcon. I feel like Subway is the used car sales person of the sandwich world, with their five-dollar foot-longs and their constant nagging about getting the extra meat.

I went in yesterday to get my standard buffalo chicken sub, and lo and behold - ahead of me was scruffy man in a tank top with his man boobs hanging out.

The Pilot Subway has to uphold the "no shirt, no shoes, no service" policy. I know. I asked the sandwich artist crafting my sandwich.

I wonder what people would say if I talked like The Count from Sesame Street every Tuesday.

Somehow, Facebook manages to make me feel creepier

by the day. Go blast "Sweet Emotion" by Aerosmith as loud as you can. Right now.

I'll give anyone \$1,000, straight up, if they eat a spoonful of the hairy stuff growing under the drain plug of my bathroom sink. Bonus \$100 if you can identify the critter.

Just kidding. I'd probably keep the money and tell you that you're gross.

Nothing beats a good Nyquil-coma every now and then.

It would be interesting to see what flavors make up the 23-flavor blend in Dr. Pepper.

Parting thought: So are they going to release Star Trek on DVD, or what?

Send your Deep Thoughts to [Cwuobserver@gmail.com](mailto:Cwuobserver@gmail.com).

## Culinary Corner: Curried Beef Stew

by Rachel Guillermo, Culinary columnist

It's always the same question for every cook: "What can I do that no one has done before?" The truth of the matter is nothing. But that's the beauty of cooking! It doesn't have to be exciting; you just have to make it your own. Here is my Asian twist on the classic all-American dish Beef stew. Hey, if you don't like it, change the recipe!

- Ingredients:**
- 2-2.5 lb. of beef stew meat
  - 5 red potatoes, cubed
  - 1 onion, quartered
  - 2 carrots, sliced
  - 3 stalks of Celery, chopped
  - 5 T. of Curry powder
  - 1/2 C. of flour
  - 6 C. of Water
  - 3 cubes of Beef bouillon
  - 2-3 tsp. of salt
  - 3 T. of Vegetable oil
- Instructions:**
- In a large pot, heat the oil over medium-high heat.
  - Mix half of the curry powder and flour together. Add beef to the mixture. Toss to coat all sides.
  - Add beef to oil and brown the meat on all sides. Cover with water, add bouillon, and cook covered for 1.5 hours or until beef is tender.
  - Add vegetables and cook until potatoes and carrots are tender.
  - Cook the remaining curry powder in a bit of sesame or peanut oil on low heat (to get rid of the raw taste). Add it to the mixture.
  - Cook, stirring constantly, until the stew thickens. Add more curry if desired.
  - Serve over steamed rice. Enjoy!



Brian Iiyama/Observer

*Sex-Ed with Miss Chastity*  
will return next week....

## Top Texts (from last night) CWU Edition

Remember that text you shouldn't have sent last night? Textsfromlastnight.com does. And now, so does CWU. Here's this week's submissions (in their unedited glory):

- (509): We're in a bar called pelicans in new iberia. They have a sign that says 'we don't skinny dip, we chunky dunk.' Your mother wanted to share that with you.
- (509): omg im so drunk you'll never beleive what i jut had to do! i forgot my keys /d had to crawl trthrough my bedroom window. DRUNK! ~agag fml
- (509): wtf?! im sleeping! bring me the paper! (referring to the Observer)

Submit your own "texts from last night" to [cwuobserver@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserver@gmail.com). Include your area code in parentheses, followed by the text. Texts will be published anonymously.

## the Bargain Babe

Seven ways to save big:

1. Don't get a credit card unless you absolutely need one, or plan on paying it off completely every month. Don't get sucked in by those guys on the phone. They are not there to help you, they are out to make money.
2. Avoid accumulating non-academic debt at all costs. That Wii might sound like a great purchase now, but it will catch up with you later.
3. Pay your bills on time! Sound like a simple thing to do? It is. You'll be amazed at the money you'll save on late fees.
4. Walk or ride your bike. It is good for you and the environment. Think about the amount of gas you could save! Also, you'll lose those extra winter pounds real quick.
5. Don't buy bottled water. Buy a water filter, fill a reusable bottle and take your own drinking water to school.
6. Have a movie night at home with your friends. It is way cheaper than going out, and in the end, it will probably be more fun.
7. Clip coupons. It might sound like the dumbest thing you will ever do, but sit down on a Sunday afternoon, watch a football game, clip coupons and save money.

So this week, think green, avoid plastic money and have a night in with your friends. You will save a lot of money, help save the environment AND bond with your pals.

## The Weekly Do\*gooder: get your volunteer on

**Oct. 24-30** - Celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Week by sharing how breast cancer has affected your life. Email stories on the challenges and triumphs you or your friends and family have experienced to [takeaction@cwu.edu](mailto:takeaction@cwu.edu).

Both men and women are also invited to join the bra design competition. Bras entered will be displayed during a competitive runway show on Oct. 30. Contact the Civic Engagement Center at 509-963-1643 for more information.

**Oct. 31** - The Youth Center Haunted House needs "carnies" and "scarers" to help run carnival games and activities for kids on Halloween, from 5-9 p.m. at the Elks Lodge. For more information, email [takeaction@cwu.edu](mailto:takeaction@cwu.edu).

**Sign up now** - Volunteer or participate in CWU's "Turkey Bowl" charity contest on Nov. 20 to help families in need. Email [abercrombie1989@msn.com](mailto:abercrombie1989@msn.com) or [frauens@cwu.edu](mailto:frauens@cwu.edu) to get involved.

**Sign up now** - Support fall clean-up efforts and positive campus-community relations by volunteering with "Rake N' Roll," Nov. 12-24. Visit the Civic Engagement Center in SURC 256 to sign up.

## Entertainment funds

get the **A+**

## Campus groups adapt to budget shortfalls

by **Amanda Miller**  
Staff reporter



Illustration courtesy of Biran Iiyama

Cornel West. Salman Rushdie. Nicholas Kristof. These are names of intellectual giants who have shared their views with student audiences at Central Washington University. Due to budget woes, the likelihood of seeing these big names again could be slim, as the programs that showcase campus events have been forced to reevaluate their spending and make some tough decisions.

Several centers, committees and programs, such as the Diversity Education Center (DEC), One Book, One Campus, One Community (OBOCOC), Center for Student Empowerment (CSE), and Presidential Speaker Series (PSS) have suffered budget cuts this year.

The DEC, which is funded by S&A funds as well as private grants, has also experienced a decrease in funds. The DEC received \$230,000, 7 percent less than the requested \$247,790, according to Marian Lien, acting director for the DEC.

Programs focused on multi-cultural studies are often the first to suffer when budget cuts are assigned, according to Lien.

"I am trying not to cut events or programs by re-allotting some lines in my budget," Lien said in an e-mail. "I will instead take a four-week leave without pay cut in my salary so that I may redirect that back into goods and services as well as help finance more student programmers for the center."

The DEC, which puts on events such as Parade of Nations: International Fashion Show and National Transgender Day of Remembrance, focuses its efforts on increasing cultural competency.

"In this global landscape, it is imperative that we prepare all students with a cross-cultural skill set of being adaptable, flexible and knowledgeable of those communities unlike their own," Lien said. "Only then can they stride forth and succeed."

Much like the CSE and the PSS, the DEC has been working on collaboration with others in an attempt to continue to bring their multitude of events to campus while still maintaining quality standards. One example of this is the current collaboration between the Symposium Without

Boundaries Series and the Presidential Speaker Series and their combining of funds.

The OBOCOC committee turned into one of assessment this year be-

cause of a significant budget cut. The committee typically puts on events to supplement the book chosen each year. This year, OBOCOC was allotted only \$20,000, which is only enough to pay for the books.

Without the ability to bring speakers or events to campus, the committee decided, instead, to change gears and utilize the opportunity to determine whether or not its goals were being met. The committee is hoping to broaden student perceptions by restructuring.

Nelson Pichardo, associate professor of sociology and former chair of the committee sees "a revision of OBOCOC where, instead of choosing one book, subsets of departments with natural cohesion each choose one book, so there may be four or five on campus."

Ideally, whichever books are chosen each year will be integrated into the classroom so that different perspectives can be explored. According to Pichardo, there are multiple truths. A sociological perspective on a book will reveal one truth, whereas an anthropological or historical perspective will reveal another, equally important but vastly different truth. OBOCOC is thinking about renaming the program "Many Perspectives, One University."

The committee also suggests assigning chosen books in class and putting the responsibility of purchasing the books in the hands of the students. The \$20,000 saved from providing books could be used for speakers and programming.

The committee is also hoping that the restructured version of OBOCOC will be more inclusive of upperclassmen.

Another department that is currently dealing with the repercussions of budget cuts is the Center for Student Empowerment (CSE), which provides programming centered on gender issues and violence prevention. The CSE is mostly funded by the Services and Activities (S&A) fee. This year the CSE requested \$269,265 but received only \$184,000. The CSE also receives funding from a state budget, but it was almost entirely lost this year.

"We've been creative enough to continue doing what we're doing," said Mal Stewman, assistant director for the CSE. He wishes, though, that they could bring bigger speakers to campus.

In an effort to continue with their programming and their goal to develop understanding and better awareness about gender issues, the CSE has

created more partnerships with community members.

According to their Web site, the CSE supports their goal of supplementing classroom learning by putting on programs such as Manuary, which focuses on what it means to be a man, and Women's History Month, which explores historically successful women.

"Hopefully things improve so we can continue to grow," Stewman said. "We're not really in a growing state right now, just a maintaining stage."

The Presidential Speaker Series (PSS) was also under scrutiny this year. In light of recent budget cuts and economic difficulties, the president's advisory council was asked if they should even organize a PSS this year. It was decided to keep the series, but to be more collaborative and have fewer independently sponsored events.

Despite the fact that the PSS received approximately \$25,000 less than last year, the PSS will continue as usual. This is largely due to increased collaboration and the co-sponsoring of several events.

"These events are important in creating a rich cultural environment for our students, for our faculty and staff, and for the larger Ellensburg community," said Libby Street, interim vice president for university relations. "We are first and foremost an academic institution and are responsible for cultural enrichment."

This year's PSS theme is "Bridges and Beacons." According to Street, the theme was chosen by Jerilyn McIntyre, former Central president.

"The theme was chosen because we have a new president who will be our bridge from the past to the future, and because we want to provide beacons of light for those whose voices are silenced in the world," Street said.



Photos courtesy of Quicolopez and B. Gliwa and the President's Office



# Jackson, zombies and face paint - Oh my!

## Michael Jackson's "Thriller" comes to Central

by Lindsay Wheadon  
Staff reporter

Michael Jackson. His name alone holds great significance in the music industry and to the many fans he touched through his music and dancing. This year, dancers from around the world are commemorating Jackson's life in a special way.

At 5:30 p.m., Saturday, on the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) east patio, Central students and community members have the opportunity to recreate Jackson's popular Thriller video. The event, titled Thrill the World, has celebrated the video and dance for the past three years. This is the first year Central is participating in the event, which is organized by Central's dance department and the Orchesis Dance Company.

Alex Holden, assistant director of the Orchesis program, says this year holds a deeper meaning for the annual Thriller dance celebra-

tion than in past years.

"At first, the Thrill the World event was held on his birthday," Holden said. "But since he passed, they're doing it this year to celebrate the contribution he's made to the dance and music world."

Levonja Austin, junior nutrition major, is excited about Central's first year of participation.

"[The event will be] a lot of fun to do a dance in memory of Michael. Everyone should give it a try," Austin said.

This year, participants have the potential to break a world record. The event will be recorded by the Guinness Book of World Records. The current record stands at 270,000 participants.

Instructors from the Orchesis dance program encourage people to dress the part and wear attire and makeup that would be seen in the original music video.

"Ragged clothes and ragged hair [is encouraged] for the event - anything to make yourself look like a



Quinn Eddy/Observer

From left to right: Monica Dinescu senior aviation and math major, Becky Ditrach sophomore pre dentistry, Laura Wilson sophomore Spanish major, Melanie Carolan freshman undeclared, Tami Davis senior Math Ed, and Tara Ray sophomore undeclared practice for their Saturday performance of Thriller on the east SURC patio.

zombie," said Megan Zelenak, sophomore theater major.

Austin also plans to take on the role of a zombie, but has a more specific outfit planned.

"I have an old coat that's navy blue and yellow plaid that's already cut up," Austin said. "I'll wear my hair big and put crazy makeup on my face."

Therese Young, Central dance program director, sees the event as an opportunity to celebrate the joy of movement, in addition to honoring Jackson and his pioneering role in modern pop music and dance.

"More than Michael Jackson, all of these people around the world are coming together to celebrate dance," Young said. "It can be used

to help remember how fun it is to dance."

The number of people participating in this year's event is expected to be quite high. Young anticipates that the city of Ellensburg can potentially break 100 active participants.

The Orchesis program is also using this event to benefit a local cause as well.

"We're asking everyone participating to bring a non-perishable donation for F.I.S.H., the local food bank in town," Young said. "As we organized, it was something that we thought was a great idea to help raise support for a good cause."

Those interested can register at the SURC, or at Ellensburg High School on the day of the event.

For more information, visit the Central dance Web site at [www.cwu.edu/~dance/](http://www.cwu.edu/~dance/) or call (509) 963-1937. For information regarding the record, [www.thrilltheworld.com](http://www.thrilltheworld.com).

## Orchestra dresses up to scare and entertain

by Kelly Requa  
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University Music Department is taking the stage early next week, not as a bow-tied symphony orchestra, but as one comprised of ghosts and ghouls.

The Central music department is presenting its annual Halloween Orchestra Concert at 7 p.m. on Oct. 27 in the CWU Concert Hall. Admission is \$5 and tickets are available at the door.

Instead of the usual symphonic concert, performers are ditching tuxedos and dresses and getting into the Halloween spirit by dressing as monsters, characters and even the occasional political figure. The concert will be performed by the CWU chamber orchestra and chamber choir.

"It's hilarious, it's the best concert of the year," said Rachel Nesvig, symphonic or-

chestra concertmaster.

Not only are performers getting into the spirit, but the music has a spooky theme as well.

According to Dr. Nikolas Caoile, director of orchestral studies, some of the songs that will be played include: the Ghostbusters theme, Danse Macabre, Michael Jackson's Thriller and a piece called "Monster Medley," which was created by the chamber choir students.

"We pick stuff on purpose that will please the audience," said Dr. Gary Weidenaar, director of choral studies.

Last year the chamber choir created a song titled Spider Pig and this year they plan to raise the bar with a new piece. The chamber choir created Monster Medley without professor involvement by using elements of songs from the Addams Family, Harry Potter and Monster Mash.

Chamber choir sophomore Eli Blaisdell is excited to pres-



Courtesy of Dan Brown

Dr. Gary Weidenaar, director of choral studies, leads the orchestra during a previous concert.

ent the piece and have fun on stage.

"[Concerts are] often kind of stuffy," Blaisdell said. "This one everyone is in costume and we just play really fun music."

Caoile suggests students should pick up their tickets early as the show typically gets sold out each year.

"It's quite fun, lots of antics and lots of good music," Caoile said. "It's one hour of classical favorites and Halloween inspired hits."

The chamber orchestra will also be hosting Paul-El-

liott Cobbs, former director of orchestral studies at Central, as a guest conductor for the event. Cobbs is currently the music director of both the Everett Symphony and the Tacoma Youth Symphony.

The concert may be spooky and embrace a Halloween theme, but it's still family friendly.

"It's entertainment that reaches out to all people and ages, whether you're five or 40," Nesvig said.

Audience members receive free candy and are encouraged to dress in costumes as

well. Not only is the concert musically inspiring, but includes theatrics. According to Caoile, last year the conductors dressed as characters from the movie "Star Wars" and had a sword fight on stage.

"Basically it's more fun than anything else," Weidenaar said.

This year's concert is sure to offer up some surprises, shenanigans and music that everyone can enjoy, so be sure to take advantage of this seasonal event.

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# Cosby comedy performance caps homecoming

by Christine Jahns  
Staff reporter

Bill Cosby, legendary comedian and actor, is coming to Ellensburg as the headlining act for Central's homecoming weekend.

"An Evening with Bill Cosby" will be a 90-minute stand-up comedy act that will be appropriate for all ages and will include improvisations and personal stories from Cosby's life.

Many of the students at Central may remember him from reruns of "The Cosby Show" as Cliff Huxtable, or his ever-popular Jell-O commercials, but Cosby has been performing his routines and delighting the world with his talents for much longer than that.

Cosby, who will accept the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor two days after his performance at Central, has gained recognition and praise for his comedy since 1963.

Cosby's comedy albums were instant hits, and he helped change television when he became the first black actor to have a lead role on a dramatic television series. His acting in the series "I Spy" earned him three Emmy awards and showed the world he was

more than just a comedian.

"I was raised on him," Michael Schrader, junior English major said. "I remember the good old days watching Bill Cosby in his show and on 'Kids Say the Darndest Things'."

Other students are more specific in the reasons they want to see Cosby perform.

"I just want to hear him say 'pudding pop,'" Cole Franklin, junior film and video studies major said. "But in all seriousness, Bill Cosby is such an iconic character, plus I heard he's funny as hell."

Scott Drummond, campus activities director, said that it's been approximately a six-year process to get Cosby to make his first appearance at Central in over 40 years. After not hearing from Central for about two years, Cosby's management contacted the university and asked if they were still interested.

"Being as it is Bill Cosby, there was quite a bit of interest," Drummond said.

Drummond also wanted to bring an entertainer to Central who would appeal to an audience of students, alumni and the Ellensburg community.

"You mention him just by his last name and most people know who you're talking about," he said.

Mindy Holliday, marketing supervisor for the Campus Life Publicity Center, has been working to promote this event to not only students, but to people all over the state. Through advertisements on television and radio, she has been able to reach many people who may not realize what Central has to offer.

"I think it will really help bring attention to the university," Holliday said. "Though we may be in a smaller town compared to the size of the towns of other universities that are in the state, it doesn't inhibit the events we can provide for our students and our community."

The event is larger than past comedy acts at Central, so instead of holding the event in the SURC Ballroom like in previous years, it is being moved to a larger venue, Nicholson Pavilion.

Not only will this bring a wider audience to the event, it also allows the school to charge less for tickets. Drummond, with help from the rest of Campus Activities and Campus Life, "wanted to make sure the student price was well-below market."

It looks like that plan is working, because tickets are selling fast. As of right now

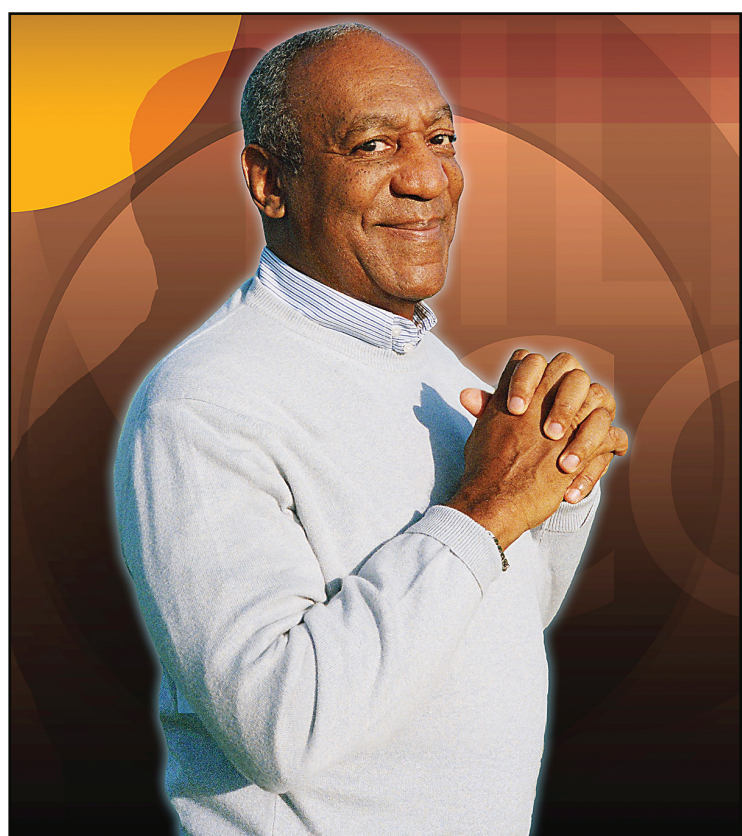


Photo courtesy of Mindy Holliday

Legendary comedian Bill Cosby brings his trademark act to Central Washington University on Oct. 24 as part of the week's homecoming festivities.

the premium reserved seats are sold out, and according to Drummond, only a couple hundred seats out of the 2,800 are still available. He also predicted that by the end of the week the remainder of the tickets will be close to, or completely sold out.

Cosby performs at 8 p.m.

on Saturday. Tickets are \$35 for general admission and \$25 for Central students. As noted, the premium reserved tickets are sold out. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets](http://www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets) or can be picked up at the Wildcat Tickets Box Office, located on the top floor of the SURC.



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# Dean Hall art showcases local artist

by Lindsey Sires  
Staff reporter

Students walking through the newly reconstructed Dean Hall might notice several new art installations decorating the building and its surroundings.

At 12 p.m. today, a dedication ceremony will take place to officially present the art to the CWU campus community. The recently opened building showcases art created by public artist Benson Shaw.

Shaw is a designer who specializes in historic recreation, working primarily in Washington State. He was selected last year from a roster of several public artists to design the art dedication for Dean Hall, which was renovated last year.

"We toured the campus and I thought it was great," Shaw said.

After coming up with a few ideas that fell flat, Shaw came up with a proposal that won over the recreation committee.

"Basically they knew what they wanted and I brought it to them," Shaw said.

Since the revamped hall is the new location for the departments of Anthropology and Museum Studies, members wanted to capture the natural resources of Central Washington.

"The inspiration of the artwork is based off of the culture and geography of Central Washington," Shaw said.

Framing the sidewalk in a triangular formation are several large vases that represent the focus of the two departments. Within the stone and metal structures are intricate designs based on ideals, such as community and communication. Shaw also focuses on

the local terrain and wildlife of Central Washington. In the vase known as "Flora," Shaw highlights a regionally known lomatium plant, which he feels is a great reference to local history.

"There's a gathering in the Yakama tribe," Shaw said. "Traditionally this was something they could gather and share when resources are scarce and the gathering is a ritual."

The floor inside the building is a river flowing from one end to the other. Embedded into the floor are several mosaic disks, holding small, colored gems within them. The idea was to embody the Columbia River, a significant detail in Central Washington's geography.

Overall Shaw's work on Dean Hall has had a very positive impact on the students and faculty at Central.



Lindsey Sires/Observer

Local artist Benson Shaw's intricate designed and regionally themed vases outline entrance to Dean Hall.

"It really hits the theme of the occupants of the building," said Kirk Johnson, dean of the College of Sciences. "I think it was money well spent."

Amanda Hunter, Senior environmental studies major, admires the modern look of

the art used in the building.

"I think they have a lot to do with the anthropology and geography building," Hunter said. "It adds character."

The art dedication ceremony will take place at noon on October 22 in the Dean Hall foyer.

## Everybody's wearing pink

by Amy Thompson  
Staff reporter

Friday through next Thursday is breast cancer awareness week, when there will be events to have a good time, learn and lend a hand.

"Students should get involved because it's a great opportunity to make a difference," said Allie Mathis, senior public relations major and Civic Engagement Center intern. "Breast cancer affects so many people that any chance people have, they should get involved."

To kick off the first ever breast cancer awareness week on campus, there will be a "5K Fun-Run" on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., and also a Campus Girls USA calendar fundraiser sale.

On Monday at 12 p.m. there is a Yoplait pink lid col-

lection sponsored by the Black Student Union in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) 135. Also, at 2 p.m. in the SURC gym, a dodge ball tournament will take place, followed by the championship games at 6 p.m. On Thursday from 3 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. in the SURC Pit there will be a T-shirt distribution and panel discussion at 4 p.m.

"Breast cancer awareness is long overdue on this campus," said Anthony Peterson, senior double major in sociology and law and justice and event coordinator. "This is a perfect opportunity to give back to the community. It's going to be great."

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday in the SURC Pit, there will be awareness booths and an art exhibit displayed until Thursday with a silent auction. In the pit from

12 p.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday there will be live student band. Also, at 6 p.m. in Black Hall 151 the film "Living Proof" will be shown.

At 12 p.m. on Wednesday, in SURC 135 there will be a breast cancer self examination workshop.

From 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, in the SURC Pit there will be a breast cancer fashion show, a presentation from "Tough Enough to Wear Pink," and an award ceremony for the pink bra decorating contest and dodge ball tournaments, all accompanied by live music.

For more information on participating in these events, visit [www.takeactioncwu.edu](http://www.takeactioncwu.edu), visit the Civic Engagement Center in SURC 256B or call 509-963-1643.

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## Love shouldn't hurt

### Domestic violence awareness to enlighten campus

by Amy Thompson  
Staff reporter

In accompaniment with breast cancer awareness week, domestic violence awareness week will bring activities and events to campus to educate students and offer assistance to their concerns.

"I think there are a lot of misconceptions about domestic violence," said Stephanie Sype, double major in fashion merchandising and public relations and event programmer. "It's a very serious issue and it makes it all the more pertinent to talk about."

On Monday from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., in association with Abuse Support Prevention Education Now (ASPEN),

there will be a survivor's panel in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) Pit, where people from Ellensburg and the campus community will speak out.

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday in SURC 137 there will be an interactive activity, "In Her Shoes," where each participant takes on a persona of a woman involved in domestic violence and makes decisions as to what she would do in that situation.

"It's important that the campus community is aware that domestic violence does happen on campus," said Mal Stewman, assistant director for the Center for Student Empowerment. "A lot people may experience it. It's impor-

tant that they know what to do in that situation."

The last event for domestic violence awareness week is "Silenced Day" on Thursday. This annual event involves volunteers wearing T-shirts and not speaking for a day to honor those affected by domestic violence.

"If I can affect just one person in a positive way, it's worth it," Sype said. "People can learn that they're not alone."

For immediate assistance pertaining to domestic violence, call ASPEN's 24-hour hotline at 1-866-925-9384. For more information on domestic violence awareness week, visit SURC 250 or [www.cwu.edu/~ecenter](http://www.cwu.edu/~ecenter).

# Cheap beer has its place



**David Guzman**  
*Beerzebug*

Who likes cheap beer? Nobody admits to loving cheap beer – but it's out there, in many a dorm and beer pong cup. Most drink it because they're broke.

It would be a disservice for me, a self-proclaimed beer cacahuete, to just ignore the realm of cheap beer. Besides, we could all stand to save a buck or two these days.

The popularity of cheap beers, or "big, dumb beers," as I call 'em, can't be denied. I'd bet your first beer was something cheap and skunky. Never forget your big, dumb beer roots. Even the stuffiest of beer snobs have a big, dumb guilty pleasure, no matter how much they tell you they don't.

What's my big dumb beer of choice? Rolling Rock, from Latrobe Brewery.

You know Rolling Rock, the cool green bottle with the white letters etched on it.

Rolling Rock is labeled "extra pale," which makes it sound a lot like something fancy. Unfortunately, it's in reference to the way the beer looks when poured into a glass.

Also included is the phrase "premium beer." It's not. That's marketing.

The reason for Rolling Rock's cheapness is simple: it includes two ingredients that give microbrewers the chills:

RICE and CORN (thus making a less expensive brew). Not only are they cheap, but historically they've also helped brewers get rid of flavor, like that pesky beer taste. It's true.

So don't expect a flying circus of flavor when you drink Rolling Rock. Expect a onslaught of fizz, followed by a light, tinkly corn flavor and a little bit of sweetness. There is almost no aftertaste, and at a piddly 4.6 percent ABV, no fuzzy afterglow. The beer gives the proverbial middle finger to my taste buds.

But I still drink it. Why? Context. I'd love to meet someone who chugs a Guinness after mowing a lawn, or takes an obscure, Bavarian import camping with them.

We don't watch Family Guy for character development – the same way I don't drink Rolling Rock to appreciate the hop and malt character.

For all I'm concerned, no one makes a big, dumb beer better than Rolling Rock. These beers go great with hanging out with friends, watching the Seachickens fumble the ball on TV, or congratulating yourself after a long evening of newspaper production.

Other beers in the cheap category either provide almost no flavor, or give you a terrible, otherworldly aftertaste. I'm sure you can think of some beers in this category.

This beer, along with other corny, ricey domestic brews (i.e. Bud Light), would be a good choice for inexperienced beer drinkers, or beerjins, as I call them.

So this week, celebrate your roots, set aside your prejudices and drink up, even if you have to hold your nose.



**Christine Jahns**  
*Staff reporter*

The live-action version of Maurice Sendak's beloved children's book "Where the Wild Things Are" looked to be a visual masterpiece and deliver a wonderful story. Unfortunately, the stunning visuals were not enough to keep the entire story afloat. Director Spike Jonze took a simple book and added a story driven more by mercurial emotional bursts than an actual plot.

Newcomer Max Records portrays Max, a young boy who yearns to be accepted but acts out when he is misunderstood. During one of his outbursts he runs away and finds a land where a band of monstrous creatures rule. Much like Max, they too cannot always control their emo-

tions, creating a world where anger, sadness and loneliness rule, leaving little room for happiness. The movie delves into emotions that may be too strong for young children to understand and leaves older audiences wondering when things will start to make sense.

Records did a great job of playing Max, and Catherine Keener did a fantastic job of playing the overworked, yet lovable mother. The voices of the creatures gave the characters more depth and sometimes a touch of humor, but it still was not enough to fix the underdeveloped story. The original tale is short and sweet with a dash of adolescent mischief, whereas the movie takes the story to a much darker place. Max is misunderstood, and in the beginning his sadness and anger is very palpable. When he arrives in the land of the "Wild Things" he is happy, but after a short period of time, things begin to fall apart. As soon as something good happens, it only last for a few moments and then some sort of misunderstand-

ing ruins it. This happens time after time, and I found myself feeling sad and frustrated throughout the entire movie.

In the end, the amazing visuals and above-par acting cannot help the movie's dark tone, inability to connect with the audience and unstable emotional turns. I give this film a 7 out of 10.

## THE SCOOP

**23** Hearthstone Cottage Oktoberfest  
12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**28** Jennifer Pozner, media critic  
6:30 p.m. SURC Theatre - FREE

**29** Into the Fire, theatrical presentation  
6:30 p.m. Music Building Recital Hall - FREE

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What Monday Night Football announcer was known as "The Mouth"?

Howard Cosell

# Wildcats take down Western Wolves

by Laura Mittleider and Kevin Proctor  
Sports editor & staff reporter

The Battle in Seattle was doubtful to continue into its seventh year after Western Washington University (WWU) dropped their football program in 2008. However, the Battle raged on as the hole was filled by another Western, Western Oregon University (WOU).

Western Oregon is number two in the Division II Greater Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC). Central started off rough in the first half with WOU lining up in the "wildcat" formation, and snapping the ball directly to running back DJ Jackson, who ran it in from 11-yards out with 1:38 left in the first quarter. Central then went into the second quarter down 7-0, but Johnny Spevak, senior wide receiver, answered back by connecting with Ryan Robertson, freshman quarterback, for a 28-yard completion at the 13:00 minute mark.

"They mixed things up pretty well," said Head Coach Blaine Bennett. "The ball bounced their way [during the] first half."

In an attempt to start the offense, CWU tried a fake field goal, which was sniffed out by WOU, giving the Wolves the upper hand in field position. Western was able to capitalize on its next drive. On fourth-and-one, WOU converted for another touchdown, bringing them to a 14-0 lead over the Wildcats.

The Wildcats tried to answer back with a 38-yard return by Chris Smith, senior wide receiver, but shortly after Robertson was picked off, resulting in another Wolves touchdown, which brought the score to a 21-0. Central had never trailed an opponent by 21 at half-time in the last two seasons.

Central kept a positive attitude and came out ready to play hard in the second half.

"It was a great atmosphere, the guys were rallying around each other. You couldn't see more positive attitudes for being down 21. Everyone just grouped around each other, no pointing fingers," Spevak said.

**SEE WILDCATS RALLY P. 14**



Photos by Brianan Stanley/Observer

(top) Central fans display their excitement as Garrett Rolsma kicks the winning field goal at the Battle in Seattle last Saturday. (left) Garrett Rolsma, senior kicker, kicks the winning field goal in the last 32 seconds of the Battle in Seattle to beat the Wolves 23-21. (right) The coveted Battle in Seattle trophy is held high by the Central Washington football team after a comeback win. (bottom) CWU and WOU on the line of scrimmage just seconds before the ball is hiked by CWU.



Photo by Brian Iiyama/Observer

# Racers pace through France, Italy, Switzerland

## Central professor places 86 of 2,300 runners in 110-mile race



Courtesy of Tim Englund

(Top) Englund smiles for the camera about 50 miles into the race in Courmayeur, Italy (bottom) Englund finished the race 86th of 2,300 runners.

by Laura Mittleider  
Sports editor

France, Italy and Switzerland are tourist destinations for most people in the United States, but for some they are places to run through and test the limits of their bodies.

One of those people is a professor of math at Central Washington University (CWU) who takes great pleasure in running ultra-marathons.

At the end of August Tim Englund ran through these countries, taking in the scenes and meeting people along the way.

"I started running when I got to Central," Englund said. "There was a group of staff and I kind of got sucked in."

An ultra-marathon is longer than a regular marathon and tests the limits of the athlete a little more. This ultra-marathon is fairly famous in the running world. It is called The North Face Ultra-Trail Du Mont-Blanc.

The race starts in Italy and carries over into France and Switzerland. In the 2009 race there were 2,300 participants that tested their endurance. All faced harsh conditions as they ran through the hills and valleys of these areas. Some of the climbs range from 3,000-5,000 feet and one of the major ones reaches 11,000 feet.

"[Night] was very cold. I forgot my jacket and gloves and ended up with hypothermia," Englund said.

In order to drink, Englund had to use his wrists to bring the hose of his camel-pack up to his mouth.

There were two major passes that the runners had to go over. The temperature dropped to 40 degrees and there was fog and howling wind.

"There was nothing left to do but just get over and to the other side to get warm," Englund said.

This was an unusual race for Englund. Just four-and-a-half months before the big race, he was diagnosed with a stress fracture in his femur and was forced off the pavement. Englund had to stick to swimming and biking for conditioning.

Despite the injury and the small break from running, Englund placed 86 out of the 2,300 people, which put him in the top 3 percent of the runners.

The race had a series of stops in small villages.

"Small little picturesque villages," Englund said. "The people were three-deep on the sidewalks, cheering with cowbells."

Englund described the fans and support like what you would see watching the Tour de France. He explained that while climbing up the mountain runners can see old farm houses with pastures of cows and sheep all wearing cowbells.

"I will always associate hearing a cowbell with that race," Englund said.

This annual race tests how far someone can push themselves. Ultra-marathons are usually during the summer and runners can usually find at least one a month. As of now, Englund is recovering and saving up to do the race again next year.

"The race is there to put all your eggs in a basket. You never know," Englund said. "You ask yourself, are you a finisher?"

Washington state even has a big race the same weekend at Snoqualmie called the Cascade Crest.

# Wakeboarders prepare for regionals

by Katharine Lotze  
Staff reporter

Though it may not be 80 degrees outside, that doesn't stop Central's Wake Sports Team from practicing. In fact, not only are they practicing, they are competing at this time of year. This weekend, 14 members of the team will be taking a road trip south to Chico, Calif. for the regional wakeboarding competition.

This year's wake sports season began with a demo day on the Columbia River in Vantage, Wash. For \$15, potential members could try wakeboarding behind a boat donated by the team's sponsor, Mastercraft Northwest, and enjoyed a barbecue.

The team was able to obtain two boats from Mastercraft to tow boarders as they tested out their boarding legs.

"We've been around for about six years now, but we just started competing," Eddie Roberts, junior communications major said.

Roberts is a member of the Wake Sport Team, and is also a private wakeboard instructor on Lake Sammamish. One benefit for joining the club is new members receive free

boarding lessons from Roberts and other team members. The team has enough gear, which includes boards of all shapes and sizes, for all its members and anyone who wants to join, as a few of the team members are sponsored by boarding companies such as Ronix and O'Brien.

So just how does the team practice when the weather gets so cold? They do what they call "trampoline time." Team members get their practice time in on a trampoline by tying off the tow line to a tree or a post, and practicing their wakeboarding tricks on the trampoline.

"We have to drive 30 minutes to get to the water, but we always have a trampoline," said Brett Lund, junior communication major, and the team's president.

"Riders with abilities ranging from beginner to advanced are welcome to join," said Thomas Olson, sophomore marketing major, and one of the individually sponsored members of the team.

It isn't cheap to caravan down to California. Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals will provide the 15-passenger vans for the weekend,

but the team is not short on cash. They fundraise year-round with events such as ride days, camping trips, and they are currently planning on selling tee-shirts in the near future.

Another big fundraising event to watch for is the Wake Sport Team's video premiering in the spring. The video is being filmed and produced by members of the team, featuring the Wildcat wakeboarders in action.

Although many members of the CWU Wake Sports Team will be missing out on the homecoming festivities, they don't seem too disappointed. The regional competition will be held this weekend. The Wildcats took third place last year and are looking for the win this year.

"Western Washington won a national title, and now it's our turn," said Roberts.

At the regional competition, the top three in each category for each level move on to the national competition in the spring. The location of the national competition won't be announced until January. The Wildcats will compete against teams from schools all over Cali-



Courtesy of Eddie Roberts

Wakeboarder Eddie Roberts hopes to lead the Wildcats to a berth at Nationals this spring.

ifornia, Washington, Oregon and Arizona for their chance to appear at nationals.

If you have any questions or are interested in partici-

pating in Central's Collegiate Wake Sport Team, please feel free to contact Brett Lund, team president, at central-wakesports@gmail.com.

# Wildcats rally second half

CONTINUED FROM P. 12

Central started the second half with senior Cole Morgan at quarterback in place of Robertson. Morgan has come in the past three games to try and regain the lead for the Wildcats, and he is three-for-three.

"Certainly Cole brings the energy needed," Bennett said.

Central was gaining ground, getting the ball near the end-zone with a pass intended for Zack Hekker, senior tight end, but he was unable to hold on for the touchdown.

The Wildcats came out firing with a 45-yard pass to Justin Helwege, sophomore wide receiver, to put Central on the board 21-7. Central fought back harder with a field goal by Garrett Rolsma, senior kicker, with 8:46 left in the third quarter.

"That's why you play two halves," Bennett said.

The Wildcat defense held the Wolves offense after intercepting Morgan's pass. Jerome Williams, senior defensive back, ran the interception back 100 yards for a touchdown. William's 100-yard run is the longest since 1979 when Pat Maki returned an interception for

a 102-yard touchdown.

William's return changed the momentum of the game in favor of the Wildcats. Central was able to step closer to gaining the lead, decreasing the Wolves' lead, 21-17.

Central went into the fourth quarter down only four points, and in the final minutes, held the WOU offense to negative yards. A 29-yard punt by WOU set up Rolsma for a 44-yard field goal attempt in the final minute for the win. Central claimed the lead, with Rolsma's kick, a foot shy from his current record long, and gave WOU only 30 seconds to take the ball down field.

With three consecutive incomplete passes by WOU and 11 seconds remaining on the clock, the Wolves were forced to go for a 45-yard field goal. However, a delay of game penalty was called that turned the 45-yarder into a 50-yard field goal attempt, which fell short of the up-rights.

Central claimed the win at the Battle in Seattle for the seventh year in a row, and for the first time against Western Oregon University.

"It is going to be a battle every year," Williams said.

# Volleyball brings home win

by Kaeli Pettersen  
Staff reporter

Wildcats stung the Yellowjackets in a 3-1 match on Oct. 15 and swept St. Martin's on Oct. 17.

Matched up against the Montana State Billings Yellowjackets, two of the Central Washington University women's volleyball players were able to break records. Brandie Vea, junior libero, broke the CWU all-time career dig record of 1,222, which has been in place since 2001, with 25 digs against the Yellowjackets, bringing her collegiate total to 1,245 digs.

Teammate Erin Norris, senior right-side hitter, broke the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) career record for service aces with two in the match against Montana State and 190 overall this season.

Norris also managed to have six total blocks and nine kills leading the Wildcats to victory with a standout performance against the Yellowjackets.

The Wildcats were defeated in the first set 25-19, but came back fighting, winning the second set 25-22 after a close battle in which the game was tied seven times, and the lead changed four times. Central dominated the next two sets, 25-14 and 29-19.

Katy Try, junior outside hitter, who also has had a strong performance this season, contributed to the win with a match-high of 15 kills.

Try also had 19 kills, 13 digs, three aces and three blocks in the Wildcat's last matchup against Western Oregon last Saturday.

"It's always nice to play at home, but there is really no difference, we are just as focused on the game no matter where we are at," Try said.

According to Try, all the players are doing very well.

"Keep an eye out on all of them. Everyone we brought in this year is amazing," Try said.

After the women's second straight win, they traveled to Lacey, Wash. to play St. Martin's College.

The Wildcats came out strong from the time they hit the court, rallying in the first match to defeat St. Martin's 25-16. The team was lead by Try who had six kills, and Meg Ryan, who had three kills.

The girls came back in the second set and defeated St. Martin's by seven, with the final score being 25-18.

The final set was an embarrassment for St. Martin's, getting dominated by Central with a final match score of 25-13. Brandie Vea had 16 digs overall, followed closely by Deidre Sheidt, who had 15 digs for the Wildcat's.

That matchup put the Wildcats to 12-8 overall, with a record of 4-5 in GNAC play. St. Martins fell to 2-15 overall, and 0-9 in GNAC play.

The Wildcats continue their four game stint of away matchups, and hopefully their four game winning streak when they make the trek to Alaska this week to play Alaska Anchorage today, and Alaska Fairbanks on Saturday.

The girls will then return home on Oct. 31 for a matchup against Northwest Nazarene University. Try commented on the remaining matchups, saying, "Every game will be exciting, were excited for the second round of matchups." Look forward to seeing more great things from the Wildcat Volleyball team in the upcoming weeks.

## CRIMSON & BLACK ATTACK

# CWU HOMECOMING WEEK

For full schedule & details please visit [www.cwu.edu](http://www.cwu.edu)

### EVENTS.....

**OCT. 22** Wellington's Wildfire (students only)  
8 p.m., Community Fields, N. Alder St (free)

**OCT. 23** Homecoming Dance (campus & guests)  
9 p.m.-midnight, SURC Ballroom

**OCT. 24** 5K Fun Run  
10 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. run

**Wildcat Alley & Wildcat Bash Tailgate**  
11 a.m.-1 p.m., N. Walnut outside Tomlinson Stadium

**Rally to the Alley Pep Rally**  
Noon, SURC west patio (free)

**Football game vs. Humboldt State**  
1 p.m., Tomlinson Field (free for CWU students)

**An Evening With Bill Cosby**  
8 p.m., Nicholson Pavilion  
[www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets](http://www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets) or 509.963.1301

**Collegiate Sport Clubs action all weekend (free)**  
[www.cwu.edu/~rec](http://www.cwu.edu/~rec)

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### DEDICATIONS & CELEBRATIONS

**OCT. 22**  
Dean Hall Art Dedication  
Noon, Dean Hall lobby

Aviation Building Ribbon Cutting  
4 p.m., Aviation Building on Airport Rd

**OCT. 23**  
Wendell Hill Hall dedication  
1 p.m., starts at Music Building

Homecoming Awards Banquet  
5:30 p.m. social, 6 p.m. dinner  
Sue Lombard Dining Room  
(Reservations 509-963-2762)

**OCT. 24**  
CWU Open House (prospective students)  
10 a.m., SURC

"Thriller" worldwide dance event  
5:30 p.m., SURC East Patio

Dorothy Purser Hall dedication  
10:30 a.m., Dorothy Purser Hall (PE)

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# Athletics looks for funding to stay afloat

by Laura Mittleider  
Sports editor

The Battle in Seattle has had record-breaking attendance in the past, with over 16,000 people showing up in support of the game. And that has meant a lot of money for the Central Washington University Athletics Department.

This year, with attendance only at about 5,000, it looks as if the department may do little more than break even.

"It's hard to say yet," Bishop said. The financial outcome "will probably play out somewhere around half" of what it was in years past. "The win was a huge success."

The updated numbers for how much revenue the school made from the Battle will not be available for at least three weeks. The department still has bills to pay and expenditures that need to be processed before any total numbers come in, according to Bishop.

Qwest takes about \$5 per ticket with a few fixed rates, and the scoreboard is also something that needs to be covered in the Battle in Seattle budget.

With a previous revenue of about \$75,000, Central needed 5,000 people to attend to break even.

Even with the smaller numbers, the football team and other athletic teams aren't in danger of

being cut, Bishop said. Western Washington University's athletic budget almost doubles Centrals, and in Bishop's opinion the cutting of Western's football team was not even necessary.

Schools make cuts according to what their situations entail and Central's athletic budget deficit is looking brighter, according to Bishop.

The biggest drain on the athletics budget is travel.

"It is hard because we are remotely located and there aren't that many Division II teams, so we have to travel and we have to have home games so teams need to come to us," Bishop said.

During spring quarter of 2008, the Athletic Department had the students vote on a \$7 increase which went towards "saving athletics." That vote passed, and according to Bishop, it has helped out with expenses.

Last spring outlines several areas that were being trimmed around the edges.

Cuts happened anywhere possible. For example there are few positions like a trainer position that haven't been filled and scholarships are being cut. New scholarships are limited and more partials are being given out. Teams have had to buy their own equipment such as shoes instead of getting support from the school.

# Local spots to climb

## OPR offers views from height

by Elizabeth DeVos  
Staff reporter

Two hours away from Central Washington University, hidden away in Leavenworth, is some of the best rock climbing on the West Coast. Within a 10-mile radius of the town, climbers can find 50 different routes from bouldering to long climbs on granite.

Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) is offering students a chance to experience the majestic beauty of Leavenworth's granite rock faces Oct. 30 through Nov. 1.

"We basically offer rock climbing trips in the fall and spring quarter," said Ryan Hopkins OPR coordinator.

The trip will be similar to other OPR trips and will include transportation, camping fees, breakfast, dinner, and provided equipment.

While there is great climbing in Vantage, "quality-wise Leavenworth is far more superior than Vantage," Hopkins said. "[The trip] allows students to have a greater climbing experience."

This trip is for anyone, although participants must be top-rope certified on

Central's Recreation Center rock wall.

"This trip is for climbers of all levels to try climbing out and get their feet wet," said Nicole Mills, post bachelor and trip leader. "We'll be top-roping for a day, and bouldering for a day. The trip leaders will be setting up the ropes for the course, which will be a lot like what students climb in the gym. We're also encouraging participants to wear costumes, since it is Halloween. I mean who doesn't want to wear their costume?"

Participants can expect long climbs and some bouldering in the Icicle Creek area.

"In this great valley with tremendous scenery participants will be able to see amazing fall colors," said Hopkins.

Space is limited to 10 people and early reservation is needed.

Thursday Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. OPR will be showing "Teton Gravity Research" in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) Theater.

"Teton is one of the most premier ski and snowboard film in the world," said Hopkins. "[The film] fol-

lows professionals around the world for a year and films them.

This film is for thrill-seekers and will hopefully get people fired up and excited for the upcoming season according to Hopkins.

OPR hopes that the film will be sold out, and the first 250 people who buy a ticket will receive a free lift ticket to Stevens Pass.

"[Viewers] have to come to the show to get the free lift ticket," said Hopkins. "Lift tickets will be given out at the show so that people can't buy 20 tickets to get 20 lift tickets." The cost of an actual lift ticket at Stevens is \$63 if purchased before 9 a.m.

Hopkins encourages people who have not seen the film to check it out.

The climbing trip is \$40 for students and \$60 for non-students, and the film is \$8 for students and \$12 for non-students. Tickets can be purchased at OPR located at the South East corner of the SURC. Film tickets can also be purchased online for a \$2 sur-charge fee at [www.cwu.edu/~rec/opr](http://www.cwu.edu/~rec/opr).

# Running for the gold

## Santos comes back to lead 'Cats

by Katharine Lotze  
Staff reporter

Upon the first impression of Manuel Santos, sophomore history major, one wouldn't guess that his first sport was boxing.

"I just trained for boxing, I never fought anyone," he said. He attended Angus Charles (A.C.) Davis High School in Yakima, and tried out for the soccer team.

"I didn't know how to play. They recommended that I try running instead," Santos said. Santos wasn't interested in becoming a competitive runner.

He cruised through his high school seasons and ended up here at Central. He then decided to walk on to the cross country team.

"I went through a long process with [NCAA registration form]," Santos said. "I wasn't able to run last year, but I just wanted to be a part of the team."

Now, in his first year of competition, Santos has become the top runner on the Wildcats' men's cross country team. He has earned titles such as the Greater Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Male Runner of the Week in August, and has led the Wildcats to several team awards, including placing third at their own Apple Ridge Run Invitational on Sept. 12.

"I want to be more of a competitor. I give it what I have," Santos said. A lot of the team sees Santos as a role model, an honor that comes with being the team's top runner.

"He has a work ethic that everyone looks up to," says Tom Johnson, junior finance major. Although cross country is a highly individual sport, the Wildcats are very much connected as a team. However, when the team may take awhile to get started with practice, Santos is not one to linger.

"He's always laughing, always having a good time. He doesn't like to wait around," says teammate Scott Power, junior physical and health education major. Santos feels the same about team unity. "That's what I like about being a part of a team. You give it all you got," he said.

In addition to his running talents, Santos, originally from Mexico, is a polyglot; he speaks three languages. His first language, an indigenous language called Mixteco, is where his nickname, Manuh, originates from.

Santos will compete this weekend at the GNAC Championships in Yakima. With a season best of 26:06 in the 8000 meters, and 33:18 in the 10,000 meters, he's ready and

set to finish near the top this weekend. Racing begins at the Yakima course at 10 a.m.

"I'm excited about it because it's home," he said. Unlike many of the courses that the team has competed on this year, their home course is unique in that the fans can see almost the entire race from the viewing area. Most races are large courses which loop around roads, lakes and woods; runners are not always visible throughout.

The team is excited to be racing in front of a home crowd, something they only experience a few times during the season. The Wildcats hope that many fans will turn out along with their counterpart, the track team, who will be attending to cheer on their springtime teammates.

"We'll wait and see. It's hard to tell until you're running," Santos said about his plans for finishing near the front of the pack.

Teammates, like Matt Nodine, sophomore, seem to think Santos will do well. "He just runs. Just based on how he feels, he just runs," Nodine said.

As of now, Manuh isn't sure about running next year, "I don't know yet," he says, though the team would miss him if he didn't return.

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# Armchair Athlete proclaims disgust

— Up your's Seahawks, I hate your face and your stupid games —



**Sammy Henderson**  
Asst. sports editor

I want to talk a little about the Seattle Seahawks game last Sunday, but I don't know where to start. These guys are turning me into a bipolar football fan. One week I am happy as a clam and I make my wife dinner, but the next week I want to light someone's lawn on fire.

Let's start with the offense.

The Arizona Cardinals came into last Sunday's

game giving up a league-worst 303 passing yards per game. Shaun Hill of San Francisco and David Garrard of Jacksonville both put up good numbers against this Cardinal defense.

How is it that Matt Hasselbeck goes out and lays an egg? He only threw for 112 yards and his quarterback rating was 32.5. Granted the offensive line him time, I still figured he could muster up a decent passing attack.

This is how bad it was: our biggest offensive play of the day came from the punter, Jon Ryan, who threw a 42-yard pass and gained more offensive yards than all of the running backs combined. You know it's bad when the Yahoo! Sports top performer of the game for the Seahawks was John Carlson with 2 catches for 55 yards. The 128 total net yards gained by the Seahawks was the lowest offen-

sive output since Nov. 5 of 2000, in a game against the San Diego Chargers. And the 14 rushing yards is the fewest in franchise history.

Now on to the defense that allowed Old Man River to complete 78 percent of his passes. Kurt Warner straight torched the Seattle defense and Larry Fitzgerald manhandled our defensive backs. I am pretty sure Jordin Babineaux is still in the South end zone trying to find the jock strap he lost on Fitzgerald's two-yard touchdown catch.

And why is it that Aaron Curry and Lofa Tatupu are the only players we have on the team that can make a solo tackle? Now with Tatupu potentially done for the season, we are destined to give up more and more yards each week.

The worst part of all is that we have officially seen the reigns of the NFC West handed over to the Arizona Cardinals. The Seahawks have had control of this division for five of the last six years. This season, in conjunction with last season, just proves that we are no longer certified to lead this division.

I have given up hope on this season. I will still root and root hard, but I have to face the reality that this team flat-out stinks. At this point, there are maybe three games remaining that the Seahawks can win.

If we lose to Detroit in three weeks, we might as well call it a season. Also if we lose to Detroit, a riot may start on 4th Ave, because I have tickets and there is no way I can watch them lose to the Lions without going to jail afterwards.

I am going to set my sights on the 2010 NFL draft, and pray Denver loses all the rest of their games so we can get two good draft picka, and restock.

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