With budget cuts and double-digit percent tuition increases looming, Central is preparing an administrative fee that would pull funds from self-support accounts, such as dining and housing, and auxiliary services, such as the Wildcat Shop and parking services, to help pay for a variety of "core" services.

"It's being implemented because none of the bills proposed during the current legislative session has the tuition increases making up for the budget cuts," said George Clark, Central's chief financial officer and vice president of business and financial affairs.

The new areas being charged don't pay for all of these core services, Clark said. "It's just a pro-rated model where they pay their fair share," he said.

Clark said that the money taken from these accounts will help pay for a multitude of items, such as police, facilities, fire protection, human resources, and Information Technology Services. Central is considering implementing the plan this year.

The fee would be based on salary and benefits, Clark said.

"So as you add staff or [lose] staff your allocation would change," Clark said.

For example, under the proposed model, the Wildcat Shop would pay $319,700, said Ed Day, assistant vice president for financial affairs.

Each area would pay a fee proportionate to the percentage of revenue it brings in, Day said. Clark and Day stressed that everyone would pay their share; even the Chimpousim would be hit for $399.

"So we haven't exempted anyone up to this point," Day said.

Because lawmakers won't finalize the state budget until April 24, Central is preparing different budget-cut scenarios.

"We've asked all the AVPs [assistant vice presidents] and deans to prepare budget-cut scenarios at 6, 8, and 11 percent of their budget," Clark said. "And we have all those scenarios in play at this point in time, but we're just waiting for everything to finalize." Clark expects the new budget plan to cut Central's state funding between 25 and 33 percent over the next two years.

To help offset those cuts, Clark said he expects a tuition increase between 9 and 14 percent, a 3 percent cut in wages and a cut in pensions of about $2.5 million.

"It's pretty variable. Nothing's concrete. We're waiting for everything to firm up during the month of April," Clark said. "Hopefully, we'll get closure very soon."

Central is currently funded by about 60 percent tuition and about 40 percent state funding. With another budget cut, those percentages are likely to shift closer to 70 percent tuition and 30 percent state funding, Day said.

The Services and Activities Fee Committee, which funds services and centers all over campus, would have to pay $600,000, Day said. The committee is looking into different ways to pay for it.

Day said the committee could simply absorb the fee and wait until next year, or they will have to increase supplemental funds; they could absorb the fee by decreasing base funding; or pass the fee down to those who receive S&AF funding, on the table is increasing the S&AF fee for students. They could also be a mixture of all options, Day said.

Mission trip brings hope to Tijuana
Twenty-four members of Catholic Campus Ministry build home for family in Mexico

BY SHONTARA ANDERSON
Staff Reporter

With the stigma of Mexico being a very unsafe country right now, the Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) returned from their spring break mission trip to Tijuana safe and enlightened.

A group of 24 students chose to volunteer as an alternative to drinking, partying, Vegas and Cancun spring break vacations.

They took the opportunity to help those in greater need than themselves.

The trip carried scare people away from visiting this country, and this mission to Mexico was the first time some of these students had even been out of the country. Despite stereotypes, no one in the group felt endangered on the trip.

The differences in culture didn't matter, because everyone was working towards a common goal," Willmar said.

The group had nightly reflections on their day, and many students shared experiences about culture, poverty and being American.

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Staff Reporter

On March 20, Central Washington University’s private first class Russell Whiteley became our state’s “soldier of the year” by taking top honors at the Washington National Guard’s annual Best Warrior competition.

Whiteley’s essay stressed weapon certification, physical and mental preparedness and soldiers’ proficiency within their military occupational specialty.

“It’s the Best Warrior competition is an opportunity for officers to challenge themselves, their skills and abilities,” said Captain Dale Wright of Central’s Army ROTC.

Held at Tacoma’s Camp Murray, the three-day competition counted down to eight events. Of these events, Whitley won three, the physical fitness test, the obstacle course and the armored combat tournament.

“It takes a lot of dedication and heart to accomplish this feat,” Wright said. “They put in an insurmountable amount of personal time to prepare themselves for this competition. To come out on top is truly an achievement.”

Upon arriving at the competition, all participants submitted a 500-word essay on how they would improve readiness for the state’s National Guard.

“Whiteley’s essay stressed weapon certifications, physical and mental preparedness and soldiers’ proficiency within their military occupational specialty,” Wright said.

The next day, Whitley woke up at 4 a.m. for the physical fitness test. This standard army test includes two miles of running, two minutes of pushups, then two minutes of sit-ups.

Out of a possible 300 points, Whitley scored 343. “Not a lot of people get a 300, let alone a 343,” Wright said. “In 15 years of being in the military, I have never known anybody to score that high.”

Following the physical fitness test, the competition moved to squad training exercises. This entire event was made up of seven or eight mini-events that tested the soldiers’ general tactical combat skills. This included things such as employing a hand grenade, evaluating and assessing a casualty and searching a vehicle for improvised explosive devices.

The final event of the day was the land navigation course. “It was horrific,” Whitley said. “I had to tromp through a swamp in the rain for over an hour.”

Designed by the 19th Special Forces group out of the Washington National Guard, the four-hour challenge tested the soldiers’ ability to reach multiple coordinates while navigating through rough terrain.

“One guy got lost and ended up staying out extra long and it had started to get dark,” Whitley said. “Another guy tripped over a log and dislocated his hip.”

With the start of the third day came the weapons qualification for the M16A2. This challenge began with zeroing out the sights of the weapon to make sure it was accurate. Once the sights were zeroed, Whiteley moved to a 40-target challenge with targets popping up randomly at distances ranging from 50 to 300 meters.

The next event that day was the obstacle course. “I beat the next fastest guy by a minute,” Whitley said.

The unarmed combat event came next. Including nine other competitors, this challenge was set up in a tournament style bracket.

“Tremendous athletes, each out of three of my challengers and that was enough for me to land first place in the event,” Whitley said.

Before leaving, Whitley faced an oral board of five members of the state command sergeant major.

“Here I had to present myself through knowledge and military bearing,” Whitley said.

After the oral board, came the award ceremony where Whiteley was awarded “soldier of the year” and received a trophy. In addition to the trophy and title, Whiteley received recognition and a coin from each brigade in the state.

“As he approaches his next big promotion, the rank of sergeant, this achievement will work in his favor,” Wright said.

“This brings a lot of good publicity to his unit, the 286th Engineer Company and Central’s Army ROTC program.”

Staff Reporter

In today’s fast-paced world we are more plugged in than any generation before. Unfortunately, poor network is no exception. Rarely, Central made the Blackboard program available to IPad, iPod touch, iPhone, Palm Treo, BlackBerry and Palm smart phones via the Blackboard Mobile Learn platform.

Created by Blackboard and its subsidiary, Tegrity, clever Design LLC, the smartphone app allows both students and professors to access Blackboard with their cell providers’ 3G or 4G network to see grades, updates and announcements for their classes. Although it sounds like the usual cup of tea, the Blackboard Mobile app brings a few new tricks to the table. The entire app is split into two main applications: Central and Learn.

Blackboard Mobile Learn has the usual Blackboard uses such as checking announcements and that we all know and love.

Blackboard Mobile Central is designed for students, faculty and alumni access to vital information of things on campus like sports scores, campus news and campus events. If all that isn’t enough, the app also includes an interactive map to help you get where you need to go.

Even though the idea of seeing their grades at any time might make some students cringe, some tech-savvy students on campus love the idea being plugged in.

“It sounds like a good idea,” said Ryan Aspin, junior geography major. “With Blackboard access on a phone, I can check my grades easily and quickly.”

“My Blackboard is completely messed up. According to Blackboard I’m enrolled in four English classes even though I’m only signed up in two geography classes.”

Tiffany Aspin

“I put in an insurmountable amount of personal time to prepare themselves for this competition. To come out on top is truly an achievement.”

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Malalai Joya shares her experiences in Afghanistan

BRAVEST WOMAN IN THE ROOM

Joya addressed a crowd in Australia in April 2007.

Rock Against Rape

Annual event brings awareness to Central

The event, sponsored by S.A.F.E., the Wellness Center, HEART and Dining Services, is free and takes place on April 25 from 5-9 p.m. in the SURC Ballroom.

CWU looks to the future

Last call for suggestions to strategic plan

BY NICHOL WILLIAMSON

Staff Reporter

This is the last week to submit feedback on the CWU Strategic Plan before the finalization process begins.

“We’ve pulled together a steering committee that was representative of the entire campus, including students,” Pellet said.

The task force gathered information through campus-wide surveys, forums in the community and on campus. From that, the task force crafted the draft focusing on prominent themes.

Pellet hopes that the task force will be able to condense the document to only a few key points, which is something that community members are unified in.

“In my estimation, a plan that has fewer goals has a better chance of success in the long term,” said Beverly Heckart, community member and former university professor.

Heckart says she participated in the campus open forum on the first CWU Strategic Plan back in the late sixties.

“We had butcher paper we put all our ideas on,” Heckart said.

The task force held a public forum at the Hal Holmes center on Monday night to gather community feedback. Only a handful of community members attended.

One of the key elements in the strategic plan is civic engagement and community involvement.

Community members were also represented, including former Board Trustee Miller, who hopes to see more interaction between the university and the town. He said he thinks bringing more students to the downtown area during the day would help reduce the number of criminal cases.

“Those bands approached us. It was perfect timing,” Folk said.

“There’s also ‘These Hands Don’t Hurt.’ You put your hand in paint and on butcher paper and sign next to it. You’re making a promise that you won’t use your hands to create violence,” Folk said. “Walk the Walk” is one example. At a booth where students are given a situation and learn what decisions they can make.

“You may be given that situation that you’ve been sexually assaulted. You can choose to file a police report or press charges, for instance,” McWain said.

Other activities are less serious while still interactive.

“Call to Action Art professor Keith Lewis addresses the crowd on Tuesday.

According to Joya, the Obama administration is not going to bring forth change in the Middle East. Joya found her way to Washington through a group called Peace Action of Washington as well. Throughout the night, there will be stations where students can learn more about sexual assault, how to prevent it and what to do if it happens.

Walking the Walk is one example. At a booth where students are given a situation and learn what decisions they can make.

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Letters to the Editor

I really appreciated the Editor-in-Chief’s opinion about laptops in the April 7th issue. I feel that I learn better with a laptop and therefore use it in all of my classes. This quarter was the first quarter that a professor was blatantly opposed to using a laptop. He was openly annoyed at me for having my computer and accused me of playing games instead of paying attention. After showing him my extensive and detailed notes, he allowed me to bring my computer to class. I was baffled at his problem with my computer because while I was frantically trying to stay organized, other in class were zoned out or texting. I agree that as long as a student is not disturbing others, he/she should be allowed to use whatever educational tools are necessary for him/her to get the full value of the education offered.

Kiley Baker
Senior sociology major

We win awards, and stuff

Observer staffers take home five awards

Every now and then, bragging about your committee’s awesomeness is in order. That’s certainly the case this week.

Last month at the Associated Collegiate Press national convention in Los Angeles, The Observer took home third place in general excellence for four-year non-daily newspapers. Here, we competed against dozens of papers from around the nation. Finally, graphic designer Jackie Johanson had one of her covers selected for Central’s student art exhibition this quarter.

At this weekend’s SPJ conference, Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Tom Hallman of The Oregonian, summed up awards quite well: “They’re addicting.” Awards are simply affirmation for what we already believe: We’re doing the best journalism we can. All of us at The Observer are students. Some have been writing for years, others are having their first story ever published in this issue.

I’m extremely proud of everyone on The Observer staff and the work they have been doing. There is always room to improve, and we plan to.

Continue to expect the same quality from us. We want to continue to win the positive affirmation from our peers.

Remember, The Observer is by the students and for the students of Central Washington University.

I’m extremely proud of everyone on The Observer staff and the work they have been doing. There is always room to improve, and we plan to.

When I was a child, my affinity for superhero movies was at its peak. I read the comic books, watched the TV shows (early and mid 90’s only) and played with the action figures the whole kit and caboodle. Now that I’m all grown up, my superhero practices have adjusted. I still read comic books, but now there is a new addition to the superhero entertainment pool: Movies.

I remember the day I saw the first “Spider-Man” trailer. I was 13 years old and was just about to go to bed, I don’t think I slept that night at all because I was so excited.

Superhero movies have a bad reputation. There are very few people who actually like them. Some people accuse them of being cash cows, and they are probably right. In fact, I think that most superhero movies are made because they will make the studio tons of revenue. I personally enjoy most of the superhero movies regardless, but some have been very disappointing (“Daredevil,” “Spider-Man 3,” “The Hulk”).

The trick to making a good superhero movie is to appeal to comic fanatics and non-comic fanatics. They did a fine job of pulling this off with both “The Dark Knight” and “Iron Man.”

This summer there are four movies that I’m looking forward to: “Thor,” “X-Men: First Class,” “Green Lantern” and “Captain America: The First Avenger.”

Looking at this list, I am most excited for the Captain America movie. The only thing that raises any concern is that Chris Evans is playing Captain America. If you don’t know him by name, Evans is the guy who played the Human Torch in the “Fantastic Four” films. He frequently plays the comic relief in his films and doesn’t seem to be a leading role type of actor. He has big boots to fill if he is going to succeed at playing Captain America.

There are also a few superhero films that are currently set to release next year, including “The Amazing Spider-Man,” an apparent “Reboot” of the franchise. Andrew Garfield, known best for his role as Eduardo in “The Social Network” will play Peter Parker/Spider-Man in this sequel.

Spider-Man is and will always be my favorite superhero, so I am excited as well as concerned. I’m worried that my expectations of the film will be over hyped like they were for Spider-Man 3.

I’m excited because of how awful the third Spider-Man movie was. I’m glad they are trying to sweep that mistake under the rug. I’m hopeful that this movie will redeem the Spider-Man movie franchise.

“Kick-ass” expectations

A superhero movie breakthrough for this summer

Non-superhero movies are not the only movies that are out this summer. There are a lot of other movies worth seeing.

I’m excited about all of the superhero movies but I am most excited for “Captain America: The First Avenger.”

“Superhero movies have a bad reputation. There are very few people who actually like them. Some people accuse them of being cash cows, and they are probably right.”

Luke LaSalle
Copy Desk

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Correction

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Nicole Swapp
Copy Desk

Editor-in-Chief

By Anthony James

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Habitat for Humanity volunteers build new home for mom and daughter in Kittitas

BY LOREN BAYLES
Staff Reporter

On Saturday morning, more than a dozen volunteers met at the site of the Kittitas County Habitat for Humanity’s (KCHH) latest project.

The 900-square-foot, two-bedroom house being built in Kittitas for single mother Dixielee Rasmussen, 51, and her 13-year-old daughter Sophia, was rapidly nearing completion. Though the flooring had yet to be laid and some cabinets and doors still sat in corners waiting to be hung, the house had already been framed, roofed, dry walled and partially painted.

Rasmussen, a recovering addict, said she turned her life around after Sophia said to her on numerous occasions, “Mommy I want to go to church.” She started attending Calvary Baptist Church and shortly after got involved with Habitat.

She went back to school at Central in 2008 to get her teaching certificate and now works as a substitute teacher in order to pay the bills and put her daughter through school at Ellensburg Christian School (ECS). Sophia excels at ECS. Rasmussen said she was recently awarded the Margaret Fitterer Scholarship for Love of Literature.

Rasmussen expressed both surprise and excitement after Central students’ involvement with the project grew. “Every homeowner plans their own dedication,” Rasmussen said. “I’m going to have a big family podium.”

As volunteers walked up the makeshift plywood ramp through the front door and out of the cold, Affiliate Coordinator Sherri Ott passed out the necessary waivers and Rasmussen made sure everyone got a hot cup of coffee donated by the 10th Street Starbucks in Ellensburg.

Some of the volunteers were veterans of the program, such as 75-year-old Tom Lyon, who has worked on the last eight of 10 Habitat houses built in the county since 1993, and has never missed a Saturday.

Daria Klyuchko, junior construction management major, has been coming to work on the house for the past three months and said she remembers it “when it was just a frame.”

Others, including a handful of Central students, such as Ben Puryear, Malissa Hernandez and Jack Gold, were volunteering for the first time.

Rasmussen expressed both surprise and excitement after Central students’ involvement with the project grew.

Ott said it was all about the volunteers. She explains that it means a lot to the homeowners when they look around their home and remember that “every nail [was] hammered by someone who gave their time.”

Before putting everyone to work, Ott and Site Supervisor Jeff LaValley described the day’s tasks, which consisted mostly of exterior paint preparation and some landscaping. They also gave the volunteers a brief overview of Habitat operations.

Ott addressed some commonly held misconceptions about the organization, namely the mistake people make in assuming that Habitat gives houses away. She referred to Habitat’s program as “a hand up, not a hand out” and went on to explain some of the responsibilities that the organization requires of homeowners.

According to Ott, Rasmussen, like all Habitat homeowners, makes a down payment on the home and will pay a mortgage that is made affordable by the volunteered labor and the no-interest loan secured by the organization. According to the KCHH website, Rasmussen’s mortgage will now go toward funding further Habitat builds.

Homeowners must also attend 50 hours of classes that address various aspects of responsible homeownership, such as the landscaping class Rasmussen will attend this week. They are also expected to put in 350 hours of work, or “sweat equity” as Ott calls it, not only on their own home, but also on the home built directly before theirs.

Rasmussen, who has been volunteering with Habitat since 2008, has long since put those hours in, but continues to volunteer her time and says she will maintain her involvement with the organization indefinitely. She has already been through the process, which she said has been “a difficult time” for her as she struggles to “represent Habitat in a responsible way.” She said she “would like to mentor other [Habitat] homeowners.”

The Rasmussen’s new home is expected to be dedicated near the end of the month and should be ready for them shortly after. Rasmussen is looking forward to the dedication and celebrating with volunteers, friends and family.
The top 10 a cappella groups were featured on 'The Sing Off,' each performing songs with a unique and never-before-heard sound. The prize was a Sony Music recording contract and $100,000 to be awarded by America's vote. The group didn't really know what to expect heading up to the show. It was a new experience for all of us," he said.

Before the group flew to Los Angeles to tape the show, a producer and a team of people flew to Seattle to film a two-minute video about the group. For two days the group traveled around to various places in Seattle where they would sing and do interviews about themselves.

For Amanda, the interviews were the most frustrating, awkward part of it all. She said they had to stand together while other people in the group were talking about themselves. When they weren't talking, they would stand there and smile creepily at the camera. To make it even better, she said that they were on the beach, facing the sun on the sunniest day she had ever witnessed in Seattle. The group got Siddick for squatting and on the second day, their nerves were all a little frayed.

Fortunately, as a group it's really easy to laugh things off," Amanda said. "Looking back, it's a good memory and it wasn't all bad."

There were many obstacles they faced on the journey leading up to the show. They knew it was going to be arduous and couldn't tell anyone that they were auditioning for the show. Once they made it on the show, they couldn't tell anyone they were on it. The group was only allowed to tell certain people that they were going to be gone, such as family and employers. Even then they didn't know for how long.

"It all worked out in the end," Amanda said. "We were gone for a long time, but I think that was a good thing." Stockman's "I Wish" was the first song that the group performed on 'The Sing Off.' Each member was in their own element when they were performing but somehow they all came together to make the performance flow. Some were snipping and some were humming in the background of their voices singing as one. The stage came alive from all of the energy the groups were giving off. Groove For Thought has a jazzy, pop feel with a pinch of old-time sound.

After their performance, celebrity judges Ben Folds from Ben Folds Five, Sharen Stockman from Boyz II Men and Nicole Scherzinger from The Pussycat Dolls critiqued Groove For Thought. Folds said that their performance "proved very nicely," Scherzinger described their sound as "clean, sweet and warm." Stockman said that it was "really, really sad." Unfortunately, Groove For Thought only made it through three of the five episodes. Although their journey on the show was short, they have many memorable moments that they will take with them forever.

For Horenstein, baring the stage for the taping of episode one in front of a live audience after all of that rehearsing was a real thrill," he said. "And knowing that it would be going out to millions of viewers made it even more exciting."

For Amanda, the very first run through on stage of each episode's opening song, "Music In Me," was her most memorable moment. "It was then that the reality of what we were doing struck me," Amanda said. "I felt so honoured to be singing with the talented groups surrounding me."

As a group, Groove For Thought said they felt as if they were able to stay true to themselves musically and wouldn't change anything about how they competed on 'The Sing Off.'

Tickets are $5 for students and $15 general.
BACK BOOK  THE Lion Rock Visiting Writers Series present Award Winning Author- Marjorie Sandor.

AWARD WINNING AUTHOR PREVIEWS NEW BOOK
BY MARYC EIGER Staff Reporter

Books adored a bare table before entering the theater. In the theater, students and faculty were scattered among the seats in a hushed quiet, anxiously anticipating the speaker to make her way to the podium. Winning the Oregon Book Award for Literary Nonfiction in 2000 and the National Jewish Book Award in Fiction in 2004 along with other awards, Marjorie Sandor has been praised for her distinctive style and understanding of people. She has written four works, "A Night of Music," "The Night Gardener," "Wall Paper," and "A Life Under Construction," which were in fact read by Sandor as part of the Writers Series presentation. She read "What I love about Majorie Sandor's "Wall Paper" was the last passage that Sandor read, which is about her experience of re-decorating her daughter's room and discovering the different layers of wallpaper, bringing back her childhood memories. Sandor then finished her readings to the sound of applause.

"I am so thrilled," Wang said. "I feel very much honored." The second passage Sandor read was "It was a perfect match that there was an opening at Central," she said. When Wang found out that she was going to be receiving this award, she was surprised and really happy about it. "The efforts I have been making are being recognized," Wang said. "I am so thrilled." Wang believes that in order to deserve this award, she needs to continue to make her teaching better to benefit her students in the future. She considers her career at Central long term and winning the "Excellence in Teaching" award is a milestone for her career. Wang has made a strong impact on the Department of Finance and Supply Chain Management (SCM) through her excellence in teaching, her outstanding research and publications and her professional service, according to the chair of the department of finance and SCM, Edward Johnson.

"Fang's students are inspired by her high degree of professionalism, her expertise in the field of finance and her teaching skills," Johnson said. "She is highly respected and appreciated by her students." Grace Ke, assistant professor of finance and SCM said Wang is very consistent, reliable and excellent at handling students and responding to their questions. "Fang is a team player and very educated and knowledgeable," Ke said. Not only does Wang have a successful career, but she is also a successful mother of a five-year-old boy. "I think she sets a good example for a balance of work and family," Ke said. The finance field has always been interesting to Wang because it is complicated and interesting. "For her, finance is very static, it never stops and always keeps developing. Since she was admitted to the PhD program, I think that she is doing exactly what she wanted to do. "I wanted to empower students with knowledge," she said.
Central students go barefoot for a cause

TOMS “One Day Without Shoes” hits campus

BY ADYSSA HOARD
Staff Reporter

The movement begins with taking off your shoes. TOMS One Day Without Shoes is “the day we raise awareness of the impact a pair of shoes can have on a child’s life by taking off our own,” according to their website, TOMS. “Shoes for a Better Tomorrow,” the vastly growing shoe company, has challenged the nation to give up shoes. Central’s own Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) took on the One Day Without Shoes challenge to expand on TOMS ideals and spread the word on campus. Students were spotted shoeless around campus, leaving other students wondering why they had no shoes on.

The importance of being barefoot for one day is “to recognize that millions of children around the world don’t have shoes, so we try to acknowledge their poverty struggles,” said Brett Morrison, senior and ODK major. “We are trying to create change even while wearing an iPod, it’s the least we can show.”

There are such a simple thing and everyone deserves to own at least one pair as a basic human right, I can help change this by giving up shoes, said Jacqueline Runnels, senior elementary education major.

Rurnells, a member of ODK, believes that people need to make a simple act to spread awareness about this issue and it paid off as the day progressed with an organized walk around campus.

“The event turned out really great, we ended up doing a walk around campus, I would say 20 people or more joined in,” said Alyssa Caudill, vice president of ODK. “I think a lot of students our age want to stand for something and I have known about TOMS for a while. It’s a simple way for me to raise awareness on something that is important.” The national organization previously held a Style Your Sole event, where you decorate a pair of TOMS in the fall. They plan to hold one again this spring.

According to the TOMS website, they have created a shoe for their system. For every pair that is purchased, one pair goes to a child in need. This simple concept has given one-million pairs since September to 22 different countries. “Giving is what fuels us.”

“Giving is our future. It’s the core of our business and it’s what we celebrate it,” said Blake Mycoskie, TOMS chief shoe giver and founder, from the online 2010 giving report.

One might be asking why go without shoes when they are trying to sell them? TOMS, as stated from their website, believe the sight of no shoes creates curiosity-generating conversation, which will lead to action and ultimately, change. As children in developing countries have to walk miles to school, get medical help or access clean drinking water, the risk of infection or soil-transmitted diseases are more easily gained without protection of a simple sole. In reality, healthy children have a greater rate of success as a long-term student, and educated children lead to a better future, educating the chance of improving the society.

“Shoes are a status symbol [in Ethiopia]. Children dream of their first pair,” said Larry Thomas, chairman of the Tropical Health and Alliance Foundation, in the TOMS 2010 giving report.

TOMS has created a movement with a shoe, and One Day Without Shoes has developed a chance for students to take off and take action.
Recruitment proposes plan for community fields

As Central's enrollment continues to increase, intramural leagues are being shortened and teams are being turned away. “The reason? Lack of space. However, that could be changing sometime in the future,” CWU Club Sport Advisor Corey Sinclair said.

The Recreation Department has proposed the development of a plan that would completely renovate the Community Fields, located on the corner of Alder and 18th Street. Early stages of the plan call for a turf complex that may include four soccer fields, two lacrosse fields, four softball fields and an indoor training facility for the football team. The fields would include lights.

“I remember being able to play 10 to 12 games as a freshman, now our team’s lucky if they play half of those games,” said Central men’s soccer president Tarin Garrison. “We’re constantly having to fight scheduling conflicts with the women’s varsity team.” The men’s club team often has to play league games on the warm down community fields.

“Do we make it turf or grass, do we make it an indoor or outdoor complex, what do we do about snow in the winter, you know all of these questions have been asked and we’ve yet to come up with a solid answer or solution,” Sinclair said.

Furthermore, the school has debated for years on what to do with the land if it is chosen to be restructured for specific sporting purposes.

“Do we make it turf or grass, do we make it an indoor or outdoor complex, what do we do about snow in the winter, you know all of these questions have been asked and we’ve yet to come up with a solid answer or solution,” Sinclair said.

Nevertheless, a complex of this magnitude would have widespread effects. The football team would be sheltered from the harsh weather conditions of eastern Washington’s fall weather. Outdoor intramural leagues could be expanded and daytime light would no longer be considered a hindrance.

According to intramural soccer enthusiast, senior exercise science major Julian Poythress, “A complex like that could really improve intramural sports here. I remember being able to play 10 to 12 games as a freshman, now our team’s lucky if they play half of those games.”

Poythress is alluding to the fact that increased intramural popularity has led to reduced league games in order to accompany more teams into each league.

This proposed complex would allow for Central to host both regional collegiate soccer and lacrosse tournaments, as well as youth sporting events. “It’d be great for soccer,” said Central men’s soccer president Tarin Garrison.

The university has had the community fields appraised by an architect, but that could be changing sometime in the future.

The proposed complex certainly has the opportunity to become Central’s field of dreams.

Central Washington University freshman pitcher Maria Gau has been awarded the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Week award for her performances in last weekend’s games against Saint Martin’s University.

Gau pitched her first collegiate shutout over the weekend. She pitched 13 innings and gave up only one run in two games. Her shutout came in an 8-0 victory over the Saints.

Gau became the fourth Wildcat player this year to achieve the conference player of the week award.

Up next, the Wildcats face off against Northwest Nazarene in a four-game series at home. Central is currently riding a seven-game win-streak, putting them 2 1/2 games behind Western.

Pitcher of the week

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The Wildcats picked up their eighth win of the season and third in the conference, when they defeated the Northwest Nazarene University Crusaders (NNU). The win came in the second day of a doubleheader Friday.

The first game was scoreless going into the fifth inning, until a Crusaders error led to a groundout RBI from junior outfielder Brett Bielec, scoring junior corner infielder Brady Kancannon.

NNU responded by scoring three runs of their own in the top of the seventh, but it was to no avail, as the Crusaders went on to score 6-4.

Junior starting pitcher Brandon Rohde got pegged with the loss, moving him to 1-4 on the season. The southpaw tossed seven innings, giving up five earned runs and three strikeouts with no walks. Senior relief pitcher Blaine Holbrook threw a scoreless eighth inning, picking up two strikeouts.

“Is was really tough especially having a guy like [Rohde] out there,” said senior outfielder Nate Wallen. “We just ran out of time, ran out of baseball.”

In the latter half of the doubleheader, Central’s starting pitcher Ryan Hastings took the mound to start the first game. Hastings and junior shortstop/third baseman Wallen squared up and got him out of the box, scoring zero.

After a scoreless first inning, Central tangled on four runs in the second inning. Millbauer was 2-3 at the plate, driving in the winning run and was Central’s main source of runs. Millbauer is now 1-4 on the season. Ryerson said. “It’s pretty frustrating, but it was to no avail, as the Crusaders scored three runs of their own in the top of the seventh, but it was to no avail, as the Crusaders went on to score 6-4.

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“The top of the lineup set the tone,” Ryerson said. “The first time I faced that pitcher he got me on three straight fastballs and blew them by me. I knew they were coming, so luckily I squared up and got it over the fence.”

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**Wildcats lead crusade over Saint Martin’s Central rides strong pitching and hot bats to pull within 2.5 games of the GNAC lead**

**BY GIANCARLO GONZALEZ Senior Sports Reporter**

The Central softball team broke loose against the hapless Saints in the first game of a four-game series this past weekend and swept the Saints. With the sweep under their belt, Central improved to 13-11 overall and 11-5 in the GNAC while Saint Martin’s dropped to 3-11 overall and 2-14 in the conference. 

**Sophomore Elena Carter’s walk aided to the five-run fifth inning of Central’s game one.**

Freshman Maria Gau shutout the Saints with a complete game effort, scattering six hits in the second game. Baxter allowed just three hits and earned her first shutout of the season. The Wildcats torrid offense went off for 24 hits in Sunday’s doubleheader, including five home runs. Sophomore infielder Carrina Wagner hit a pair of homers, one in each game, and Jusko hit one out of the park in the first game. **“It was good to sweep a team that has given us problems before with their slow pitching,” Jusko said. “Today we were more patient and more solid.”**

“I was happy to see us hit the ball and that makes it enjoyable.”

**The few hits coming as the Wildcats had 13 total hits in the first game, with Petrich and Jusko going 3-for-4.**

**Senior shortstop Samantha Petrich and Jusko going 3-for-4.**

“Things are clicking for us and we feel pretty strong.”

Haupert said. “Things are clicking for us and we feel pretty strong.”

**Sophomore Elena Carter’s walk aided to the five-run fifth inning of Central’s game one.**

“Senior center fielder Keilani Cruz doubled twice going 3-0-for, while junior infielder Liz Jusko went 2-0-for with a double and two RBIs.”

Wildcat pitching was equally dominating, as senior Lauren Hadenfeld and freshman Jessica Harris combined to pitch a three-hit ballgame in the first game. Freshman Maria Gau shutout the Saints with a complete game effort, scattering six hits in the second game. Senior center fielder Keilani Cruz doubled twice going 3-0-for, while junior infielder Liz Jusko went 2-0-for with a double and two RBIs. 

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“Senior shortstop Samantha Petrich smacked a home run in the first game, her fourth of the year, and played solid defense in the nightcap.”

“I felt like we played well today. We faced a pitcher who gave us problems last year and this year we made the adjustment to her slow pitches and we were able to take advantage of her,” Petrich said. “The second game I felt like we weren’t as patient, but we played solid D and made some key plays to get the victory.”

Sunday’s games were more of the same as the Wildcats finished off the hapless Saints, truncating them in the first game 8-2, then blanking them in the second 8-0.

In game one, Hadenfeld held the Saints to two solo home runs over six innings before giving way to junior reliever Lindy Baxter who pitched a scoreless seventh. Baxter allowed just one hit as the Wildcats cruised to victory. In the second game, Gau allowed just three hits and earned her first shutout of the season.

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In the second game, Haupert and junior infielder Molly Coppinger, who hit her first home run of the season, joined Wagner in the hit parade.

**“It was a lot of fun out there,” Coppinger said. “We’re playing together and that makes it enjoyable.”**

When the dust settled, the Wildcats had 11 hits in the series finale, as eight of its nine starters had at least one hit in the eight-run mercy rule victory. Coppinger and Petrich, who upped her season batting average to .438, each had two hits in the contest.

Up next for the Wildcats is a four-game series next weekend at home against Northwest Nazarene University at Gary and Bobbi Frederick Field. The series is scheduled to be played on Friday at 1 p.m. and Saturday at noon.

**CLUBS WERE MADE FOR WALKING**

Sophomore Elena Carter’s walk aided to the five-run fifth inning of Central’s game one win against MSU Billings in Sunday’s doubleheader. The 8-0 win marked Central’s first mercy-run rule victory of the season.

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Wildcats send the Vikings sailing, then head to WAOR

Record setting day vaults Wildcats over competition

BY RANDY RAJKOVICH
Staff Reporter

Central’s track and field team did exceptionally well during last weekend’s events. The men’s team claimed five of the top seven ranks against Western Washington University (WWU) in a two day decathlon. The Wildcat’s also assisted in Team Washington’s win at the fourth annual (WAOR) Washington vs. Oregon/Idaho/Montana in Spokane.

Bellingham’s Civic Stadium hosted the first events April 7-8, with the WWU Multi-Events decathlon. Central sophomores Brandon Roddewig and Jason Caryl had a one-two finish in the men’s decathlon.

Roddewig’s 4.35 meter pole vault and 16.19 second 110 meter hurdles were high enough scores to place second in the events, Roddewig ultimately beat out teammate Caryl for first place in the WWU Multi-Events.

The sophomores were among three other Wildcat men to place in the top seven rankings of the men’s decathlon. Central’s Scott Hunter took first in the pole vaulting event, with a 4.45 meter vault. He also placed fourth in the decathlon. Andrew Venema captured spot number five in the men’s decathlon, with a first place discus throw of 31.8 meters on the last day of the event. Thomas Steinke was the last Wildcat to finish in the top 10 at WWU Multi-Events.

Central also fared well in the women’s WWU Multi-Events heptathlon. Junior Siri Berg finished within the top five. Berg was able to improve her performance, finishing in fourth place over Western’s Brooklyn Holton. Holton started the second day of events in second place in the woman’s heptathlon.

Central’s track and field team also participated in WAOR IV hosted by Spokane Falls Community College on April 9.
In the past month, The Observer has won four Society of Professional Journalists awards and an Associated Collegiate Press Award.

Society of Professional Journalists

First Place
Sports Reporting
Matt Carstens
“Questionable Decisions”

Second Place
Sports Reporting
Lindsy Wheadon
“Athletics Bailout: Department receives $230,000 in new annual base funding to get out of the red.”

Second Place
Breaking News Reporting
Nicole Swapp, John Luke LaSalle and Anthony James
“Case Closed? Officials blame Four Loko for Roslyn party problems.”

Third Place
General Column Writing
Nicole Swapp, John Luke LaSalle and Anthony James
“Case Closed? Officials blame Four Loko for Roslyn party problems.”

David Guzman
for his series of beer columns.

Associated Collegiate Press

Third Place
General Excellence
Best of Show Award at the National College Journalism Convention in Los Angeles, Calif.

Congratulations!