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## The Observer

Central Washington University

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*Birkin Owart  
rides for cash*

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*Postcards tell Tall Tales at  
Sarah Spurgeon Gallery*

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by the students & for the students of cwu

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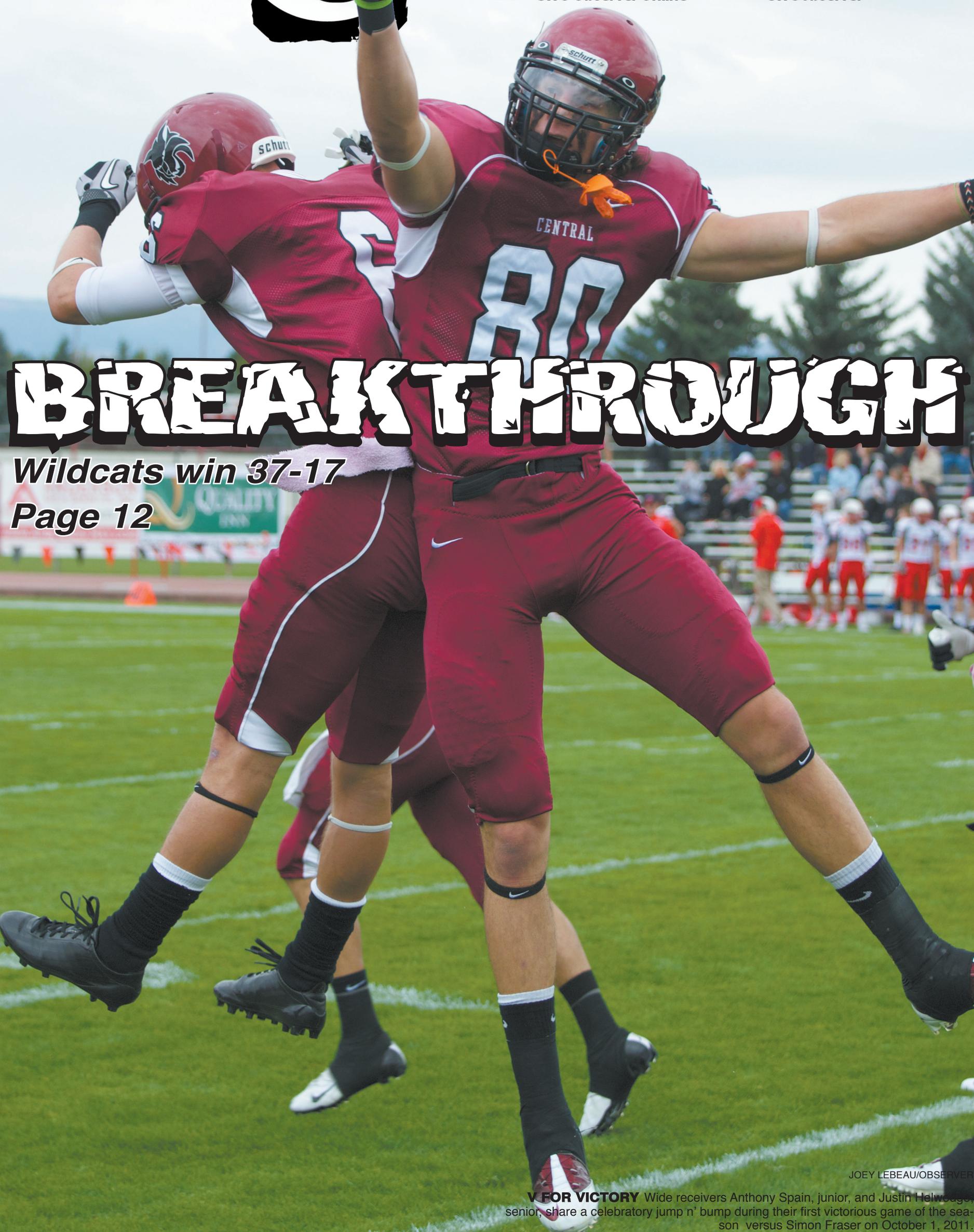


CWUobserver

# BREAKTHROUGH

*Wildcats win 37-17*

*Page 12*



JOEY LEBEAU/OBSERVER

**V FOR VICTORY** Wide receivers Anthony Spain, junior, and Justin Helwegge, senior, share a celebratory jump n' bump during their first victorious game of the season versus Simon Fraser on October 1, 2011.

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## ELLENSBURG POLICE BLOTTER WITH A LITTLE COMMENTARY

*I'll be your tour guide through the exciting world of Ellensburg's underbelly. If you see italics, you'll know there's a bad joke coming.*

**By Weston Morrow**

• A person reported that an 18 year old male sitting on their back porch appeared to be asleep. *That's what happens when you leave beer out on the porch. It attracts stray high school students like raccoons.*

• A person reported that they left their child's John Deere wagon, two lawn chairs, a toy bulldozer, dump truck and shovel at the park. *My parents always made me pick up my own toys. I hope the police at least didn't let them have dessert first.*

• The odor of marijuana was reported on the first and third floors of a building on North Alder street. *Sounds like the second floor is full of squares.*

• A silver Mustang was reportedly going more than 100 mph heading towards Kittitas. *I can't think of a single thing in Kittitas that requires that level of urgency.*

• A person reported that a bicycle was abandoned in his yard and may be related to the theft of his scooter. *It's a trap! The thief is clearly trying to appease you with gifts.*

• Eight males were reportedly jumping out in front of vehicles on North Brookfield Street. *That would be worth like 65 points if you got all of them!*

• A person reported hearing a male voice yelling "I will cut you" at a female. The woman yelled for him to get out of her house, and the man charged out the front door. *That guy yells with impeccable grammar.*

• A person reported that he got into an argument with his friend about drugs. *I, also, call the cops to*

*settle my arguments.*

• A person reported that her sister was texting and harassing her and told her to look up the definition of perjury. *I bet she said, "If you look up the word perjury in the dictionary you'll find a picture of your face."*

• A loud party was reported on Hailey Court. *I dated a girl named Hailey Court. I got this same complaint from my neighbors a lot.*

• The odor of marijuana was reported on Dean Nicholson Boulevard. When the reporting party knocked on the door the residents opened it two inches. Fans could be seen blowing smoke out of the window. *I'm sure the police didn't find that suspicious at all.*

• People have reportedly been coming up to a window on North Alder Street and yelling at night, it's an ongoing problem. *This person has the Walltons for neighbors. "Good night Jim-Bob, Good night John-Boy. Good night Elizabeth..."*

• Aircraft stripper was reportedly sprayed on a pick-up truck and poured into the gas tank on State Route 903. *I don't know what aircraft stripper is, but I think I'd like to get to know her.*

• A group of seven or eight juveniles were loitering in an alley on West Third Street for two hours. *Loitering juveniles are the number one threat to America--that and packs of stray dogs.*

• Eight or nine people were hanging around a residence on West Third Street and the reporting party saw eight pistols. Weapons were not discharged. *This gets a lot funnier if you replace the word pistols with a different word.*

• Graffiti was reported on the south side of the water tower. *I hope the graffiti said "West Side."*

**Murder charge repealed**  
Former University of Washington student, Amanda Knox was acquitted of murder charges in an Italian court Monday. Knox, who was sentenced to 26 years in prison in 2007, flew back to Sea-Tac airport soon after the verdict. Prosecutors can still appeal and have indicated that they will.

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# Grad student rides for \$5K grant

BY NATHANIEL IVEN-DIEMER  
Staff Reporter

Birkin Owart, a Central Washington University biology graduate student, embarked on an eight day bike ride through the state of Washington in early September to raise money for a creative expression or research grant for the College of Arts and Humanities.

The goal was to raise \$5,000 for a grant that would be given to an Arts and Humanities student in May of 2012, provided that the student's work was connected in some way to the city of Ellensburg.

The project was the result of a collaborative effort between the university, the city of Ellensburg, and the Ellensburg Downtown Association, according to Owart's blog.

Owart, an Ellensburg native, said his project stemmed from a desire to advocate for multiple causes including the need to support public art programs, and for the city and university to become more connected with each other.

"This was something I wanted to do," he said. "It touched upon a lot of personal interests."

Owart also wanted to highlight the ecological diversity and natural beauty of the state, as well as promote cycling's legitimacy as a sport, form of recreation and mode of transportation.

During the mostly solo ride, Owart would have a friend or family member follow him—sometimes shadowing, other times playing leapfrog—in a car filled with bike equipment and camping gear while he cycled. At the end of each day, Owart would usually camp out for the night, although he occasionally couch-surfed at the home of various friends and family members or stayed in a hotel to make use of facilities such as showers or Wi-Fi.

Owart says one of the easiest things about the ride was that there were no real time constraints.

"I was able to wake up in the morning, cycle, and then be done. I didn't have to worry about anything other than pedaling," he said.

Some of the more difficult aspects of the trek included dealing with motorists along the road, and passing through some of the more economically challenged areas of the state.

"It's difficult to see places like that firsthand," Owart said.

By the seventh day, Owart was becoming increasingly homesick. His original goal of cycling 104 miles on day seven became 127 miles, and day eight's itinerary changed from 107 to 145 miles.

"I made things longer to get home sooner," he said.

Owart's journey ended on Sept. 4, a day earlier than initially predicted.

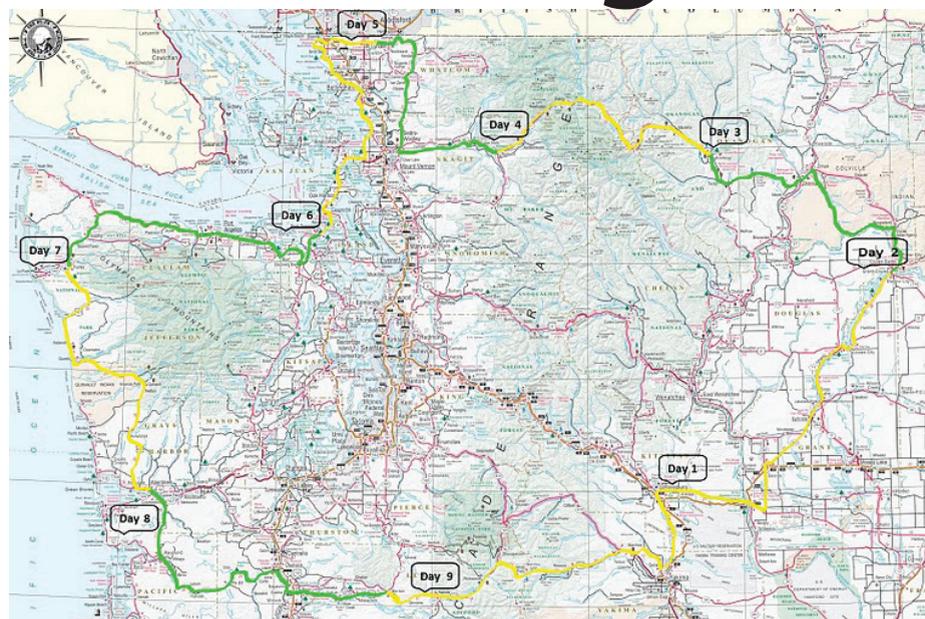
The cycling aspect of the trip "was easy in that I'm a cyclist, so I'm used to packing up and cycling," Owart said.

Outside the trip, however, Owart thought the publicity and fundraising aspects were the most challenging by far.

According to Owart, most fundraising events take a long time to organize. But he was able to do it all in two weeks, so he feels it went pretty well.

"A lot of local businesses that are known to donate get asked five times a day, so you need to have a good way to market yourself, because there are other companies competing for their donorship dollars," he said. "To get their attention, I purposefully made it a point that I was going to ride 1,000 plus miles in nine days, because it's something that stands out and raises eyebrows."

Owart was able to gain business sponsorship from local businesses and a com-



COURTESY OF BIRKIN OWART

**BIRKIN BIKING** (ABOVE) The map of Washington demonstrates Owart's original itinerary. (BELOW) Owart rides along the shoreline of Birch Bay.

pany in Yakima. Owart also got individual sponsorship from friends and family members, as well as people in the community that he discussed the endeavor with.

"The most successful fundraising experiences I had were when I went up to a donor and personally communicated with them. It adds a personal touch," he said.

So far, \$3,200 has been raised. Owart thinks that amount of money is likely to increase. There are still a few events going on to support his cause.

Owart is "not actively soliciting sponsorship because I feel I've raised enough money for a large enough grant," he said. "But I wouldn't mind if people continued to donate."

Donations can be made on Owart's blog [www.birkinbike.blogspot.com](http://www.birkinbike.blogspot.com).



## Hogue Hall opens

New extension provides more space, tech upgrades

BY VICTORRIA SELF  
Staff Reporter

After a year of construction and renovation, the new Hogue Hall extension is open for classes. Before construction began in November 2009, Hogue consisted of six classrooms and labs with numerous faculty offices in between.

"We were like a 10 person family living in a three bedroom house," said Michael Whelan, department chair of the construction management program.

Central is the only school in Washington to offer the construction management major.

The new Hogue extension is only part of a complete renovation scheduled to be completed in April 2012. Phase one consisted of a 3,200 square foot addition to the old Hogue building.

The new addition is LEED Certified Platinum, the highest possible rating.

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. To be eligible for this certification the building has to meet a number of "green" standards. Low emissions and water efficiency are two of these standards.

Central has two other buildings on campus that are LEED certified, Dean and Wendell Hill Hall.

After the Hogue project is completed, Central plans to add more buildings to the list. The residence halls currently being built where the old Barto residence halls stood will also be LEED certified.

"I think adding this building is in the right steps to become a[n] eco-friendly

campus," said Nathan Davis, industrial and engineering professor.

While under construction, parts of Hogue were left open for students to use as learning examples.

"Students can get a better understanding of what's going on," said Roger Beardsley, assistant professor, mechanical engineering technology.

One of the first things students will realize when entering the new building is how much brighter and more open it is.

"I like that it is a lot more open and more comfortable than the older building," said Paul Headman, junior, industrial engineering.

The department also acquired all new machines for the students' senior projects. According to Whelan, some of the old machines were brought over from the old Hogue, but the majority are new.

"The thing I like the best is all of the new machines, especially the new rapid prototyper which prints out 3D plastic molds," said Ted Sweeney, senior mechanical engineering.

In honor of this \$27 million project, the Industrial and Engineering Technology Department held a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house on Friday, Sept. 30 where people took tours of the building and learned about all of the new equipment and learning opportunities the building can offer.

Once phase two is complete there will be a formal dedication for the whole building that is expected to happen around this time next fall.

## Green printing to come

Frivolous printers forced to pay for waste

BY ZACH SMITH  
Staff Reporter

Free printing on campus is often a saving grace for students at Central Washington University. But the days of unlimited free printing on campus are numbered. Central is implementing its new "green printing" policy this year.

Starting next fall, each page printed will come right out of students' pocketbooks.

"Its [printing has] always been free," said Dylan Walker, junior exercise science. "I can't believe they are going to start charging us for that now too."

While some members of the student body are outraged, students have actually been paying for printing all along. The technology fee students pay every quarter funds unlimited free printing on campus.

The new green printing policy is a direct result of frivolous printing by students under the current format.

According to an e-mail recently sent out to students by the Information Technology Services Department, reckless printing by students totalled nearly \$100,000 last year.

While not all students utilize school printing, the cost was distributed equally among all students.

The new "green printing" policy ensures that the students who drove those costs up, will be the ones paying for it.

While the thought of \$100,000 in printing costs is a shocking statistic, what is even more distressing is how much of it never even made it into the hands of the person who clicked print.

The printing station is "always filled with stuff people don't pick up, like hundreds of pages," said Miranda Panuska, student employee at the library.

Some Central students have taken advantage of the unlimited printing offered by the school and administrators want to make a change.

According to ITS Project Manager Keith Jones, the ITS department will use this year to gauge the average amount of printing each student needs per quarter.

ITS will then use this information to determine the proper amount of money to pre-load onto students printing accounts starting next year.

Beginning next fall, if students exceed this allotted amount, each black and white page will cost them five cents while each color page will cost ten cents.

"It's [green printing] not set up to be a money maker, it's set up to teach people to recycle and make them aware," Jones said. "When people print, we want it to be useful to them."

**Reckless printing by students amassed a cost of nearly \$100,000 last year.**

**According to the ITS department**

# SPLIT TO NOWHERE

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES RACKS UP EXPENCES IN SPLIT THAT WAS HALTED FOR BUDGETARY REASONS

By Kelly Requa

Special to The Observer

Editor's Note: This is a three part story. The last part of this story will run in the Oct. 13 - 19 issue.

The full story is available online at [cwuobserver.com](http://cwuobserver.com)

## KEY PLAYERS



**ETHAN BERGMAN**

Associate Dean College of Education and Professional Studies



**JAN BOWERS**

Former Department Chair of Family and Consumer Sciences



**WAYNE QUIRK**

Former Provost  
Dean of Graduate Studies



**CONNIE LAMBERT**

Dean College of Education and Professional Studies



**JAMES GAUDINO**

President of Central Washington University

## DECODING ACRONYMS

**BOT:** Central's Board of Trustees

**CAST:** College of Applied Science and Technology

**CEPS:** College of Education and Professional Studies

**COE:** College of Education

**CTL:** Center for Teacher Learning

**DOE:** Department of Education

**EF&C:** Department of Education Foundations and Curriculum

**HHPN:** Department of Healthy, Human Performance and Nutrition

**LLSE:** Department of Language, Literacy and Special Education

**NCATE:** National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

**NEHS:** Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Health Science

**PAC:** Presidents Advisory Council

**PESPH:** Department of Physical Education, School and Public Health

**TEACH:** Department of TEACH

## 1

### Investigation of poor practices

Shortly after President Gaudino arrived at Central in January 2009, reports of CEPS hiring practices prompted him to order an ad hoc committee to review current policies and procedures and to get input from the college community about the fairness of the recent searches and hiring processes.

"I noted a practice of filling positions with interim appointments and then converting the persons to permanent status without a search," Gaudino wrote. "Such a practice does not ensure we are looking at the best available candidates and limits our ability to diversify our workforce."

The committee reviewed CEPS hiring practices over the previous two years and other practices on campus that appeared to deviate from the spirit or letter of hiring policy guidelines. The committee's final report on June 1, 2009, found that recent deviations included:

*"Hiring outside the designated search process; failure to mount searches following an interim appointment; major changes to administrative positions without a search or notification; appointment of interims, who, in the opinion of some, did not meet minimum qualifications for the position... Appointment of department heads before department splits had been approved."*

Libby Street, psychology professor and former chief of staff for both McIntyre and Gaudino, said that hiring practices within the CEPS prompted the creation of the ad hoc committee. According to Street, the split of HHPN into PESPH and NEHS was a specific occurrence mentioned in the report.

Street also said that the committee discussed whether Bergman should remain an associate dean considering the process under which he was appointed — without a search.

But the committee decided the focus "wasn't the specific instance, it was the way decisions were made," Street said. "We turned away from whether Ethan Bergman should be an associate dean or equivalent, because it was not the purpose of the committee."

Street said that actions taken in the time between presidents should have been more transparent, and that Bergman's position change from a half-time associate dean to a full-time position in 2007 should have followed the correct notification process and search that's required by the university.

Street explained that there have always been rules on hiring and requirements to notify faculty of openings or searches. Deans and Human Resource staff are responsible for overseeing hiring processes, she said.

*"I was aware that President McIntyre did not want them to go forward because of budget considerations,"* Street said.

Gaudino said in his email that after he received the report, policies were revised to "1) create an expectation that

### Gaudino's revised policies

**1** Create an expectation that searches will occur

**2** To give greater responsibility to the division of human resources to ensure compliance

**3** To limit the number of persons who can waive searches

searches will occur, 2) to give greater responsibility to the division of human resources to ensure compliance, and 3) to limit the number of persons who can waive searches."

Lambert said there were no guidelines at Central for the CEPS to follow on how to create new departments or colleges.

"It kind of sounds like after this happened then they got together and said 'Okay, these are good things, these are not-so-good things — we need a policy,'" Lambert said. "But at the time there wasn't a policy. It was based on faculty votes and so the faculty voted to split."

A search outside of Central showed that other universities have created and made available guidelines and processes for splitting or creating new colleges. However, the CEPS did not adopt an outside plan to split the college.

## Four education departments



On Dec. 15, 2008, three months after McIntyre stopped the split, Lambert sent an email to the Department of Education faculty and staff, stating the education department would be split.

*"The Provost has approved splitting the DOE into four departments,"* the email states. *"Elections for department chairs will occur in January."*

**5-10-15% potential cuts for the year & 10-20-30% cuts next year.**

While the email announced the creation of new departments, it also outlined budget cuts for the colleges.

"The Provost has requested that each college look at [scenarios of] 5-10-15 percent potential cuts for this year with 10-20-30 percent cuts next year," Lambert wrote in the email. "Please think about

cuts that might occur in the new departments."

In spring 2009, the DOE was divided into four departments. When interviewed, Lambert and Bergman gave conflicting reasons for the department split.

Bergman said that splitting the Education Department "was in preparation for the college split, too. We wanted the College of Education to have more than one department; it just doesn't make sense to have one department in one college."

Lambert said that splitting the Education Department would improve representation and organization. When asked why the Education Department was split when the college-level split had been halted, Lambert explained it wasn't related to a college split.

"Only the college split was halted," Lambert said. "For the department splits there was nobody new hired." However, there was the increased cost of adding chair stipends to faculty salaries.

In November 2009, Quirk would tell Faculty Senate that departments within



## Split costs raise questions

Quirk presented the proposed split to the Board of Trustees on Oct. 2, 2009, at a meeting where President Gaudino was not in attendance. The split was then scheduled for a vote by the BOT at its Dec. 4 meeting.

This drew the attention of Tom Wellock, who was then a history professor and on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. At the Nov. 4, 2009, Faculty Senate meeting, the minutes show he was concerned that “some faculty indicated they have requested to see the report on what the additional costs will be and are being told ‘no.’”

Wellock also indicated he was concerned the budget data about the additional costs of the split wasn’t set to be released until Nov. 19, only a couple of weeks before the BOT’s scheduled vote.

The minutes show that in response, Quirk told the Faculty Senate that the plan to split CEPS “has been in the works for 18 months” and that the budget has been “worked on quite a bit.”

In recent interviews, Lambert said the business plan was sent out to CEPS faculty before it went to the Faculty Senate, but Bowers said she didn’t receive the plan until Nov. 17, 2009. Pappas said he never saw or received the business plan.

Lambert wrote in an email to Bowers on Nov. 10, 2009, “The final draft of the CEPS business plan to split the college was sent to the President’s Council on Friday. After the meeting, I should be able to send it to you.”

Lambert said she did take the entire business plan to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and that they may not have agreed with the estimated cost.

The proposed business plan claimed that splitting the college would only cost \$65,000. That would consist of \$20,000 to promote an existing faculty member to associate dean, and \$45,000 for a staff member for the new college. Bergman’s temporary salary increase,

**In 2007 Bergman made \$120,948\***  
**In 2009 Bergman made \$137,271\*\***  
**In 2010 Bergman’s salary decreased to \$113,084**  
**a difference of \$24,187**

\*As an Associate Dean of CEPS. This number does not include his \$38,104 annual salary as a professor for a total of \$159,058.  
 \*\*As an Associate Dean of CEPS.

**Bergman’s salary increased \$16,323 from ‘07-‘09**

These numbers were not included in the original cost of splitting the college, which was proposed to cost \$65,000

which exceeded that of three out of four deans, would be considered the cost of a new dean but was not included in the business plan.

When Wellock received a copy of the business plan, he said he was shocked by how low the estimated cost was, and by how short the report was.

“You’re talking about splitting a college, creating a new deanship,” said Wellock, who left Central at the end of the 2010-11 school year. “You know a new associate dean is going to follow in there and you know it’s going to cost teachers.”

“They could still have recovered if they had had a halfway decent report justifying the split,” Wellock said. “I was appalled by how bad it was.”

President Gaudino, who attended the Faculty Senate meeting and had read the business plan, wrote that he “was also skeptical of the budgetary analysis.”

Wellock obtained a copy of Bergman’s contract and said he was surprised when the business plan did not include the cost of increasing Bergman’s salary.

*“They were saying this wasn’t going to cost any more, but they were already rolling into his salary temporary money and not really telling anybody,” Wellock said. “And that temporary money was going to turn into a permanent part of his salary.”*

Besides Bergman’s increased pay, the costs of creating four new chairs and replacing their teaching workload for departments that split in preparation of the overall college split were not calculated into the budget, Wellock said.

Lambert said, “We didn’t hire any new faculty to take over for these chairs. The biggest difference is department chairs get a stipend.”

Lambert explained that splitting the HHPN and Education departments

representatives to [CEPS] council meetings.”

James Pappas, professor of education, said that splitting the Education Department and moving toward a college split were not logical choices in a time of budget cuts.

“All of the costs of personnel had to add up to a lot of money,” Pappas said. “Where other colleges like Eastern were combining colleges, we approved splitting departments. In this day and age I don’t think that’s the way to go.”

Pappas explained that splitting the Education Department while still sharing some of the same office resources and space has been a problem.

*“Duplicating stuff is going to happen – people did things cooperatively down there,” Pappas said. “Now there’s at least another full-time secretary. Instead of two copy machines, they’re now thinking of one for each department. So those costs*

**“You’re talking about splitting a college, creating a new deanship. You know a new associate dean is going to follow in there and you know it’s going to cost teachers.”**

**-TOM WELLOCK**  
 Former history professor and Faculty Senate Executive Committee member

**“It wasn’t really considered a part of the split of the college because it was something that needed to happen.”**

**-ETHAN BERGMAN**  
 CEPS Associate Dean

was going to happen whether or not the college split, and because they happened months before the proposed split went to the Faculty Senate, it was not considered a cost of the split.

*Bergman said, “We did have an original plan that included [department splits] but by the time we had that plan edited, the splits had already happened and this is something that’s going to continue and something that makes the departments in the college much better... And so it’s a cost of the college now, but it’s not a cost of splitting.”*

Wellock said he never received any definitive answers for the questions he raised about the costs at the Faculty Senate meeting.

Quirk had “no coherent explanation for why it was going to cost a lot more than the original estimates,” Wellock said.

Quirk didn’t directly answer questions about the plan and its budget when given the chance via email.

Pappas, who at the time was reporting to Faculty Senate as a faculty representative to Olympia, said that his counterparts in Olympia were confused by Central’s actions.

*“I also remember being in Olympia and talking with my counterparts from other universities, and this guy from Western was saying, ‘What are you doing? We’re trying to maintain funding from the state and you’re creating a new college over there.’”*

At the next Faculty Senate meeting on Dec. 2, 2009, just two days before the split was scheduled to be voted on by the Board of Trustees, some faculty from the CEPS voiced their support for splitting the college. Supporters included Professor Melody Madlem of PESPH, NEHS Chair Vincent Nethery and Professor Henry Williams, the Department of Advanced Programs chair. According to meeting minutes, they state that professional studies programs have felt neglected, and that “We will be kicking ourselves later for dragging our feet.”

According to Loran Cutsinger, the Faculty Senate chair at the time, Faculty Senate’s approval is not required for a college to split. So the proposal continued despite the concerns raised by Wellock and others in the Faculty Senate.

*are building up and they quickly build up into thousands of dollars.”*

Another problem created by splitting the department is the inability to cooperate between departments when it comes to teaching extra classes to meet the needs of students, Pappas said.

“Being able to do cross-disciplinary things is not as prevalent anymore,” Pappas said.

“I used to teach History of Foundations. Now I can’t teach it because I’m not in that department.”

Quirk wrote in his email that splitting the DOE was important to allow smaller disciplinary programs better oversight and planning.

“The smaller departments also contribute to voice at important university governance forums such as Faculty Senate and the United Faculty,” Quirk said.

## Timeline of events

**Feb. 4, 2009**

*The PAC approves the split of HHPN into NEHS and PESPH.*

**March 20, 2009**

*Gaudino convenes an Ad Hoc Committee to review current policies and procedures about the adequacy and fairness of the search and hiring processes.*

**May 2009**

*The Department of Education is divided into four departments. There are no references to the split in the minutes for the PAC or President’s Cabinet during 2009.*

**June 1, 2009**

*The Ad Hoc Committee’s final report finds that recent deviations outside university policies including the appointment of department heads before department splits had been approved.*

**Oct. 2, 2009**

*At a BOT meeting Quirk asks the trustees to review a proposal to divide the CEPS into two colleges. President Gaudino is not in attendance at this meeting.*

**Nov. 4, 2009**

*Faculty Senate Senator Tom Wellock expresses concern that faculty have not seen the business plan for the split.*

**Dec. 2, 2009**

*Quirk reported that faculty support along disciplinary lines is what has helped keep this proposal alive through the process. There is no policy on how a proposal at this time should proceed. President Gaudino was pleased to see this conversation as it is a very healthy sign of the maturing relationship of true-shared governance.*

# Option to opt out

Rec Center fee should be optional for students

This quarter, Central students are paying \$320 in fees in addition to \$1,250 in tuition, not to mention the cost of books.

Of those fees, \$2 goes toward the Washington Student Association, \$3 to the Central Transit, \$25 to the technology fee, \$42 to the athletic program fee, \$69 to the Student Union Building, \$77 to the Health and Counseling Center, and finally, \$102 to the Recreation Center for use of the gym.

More than 30 percent of student fees paid are for a gym membership. There is only one way to opt out of the recreation center fee for gym membership for students who do not use the gym, or for student athletes who use Nicholson Pavilion. Students who wish to opt out must petition the fee through the registrar's office filling out a form and writing a letter explaining why they would not use a gym membership.

That's \$306 students could save each year, not to mention the amount students with loans would save in interest.

Opting out of the recreation center fee would also be beneficial to Central's varsity athletes. Though some varsity athletes are on scholarship, many of those scholarships are tuition waivers that cover just that: only tuition.

Fees are not covered by tuition waivers, requiring some athletes on full tuition waivers to accept loans to pay for small fees. As varsity athletes, they are provided a separate--though not as modern-- training facility in Nicholson Pavilion and many use that facility exclusively.

Ellensburg has several public membership gyms, however, Central is the only gym with an indoor running track and rock climbing wall, making the recreation center unique and competitive with other gyms in the area. The varied schedule and types of fitness classes offered at Central also make it attractive to

the public. A recreation center membership also includes use of Central's pool.

Recreation center membership should be optional on a monthly or yearly basis, like most public gyms. Summer membership is already optional for students in summer classes. With a yearly membership option, students who are not enrolled in summer classes but are living in Ellensburg could still use the facility. The charges for a yearly membership would be charged at the beginning of fall quarter of each year.

With a monthly membership option, students who decide not to purchase membership during the fall can still choose to start any time during the year. Monthly charges would be collected at the recreation center front desk, the same way they currently collect payments for fitness classes.

For example, a women's soccer player may not want gym membership in the fall because her sport is in season and she's using Nicholson Pavilion to workout. But when winter and spring quarter roll around, she'd like to workout in the recreation center because it's closer to her dorm, and Nicholson is crowded with in-season teams such as men's and women's basketball.

To offset the cost of students who opt out of membership, Central should open up memberships to all community members. As of now, memberships are only available to students, faculty, staff, Alumni Association members or dependents or spouses. The recreation center could also charge community members a higher fee for fitness classes.

With tuition increasing every year, food prices on the rise and the job market still in the slumps, any way the university can lessen the financial burden on students is appreciated, especially by those students with no interest in a gym membership.

*Editorial board: Katharine Lotze, Weston Morrow and Nicole Swapp*

For more information about the Recreation Center visit [www.cwu.edu/~rec](http://www.cwu.edu/~rec)

## Dear Readers,

The Observer welcomes brief letters of 300 words or less from readers on current issues. Please include your full name and university affiliation: year and major, degree and year graduated, or staff position and department. To be printed in the following week's issue, please e-mail your letters to [cwuobserveropinion@gmail.com](mailto:cwuobserveropinion@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Observer reserves the right to reject or edited for style and length. All letters become property of The Observer. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

## Corrections

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## About The Observer

### Deadlines

Weekend sports information: Sunday 5 p.m.  
Letters to the editor: Sunday 5 p.m.

Entertainment, meetings, calendar events, display ads, classified ads: Friday 5 p.m.

### Sections

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# A bug's life

The adventures of Grack the Mantis



WESTON MORROW  
News Editor

So...What do you feed a praying mantis? I've never had a pet of my own, and Grack's starting to get hungry.

We named him Grack. Get over it. It's a nickname. He doesn't like it when I call him by his full name. I think it makes him feel emasculated.

But seriously, what do you feed a praying mantis? My roommate, Christian, walked into our apartment three days ago and said we were getting a new resident. Little did I know it was a deadly predatory insect (are praying mantises insects? I have no idea).

I can't think of a worse roommate (than the praying mantis, not Christian).

Praying Mantises, when put in close quarters with each other, get seriously murderous. They literally kill each other; they drop the laundry they were folding and freaking thrust a knife into the others' back.

People always say it's a bad idea to get romantically involved with a roommate. That seems like decent advice, but at least if you had sex with your roommate they wouldn't kill you post-coitus. I'm being rather presumptuous in that last assertion, but I think it's somewhat warranted.

Female praying mantises kill the male after they have sex. But hey, I'd rather die than get a hand job from a praying mantis. That would be like being jacked off by a chain saw.

I totally forgot what I was talking about after that chain saw analogy... Now I can't stop thinking about how the word analogy has the word anal in it. Heh, it's like the intellectual study of the anus. That's what gastroenterology should be called—it's got a much better ring to it.

I'm pretty good with analogies; could I call myself an analogist?

What am I asking you for? I'll call myself whatever I want.

I was talking about my pet in the newsroom earlier and someone asked me how old Grack was. What sort of paperwork do they think I have on this guy? It's not like he's got a social security number. The Republicans have been hounding me for his long-form birth certificate for days.

I'm not even sure if he's a he. I'm no expert on insect genitalia. Although, that would make a pretty sweet Ph.D. or at least a high-level biology class. I would audit that class so hard.

So, my praying mantis—he keeps trying to get out of his clear plastic tote box cage. Seriously, man. Just give it up. You can't cut through saran wrap. I imagine that stuff is harvested from the skin of invisible people (really sticky people).

They must get stuck to themselves all the time. That's got to be so annoying. Shaking hands must suck.

I bought Grack like 10 crickets but now that I think about it they were probably way too small. I should have gone with the bigger ones.

First, I wouldn't have lost the bigger ones in the bark on the bottom of the cage the moment I dropped them in. Secondly, Christian read that praying mantises can kill and eat things something like three times their size and these crickets were still not nearly as big as Gracken.

We even caught a crane fly and put it in his cage when we first domesticated him cause we didn't know what he wanted to eat. That freaking crane fly is still flying around that tote in circles. HOW MUCH ENERGY DOES ONE FLY HAVE? Seriously, just die already.

By the way, Grack, if you're reading this, kill and eat your crane fly friend or I'll do it for you, and I'll do it right in front of you. Now nut up and put the MAN in mantis.

It's not like he's got a social security number. The Republicans have been hounding me for his long-form birth certificate for days.

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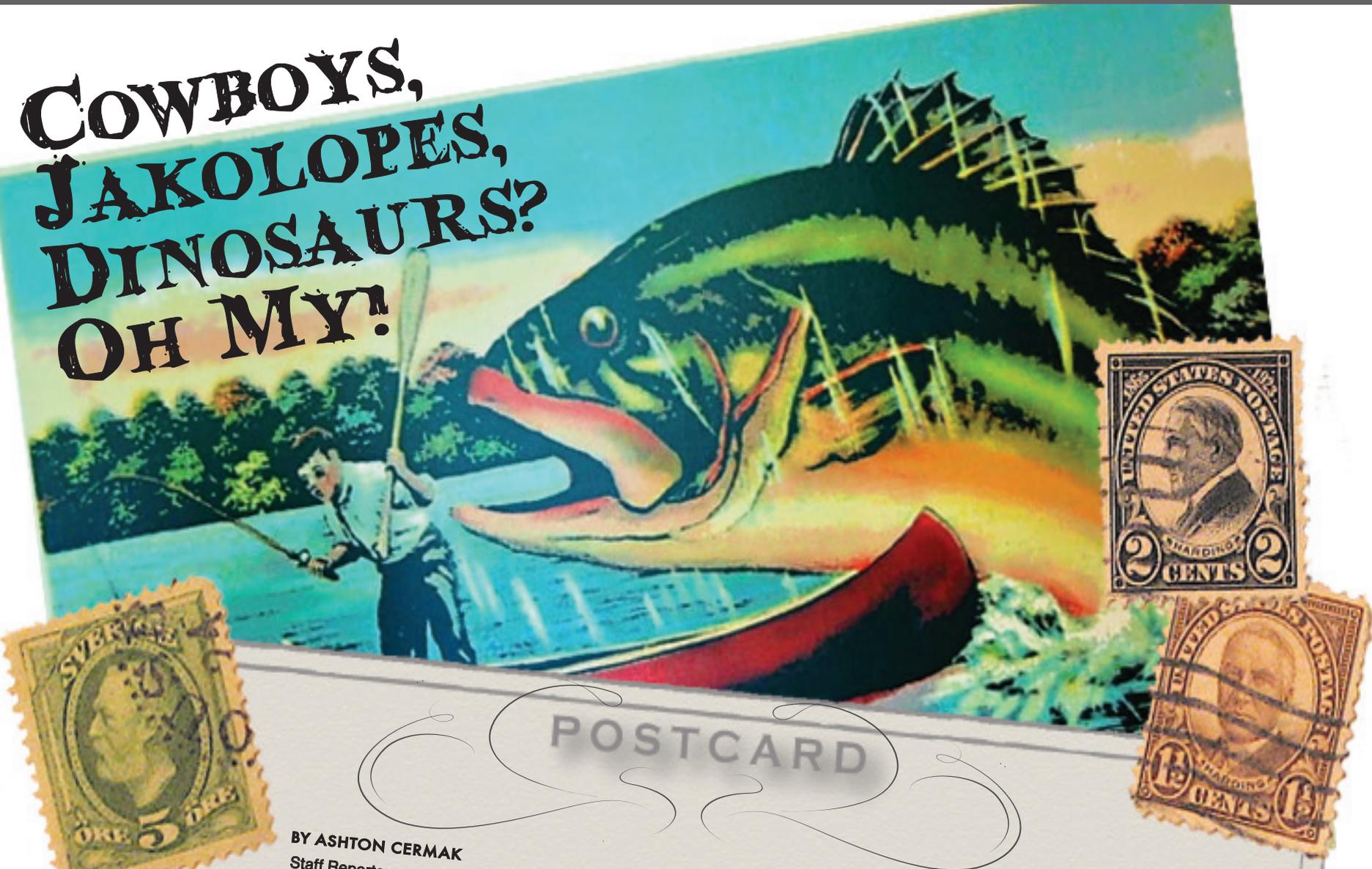
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## COWBOYS, JAKOLOPES, DINOSAURS? OH MY!



BY ASHTON CERMAK  
Staff Reporter

Why do we laugh at the things we find funny? Central Washington University's Museum of Culture and Environments aims to shed some light on this question with a new exhibit titled "Storytelling Through the Mail: Tall Tale Postcards." On loan from Michigan State University, the exhibit will feature tall tale postcards from the turn of the century with themes such as "Who caught whom?" and "Catching the big one."

"This is a playful exhibit," said Mark Auslander, museum director and associate professor of anthropology and museum studies. "But one of the things that anthropologists know is that play is a very serious activity."

One of the best ways to understand a culture is to look at its jokes. You can learn much about American culture by looking at our humor.

"Other countries got the technology of photography and realized they could use it to make post cards," Auslander said. "We Americans got photography and starting blowing things up and making the biggest and the best and that says something about the American character," he said.

The section of the exhibit called "They grow them big here" features postcards telling stories of giant vegetables with men standing next to pumpkins that tower over them.

"After Manifest Destiny comes this whole idea of how do you get people to come to your neighborhood?" Auslander said. "This was part of their plan."

A section titled fictitious animals features images of the 'Jackolope' and 'Fur bearing trout'.

Mark Twain said "The tall tale is a unique American art form,"

with the turn of the century, the tall tale mixed with road side attractions and the technology of photo augmentation, out of this combination the tall tale postcard was born.

"It is a form of artwork wherein photographers have really tried to exaggerate stories of place," said Hope Amason, associate director at the museum. "We are trying to get people to think about [how] they showcase their environment."

The exhibit kicks off a yearlong rotation of exhibits centered around 'Journey Stories', which will be coming from The Smithsonian in the winter.

"We're creating a year of events that will get people to start thinking about the sort of journeys we make," Amason said. "Whether it is a journey that we make when we look at a postcard or photography, or a personal journey like a pilgrimage."

Part of the exhibit is designed by the museum's student intern Sara Borer, senior anthropology. Three display cases will be used to create fanciful scenes where visitors can create their own tall tale postcards.

"We're doing one with dinosaurs in a primordial jungle with parachuting army men," Borer said. "Another will have astronauts and all sorts of crazy stuff."

The exhibit's grand opening on Oct. 6 will showcase free food and cowboy story telling with local artist Hank Kramer. A special guessing game featuring some artifacts that have con-founded even the collection manager will all be featured. Museum goers may speculate as to what the items are and find their description at the front desk.

"We want visitors to exercise their imagination," Amason said.



**FUR BEARING TROUT**  
Very Rare  
Caught while fishing in GREAT SLAVE LAKE near YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.  
It is believed that the great depth and extreme penetrating coldness of the water in which these fish live has caused them to grow their dense coat of "unusually" white fur.

LINDSAY ROSE/OBSERVER

### FINS OF FURRY

The MCE is located on the first floor of Dean Hall. Admission to the museum is free and it is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Parking at CWU is free after 4:30 p.m. and on weekends.

## THE SCOOP

OCT. 10  
MONDAY MOVIE  
MADNESS  
SURC THEATER  
7 P.M. & 9:30 P.M.  
STUDENTS FREE  
GENERAL \$3

OCT. 11  
MR. AND MS.  
CENTRAL  
SURC BALLROOM  
7 P.M.

OCT. 12  
WILDCAT  
WEDNESDAY  
WEAR YOUR  
CENTRAL GEAR

OCT. 13  
WELLINGTON'S  
WILDFIRE  
COMMUNITY FIELDS  
AND CHALLENGE  
COURSE  
6 P.M.

OCT. 14  
HOMECOMING  
DANCE  
SURC BALLROOM  
9 P.M.

OCT. 15  
5K FUN RUN  
OPR  
10:30 A.M.  
SIGN UP BEFORE  
OCT.12 \$15  
AFTER \$20

OCT. 15  
PEP RALLY  
SURC WEST PATIO  
11:30 A.M.

OCT. 15  
D.L HUGHLEY  
SURC BALLROOM  
8 P.M.  
TICKETS AVAILABLE  
AT  
WWW.CWU.EDU/~EVENTS

## CENTRAL CITY COMICS

BY NATHANIEL IVEN-DIEMER  
Staff Reporter

While walking around downtown Ellensburg students may have seen a white pug sitting in a shop window. This is Modok, Central City Comics second-in-command.

The shop has walls that are adorned with superhero-themed movie cut outs, Nagel paintings and pages of comic art. Here, the lighting is dim and the air smells of paper. Customers are diehard fans of Spider Man or Hellboy and are greeted by Modok and his owner Gus. This shop is filled with more comic books than anyone could read in a lifetime.

For those who like to read comic books, Central City Comics (CCC) is any collector's dream.

Since 1991, comic shops have existed off and on in Ellensburg. In 2005, Central Card Connection opened specializing more in trading cards than comics.

Gus Foster, the current owner, operator, proprietor, and employee of (CCC), worked for Central Card Connection under two different managers. The first ended up selling the business to the second manager, who soon after decided to stop running the store.

After the second manager quit, Foster realized there was no longer a comic shop in Ellensburg. He purchased the comic book inventory from the second manager, amassed a larger stock of comics through various comic book conventions and changed the name to Central City Comics. In June 2010, he relocated the shop across from the Ellensburg post office to its current location 113 E. 4th Ave. and the rest is history.

According to Foster, CCC is a one-man circus. In addition to being the owner and employee, he also has to have at least a passing knowledge of multiple mediums (such as comics, board games, card



LINDSAY ROSE/OBSERVER

**GUARD DOG** Shop owner Gus Foster and his companion Modok.

games, etc.) to work with customers. Foster says comic shops are also expected to host events. Every Wednesday from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Warhammer events are held. A nationwide program known as Dungeons & Dragons Encounters are held the same day at 5:30 p.m. Fridays are Magic the Gathering nights.

CCC has everything a comic lover and even a hardcore (non-video) gamer could ask for. In addition to comics, merchandise includes board games, action figures, bobble heads, comic and movie-themed plushies, t-shirts, Magic the Gathering and Pokémon cards, and gaming supplies.

"I got the same comics that they sell anywhere else," Foster said. "I'm a small version of a much bigger store."

The store specializes in American comics, but customers do have access to Japanese manga and other non-American publications.

"If I can't get it, I can special order it," Foster said.

He usually gets around four special order requests a week.

According to Foster, CCC's clientele consists mainly of college students—approximately 70 percent, so business is definitely good. It also helps that customers enjoy the friendly, laid-back environment of the store.

Eric Anderson, senior biology, said that Foster got him into comics. Now, he visits the store at least once a week.

"[Gus] is a great salesman," Anderson said. "He's easy to talk to, caters to customer's interests. This store is great; I enjoy it."

Fifth-year senior music education Morgan Pendon said that CCC is his favorite place to come to in town.

"I love this store. I've been coming here the last three years, and it keeps getting bigger and better," he said.

Pendon said that he knows every time he visits, he will leave with something he likes, and he appreciates that.

"[Gus has] always been really attentive to what I like, what he thinks I'd like," Pendon said. "I don't get any service like this anywhere else in town, so it's nice."

Aaron Beasley, junior environmental studies-chemistry, enjoys visiting CCC for the fun atmosphere and the great social environment.

"If nothing else, you've got Modok," Beasley said.

Central City Comics is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. Special event days see extended hours of operation. New comics are released on Wednesdays, and special orders or reservation requests can be made through the store's Facebook page.

## Every day I'm Buskerin'

First Fall Fest is a hit with Central students and local businesses

BY MADDY SHORTT  
Staff Reporter

Ellensburg's traditional farmers' market joined together with street performers last Saturday to form Fall Fest: a festival filled with everything from ethnic dancers to pumpkin painting.

A man in worn blue jeans and a flannel shirt strums a guitar as the occasional onlooker approaches.

Michael Walker, of Michael's Garden, has been growing different varieties of heirloom tomatoes for the past 14 years and has been coming to the Ellensburg Farmer's Market since 1994.

It's not Walker's guitar playing that brings the customers in (although it surely doesn't hurt). Instead, it's the tomatoes—softball-sized gems saturated with hues of purple, green, yellow and red.

"It's slow food," Walker said.

Walker does all of the growing and harvesting of the tomatoes, but doesn't come to the market just to sell his produce. He enjoys conversations with friends he only sees at the market, the "old timers."

"I build new friendships over time and they keep coming back," Walker said. "My hard work pays off that way."

Though Walker says he will be done harvesting at the end of this month, he has plans to return to the farmers' market next season.

The festive sounds of Latin-based music boomed around a crowded street corner. The source? Three Zumba dancers

dressed in yoga pants and brightly colored tank tops, stomping their feet and shaking their hips.

According to one of the dancers, Meg Anderson, a Spanish teacher at Quincy High School, Fall Fest "is a great way to promote Zumba." She goes on to say that the three of them "work hard all year long" and that "it's fun to get out and show people what [Zumba is] like."

Liz Hampton, senior recreation, is another dancer who teaches Zumba on campus and at The Gym.

"I love to see [people] happy when they're out there dancing," Hampton said.

Down the street, behind the remaining vendors busy packing away the last of their produce, stand two young boys in matching blue jeans and blue and white plaid shirts.

"The Diabros," reads the sandwich board propped against the building behind them.

Ellensburg locals Garrett, 14 and Thomas, 11, Snedeker, are two brothers who have been juggling together for about six years.

A basic, electronic version of Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" plays out of the speakers on the keyboard the boys brought for their act.

They both stare at the brightly colored spheres with concentration as they toss them about to the beat of the music.

According to Garrett, this is their first time performing at Fall Fest, but they have been performing at the farmer's market



LINDSAY ROSE/OBSERVER

**BUSKERIN' BUSKERIN'** Fabiola Serra, Meg Anderson and Liz Hampton rumba for Zumba at the first Buskers in the Burg Fall Festival on Saturday, October 21, 2011.

for the last two years.

"Getting people excited" is the best part, Garrett said. "The kids really like it."

Although the routines performed on Saturday took the boys two months of preparation, they "really still just do it for fun," Thomas said.

Ivana Trotman, senior comm. studies, stops to watch the Diabros act for a few minutes.

"I've been to the farmers market before, but I didn't know about the performances," Trotman said.

Trotman reached into her bag to pull out a box of freshly baked cookies she

bought down the street from Selah's Buhmaster Baking Company, her favorite part of the event.

According to Ellensburgfallfest.org there was a total of 15 separate acts entered in the quest to become Ellensburg's favorite busker.

Votes were cast for the top three buskers via text message. First place went to The Whereabouts, a garage, rockabilly alternative folk band. Kelsee Drain, a folk/rock-based singer and guitarist, took second and Quit Thinkin', a group with styles varying from polkas to Irish Jigs, took third place.

# Revamped and ready for reviews

*It's showtime for the Ellensburg Film Festival*

BY KELSEE DODSON-CARTER  
Assistant Scene Editor

Filmmakers will get a chance to showcase their work at the Ellensburg Film Festival (EFF) this weekend. This three-day festival features documentaries, short films, feature films and many more works, activities and performances.

This is the seventh year for the EFF, which brings new and improved elements along with it.

"We are encouraging people to get the most out of the festival," said Sarah Haven, president and festival coordinator.

This year new venues are opening up at Raw Space and the SURC and utilizing these venues allows for more capacity for EFF. More education opportunities are available this year with the CWU film and video studies showcase. In the past, there have been free films offered but this year there is a free venue offered in the Kim Khap Building.

"Hopefully everyone can participate regardless of what their pocket book looks like," Haven said.

EFF is helping to represent independent filmmakers and according to Haven, many of these films are on the festival circuit and some are not even out yet.

"We watch a lot of films and pick out the good bunch," she said.

A good chunk of films showcased are northwest based. For Haven, it shows how vibrant the medium of film is in the northwest.

"We are doing this for the community," she said. "You gotta show up to tell us what you think."

Cameron Jessup, senior film and video studies said attendees should to expect to bounce around Ellensburg and enjoy good films, conversations and company.

Just like Jazz in the Valley and Dachshunds on Parade, Jessup said that EFF is just another one of those cultural festivals in Ellensburg that can't be missed.

"It's our Hollywood moment," he said.

For more information and purchase tickets visit [www.ellensburgfilmfestival.com](http://www.ellensburgfilmfestival.com).

- Single Ticket: \$6 General / \$3 Student (with valid ID)
- SixTix Deal: \$30 (choose any six EFF films)
- Festival Pass: \$50 each (admission to all screenings, events and ceremonies, PLUS a film festival t-shirt)

		CWU SURC	RAW SPACE	KIM KHAP BLDG FREE VENUE	GALLERY ONE
OCTOBER 7, 2011	5PM				
	6PM			MOSAİK 6:00-7:00	HEADQUARTERS OPEN 5:00-7:00
	7PM				
	8PM	EVEN THE RAIN 7:30-9:15		YASUNI UNCHEN ANDALOU 7:15-9:10	
	9PM				
OCTOBER 8, 2011	10AM				
	11AM			SIXTY IN 60 11:00-12:00	
	12PM	PEDAL DRIVEN TO BE LOVED 12:00-1:15		THE ESCAPE 12:00-12:30	
	1PM		GIANTS A SECRET FRIEND 1:00-2:30	FVS SHOWCASE-FACULTY FILMS 12:30-2:00	HEADQUARTERS OPEN 10:00-4:00
	2PM	LORDS OF NATURE Q&A MOSSGROVE 1:45-3:30		MARK MANLUX LICENSING 2:15-3:45	
	3PM		EVERYDAY SUNSHINE 3:00-4:45		
	4PM	HOLY ROLLERS Q&A 4:00-5:45		SHOW US YOUR SHORTS 4:00-6:00	
	5PM				
	6PM		LOST AIRMEN OF BUCHENWALD Q&A 6:00-8:30	MEET JOHN DOE 6:00-8:05	
	7PM	BELLFLOWER 7:00-8:45			
8PM					
9PM				FESTIVAL GALA 9:00-2:00	
OCTOBER 9, 2011	11AM		A PERFECT SOLDIER A SCENE AT THE SEA 11:30-12:50	NEWWORDS 11:00-1:00	
	12PM				
	1PM	ANIMATED SHORTS 1:00-2:00	THE DHAMMA BROTHERS 1:15-2:30	FVS SHOWCASE STUDENT FILMS 1:15-2:45	HEADQUARTERS OPEN 12:00-4:00
	2PM				
	3PM	IF A TREE FALLS SUMMER ELEGY 2:45-4:30	I AM A SECRETLY IMPORTANT MAN 3:00-4:30	MARK MANLUX FREELANCE SURVIVAL 3:00-4:30	
	4PM	TABLOID 5:00-6:30	BEATBOXING TO BE FRANK/HITOMI 5:00-6:30	THE LADY VANISHES 4:45-6:15	
	5PM				
	6PM				
7PM	TO BE HEARD/Q&A 7:00-8:30				

## 2011 festival schedule

### CWU Homecoming Week October 8 - 15, 2011

**SATURDAY 10/8**

**Pep Rally**  
11:30 a.m., SURC West Patio

**CWU Football vs Western Oregon**

1 p.m., Tomlinson Field

**MONDAY 10/10**

**Monday Movie Madness: "Winnie the Pooh"**  
7 & 9 p.m., SURC Theatre

**TUESDAY 10/11**

**Mr. & Ms. Central**  
**All-hall talent competition**  
7 p.m., SURC Ballroom

**WEDNESDAY 10/12**

**Wildcat Wednesday: Wear your crimson & black!**

**THURSDAY 10/13**

**Wellington's Wildfire: bonfire, food, music, games**  
6-8 p.m., Community Fields & Challenge Course

**FRIDAY 10/14**

**Wildcat Pride: Wear your CWU gear!**

**Homecoming Dance**

9 p.m.-Midnight, SURC Ballroom

**SATURDAY 10/15**

**Kamola Hall 100th Year Celebration**  
10 a.m., Kamola Hall

**Homecoming 5K**

10:30 a.m., leaves from OPR/SURC East Patio  
Register at Rec Center

**Wildcat Alley pre game activities**

11 a.m.-1 p.m., outside Tomlinson Stadium

**Pep Rally and march to field**

11:30 a.m., SURC West Patio

**CWU Football vs Humboldt State**

1 p.m., Tomlinson Field

Alumni events: [www.cwu.edu/~cwualum](http://www.cwu.edu/~cwualum)

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[www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets](http://www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets)



CWU HOMECOMING & CAMPUS ACTIVITIES PRESENT COMEDIAN/ACTOR

# D.L. HUGHLEY

With special guest KERMET APIO

**OCTOBER 15, 2011 ★ 8 P.M. ★ SURC BALLROOM**

**TICKETS: \$20 CWU STUDENT GA, \$27 NON-CWU STUDENT GA, \$37 RESERVED**

**Online: [www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets](http://www.cwu.edu/~wildcattickets) ★ In person: Wildcat Shop or Welcome Center**



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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For accommodations, please call Campus Activities at 509-963-1691 or email [CDSrecept@cwu.edu](mailto:CDSrecept@cwu.edu). CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX Institution.



GABRIELA CHAIDEZ/OBSERVER

**ART IN THE ALLEY** Local artists can attend free workshops and display their artwork at Alley Cat Artists at 414 N. Main Street.

## Alley Cat Showcases Independent Artists



BY AMANDA BOWERS  
Staff Reporter

Alley Cat Artists is a place full of opportunities for people to showcase art and become an independent part of the local artist community.

According to Shannon Bright, program manager, Alley Cat Artists encourages empowerment and collaboration from artists with and without disabilities to utilize and foster resources that will sustain professional development.

Von Alison, executive director of CWU Disability Services opened up Alley Cat Artists in October of 2009.

"I started Alley Cat Artists because we felt that there was a gap with individuals with disabilities," Alison said. "It's slowly progressing, everybody that has been involved have had a really strong commitment ensuring that it has a real powerful presence in the community."

There are many programs that Alley Cat Artists offers. Every month they are involved in the First Friday Art Walk, which provides the opportunity for people to view or purchase the artwork that is displayed. Every Wednesday night, there are open workshops for artists. During the workshops there will be a professional artist to help.

"Alley Cat Artists' space offers a free open workshop for artists to come and work on individual projects in a fun and supportive environment," Bright said.

One of the main focuses of Alley Cat Artists is to help disabled artists go public and sell their artwork. The artists price

their own artwork and Alley Cat Artists receives a 30 percent commission off the sale price.

"I really enjoy encouraging and supporting the artists," Bright said. "We have everything from established artists to emerging."

Alley Cat Artists' employees and volunteers strive to help rising disabled artists develop their skills.

"It's an organization that is really driven by people with disabilities, for people with disabilities," Alison said. "The goal is to make sure it stays run by people with disabilities."

Alley Cat Artists has several volunteers that help prepare for art venues by passing out flyers, cleaning the space, hanging up art work and doing whatever else is needed.

"We have a real strong involvement with volunteers from CWU," Bright said.

One volunteer in particular that has stuck with Alley Cat Artists and is now part of their team is artist Xander McCrary.

"I hung around enough to understand what to do," McCrary said. "I think my favorite thing about being here is meeting all the artists."

McCrary has been a serious artist for eight years now and has had his artwork displayed in the shop, various coffee shops and other galleries.

"When I started taking my artwork seriously I worked with pencil and ink to create illustrations," McCrary said. "As human beings we have been creating [art] before the human language."

## Traveling, Toasting & Tasting

Wine studies professor Amy Mumma wanders the world of wine

BY KELSEE DODSON-CARTER  
Assistant Scene Editor

After traveling across the world and tasting various wines, Amy Mumma, founder, coordinator and instructor for Central Washington University's World Wine program, never thought she would be offered a glass of venomous snakes marinated in wine. This was by far one of the weirdest wines she has ever tasted.

"It was disgusting," Mumma said. "But in China when you are offered something you kinda have to take it."

Wine is supposed to be good for one's health and well-being, but Mumma didn't drink it all.

"Maybe I will just die young," she said.

Mumma grew up in a winemaking family and she has studied wine all over the world, including London and France. Not only has Mumma studied wine throughout the world, but has also traveled just to judge wine tastings. Her latest trip was to China, where she served as one of two chief judges for the International Beverage Exposition and Competition (IBEC).

For this event Mumma organized wine tasting, partook in panels and handed out awards.

"I've been lucky," Mumma said.

All of her traveling arrangements are always paid for: flights, hotels, food and even the wine that she drinks.

Mumma loves traveling abroad because she is not only promoting the wine program but promoting Central as a whole.

When most people hear wine they think of grapes and vineyards, but what they don't see is that the wine industry is much more than that. Mumma created the World Wine program because there were no programs on campus that focused on the business aspects of the wine industry.

She knows that this program wouldn't have happened without support from the administration, which is why she loves teaching at Central.

"I give projects that you actually do in the real world," Mumma said.

There are many opportunities and hands-on experiences in the wine classes.

Cara LeDuc, senior global wine studies, said that everything they do in class pertains to real world situations.

So students gain experience and knowledge in multiple facets through the industry.

"Amy is probably one of the best professors I have ever had in my four years of college," LeDuc said. "I never walked out

of her class feeling like I wasted my time." Mumma understands that wine is intimidating to many people and hopes to eventually break down such barriers because she doesn't want her students to be wine snobs.

"There is too much ego in the industry," Mumma said. "We don't need any more of that."

Max Murrey, senior global wine studies, said he has learned that wine isn't as scary as people think it is.

"People need to just enjoy the stuff and drink responsibly," he said.

Murrey enjoys being a part of the global wine studies program. They get to drink and spit wine for credit.

"It doesn't get any better than that," he said.

In 2005, Mumma was awarded the title of Professional Wine Woman. The top award of the International Wine Women Awards in Paris.

"It not only sky rocketed my career but it was an award designed to recognize women," Mumma said.

Mumma recommends a book called "10,000 Hours" about the time that it takes to get to where one wants to be successful.

"You see all the success that I have," Mumma said. "But you don't see the 10,000 hours it took to get here."

She knows that she is lucky to be doing a job that she loves. She gets to be here and travel internationally.

"It makes it more than a job," Mumma said.

Although Mumma has visited many countries, she still considers herself a Washingtonian. When she tells people in the wine industry that she is from Washington they always say "Oh, I didn't know you could grow grapes in the capital."

Out of all of the wines Mumma has tasted, she doesn't have a favorite brand of wine. It all depends on the occasion, who she is with, what she is eating and the time of year.

"I would rather buy 12 different wines than a case of the same kind," she said.

The most expensive bottle of wine Mumma has tasted was a bordeaux priced at \$3,000, and the oldest wine was an 1858 German Riesling.

The first wine that Mumma ever tasted was a German Riesling, but her favorite type of wine is champagne because it combines wine making, art, celebration and happiness.

"If I was stranded on a desert island, I would have to have champagne," commented Mumma.

**“ You see all the success that I have but you don't see the 10,000 hours it took to get here. ”**

**-AMY MUMMA**  
Coordinator and instructor  
CWU World Wine Program



COURTESY OF AMY MUMMA

**CHEERS** Mumma and Brad Snaza, CWU graduate of global wine studies celebrating at a farewell dinner in Mendoza, Argentina.

**THIS COULD BE YOU!**

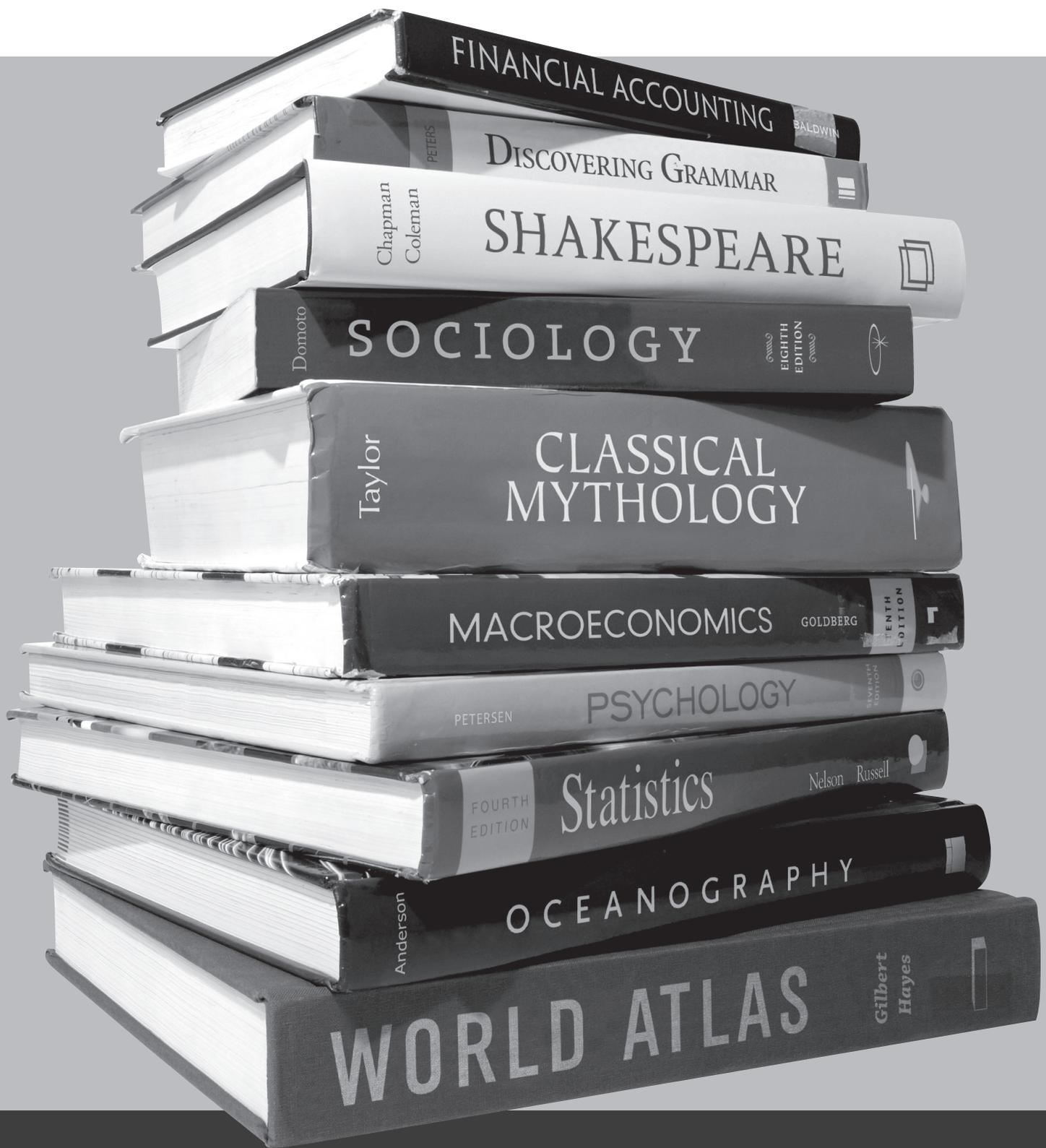
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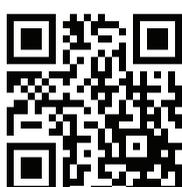
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# Central claws to first win 37-17

BY EVAN THOMPSON  
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats got the monkey off their back with their first win of the season after their worst start in 31 years. That dry wind blowing through Kittitas Valley was a collective sigh of relief.

The Wildcats beat the Simon Fraser Clan 37-17.

"It feels good," junior quarterback Ryan Robertson said. "Sad we had to wait this long to get the first win but I really feel like we played a complete game."

Robertson finished the day with 205 yards on 15 completions.

"I was happy with my performance, I just wanted to take care of the ball and make good reads, and for the most part I think I did that," Robertson said. "It just feels good to win; it's been a while since we've won a game."

Being 0-3 dampened the player's spirits, but coming off a bye-week, Robertson felt this worked to the Wildcat's advantage.

"After losing three games we were all just so demoralized," Robertson said. "I think it was good for us to all regroup a little bit and kind of forget about the playoff picture, the GNAC race, all that stuff, and just focus on the next game."

The marching band made its first appearance of the year, along with a large portion of the student body, which nearly filled Tomlinson stadium to maximum capacity.

"It's exciting to have the college atmosphere; the tailgating was going on, the band," Head Coach Blaine Bennett said. "It's great to have the students back."

Senior defensive linemen Mike Reno and Taylor Tanasse led a banged-up front seven, with Deionte Gordon, who led the team with six solo tackles, making several fill plays from his safety position. The defensive line for the Wildcats was expected to be a strength, but injuries have plagued them so far this season.

"We're really lean," Bennett said. "Obviously Tyrell (Nielsen) and Alex Griffin, a real good freshman player for us, is out for a few weeks. So for whatever the reason sometimes it hits the same position. The football gods do that to you. That'll be our third defensive lineman off of a group that we really thought was our strength."



JOEY LEBEAU/OBSERVER

**NO, I DON'T THINK SO** Jeremiah Laufasa, 40, freshman and Levi Taylor, 33, freshman gang tackle for a loss of yards vs. Simon Fraser University on Oct. 1.

The following drive, the Clan went three and out. Robertson led the Wildcats on a six play, 48-yard drive resulting in a touchdown pass to senior Justin Helwege, who ran a slant route, then dragged his defender several yards to reach the goal line for his first of two touchdowns of the season.

"It's always a great day when you get a W," Helwege said. "Finally got some

touchdowns under my belt."

Following Helwege's touchdown, the Clan answered with a 27-yard field goal.

The kickoff was booted out of bounds, giving the Wildcats excellent field position. They drove down the field until Levi Taylor took it to the house on a 14-yard touchdown run. Taylor's career high rushing numbers came as no surprise to Bennett.

## Scrum chums

GIANCARLO GONZALEZ  
Sports Editor

Rugby's a lifestyle.

It's funny how ruggers can hit someone in the heat of battling back and forth on the pitch and then be best of friends when the final whistle blows. Central's women's rugby club offers students a way to blow off some steam in a supportive environment. Just wear a mouth guard.

Katie Wilson, senior elementary education, played soccer, tennis and ran cross country in high school, but her rugby playing started in college. The president of the women's rugby club at Central remembers her introduction to the sport beginning in the dorms when listening to her roommate experiences.

"My roommate was playing and she would come home with these like, awesome bruises and tell me how exciting it was, how fun it was so I joined 'cause of her and it was a lot of fun," Wilson said. "Rugby's a fast paced, lot of fun, contact sport with a great team environment."

Kalica Chase, senior food science and

nutrition, joined her freshman year and played up until last year when a succession of injuries made her mother step in and say no more.

"I broke my hand in a game and dislocated my knee in another," Chase said. "It was heartbreaking when she said she didn't want me playing anymore."

Nevertheless, Chase stays close to her rugby family.

"I call my girls to see how they're doing, we hang out seven days a week and we all know what's going on," Chase said. "It's a special bond and if you've never played before, you'll fall in love with it, it's amazing, rugby's its own sport."

The Women's rugby club invites all women to come and join. There are no cuts so everyone gets to play. This year, Scott Harper is the new head coach. Last year's coach, Christina Zier, was also a stand out player in her day.

Zier graduated from Central with All-American honors and plays for the top flight Emerald City Mudhens in Seattle. Her younger sister Brittany Zier, junior physical education, transferred from Spo-

kane Community College. Playing with and for her sister was rewarding.

"She definitely made sure I understood the game and expected me to know the nuances of the game," Zier said. "She was so good and I enjoyed it a lot."

The women's team is a tight knit group. The veterans and the rookies have a "moms and daughters" rapport where "moms" give "daughters" goodie baskets before each game.

The team has spaghetti feeds and movie nights before each game. Last year they completed the ropes challenge course on campus and this year, they're planning on doing a warrior dash.

Their sisterhood is based on trusting each other, caring for one another and having each other's back.

Randy Rowland, senior exercise science, thinks anyone can play rugby.

"A lot of girls are afraid to play because they think they're not too tough or they're too big or too small but there's a spot for everyone," Rowland said. "If you're big, you'd play forward which is the equivalent of linemen in football and if you're small, you'd play back which is similar to running backs and receivers in football."

Rowland has been preparing all summer for rugby in the fall. She's been running half marathons and lifting in the gym.

"I'm ready to kick some butt."

"Levi is very capable of having that kind of a game," Bennett said. "We didn't throw the ball to the running backs today so our game plan was a little bit easier. Probably better for those guys just to get the ball and run with it and I thought Levi played very well. Any time we have a guy over a hundred yards that's a great day."

After a stalled drive and backed up in their own end zone, the Clan would punt it away to Reggie Westmoreland who returned the punt 20 yards to the Simon Fraser 27-yard line.

The Wildcats appeared stagnant on their next drive, after being stopped on fourth down.

Sean Davis then lined up for a 48-yard field goal and split the uprights to further the Wildcats lead to 17-3. The 48-yarder was Davis's second longest kick; his longest was a 50-yard field goal against Eastern Washington last season.

At the start of the second quarter, Robertson connected with Helwege for a 49-yard touchdown, extending the lead 24-3.

It was a defensive struggle until 50 seconds before halftime when Robertson threw his third touchdown pass on the afternoon to put the Wildcats on top 31-3.

In the second half, the Wildcats added to their lead with two field goals, including one from backup kicker Josef Kitsler.

A botched read and a fumble recovery for a touchdown allowed Simon Fraser to close the lead in the fourth, but Central held on for the win.

"We're very young," Bennett said. "Obviously there's the [strong] junior class, but it was fun to watch some of those younger players get out there in that fourth quarter and play."

Tanasse felt the game had a valuable impact on the team heading into the remainder of the season.

"[It was] definitely a positive influence," Tanasse said. "Coming together as a team, I really thought this last week made a huge difference."

The Wildcats host Western Oregon on Oct. 8.

"I'm excited for that game," Robertson said. "They like to talk a lot on the field and they definitely had some nice words for me after the game, so I'm looking forward going out there and just having some fun and score like we did (last Saturday)."

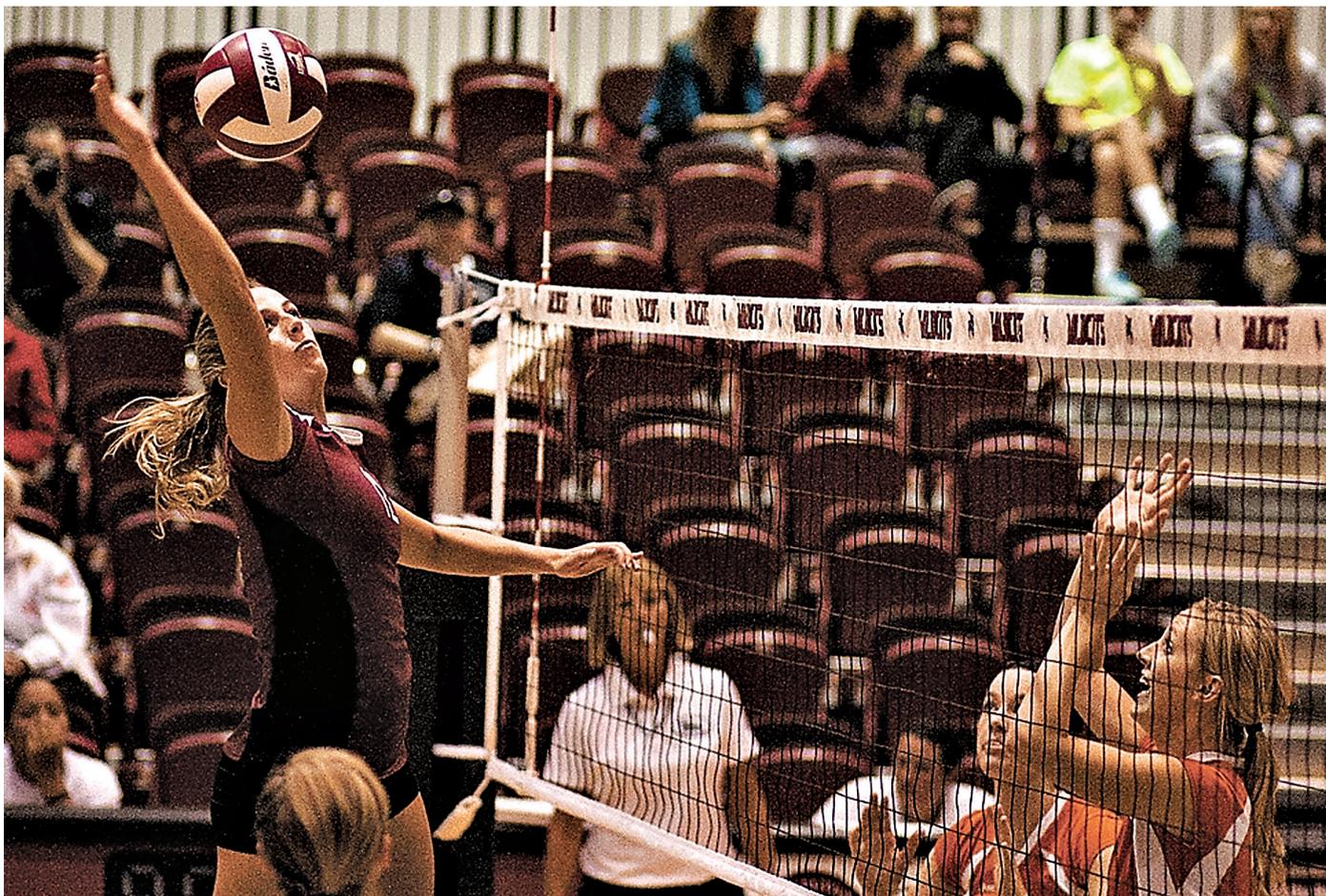
It's a new month and a new team.



COURTESY OF KATHERINE WILSON

**OUT OF MY WAY** Central alum, Christina Zier runs with the ball last year.

10/22/11: WOU, at Nicholson rugby pitch, 1 p.m.  
11/5/11: Reed College, at Nicholson rugby pitch, 1 p.m.



KATHARINE LOTZE/OBSERVER

**NO QUIT** Freshman Julie Hulbert spikes the ball over two Walla Walla players on Monday, September 19, 2011.

# Central splits on road

BY ALEX SHERK  
Staff Reporter

We all know the saying, "offense sells tickets and defense wins games." On Thursday, Sept. 29, the lady Wildcats didn't abide by this saying losing to the Western Oregon Wolves.

However, in their second game of the week, the Wildcats pulled a complete turnaround against St. Martins in Lacey, on Saturday Oct. 1.

The Central Washington Wildcats first traveled to Western Oregon Thursday evening, resulting in a three set loss against the Wolves.

The first set of the game ended with a close call favoring the Wolves, who won the match with a final score of 25-23. The struggles continued as Central lost the last two sets 25-22 and 25-18.

"Our biggest challenge right now is defense," said Head Coach Mario Andaya.

The Wolves had a total of 49 kills, which impacted the team's defensive ability and got their offensive momentum going.

"It's hard to play when you are coming

from behind," Andaya said.

Despite getting off to a slow start, the Wildcats found a way to pick up their offensive energy. Senior Jordan Offutt, who had a match-high 14 kills, led the surge, but overall the team continued to struggle defensively and fell to the Wolves in three straight sets.

The team knew they needed to make defensive adjustments, and they did just that.

Saturday night, the Wildcats fought to break their road-losing streak. Central won in three straight sets, beating St. Martins 25-23, 25-18 and 25-18.

With the win the Wildcats improve to 3-4 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) standings. Central now sits at sixth place in the conference.

"We had a better defensive effort from the previous night and the players really came through with that," Andaya said. "By having a better defensive game it helped their groove offensively, resulting in better team play setting them up for a victory."

Leading the Wildcats were Offutt and Senior Meg Ryan, who combined had 26

kills.

Central had a total of 63 digs, which allowed them to set up their offense and get in scoring position.

"Tonight we tightened up our defense; we made some changes to our personnel. It really helped tonight and came through for us," said senior setter Carlee Marble.

The Wildcats know how they can play; it was all about getting back to the frame of mind and having confidence in each other as a team to get the job done.

"I think it was a huge focus tonight for us to just getting back to playing the way we should be," Offutt said.

The Wildcats went back to playing their game and came out on top, sweeping St. Martins and leaving them with the numb feeling that was all too familiar to the Wildcats Thursday evening.

Central looks to continue playing their style of volleyball at Nicholson Pavilion this week. The Wildcats will play at home against Alaska Anchorage, who is in second place in the GNAC, on Thursday, Oct. 6 and Alaska Fairbanks on Saturday, Oct. 8.

Both games start at 7 p.m.

# X-country recovers

BY CONNOR VANDERWEYST  
Staff Reporter

Central Washington's cross country team traveled to Salem, Ore. to compete in the Charles Bowles Willamette Invitational last Saturday.

With senior Manuel Santos fighting off an ankle injury incurred at the previous meet, sophomore Nathan Minor led the way for the Wildcats with a time of 25 minutes, 51 seconds in the men's 8k race. Minor set a lifetime personal record by over a minute and a half.

"I couldn't have asked for a better race, it was great," Minor said. "My summer training is finally paying off it looks like, so I'm glad."

A hobbled Santos finished with a respectable time of 26 minutes, 32 seconds.

On the women's team, redshirt freshman Connie Morgan was the leader with a time of 19 minutes, 18 seconds. Sophomore Taylor Kartes was the second Wildcat to finish with a time of 20 minutes, 5 seconds.

"It went really good, it was a really fun course and I was pleased with my time," Morgan said. "And the team as a whole did really well. A lot of people [ran personal records]. You always want to do better, but I knew I should be happy, I'm pretty happy with what I ran."

Despite battling injuries, Coach Kevin Adkisson was pleased with the performance of the team.

"The entire travel squad had what we were shooting for, so pretty pleased," Adkisson said.

Although the team made strides at the meet, they are far from where they want to be at the end of the season.

"This year, the definite goal is to build people back up and stay healthy and get



COURTESY OF ADRIANA MENDOZA

**POWER SURGE** Nathan Power stays in the lead at the Charles Bowles Invite.

ourselves up out of that level and into the thick of the conference," Adkisson said.

The meet marked the final trip outside of Washington state for the Wildcats. The teams' next meet is the Western Classic Invitational held in Bellingham on Oct. 8.

# WOLFCAT SPORTS BOARD

## FOOTBALL

**RECENT GAME:**  
W 37-17 vs. Simon Fraser  
Red shirt freshman RB Levi Taylor runs wild for 153 yards and 1 TD as the Wildcats claw out their first W of the season.

CONFERENCE	W	L
Western Oregon	3	0
Humboldt State	3	0
Dixie State	1	2
Central Washington	1	2
Simon Fraser	0	4

**NEXT GAME:**  
10/8 W. Ore @ home- 1 P.M.  
Pivotal GNAC game as the 'Cats look to rebound in the conference

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

**RECENT GAME:**  
T 1-1 vs. MSUB  
Senior Amy Pate's goal salvaged a tie for the Wildcats.

CONFERENCE	W	L	T
Seattle Pacific	5	1	0
Montana State Billings	4	0	2
Central Washington	4	1	1
Western Washington	4	2	0
Western Oregon	2	3	1
Northwest Nazarene	2	4	0
Saint Martin's	1	5	0
Simon Fraser	0	6	0

**NEXT GAME:**  
10/7 SPU @ home- 4 P.M.  
CWU looks to close in on SPU and MSUB in standings.

## VOLLEYBALL

**RECENT GAME:**  
W 3-0 @ St. Martin's  
CWU climbed to 3-4 in GNAC play.

CONFERENCE	W	L
Western Washington	6	1
Alaska Anchorage	6	1
Seattle Pacific	5	1
Western Oregon	5	3
Northwest Nazarene	4	3
MSU Billings	2	4
Central Washington	3	4
Alaska Fairbanks	2	5
Saint Martin's	2	6
Simon Fraser	0	7

**NEXT GAME:**  
10/6 vs. Alaska Anchorage -7 P.M.

## CROSS COUNTRY

**RECENT GAME:**  
M: 10th W:16th Charles Bowles Willamette Invitational

**NEXT GAME:**  
10/8 Western Classic Invitational @ Bellingham

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
CWU'S TEAMS VISIT  
[WILDCATSPORTS.COM](http://WILDCATSPORTS.COM)



MICHAEL HARRISON/OBSERVER

**IN THE ZONE** Sophomore Kelsey Villegas controls the midfield and looks to pass in Central's game vs. NNU on September 29, 2011.

# Double Overtime

## Central beats NNU, ties MSUB in double OT

**BY EVAN SLACK**  
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats women's soccer team faced off against Northwest Nazarene University on a cloudless September afternoon.

The first quarter started off with a Crusaders penalty kick, for the early lead. Not long after, Central's Carson McKole answered back with a goal of her own, tying the game at 1-1 after 15 minutes of play. McKole, a junior forward, attacked the goal relentlessly throughout the afternoon.

Hillary Franks capitalized on a shot on goal, that found its way to paydirt with the help of a shaken Crusaders defender, 2-1 Wildcats.

The Crusaders put forth a mostly clean effort, drawing only one yellow flag. Several shots were taken at Wildcat goalie, Kori Butterfield, but each was denied in turn.

A power play found its home in the net after McKole chipped a slick pass to senior Amy Pate over the right side of the Crusaders goal. Pate found herself in a position to score and didn't disappoint, 3-1 Wildcats.

"We have been practicing that play for weeks, and it really paid off for the first time all season," McKole said. "It was great to put them away, [Northwest Nazarene University] and come out three up."

"We had been practicing that play as an outside attack around the right side, but after several attempts at it, I saw an opportunity to cut up the sideline and find my way inside," Pate said.

The rest of the game saw many close calls but the score remained 3-1 until the final buzzer sounded. Senior forward Serena Tomaso found herself facing off against the Crusaders goalie several times in the closing moments of the second half, but she had some trouble delivering.

"The defense was actually pretty easy to get around," Tomaso said. "The goalie reacted faster than I expected and towards the end I just couldn't make it happen. She said following another near goal."

Assistant Coach Hannah Bridges was pleased with the team's overall performance.

"The team played well and the results

are what matter. We are definitely in for a tough game on Saturday [Central vs. Billings 11 a.m.], but we're looking for a victory and to move up in the standings," Bridges said.

With the turning of the month came a turn in the weather as well. Dark clouds threatened to dump rain on the Oct. 1 match versus the Billings Yellow Jackets.

The Wildcats came out looking strong in the first half, having no problem keeping Billings out of the goal.

"I didn't come into the season in very good shape this year, so I had to work extremely hard to get back to where I should be," sophomore goalkeeper Kori Butterfield said. "So a lot of extra fitness helped out with this game."

The hard work clearly paid off for the entire team as the game progressed without any score throughout the entire first half.

The second half started with a well-placed goal for Billings only 30 seconds in, 1-0 Jackets. Central forwards pressed relentlessly and McKole drew upon herself a red card, ejecting her from the game. With one of their top scorers on the sideline, Central became frantic in their efforts.

A corner kick from midfielder Miranda Helsep found its way into the net with a little help from the ever-persistent Pate.

"I just saw a ball coming right at me and I turned, I knew the goal was right behind me," Pate said.

With less than two minutes left in regulation, Pate and Helsep's hard work poured new life into a semi-dormant Wildcat offense, but the clock ran down and the crowd squirmed with anticipation as the match was sent into overtime.

"The team is playing really well, and up till this point, have been tied for first, which is the first time, I believe," said Gina Helsep, mother of central midfielder Miranda.

The Wildcats came away with a 1-1 tie and third place GNAC standing as the second overtime drew to a close.

"We battled, we got back in, and we got a result, not the result we wanted but a tie is better than a loss," Bridges said. "Focusing on one game at a time is going to be our goal for the upcoming weeks. We have SPU coming up and that is our focus right now."

## Facing the reality of fantasy

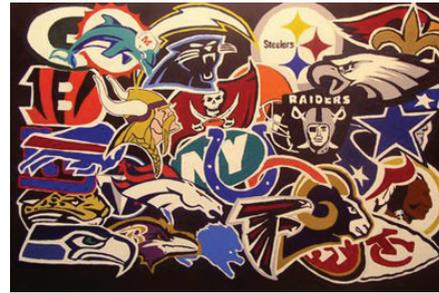
**BY CONNOR VANDERWEYST**  
Staff Reporter

Week three of the NFL season wrapped up Monday night, leaving thousands of fantasy football owners either feeling the sweet glory of victory or the bitter taste of defeat.

**Quarterback:** Jason Campbell (OAK): The Raiders hosted the Patriots and their awful defense this week. Campbell threw for 344 yards and a touchdown for a total 17 fantasy points. Next week, the Raiders face a Houston team that just gave up 40 points to the Saints. So far, with Jacoby Ford back from a hamstring injury, Campbell will have another weapon that can stretch the field. Campbell can help the next few weeks.

**Running Back:** Kendall Hunter (SF): The 49ers running back started for the injured Frank Gore in their upset of the Eagles last Sunday. Hunter ran for 38 yards and added 62 receiving yards, good for nine fantasy points. Hunter will be productive if Gore misses carries while recovering from his injury.

**Wide Receiver:** Victor Cruz (NYG): Many people hopped on the Torrey Smith bandwagon after his three-touchdown performance against the Rams. However, this week against the Jets, Smith only caught one ball for one yard. The better pickup is Giants wide receiver Victor Cruz. Cruz torched the highly-touted Eagles defensive backs for 110 yards and two touchdowns, followed by a 98-yard performance against



Arizona. With Giant's receivers Domenik Hixon, out with a torn ACL, and Mario Manningham, having a down year, Cruz should be targeted frequently. Cruz has a great rapport with quarterback Eli Manning and will help fill the void left by Steve Smith's departure to rival Philadelphia.

**Tight End:** Ed Dickson (BAL): Dickson was the victim of an ugly game between the Ravens and the Jets on Sunday night with only 45 yards. However, Dickson has outplayed fellow tight end Dennis Pitta so far this year and is now the clear-cut starter.

Pitta is the Ravens' third leading receiver and is poised for a breakout season. After the Ravens' bye week they face the Houston Texans who gave up 100 yards to New Orleans tight end Jimmy Graham last week. Dickson is a solid pickup for deep leagues.

**Defense/Special Teams:** Tampa Bay Buccaneers: The Bucs got after Curtis Painter on Monday night, forcing a fumble and sacking Painter four times. The Bucs were several dropped interceptions away from double digit fantasy points.

After the Colts, the Bucs travel to San Francisco to play the 49ers and turnover machine Alex Smith. If Ted Ginn, Jr. is kept in check on special teams, the Bucs won't give up more than 17 points.

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THE OBSERVER



# Gem of a hike

MICHAEL HARRISON/OBSERVER

**THE PATH LESS TRAVELED** Manastash Ridge offers local hikers a getaway from the grind of daily work.

**BY TIM PARK**  
Staff Reporter

The scorching sunshine of Central Washington may have gone into hibernation, but it's still too early for outdoor lovers to hang up their hiking boots.

Fall is the ideal time to hit an open trail and explore the outdoors.

With temperatures dropping into the 40s and 50s, the mosquitoes and flies are not a problem and the cooler weather gives people a better opportunity to view wildlife, as they become more active during cooler daylight hours.

It's not uncommon to see eagles, deer, elk, bighorned sheep, coyotes and an assortment of birds, while hiking in Kittitas County.

The most popular hike in Ellensburg is the Ray Westburg Trail on Manastash Ridge. The trail climbs 1.8 miles of steep terrain and gains more than 1,800 feet in elevation.

The moderate workout is also great for cardiovascular health. Once at the top, the majestic view of Mt. Stuart towering high above the Kittitas Valley rewards hikers.

"The ridge was a good little workout," said Jordan Miller, senior environmental studies. "And you can't beat the view, especially on a clear day, it's very peaceful."

For many years, the trail has been considered a hidden gem by locals that frequented it. Thanks to word of mouth, the trail is now widely known by people all over the state.

For folks interested in a less strenuous hike with a great view, a recommendation would be Umtanum Creek Falls Trail. It is approximately three miles round trip and twists over 700 feet of elevation gain.

The scenery is very intriguing throughout the trek, featuring various landscapes, all before reaching the 50-foot falls at the trail's end. The trailhead begins in old

growth ponderosa pine and alder while gradually transitioning into desert sagebrush as hikers gain altitude.

"I'd rate it a seven [out of ten] for view and for difficulty I'd rate it a four," said Central alumni and avid hiker Jeremy Taylor. "It's definitely a hike I enjoy but it's not hard by any means."

The Umtanum Creek Falls trailhead is less than a 20-minute drive southwest from campus.

The beautiful view combined with the soothing sound of rushing water makes for a great release from the daily stress and pressure associated with college life.

For those looking for a full day or over night hike that covers much ground, then the Ingalls Lake Trail is a can't miss.

The path goes along a plethora of breathtaking views that most people only see on the Discovery Channel. It is nine miles roundtrip and takes roughly eight hours to complete.

The hike gains 2,600 feet in elevation and the trail summit reaches Ingalls Lake at 6,500 feet. The rock basin lake sits atop a waterfall, plummeting into Ingles creek and is directly across a canyon from the gigantic south wall of Mt. Stuart.

"From Ingalls Lake, you're so close to Stuart that you feel like you can reach out and touch it," said Seattleite Taylor Bresnan.

Along the hike expect to see multiple creeks, waterfalls, meadows of wildflowers and an immense number of wildlife. This trail is for experienced hikers only and those who interested should be prepared with a map, compass, food and survival gear in case of an emergency.

"There was already a dusting of snow up there last weekend, just be prepared for every type of weather," Bresnan said. "Don't take any shortcuts and you should be fine."

For more information on these and other state trails visit [www.wta.org](http://www.wta.org).



MICHAEL HARRISON/OBSERVER

**BREATH OF FRESH AIR** A look from Manastash Ridge down the Kittitas Valley. Seeing it in its fall splendor should not be missed.

## Did you get the shot?

Calling all CWU hunters, fishers & outdoorsmen!

The Observer is now hosting a weekly photo contest! We want to share your outdoor experiences and photos with Central Washington University and the Ellensburg community.

We're looking for photos of:

- Animals or fish that you have harvested.
- Any outdoor adventures
- Wildlife or anything outdoors.

You get the picture!?!? Send us a photo of anything outdoor for a chance to win the Observer's new weekly photo contest! The prize is chance to see your photo and the story behind it published right here!

We can't wait to see what you send in!

Send all photo and story submissions to Tim Park at [parkti@cwu.edu](mailto:parkti@cwu.edu).



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