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SEMI PRO  Central soccer player David Sedano played semi-professional soccer while studying in Chile.
Correction:
In the story titled “Recycle TOMS for a cause,” in the May 3 issue, the correct email should be usedtoms@hotmail.com. Donated shoes in poor condition will be donated to the Reinvent Project, and all purchased shoes will be donated to Soles4Souls. The program runs through July.

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Bun Yom life story anything but sweet

BY SANTOS HERRERA
Staff Reporter

Bun Yom (pronounced boon) carries with him an amazing tale of survival that journeys through an unimaginable world of which few people saw the end.

Yom currently resides in Ellensburg, where he has lived since 1984. When Yom arrived in Ellensburg, he didn’t have a single penny in his pocket, and didn’t speak a word of English. He carried only the clothes on his back. During his time here, Yom worked multiple jobs every day and ran from Ellensburg to Kittitas to get to and from work.

“My family and I came here with the help of a sponsor through the United Methodist Church,” Yom said. “I was afraid to step on the sidewalk because it looked too nice, too clean. We never spit on it. Where I was in Cambodia, there was nothing but dirt everywhere.”

It took Yom two years to be able to talk about his story and be able to put it on paper. In his book “Tomorrow I’m Dead,” Yom describes in detail the horrific scenes and the Khmer Rouge, or Red Cambodians.

Cambodia’s new royal monarchist government, directed by the ground communist party that opposed Pol Pot, arose in 1960 and took over an unfinished revolution. China and the Soviet Union supported Pol Pot, and from work.

One night, Cambodian freedom fighters helped Yom and his crew escape. They escaped many times and went through an unimaginable world with them an amazing tale of survival that followed the stars to the Thai border. After Yom regained strength, grew his hair back and refreshed the color of his skin, he joined the freedom fighters to help others escape the hell he had experienced.

At 17, Yom became a special forces militiaman. He could swim through water filled with snakes and crocodiles so swiftly that if a person stood in the water with their feet shoulder width apart, he could swim right through their legs without them noticing. Yom was the guano man for special missions that crossed enemy lines. But it almost cost him his brother’s life.

One of Yom’s brothers began fighting for South Vietnam against the Khmer Rouge for food. On one occasion, Yom crossed enemy lines and spotted three groups of soldiers. He was unaware that his brother was in a group. Yom returned with the group locations and they fired away with artillery. Yom’s brother walked away from his group seconds before the shell landed where he had stood.

During the time Yom spent as a slave, and later as a freedom fighter, he believed that his entire family was dead. He figured that with hundreds killed or dying from starvation, and if he was barely alive, then surely his family must have been dead. But they weren’t. Yom’s mother searched for her family without quitting. She asked everyone she could about her family, and found she found someone who knew Yom. One by one, she found her entire family, getting in contact with the oldest of her kids in 1999 shortly before passing away.

Yom’s father and two siblings live in the Tacoma area, and his oldest brother lives happily in Cambodia.

Everything previously mentioned has only scratched the surface of his entire story. There is much more depth to what has been said here.

Yom’s book has been selling more and more copies every day. Before Yom wrote his book, small pieces of his story were published in newspaper articles. Yom opened Bun Thai Food Restaurant in Ellensburg. Yom sold his restaurant in 2006 and bought an auto repair shop which he owned for about four years. The restaurant, now Sugar Thai, is still in business. However, during the time that Yom owned the restaurant, patrons always wanted to hear stories, but it was too hard and too hurtful for Yom to talk about his experiences. He finally decided to write his story. When his book was published, 1,000 copies were made and Yom put them up for sale in his restaurant. Word got around that his book was coming out, and in three hours, all 1,000 copies had been sold.

The audio version of his book will be released soon with the help of the Made for Success Company. A Spanish translation is also available and a French translation is underway.

Bill Chandler assisted Yom with his publication. Chandler is a former Central Washington University professor of Spanish and advertising. Chandler is also an author. Chandler will also be assisting Yom in his second public title titled “Welcome to Cambodia: How I Survived in the USA.” Chandler does the voice over for the audio version that is coming soon. He, like many others, has been greatly inspired by Yom. He says one of Yom’s most impressive features is his passion and drive to help people in need.

“Once you asked for money,” Chandler said. “I told him that I had just paid him and that he shouldn’t give all of that money away and that he should keep some for himself.” Bun’s response was: “You’ve never been hungry, Bill.”

Yom is currently raising money to visit Cambodia to personally help the poor. He has not been there since he moved to Ellensburg. One of his goals is to build a well for the kids so that the water runs through is still tainted with bacteria from the thousands of dead bodies that soaked through all those years ago.

Yom wishes to make a documentary of his story with a walk through where it all happened. If Yom raises the funds to go to Cambodia and produce the documentary, there is a possibility of making his story into a film. Yom will donate the profits of the film.

If anyone wishes to donate money to help Yom go to his home country, purchase a book or T-shirt, or contact Bun Yom himself through his web page at: bunyom.com.

German major cut

By GUY HOLIDAY
Staff Reporter

Central’s foreign language department is eliminating the German language major at the end of this year. The foreign language department has been through extensive restructuring this year in order to adapt decreasing budgets and lack of student interest in certain programs.

The academic planning task force recommended a few programs for the foreign language department to cut, including the German major. The German major attracts only one or two students per year on average, according to professor Rodney Bransdorfer, acting department chair.

“The department as a whole made the decision that we wanted to keep offering at least the two years of German language available with the minor,” Bransdorfer said. “We still don’t have the budget, but essentially, [the task force] approved what we’ve asked for. We’re just waiting to see the money.”

The Chinese language major is in a similar situation as a result of low student interest and lack of department funding.

“We were asked to look at our programs – it was funding [cuts],” Profes- sor Dieter Romboy said. “We were asked to evaluate our programs and see how we could best serve the students.”

Romboy taught at Central for 40 years and will retire at the end of this quarter. His retirement was another reason the German major was cut from the department, since Romboy was, until now, the only German language professor on campus.

Of the seven foreign languages offered at Central, only Spanish is available to students who don’t wish to study a language. French, Japanese, Russian, German and Chinese can provide credits for students who wish to use those languages in other classes, but prospective language majors then must complete a study abroad program in order to graduate.

The foreign language department is restructuring the titles and designations of all of their major and minor programs to make the application process more understandable and easier to use.

Until now, the Spanish program was the only major the foreign language department creates that list- ed the language as the student’s area of study. All other degrees earned in the foreign language department are printed technically in “Spanish Language” degrees, with no mention of the specific language. After the re- structuring, students will be able to get degrees in their specific foreign language. The programs are also be- eing simplified so each language has a consistent major or specific to teaching the language, as well as the Bachelor of Arts in that language within the degree.

“The way we’re going is streamlining, eliminating some of the choices that aren’t very popular to begin with, and we’re asking more consistent across and among languages,” Bransdorfer said.

Laurie Mosher, a French professor with a Ph.D in German, will teach German classes for the re- maining German minors. The department was informed that one of the three professors of French starting next year to fill in for Mosher.
Gabbing with Guadino

BY DANNY SCHMIDT
News Editor

What advice do you have for graduating seniors?

Don’t panic. I know it’s a nervous time. I went through it, everybody’s gone through it. It’s going to work out. Be patient. Be persistent in trying for jobs. Accept rejection well, which is hard to do. Get your name out there in the job market.

Don’t take every rejection as a suggestion that you’re not going to get a job, because you are. You’re going to get a job.

How do you feel about the new logos?

I like them. I particularly like the CWU ‘Cat Head’ and I liked the old one. I like both of them.

What are you most proud of in your time here?

I’m the most proud of how we have continued to focus on student success during very difficult budget times. It would’ve been easy, in fact it was difficult, to not let the budget woes distract us from why we’re here, and that’s student success. We’ve been able to do that, maybe even more than we have in the past. We’ve been able to do some reorganization that’s going to give more focus on the students. We’re getting our name out more so we’re getting more applications to Central than we ever have before. We’re seeing the academic profile of the applicants increasing every year. We’re seeing our freshmen retention rates of students who come here and succeed their freshman year improve. We’re seeing our graduation rates get better. And it’s less me proud, because I sit here a lot, I’m not out there working with a student day-to-day, it’s that the faculty and the staff of the university, at this tough time, really focus their energy on the core initiative, and that’s paying off. We have more students than every before, you’re succeeding and what that’s really doing is solving our financial problems.

How do you deal with criticism?

I try not to take it personally. Sometimes it seems kind of personal the way it’s phrased. What I always try and do is work the problem. I try to study the problem and get input from various people. And then I try to do what I feel in my head and my heart is the best thing for the university. Not necessarily the politically expedient thing, not necessarily the popular thing, not even necessarily the common way of handling it, but what is the right thing to do? And if I’ve done that, and I think I always have, I certainly try to do that, if I do the right thing, then the criticism doesn’t hit home quite as hard. Then I look at it as a difference of opinion. If I had done something that I thought was not the right thing to do, and I was criticized, then I think you start to question yourself because you know deep down you didn’t do the right thing. I’ve always done the right thing, so you take it that way. You also have to realize that sometimes the person doing the criticizing has their own agenda. Not that they’re wrong, but they’re looking at the problem from a very different angle, or a very different perspective. So you have to give them the right to criticize you because they’re sitting in a different position.

What is the biggest misconception about you?

I think some people think that I’m not interested in student input, and that couldn’t be farther from the truth. I think some people misconstrue, if you give someone input, and they don’t follow your advice, or do what you suggest, that you weren’t serious about the input. That’s not true. Often times when I’m having to make a decision, I’ll get input from a variety of constituencies and none of them agree with the other and I have to make a decision on it. I think there are people who think that I’m not really listening I am, it’s just that I can’t make everybody happy. If someone says turn left and someone says turn right and someone says go straight and someone says back up, I’m not going to listen to all of them. That’s one thing I think people misconstrue.

Another thing people misconstrue, in fact I’m told this, is I’m very much believe in empowering people to do their job and to do it to the best of their ability and not always be looking for permission to do it a certain way from a hierarchy. I think some people just don’t believe that I’m truthful when I say that and they’re suspicious that I’m just saying that but I really want to hold all the power myself, and I don’t. Nobody that I’ve ever met in my life is as smart as everybody collectively who works for them. So there are 1,400 employees at Central and 11,000 students. Your collective brainpower is a lot more than mine. So if I sit up here and try to run the place, pull out every lever and turn every wheel, this university will never be any better than I can be in the amount of time I have to give it and the amount of brainpower I have to expend. But all of us working on that same problem, way better. I know that we’ll be a better university if people are empowered to do things at their position and that includes students as well, not just faculty and staff.

The Observer • May 10 - 16, 2012

NEWS
RSVP volunteers shine

BY KAYLA TIPPLE Staff Reporter

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Kittitas County is estimated to have saved the community $836,000 last year. Their volunteers donated over 38,000 hours to various organizations. According to their website, independentsector.org, volunteer time in 2011 was worth $21.67 an hour. That number is the estimation of what a volunteer worker’s time is worth for the jobs they perform.

RSVP is part of Senior Corp, a national program that matches volunteers with agencies.

This week is national senior corps week, which offers a chance to recognize the volunteers for their services in their communities.

Carol Findley, director of the local council RSVP, explained the significance of the week. “We want to make sure people appreci- ated how much they can do and how good it feels to be a volunteer. We want volunteers to do the work of the community.” Findley said. “There’s so many people that are behind the scenes, they never get a thank you, or they don’t want to be thanked. They quietly go about doing their volunteer work to help others.”

There are dozens of agencies that RSVP volunteers work with. Some of those agencies include the Red Cross, Kittitas Education Environment Network, Habitat for Humanity, and the Kittitas County Community Hospital. RSVP also works with the sheriff’s office, chamber of commerce, adult residential facilities and local schools, among many others.

Martha Duskin-Smith is a volunteer and Central Washington University alumna. She works with the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) program. The program has been working with RSVP for 25 years. SHIBA helps people understand health care insurance and the choices they may have when dealing with insurance.

Duskin-Smith has been volunteering with SHIBA for four years, and began volunteering after retiring from her job at Central Washington University. “What I missed about work was working with people and problem solving,” Duskin-Smith said. “I love it.”

Along with the convenience of carrying back packs, students have many other activities to look forward to with the new addition. “As soon as the remodel is done, we are going to be doing things with Facebook and Twitter in the store,” Kylie Peer, Wildcat Shop president, said. “It will give students the opportunity to win free stuff.”

After the remodel, the store will remain open until the beginning of August, when a modified version of the store will be available to students in SURC 137 A&B. The grand opening should happen around the second week of September. “As a student, the expansion will be nice for more opportunity,” Peer said. “As an employee, I’m excited to have even more Facebook and Twitter interaction with the expansion.”

UPGRADE YOU (Above) The new and improved shop will feature an upgraded electronic section. (Right) This is what the Wildcat Shop will look like in the 2012-2013 school year.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROL FINDELEY

Findley, green jacket, poses with a group of RSVP volunteers. The group, along with other volunteers, have donated 38,000 hours to organizations.

YOUR WASTE, THEIR REWARD

PHOTOS COURTESY OF STEVE WENGER

UPGRADE YOU (Above) The new and improved shop will feature an upgraded electronic section. (Right) This is what the Wildcat Shop will look like in the 2012-2013 school year.
Brains on a plane

Honors students showcase work at New Mexico conference

BY AUBREY ABBOTT
Staff Reporter

Upon arriving at the Western Regional Honors Conference, 10 William O. Douglas Honors College students and two faculty were greeted by Native American dancers and a mariachi band.

The University of New Mexico hosted the conference on April 12-14.

The dancers and mariachi band were a small, but effective sample of the local culture the students had experienced.

The honor students spent most of their time attending sessions and presenting papers they had worked on for classes.

Rebecca Kelso, director of the university honors program at UNM and coordinator of the event, explained that they chose a theme that described the Albuquerque desert, between Earth and Sky: Imagining the Future.

On top of working this year on finding a hotel for the conference and coordinated the entire event for students, faculty and administration to attend from universities and colleges throughout the western United States.

“Albuquerque is in a unique situation,” Kelso hinted at one of the themes of the conference.

The event gives honor students a chance to share knowledge and learn about the arts and sciences.

“I think it's really important for students to get to do a little bit of networking,” Otero said. “They also get to share information on how they do things.”

Pace, just returning from political science, attended the conference. She presented on the effects of a chemical known as trichloroethylene, or trichloro.

She was exposed to the chemical at age 17.

GAF-Mattel-Tyco, located in Beaverton, Ore., had been dumping the chemical into the ground water and around 25,000 people were exposed to TCE, causing many of them to die from kidney cancer. One of her sons ended up with kidney cancer, making one wonder if there is a link.

“There's a statute of limitations that has stopped legal action,” Pace said. “I'd like to get my law degree and challenge that law.”

Pace attended the Western Regional Honors Conference last year as well, and presented on the same topic but with a different focus.

Pace is now 57 years old, a non-traditional student who came to Ellensburg looking for a job. Instead, she found her way into the Douglas Honors College.

Pace was attracted to the Douglas Honors College because they waived tuition and because there was an option for more unique and interesting classes to replace the average general education classes.

Students pick from a curriculum that covers and blends more than one educational discipline.

Thanks to the program, Pace got the opportunity to learn poetry and philosophy in the same class.

She wrote a song with her son about an environmental experience.

Her poem was originally too long, so her son helped her rewrite a shorter presentation.

“Sometimes you just want to pull your hair out, but sometimes when you’re through it you realize that was really interesting and you’re glad you did it,” Pace said.

The Douglas Honors College gives students a chance to take a different route through their general education plan as well as help them with tuition. The classes are generally a little smaller and more innovative.

Professors get a chance to pitch course ideas in the fall for the students, such as digital forensics. Currently the college has approximately 161 students but it has grown considerably in the last four years.

Five years ago, the college only had 37 students involved.

Since then, they've changed the curriculum and opened the program to anyone who qualifies.

Matthew Altman, Director of the Douglas Honors College, explained that the program is now more integrated into the general education requirements and students get a chance to take more interesting classes.

“The new curriculum is bringing in more students to the program,” Altman said. “It's bringing some of the best and brightest students to Central Washington University.”

Altman also explained the attendance at the Western Regional Honors Conference this year was much greater than previous years.

Not only did Central have more students in attendance than other universities, but also all students that attended had a presentation, which isn’t always the case.

Students send a proposal with an abstract on their paper, and sometimes they aren’t accepted.

“Our students were much more prepared in their presentations and that was something to be proud of,” Altman said.

Many students in the Douglas Honors College are looking to get into graduate programs or law school.

Many students go on to use their research as part of a thesis paper or learn to develop new ideas at the conference that will help them in the future.

Ressa Nelson, senior theatre, also attended the conference and gave a presentation about the history of women acting on stage, focusing on the Renaissance era.

She's also presenting the topic at this year’s SOURCE.

“OUI OUI: A Night at the Bal” was held at the hotel and explained that it was a very busy couple of days attending sessions and presentations.

“We tried to support each other and attend all of our sessions,” Nelson said.

Nelson also explained the benefits of students becoming a part of the Douglas Honors College. According to Nelson, students get the chance to be part of the list of the best and brightest students taking the same classes as their neighbors.

“Anyone who qualifies and wants more for their education experience should join the Douglas Honors College,” Nelson said.

Altman said that being part of the program gives students an advantage.

The college is also flexible so students can apply at any point in their college career.

The college worked this year to make Ellensburg a place to live not just your four years, but instead a four-year college experience.

The scholarships for the students involved had much more to do with the learning and the experience gained.

For more information about the William O. Douglas Honors College, visit http://www.cwu.edu/~dhc/.

Sam Reed encourages student vote

BY AUBREY ABBOTT
Staff Reporter

As part of College Civics Week, Secretary of State Sam Reed made an appearance on campus May 1, encouraging students to vote.

A forum was held in the SURC where a panel of representatives, including Reed, spoke about the legislative process, upcoming election initiatives and the importance of voting.

“I want to encourage you to register and to vote,” Reed said. “This is the year for you to get involved, for you to get engaged.”

Reed started his career path by becoming more involved and excited about voting and political participation.

His “Farewell Tour” led Reed to speak at 42 different campuses across the state.

He noted that numerous international students were shocked that students in the U.S. were not involved and participating in the voting process. Furthermore, the students stated that they would love to have the opportunity to vote in their countries.

“Don’t take this for granted,” Reed said. “We are so fortunate in America; we have the right to our own leaders through the voting process, and we need to step up and take advantage of these opportunities.”

Students gathered around to listen about the importance of student participation in the upcoming election.

Reed spoke about many upcoming candidates in Washington, initiatives such as legalization of marijuana, and referenda including same-sex marriage. Reed continued to inform students that this year especially, young people should certainly get excited about these interesting and provocative issues.

Washington is the second state in the country with the option for registered voters to mail in their ballot. More importantly, Washington has a ‘student-friendly’ registration process. Students are able to mail in their ballots even if they change location, whereas in many other states physical appearance at the polls is required.

Reed believes in the importance of student participation.

“Students should be involved because of the tuition increases and costs that have hit directly; they need to be aware of the fact,” Reed said. “Students are the ones that should be out participating in order for these issues to be heard.”

Hauz Zeiger, representative and panelist participant, discussed the importance of voting, especially dealing with issues about higher education.

“We are the most civically minded generation since our grandparents,” Zeiger said.

Zeiger informed students why voting is crucial for issues brought to the legislative level, especially about budget cuts and tuition increases.

“We didn’t make any cuts this year; however, that doesn’t mean there won’t be cuts in the near future,” Zeiger said. “That doesn’t mean that we can’t ask for an increase in funding toward higher education in the near future.”

Zeiger said that a commitment needs to be made, as well as a public investment in higher education, in order to connect the interest of these issues to this state and its economic future.

Tony Aronica of the Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce spoke on the panel as well. As an executive member of the Central Alumni Association, Aronica is working to make Ellensburg a place to live not just on the weekdays. He states that student participation is extremely important.

“Voting should be the gateway to action,” Aronica said.

Audience member Steve DuPont expressed that members of the panel did an excellent job in answering the students’ questions.

“All three of the panelists were well-known and well-respected politicians,” DuPont said.
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CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Tower of Babel

U.S. doesn’t need an official language, should encourage language learning

Nothing bothers me more than when I hear someone say, “We’re in America, speak American.” Not only is it incorrect—we speak English—it’s ignorant. The U.S. does not have an official language on the national level, and rightly so. It is one of only nine countries in the world without an official language, including the United Kingdom.

Sure, our main language is English, and it goes without saying that if the U.S. were to have an official language, that would be it.

Native Americans, who spoke hundreds of different languages between all the tribes, originally inhabited this nation. English-speaking immigrants forced Native Americans onto reservations, and children were forced to learn and speak only English in boarding schools. Almost all of their native languages are now lost, and with them, a vital part of their heritage and culture. A variety of people and languages came to the U.S. during the industrial revolution in the early 1900s. English words were adopted into other languages, and new words were adopted into English to accommodate the cultural blending of so many people from so many different backgrounds converging in one place. That cultural convergence helped create the United States we have today.

To adopt an official language when our country was built upon so many different languages would violate everything this nation stands for. Free speech encompasses language too. Foreign visitors, and immigrants, shouldn’t feel alienated on American soil because they don’t speak perfect English. The English language, after all, is an immigrant to the U.S. itself. The only benefit of making English the official language would be making it official—legally. Official languages dictate the languages used to teach in school, in official documents and in legal proceedings. Really, nothing much would change. But the act, however so tiny, of creating an official language would change the dynamic between native English speakers and non-native speakers. Native English speakers could use its official status to exclude non-native and less practiced English speakers. Native speakers of other languages might forgo teaching their children their ancestral language. An official language in the U.S. would compromise the diversity that the country was built on.

In fact, the U.S. should take the opposite approach, and encourage its citizens to learn more than one language. We’re much more isolated in our giant country than Europeans are. The close proximity across the pond makes it necessary to communicate across cultures, but it also makes the speaker more employable and more culturally aware.

On the same note, visitors to the country should have a basic knowledge—even just a guide—of the English language. Though a large number of Europeans speak English, travelers to European countries wouldn’t expect to find someone who speaks their native language around every corner in America. Immigrants should have an even more advanced knowledge of the native language of the country they move to. I know I wouldn’t move to Italy without a thorough fluency in Italian. Expecting assistance in English everywhere I went would be rude and disrespectful to the country’s citizens.

The U.S. should accommodate and welcome native speakers of other languages; however, immigrants and visitors to the U.S. should be respectful of its inhabitants and at least attempt to speak our “unofficial-official” language, while we also make our best attempt at speaking theirs.

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 by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Observer reserves the right to reject or edit for style and length. All letters become property of The Observer. Anonymous letters will not be considered.
I have a confession to make. I did not grow up with the Disney Channel, Nickelodeon, or any other channels that other kids my age watched and still reminisce about today. Because extra channels were a luxury in my house, I grew up on PBS and "VeggieTales" movies. Crazy, I know.

When I first went to college and I was first getting to know each other, it came up that I had never seen "Boy Meets World," and he decided that this travesty must be remedied. This still hasn’t happened, but then, we do have the rest of our lives.

I had also never seen "Firefly" or "Avatar: The Last Airbender," but we’re covered those by now. His reaction was much more graceful than most I get when people find out that I never watched "Kermit and Kerl" or "Who's Afraid of the Dark?"

Common replies include: "You didn’t have a childhood!" and "How did you live?"

"Call it radical, but we had better things to do than flip through in front of a TV for a few hours a day. Sure, we were allowed to watch TV, but we were limited to an hour per day, and only after we had done all of our chores. But that was OK because there really isn’t a whole lot to watch when you’ve only seen one classic week of kids shows and a whole cabaret of old movies on VHS.

While my current classmates were watching "All That" and "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," I was out climbing apple trees, catching mice to dissect in order to define and explain word games, and reading the "Chronicles of Narnia" and "Harry Potter."

As I was learning and being physically active. I may not know some pop culture references from the 90s, but I am as street-smart, kitchen-smart, book-smart, and people-smart as I really need to be at this age. So I was really missing out? I don’t think so.

Register your bike with the Ellensburg Police Department through their website. Bikes can be registered through the Ellensburg Police Department through their website.

Preventing vandalism is ultimately the responsibility of students. Report suspicious activity to campus police through the non-emergency line. You wouldn’t idly walk by someone taking a rock to car windshields—an event which took place recently at Student Village—for the non-emergency line. You wouldn’t see someone taking a rock to car windshields—an event which took place recently at Student Village—because next thing you know it’s your windshield that is a purchase local dealers would actually offer you. The local pawn shop, but I don’t imagine them being particularly interested in selling used bike parts? I haven’t actually ventured inside the pawn shop, but I don’t imagine them being particularly interested in selling used bike parts?

I’d like to observe a moment of silence in this column. I know I won’t be there to enforce it, but it’s very important that you just do what I say, because you should just blindly follow every direction I provide.

That way, when I start asking you to do weird things, like smear toothpaste in your hair and stand on the street corner heckling students about their sex addictions, you won’t even question it.

I imagine that’s sort of how those crazy guys got to be on the street corner holding signs and trying to tell me about my masturbatory addiction is destroying society.

I can assure you, it’s not.

I had to take in the SURE the other day. I won’t get into why right now, except to say it wasn’t anything weird, I swear.

When I was standing there with my coworker, manning that little two by six foot table, yelling thoughts on a street corner dressed in an old bathrobe because I decided not to wash my hair and stand on the street corner, yelling thoughts at random passerby. I warned you. My advice may take you down some interesting roads, but it hopefully won’t be anything that odd.

Over the next few weeks I’m going to start acting more and more like the crazy guy on the street corner, yelling thoughts and advice at random passerby.

I only have three issues left before I graduate. That means I only have three columns left. Typically, seniors each write a senior send-off column where they say good-bye and leave sage advice. There was a student graduating this year, so I’m going to get the jump on them and start two weeks early. I’ll still write a senior farewell, but I’ve got simply too much stuff to fit in one packed opinion page.

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Winds of paradise don’t give a s*** about your hair
Geography chair and professor Jim Huckabay tells us why the wind blows in the valley

BY BEN NEWBY
Staff Reporter

It’s not uncommon in Ellensburg to see the wind getting the best of people. Hats blow across the parking lot, papers get loose and are swept away in the breeze, and the occasional tumbleweed catches a ride from the wind to wedge itself against your car. People here have learned to deal with it, but what causes all this wind?

Jim Huckabay, Central Washington University geography chair and professor, took the floor at Raw Space on May 1 as part of the Central on Stage series. Huckabay shed light on what makes the wind blow so frequently in Ellensburg and that it really isn’t all that bad.

Huckabay was clearly excited to share his knowledge and passion for weather, particularly the wind, while the crowd gathered at Raw Space. The crowd was peppered with Ellensburg locals in their faded Levis and boots, who were easily as excited to receive this information on why our weather acts the way it does.

This is what brought Elsa Flores, sophomore undecided, to the talk for the opportunity to learn a little more about the area she lives in. “It’s a good experience to understand why our climate is the way it is here,” she said.

The “winds of paradise” is the name given to our wind here in Kittitas Valley. It’s a title some may or may not agree with, but to Huckabay the constant wind is great.

“We get a lot of fresh air here,” he said. “I pity those who live where the wind doesn’t blow; they breathe the same air over and over again.”

Huckabay began by explaining common misconceptions people have about our weather, one being that the air coming over from the coast can only go so high, and that when it gets to the pass, it is compressed and funneled down into our valley which gives us high winds. This is false. Another old-wives’ tale for our wind is that the snow pack causes temperature fluctuation in the wind and the valleys draw the air into Ellensburg, which is also false.

However, what is true is that our wind starts on the coast. In Ellensburg we have what is known as thermally driven winds. The high-pressure system moves from the coast, over Snoqualmie Pass and into our lower pressure system east of the mountains. This pressure difference also mixes with our warmer temperatures that “sweep right down in alignment with our valley,” Huckabay said.

This is also the reason why in winter months there is typically less wind. During the colder months our temperature, compared to the coast, is more equal, which means less wind.

While scrolling through his PowerPoint, he included a picture his daughter drew of kids with kites blowing away in the wind. Another fact was that it’s only calm 39 percent of the time annually here in Ellensburg. In meteorologist terms, calm means “no measurable wind,” said Huckabay.

When the crowd was given the OK for questions, Huckabay was asked about different aspects of weather and wind. Hail, interestingly enough, is actually tumbled around by the wind until the balls of ice become so big they fall, Huckabay explained.

Microbursts also came into discussion, which was Ellensburg local Tanner Leithed’s favorite part. “Microbursts were an interesting display of weather,” Leithed said.

Microbursts are intense, strong columns of wind that get pushed downwards and then fan out once they hit the ground. They can be very dangerous to aircraft. Huckabay’s presentation not only gave a better understanding of our winds here in Ellensburg, but a respect for its power and appreciation of the good it can do in terms of energy production.

Flores said after the presentation, “makes you not hate the wind so much.”
For many, Cinco De Mayo has been seen as a day to party but a historically Latino club on campus let people know the real reason behind the celebration. “We want to share a little bit about our culture and who we are,” said Octavio Garcia-Ruiz, sophomore political science.

The event was scheduled to be held at 4 p.m. on May 3 outside the SURC, but ended up being moved to the SURC Ballroom when it rained on the affair.

Despite the last minute venue change, the event drew a significant crowd. The Chicano Student Movement Aztlán (M.E.Ch.A) put on the event that provided a cultural exhibit in honor of a Mexican American holiday.

“It’s an event that gives people more visibility,” said Gilberto Garcia, political science professor. “I think diversity is very encouraged on campus,” Torimino said.

The event gave people a chance to learn a brief history about Cinco De Mayo and also allowed them to get a taste of Latino culture. Through food, games, music and dance, the members of M.E.Ch.A connected with the crowd. People were outside in the rain hitting a piñata and dancing to the music drawn in more people and required extra chairs to be put out to accommodate the audience.

“Basically anyone can be a part of it,” Garcia-Ruiz said.

Students were able to express their talent and their culture through a school program that boasts that all of their students graduate from high school. Some of the seniors will be going off to college next year, which is the goal of the program.

“I like that we get to show our history through music,” Natalia Esquivel, 16, said. Historically, Cinco De Mayo is celebrated because it marks the day the Mexican army defeated France at the Battle of Puebla during the French-Mexican war. The day has been commonly mistaken for the Mexican Independence Day, which is actually celebrated on Sept. 16. It is more of an American holiday that celebrates the Mexican heritage because in Mexico it is not seen as a big holiday outside of Puebla.

Being able to express their culture and connect with others is a lot of what M.E.Ch.A is about, but they also organize events and assist within the community. The club has been known for being politically aware and conscious, but it is not limited to any specific race or background.

“We’re going to play until four in the morning,” band leader Ramon Rivera band said. The performers played violins and guitars, singing and dancing with so much acceptance that the music drew in more people and required extra chairs to be put out to accommodate the audience.
Students exchange talents for dates
Fundraiser raises money for Black Student Union

BY CHLOE RAMAGNO
Staff Reporter

Belly dancing proved to be the award-winning performance at Central Washington University’s annual date auction. Lap dancing came in at a close second.

Sponsored by the Black Student Union (BSU), the date auction has become a successful means of fundraising according to Stephanie Gaines, senior law and justice.

Gaines is the event planner at BSU, and was counting on the success of the date auction to fund future events such as Black Graduation and Showtime at McConnell.

“We had a great turnout last year and raised about $500,” said Gaines. “We are hoping for that same great outcome.”

The event consisted of 12 bachelors and bachelorettes, all looking to support the BSU and raise money. DeAndre Baines, freshman business and marketing, was one of the bachelors that participated in the event.

“I’m trying to give back to the black students at Central Washington University,” Baines said.

Hosted by Jacoby Sampson, the event consisted of the daters, displayed to the bidders as a group, and then individually to share a talent and answer a few dating questions. The exuberant host maintained the laughter and fun energy within the room, making the event interactive amongst the bidders and daters.

The daters introduced themselves to the audience, sharing their name and age group. There were a variety of ages and classes, with freshman through seniors volunteering to participate.

The questions the daters were asked consisted of “Describe your perfect date” and “What is your favorite body part on yourself?” There were a range of answers, from feet as a favorite body part and a Latin dance night as the ideal date.

Perhaps the most entertaining portion of the evening was the talent/dare portion of the auction. Contestants were able to display a talent they possessed, or had the option of drawing a dare out of the room, making the event interactive amongst the bidders and daters.

The dares were certainly hilarious, ranging from giving a lap dance to one another.

“Make sure you pay because if you don’t, you pay the price,” said Gaines. “BSU is sponsored by the Black Student Union and how she got to where she is today as a director and corporate counsel of Starbucks.”

Jenkins’ story of how she chose Central and how she got to where she is today is as a director and corporate counsel of Starbucks.

May’s goal for University Housing and New Student Programs was to have Jenkins come to campus and share her love for Central, hard work and goals have paid off ten fold.

“It was my goal for her to share the beauty of being able to do a job you love and have passion for,” May said. “And in the midst of that position be able to give back to the community and your alma mater.”

Jenkins has accomplished much since she first started at Central.

“I thank the school and everything they did for me and also allowing me to get where I am now,” Jenkins said.

BY RACHIE CHURCHILL
Staff Reporter

The Mother’s Day brunch will be held in Holmes Dining Room beginning at 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The brunch will include Holland’s traditional menu items along with carved ham offered especially for the holiday meal. A free mug will be given to the first 250 guests to arrive at the brunch.

For families interested in the artistic side of Central, Linda Wessen performed musical numbers by Central Theater Ensemble. Randall Hall is hosting the student “juried” art exhibit while the Museum of Culture and Environment in Dean Hall has “The Mapmaker’s Eye: David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau.”

Outdoor activities in the Ellensburg area this weekend include the Ellensburg Farmers Market along Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in downtown and Outdoor Zumba on Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. outside the SURC. Tickets are still available for families of students that would like to join in on the festivities. Tickets can be purchased at www.wildcattickets.com or at the door of any of the events.

Family fun here again
Campus Activities coordinates events for all

BY JEANETTE GENSEN
Staff Reporter

This Friday until Sunday, Central Washington University will provide a variety of events for Family Weekend.

Family Weekend is offered every year by Campus Activities for families of students to visit the campus and enjoy many events that showcase the sights and sounds of Ellensburg.

“I am excited to see it all come together,” said Shanae Elzy, senior recreation and tourism and lead coordinator for Family Weekend.

To kick off the weekend, comedian Amy Anderson will perform stand-up comedy at Raw Space on Friday at 8 p.m. Anderson was the creator and host the first Asian-American stand-up showcase. She performed on Comedy Central and Showtime. Entry is $5 for students and $7 for general admission.

On Saturday, a river float sponsored by Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals is scheduled for Saturday morning and has already sold out. Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals is scheduled for Saturday morning and has already sold out.

Returning to campus for the fourth year in a row is guitarist Bruce Audette. He will be on campus in the SURC Ballroom. Entry is $5 for students and $7 for general admission.

Central alumni shares success story

BY RACHEL CHURCHILL
Staff Reporter

Having a college degree is a great accomplishment. With this, special talents and skills students learn through education they find themselves achieving and accomplishing a variety of jobs and work.

“Any direction they decide to choose they accomplish a variety of jobs and work,” Jenkins said.
Despite their massive affect on box office revenue and continued popularity among American audiences, comic book movies have never been my thing. Though I have occasionally been somewhat entertained by superhero films, no particular film was ever able to shake my preconception of the genre as one that is painfully self-obsessed, blindingly unoriginal and almost impossibly inapproachable to anyone unfamiliar with the source material. Enter director Joss Whedon’s “The Avengers.”

The film features many well-known comic book staples, including Iron Man (Robert Downey, Jr.), The Hulk (Mark Ruffalo), Captain America (Chris Evans), Thor (Chris Hemsworth) Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson) and Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner), who collectively form a group known as The Avengers. Together they struggle to fight against a rising evil force that threatens to enslave and terrorize the human race. In many ways, the plot is typical action movie fare. Yet, this surprisingly works more in the film’s favor rather than stand out as cliché.

Whedon, who also wrote the screenplay, sets the film up with a standard plot structure only to do it better than most, if not all other comic book adaptations, have ever done before. The action sequences, dialogue and character development are all expertly paced in order to create a product that is more exciting, engrossing and even funnier than most films could ever dream of.

Whedon has spent a great deal of time adapting “The Avengers” to the big screen and it clearly shows. Rumors have been floating around that it is necessary to see all of the characters’ individual features in order to completely understand this film.

Instances of confusion are very rare and this comes from someone who had only seen one Marvel feature prior to seeing this film. In fact, it actually feels incredibly relieving to finally experience a franchise film that doesn’t expect you to do hours of homework before buying a ticket.

Like many other blockbusters before it, “The Avengers” is somewhat dependent upon its visuals. Yet, not a single element of the film’s visual presentation is not up to par. From Seamus McGarvey’s eye-catching camerawork to Janek Sirr’s spectacular special effects work, this film is beautiful in every possible way. It can be assumed that an incredible amount of energy was put into making the action on screen as clean and breathless as possible.

Yet, more than any other reason to go see it, “The Avengers” is insurmountably entertaining. Despite an initial reluctance, I had absolutely no problem embracing the film entirely. I believe it is safe to say that this is a comic book movie that no one could ever have a problem thoroughly enjoying. As someone who is about as detached from comic books and superhero culture as one can be, believe me when I say that “The Avengers” is a fresh, finely-made film.

Not only that, but it’s the most fun I’ve had at a movie theater in years.

This film receives an:
**Dining Etiquette:** What your dining skills say about you

BY BOBBIE BLACK
Chief Reporter

The secret to success in the business world was unleashed to a group of Central Washington University students on May 9: proper dining etiquette. Good manners are seen simply as kind gestures to some, but to potential employers dining behaviors are glimpses of true character.

The dinner for proper dining etiquette was put on by career services and hosted by Central alumni, Merrily Bjerkestrand, who is the epitome of good manners. Bjerkestrand is a certified etiquette consultant who has used her knowledge and skills to create programs that effectively teach proper etiquette to a variety of audiences from business executives to students.

All the participating students were dressed in their best and ready to learn.

“I’ve done it before, my freshman year. It was fun,” said Rachel Sagle, senior information technology, about the dining event.

The four-course dinner started with a cup of tomato soup. Bjerkestrand led the group every step of the way and included playful ways to remember the rules, “As the ship goes out to sea I spoon my soup away from me,” Bjerkestrand said.

In other words don’t scoop towards yourself when eating soup. The next course was salad. The group had to get use to eating it with a knife and fork. How you hold your fork depends on if you are eating ‘continental style’ or ‘American style’ both of which include using your fork and knife.

Using a knife is important because it controls the size of the bite and lessens the possibilities of spilling. Bjerkestrand made it clear to never take big bites because the second you do someone will ask you a question and also keep in mind “dining is a bodily function, we want to be as discreet as possible.”

Charlie Spears, senior psychologist, said he liked learning how to eat properly using both styles.

“It will prove useful at conferences while networking,” he said.

There was a tutorial and guideline for every course and specific ways to let the server know you are finished by placing your fork in a specific location on the plate.

Many of techniques Bjerkestrand teaches are not common practice at most restaurants.

Many of the points made in the discussion came with life experiences. For Molohon, it was apparent how differently people viewed tattoos over the years and because of that, the panel discussed why getting a tattoo should be well thought out if someone wants to seek a professional career.

“People without tattoos view people with tattoos as unprofessional,” Molohon said.

With seven fairly large tattoos on his arms, back, chest, side and leg, Molohon said that all of his tattoos can be covered if needed for any business-related purposes.

Vicki Sammuto, a Career Services representatives on the panel, agreed that of all the places to get a tattoo professionally, the face would be the worst place to get one.

“There is a fine line between what is appropriate and what isn’t appropriate,” said Charlie Spears, Senior psychology.

“The thought of others that decide what someone places permanently on his or her body created controversy amongst the panel and those in the crowd. "If a tattoo is personal enough it shouldn’t matter what it looks like." ”

Sometimes business brings one to a foreign country where you do not know the dining practices. It’s OK not to know, there is usually a host for guidance, not knowing every rule is not the problem, not caring or being courteous enough to make an attempt is.

There will always be a time where you are unsure or you forget which fork to use, in stressful situations Bjerkestrand shared that you just need to remember, “when in doubt, do the kind thing.” It all comes back to attitude.

Unfortunately, many of these dining practices are not taught to the younger generation. However, this in no means implies it’s a dying art. The older generations who are the leaders in the business world, would have become accustomed to the rules and regulations of fine dining behaviors. The young college students who are able to acquire these skills will have a great opportunity to show how well rounded they are.

For those who weren’t able to participate, just remember, liquids on the left, napkin in the lap, raise a glass when they toast, sit up straight, easy on the wine, and never talk with a mouth full.
THANK YOU OBSERVER STAFF!

I would like to take a moment of your time and tell you about 2 of your staff...

One afternoon in October a young lady named Jenna came in to talk to me about advertising in The Observer. We spoke for a while and she convinced me to take out an ad; she then connected me with a young lady named Emily, who designed my ad.

After everything was said & done, I was extremely pleased with the outcome. I feel the ad did everything I wanted it to do and more. It definitely increased the number of college students shopping in my store.

These 2 young ladies did an OUTSTANDING job for me and I just felt you needed to know.

Sincerely,
Rhoda Simpson
Me & the Girls

On news stands June 21st.
**Trio Mundana takes skills to New York City**

By Elizabeth Wheeler

One might be surprised to know that some of the most talented musicians reside right here in Ellensburg.

Three astounding musicians are students here at Central Washington University, and together they make the incredible and harmonious team Trio Mundana.

Vanessa Moss, sophomore violin performance, is from Payzal and has been playing the violin for about 12 years. Moss said her favorite part of playing music is performing with other musicians.

“Music is a form of communication and it is great being able to share that kind of thing with the audience and each other,” Moss said. “You get to experience something out of the audience.”

Brooke Scholl, junior cello performance, grew up in Tacoma and has been playing the cello for 10 years. Scholl also loves performing with others, but added that chamber music in particular is more fun. She said that being innovative with her music is great too.

“Music is such an expressive and creative outlet,” Scholl said. “You can express things through music you can’t always express through words.”

Jeremy DesChane, graduate student piano performance, grew up in Bellingham and has been playing the piano since the age of four. He enjoys the communication of music.

“You can remind people of a part of themselves they may have forgotten,” DesChane said. “I like being able to bring something out of the audience.”

Moss, Scholl, and DesChane make up a piano trio that made it to New York City for the Music Teachers National Association Competition.

Groups from five regions made it to the competition, and the trio took second place in their division overall. They played classical music, including a piece by Mendelssohn. The trio also performed an Argentine tango by Piazzolla.

“Adding that added a little spice to throw in,” Scholl said.

After asking their favorite type of music to play, they love it all.

“In the moment, it feels great to perform any type of music,” Moss said. “Because you learn all different types; you develop an appreciation for every kind.”

The trio also agreed that playing the tango-style pieces is especially fun.

“They allow you to go outside the box,” Scholl said.

They hope to perform at the end of May to wrap up the year.

All three will remain at attend Central next year and continue practicing and performing together.

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**TAGS**

- Chamber music
- Musical communication
- Collaborative skills
National Geographic photographer Alison Wright took the stage at the SURC Theatre, May 3 in a speaking engagement called Worldwide Photo Journeys.

Wright discussed how she got into the photojournalism world, all of the amazing places she has been and the people that she met.

“I am a huge advocate for creating your own artistic adventures,” Wright said. “I believe that anyone can make beautiful art if they give themselves the chance.”

Wright grew up in New Jersey and became interested in photography while taking a yearbook class in high school. She was hooked after her English teacher recommended that she look more into photojournalism. She studied photojournalism at Syracuse University and worked for a local paper until receiving a job offer in New York.

She has traveled all over the world and has experienced many things, including learning from the Dalai Lama, traveling to Haiti soon after the earthquake and having many near-death experiences.

For more than two decades Wright has been a photographer. Her photos focus on human rights issues and documenting the traditions of changing cultures around the world.

“Wright is such an inspiration and has done so much,” said Rachel Chapman, senior graphic design. “She has been through so much already and she is still going. No matter what seems to happen she is still inspired by the people and places around her.”

Wright is the recipient of the Dorothea Lange Award in Documentary Photography for her photographs of child labor in Asia and is a two-time winner of the Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Award. “Learning to Breathe,” “Faces of Hope, Children of a Changing World,” “The Dalai Lama; A Simple Monk” and “The Spirit of Tibet: Portrait of a Culture in Exile,” are just a few of the books her writing and photographs have been published in, as well as through the Discovery Channel Photo Journeys series.

Wright has also founded the “Faces of Hope Fund,” which partners with community and non-governmental organizations to help provide education and medical assistance to children in Haiti, India, Israel and Laos.

“My aim is to not only bring a face to the place and raise social conscious awareness,” Wright said. “But to also see if there’s some financial assistance I can bring to the communities that I’ve worked in that have touched me so deeply.”

Wright’s work will be on display at Alley Cat Artists between May 4 through May 28.

For more information about Alison Wright and “Faces of Hope Fund,” head to her Website, alisonwright.com.
TAKING HIS TALENTS TO SOUTH AMERICA

Central soccer player travels to Chile

By Scott Herman
Staff Reporter

Love is a universal language and soccer, Americans hate to admit, is the world’s most popular sport. So when the two came together for David Sedano, on a continent far from his own, it seemed to be a match made in heaven, or Chile for more accurate purposes. This is not a hopelessly romantic story of a student leaving to study abroad and returning with a soul mate from a foreign country, but of how Sedano’s passion for soccer allowed him to connect with the people of Chile.

The passion he shows while talking about his favorite sport is real. One can almost see the lyrical cliché coming. “Soccer is everything to me,” said Sedano, a junior majoring in Spanish and mechanical engineering.

Sedano, a player on the Central club team, has been playing soccer for as long as he could kick a ball. A member of the Central club team, his father owned a ranch and orchards back in his hometown of Manson, Washington. Sedano used the property as his practice fields, cutting his teeth at a young age against the orchard’s much older, and much more talented workers. They often played for wages, or sometimes the older players would bet beer on the matches. They would buy the younger Sedona soda. One day he returned from the fields to his older brother’s graduation party with a wad of cash. When his brother’s soccer coach, Sheila Hodges, asked him where he got the money, Sedano told her he had won it playing soccer in the fields.

Sedano’s response got him an invite to audition with a local soccer club named Arsenal FC. He made the team and helped them win state in his freshman year. That was just the starting point for Sedano, he used the experience to catapult himself towards four consecutive varsity letters in high school.

When Sedano sat in classes on Friday mornings, he could often look out his window and find those very people he had to wake up early for and off work. Add in the 8 a.m. classes he was before the injury, he was able to get a few more years out of his love affair. Sedano came here to Central, and while dominating intramurals for nine championship shirts, he tried his hand at the club team helping them to Nationals in Phoenix last season.

With his love for soccer neatly stowed in his over-head compartment Sedano flew to Valdivia, Chile this past fall for four months to study and live with a host family. It was with the guidance of his “Chilean brother” Gustavo that Sedano would find himself experiencing the Chilean soccer scene. Soccer in Valdivia was part of the night life. Sedano would often play in scrimmages that began at midnight, once walking by a bombed out bus, hearing bombs go off in the distance and watching rock-throwing kids get hosed down by law enforcement in tanks.

“It was rock versus steel,” said Sedano with a shrug.

It was a hectic atmosphere but for the students soccer never changed. They, like Sedano, used it as their own get-a-way. After witnessing soccer provide a constant source of relief it became evident to Sedano that it had a large place in Chile’s heart, something he could relate to.

“Soccer is everything to them,” Sedano said.

Sedano witnessed some of the protests’ aftermath during his stay, once walking by a bombed out bus, hearing bombs go off in the distance and watching rock-throwing kids get hosed down by law enforcement in tanks.

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The passion he shows while talking about his favorite sport is real. One can almost see the lyrical cliché coming. “Soccer is everything to me,” said Sedano, a junior majoring in Spanish and mechanical engineering.

Sedano, a player on the Central club team, has been playing soccer for as long as he could kick a ball. A member of the Central club team, his father owned a ranch and orchards back in his hometown of Manson, Washington. Sedano used the property as his practice fields, cutting his teeth at a young age against the orchard’s much older, and much more talented workers. They often played for wages, or sometimes the older players would bet beer on the matches. They would buy the younger Sedona soda. One day he returned from the fields to his older brother’s graduation party with a wad of cash. When his brother’s soccer coach, Sheila Hodges, asked him where he got the money, Sedano told her he had won it playing soccer in the fields.

Sedano’s response got him an invite to audition with a local soccer club named Arsenal FC. He made the team and helped them win state in his freshman year. That was just the starting point for Sedano, he used the experience to catapult himself towards four consecutive varsity letters in high school.

When Sedano sat in classes on Friday mornings, he could often look out his window and find those very people he had to wake up early for and off work. Add in the 8 a.m. classes he was before the injury, he was able to get a few more years out of his love affair. Sedano came here to Central, and while dominating intramurals for nine championship shirts, he tried his hand at the club team helping them to Nationals in Phoenix last season.

With his love for soccer neatly stowed in his overhead compartment Sedano flew to Valdivia, Chile this past fall for four months to study and live with a host family. It was with the guidance of his “Chilean brother” Gustavo that Sedano would find himself experiencing the Chilean soccer scene. Soccer in Valdivia was part of the night life. Sedano would often play in scrimmages that began at midnight, once walking by a bombed out bus, hearing bombs go off in the distance and watching rock-throwing kids get hosed down by law enforcement in tanks.

“It was rock versus steel,” said Sedano with a shrug.

It was a hectic atmosphere but for the students soccer never changed. They, like Sedano, used it as their own get-a-way. After witnessing soccer provide a constant source of relief it became evident to Sedano that it had a large place in Chile’s heart, something he could relate to.

“Soccer is everything to them,” Sedano said.

Sedano witnessed some of the protests’ aftermath during his stay, once walking by a bombed out bus, hearing bombs go off in the distance and watching rock-throwing kids get hosed down by law enforcement in tanks.

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“Soccer is everything to them,” Sedano said.
Central's Track and Field team had a strong finish for the end of the season last weekend with the WWU Twilight meet at Civic Stadium in Bellingham.

Several athletes had taken the day off to rest up for the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Outdoor Championships.

“We had some athletes sit out this meet to get themselves ready for the GNAC championships,” Head Coach Kevin Adkisson said. “Those who did compete though, had a good showing for us finishing up the regular season.”

The women’s team took over the meet, winning several events and taking many top three finishes.

Sabrina Schwindler, in her first track meet as a Wildcat, soared into first place with a high jump of 1.60 meters.

“The women did really great in their events and we all went home happy with our results,” Schwindler said.

The ladies also dominated the shot put, taking four of the top five finishes in the event. Junior Kaylee Baumstark had a toss of 12.10 meters, and sophomore Annie Martinez recorded a throw of 11.77 meters, finishing in the number one and two spots, followed closely by junior Sydney Jensen taking fourth place with a toss of 11.43 meters.

Baumstark did not stop there; she also took second place in the hammer throw with a toss of 47.56 meters and a third place finish in the discus, recording a throw of 36.52 meters.

The ladies also placed very well in the pole vault and triple jump events. Senior, Kati Davis tied for second place with a pole vault of 3.55 meters.

“We had a great group of girls that came out to compete,” senior Kincaid Nichols said.

Central’s men’s team did well in the high and long jump events. Junior Brennan Boyes tied for second in the men’s high jump with a leap of 1.95 meters and Will Hallberg took third place with a long jump of 6.5 meters.

Central also had a good showing on the track as well.

The women’s relay team had a close second place finish behind Western in the 4x200 meter relay with a time of one minute, 46.97 seconds.

Nichols also had a close second place finish in the men’s 100 meter dash with a time of 10.98 seconds, just .06 seconds off the first place mark.

“It was a great way to end the regular season,” Nichols said.

The only win on the men’s side came in the 4x400 meter relay. Kyle Fremd, Zach Armstrong, Logan Johnson and Erik Lee led the Wildcats to a first place finish with a blazing time of 3:25.96 minutes, finishing a whole five seconds ahead of the second place Green River Community College.

“Our team feels pretty good building momentum and peaking going into the [GNAC] championship,” Adkisson said.

The next track and field meet for the Wildcats will be the GNAC Outdoor Championships in Monmouth, Ore.
Baseball salvages one win versus MSUB

BY KEATON MCAFEE
Staff Reporter

When the Central Washington University baseball team laced up their spikes and took to the field for pre-game warmups, the atmosphere was slightly altered. For 10 seniors, it would be the last time they would hit the diamond, where they call home, as part of the Central baseball team.

The four-game weekend series versus Montana State Billings was more than a typical baseball weekend. With the Wildcats out of playoff contention, they were looking to play spoiler and end the Yellowjackets’ playoff hopes. More importantly, they were looking to send their seniors off on a high note as their Wildcat careers are slowly coming to an end.

In Friday’s opener, senior catcher Da- vie Millard provided some early fireworks for the Wildcats. In the second inning, with the Yellowjackets already out to a quick 2-0 lead, Leid took a fastball and sent it soaring over the right field fence to even the game up at two. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, Leid’s bomb would be the only firepower the offense was able to ignite. A four-run fifth inning put MSUB in the driver’s seat for good, eventually closing out the Wildcats with the 6-2 score.

The second game of the double dip was full of excitement, as Central’s bats started to heat up with the weather. The first inning was a preview of what was to come: a lot of offense. In the first inning junior catcher Kyle Sany yoked a Yellowjacket offering over the left-center field fence to jump out to an early 3-0 lead. MSUB tied the game up at four in the sixth inning and forced the game into extra innings. The Yellowjackets struck first in the ninth, scoring three runs. [The Wildcat defense was a beneficiary for MSUB; a couple of errors allowed the runs to score. Only one of the three runs in extra innings were earned.] In the bottom half of the ninth, the Wildcats tried to respond. With the tying run standing on first, senior infielder Brady Kincannon grounded into a fielder’s choice to end the game, 7-5. The series continued into Sunday, with MSUB finishing the game with ten hits. Senior shortstop/third baseman Derrick Webb was three for three with a run scored. Senior third baseman Glen Reser was 2-3. Although Central started their senior send off at the wrong end of the score sheet before coming back. Throughout their time here, the seniors have had to overcome adversity and continue to fight back. Their record might not show success, but as a whole, they contributed a lot to the program.

“I feel like the seniors led the team by example,” said Webb. “I even look back at games and how we did. I think that and that made them work hard as well.”

Saturday was the day all the seniors would get recognized for their hard work. After a 9-5 loss in the first portion of the double header, all the seniors were introduced with their parents, and some statistics were given. This may have been fuel to the fire for the cap of the series. The Wildcats were able to use senior day as extra incentive to walk off the field together one last time with a smile and a win. Senior pitcher Brandon Rohde was handed the ball, while his defense behind him was

comprised of fellow senior teammates.

“There was definitely some extra motivation. Especially since it’s the last home games of the season and everybody wants to come out on top,” Rohde said.

Rohde and the Cats’ may have put together one of their finest outings in their final home game. Senior second baseman Brandon Wang started the game off just right with a lead-off home run. The Wildcats built off that momentum to scrounge three runs, two of which came off bases loaded walks. Those runs would be more than enough for Rohde to work with on the mound.

Rohde was throwing chairs to the Yellowjackets, sitting down a career-high thirteen batters in only seven innings. The second game of doubleheaders are only seven innings. Rohde only allowed two hits throughout the game. To finish his home career off strong, Rohde decided to strike out all three batters he faced in the seventh inning. Rohde, who transferred from the University of Washington, believes this may be one of his best moments ever on a diamond.

“This weekends’ performance will go down as one of the most memorable games I have been a part of. There was nothing better than to leave the last game ever at your home field with a win,” Rohde said.

The entire crowd appreciated the effort the Wildcats players gave in their last home game.

“For me, what was going was having all the seniors on the field at once battling for that one last win. That’s the only thing that was going through my mind throughout the entire game,” Rohde said.

In this one game the talent level of the team was put on display, and it showed why the expectations entering the season were much higher.

“The season was definitely a disappointment to us. I would be lying if I said it went good. It was definitely frustrating because we had such high expectations coming into the season and our record does not show that.”

Webb said. “We work hard as players and prepared everyday. It just came down to some close games on which we were on the losing end. I am a competitive person and I know my teammates so it’s hard anytime you fall short. If winning wasn’t hard enough, baseball is a crazy and frustrating game we just have to look back and know we competed.”

The seniors leadership and devotion will continue to carry on through the program until the next couple of years. Reser, Webb and Rohde all see a strong bunch of players returning to next year’s squad.

“Not a lot of people get to say they played college baseball for four years so be proud and respect that and enjoy the last few days because when it’s over it’s over,” Webb said.

The seniors will lead the ‘cats onto the field for one last series this weekend against Northwest Nazarene. They’ll play four games, a double header Friday and Saturday.

“To all the seniors graduating it was an honor to play on a team with you guys. We had some great memories on and off the field,” Rohde said. “Couldn’t ask for any better teammates. I’m going to miss every body, the team, and the coaches. They made my two years here at Central some of the best years yet. I wish the next years team the best of luck. Go Cats.”

SPORTS
5k raises money for local charity

BY CHACE DAVY
Staff Reporter

The Grove apartment complex sponsored a 5k on Saturday, the proceeds of which benefited Ellensburg’s local chapter of Habitat for Humanity and the F.I.S.H. Food Bank. Approximately 50 people, ranging in age from elementary school students to adults who have graduated college, attended the inaugural Grove Gives Back 5k.

The Grove, which is managed by a publicly traded company called Campus Crest, wanted to give back to the Ellensburg community. Campus Crest sales manager Steve Furst felt like a 5k was the perfect way to give back.

“We wanted to give back to the Ellensburg/Greater Kittitas area,” Furst said. “We figured ‘what was a good way to get not only students, but our residents and other folks throughout the town involved,’ and we came up with a 5k.”

The 5k seemed like a perfect idea to Furst due to the demographic of the Ellensburg area being “outdoorsy, very athletic, and there are a lot of running clubs, cycling clubs, triathlon clubs, and that things of that nature,” Furst said. “What better way to give back to give to the community, start off summer, and have a little bit of fun.”

The 5k started at The Grove office on Airport Road and then made a loop around the Central campus and back up to the Grove.

Among the competitors was Alyssa Sauriol, junior dental hygiene. Sauriol liked the event because “it gets the Ellensburg community involved as well.”

Sauriol crossed the finish line third in the event, despite a 27 mile per hour headwind throughout much of the race.

“It felt like the wind was in my face the entire time,” Sauriol said.

Sauriol, who has competed in triathlons before, finished the race in just over 25 minutes.

Also competing was a group of friends who wore matching shirts that read “5k Virgins 2012.” For many in this group, it was their first 5k.

“It’s something to get us all together outside the gym,” said Trista Daughtery, a member of the “5k Virgins.”

The wind was one of the only things that detracted from near perfect conditions on the clear, 55-degree Saturday afternoon. Many of the runners left after they finished, but the Grove threw a pool party afterwards for all the competitors who stayed. Tacos Chalito set up shop in the parking lot to provide food and beverages to the competitors, and there was also a ‘Burg radio station DJ to provide musical entertainment.

The Grove had complimentary donuts and fruits for participants, and for anybody feeling confident in their dancing skills there was Dance Central for Xbox Kinect set up.

The top 20 finishers in the 5k received gift cards to Utopia, the frozen yogurt shop on University Way, and every competitor received a goodie bag that had a t-shirt with the Grove logo emblazoned on the front, a ping pong ball, a bottle opener, and a miniature foam basketball.
Swim club gets butterflies at Nat’s!

BY EVAN THOMPSON
Assistant Reporter

For the swim club at Central, Nationals was just the tip of the iceberg. After months of training in the CWU Aquatic Center from the early hour of 6 a.m. to the waning night, the team was ready to see some of the other good sprinters placed seventh with a time of 12 minutes 25.13 seconds.

“Twas one of the ones that was focused on distance this year. I was very happy with all my times, especially the 1,000 where I probably qualified for next year,” Halvorson said. “I’ve been working really hard this year so it was good to see some good swims come out. And then it was amazing to see some of the other good sprinters were in the mile that dropped two minutes off their time.”

Peterson’s 1,000-meter broke the previous team record and his sixth place finish in the 200-meter butterfly also broke a team record.

“Every single person that swam that day medaled within the top-ten,” Halvorson said. “We all walked away with a medal that day, which was really cool. Matt Peterson just shattered the record in the 1,000. It was just amazing to see everybody’s hard work pay off.”

The sprinters were no sloshes either, with David Thorsnes leading the way. Thorsnes placed in the top-ten in three events, two of which times broke the team records. In the 50-meter butterfly he finished in 24.05 seconds, which was good enough for the top-ten. Thorsnes finished sixth in the 50-meter free, then broke a team record in 100-meter butterfly with a time of 53.35 seconds and an eighth-place finish.

“There wasn’t one swim that he just didn’t do very well in, it was really cool to see how he swam,” Halvorson said. “He is incredibly fast.”

The Wildcats also had several relay teams place well: the men’s 200-meter medley relay placed seventh while the women’s placed ninth. The mixed 200-meter medley relay, which combined two men and two women, broke the team record with a time of 2 minutes 04.55 seconds. The men’s 200-meter free relay finished seventh with a time of 1 minute 31.73 seconds while the women in the same event finished 10th in 2 minutes 03.44 seconds.

Overall, Halvorson was just glad to see that all of the work the team put in during the morning and late night workouts paid off for the events.

“I think there wasn’t one person that swam poorly, everybody swam amazing,” Halvorson said. “There’s at least one swim where you could say that was a dang good swim,” Halvorson said.

Basketball signs two TCC standouts

BY BRYAN SLATER
Staff Reporter

On April 25 Tacoma Community College (TCC) point guard, Dominique Williams, signed a letter of intent to play basketball for the Wildcats. Williams, a five-foot, 10-inch college sophomore from Curtis High School in University Place, Wash., hopes to become Central’s next star guard.

“Central has a similar coaching, and playing style as TCC,” Williams said, “I am familiar with the players and we already have great chemistry”.

Residing in Tacoma, Williams averaged 18 points, four assists, four rebounds, and three steals per game at Curtis High School. After high school Williams attended TCC where he averaged 12.7 points per game over two years as the team’s starting point guard.

While at TCC, Williams helped the Titans to a combined 52-7 record this year. In his sophomore year, Williams will bring great experience and a traditional will look to establish dominance in the Northwest Athletic Community College earning him NWACC tournament MVP honors.

“Dominique is guaranteed to be someone special. With his close relationships with Washington basketball great and Sacramento Kings guard, Isaiah Thomas, Williams will bring great experience and knowledge to the Wildcat roster. “I have known him [Thomas] since I was a kid,” Williams said, “he has been a mentor to me, and a huge help in getting me to the next level.”

Along with his great basketball experience, the Tacoma native joins a Wildcat team with familiar faces. Williams played with current Wildcats Jordan Coby, Brandon Magee and Chris Holmes, all of whom played at Tacoma Community College two years ago.

Among familiar faces from TCC, as of May 2 TCC teammate and all NWACC forward, Nate Walker, will be joining Williams on the CWU roster. At six feet five inches, Walker averaged 13 points and just over eight rebounds per game while holding an amazing 60 percent from the field his sophomore year.

“I helped him make his decision to stay at TCC,” Williams said, “he’s a big time rebounder and a great shot taker; he will be a great addition to the team.”

Just like his teammate, Walker had an outstanding NWACC championship game with 23 points at 83 percent from the field and grabbing 12 boards to help TCC win the championship. The signing of Walker now brings the projected roster for Central up to seven players from TCC. With two more years of eligibility for Walker, the Wildcat will look to establish dominance in the GNAC this upcoming basketball season.
A little wind wasn’t going to stop some die-hard golfers from competing in the most recent Intramural Golf Tournament. The Intramural Golf Tournament took place May 4 at the Ellensburg Golf and Country Club on Thorp Highway. There were 12 pairs competing in the two-person golf scramble. Golfers teed off between 2 and 4:30 p.m. and played nine holes. Both team members would hit their ball and then choose which ball to use from there. Teams were ranked at the end by final score.

The winning team of the scramble was Hickory Jim. The team was made up of Sam Booth and Reese Futtrell. Their winning score was 35 despite the strong winds that were making it hard on all teams.

Along with the scramble overall winners, there were three chances for individual competition for the golfers. University Advancement sponsored these individual competitions. Eric Scott, Intramural and Special Event coordinator, offered University Advancement the opportunity to team up and use these golf tournaments as opportunity to raise money for a scholarship.

“Maybe we need to have it on a Saturday or Sunday,” Scott said. “Then it won’t conflict with Friday classes.” Regardless of class conflict, these golfers have been very receptive and excited at the chance to get to do some golfing in Ellensburg.

This year the golf tournaments have raised $250 for the scholarship fund. Winners for these competitions were Jesse Potes, with a 205-yard drive on hole 2. The other longest drive winner was Frank Smith with a 320-yard drive on hole 8. Colton Hansen was closest to the pin on hole 9 where he was just 22 feet and one inch away from the pin.

Griffen Squires, senior communication studies, and Braden O’Neil, senior biology, have been competing in these tournaments for three years. Although the two aren’t always on the same teams they have always been in the same foursome for every tournament. “It’s fun playing with your friends,” O’Neil said.

The two-person golf scramble has seen to become a staple in the Intramural calendar. Student golfers can look forward to seeing more in the future. “People love it,” Scott said. “And they understand to golf, you have to do it in the wind.”
This weekend! Invite your friends & family!

C W U F A M I L Y W E E K E N D

TAKE ME HOME TO CENTRAL

MAY 11–13, 2012

Campus Activities presents comedy

LITTLE WOMEN

Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12
7:30 p.m. • CWU Milo Smith Tower Theatre
$7 for CWU students, $12 seniors and non-CWU students, $15 G.A.

Central Music Department presents

A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12
7 p.m. Hertz Hall Auditorium
Free for CWU students, $5 seniors, $10 G.A.

AMY ANDERSON

Friday, May 11
8 p.m. • Raw Space [117 East 4th Ave]
$5 for students, $7 for non-students
Nationally renowned comic with frequent appearances on Comedy Central, Showtime and numerous other shows

TRACE BUNDY

Saturday, May 12
8 p.m. • Student Union Theatre
$5 for students, $7 for non-students
Award-winning musician with astounding fingerstyle and percussive guitar performance

Campus Activities presents the acoustic ninja

Dining Services presents

MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 13
10 a.m.–1:30 p.m. • Holmes Dining Room (SURC)
$9.90 cash price, $7.90 for kids under 12
(CWU students on meal plan may use Connection Card)
Delicious spread with musical guest Eric E playing originals and covers from the past 100 years. A real treat!

Full schedule:
www.cwu.edu/~campuslife
Many more campus and community events, including exhibits, football, farmers market and more!

Tickets:
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