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The Observer

Central Washington University

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Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

The OBSERVER

cwuobserver.com

by the students & for the students of CWU

HIGHER EDUCATION

New state
pot law
won't change
CWU policy

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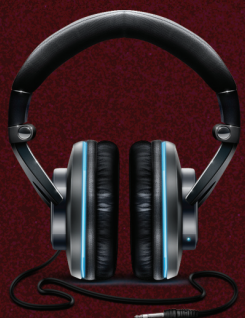
CENTRAL WILDCATS

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

Vol. 93 No. 1, Jan. 10 - 16, 2013

SPINNIN' 7

Hip hop enthusiast
awarded 'Burg
volunteer of
the quarter.



SHOWTIME 12

CWU looks to
upset No. 5
Western on
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Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

The OBSERVER

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by the students & for the students of CWU

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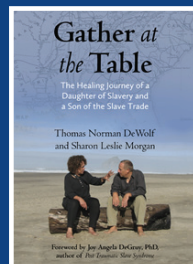
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BOD holds its first meeting of Winter quarter



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Editorial policy: The Observer is a public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. The mission of the Observer is two-fold: to serve Central Washington University as a newspaper and to provide training for students who are seeking a career in journalism. The Observer seeks to provide complete, accurate, dependable information to the campus and community; to provide a public forum for the free debate of issues, ideas and problems facing the community at large, and to be the best source for information, education and entertainment news. As a training program, the Observer is the practical application of the theories and principles of journalism. It teaches students to analyze and communicate information that is vital to the decision making of the community at large. It provides a forum for students to learn the ethics, values, and skills needed to succeed in their chosen career. If you have questions call (509) 963-1073 or e-mail us at cwuobserver@gmail.com

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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.

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Central to weed out violators

BY MATT THOMPSON
Staff Reporter

Although Washington State law allows the use and possession of marijuana, Central students may want to think twice before sparking up a “doobie.”

“Marijuana of any form is not allowed,” Richard DeShields, associate dean of students, said.

Although the state legalized some marijuana distribution, use and possession, no changes have been made to Central’s drug policy. Marijuana is still listed as a Schedule I substance under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act passed by the U.S. Congress.

“At no time in my career, am I aware, where we’ve had state law directly conflict with federal law.” Mike Luvera, chief of campus police, said.

Central receives about \$93 million in federal funds under its compliance with the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. Under this act, the university must implement programs and procedures to discourage the distribution, use and possession of any illegal substances.

“We depend heavily on federal funds for our students, for their financial aid, for our grants and other programs that are supported by federal funds,” said Sarah Swager, dean of student success. “We cannot [jeopardize] those funds.”

Any student found using or in possession

of marijuana on campus will be referred to the Office of the Dean of Student Success, where punishments could range from drug counseling to deferred suspension from the university.

“We have to look at its entirety in each case,” DeShields said. “We would have to act on the totality of the incident.”

Campus police will be called for marijuana use or possession in campus housing regardless of a student’s age. Police reports involving students violating school policy on campus will be given to the Dean of Student Success.

“Because we are university officials, we’re reporters at that point,” Luvera said. “So we do share that information.”

Off campus, however, is a different story. A student who is 21 or older may use marijuana in the privacy of his or her own residence. Still, if a filed police report includes the use or possession of marijuana, the student may be referred to the Office of the Dean of Student Success.

“In most instances,” DeShields said, “possession at a private home or private

residence off-campus will not lead to a report.”

Along with the legalization of cannabis, a legal precedent was established to handle driving under the influence of marijuana.

The legal THC blood content limit for driving is five nanograms. If an officer believes a person’s driving is impaired they will request a voluntary blood sample, much like the breathalyzer test for the equivalent alcohol charge.

“Officers are gonna have to be able to articulate why they think somebody was impaired,” Luvera

said. “Then it will be up to science to say did they violate the law.”

Charges for driving under the influence of marijuana, like alcohol, will also be reported to the dean of student success.

“Students make high-risk decisions when they’re under the impairment of marijuana or alcohol,” DeShields said. “We have a responsibility to help talk to students about those things.”

Medical marijuana use is also legal under Washington State law, but campus

policy does not allow the use of marijuana under those circumstances either. Students with a medical recommendation for marijuana may apply for an exception with the Center for Disability Services.

Brian Grimmer, volunteer coordinator for Sensible Washington of Kittitas County, is disappointed Central has yet to recognize the rights of Washington state citizens to possess and use marijuana, but understands its reasoning for not making any changes to the policy.

“We’re not a private institution, we’re a state institution,” Grimmer, a senior sociology major, said. “We rely on federal dollars to help subsidize the cost of the institution. We can’t risk losing those.”

Students looking for help overcoming problems with marijuana and other substances can seek counseling from the Wellness Center on campus.

The Wellness Center also pays for referrals to local drug counseling agencies, such as Barth and Associates or Alcohol/Drug Dependency Services.

Every publicly funded institution of higher education in Washington has similar policies concerning use of marijuana due to the large amount of federal funds allocated to them.

“It’s important for students to understand that it’s not really about the punishment,” DeShields said. “It is about students being responsible.”

“Officers are gonna have to be able to articulate why they think somebody was impaired. Then it will be up to science to say did they violate the law.”

-MIKE LUVERA
Chief of Campus Police



“You’re not allowed to drink on campus so why would they allow you to smoke marijuana on campus?”
-Aaron Gaer Jr. Psychology



“I view marijuana as basically the same as alcohol. It can be abused, but mostly it’s not going to hurt anyone but you.”
-Katherine Imhof Jr. Computer Science



“To promote a healthy and safe campus, I would support the drug policy as it stands.”
-Alan Henderson Jr. Psychology



“I know a lot of people who do it to go to sleep, to calm down because they have problems and they’re really great students.”
-Shannon Cunningham Sr. Fashion Merchandising

Manweller drafts bill to limit college president bonuses

BY SANTOS HERRERA
News Editor

One of Matt Manweller’s first actions as state representative was to draft a bill to prevent university presidents from receiving large incentive bonuses—the type Central President James Gaudino was granted last year.

“I believe in bonuses,” Manweller said. “But, they have to be fair.”

The bill draft states: *Compensation for the president and any chancellors of the university may not include bonuses or other incentives, including retention incentives, that are more than twenty percent of their base salaries or that are awarded more than once in any four-year period.*

“I’m doing this [drafting the bill] for the students whose tuition increases by 14 percent every year,” Manweller said, “and for teachers getting laid off who have families to provide for.”

Bob Hickey, professor of geography and head of the faculty union, agrees with the bill draft.

“Matt’s modification to this bill seems reasonable,” Hickey said in an email, “and gives boards enough leeway to make retention/performance offers without permitting runaway salary inflation for university presidents” in Washington.

President Gaudino was given several

opportunities to respond to the bill draft, but refused to comment. Government Relations Director, Ann Anderson stated that Government Relations has a process for tracking, reviewing and formulating university positions on approximately 3,000 bills introduced in the legislature. For bills with a potential impact on CWU, the bill is first entered into a tracking system under issue categories assigned by the Council of Presidents.

“Once the bill has been scheduled for a committee hearing in the House or Senate, we send a copy of the bill to the appropriate division on campus for analysis of impacts to CWU,” Anderson said in an email.

After reviewing the impacts to CWU, the university compares its response with responses from the other five public baccalaureate institutions to see if the bill has similar impacts to those institutions. At that point, Government Relations decides what its public response will be before the appropriate legislative committee.

“The bill draft we received will be placed into our tracking system as it deals with higher education compensation,” Anderson said. “Once it is scheduled for a hearing in the House, we’ll complete the analysis and prepare a university response.”



PHOTOGRAPHER COURTESY OF MANWELLERFORSTATEREP.COM

REPRESENTING State Rep. Matt Manweller was sworn into Olympia on Nov. 29.

The dream is not yet finished

BY SANTOS HERRERA

News Editor

Bobby Cummings, an English education coordinator, said no one on campus used to celebrate MLK day by putting on an event until five years ago was when the march began.

Several students, faculty, centers, and groups on campus have been working since last November to put together the fifth annual march and candle light vigil in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The march will begin at the SURC West patio at 6 p.m. on Jan. 17.

One of the groups working on the MLK day event is Students for the Dream, a Living Learning Community (LLC) advised by Elise May, a professional housing staff member.

Cummings, who works closely with the LLC, said Students for the Dream has evolved from only an LLC into a diverse club-like group.

Students of many backgrounds and ages are encouraged to join Students for the Dream.

"We celebrate our own culture and each other's," Cummings said. "We celebrate who we are."

Some people feel it is important to remember not only what Dr. King did, but also what the people of his era did to inspire others to pull together for a cause.

"We've grown in a lot of ways," said Shannon Lowry, junior public relations major, "but I think we are not as connected for a certain purpose [as people were back then]."

The first hour of the event will consist of a march through campus, including a moment of silence and a candle light vigil on University Way.

"We are honoring Dr. King's work and pointing out that there are still problems," said Arturo Arellano, senior law and justice major and lead coordinator of the event.

The second hour of the event will include presentations from CWU Admissions Counselor Andre Dickerson, co-founder of both Students for the Dream



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHARINE LOTZE

THE DREAM (L to R): Freshman James Shumate, junior Ariella Stanback and junior Darryl Marquilencia bow their heads in a moment of silence at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Walk on Thursday, January 12, 2012.

and the EMPIRE organization.

Mateo Arteaga, CWU director of educational outreach services, will also be a guest speaker.

Both speakers will talk about the journey from the Civil Rights movement to the Dream Act.

This event will also feature skits performed by organizations of the Equity and Service Council.

According to Arellano, the skits will be tailored to each group, with each skit touching on the oppression that every group experiences in hopes of raising awareness concerning issues which can still be improved on.

"We are nowhere near to what we need to be in this day and age," May said. "I want people to walk away with having learned at least one new thing."

Martin Luther King Jr. Remembrance Program & Candlelight Vigil

When: January 17, 2013

Where: SURC West Patio

Time: 6-8 p.m.

See page 10 for MLK Make a Difference Day

Gov. recommends Central for \$97 million in construction

BY JAYNA SMITH

Assistant News Editor

Gov. Christine Gregoire's proposal for Central's nearly \$97 million construction budget is a record breaking step in the multi-layered stages of budget approval.

According to Linda Schactler, executive director of CWU public affairs, Central doesn't often show up this early in proposals.

"We are so happy to be out of the gate and in really good shape," Schactler said.

In the governor's 2013-15 state capital budget, five of Central's top six priorities were included with the Science Phase II project at a suggested \$65 million.

According to Kirk Johnson, dean of the college of sciences, it has been 14 years since the Science Phase I project was completed in 1997.

Those in the department are glad to see a step in the right direction.

"We're all excited that we have such a strong showing in the budget," Johnson said.

According to Johnson, the Science Phase II project was supposed to have be-

gun right after the Phase I project ended. Johnson said if all goes well he expects the rest of the construction for the science building can finally be completed by 2015.

Of the other major projects for Central considered in the proposed budget: Combined Utilities would get \$8 million, Nutrition Science \$3.96 million, Peterson Hall \$4.9 million and Brooks Library Learning Commons another \$4.9 million.

Also included would be an additional \$9.5 million towards preserving other state facilities.

Of Central's top six priorities, Samuelson Communication and Technology Center, which would house the Communications, Information Technology and Public Relations Departments, was left out of the governor's proposal.

As one of the oldest buildings on campus, according to Schactler, Samuelson did score well but still fell short of the other top five.

César Garcia, department chair of communications, wasn't surprised that Samuelson wasn't included in the budget.

"We don't bring in huge grants, so the administration tends to prioritize," Garcia said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CWU.EDU

PART TWO Above is a representation of Part II of the Science Building.

STEM degrees (science, technology, engineering and math) get more points than humanities when the proposals are reviewed, according to Schactler.

Also, the budget for Samuelson was submitted two years ago while the rest of the programs were submitted during the summer of 2012.

"I don't think [Samuelson] is out of the running for this year," Schactler said.

With the budget still having to go to the legislature, and then along to the newly

elected Gov. Jay Inslee, Central still has a long road ahead before any construction can begin.

With the governor's initial proposal released, the budget will be reviewed again when the legislative session begins on Jan. 14.

Schactler said the goal is to show up in every budget until the proposed budget is fully revised and approved.

"We know it's the beginning of a really long process," Schactler said.

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Happy 2013, everyone! We made it past the end of the world...again. For some reason, the end of the world felt a lot like casual Friday.

That was thrilling, now lets get back to the important things, and by important, I mean New Year's resolutions.

Last year my New Year's resolution was to go to the gym every day with my friends. Well, that went well... I just didn't like going and working out with everyone else that was also shortly going to quit. So I have taken a new leaf; Jazzercise.



BY JEANNETTE GENSON
Assistant Scene Editor

I really do love it. The ladies are wonderfully supportive, the moves are actually fun and look pretty cool, and the music is mostly all my favorites. Although it is different than the average college student trying to get into shape just in time for spring, I think this is something I can hopefully stick with, while acquiring some sweet dance moves in the process.

Another issue I have is my lack of ability to cook. It doesn't really bother me, it's more my stomach's problem. So to avoid starvation, I figured I should look into cooking. So I'm thinking if I shoot to be able to bake an apple pie, Caesar salad and a rocking bowl of oatmeal by the end of the year, I'll be set.

A great thing for me to accomplish this year would be keeping track of my schedule using an actual handheld planner. For those who don't know me very well, I attempt this feat every other month or so, and by the second or third day, I'm just totally over it. But now I'm an adult, and it's time to start tracking my life like an adult.

Being adopted by Kim and Kanye would really work in my favor I feel, so yes, that is one of my resolutions. I figure their child and I will have a lot in common when it finally comes into this world. For one, I already love Kim and Kanye as much as a child ever could, and I wouldn't really need to talk much, just like the kiddo, so we'll just let Kanye finish.

I wouldn't be opposed to housing and training a camel, just in case we get a drought and we absolutely need a family member to carry all the water.

Anyway, I think you get the point that I don't really take this whole resolutions thing too seriously, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't. I whole-heartedly encourage any and all of you to do what you need to do to get through the day. It's not as important to make, or not to make resolutions, as it is to know your limits and to always try to strive for better.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS

The Seattle Seahawks travel to Atlanta this week to take on the No. 1 Falcons in the divisional round. The game will be played at 9 a.m. Sunday.

What if?

*A poem dedicated to the
Sandy Hook Elementary victims*



By Jayna Smith, assistant news editor

If mommy would have known
This morning
That later on today she would be mourning,
Her child and 26 adorned,
I'm sure she would have hugged
Me longer and said I love you more
If daddy would have known
His little man,
Would never get the chance to grow up
And live out his dream of being just like him,
I'm sure
He would have never let our last
Father-son-day end
If my teacher would have known
That she needed more than
Good patience and a knack for dealing with kids;
I'm sure
She would have still wanted to teach
Teachers see the future in their classrooms
And they all believe in it.
If my friends would have known
This morning for some
Would be the end of their existence,
That someone would come
And take them away
From their loved ones,
I'm sure
The last of their playtime
Would never have come
If all of Connecticut would have known
That somewhere, someone was plotting
To take innocent parties lives
I'm sure
Community debates would have been
Much more centered on real issues
Instead of media perpetuated lies
If the shooter would have known
Who, the lives he destroyed
Would one day grow to be
I'm sure
He would have done us all a favor
Put one bullet in the gun,
Point it at his head but never
Released the trigger
Contemplated the loss of
One instead of many
If I wasn't in a better place
I would say wipe out the human race,
Shootings at elementary schools
Show deterioration at an alarming pace
But up in heaven I'm finally safe,
Along with my classmates and teachers
Still cheering for the world
To become a better place

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.

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Attention!

We want to hear from you. What did you think about this week's paper? Please let us know via Twitter, @CWUObserver, and we will retweet and reply to answers. Or let us know on Facebook, CWU Observer. Let your voice be heard!

P-Lo rocks the radio

Volunteer of the quarter shares his love of hip hop



SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

BY JEANETTE GENSON
 Assistant Scene Editor

Peter Ortega has potentially the best job on campus. He listens to his favorite music while sharing it with all of his friends and whomever else wants to listen. Ortega is a hip-hop DJ at 88.1 The 'Burg, and was also named the Volunteer of the Quarter at the station.

"I don't call it a job, first of all, because I love what I'm doing," Ortega, junior marketing major, said.

Ortega, known as P-Lo on the air, spends hours choosing songs for his radio show playlist. He works with the flow, and really thinks about what his listeners will feel when tuning into his show.

"I make sure my music flows, so if there's slow music, you won't put on a fast song after that or vice-versa," Ortega said. "Gotta make sure everything fits in my way."

His musical vision for each show begins the day before he goes on the air, making sure his songs are set up the way he wants. This includes going over every song with a fine-tooth comb to find any cursing.

Not only does he have to check for bad words, he also has to analyze the context in which they are said. Some curse words are appropriate on the air when referred to in a non-offensive way.

The DJs also have to come up with all their own playlists, and everything they are going to say a day ahead of time.

"A lot of the stuff I say over the air is ad-libbed most of the time, so when you hear me speak, ya

know I might say some weird things," Ortega said.

When he talks about his love of music, his passion doesn't come from his words -- or even from gesturing his hands side to side as if he was reciting lyrics -- it comes from his soul.

He has infinite knowledge of almost any hip-hop artist's career, whether it happened yesterday or 20 years ago.

Repping a green and yellow Seattle Sonics wristband and headphones, Ortega fits the image of a Pacific Northwest rapper with ease. His knowledge comes from growing up in a house with heavy musical influences from '70s, '80s and '90s R&B.

He can easily recall facts such as the name of the first rap song ever to hit the airwaves (The Message by Grandmaster Flash) and why it was so iconic.

Give him the chance and he'll hold forth for 10 minutes on the family tree of hip-hop, how Notorious BIG spawned Lil Kim, and who Tyga's next big-ticket artist is.

"Macklemore, see, he's amazing because he's been around for -- god knows how long," he said about the local favorite who has recently burst into popular hip-hop.

Ortega's favorite part of his job is just playing music in the studio all day. He admits that the only time he can't wait to get out of the studio is when he's hungry; other than that, time just flies.

"Also I love working events," Ortega said, referring to football games and other events The 'Burg is present for. "So basically in the studio, and playing events, are my favorite things."

He believes he attained not only volunteer for the

month of November, but also volunteer of the quarter, because when he began DJ-ing, he signed up for all of the available events.

According to Chris Hull, general manager of the 'Burg, when determining who will receive volunteer of the quarter, professional staff from both The 'Burg and US Bank decide based on a number of qualities. US Bank awards the winner with a gift basket with \$100 of customized gifts.

Ortega said the most challenging part of being a DJ is not being able to please everyone. He may play a song that he has looked forward to airing for weeks, and the crowd may not approve.

Also, he sometimes has to play songs he would rather leave out of his set, such as Nicki Minaj, but he has to give her some air time in order to please a lot of his female listeners.

P-Lo's show has a specific flow which he prefers for his time slot on Fridays from 3-6 p.m.

First, he plays an hour of old school hip-hop, what he likes to call his "reminiscing hour". The second hour features '90s and early 2000s hip-hop. He then ends the hour with current hip-hop hits.

"What hip-hop DJs would call more 'slappers,' alot of ya know, bangers, stuff that gets people dancing," Ortega said.

While in the studio, Ortega sometimes shuts the lights off, turns on the party lights, and dances through his set.

He wants students to get involved and participate with his show, and he hopes people have as much fun as he does during his set.

MY TOP 5

- 1 Thriftshop
Macklemore
- 2 F****n' Problem
A\$AP Rocky
- 3 Good Kush
and Alcohol
Lil' Wayne
- 4 Oldie
Odd Future
- 5 Remember You
Wiz Khalifa

WILDCATS WELCOME A NEW YEAR

BY CHANET STEVENSON
Scene Editor

With the start of a new year, The Observer staff talked with students around campus about what they hope the new year will bring and find out what their resolutions are.

Observer:
“What’s your New Year’s Resolution?”



“To join the bone marrow registry, and I did it.”
-Lizz Stewart, sophomore primate behavior and ecology major



“To get in shape, so I’ve been going to the gym everyday.”
-Amanda Silva, sophomore undecided major



“Eat a lot healthier, and keep up on the Dean’s list like I have been.”
-Katey Kjell, junior elementary education major



“To get a 4.0.”
-Tina Beamon, freshman textile and apparel design major

“I’m too perfect, I didn’t need to make one.”
-Jack Matkin, senior business administration major



“To re-bible in my year.”
-Jesse, freshman music major



"I want to graduate cum laude."
-Mike Tobias, senior political science major



"Help with world peace."
-Will Fay, senior accounting and computer science major



"To eat better."
-Tara Coluccio, freshman public relations major



"Practice more drum set."
-DeLane Doyle, freshman music performance major



"To pray everyday."
-JoAnna Sprouffske, senior elementary education major



"To get a 3.6 GPA."
-Kendall Lindberg, freshman psychology major

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Winter flick picks

Reviews of the season's biggest blockbusters

BY JEFFREY ALAN COTE
Contributing Writer

Lets take a look at some of the season's most buzzworthy new releases!

"Django Unchained"

Tarantino's violent and exuberant imagery, not to mention his ease with crude language and rambling monologues, are all to be expected in his work. In his latest piece, the respected director adds his signature flair to a story about the historical American slave trade.

With over 20 years of experience to his name, Tarantino has certainly established a solid look and feel for his work. That said, his approach has never seemed as polished as it does in "Django Unchained." This is one finely-crafted, spiffed-up, marvel of a film. Whether or not the director's trademark feel is entirely appropriate here is another matter entirely.

With "Django," Tarantino has essentially made a spaghetti western-comedy out of slavery. Regardless of the film's fantastic dialogue, smooth pacing and memorable performances from Christoph Waltz and Leonardo DiCaprio, whether or not you end up enjoying "Django Unchained" essentially boils down to if you choose to see Tarantino's efforts to re-write history as offensive or noble. There's no doubt that the film is very problematic in the areas of race and feminism. So if you can sidestep the giant elephant in the room for three hours, this film is one hell of a ride.

Grade: A-

"Les Misérables"

I'll straight up admit that musicals have never quite been my thing. However, there is something to be said for director Tom Hooper's adaptation of "Les Misérables." Adapted from Victor Hugo's novel of the same name, which has now been created for the screen a total of 14 times, "Les Misérables" tells the tale of the French Revolution through various characters who, at one time or another, have been given the short end of the stick by the French social-political standards of the time.

In this most recent retelling, Hooper has given the story all the passion and grandeur a tale this epic surely deserves. This was achieved in part by the much publicized decision to let the actors sing their roles live on set, a fairly atypical practice. This gave the music a visceral realness, something which could not have been achieved through the lip sync that is typically used in Hollywood musicals.

The performances themselves are worth discussing, particularly that of Anne Hathaway. Her short time on screen as Fantine is absolutely phenomenal. She will most certainly win an Oscar for her efforts and to say she doesn't deserve it would be foolish.

The only weakness of the film comes from kinks in the story dragged along from the source material. While the screenwriters' collective decision to remain true to the source was likely unavoidable, it would be difficult to argue that the film doesn't suffer for doing so. Hugo's novel and the resulting stage musical adaptation both have their weaknesses and they don't translate very well to film. Regardless of this, the filmmakers have certainly achieved something with this film. This is a musical anyone can enjoy, from the casual moviegoer to the avid musical-lover, with some well-intentioned filmmaking to boot.

Grade: B+

"Silver Linings Playbook"

Adapted from the 2008 novel by Matthew Quick, director David O. Russell's "Silver Linings Playbook" shows us the romantic exploits of a man with severe anger issues. Pat, played by Bradley Cooper, has just been released from a mental health facility and is determined to win back the affection of his wife. As part of his plan to show her he has changed, he enters a dance contest with his friend's sister-in-law Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), who is suffering from her own equally consuming personal issues.

And yes, this is a comedy. To Russell's credit, his attempts to create a new kind of rom-com aren't completely unsuccessful. On the surface, "Silver Linings Playbook" has a very unconventional story to play up for laughs. Although it deals with topics like mental illness, anger management and death in a very frank and professional manner, the film somehow manages to keep things fairly light in tone. In this aspect, Russell succeeds.

The director also manages to get another great performance out of Jennifer Lawrence, who at this point is looking to be the frontrunner for the next great actor. Cooper, on the other hand, needs more time to prove himself. Although he's not too bad in this film, he needs to experiment more before he can be considered a fully well-rounded performer.

Despite its aims to be a nontraditional romance story, the film's ending is fairly predictable. Upon a more thorough exam-

ination, the rest of the story is also somewhat formulaic. While this film is more typical than it thinks it is, "Silver Linings Playbook" is still worth watching due to Lawrence's ever increasing talent.

Grade: B-

"Hitchcock"

There are few others who are as revered in the film industry as British director Alfred Hitchcock. Even those who aren't the biggest fans of his work seem to concede that it is at least historically significant in the advancement of filmmaking as an art-form. Perhaps this reverence is why it took so long for a major Hollywood biopic to be made about his life.

More specifically, Sacha Gervasi's "Hitchcock" follows the filmmaker along the making of his classic 1960 film "Psycho." Sir Anthony Hopkins ("The Silence of the Lambs") stars as Hitchcock, while Dame Helen Mirren ("The Queen") settles neatly into the role of Alma Reville, Hitch's wife.

"Hitchcock" is notable specifically on account of the two lead performers. Both Hopkins and Mirren are fantastic, but at times this leaves the film a bit lopsided. While there are occasional gems of insight into Hitchcock's filming style scattered throughout the film, we never fully get an idea of who the man was as either a director or a person.

While it may not be as perfect as one would hope, "Hitchcock" is a fairly successful biopic. If the lead roles were not in the hands of two such fine actors, the screenplay's flaws might be more visible. With the efforts of Mirren and Hopkins, this film is just entertaining and engrossing enough to pass by.

Grade: B+

"Life of Pi"

Ang Lee, the same man behind films such as "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and "Brokeback Mountain," now dives into "Life of Pi," a whole new kind of picture adapted from Yann Martel's novel of the same name.

Martel's novel, an allegory about faith featuring a young Indian boy and a tiger in a lifeboat, was all but deemed "unfilmable" due to its fantastical imagery and complex story. Lee somehow found a way to get it done. Whether or not his attempts are completely successful is something else entirely.

It would be safe to say that "Life of Pi" is certainly one of the most visually astounding films of this year. Claudio Miranda's camerawork is fluid and undeniably beautiful. Screenwriter David Magee has done a very fine job of adapting the novel. The story is very engrossing and well-paced.

However, there are some major prob-

lems with the execution of the film. In my opinion, lead performer Suraj Sharma is a bit inexperienced for the role. This is his debut and it unfortunately shows. The implementation of the film's main allegory is also a bit rushed, with the audience forced to quickly catch up. Considering the entire conclusion relies on the allegory, this is certainly a problem.

Regardless of any potential reservations, everyone should be able to enjoy the film's visual beauty.

Grade: B-

"Lincoln"

Much like the case of "Hitchcock," you'd think that someone would have made a major feature film about our 16th president before now. I suppose it's fitting for the person to do so to be director Steven Spielberg, a man who, to many common moviegoers, might as well be the Abraham Lincoln of the cinema.

The film follows Lincoln as he struggles to pass the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, a document which would outlaw slavery. The always fantastic Daniel Day-Lewis stars as Lincoln, and just may have delivered his most definably "great" performance with this film. Day-Lewis lives and breaths the role to the point that his uncanny portrayal is almost too real to believe.

The look of the film is beautiful, just as you would expect a Spielberg period piece with a multi-million dollar budget to be. The script, penned by respected playwright Tony Kushner ("Angels in America"), is generally well-researched and engaging. Occasionally, dialogue is delivered as if it should be performed for the stage, but it's nothing too problematic.

The only major stumbles truly surface when analyzing the content of the film's messages. "Lincoln" essentially paints old Honest Abe as nearly a perfect man. Kushner does a decent job humanizing Lincoln in some scenes by showing him as a worried father. However, a more complete image of the man behind the figure would have been intriguing to see.

Kushner was also a bit unwise to base the entirety of the script on a civil rights issue while basically ignoring the stories of black Americans. Granted, this is a biopic which should primarily be dealing with a respected historical figure and not with the stories of black America. Maybe Kushner would have been well suited to realize this beforehand.

"Lincoln" ends up feeling a bit incomplete, but certainly worth the time to go see it. What the film lacks in clarity more than makes up for in its ability to draw you into the material and deliver a nice, clean payoff for your commitment.

Grade: B

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Let's make a difference

BY CHLOE RAMBERG
Staff Reporter

Every third Monday in January, students are given the day off from school and many businesses will close their doors. This is not simply a day of rest, but a day to remember an honorary figure within history, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Every year, Central Washington University students are involved in a tribute to Mr. King. The Center for Leadership and Community Engagement (CLCE) puts on the MLK Make a Difference Day to teach local youth about the significance of this day and the man behind it.

Shannon Lowry, junior public relations, is the assistant coordinator for MLK Make a Difference Day.

"This event is mainly for the second and fifth graders from Mount Stuart Elementary. It is to keep the changes by Martin Luther King, Jr. important," Lowry said.

Last year, only fifth graders were involved. The CLCE put on such a great event that Mount Stuart Elementary asked if the second graders could join.

Since there are more children involved this year, there are also plenty of opportunities for volunteer work. The CLCE is looking for individuals to help educate children on such an important historical figure and assist them through activities.

According to Central's website, "The CLCE is seeking 40 volunteers to guide

When: Jan. 15
Time: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: SURC Ballroom
Interested in volunteering? Go to takeactioncwu.com or visit our office in SURC 256

students through a number of activities, such as writing about leadership, role playing various civil rights situations and making signs for a peace walk that the students will take back to Mt. Stuart."

For those looking for an opportunity to help the youth of the community and have a good time doing it, this is the place to be. For people interested in signing up for events, go to the CLCE website at takeactioncwu.com to sign up.

Volunteering also gives people of all ages an opportunity to learn more about MLK, all that he achieved, and why he has a day dedicated solely to him.

"The least we could do for the impact Martin Luther King Jr. made on our nation is to take one day from the year to remember him and the incredible changes he gave to our nation," Lowry said.

See Online: The Museum of Culture and Environment and Sarah Spurgeon Gallery open two exhibits today exploring the Yakima River and its rich cultural and artistic heritage.

Comedic Relief

Asif Ali to perform in SURC Theatre

BY MARGAUX MASSEY
Staff Reporter

Back in November the Campus Activities department went to a regional conference in Portland called the National Association for Campus Activities. The conference is a showcase of comedians and musicians. They are there with their booking agents and are all ready to be booked for nationwide campus events.

"This conference is a really great opportunity for us to bring talent back to central because a lot of high profile comedians and musicians showcase at this event", said Ashley Stubbs, who is a student programmer for Campus Activities. This conference is where they saw Asif Ali and where Stubbs approached his booking agent and hired him to do a performance at Central.

"He was of course a funny comedian, but he has a very witty pop culture centered fresh vibe that felt like it would be perfect for central," said Stubbs on why they chose Ali out of all of the acts that were featured at the conference.

Campus Activities Director Scott Drummond also enjoyed Ali's unique brand of comedy and how he seemed to stand out from the other comics at the conference.

"His stuff presents a lot of maturity and interesting thought and is still very funny but it's different, newer material,"

said Drummond.

Asif Ali will perform in the SURC Theater at 7 p.m. on Jan. 11. Why would the Campus Activities department want to bring a comedian to Central so early into the quarter?

"Welcome back to winter," Drummond said. "We wanted to do something very much for students, for when you get back and kind of settled into your new quarter, let's give you something to start you off with a nice laugh and some fun."

Drummond went on to say that winter quarter tends to be the toughest academically and because of the weather people tend to get cabin fever and they wanted to help out as much as possible with that by providing events for students to go to instead of sitting in their dorms.

"The beginning of the quarter when it's dark and cold seems like a perfect time to spice up with a little comedy," said Stubbs.

There are some students who have heard Ali's comedy already and are eagerly anticipating his visit to the school.

"I like the acts, he is really relaxed and not mean to the audience like some other comics are," said Danny Lazo, a sophomore graphic design major.

When: Jan. 11
Time: 7 p.m.
Where: SURC Theatre



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Central Washington University
Department of Communication

THE OBSERVER'S
"GAME OF THE WEEK"
PREDICTION: WWU 90, CWU 82



SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

Preview

Wildcats en-ROOT to face No.5 WWU

One of the biggest rivalries in the northwest will be aired live on ROOT Sports (9:10 p.m.)

BY EVAN THOMPSON
Sports Editor

A team that has everything to prove can make all the difference against a team that has everything to lose.

Enter Central Washington University (8-4, 2-2 GNAC), which hopes to leave Sam Carver Gymnasium Thursday night with a victory over unbeaten arch-rival Western Washington (12-0, 3-0). The game will be televised live for the fourth consecutive year in the Northwest on ROOT Sports (Channel 55, locally).

If the Vikings win, they'll set a GNAC record for most consecutive victories, extend their 18-game winning streak, keep their first-place spot in the GNAC standings, and have the chance to climb higher in the NCAA Division II polls, all with the help of their new head coach Tony Dominguez.

And all that stands in the way of that is the GNAC's leading scorer junior guard Mark McLaughlin and the Wildcats powerhouse scoring offense that is fifth-best in the nation. Together, McLaughlin and the Wildcats have begun their climb out from the middle of the GNAC standings and have had only a few bumps along the way.

The Wildcats odds improved after their 81-72 win over No. 25 Alaska An-

chorage on Saturday. McLaughlin scored nine points in the final 34.5 seconds of the game, which began when the Wildcats only held a two-point lead over Anchorage.

"It gets my head right," McLaughlin said, "knowing I can take the game over at a crucial time in the game, and be clutch."

McLaughlin averages 23.4 points per game, sixth-best in the nation, and has emerged as the Wildcats go-to shooter. But that doesn't mean the other Wildcats haven't been holding their own. CWU averages 91.0 points a game and has scored the most points out of any team in the GNAC.

The Vikings are close behind with the sixth-best scoring total in the nation, averaging 90.8 points per game, along with a slightly better shooting percentage than the Wildcats.

But it's the Vikings margin of victory that is most impressive. Through 12 games, the Vikings have won by an average of 22 points, fourth best in the nation, while their defense only allows an average of 66.8 points per game, as opposed to the Wildcats defense which allows an average

of 80.2 per game.

Carver Gymnasium will prove to be another challenge for the Wildcats. Over 2,000 fans packed the stands of Carver in last year's ROOT Sports broadcast, when the Vikings were only ranked 22nd. Senior guard Jordan Coby has played in Carver before, and he knows how tough it can get. But if the Wildcats can perform like their offense has all season, they have the opportunity to disrupt not only the players, but the fans as well.

"It's a fun environment to play in, and when you play well there, it makes it even more fun—because the fans will hate you even more."
-Senior guard Jordan Coby

"It's a fun environment to play in, and when you play well there, it makes it even more fun," Coby said. "Because the fans will hate you even more."

The teams met twice in 2012 and split the games, the Wildcats having won their last affair over WWU 89-82 in Nicholson Pavilion. The Vikings went on to beat Montevallo 72-65 in the National Championship game later that season in Kentucky. But their loss to the Wildcats went down as one of the few blemishes on their record.

The Vikings veteran back court and returners who saw action in the national championship will be looking to exploit the Wildcats defense. Western returned three starters and eight varsity letterwin-

ners, five of which are seniors.

Senior guard John Allen was picked as the GNAC pre-season Player of the Year and is the Vikings leading scorer, while fellow senior and co-captain forward Paul Jones leads the GNAC in three-point field goal percentage, converting .650 of his pointers.

The Vikings entered 2012-13 riding the lingering waves of their first national championship in program history which is what helped start their winning streak and the chance to break the record.

The Vikings have won 13 out of the last 14 games with the Wildcats in Carver Gymnasium, along with all three of their previous television meetings.

Despite their track record in Carver, Wildcats head coach Greg Sparling remains confident with the experience the Wildcats already have on the road this season. He also believes that because the Vikings have so much riding on the line Thursday night, the pressure has been placed squarely on their shoulders—which is a good thing.

"They're the ones going for the GNAC record in [consecutive] wins, they're playing at home, it's on ROOT Sports," Sparling said. "[We're] road-tested and if we play together, good things could happen."

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TONIGHT'S GAME

Great Northwest Athletic Conference

Central Washington (8-4, 2-2)

vs.

#5 Western Washington (12-0, 3-0)

Sam Carver Gymnasium, Bellingham

Tip-off @ 9:10

TV: ROOT Sports (Cable, Channel 55)

GNAC STAT LEADERS

Central Washington

Scoring Offense: No. 1 (1092 pts, 91.0 Avg/G)

Free Throw Pct: No. 1 (253 made, .749 Pct)

Steals: No. 1 (118, 9.8 Avg/G)

Individual Scoring: No. 1--Mark McLaughlin (280 pts, 23.3 Avg/G)

Defensive Rebounds: No. 4--Brandon Magee (59, 4.9 Avg/G)

Western Washington

Scoring Offense: No. 2 (1089 pts, 90.8 Avg/G)

Field Goal Pct: No. 1 (403 made, .513 Pct)

Blocked Shots: No. 1 (59, 4.9 Avg/G)

Individual Scoring: John Allen--No. 3 (217 pts, 18.1 Avg/G)

Field Goal Pct: Paul Jones--No. 1 (13 made, .650 Pct), Richard Woodworth--No. 2 (17 made, .586 Pct)

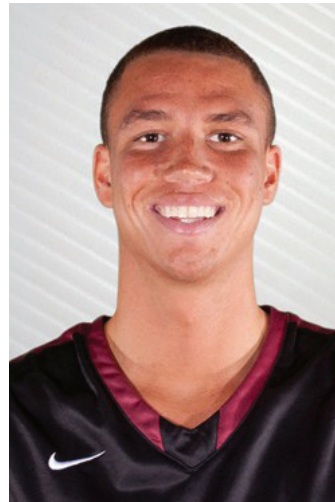


ZACH OLNEY/OBSERVER

OPPORTUNITY Senior guard Jordan Coby (5) takes an open look to score versus Alaska Fairbanks last week. Coby is the Wildcats third leading scorer and averages 10.9 PPG.

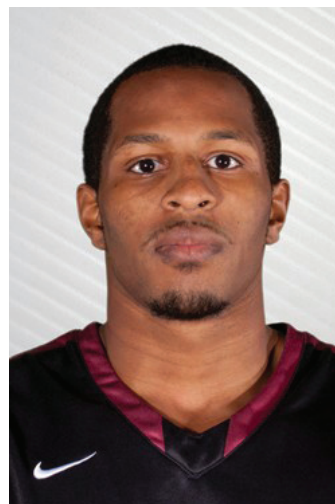
Players to watch

Central Washington



#32 JR Mark McLaughlin
6'6, 215 lbs | Guard

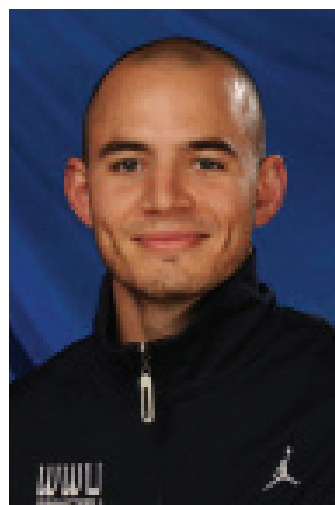
McLaughlin is one of the leading scorers in the nation, his 23.3 points per game ranks sixth in Division II. McLaughlin will be vital to the Wildcats' offense, whose 280 points account for almost one-third of the team's points this season.



#23 SR Brandon Magee
6'4, 215 lbs | Guard/Forward

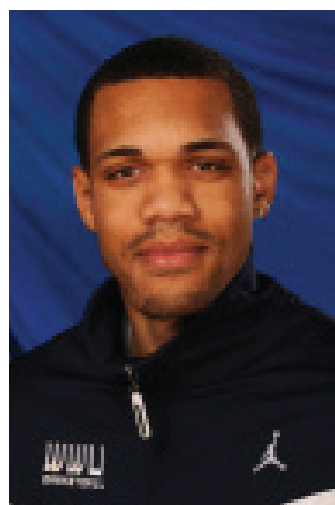
Magee was crucial in the Wildcats' victory over the Vikings last season, scoring 14 second-half points in their 89-82 win. Magee's biggest impact will be in the interior and his ability to come down with both offensive and defensive rebounds. He averages 6.8 per game.

Western Washington



#10 SR John Allen
6'1, 190 lbs | Guard

Allen, a Division II Bulletin Pre-season Super 16 selection and Great Northwest Athletic Conference pre-season Player of the Year pick, leads the Vikings in scoring with 217 points and averages 18.1 per game. He was also a key component during the Vikings national championship run in 2012.



#11 SR Paul Jones
6'4, 195 lbs | Forward

Jones' was an impact player off the bench last season and averaged 7.9 PPG in 34 games played but only started two of them. Jones has started every game for the Vikings this season and currently leads the GNAC in field goal percentage and is eighth in scoring.

Wildcats hope to get back in the GNAC

BY JARYD CLINE
Staff Reporter

After three weeks of Great Northwest Athletic Conference play, the Wildcats are still looking to pick up their first conference victory.

The Wildcats (5-6, 0-4) began their GNAC schedule with three straight losses, something they have done three seasons in a row. The Wildcats have a chance to bounce back with two home games this week against Saint Martins University (8-6 overall 1-3 GNAC) and Western Oregon University (6-8 overall 1-3 GNAC).

In last Saturday's game against the Northwest Nazarene Crusaders, the Wildcats led by 16 at one point, but failed to defend a 10 point lead with just 3:00 left to play. Three missed shots and four turnovers over the final seven possessions spelled doom for the Wildcats as NNU went on to connect on three three-pointers and six free throws to steal the game with a 76-71 final score.

The Wildcats have a home record of 3-1 and average 72.5 points per game when playing at Nicholson Pavilion, but they haven't had the same luck playing on the road. Away from home, the Wildcats are 2-5 and give up 64 points per game.

"We're the only team in our league that had to play three road games to start the conference," head coach

Shawn Nelson said. "I feel like our performance in our last game should draw a lot of confidence moving forward."

Saint Martins has been a tough matchup for the Wildcats in the past couple of years. The Saints hold a five-game winning streak against the Wildcats dating back to the 2009-10 regular season, in which they have defeated the Wildcats by an average of eight points per game. In their final matchup last season, the Saints defeated the Wildcats 68-66 thanks to a last second jump shot.

"The last two games [against Saint Martin's], we had big leads in the first half and just kind of put it on cruise control," Nelson said. "They're a team that you can't do that against because they scrap and they fight for 40 minutes regardless of the score."

Western Oregon has also found success playing against the Wildcats in recent years. The Wolves have won five of their last six games against the Wildcats, winning each game by an average of 7.5 points. The Wildcats won by 20 points in the team's previous meeting last year on senior night at Central.

A lot of the success the Wildcats have had early this season has been because of the team's great defense. In their five wins this season, the Wildcats have only given up an average of 49 points per game. In their losses however, the Wildcats have given up an average of 70 points per game.

A big addition, which has really helped to improve the Central defense this year, is freshman center Jasmine Parker. Parker leads the team in rebounds with an average of 5.5 per game, and she also leads the GNAC conference, averaging 2.2 blocked shots per game.

Freshman Hannah Shine is also making an impact on the hardwood. Through the first 11 games, Shine has averaged 5.5 points and is currently tied for second on the team in rebounding.

Another big off-season addition to the team is junior guard Ally Schmitt. Schmitt, who transferred to Central from Montana State University, is currently leading the Wildcats in assists and steals, and is second in points-per-game. In addition to leading the Wildcats, Schmitt also ranks number two in the conference in assists, sixth in steals, and fourth in assist-to-turnover ratio.

"I'm really happy with the play of our freshman, Hannah and Jasmine, and obviously our point guard position with Ally," Nelson said.

Nelson isn't concerned the Wildcats don't have a conference win yet.

"I'm actually not worried about it," Nelson said. "We played three of the top five teams on the road and had a chance to win two of them, and road wins are very, very hard to get in the GNAC - the best women's league in the country."



SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

Layin' In Freshman Jasmine Parker, averages 6.5 points per game.

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Hop on 'board' with OPR Shuttles

BY DEREK SHUCK
Assistant Sports Editor

With winter descending on Ellensburg, the mountains are a popular destination for snowboarders and skiers alike. But icy conditions on the road can make getting to those mountain passes difficult. Fortunately, Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals has an alternative for students who want to get to the pass.

OPR is offering a Ski and Snowboard Shuttle to Snoqualmie Pass every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout winter quarter.

Trips cost \$8 per seat, depart at 3 p.m., and return when the mountain closes; no later than 11:30 p.m.. For students wishing to take advantage of the shuttle frequently, a season pass is \$80.

"\$8 is a pretty good deal to get all the way there and back," said Devin Dykes, a senior environmental studies major who works at OPR. "It definitely saves a lot of gas money."

The appeal of resting on the way to the pass, rather than dealing with the snowy weather, is what attracts many students to the shuttle service.

"It helps to just be able to sleep on the way up and focus on snowboarding," said Ethan Wright, an undeclared freshmen using the shuttle this quarter. "It's cool how it's all taken care of, you just have to show up."

To sign up for the shuttle, students simply go to OPR to pay and pick a date. From there, it's as simple as showing up outside the SURC when their shuttle is scheduled to arrive.

It's a great opportunity for students without a vehicle to still get their skiing or snowboarding fix.

"My car blew out three weeks ago so this is definitely pretty cool," freshman undeclared Hunter Lotts said.

The two Shuttles used by OPR can fit up to 17 people, but normally carry around eight per trip.

OPR is also offering custom "Six-Pack" trips, in which six or more students can arrange their own personal shuttle ride to Summit at Snoqualmie Pass, Mission Ridge, Stevens Pass, or White Pass. "Six-Pack" trips must be set up at least two days in advance and still cost \$8 per student.

Discounted lift tickets to these resorts are also available at OPR. Students can save anywhere from \$5 to \$10 by going through OPR rather than purchasing from a resort directly.

For groups looking for something more, OPR is also willing to plan custom trips this



SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

Sky High The final destination for OPR's shuttle system, the Snoqualmie Pass summit is about an hour drive from Ellensburg.

It's cool how it's all taken care of, you just have to show up.

**-Ethan Wright
Undeclared freshmen**

quarter. With two weeks notice, OPR will help students arrange a trip of their choosing, providing a shuttle van and appropriate pricing.

Some students take the cramped quarters of the shuttle as an opportunity to meet fellow snowboarders and skiers.

"It's a good chance to ride with new people you wouldn't really meet otherwise," Lotts said.

"Talking to people, you can learn new routes down the mountain or whatever," Wright said.

OPR SHUTTLE TO SNOQUALMIE

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Departs: 3:00 p.m.

Returns: No later than 11:30 p.m.

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- Special Event Dinner Glass (while supplies last)



AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation: CDSrecept@cwu.edu

Central Washington University's Student-Run Lifestyle E-Zine

PULSE

Contact Professor Jennifer Green to discuss how your talents and skills might fit with the Pulse.

Have you checked your Pulse lately?

ALL JOBS ARE WELCOME

COM 446

READ IT ONLINE:
WWW.CWU.EDU/~PULSE

Facebook: /CWUPulse
Twitter: @CWUPulse

Department of Communication

CWU PULSE magazine

CWU Mobile 3.0: Coming Mid - January 2013

Now with access to SAFARI



First release features of Mobile SAFARI:

Student Center:

- Financial Information
- Grades
- Class/Exam Schedules
- Advisor Information
- and much more...

Coming soon to Mobile SAFARI:

- Social Networking
- Enrollment
- Guest Access



ANDROID



APPLE

NEW Mobile 3.0

Features:

- SAFARI
- CWU Campus Virtual Tour
- Tech Tips
- 88.1 The BURG
- Community Information
- Mountain Pass Cameras

(Some features are only available on Apple devices.)

I just found out I got an A in IT 101, using Mobile SAFARI.

