NEAR UNANIMOUS VOTE HIKES TUITION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES RAISE IN-STATE COST TO $5,600 FOR 2010-11, P.3

RICK STEVES TRAVEL GURU TALKS TONIGHT P.5 IN/VISIBLE ART EXPLORES SPACE IN SPURGEON EXHIBIT P.9 BASKETBALL MEN BACK IN NCAA TOURNAMENT P.15
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The Observer - by the students and for the students of CWU

THE AVENGERS' ETHICS TEAM FINISHES STRONG AT NATIONALS

The Avengers are (from left) - Phillip Downes, Dr. Matthew Altman, Allison Radabaugh, Mike Moceri, Patrick O'Brien, Ashley Goo and Casie Dunleavy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW ALTMAN
The Central Washington University Board of Trustees voted Friday to raise tuition by 14 percent, adding $685 to a full-time resident undergraduate student's bill. A student's total annual tuition will become nearly $5,600.

The vote was near unanimous, with student Trustee Brent Weisel as the only dissenter.

Non-resident undergraduate tuition will go up 7 percent and tuition for all graduate students will increase by 5 percent. Resident undergraduates make up 92 percent of Central's student body.

Weisel said he voted against the measure in the best interest of students.

"Bottom line, something needed to represent affordabil-
ity for students and I did that, but it's a very complex animal and I'm confident in our leadership team," Weisel said.

Friday's vote was somewhat unexpected. The legislature and Gov. Chris Gregoire have yet to approve a supplemental budget, which would determine how much of a cut Central would take. Trustees met March 4 for an annual tuition presentation by Bill Vertrees, interim vice president of business and financial affairs and tuition was only listed as a discussion item on the agenda.

Board of Trustees Chair Sid Morrison said the action was necessary for cost of attendance for financial aid.

"We wanted to make sure our actions are timely with production of materials for students," Morrison said.

Under current projections of 9,700 full-time students during the 2010-11 school year, the increase will bring in more than $6.6 million in additional revenue. Vertrees said the number is low and is likely to be exceeded.

This year's 14 percent increase is in addition to last year's 14 percent increase. During the 2009 legislative session, lawmakers authorized the board of trustees at Washington's six public universities to raise tuition up to 14 percent during both the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years. Every school has opted for the maximum raise in both years.

Morrison said the issue of subsidizing higher education is a nationwide issue.

"We have a much bigger problem that's not centered in Ellensburg," Morrison said. "I think we're all frustrated as trustees because everything by the legislature drives toward this 14 percent increase."

Without further legislative action, the maximum tuition increase will revert to 7 percent annually.

Despite the tuition increase, more financial aid will become available.

The Senate passed Senate Bill 6409 in a 13-13 vote March 5. The bill, which many thought was dead by the Feb. 16 cut off date, if passed by the House would direct a portion of lottery revenues to financial aid programs.

As required by law, 13.9 percent of the increase will go to pay for tuition waivers for students in need. About 88 percent of tuition revenue will go to waivers next year in Olympia.

Still, Keith James, Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors president, fears higher tuition will force some students with socioeconomic struggles to leave the university.

"CWU needs to maintains its diverse population of students, and with these cuts, it simply won't be able to," James said.

First-generation and low-income students may disappear, and that's extremely unfortunate."

Over the past three decades, the burden of funding higher education has shifted from the state to students. In 1977, the state supported 75 percent and beginning this year, student tuition will fund more than 50 percent of the cost of instruction.

For the current budget year, fiscal year 2010, Central's budget is $202.4 million. Enterprise funds ($50.2 million), state subsidies ($48 million) and tuition ($44.1 million) make up 71 percent of the budget.

This year, Central has experienced a 6 percent increase in full-time students, from 9,200 students in fiscal year 2009 to 9,700 students in fiscal year 2010. Spending has also reduced 4 percent largely due to freezes on hiring and travel.

Before the vote, trustees used similar words to justify their vote.

"It's very painful for us to come to students and families and ask for more money," said Trustee Kate Reardon.

Trustee Pat Notter said the students working to pressure the board to raise tuition were "outrageous." Androsko said. "I can't go anywhere for spring break."

In the end, she feels the university is looking to the students to foot the bill.

"It sucks to cut back when, as a student, you want experience the university."

"I don't think a raise should be necessary," said Reardon.

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Students fire up marijuana legalization efforts

BY BRYAN BRICKWEG | Staff Reporter

The day when marijuana will be federally legalized is getting closer and it could be even sooner in the state of Washington. A movement to push marijuana legalization has mobilized in the form of a new initiative 1068, which would be on the November ballot.

Supporters of Initiative 1068 are hoping to get the issue of marijuana legalization on the November ballot for Washington State, which could drastically shake up current marijuana laws.

Efforts by a group known as Sensible Washington have been underway at Central Washington University and Kittitas County to collect the 241,153 signatures needed to get the initiative on the ballot.

Sensible Washington's goal, according to Collins, is to have 320,000 signatures by the deadline of July 2. They hope to acquire 80,000 signatures from eastern Washington, including Kittitas County.

This way there will be more signatures needed, since in some cases, credibility can be questioned. According to Collins, the initiative has sparked voter registration. Around 15 percent of those who signed the petition have also voted to register.

Pat Sween, the Kittitas County coordinator for Sensible Washington, is in direct contact with Collins and is focusing on Central's campus. Over the past couple of weeks, voters have not seen any trends in who signs the petition.

"If you look at who is actually interested in supporting Initiative 1068 it has no [real] partisanship," Sween said. "In just specific to one party, it's not a political matter, it's bigger than that."

Central students supporting Initiative 1068 have mobilized in the form of a new club on campus, NORML. The National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws has chapters throughout the United States and fights to change current laws.

The CWU NORML chapter currently has close to 20 members and is working with Sensible Washington to help acquire petition signatures. Chris Bertsch, the director and founder of CWU NORML is hoping the chapter will be official within a few weeks. Their focus is the responsible adult use of marijuana.

"We are a group of students who have seen the hypocrisy of making cannabis illegal," Bertsch said. "We all feel like responsible people that just happen to smoke marijuana shouldn't be labeled as a drug criminal."

The CWU NORML is officially recognized as a chapter at CWU and the flood gates will open with enthusiastic recruits to help support Initiative 1068. Recently a board of directors has been established and new members continue to join.

According to Collins and Bertsch, there has been no organized opposition to the initiative that they have seen. The biggest problem their staff has encountered is the occasional comment when trying to collect signatures.

Over 14 states have already legalized medical marijuana in some form. In 1998, the people of Washington recognized the medical benefits of marijuana with the approval of Initiative 692, which authorized approved patients to use marijuana in their homes for medicinal purposes. Since then, several bills have been proposed to the legislature to dismiss the criminal penalties, but none have gained any ground.

Proponents of the initiative say it could potentially save the state millions of dollars spent every year on arrests, prosecutions and incarcerations of marijuana users. A study done by Dr. Jeffrey Miron at Harvard University found that without the prohibition of marijuana the government could save up to $10 billion in spending annually.

"It's natural and way more safe than drinking," said Katelyn Sewell, junior fashion merchandising major. "You can't overdose on it."

However, not everyone is on board with changing the current marijuana laws.

"It's just going to lead to more crime, just like how alcohol does," said Scott Richards, junior aviation management major. "There's a reason why it has to be medically controlled - not for recreational use."

For more info on Sensible Washington and initiative 1068 visit: www.sensiblewashington.org

For more info on CWU NORML contact Chris Bertsch at: bertschch@cwu.edu

STEVEN WRIGHT
Parking service employee, Steven Wright, issues a ticket to a car with an expired parking permit.

“The way I work outside and I like the freedom,” Wright said.

Wright has been handing out tickets for 19 years, and is good at what he does. On a good day, he will write 50 or 60 tickets only patrolling north campus. As Wright makes his rounds back through Nicho­lon Pavilion, he spots the 89’ Jeep again. The owner had simply moved it over a few rows. Wright hops out and chalks the back tire, writes down the time and leaves to return in 35 minutes. He knows the stu­dent barely escaped a ticket less than an hour ago, but this is the way Wright plays the game: he’s always fair.

People think we’re picking on them, but he’s not biased he just goes out there and does what he does,” said Lt. Tim Stowe, director of parking services.

Wright always gives the 30 minute parking permit spots 35 minutes, and if you have a handicap sticker you can park in the 30 minutes for as long as you like. If you catch him writing the ticket, he’ll let you go as long as you are not rude.

Wright may be an excellent parking checker, but there’s more to his life than cruising parking lots. He has seven children, twelve more when he includes the purebred Jacob sheep he raises. On his five-acre home, in between chores, he’s a dad to goats, farm cats and dogs, but the sheep are his favor­ite. Jacob sheep are a rare breed and very shy. Only two of them will eat out of his hand. Wright uses their fleece and has even eaten some of them.

“I think it’s an accepted taste,” Wright said.

Wright has four sons and three daughters, with only the youngest two children still in high school. All of their first names are taken from the Bible and their middle names are family names. Wright and his family are members of the local Old German Baptist PARKING - CONTINUED ON P.6

By KELLY REQUA | Staff Reporter

That's the ticket: a day with CWU's parking checker

It's a sunny Friday morning as Steven Wright slowly cruises through the Nicho­lon Pavilion parking lot, the brakes on his old small pickup squealing. He puts the truck into park as he spots a familiar ‘89 Jeep with faded blue paint.

"Oh I recognize this guy," Wright says.

Wright hops out and checks the plates as he begins his second ticket run of the machine. Wright had given this vehicle so many tickets, he knows the owner by name. This particular student has already earned 12 tickets this year. A tell with a smile to check out. It’s not always like this.

"Is this your vehicle?" Wright asks.

The student says yes and desperately looks back and forth between Wright and his jeep, waiting for the verdict.

"It looks like baseball," Wright says. "If you beat me to home plate you can go."

The student hops into the driver's seat of the jeep as Wright returns to his truck. The student won the game this time.

Wright has been a parking checker his whole life. He lived in Ellensburg for the past 52 years and graduated from Central in 1973 with an art degree. After college he didn’t know what to do with his life. He was finally able to make a living and work for the forest service seasonally instead. Wright married his wife in 1977 and had trouble finding a full-time job. He ended up working at the Ellensburg slaughterhouse for five years.

"I said I'd never work there," Wright said. "It hurt my body. I pay for it now, my elbows, wrists and hands.

Wright knew he had to get out of there, so he got a custodial position with the university in 1980. He did custodial and maintenance work for 10 years before transferring over to parking services.
Rick Steves reveals a different image of Iran

BY ALYSSA SCHULTZ | Staff Reporter

Tonight at 7:30 p.m., Central Washington University's Music Building Concert Hall will accommodate a new message about Iran and its people. Rick Steves, renowned author, traveler and television personality, will be bringing Iran to the students of Central.

"It is very difficult to find western sources that will give you something other than just the political aspect of those middle eastern countries," said Barbara Rogo- tag, senior French and German double major. "So I'm very excited to hear about what he's experienced and what he wants to share."

Rick-Steves' Iran is being brought to Central by the Performing Arts and Presidential Speaker Series which was begun in 2001 by President Jerilyn McIntyre and was expanded to include the performing arts in 2003. Each year a theme is chosen for a particular speaker series intending to expand Central students', professor's and the Ellemberg community's cultural opportun­it­ies. This year's theme is "Bridges and Beacons."

"I would like for those who may have brought into the Western world about Iran to think about that country differently, to think about the people to people con­nections. I think it's absolutely important for all of us to think about, not just a government, but the people that it represents," said Elizabeth Street, vice president for university advancement. "I think that what I would like people to take out of that is these are people just like we're people and they may be experiencing different values. They may understand the world differently than we do, but at heart they're the same as we are in many, many ways."

According to his blog, Steves' goal was to try to understand the people of Iran and he spent 10 days traveling throughout Iran, visiting places such as Tehran and the ancient site of Persepolis, interviewing like we're people and they may be experiencing different values from what it is apart from all of the politics.

"Invaluably, they ask where I'm from. I often say, 'I'm American.' They guass and guess things that they think we are. From 9 - 10 countries before giving up. Finally I say 'America' and they are momentarily shocked, thinking, 'I thought Americans hate us. Why would one be here like this?'; Steves wrote. "Their smiles leave their face. Then a bigger smile comes back as they say 'Welcome!' or I've had such interactions in ten days in Iran, never once has my saying 'I am an American' resulted in anything less than a smile."

His trip to Iran came about after a friend of Steves' from the Washington state chapter of the United Nations Association contacted him about possibly helping to build a better understanding between Iran and the United States.

"Travel is important because it allows you to see how people can have different opinions and different perspectives by living in their different perspective for a few moments," said Jessica Miller, senior business major. "I think it's difficult for people to wrap their heads around why people think and feel a certain way without understanding the full scope of the circumstances of which they live."

The main purpose of Steves' bridge-building television program was to help dilute tensions and possibly avoid war were working title was "Iran: Its People and Culture, Yesterday and Today." The first time Steves ever visited Iran was in 1978.

"When we travel - whether to a land our president has declared part of an 'Axis of Evil,' or just to a place where people yodel when they're happy or fight bulls to impress the girls or can't serve breakfast until today's croissants arrive - we enrich our lives and better understand our place on this planet. Steves wrote. "It's my hope that with people-to-people connections, we can overcome our fear and mistrust of each other, and at a minimum, learn to co-exist peacefully."

Central faculty ask administrators for budget transparency

BY ANDREW RIED-MUNRO | Staff Reporter

Central Washington University's faculty union has sent a petition with 305 signatures to Presi­dent Richard Gaudino, asking the administration for a budget plan that would "show us not only how cuts are being absorbed, but how administrative processes are being changed to make CWU a more efficient organization."

United Faculty of Central (UCF) gathered the signatures from Feb. 11 - 13. It was UCF's first petition since the faculty unionized in 2004. Hickey said that 95 percent of the faculty ap­proved signed the petition.

"The big overarching item is the mission of the university, which is educating our students," said Robert Hickey, UFC president and Central geography professor. "We, the UFC, want to know that message to the administration."

The petition also asks for the ad­ministration to "show us how academics are being relatively protected as required by legislative mandate. And show us not only how cuts are being absorbed, but how administrative processes are being changed to make CWU a more efficient organization. Demonstrate the transparency and shared governance that has been repeatedly promised."

"We, the undersigned, ask that the administration present to the university their plan for dealing with future budgets: a plan as serious, inclusive, transparent, and comprehensive as that being undertaken by the Academic Planning Task Force. Show us how academics are being relatively protected as required by legislative mandate. And show us not only how cuts are being absorbed, but how administrative processes are being changed to make CWU a more efficient organization. Demonstrate the transparency and shared governance that has been repeatedly promised."

According to Steve Horowitz, the English as a Second Language program director, Steves' warm re­ception isn't as much of a surprise. In the late 1960s, Horowitz spent three years working with the Peace Corps in Iran.

"From my own experience with Iran I'm not surprised that the people were very friendly because Iranians are generally very friendly to anybody they see as a guest, a visitor," Horowitz said. "Iranians are very people; they're very outgoing people and they have some good reasons to have some nega­tive feelings towards U.S. foreign policy over the years, but I don't think that they automatically have hostility towards American people."

Reserved tickets for tonight's event are 25 dollars, General admission is 15 dollars and Central students are free with Central ID.
Brethren church. Wright describes it as just a little bit different, but nothing extreme. He doesn't smoke or drink and the worst swear word you'll hear from him is "you dog." They're nonresistant rural people who choose to shelter themselves from certain aspects of mainstream American culture.

"In our church, we don't have TVs or radios," Wright said. "We do use cell phones however."

Wright cruises through the H-6 parking lot by Heberer Hall and finds three cars locked over the time limit. Chris's red Dodge Dakota, Hannah's blue Kia Rio, and an old grey Toyota Camry. The small printer on his belt prints out the tickets and Wright places them in yellow envelopes on each front window. A call comes out from dispatch; a student has locked her keys in her Nicholson Pavilion.

"I'm more thankful for things like that than passed off about parking tickets," McKean said. "He expanded the door with the wedges and it came unlocked. He's a very nice guy; it's just his job to pass out tickets."

With 19 years under his belt as a parking checker, Wright plans to keep working for at least six more years. He says he can't collect social security, so his plan is to work for a bit longer.

"This job, a lot of it is just body. Injuries from when you were younger visit you with age," Wright said.

Wright is not concerned about getting bored or having too much free time after he retires. With five acres, there are always chores and fences to build, Wright says. He also looks forward to having lots of grandchildren.

"If you think of the potential, if each of my kids had seven, that's 49 grandchildren," Wright says with a laugh. "Go for it kids!"

In our church, we don't have TVs or radios from Japan. The crew will de- part from the Kennedy Space Center, the STS-131 crew answered questions on what their duties were going to en- tal while in space.

"I'll be an MS2 on flight deck and will be helping [intravehicular activity] for space walks," Metcalf-Linden- baurd said.

Friend mission specialist Rick Mastracchio spoke of how this mission compares to previous ones.

I just love seeing the vehicle. It always puts me in awe. It's just amazing and I also like when we fly over the Earth and see where Mercury and Gemini and Apollo were, and now where we are with the shuttle and just thinking about the history and the point we came to today," said Metcalf-Lindenbaurd. "It's always just amazing here."

Central alumna travels to space in upcoming NASA mission

BY LINDSAY TROTT | Staff Reporter

Central Washington University alumna and NASA astronaut Dorothy "Dot- tie" Metcalf-Lindenburger is set to travel to space in the upcoming shuttle mission, STS-131, which is set to launch on April 5 to the Inter- national Space Center.

The astronaut received her engineering degree from Central in 1999 and was selected by NASA as a mission specialist in 2004. Be- fore becoming an astronaut, Metcalf-Lindenburger was an earth science and astronomy teacher in Vancouver, Wash.

Metcalf-Lindenburger will serve as a mission specialist along with a commander, pilot, four other mission specialists and an astronaut from Japan. The crew will de- liver a multi-purpose logistics module filled with science racks that will be taken to the International Space Station's laboratories. The crew will also participate in three space walks.

During a break from train- ing at the Kennedy Space Center, the STS-131 crew answered questions on what their duties were going to en-


definedly! Alcohol affects women differently than men!

Alcohol affects women differently than men in so many ways. First off, I'm sure you and your man have weight differences, which is a big contributor to the effects of alcohol. The more you weigh, the more it takes the alcohol to affect you. The most frustrating part about it is, though, is that even if you both weighed the same, your blood alcohol content (BAC) would still be higher. This is because men not only have one percent more water in their body to dilute the alcohol, but they also have more dehydrogenase, an enzyme that breaks down the alcohol. In fact, they have 70% more! I would also like to say that thanks to our (women's) body shape, we generally have a higher fat content than men. Since fatty tissue doesn't contain much water, it doesn't absorb much alcohol-and more alcohol goes into the bloodstream. As a result, women will experience alcohol-induced intoxication faster. Basically, this means all the beer and vodka you've been drinking stays in the bloodstream at an extremely concentrated level. Plus, if you are on a hormonal birth control, it actually slows down the rate in which the alcohol is eliminated from the body-meaning it will take your system longer to get rid of the alcohol and reduce your BAC.

Boys, right? So next time your guy, or any guy for that matter, challenges you to a night of drinking. I would say no to because chances are you will lose, or end up very, very intoxicated.

My suggestion is, if you choose to drink, pace yourself (like, no more than one hour and don't try to keep up with the guys).

Amanda, have a question for Amanda? Send them to ask@uw.edu. It just might be a future topic!
**OPINION**

**Editor's Note:** Amazing grace, or R.I.P. education?

By DARCY WYTKO | Editor-in-Chief

With a cardboard coffin emblazoned with "R.I.P. Education" strapped to the roof, an old station wagon led a 250-vehicle funeral procession from Evergreen State University through Olympia last Thursday. The procession took the eight-mile route along the Forty, where a black-clad group of about 75 held a mock funeral symbolizing the death of public education.

The protesters' slogans went largely uninterrupted. Only when the mourners sang a parody of "Amazing Grace in Cinema" did a few voices rise.

"The bright young minds of our country! Now wake to meet their doom," they sang. "So why should we apply to school? When close ahead lies gloom!"

After several warnings and a banging gavel failed to silence them, Washington State Patrol troopers and security guards escorted them out.

Though the protest may have appeared as a satirical grim overreaction to state cuts to higher education, their "funeral" wasn't without merit. Supplemental budget proposals for next year from Gov. Chris Greigors, the Senate and the House include cuts to higher education ranging between $86 million and $280 million.

These cuts come in addition to 14 percent tuition increases already approved by the Legislature.

State student efforts also on Friday the CWU Board of Trustees passed a 14 percent tuition increase for next year — before the state could even arrive at a financed budget. Last year they didn't vote until May.

You might think that due to the economy's downturn, education cuts and double-digit tuition hikes are happening everywhere. They're not.

Washington is one of only 10 states to approve double-digit hikes in state university tuition over the past several years. Only California, Arizona, and Florida are likely to see higher increases, with roughly 32, 31, and 15 percent hikes, respectively.

The Evergreen protesters weren't arrested, but they were heard. Though YouTube clips don't show it, several news reports say that the legislature's television station showed the学生 receiving a standing ovation from some legislators.

If only more of us had been there to join them.

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The editorial views expressed herein are those of the writers and not necessarily the views of the newspaper staff or large, the student body, or the faculty and administration. They are not to be considered the official views of CWU.

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**OBSERVATION**

Jesus, pot, pop-singing transvestites & my senior farewell

By STEVEN ROGERS | Copy Desk Chief

I've learned many things in my 47,632 hours as a college student (that's 284 weeks — in case you were wondering).

And no, I'm not a doctor.

But I'm not referring to, or taking away from, my accomplishments inside the classroom. Instead, as I say goodbye to Central, I'd like to reflect on the life lessons learned and the unforgettable experiences (many of which I have forgotten) that I've had here.

So please forgive me if the following rant sounds like a recycled version of Quin's "Deep Thoughts," but before I blow this joint (get it? there are a few things I've been wanting to get off my chest.

First of all, whatever stoked the Panasonic video cameras is a giant douche.

Anyway... In a past op-ed about marijuana legalization, I left out some key evidence which would have helped support a claim I made about a certain long-haired, bearded seavore. So here it is: The Old Testament's recipe for holy anointing oil (Exodus 30:22-23) contains more than six pounds of kaneh-bosom, or cannabis. J.C. was a big advocate for this brew of holy oil, which, when rubbed on the skin, would produce a powerful psychodelic trip. The Bible credits Jesus as the miraculous healer of many diseases and disorders common during biblical times. Ironically, marijuana has since been scientifically proven as an effective form of treatment for many of the ailments that Jesus "healed." Come on, he walked through the hills preaching peace, love and brotherhood for crin' out loud! And that's why I love Jesus.

Also, don't drink too much alcohol. Instead try more "natural" alternatives. I did, obviously, right? And look at me now! College student life is grand. Now I've got all kinds of random life stories that I can't tell my children until they grow up. I imagine our father will have similar stories to share among some of his nights. "Daddy, what did you do from 2004-2009?"

"Son, those years are known simply as the 'Cloudy Years' — now run along with your childhood."

Wouldn't it be funny if I talked to my kid like that? By the way... Who knew you really can't stand Lady Gaga. If that's that "thing" I've still got a fun little... defi­ nitely was at some point. No thanks Ms. GaGa. I don't want to see your pp-pa-poker face, and no, you and me certainly could not write a bad romance. Or wait — on second thought — never mind, that's gross... Okay, that's enough about my pal Jesus, pot, and pop-singing transvestites... Sorry about the opening outburst, but I wanted to make my final appearance in the Observer a memorable one.

So now it's time for me to attempt to get serious.

First of all, I'd like to thank all the professors who have guided me through this incredible time in my life, especially Robert Fordan, Cynthia Mitchell and Michael Ogden. Everything I've accomplished as a student is due to the positive impact that they have guided me through this incredible time in my life, especially Robert Fordan, Cynthia Mitchell and Michael Ogden. Everything I've accomplished as a student is due to the positive support that I've had from each member of the LGBTQ/Allied community. In order to change create, we need your help. So come out, come out, wherever you are. The struggle for equality is at a tipping point. Your ability to influence history is right in front of you, by educating, raising awareness, and uniting together, as the community at CWU. It may be cliché, but a small contribution can transform your community.

Call it radical, but equality for future generations depends on what we do today. When you look back at your life, what do you want to see?

Jesi Lindquist
Junior, Sociology Major

On behalf of the staff at CWU Dining Services, I would like to thank all the departments and downtown Ellensburg businesses, organizations and individuals who have helped us make our Special Event Dinners truly special by lending or donating materials that help us decorate for each theme.

Our events average 850 guests. That means big food... like a big open house. We would not be able to do our thing without the help of the Ellensburg community. In order to create change, we need your help. So come out, come out, wherever you are. The struggle for equality is at a tipping point. Your ability to influence history is right in front of you, by educating, raising awareness, and uniting together, as the community at CWU. It may be cliché, but a small contribution can transform your community.

Call it radical, but equality for future generations depends on what we do today. When you look back at your life, what do you want to see?
DEAR TINA,

Hey girl! Hey! I am in a long distance relationship with my boyfriend on the West Side. We really only get to see each other once a month. Our sex life, well, it isn’t often. I know that boys can never get more sexual release than girls, so I’ve told my boyfriend that I am perfectly okay with him using whatever visual stimulation he may need to masturbate to. But he tells me that he doesn’t like to even look at another girl, even in a magazine, never, ever. While I am flattered that he thinks I am so hot, I am worried for his sexual well being. It makes it less fun when we finally do get to see each other. When we’re together after a long time apart it becomes, “great to see you, now take your pants off.” How can we find a compromise?

LOVE,

A girl who just wants her longaway boyfriend to be satisfied while they’re apart

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OPINION

Ask Tina Sparkle

The advice column where you write in and this Ms. CWU Drug Queen tells you how it is.

DEAR TINA,

I understand how he does not want to look at other women, because he feels that he might be cheating on you. Some guys actually think that way, which can be a blessing: at least you know your boyfriend is not looking at other women. But in your case it’s looking like a curse by having sex within the first sentence you guys say to each other. Here’s a few hints to turn it into a blessing.

Next time you see him, take some sexy pictures with him, then it gives you guys some time before sex, and he’ll also have pictures of you to get his stuff done when you’re away. I also want to add that you should express to him that those pictures are for him only! He seems like the kind of guy who would know that already but let him know just in case. Also, let him know why you are taking these pictures, let him know that when you see each other after a long while, you want to spend time with him, and not sex time. If he doesn’t want to take the pictures of you, then it’s still important that you let him know, that even though the sex is amazing, it’s not the first thing on your mind because you miss him personally and want to spend quality time with him, not sexy time, at least right away, leave it for after taking you out to dinner!

The most important thing to take from this is to remember communication is VITAL in all relationships, and if it doesn’t work, then don’t give in. Words are heard, but actions are louder than words any day of the week.

Speaking of, here’s my word of the week. (courtesy of UrbanDictionary.com):

Blazy (B-lay-V): (n) To incorrectly wear black and navy articles of clothing as if they actually coordinate. Example: “See that girl wearing blazy? She must be colorblind!” Be sure to e-mail in your word of the week suggestions ...

MUCH LOVE AND CARE,

Tina Sparkle*  

*Write in with your Spring Break woes at:  
asktinasparkle@yahoo.com

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Deep Thoughts

BY QUINN EDDY | Thinker

It’s cool how Safeway calls their dolphin shaped macaroni and cheese a “dolphins deep thoughts.” You would think they would just call it dolphin. I need to take a cooking class, I’m pretty sure that makes three installments of “Deep Thoughts” that I’ve brought up box of macaroni and cheese.

They should label the parking lots based on difficulty of finding a spot, like the ski slopes. I definitely believe that the lot between the SURC and Hertz would be a black diamond.

This week’s vocabulary enrichment: Riff-raff. Riff-raff is a term used to describe shadypersons who live down the street. Used in a sentence: “I don’t mingle with the riff-raff.”

Until next quarter, think deep.

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Culinary Corner

BY RACHEL GUILLERMO | Culinary Columnist

For the past two years, I’ve been writing and sharing ideas about the thingsthat matters the most to me in life - food. I love it, I breathe it, and it’s in my blood. That’s how passionate I am about the stuff!

In a matter of days I will be taking my last finals at Central Washington University and stepping into adulthood. And so this will be my last culinary corner recipe I write for the Observer.

Along this culinary road, I was lucky enough to come across people who share this same passion with me. This recipe is for you. I’ve taken a few simple recipes and combined them to make my final perfect meal. I hope my reci­pes have brought you the same kind of joy they have brought me writing them.

Deep Thoughts

RECIPE:

Culinary Corner

My Last Supper: The perfect meal

INGREDIENTS

- 2 C. dark soy sauce
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 shallots, chopped
- 8 baby bok choy, cut into thirds length-wise
- 2 whole bay leaves
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- 3 stocks green onions, sliced thinly
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 8 baby bok choy
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 1 medium sweet onion
- 2 whole bay leaves

DIRECTIONS

Pre-heat oven to 357 F degrees. Combine soy sauce, brown sugar and bay leaves in a mixing bowl. Place chicken pieces in a large baking dish and pour soy sauce mixture over chicken.

- Cover a baking dish with foil and bake for 40 minutes.

- While chicken is cooking, combine chopped tomatoes, onions, green onions and salt to taste. Cover and set aside in refrigerator to chill.

- Once chicken is done, heat oil in a large pan to medium high. Saute baby bok choy, garlic and shallots until bok choy is tender. Season with salt and pepper.

- Serve chicken with sautéed and chilled vegetables and rice.

Relationships 101: Carrie Bradshaw, I am not

BY ERICA SPALTI | Online Editor

Let’s take a break from relationships for a minute or two. I feel the need to apologize to the people who read this paper. I have been getting a lot of flack (I guess that’s the right word) for the topics I have been writing about. However, I want to make my apology, I believe that I should get a chance to defend myself.

To those of you who do not like my column because you think it gives false advice, it’s sexist, or my personal favorite “she is just trying to be another Carrie Bradshaw,” take a break from this and look up. No, not at the ceiling. Up there - in the left hand upper corner.

Again, I am sorry for offending anyone and for whatever comes off as a bit sexist, because I will actually apologize for saying what needed to be said. And since I give a piece of advice every week, here is this week’s advice: Don’t be so quick to judge, unless you know the whole back story.

Ask more Relationships 101 online at: cwuculinarycorner.blogspot.com

Culinary Corner will continue online at: www.cwuculinarycorner.blogspot.com

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The Observer • March 11 - 17, 2010
In/Visible Art
Spurgeon Gallery features spacial-themed artwork

BY LURA TREIBER | Staff Reporter

Turning negative space into positive space and positive space into negative space is the theme for the In/Visible art exhibition at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery.

Located in Randall Hall, room 141, the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery brings artists and their art from near and far to the Central Washington University campus. While the art featured in the gallery is usually of the frame sculpture variety, this exhibition features installation type art.

"Installation art is typically large scale art that is set on creating an environment, opposed to having a singular sculpture," said Howard Barlow, curator of the show and instructor of sculpture at Central. "Expect to see a space from negative space. Composed sculpture:' said Howard Barlow, curator of the show and instructor of sculpture at Central. "Expect to see a show that is different than what is typically on display at the gallery." The exhibit began on Saturday, Feb. 20 and will last until Friday, Mar. 19. It features work by up-and-coming, Seattle-based installation artists, Shawn Patrick Landis, Jason Wood and Lead Pencil Studio.

"I selected the artists and their work with the idea of an invisible-visible dichotomy," Barlow said. "The artists are either taking something invisible and making it visible or taking something visible and making it invisible."

Shawn Patrick Landis' piece, "Suspension of Disbelief," creates positive space from negative space. Composed of a bed, bureau, chest and desk that are suspended six feet off the ground by an inflated plastic bag, the piece represents a flooded room.

"I pondered the idea of floating objects using air pressure and thought that unless I moved large objects, the effect would only look experimental," Landis said. "I then thought of objects floating in water and moved on to the idea of a deluge that engulfs a house...I was drawn towards objects in a bedroom because of the intimacy and potential suggestion of a dream state. So the image created is at once a terrifying idea to an adult and simultaneously a child's fantasy. I like the situating of emotional opposites."

The Lead Pencil Studio, consisting of Annie Han and Daniel Mihalyo, piece is called "Accumulation." This piece implies a structure being present, but lacks the structure itself.

"This piece is a study on the way that sedimentation in architecture contributes to the sense of claustrophobia," Mihalyo said. "We just got back from living/working in Rome for a year on a Rome Prize Fellowship and had a lot of observations that we were interested in expressing from that period regarding human occupation of buildings on a thousand year time span."

Jason Wood's piece "Rolling Hills Happen on Rainy Days," is different from the other pieces in the exhibit in that it doesn't create invisible or visible space. Instead it makes everyday materials visible.

"He's reminding us that these building materials did originally come from nature," said Heather Horn Johnson, manager of the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery. "They came from trees and natural resources. These are things that we see every day and we don't think about the impact."

Wood's piece is constructed from insulation, parts of 2x4s, carpet samples and wood flooring. The background is part of a wall and baseboard.

"He incorporates building materials into his art and makes you think of their history," Barlow said. "History is basically an invisible concept...He's making you think about them, giving you a visible history."

It is hoped that the art in the exhibit will challenge all those who view it as far as what contemporary art is and what it can be.

"Part of it is that the work does really inspire a sense of wonder," Horn Johnson said of the exhibit. "We see a lot of every day materials used in interesting ways. You think about it in a fresh light."

For those who wish to view the In/Visible exhibit or future exhibits, gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends. Admission is free.
Safe Spring Break

Wellness Center encourages students to have fun and not be dumb

BY AMANDA MILLER | Sr. Scene Reporter

Tuesday's theme was, "Fun in the Sun, Without the Burn." The purpose was to teach students how to properly protect their skin and explain the health effects of sun exposure. Students had a chance to win sunglasses or packets of sunscreen by spinning a "true or false" question wheel and landing on "using sunscreen with a little bit of bug repellant is a good repellant." Aid guessed that it was true and was surprised to learn it was false.

“Our main points [are] ... safety in numbers, the dangers of date rape drugs and also how to avoid the likelihood of getting sexually assaulted.”

DANIELLE MESSIER
Peer Health Educator
Junior Public Health Major

The peer health educators also had fact balls that students could toss around to learn little-known facts, such as "every hour one person dies from skin cancer worldwide," "skin cancer accounts for 50 percent of all cancers," and "in one in five Americans [US citizens] will develop skin cancer in their lives.

"Spring Break without an Unplanned Pregnancy," a game called "unlucky duck." There’s a number on each duck that corresponds to an unwanted pregnancy, an STI or you protected yourself," Messier said. "The likelihood of what you get with that duck corresponds to the likelihood that you would [actually] get what’s on that duck.

Today’s theme is "Avoid the Spring Break Hangover," and topics covered will include the use of the buddy system and how to drink responsibly.

"Our main points [are] ... safety in numbers, the dangers of date rape drugs and also how to avoid the likelihood of getting sexually assaulted," Harrison said. "We also talk about alcohol poisoning and what to do if your friend has it.

The peer health educators will also be passing out leaflets and handing them to people who will have an alcohol safety guide.

Today and Monday, the Wellness Center also offered students the chance to sign the pledge.

The pledge "talks about their personal boundaries they should respect about before they put themselves in risky situations," Harrison said. "So ... when they are in the risky situations, they're prepared for it and know what to do.

Rachel Greshock, post-baccalaureate English Education major, signed the pledge because she is going to practice "safe drinking, safe driving, [and] safe drinking." This spring break.

The Wellness Center will be tabling today from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the SURC.

Check out these local hotspots on the cheap

Rodeo Bowl, 830 N. Poplar St.
- Spring break specials: Fri. 3/26 - $2/game/person and $2/shoes 4 p.m. to close; Sat. 3/27 same deal from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- Rock Night: Wed. from 9-11 p.m. (Blacklight bowling, music)
- Colorama - Thursday bowl for money 7-9 $16 for 3 games.
- Sun - 1-4.
- $3/game/person; $2/shoes

Big Top Golf, 317 N. Pearl St.
- Tues-Thur: 11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Fri-Sat: 11:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Sun: 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Adults: $5/round; Children 12-4: $3; Children 4-2: $2; under free

Memorial Pool, 815 E. 6th Ave.
- Mon - Sat: 9-5, Sun: 12-4.

Memorial Pool, 815 E. 6th Ave.
- Mon - Sat: 9-5, Sun: 12-4.

The Public Library, 209 N. Ruby St.
- Sat, March 20th, 2-4 p.m.: Spring Equinox with Helen Renne; Hal Holcomb Center at the Library; Renne, recording artist, vocalist, storyteller, presents songs from her new release, In Beauty I Walk. There will be stories from cultures around the world, drumming, singing and a Spiral Dance. Free.
- Thursday, March 25th, 7:00 p.m.: An Evening with Three Cups of Tea. Hal Holcomb Center at the Library. Join the Library Board for a short PBS video of Bill Moyer speaking with author Greg Mortenson followed by a discussion of Three Cups of Tea.
- Garden One, 408 N. Pearl St.
- Exhibits - In Stitches, Toy Life, Hidden.
- Raw Space, 119 E. 4th Ave.
- Mon: Recreational Swim - 7:30-9:30 a.m., 1:30-4:30 p.m.
- Mon-Fri: Adult Swim - 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- Sat: Rec Swim - 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Sun: Rec Swim - 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Sun: Adult Swim - 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Sat: Adult Swim - 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Sun: Rec Swim - 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

BY AMANDA MILLER | Sr. Scene Reporter
Don’t Ask, Do Tell
EQuAl works to raise DADT awareness on campus

By Christine Jahns | Staff Reporter

On March 3, Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman introduced a bill to repeal the current “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” (DADT) policy that bans openly gay men and women from serving in the military.

Since 1993, the DADT has been in place, but President Barack Obama has stated on several occasions that he wants the policy to be repealed. With the policy up for revision, one student at Central is confident the ban will be lifted.

“The ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’ policy essentially is going to get repealed, there is no question about that,” said Terrell Stephens, junior music education major and coordinator for EQuAI.

At 7 p.m. tonight in the Student Union and Recreation Center (SURC) Theatre, Stephens, along with EQuAl, formerly known as GALA-GLBTSA, will host “Don’t Ask, Do Tell.” The event will include a panel discussion and the award-winning PBS documentary “Ask Not.”

“We really want to focus on educating the public on these events,” said Brain Johnson, junior theater design technology major and coordinator for EQuAl.

“It’s important to know that there are people out there who are sacrificing their lives for us to have our freedom and rights and the government won’t allow it just because they’re different.”

Last year, Central hosted “Don’t Ask, Do Tell” but it only included a panel discussion. This year EQuAl wanted to make an even larger impact and add in a documentary with the event.

“We need to incorporate educational, political and social in every event that we do,” Johnson said.

The panel discussion will include members of the Ellensburg community and they will be answering questions regarding their experiences in the military and what it was like to be discharged. Audience members are encouraged to participate and ask questions.

The documentary “Ask Not” explores the effects the DADT has had on both current and former gay military members, especially in the last few years. One of the main focal points of the film is the group Service members United and their repeated attempts to get congress to repeal the policy.

Stephens hopes that showing this film will not only help educate people who may be confused about DADT, but also to connect people to organizations like Servicemembers United and the Service Members Legal Defense Network, if they want to learn more about what is being done to repeal the DADT.

Andrea Preciado, junior public health and pre-nursing major, is a member of EQuAl and sees this as a way to showcase how important equality between people is to her and many in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community.

“It’s one step closer to that equality that the LGBT community is trying to get out there,” Preciado said. “We want to be treated as equal and in the military is such an honor to a lot of people.”

The panel discussion will start at 7 p.m. followed by the viewing of “Ask Not.”

EQuAl will be there handing out informational brochures outlining the progress made to repeal the DADT. This event is free and open to everybody.
Fairy Godmother Project

Central helps dreams come true with annual dress drive

BY ELIZABETH DEVOS | Staff Reporter

If there's one moment in high school people may remember besides graduating, it's most likely prom. For girls, it may be a bigger deal than it is for guys. The hair, makeup, the date and the countless hours spent looking for that perfect dress in hopes to stand out from all the other girls are all a part of the prom ritual.

Some girls buy brand new dresses that set them back a few hundred dollars, while others use a friend's old dress or wear the same dress they wore to homecoming, hoping nobody will remember.

The Student Fashion Society at Central hosts The Fairy Godmother Project yearly. The project allows high school girls from Kittitas Valley and Yakima high schools to browse through gently used prom dresses, shoes and accessories for relatively inexpensive prices, helping make prom affordable.

The drive will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. this Saturday in SURC 137. Collections for donations are no longer being held.

The Fairy Godmother Project is known across the country and consists of inexpensive prom accessories. It's big in the southern states according to Dominique Green, sophomore fashion merchandising major and Student Fashion Society member.

The drive is held "for girls who can't afford to go to the west side and find things at an affordable price," Green said.

Last year was the first year that Central hosted the Fairy Godmother Project. The club officers wanted to find new things to do, and start a yearly tradition at Central. Last year, the club collected approximately 100 dresses according to Tiffany Moore, senior fashion merchandising major and treasurer of the Student Fashion Society.

The club advertised this year's event in local papers in Ellensburg and Yakima as well as on radio and television stations to get the word out, according to Green.

"The dresses usually cost $5 give or take, maybe (up to) $30;" Green said. "The price of the dresses depends on if it is brand new or has all the tags on it."

The Student Fashion Society hopes to collect more dresses this year than it did last year.

"We did more advertising this year," Moore said. "We also started way more in advance over last year."

Dresses, shoes and accessories can be donated up to one day before the event.

"This is a really great opportunity for local high school girls to find the prom dress or any other dress for another occasion here in Ellensburg," Green said.

Proceeds from the Fairy Godmother Project will go to the Student Fashion Society, according to Green.

For more information on The Fairy Godmother Project or the fashion society, contact them at: fashionsociety@cwu.edu

Distiller Berle "Rusty" Figgins handcrafts whisky

Distiller Berle "Rusty" Figgins handcrafts whisky

- WHISKY AND BRANDY
Figgins, a local career winemaker and viticulturist in his own right, began distilling whisky and brandy in 2008.

"I already won awards for my brand and I am ready to promote my whisky," Figgins said.

Figgins is the co-owner of The Ellensburg Distillery, Ellensburg's first distillery located on the cul de sac at the end of Prospect Street.

The distillery also makes a Peruvian brandy, an Irish-style cream liqueur and a honey and herb liqueur.

- Visit the Ellensburg Distillery at: www.theellensburgdistillery.com
Many students and faculty who have taken advantage of the Study Abroad program have talked to Ray Bates, one of the coordinators. Originally from West Virginia, Bates has given students unique opportunities to experience different countries and cultures.

Q. What do you like most about your job?
A. I think I have one of the best jobs on campus. I send students all over the world, and give them out of classroom experience for a few weeks to a year.

Q. Which is your favorite place to go and why?
A. One of the most unique places I’ve traveled is Turkey. We traveled a lot through very different parts, through the interior of Istanbul to rural villages. Through one country you get to see poverty and a developing country, and how privy we are. Also, you get to see the highly advanced Istanbul and all the unique history.

Q. Where would you like to travel to?
A. Iceland. I actually studied Scandinavian culture a lot in college. Also, Viking mythology has always interested me.

Q. How did you get involved in this program?
A. I studied abroad in college; it was the highlight of my college career. It was such a transformational type of experience that I had to share with others.

Q. Have any experiences through this program shaped your outlook on life?
A. I’m from a small rural town from West Virginia. I barely left the state before college. I learned what it means to be a global citizen, realizing there is a world outside the state and country. It made me much more independent, take more chances, and gave me the courage to do more than I would have thought of.

For more information about study abroad, students can attend open seminars every Tuesday at 4 p.m. and Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the International Center, room 101.

Music Review

Judas Priest: "Screaming for Vengeance"

BY JOSH CHAFFIN | Staff Reporter

Music is a very powerful thing; it is something that defines us not only as individuals, but as a generation. Why do we judge others? Perhaps because we are afraid of difference or maybe because we are too lazy to see the real person we judge. I’m no saint by any means; I admit I judge others quite often - sometimes I do it without even thinking.

I am writing this because I do not enjoy being judged for liking rock ‘n’ roll. Just because I listen to the genre does not mean I follow the stereotypical lifestyle given to the musicians who create the music.

That being said, this week I decided to review a rock classic, "Screaming For Vengeance," by Judas Priest, from 1982. This is my favorite album by Judas Priest, second only to "British Steel." The album starts off with track 1, titled "The Hellion," which, though short (only 42 seconds), is the absolute perfect introduction to my favorite track on the album, "Electric Eye."

I have to say, I am probably one of the most dangerous drivers out there when I am listening to some good rock. Watching the road turns into looking for who I am targeting my "inner rock god" towards, and holding onto my steering wheel turns into the masterfully-executed air guitar solo. This album definitely turns me into a driving menace.

Beyond the first two tracks, the rest of this album shines with tracks "(Take These) Chains" and "You’ve Got Another Thing Coming."

I think the largest appeal for this album, besides that it is a rock classic, is that I learned how to play air guitar with my teeth while listening to it. If you have never seen someone play a guitar solo with their teeth, let me tell you, it is epic. But playing an air guitar solo with your teeth, while driving, takes the word "epic" far beyond the limits of language, or even interpretive dance for that matter.

Check out "Screaming For Vengeance" by Judas Priest. It’s a rock masterpiece that showcases great music and is a potential muse for even the most uncreative, quiet person you can imagine.

Music Review

Judas Priest: "Screaming for Vengeance"
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Come join the College Bound team working with high school students during the residential summer school program at Big Bend Community College, Moses Lake, WA from June 13 - July 31, 2010. (Must be available for the entire term of the summer program.)

Available positions are:

1. Resident Hall Director for $3,960
   (requires a Bachelor's degree & supervisory experience)
2. Residence Hall Coordinator for $3,520
   (requires three years of college)
3. Resident Advisors for $3,010
   (requires 2 years of college after high school)

Room & Board and insurance provided.
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The Exceptional Brew
Harp Lager: Irish goodness!

BY DAVID GUZMAN | Scene Editor

On March 17, many of us will find a great excuse to not only celebrate the love of all things alcoholic, but also have a chance to try some great new beer perchance they haven’t tried before.

While the obvious choice for those celebrating St. Patrick’s Day is everyone’s favorite big black beer, Guinness, I invite you to give another Irish-born brew a go: Harp Lager, from the Great Northern Brewery, Dundalk, in Ireland.

Here is a lager that tastes good. I’m not used to them tasting like anything! I’m impressed - a lager that doesn’t require a slice of citrus or tomato juice or clam anuses or anything. (And by the way, clams really do have anuses. Google it. You can be certain that everything you read here has been thoroughly researched.)

Harp is officially my new go-to warm weather lager, when I’m not necessarily in the mood for anything complex but I want my beer to taste like something. This is the PERFECT brew for the beer virgin (‘beer virgin’ in my vernacular).

Harp is amazingly crisp - and the taste is both substantial yet never overpowering. I can pick up a serious grassiness, but a tinge of honeylike sweetness at the end, to keep you from feeling overly bovine. It’s all balanced by carbonation that does a great deal to help the crispiness of this beer without being overly fizzy and belch-inducing (a problem I have with many lagers).

Keep reading! Read the rest online at: exceptionalbrew.blogspot.com

and keep reading!

WILDCAT SHOP

RECYLE YOUR BOOKS & GET CASH

WILDCAT SHOP
CWU Sub/Rec Center
MARCH 10 - 19, 2010

Wed. 3/10 - Fri 3/12: 8AM - 6PM
Sat. 3/13: 10AM - 5PM
Mon. 3/15 - Thurs. 3/18: 8AM - 6PM
Fri. 3/19: 8AM - 4PM
NCAA First Round Playoffs
Central vs Western
Friday, Mar. 12 - 7:30 PM
Bellingham, WA

After losing at home last Thursday night to Montana State Billings (MSUB) 92-85, it appeared Central would be knocked out of the playoffs with just one game remaining in the regular season.

However, after a thrilling 78-70 overtime win on senior night against St. Martin's University (SMU), and a little help from Northwest Nazarene University, Central is headed back to the NCAA tournament in 2010.

"There's nothing better than to have an overtime win on senior night for me," senior forward Noble'D Shelton said. "Noble'D played great tonight in front of the fans."

The Wildcats finished the season with a record of 10-6 in the Greater Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC), and 16-10 overall. This will mark the third consecutive appearance in the NCAA Division II tournament for Head Coach Greg Sparling, and his fourth in the last five years.

As the eighth seed in the tournament, Central will take on rival Western Washington University (WWU) on Saturday at 11 a.m. in Bellingham, WA.

The Wildcats swept the Yellowjackets this year, beating Central both times they played in the regular season.

On Thursday, Central had trouble against SMU getting the ball inside to the post. The Yellowjackets played a packed in zone defense all night, forcing the Wildcats to shoot primarily from the perimeter. Although Central took a 35-33 lead heading into halftime, Montana State continued to pack in their zone defense, denying the Wildcats to beat them on 12-20 shooting from the perimeter.

"It felt like family, it felt like I belonged. I love it here at Central."

Noble'D Shelton Senior Guard

Without sharp-shooting junior guard Humberto Perez, Central struggled from the three-point line, connecting on just 12-36 attempts from long range. Junior center Chris Sprinker and sophomores forward Roby Clyde combined for just 9 total shot attempts and 17 points, as Central was outscored in the paint 34-26.

Junior shooting guard JC Cook attempted a school record 19 three-pointers connecting on 7 of them and scoring 23 points.

Central was hit hard by the backcourt of MSUB, as guards DeVell Jackson and DeAndre Chambers combined for a staggering 60 points for the Yellowjackets.

"My parents were here; it was senior night, and we had to win this game to get into the tournament," Shelton said. "There was a lot of things on the line. Everything just worked out perfect for me tonight!"

Neither team could pull away down the stretch, and the Wildcats led 69-66 with just 24 seconds remaining in regulation. St. Martin's had one last possession to try and force overtime. As the clock was ticking down, SMU's Galen Squiers made a three-pointer and was fouled on the play.

Now tied at 69, Squiers had an opportunity to sink a free throw and win the game, effectively ending the Wildcats' season. As the crowd rose to their feet and began screaming, Squiers' free throw rimmed off the hoop.

After dodging a last second bullet, Central went into overtime focused on not letting this game slip away. Junior guard Toussaint Tyler scored 6 of his 11 points in overtime, helping seal the victory for the Wildcats. SMU was only able to score 1 point after regulation, giving CWU a 78-70 victory.

"We got a great group of guys," said senior point guard Jon Clift. "We enjoy being around each other, we love being out together."

Shelton scored 11 points and handed out 3 assists in 15 minutes of action. Despite limited playing time this year, Shelton made several key plays in a game that Central needed to clinch a playoff berth.

Clift led the Wildcats with 15 points, while Sprinker totaled 12 points, 14 rebounds, and 3 blocks. Senior forward Riley Swik had a perfect 4-4 from the floor with 9 points, and sophomore forward Roby Clyde had 2 points, 11 rebounds, and 4 blocks for the Wildcats.

"This is the most fun I've ever had on a team," Shelton said. "The coaches are great, I can talk to them about anything. It felt like family, it felt like I belonged. I love it here at Central."

OVERTIME VICTORY (left) Junior center Chris Sprinker (5) caps off an overtime win against St. Martin's with a dunk at the buzzer.

(right) Senior guard Noble'D Shelton flies to the hoop in an overtime victory.
With his deadly jump shot and dynamic scoring ability, JC Cook has the Wildcats back in the NCAA playoffs in 2010

JC Cook is a talented athlete. He is a basketball player who can do things on the court that many will never be able to do. He has been blessed with a gift. With that gift, Cook has come to Central Washington University to help lead the Wildcats men’s basketball team to a 10-6 record this season, earning a playoff berth in the NCAA Division II playoffs his first year at Central.

After losing six of their top seven scorers from last year, Central needed to recruit someone to fill that void and put points on the board. Enter stage right, shooting guard JC Cook.

Through 26 regular season games this season, Cook is leading the Wildcats in scoring at 14.7 points per game. A transfer from Clackamas Community College (CCC), Cook has stepped in seamlessly his first year at Central. His deadly jump shot and remarkable scoring ability have been exactly what the Wildcats needed heading into the 2010 season.

"I played against him in junior college and was pretty impressed," said senior point guard Jon Clift. "I knew he was a great player [and] was excited for him to come play with us."

But with all the success Cook had earned for himself as well as his new school, there was once a time when all of it sounded like a dream. Rewind to the summer of 2006. A four-year varsity letterman at Canby High School, Cook received countless offers from Division I and II schools. Cook ultimately committed to play basketball at Western Oregon University (WOU) on scholarship. As the summer came to an end, the nightmare began.

In a pick-up game in late August, Cook broke his ankle just weeks before the college season began. Not wanting to tell his coaches about the injury, Cook decided to bare the pain and keep on playing. Two days before their first game in November, Cook suffered the same ankle, making the injury even worse.

Cook’s first college basketball season was over before it had even begun. The next six months proved to be one of the most difficult times in his young career. Cook needed surgery to repair the damage to his ankle. Two screws and four pins later, Cook awoke from surgery with a cast up to his knee. It would be four months before the cast could be removed. With so many questions of how, or even if he would be able to return to basketball, Cook's basketball career was in jeopardy.

The doctors were saying how bad it was and didn’t know how long the recovery would be. After a couple weeks I was just miserable," Cook said. "Once it got off I could barely walk and I was just like ‘Am I going to be able to play again? Am I going to be able to run, jump?’"

Cook had some decisions to make. After working so hard in high school to get where he was, it would be a challenge to come back from such a serious injury. Not only would it be difficult to return physically, but also mentally.

With the next four months in a cast, and another two months in a walking boot, Cook would have to wait six months before even being able to jog.

"That whole eight to ten months I was thinking, ‘what am I going to do with myself?’" Cook said. "Mentally it was the toughest. I knew I could work myself back into shape, but mentally it was hard because of all these questions, I was definitely doubting it for a while."

However, Cook had worked too hard, and was too talented to let this injury keep him away from the game. Not liking where WOU's program was heading, he decided to transfer to Clackamas Community College. The move proved to be the right decision.

With a summer of hard work, dedication, and persistence, Cook ended up averaging 21.7 points a game his first year at CCC. The next year, he averaged 19.4 points with 5.8 assists while leading his team to the league championship, and earning Southern Region MVP in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAC) conference.

Cook was back to the player he once was, and the recruiters came calling. After mulling over several offers from various Division I and Division II schools, Cook decided Central would be the best fit. Head Coach Greg Sparling recruited Cook for his scoring ability, and he has lived up to the hype.

"He’s a kid that’s made big shots his whole career," Sparling said. "He was fortunate to get him."

As part of a revamped line-up, Cook has brought his sweet shooting stroke to Central. The Wildcats were counting on Cook to help lead them back to the playoffs, and so far he has not disappointed. Although a mid-season knee injury cost him a few games, Cook’s return has come back strong down the stretch, earning GNAC Newcomer of the Year Award. Central has been a surprise to many this year, finishing third in the GNAC conference.

GWU will take on Western Washington this Friday in the first round of NCAA playoffs. With Cook and the rest of the Wildcats, Central is poised to make another run in 2010.
The Lady Wildcats went 1 for 2 in back-to-back home games to cap off their season. They were unable to defeat St. Martin's last Thursday, but finished strong with a win against Montana State Billings (MSUB). St. Martin's started off strong, scoring first and keeping the lead for the first eight minutes of the game. Central stayed close and eventually took the lead with a jumper by freshman center Stacy Albrecht with 12:03 left in the half. Strong defense by the Wildcats helped to keep the game close as the two teams battled back and forth for the lead. Central trailed by just three at the half, 31-34. The Wildcats came out energized and ready to play in the second half. Central put up points early in the half as the two teams continued to fight for the lead. Senior guard Brooke Fernandez hit a three-pointer with 7:55 remaining to give the Wildcats the lead, unfortunately that would be Central's last lead of the game.

St. Martin's went on a run and slowly started to pull away to defeat Central by a final score of 64-76. Senior forward Sara Bergner led the team in scoring with 16 points while the lead, unfortunately that would be Central's last lead of the game. Afoa said. "Even though it is some­what about us, it's not just about us. It's about our parents and our coach­es who have brought us up to this point." A rough season was forgotten for one night as the team reflected on what was really important.

"I just think that it is really great to go out with a win," Bergner said.

Lacrosse takes 2-0 start to season

The Central Washington men's lacrosse team invites all students, faculty and community members to join the excitement and cheer for the Wildcats this weekend at Central's Community Field.

After finishing with a disappoint­ing record of 2-7 in NCAA Division II play, Central is off to a strong start in 2010, going 2-0 in league play. At 1:08 p.m. on Saturday, Wash­ington State University will come to Ellensburg, followed by the College of Idaho at noon on Sunday.

According to Earl Gerlach, a double major in Geography and An­thropology and Vice President of the team, this sport has something to of­fer everyone.

"Lacrosse mixes the physicality of football, endurance of soccer, and the skill of basketball. All around it encompasses every thing about ath­letics," Gerlach said.

Second year head coach and for­mer lacrosse standout Chris Johnson explained that in NCAA Division II men's lacrosse, players are ranked by points and goals per game. One point is earned with either a goal or an assist. At the end of the game the team with the most goals is victori­ous.

"Lacrosse is scored a lot like soc­cer or hockey in this regard" Coach Johnson said.

Co-captain Jake Mehli is current­ly ranked no. 1 in points per game among Division II, averaging 4.50. Bowen Hadley is ranked no. 1 in goals per game among Division II, averaging 4.25.

Coach Johnson, also a volunteer for the Economic Development Committee for the Downtown Asso­ciation, is excited by the addition of freshman goalie Dan Bresneler, who has helped solidify the team's defense. Senior exercise science major and team president Kellen Gallacher has tasted the rewards of success in this sport. He was a member of the Bothell High School men's lacrosse state championship team, and was also a part of the 2008 CWU men's lacrosse team that made the playoffs for the first time in school history.

"Kellen is the heart and soul of the defense" Coach Johnson said.

Gallacher's goal this season is to continue to reinstall the winning traditions of CWU men's lacrosse team. "This year we have a lot of young talent showing definite strides of im­provement" Gallacher said.

Gerlach had no lacrosse experi­ence prior to trying out for the CWU squad, proving that hard work and dedication is the key to this sport.

"First year, you will learn a lot, al­though you may not play a lot, but sticking with it really pays off," Ger­lach said.

CWU students who are interested in becoming a part of the lacrosse action are encouraged to come to team practices from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday at Central's Community Field, or contact club president Kellen Gallacher via CWU intranet at gallacherk@cwu.edu.
The first out of four women's softball games at home against St. Martin's, the Wildcats turned out to be in favor for the Wildcats. Although both teams did not score for the first three innings, that soon changed when Central scored 3 runs on 1 hit giving them a 3-0 lead.

Junior third baseman Kelsey Haupert hit a home run to center field, bringing those who were on base home and putting 3 runs on the board. Central held St. Martin's to only 1 run throughout the game, giving the Wildcats a 3-1 victory.

"We're doing a lot better," junior shortstop Samantha Petrich said. "We've scored a lot more runs the last few games. Our hitting has been amazing."

St. Martin's started off the second game of the day with a 5-0 lead, with a home run by Kelsey McGladney. Central answered right back, after senior outfielder Danielle Monson hit a triple to right center and junior outfielder Keilani Cruz was able to score, closing the gap to 2 runs.

After that, each team played very strong defense, and the innings went by with neither team scoring. After a few good hits by St. Martin's in the fifth inning, they were able to add another run, giving them a 3-run lead over the Wildcats.

What started off as a very strong inning for the Wildcats turned out to be displacing. Petrich walked, followed by a double to right center by Haupert, bringing Petrich home. With well executed defense by St. Martin's, Central was unable to deliver, leaving them with a 4-2 loss.

"I think we're being more consistent right now," Haupert said. "We need to keep on doing what we're doing, stringing our hits together." senior left fielder Ashley Fix said.

Victory went to the Wildcats for both the remaining games on March 7. For game three, the fifth inning was the most vital for the Wildcats as they scored 6 runs. Best hit of the game goes to Haupert, who hit her second home run of the series to center field, bringing two on base home and scoring half of the runs for the inning. Wildcats took the win, 8-0.

As for the final game of the series, Central finished with a 10-5 win. The Wildcats scored 5 runs in the third inning, followed by a fifth inning with three runs.

"I thought it was great we were down 5-0 and came back," Haupert said. "A lot of teams might have given up."

Central moves up in standings, now 6-4 on the season and 6-2 in the Greater Northwest Athletic Conference will bring it to Western Washington University on March 13 and 14, in Bellingham, WA.

The Wildcat's baseball team were on the road as they faced Lewis-Clark State this last weekend. Central started the game creatively with a run by junior outfielder Chance Plutt to reach first base.

When the game was under way it slowed down and remained scoreless until the bottom of the fourth, when the Warriors were able to break the silence and put 6 runs on the board.

Central did not answer back until the sixth inning and were able to gain back just 2 runs.

The bats stayed silent again until the top of the ninth inning when the Wildcats rallied to gain 2 more runs, bringing the score to 6-4. Central was unable to seal the deal and lost the first game of the weekend.

In the second game, the Wildcats suffered their eighth straight loss against Lewis-Clark, as their opponent claimed their 13th straight win when they beat the Wildcats 3-1.

Leading the Wildcats with two hits each was senior catcher Jake Hammons and junior first baseman Kris Henderson. Hammons helped the Wildcats get the first score of the game in the top of the third inning, after hitting a double play that brought home junior second baseman Keola Rubin.

"Our pitching and defense was some of the best its been all year," Henderson said. "We played solid in the field. I think if we play like we are capable of we have a good shot of winning league." Lewis-Clark State quickly tied the game up with a run in the bottom of the third inning. In the bottom of the fifth inning, the Warriors scored the runs total of the game. Brian Burke of the Warriors hit a two-run home run.

Although the Wildcats did not score again, they had a hit in four of the last five innings. With outs stringed back-to-back against the Wildcats it kept them from getting back into the game.

Pitching for the Wild­cats was right-handed ju­nior Palmer Brown. He had four strike outs and no walks. However, the game winning hit from Burke was surrendered from Brown.

"We need to work on defense and hitting in the clutch when guys are on base," Hammons said.

Central begins Greater Northwest Ath­letic Conference series play this Friday at noon against Northwest Nazarene. A sec­ond game will be played the next day at noon. Both games will be at home played at the CWU baseball field. This is the perfect opportunity to cheer on the Wildcat's and help break the losing streak.

"Our team is excited to start playing league [games]," Hammons said. "We start off with a clean record so we are pumped to go in and dominate."
The Central Washington men's rugby team, ranked No. 3 in the nation, defeated the University of Washington Huskies 41-10 last Saturday, completing a second straight undefeated season in the Pacific Northwest Collegiate Division I. The Wildcats, winning their 22nd straight league game, set the pace early in the first half, outscoring the Huskies 29-3.

Team president Aaron Lee explained that gaining the momentum early is key to the success of the team.

Roughly 200 fans were there to cheer the team on. Team captain Nick Nelson led the squad in cheer, to show the team's gratitude toward the Wildcat fans that came out to support the team.

On March 25, the Wildcats will travel to British Columbia to compete against the University of California in a non-league game.

With an overall record of 11-1-8-0 in league play, Lee explained that the ride to the top was not an easy one, requiring personal dedication from every player and coach.

"We have a really solid team base. Everyone stands out," Lee said.

Coach Bob Ford, in his eighth year as the Wildcats rugby coach, is excited about the squad's mixture of youth and experience. The Wildcat roster is equipped with 15 freshmen this season, adding energy and competitive spirit to the team.

"As that demographic change, we've become much more competitive," Coach Ford said. "We've getting players who are more advanced. We've been able to up scale our players giving more challenging systems. It's been a huge advantage."

Winning the league has given the Wildcats home field advantage for the playoffs, April 2-3. The team will host their games at the Nicholson Rugby Pitch next to Tomlinson Field, with their opponent yet to be determined.
## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Baseball
- Sat. VS Northwest Nazarene (DH)
  Ellensburg, WA Noon
- Sun. VS Northwest Nazarene (DH)
  Ellensburg, WA Noon
- 3/20 @ Saint Martin’s (DH)
  Lacey, WA 1:00 p.m.
- 3/21 @ Saint Martin’s (DH)
  Lacey, WA Noon

### Men’s Basketball
**NCAA First Round Playoffs:**
- Central vs. Western
  Friday, March 12 - 7:30 PM
  Sam Carver Gymnasium
  Bellingham, WA

### Softball
- Sat. @ Western Washington (DH)
  Bellingham, WA 1:00 p.m.
- Sun. @ Western Washington (DH)
  Bellingham, WA Noon
- 3/20 VS MSU Billings (DH)
  Ellensburg, WA Noon
- 3/21 VS MSU Billings (DH)
  Ellensburg, WA 11 a.m.

### Track and Field
- 3/12-13 NCAA Division II National Indoor Championship - Albuquerque, NM
- 3/13 Joe Peyton Invitational - Tacoma, WA
- 3/20 Oregon Preview - Eugene, OR

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