Doctor G 3
Hispanic prof. mentors and motivates students in and outside the classroom.

GNAC Rising 12
The Wildcats look to build off their first GNAC victory as they travel to face Alaska teams.

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BrewFest
Hops Into Downtown
Local schools tighten security

BY MIKALA WILKERSON

After the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Conn., people have been wondering how school administrators will make local schools safer. Two schools working on ways to improve safety are Kittitas Elementary School in Kittitas and Mount Stuart Elementary in Ellensburg.

Changes made to the rules and regulations of Kittitas Elementary School include having all main doors except the front door, and using sign-out sheets to ensure children record when they leave the school.

D&M Coffee was open the next day, but none injured or killed

BY MATT THOMPSON

Police cars lined Water Street in Ellensburg last Wednesday night as law enforcement combed the town for the suspect involved in the armed robbery of D&M coffee.

“We have not developed a suspect at this point,” said Dan Hamberry, Ellensburg Police Captain. A masked man approached the drive-through window at the Water Street D&M location around 7:15 p.m. Wednesday. The man demanded the money before leaving after brandishing a gun.

The D&M barista, who remains anonymous, complied with the man’s demands, while being threatened at gunpoint. After the suspect fled the scene, the employee hit the panic button and police arrived shortly thereafter.

“The person working did all the right things,” Mark Holloway, D&M owner, said.

Holloway said that no one was physically harmed in what has become the first armed robbery in D&M’s history.

The employee working that night was given the rest of the night off.

D&M Coffee was open the next day, and security measures are being taken, such as having more employees work the closing shifts, Holloway said.

Police believe the suspect made his getaway in a nearby vehicle.

The investigation is ongoing as law enforcement officers process surveillance footage from nearby businesses.

“All we have is a 5-foot-seven-inch male of slim build, but a cloth mask hid his face from further description.

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Garcia’s lessons go beyond class

BY CHLOE HILDSTEIN
Staff Reporter

Gilberto Garcia, professor of political science, at Central understands the importance of minorities having a voice.

For the past six years, Garcia has been a mentor to the Chicano community at Central and has been heavily involved in promoting Latino studies.

“My job is not just as a political science professor,” Garcia said, “but to be involved in the community.”

While he advocates higher education for all students, Garcia puts emphasis on the importance it has for those of Latino heritage.

Garcia’s strongest way of influencing is leading by example.

As a Latino himself, Garcia continuously proves to students that it is possible to not only attend college, but earn a Ph.D. He currently serves as a co-advisor for Casa Latina, a Living/Learning Community (LLC) for students living on campus who are interested in Latino culture.

Garcia formerly co-advised Movimiento Estudiantil Chicoano de Aztlán (MEChA), an organization dedicated to empowering Hispanic students and fostering Chicano studies.

The time and effort Garcia puts into his classes has earned him the respect of students.

“Garcia is very knowledgeable about his subject,” said Jac Murray, a sophomore of a well-seasoned driver, Matthews adds. “Traveling at higher speeds is an indicator of a well-seasoned driver.”

Garcia’s passion and love for his profession and for helping students has earned high levels of respect and admiration from his colleagues as well.

“He’s not only an academic, he’s also a great humanitarian,” said Dr. Raymond Hall, professor of anthropology, who co-advised MEChA with Garcia. “My respect for him has no bounds.”

Garcia was born in northern Mexico and immigrated to the United States with his family when he was 10. He initially attended Loyola University for law, but instead got his Ph.D. in political science from the University of California-Riverside in 1986.

The civil rights movement in the 1960s as well as the inequalities he saw in his own life inspired him to become an active voice for the Chicano community.

“When I attended school in California, I began to see the treatment of people of color, in my case Mexicans, differently,” Garcia said. “By the ’60s, I realized that I had a responsibility to be politically active.”

Though he is very passionate about what he teaches, Garcia admits there is some level difficulty being one of the only Chicano faculty members on campus.

“Anywhere in the United States, especially in areas with large white communities, students don’t expect you to be in the classroom,” Garcia said. “Latino students also don’t expect you to be there, but they get excited. They come and ask, ‘Where did you get your degree? How did you get here?’”

Garcia firmly believes it is the responsibility of professors to promote education.

“One of the things I really admire about him is that students seek him out for advice,” Hall said. “He has a very winning way with them. He’s very student oriented.”

In addition to his involvement with Casa Latina and MEChA, Garcia encourages students to consider attending graduate school.

Garcia goes the extra mile by taking students to academic conferences whenever the opportunity presents itself.

As a treat for his class, Garcia arranged for Latino students to have a private session with an actor and guest speaker, Edward James Olmos.

“People at the university who are minorities, especially faculty, have to have that kind of connection with the students at some point,” Garcia said. “Otherwise you’re not doing your job.”

Slick weather conditions require patience

BY ROWDYNA BANAN
Staff Reporter

Social networking sites have been exploding with status updates about how frustrated people are with drivers on slick roads. The updates come from all over Washington, complaining that some drivers feel road superiority as they switch lanes with their four-wheel drive vehicles.

Steve Matthews, Ellensburg Police Corporal in the Patrol Division, investigates a lot of collisions during this time of the year. He says the main problem is drivers not giving themselves enough distance between cars to enable them to stop in time.

Even with speed limits of 20 and 25 miles per hour, there is still the issue of sliding into the back of another car as a result of impatience. To those who think traveling at higher speeds is an indicator of a well-seasoned driver, Matthews adamantly disagrees.

“Weather conditions dictate the miles per hour,” Matthews said. “Even with snow tires, [speed limits] can be too fast.”

The winter months are the true test of patience as absolutely demands it.

Dealing with deductibles and angry parents is not worth tail-gating that sweet old lady on your way to class.

Salam Awad, senior political science major, stresses the importance of planning ahead as she travels daily via the Yakima-Ellensburg Commuter. During the winter season, she adds 45 minutes to her travel time to and from campus, but the trip can take up to two or three hours. Despite her diligent planning, sometimes heavy piles of snow and treacherous, icy roads foil her travel arrangements, leaving Awad with no choice but to stay at her Yakima residence.

“I call my professors and stay at home,” Awad said. “I have to.”

Harsh winter snow and ice not only affects driving, it also affects foot traffic. Pam Wilson, senior political science major, said she is “forced” to cancel classes. At the beginning of the quarter, students with disabilities submit their class schedules to Disability Services so those routes become priority for the snow plows. Sometimes, relentless snowfall can make the trek across campus too difficult. A phone call to DSS warrants an immediate response to help individuals get to their destination. For those witnessing a student struggling through the snow, Pam Wilson, associate director of Disability Services, said there are ways for everyone to help.

“If you see someone struggling because of this weather,” Wilson said, “usually people are appreciative if you ask to give them a hand, a push, or any other assistance.”
Auslander’s work receives high praise

BY EVAN PAPPAS
Staff Reporter

Smithsonian Castle

Mark Auslander’s work has not only brought him across the country, but across the world.

As the director of the Museum of Culture & Environment and an anthropology professor at Central, Auslander has traveled the world researching the history of traditional African cultures and slavery.

“If you want to really learn something you have to get out of the office,” Auslander said.

Auslander has recently received attention for his research into the construction of Smithsonian Castle, specifically who actually built it.

Over the years, Auslander had been told by many of the elderly African American guards at the museum that slave labor built the castle, yet historians doubted the claim.

After some research, Auslander discovered the sandstone used in the castle had come from a quarry owned by John Custis, Peter, the great grandson of Martha Custis Washington, George Washington’s wife. After her death, some of the slaves she owned were transferred to the quarry.

“I’ve been able now, through my research, to identify the names of a number of the enslaved men working in that quarry who carved out the stones that we see in the Smithsonian,” Auslander said. “It’s just a small way of honoring the memories of those individuals.”

His interest in the legacy of slavery goes back to when he taught at Emory University in Atlanta. Auslander began holding classes outside of the classroom and in the community. Students and community members attended, and shared amazing stories about the importance and effect of slavery in their families.

“Something that had seemed very distant to me suddenly seemed very real,” Auslander said. “It was that experience of teaching, of working with my students, that just opened up entirely new horizons for me.”

Auslander decided he didn’t want to go back to giving traditional lectures. He started doing collaborative work with his students — setting up exhibitions about the history of slavery, and re-exploring the history of African Americans at Emory.

The work he did there lead Auslander to write “The Accidental Slave Owner,” a book about the impact of an enslaved woman named Ms. Kitty in the history of Emory. Her second son escaped slavery and made his way to Washington, D.C., Auslander’s hometown. Auslander went back to D.C. to trace this man’s story.

“This research on slavery and its legacies unexpectedly led me to rediscover what it is to be an American,” Auslander said, “and it’s also caused me to rediscover my hometown.”

Last Thursday, Auslander oversaw the opening of the Museum of Culture & Environment’s new exhibit, “Voices of the River: Life along the Yakima.” He worked closely with art department Chair Gregg Schlanger, who curated a sister exhibit, “Yakima River Diaries,” which opened the same night at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery.

“It’s been exciting just to share ideas and think about how to connect,” Schlanger said. “Mark has really reached out to a lot of aspects of the College of Arts and Humanities, from visual arts to theater to creative writing.”

The museum exhibit focuses on the history of the river and the people who live along it. Marc Hannik, an assistant professor and resident scenic designer, was responsible for the walls of the exhibit, which evoke the canyon, and a Plexiglas “river” suspended from the ceiling.

“I wanted the audience to experience it from two points of view,” Hannik said. “From the outside looking in, viewing the valley from afar, and in the river itself.”

At the entrance of the museum, Schlanger created an art installation featuring flowing water. Above it swind a school of sockeye salmon, which have returned to the river after a 100-year absence.

Auslander said he wants his exhibit to spark intelligent debate and encourage people to think critically.

“We don’t give any answers here,” Auslander said. “We want to create a space where everybody who lives in the Yakima Basin, in Kittitas, and Yakima County, will have a chance to come here and hear the voices of their neighbors.”

Theft on the rise, bandits on the run

BY MAC CLARK
Staff Reporter

Devices such as ipods, smart phones and other small objects have become easy targets for thieves trying to make a quick buck.

New gadgets and handheld devices are often ideal items for theft.

“Theives are looking for quick grabs that take five seconds,” said Sgt. Josh Bender of the Ellensburg Police Department.

College campuses are hotbeds of new technology, so it is no surprise theft weighs heavily on many students’ minds.

Ellensburg Police Department’s Annual Reports from 2006 to 2012 show numbers varying from a high in 2010 to a low in 2007. In 2012, there was a spike in theft with 774 reported incidents, up from a low of 712 in 2011. The seven-year average is 760 reported incidents.

The opportunity for theft is widespread both around Central campus and Ellensburg.

Awareness is key, and keeping valuables in sight can solve many of the issues, according to Alonso Palomino, a senior public relations major, who has firsthand knowledge of theft.

“We have become more vigilant,” Palomino said. “We have added motion-sensor lights and make sure our doors are locked when we leave or go to sleep.”

The EPD and CWU Campus Police work together to prevent theft, according to Bender.

“We try to inform each other about bordering areas that have had recent thefts,” Bender said.

While both agencies work together to prevent theft, they also need the help of students and citizens.

“Lock your car doors, set car alarms, take anything of value out of your car, and do not leave your firearms in your car,” Bender said. “Use proper processes for storing items on campus.”

EPD sees more theft activity after Central breaks for holidays.

According to its 2011 Annual Report, the majority of campus police said most Central incidences occur in residence halls, parking lots, and campus buildings.

Technological gadgets are hot items for thieves, but technology might also lead to their downfall.

Internet sites such as Craigslist make it easier to sell items online without anyone knowing it was stolen property.

According to EPD, though, many victims know their items could possibly show up on those sites and tend to contact law enforcement.
Gaudino shares policy on guns, emergencies

BY SANTOS HERRERA
News Editor

Where does Central stand, in terms of gun restrictions?
We have a policy: we don’t allow guns on our campus. If a student brings a gun, as a resident, there is an armory and students have to put their weapon in the armory.

What’s the penalty for having weapons on campus?
You would be put in to whatever disciplinary action you would be subject to. Mostly, you would just be asked to take the weapon off campus.

How well equipped do you think the school is to respond to something like Virginia Tech or Connecticut?
I think we are as ready as we know how to be, and as prepared as we know how to be. Safety is the prime responsibility of our security officers. Mike Lavers and his team, they study those incidents, we respond, we change our policy we change our mechanisms, we have notifications, we do the best job we can to prepare for that sort of situation.

What are your personal thoughts on gun laws? Should they be stricter or should they be changed?
I’m going to give you an answer that you won’t want. As president, I have, but don’t get to express, my personal beliefs on a lot of issues, because it’s hard for people to separate my personal beliefs and professional responsibilities. I try not to give myself the luxury of talking about my personal beliefs.

Wouldn’t your personal beliefs drive your professional career?
Oh, it drives my professional career without any question, but in terms of university policy, I don’t set university policy without lots of input. The university has a very rigorous and open process for defining its policies. We have a committee that’s called UPAC (University Policy Advisory Council). University policies come from the originator, it gets reviewed by a broad constituent of people and their organizations, then it comes through the UPAC. It’s reviewed by the cabinet and ultimately signed by me, but based on lots of input.

Is there any plan to change policies as a result of recent incidents in the area?
No, I mean we have a ban. We can’t have weapons on campus. There’s policy and there’s procedure and training. A policy says you can’t and can’t and those sort of things. Our law enforcement officers are constantly monitoring those kinds of situations, going to conferences, reading their trade publications, and keeping communication with other law enforcement agencies. There’s a constant upgrading of our capability within our law enforcement community. The training that they have gives over into our emergency response planning.

What is your response to emergency situations?
For most situations, there will be an initial command center set up. Those will be the first responders. They’ll be in charge and responsible for the emergency situation as it’s unfolding. My responsibility will be to develop the command center. There will be lots of logistical issues, communication issues, policy issues and so forth that become my responsibility. A lot of the lessons learned from Virginia Tech was our ability to communicate with faculty, staff and students about what’s going on. A lot of our preparations have been to develop communication systems for emergency alerts via cell phone, email, and loud speakers.
Pay it forward
Good deeds hard to come by

The latest age of technology has done many things to society. That being said, the worst thing I believe technology has done is rob us of awareness. Humans are dependent on their observations; they help us connect with those around us. Since we are all so plugged in, we often don’t notice the people around us. I believe this has in turn cut the number of “good deeds” done today and made us less polite.

On campus, we interact with tons of people every day. Some people hold doors open, while others slam into people and don’t even bother looking back. Today, more than ever, it is important to take a moment to do a good deed. With all the bad news in the media, sometimes it is hard to remember the good of the human heart. But if you can put down the phone, iPod and laptop and notice those around you, I bet you can not only change someone else’s day, but your own as well.

The ability to observe the world around us is perhaps one of the greatest gifts of mankind. Going through a day without at least trying to help one person is a day wasted. My mom taught me a good deed is to help one person is a day wasted. That is something which will make something which comes from the heart. But if you can put down the distractions and interact with those around you, you may be able to change someone’s day, and feel better because of it. Let’s get back and find the good in the human heart again.

Guilty or not, HOF made poor choice

Last week, the Baseball Writers Association of America made a bold statement by not voting a single player into the Hall of Fame. The last time this happened was 1996. This raises a few questions: What are the writers really voting on? Is the BBWA voting based on stats or the human element? Did they fail to vote unqualified Hall of Fame players in because they thought they were dirty?

Questions and thought processes, as we fans, will never know.

Here are some things we do know: Baseball in the early 90’s to early 2000s was tainted. In 2007, an independent study, The Mitchell Report, was released, revealing 89 players’ names who tested positive for banned substances. On this list was Roger Clemens, a Hall of Fame hopeful. Along with Clemens, Barry Bonds, Sammy Sosa, Mike Piazza and Craig Biggio were the headline leaders for the 2013 class. With this star-studded class failing to reach immortality and doubts concerning whether they ever will, I find myself asking if they ever should?

To answer that question we must first define what the Hall of Fame really means. Is it a shrine that encapsulates prestigious records and houses the best of the best? Or is it a historical museum which displays baseball’s history, good or bad?

If the hall is a shrine, then in no way should players linked to steroids be allowed in. This becomes a war waged with finger-pointing and blaming. A losing cause that will forever tarnish baseball’s image.

If the Hall is viewed as a museum, then we have to re-think who is allowed in.

Like all museums, the Hall of Fame should display the best and the worst story in the world.

Clemens, and his all-time leading seven Cy-Young awards and 4,762 career strikeouts, belong in the hall.

Sammy Sosa, and his three 60- plus homerun seasons and 669 career homeruns, belong in the hall.

Craig Biggio, member of the 3,000 hit-club and his all-time leading 283 hit by pitches belong in the Hall.

Without a doubt in my mind, and the minds of many, some of these players cheated. From this point on, players on HOF ballots will forever carry skepticism about the morality they played with.

Let’s play a word association game; Barry Bonds. What came to mind? Steroids most likely. Unfortunately, it’s not his seven most valuable players awards. But these players still dominated a league and era in which so many players cheated. Why not immortalize the best of them?
BY CHLOE RAMBERG
Staff Reporter

Good beer, good people, and good trivia; does it get any better? Iron Horse Brewery doesn’t think so. With a competitive yet friendly atmosphere, Trivia Night, hosted by the Iron Horse Brewery, is a great time for people of all ages.

Daniel Rios, who has been the host of trivia night since last summer, thinks one of the best things about the evening is the crowd. “It’s great seeing all the different people that come out,” Rios said. “The crowd ranges from students, moms, the elderly and everyone in between.”

Trivia night is an ever-changing event, where the venue can vary from different locations around town, including The Tav and Club 301. The bars are required to have three types of Iron Horse beer on tap to be considered for trivia night, and are even offered sponsorship opportunities. This includes providing a question and a prize to go along with it.

“Iron Horse Brewery wanted to give back to the local businesses that supported us by putting our beer on tap, so they started trivia night to help give them more business,” Rios said.

Trivia begins around 7 p.m. every Wednesday and usually lasts about two hours. There are even opportunities to get ahead in the game. Ashley Stevens, a server at Iron Horse, gives a little inside tip to participants. “If you want a little advantage to trivia night, go into the micro pub at six before it starts and there will be hints for each round,” Stevens said.

In order to participate in trivia night, teams must consist of no more than six people. Each person pays three dollars, which goes into the pot for the first place winners of the event. The pot ranges from $75 up to $230.

Trivia night consists of three separate rounds. The first round has five different topics which vary each week, including Iron Horse information, sports and entertainment. The second round is the sound portion of trivia night, where a sound clip is played and participants must identify the correct song. The third and final rounds have two topics which are picked by the previous week’s losing team.

There are also prizes involved for those teams who are trivia masters. Stevens has seen firsthand how excited participants can get over their winnings. “Third place winners receive pint fills, second place gets growler fills, and first place gets all the money in the pot,” Stevens said. “People love it.”

There have definitely been some memorable trivia nights. People get competitive, but the fun remains and never gets out of hand. Natalie Neshyba, a server and participant of trivia night, reminisces about one of her favorite events. “One of the hottest days of summer ended with Trivia Night in the Tav’s beer garden, it was so fun and one of the biggest turnouts,” Neshyba said. “Iron Horse beer had never tasted so good.”

There is never a lack of entertainment at trivia night, as it can take some unexpected turns. There is an array of interesting team names, and the sound clip round has proven to be one of the highlights. “It will drive you crazy to hear part of a song when you can’t remember the name, but can sing the rest,” Stevens said. “This usually happens with everyone – it can turn into karaoke fast!”

Iron Horse Brewery has presented the people of Ellensburg, as well as the local businesses, with a chance to participate in a fun event for everyone. Trivia night usually boasts a large turnout, creating the opportunity to win some cash or liquid rewards. “Trivia night is a great way to get together with friends, get your mind off things and just have a good time,” Rios said.
WinterHop BrewFest
Downtown Ellensburg brews up a good time

BY CODY SPENCER
Staff Reporter

Breweries from around the Northwest have been hand-selected by the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce to pour their beer in venues throughout downtown for the annual WinterHop Brewfest on Jan. 19.

Held the third weekend of January every year, the event is fast becoming a popular community gathering and showcases the best of local beer, wine, and spirits.

Tickets for the event went on sale Dec. 1, 2012, but were sold out by Jan. 4.

“We have sold out every year,” said Rod-yene Crawford, director of events at the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce. “The brewfest provides an economic impact to the community, especially in the middle of winter when things are a little slower.”

Crawford spearheaded the planning of this year’s WinterHop Brewfest. She attracted twenty-one breweries from the northwest, including local favorites Iron Horse Brewery and Roslyn Brewing.

Some breweries scheduled to be at the event, such as Diamond Knot Brewing, are not based in Ellensburg but have ties to the community.

“Our goal is to get people to come to Ellensburg,” Crawford said.

Jessica Tate, junior recreation and tourism management major and Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce intern, assisted Crawford in planning the event.

“People come from all over,” Tate said. “Even if you are a non-drinker, just go. It’s a fun way to spend a day in downtown Ellensburg.”

A variety of live music will also be featured at the brewfest. Performers include Central student artists, local bands and professional musicians. Alex Mabeys, junior recreation management, is a local singer/songwriter and will be performing at the brewfest.

“My music targets a wide range of people,” Mabeys said. “I would absolutely encourage everybody to go downtown.”

The brewfest will be stationed at 10 separate downtown venues, offering product samples to people who have a ticket.

In addition to tasting the best of what the northwest has to offer, event attenders will have a unique opportunity to talk face-to-face with brewers.

There is no age limit for entry into the venues, so alcohol safety will be strictly enforced. To receive and consume alcohol at any location, attendees must check themselves in at a pre-determined location, where they will be given a glass to use for the day.

They must also be wearing an event bracelet given to them by an event official.

Ticket-holders will have access to five free glasses of beer, which will remain available for purchase from the brewer if the attendee wishes to sample a few more.

Businesses will not shut down during the festival, so the public is encouraged to attend the brewfest to listen to live music and celebrate the success of our local breweries have had. For a complete list of breweries, venues and musicians, contact the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce at info@kittitascountychamber.com.

GOT SPIRIT?
LEARN ABOUT SEASONAL LIQUORS IN CLASS WITH THE WORLD WINE PROGRAM

BY MARGAUX MASSEY
Staff Reporter

If there is something college students like to think, it’s that they have great knowledge of alcohol. Find out what students need know about those drinks they are downs at bars, the Winter Spirits class is available.

“It makes you appreciate the alcohol more... it helps you learn what you’re buying,” said Cara LeDuc, a Global Wine Studies Lecturer. She went on to say that even people who started off not liking spirits, such as scotch and brandy, developed a taste for them over time, once they knew alcohol more…it helps you learn about those drinks they need know about those drinks they are downs at bars, the Winter Spirits class is available.

“It makes you appreciate the alcohol more... it helps you learn what you’re buying,” said Cara LeDuc, a Global Wine Studies Lecturer. She went on to say that even people who started off not liking spirits, such as scotch and brandy, developed a taste for them over time, once they knew what they were drinking and the different types of alcohol.

The World Wine Program (started in 2003), recently added the Professional Sommelier Certification to their program.

A Sommelier is the person in restaurants who knows all about the wine and how it pairs with food.

They may recently have started learning about seasonal liquors and cocktails. Beverage companies want to have people who have more than a wine background, and this has caused a small shift in the program. Due to both the changing world and requests from students, the program now includes classes about spirits.

The class on winter spirits is part of a consumer series, which is six classes spaced out from October to April. The Winter Spirits class marks the third in the series.

As opposed to the lighter styles of spirits they will feature in the spring class, the Winter Spirits class features spirits which are heavier in style.

“Often times, the winter spirits aren’t served on ice and are warmer. Why would you want a cold drink in the winter,” said Amy Mumma, the director of the Institute for Wine, Beverages and Gastronomy.

“Spirits are always managed to get re-labeled. While the history behind the alcohol is interesting, it’s not the most useful part of the class.”

The class is for anyone 21 and over and is held on Friday, Jan. 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Mary Grupé Center. The class is $39, but packages of three classes for $99 (there are three classes after this one left in the series) are available. To sign up for this class, either go to Barge Room 204 or call (509)963-1504.

SCENE
Cine-madness in the SURC

BY BRADEN DENHERDER
Staff Reporter

Imagine complete darkness. Then voices enter. They scatter around aimlessly at fi rst, confused and without a clear sense. Sirens, smoke, fi re.

Someone mentions it’s diffi cult to breathe. An emergency dispatcher asks about a viewing.

“This is a fi lm based off real events, not something that fi lms are ‘based off actual events’, these classic fi lms became more popular to show. It started out as a program called the Classic Film Series,” said Scott Drummond, Director of Campus Activities and Associate Director of Campus Life.

With the release of movies such as American Graffiti, these classic fi lms became more popular to show.

“There was a partnership between the English Department and Student Activities,” Drummond said. “Eventually the Interna-
tional Studies program joined in as well.”

Times began to change and the classic movies became less popular.

“Somebody mentioned it’s diffi cult to breathe. An emergency dispatcher asks someone what fl oor she is trapped on. A panicked woman on the other line is convinced she will die. Then her voice disappears.

This is the starting point for director Kathryn Bigelow’s “Zero Dark Thirty,” a movie of our generation; The mission to kill a monster

BY JEFFREY ALAN COTY
Contributing Writer

“Somewhere in the last 10 years or so, classic fi lm and international fi lm—the cam-
pus and community seemed to lose interest in that,” Drummond said.

When the new Student Union building was fi nished with it’s own theater, Student Activities insisted on continuing the pro-
gram.

A number of years ago, the program name was changed to ‘Monday Movie Mad-
ness’ and they began to show more popular movies.

“We would show movies like Spice World and Kill Bill Vol. I and II,” Drummond said. The idea to have a second showing for all Monday Movie Madness came up a few years ago. Iron Man was scheduled to play and the Student Activities staff were not fully prepared to turn away almost 100 students because the theater was full.

Student Activities asked the lighting booth guys to play the movie a second time for the students who didn’t make the fi rst showing. Student Activities will continue offering two showings of every Monday Movie Madness fi lm.

Obtaining the rights to show these movies is diffi cult. Contracts are signed with movie companies, agreements are made, and rules must be followed.

“The primary distributor we use is Swank Motion Pictures,” Drummond said. “They are the main production company that works with colleges.”

The cost to show each movie can range from $300 to $1,000, primarily based on the movie’s popularity and award buzz.

Maddie Schlesinger is the current pro-
gram coordinator for Monday Movie Mad-
ness. Movies are selected based on popular-
ity, availability and student interest.

“It’s real fun because each student [program coordinator] brings their own touch to it,” Drummond said.

Even though there have been plenty of changes to this program over the years, Student Activities does not plan to make any big changes in the near future.

“There are people who go to Monday Movie Madness just because it’s Monday Movie Madness,” Drummond said. “We always expect to fi ll up every showing.”

The only change this year stems from collaborations between Student Activities and the Publicity Center.

Starting this quarter, a half hour before the movie starts, advertisements from the Publicity Center screens in the SURC will play in the Theater.

This quarter is fi lled many exciting new fi lms such as The Perks of Being a Wall-
flower, Wreck It Ralph, Skyfall and Argo. Clubs and organizations who want to use the Publicity Center by dropping in here or by wildcataccess@cwu.edu

Upcoming Monday movies:

Jan. 21: Pitch Perfect
Jan. 28: Argo
Feb. 4: Wreck It Ralph
Feb. 18: Skyfall
Feb. 25: Flight
Mar. 4: Breaking Dawn pt. 2
Mar. 11: Silver Linings Playbook

A movie of our generation: The mission to kill a monster

Imagine complete darkness. Then voices enter. They scatter around aimlessly at fi rst, confused and without a clear purpose. Details slowly reveal themselves: sirens, smoke, fi re.

Someone mentions it’s diffi cult to breathe. An emergency dispatcher asks someone what fl oor she is trapped on. A panicked woman on the other line is convinced she will die. Then her voice disappears.

This is the starting point for director Kathryn Bigelow’s “Zero Dark Thirty,” a fi lm fi lled with so many political complexities that providing an analysis is just as diffi cult as sitting down for a viewing.

Jessica Chastain’s character, Maya, is a CIA operative who has set out on a quest to track down al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, a terrorist primarily responsible for the 1998 bombings on United States embassies and the terrifying Sept. 11 attacks.

Much has been made of the fi lm’s role with torture. Early scenes depict such acts in a very frank manner not meant for the faint of heart.

The main dilemma stems from the assertion that while torture in the fi lm brought the operatives actual results, whether or not the U.S. government was actually able to obtain critical information from torture ranges from unknown to unlike-
ly.

Many officials have gone on record to say torture actually provided more false and misleading information than anything else.

This is a good reminder to always take statements that fi lms are “based off actual events” in the most literal way possible.

This is a fi lm based off real events, not a representation of the complete truth.

That said, there are two main routes to take when analyzing the fi lm’s core mes-
gage.

One is that we, as collective Americans, can understand why these interrogation techniques are used. The enemy is our friend in this world.

The other is the path to fi nding bin Laden was long, violent and of question-
able value.

The fi rst possibility is strengthened in the fi lm by dialogue provided by second-
ary characters.

More than once, Maya’s supervisors are heard saying if it weren’t for those pesky Abu Gharib and Guantanamo de-

fending, they could still issue torture or-
ders with ease and obtaining information would be much easier.

This is a problematic stance. As men-
tioned before, acts of torture provide correct and useful information to the op-
eratives in the fi lm, which certainly can be seen as an endorsement of torture.

On the other hand, the road to fi nding bin Laden is shown to be very violent.

Torture scenes are darkly presented and have no musical score or other dra-
tatic touches. Regardless of the fi lm’s supposed endorsement of torture, the acts shown are as disturbing and realistic as one would expect.

Chastain’s character is visibly bothered by what is happening in front of her.

When bin Laden is eventually found and killed at the end of the film, she cries softly in what could be interpreted as a sign of regret.

“Zero Dark Thirty” as a piece of art is a triumph in some aspects, and a minor failure in others.

What most people remember of the ef-
forts to fi nd bin Laden is how long it took to fi nd him. His eventual death was such a shock because most had long since given up on the possibility he would ever be found.

While we get a sense of the effort that went into this, there isn’t a real sense of hopelessness that would be present after ten whole years.

While this is not the largest of possible issues, it is enough to throw off the film’s tension and sense of time.

Bigelow’s past experience with “The Hurt Locker” has made her very comfort-
ably addressing complex intellectual ques-
tions in respect to the military.

This is the fi lm’s greatest and most honorable achievement. There is also the added beneﬁ t of spectacular camera work and an expert buildup of suspense.

The fi lm’s fi nal sequence is without a doubt the most gripping, mesmerizing piece of cinema of 2012.

Many people suffered over the course of ten years of military action in response to Sept. 11. Whether or not our nation’s intelligence agencies went through the proper and correct avenues to deliver suc-
cess is left up to you, as it should be.

This will certainly be a question we will be asking ourselves for years to come.

SCENE

The Observer • Jan. 17 - 23, 2013

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Let’s go to the Expo
5th Annual Wedding Expo returns to SURC

BY LAUREN NOLTON
Bill Reporter

Students with a wedding to plan on top of their course load can cross a lot off their list by attending the upcoming Winter Wedding and Event Expo. The event has been held in the Student Union Recreation Center (SURC) ballroom for the past five years.

“Anyone that’s getting married, having a wedding anniversary or throwing a birthday party can all benefit from coming to this event,” said Dennica Price, scheduling coordinator for Student Union Operations.

The expo will feature caterers, photographers and event planners from the Kittitas Valley area. Any Alder, marketing and schedule supervisor, helped plan the expo again this year, as she has done for the past five years. Alder is most looking forward to the fashion show, put on by the Student Fashion Association. The fashion show will showcase dresses from One Stop Bridal and will feature student models.

“There is definitely a need in the community [for the expo] because there was no place for businesses in the community to showcase what they do and no place for brides to come together,” Alder said.

The wedding and event expo is a great way to showcase both the vendors and the SURC Ballroom location. Most students do not know that the ballroom is used for all types of events, including weddings. This year is going to be different than last year. Price wants to emphasize that this event can be useful to families, not just couples. The expo will put them in contact with the resources needed for any big event, not just weddings.

Unlike last year, everyone who attends the event, can book and buy right at the expo. Brides-to-be can purchase the dresses seen in the fashion show, families planning events can book a photographer and anyone in need of catering has the resources to do so all in one space.

Recently engaged couples like Erika Norgard, senior business administration major, and her fiancé Ryan Chioldo, said they are definitely going to take advantage of all the convenience this expo has to offer.

Erika and Ryan have been dating for three years and got engaged this past Christmas. Norgard is excited to start planning their wedding by getting ideas from all the vendors who attend the expo.

“Previous years I was kind of timid because I wasn’t actually going to buy anything, but now that I am actually engaged I can realistically look at stuff that I need for the wedding,” Norgard said.

This year, Norgard wants to enter her name into the drawings to win door prizes at the event. She said that one year they had given out Macy’s home appliances and she has high hopes she will win something as exciting this year.

Students can look forward to a fashion show, free food and a chance to win a door prize. Students who are over 21 can look forward to wine tasting provided by Ellensburg Wineworks.

The Fifth Annual Winter Wedding and Event Expo will be held on Jan. 27 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the SURC Ballroom. The expo will cost $3 for singles and $5 per couple (A couple is ANY two people).

All in good fun: Comedians coming to Prosody

BY ANDREW EVANS
Staff Reporter

Comedian Adam Stone admits it can be challenging to write material that isn’t “blue,” or dirty comedy.

“It’s sort of harder to write cleaner. You can always write a good joke and then dirty it up,” Stone said.

Marc Yaffee and Stone are making their way from Reno, Nevada, to Prosody Café on Jan. 26. Both comedians have played in Ellensburg several times and have spent a lot of time performing around the Northwest.

“I’ve probably worked in the states of Washington and Oregon more than anywhere else,” Yaffe said. “Washington is a really comedy-friendly state.”

The comedians have been friends since 1999. Now that both are living in Reno, they have been working together to up the ante. They recently ran an eight-week show titled Tall, Dark and Hilarious, and now they’re hitting the road.

“Since we’re good friends, we try to work a lot together,” Yaffee said. “When you go on the road, a lot of times they’ll pair two comedians up. You might as well do it with someone you like.”

Stone is originally from Hawaii and has been working in comedy for the last 12 years. Good natured and upbeat, he describes himself as a “clean comic.”

His friends and family always told him that he was funny, but he never considered doing stand up until his sister-in-law, an aspiring actress in L.A., encouraged him to take his personality to the stage.

“I always liked to make people laugh, and I finally figured out a way to do it on a formal basis,” Stone said. “I just went for it.”

Stand up comics are always on the lookout for new material. Marc Yaffe draws inspiration from race, pop culture, and his ex-wife.

“She fell in love with some 66 year old guy. He’s kind of her sugar daddy, an uncle,” Yaffe said.

Yaffe is an adopted Navajo who was raised in Los Angeles by a Mexican mother and a Jewish father. His multicultural background provides a basis for a lot of his material. Yaffe didn’t start doing stand up until he was in his 30s, working as a traffic school instructor.

He was living in Kelseyville, Calif., two hours from the nearest comedy club in Sacramento. It would take him four hours of driving to get just five minutes of stage time.

“It was a lot of miles for not much time on stage, but it was worth it,” Yaffe said.

Yaffe’s dedication has paid off. He has appeared on the Bob and Tom Show several times, wrote for George Carlin’s Laugh.com, and performs regularly with the Bow Wow Comedy Jam.

According to Yaffe, he is one of only a dozen full time Native Comedians, and Adam is one of four Hawaiian professionals.

“We have some real distinct backgrounds, but our comedy is pretty universal,” Yaffe said. “In other words, if you go to the show, it’s not going to be a bunch of Hawaiian and Indian jokes.”

Photos courtesy of operationsang.org and Renostandup.com

PUNNY GUYS

(Left) Marc Yaffe and (Right) Adam Stone will bring their comedy to this year’s Winter Wedding and Event Expo.
Students attend a community college or university to earn degrees in a specific field, but a background in leadership can really set students apart.

That’s why Ryan Gregson, the student program leader of the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, is putting on a Leadership 101 workshop on Jan. 24 at 4 p.m. in SURC room 137A.

Leadership skills are valuable for professional careers, Gregson said, and reside within each individual.

Gregson said he wants students to discover what their leadership style is.

Gregson has three years of leadership experience, ranging from participating in an Experience Leadership Camp, to working with teens and adolescents about drug and alcohol prevention, to receiving the Oxfam CHANGE Leader recognition for the 2012-13 year.

Leadership 101 will be an activity-based leadership workshop to help students better understand their dominant leadership style, he said.

“If you haven’t been involved with leadership, it is a good starting point,” Gregson said.

In addition, the leadership workshop will include several activities such as an icebreaker, self-awareness reflection piece, teamwork activities and, finally, developing a personal leadership theory. The theme of Leadership 101 is the symbol of an iceberg.

At first glance, leadership seems to be very self-explanatory; however, looking beneath the surface, there are many large components that develop individuals into leaders.

Leadership requires icebreakers, and if you are amongst a group of individuals, it helps to “break the ice.”

The top of the iceberg includes self-identification, while the bottom half focuses primarily on teamwork. Leadership is “recognizing leadership and fellowship — learning when to step up and when to step back,” Gregson said.

Leadership not only resides in individuals with outgoing personalities or those always involved with clubs or sports.

“We all have this impression that leadership is the person who jumps out in the front, but there is much more to it,” Gregson said.

The goal of the workshop is to help students become prepared to handle tough leadership questions and positions.

Not only is the Leadership 101 workshop a great stepping stone for those new to the leadership role, it opens up future academic and professional opportunities.

Leadership is required in most career choices, and is also recognizable in group projects for college classes.

Gregson is hopeful people will “have a great time and to think differently, while also recognizing there is more to leadership.”

From the Leadership 101 workshop, Gregson and the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement hopes participants gain the ability to recognize their leader within and practice learned leadership skills in professional careers after graduation.
Head coach Shawn Nelson was pleased such a big crowd could cheer the Wildcats on to their first Great Northwest Athletic Conference victory of the season over Western Oregon 60-49 on Saturday night. The Wildcats improved to 6-7 overall and 1-4 in the GNAC and will play Alaska Anchorage Thursday night at Patty Center.

Nelson, who is in his second year as the Wildcats coach, thought the crowd size for their two home games this past week were the biggest he’s ever seen, and couldn’t have come at a better time.

“I would like to thank those that came out to our game on Thursday and Saturday,” Nelson said. “Those were the biggest two crowds to our game on Thursday and Saturday. Those were the biggest two crowds we’ve had since I’ve been a coach here. That was really encouraging, so just thank you to the students and the faculty and everyone that came,” Nelson said.

The Wildcats held Western Oregon to only 17.9 percent shooting in the second half, after they allowed the Wolves to convert 44.4 percent of their field goals during the first half The Wildcats themselves shot 37 percent and 31 percent in the first and second half, respectively, and out rebounded with 31 on the night.

Freshman guard Hannah Shine led the Wildcats with 14 points and was 4-7 from the three-point range. Shine believes one of the biggest problems for the Wildcats this season has been their shooting, and if they were to fix it like they did against Western Oregon, good things can happen.

“One of the biggest problems is our shots haven’t been falling,” freshman Hannah Shine said. “It would be huge for our defense if it did fall and get in the flow of it. That would help [our] confidence and play loosen,” Shine said.

Junior guard Ally Schmitt feels the Wildcats have made a change for the better, and that their relationships off the court has improved their place.

“Before, we kind of just played for ourselves,” Schmitt said. “I feel like we’ve come together. Our practices have changed and come a lot more competitive, so we’ve upped our competitiveness a lot and that’s helped our defense.”

Central will look to continue their good play against AFU, and Nelson believes they’re a solid team that plays hard. The Nanooks lead the GNAC in steals, with 135 on the season and a 11.9 average per game. Sophomore Breanna Bulaya is fifth in the conference leaderboards with 30 total and an average of 2.5 per game, while senior Jacqueline Locato is tied for eighth with Wildcat Leslie Stillar in three-point field goals.

Other than that, the Nanooks fall under the average in most the other statistical categories. The Wildcats however, have several statistical leaders. Junior forward Jessica VanDyke leads the GNAC in three-point field made, while freshman forward Jasmine Parker’s 28 blocks are also a league high. With Stillar and VanDyke’s combined effort, the Wildcats rank second in the GNAC in the three-pointers made and are also second in their defensive rebound percentage.

After Alaska Fairbanks, the Wildcats will then face off against University of Alaska Anchorage on Jan. 19. Nelson judges the Seawolves as a team that is incredibly physical and strong. The Seawolves are currently 8-5 overall and 2-3 in the GNAC, and will look to challenge the Wildcat’s defense, which Nelson believes can be improved. Nelson credited part of the reason the Wildcats lost three of their four conference games was due to a low number of defensive rebounds. But that changed during their game against Western Oregon, and the Wildcats collected 29 total rebounds after halftime, while allowing only 15. Nelson felt the team played tougher on defense and that’s what ultimately led to their victory.

But it was also because the Wildcats have improved their shooting game and are becoming more and more comfortable.

“Our players are getting great shots and we are getting the shots we want,” Nelson said. “I think once [the team] settles in a little bit, we will get those shots and that will help take the pressure off the defense.”

Nelson isn’t worried about the long travel load. He’s more focused on their upcoming opponents and the drawbacks of playing in hostile environment.

“We’re just going to focus on Fairbanks first,” Nelson said. “Anchorage plays really good in Anchorage, but for us we get to go get the first [game] and keep everyone healthy and then go for the next.”
TONIGHT’S GAME
Great Northwest Athletic Conference
Central Washington (6-7, 1-4) vs. Alaska Fairbanks (2-11, 0-5)
Patty Center, Fairbanks
Tip-off @ 7:00 p.m.
Live Stream: http://client.stretchinternet.com/client/cwu.portal#

GNAC STAT LEADERS
Central Washington
3-Point FG made: No.2 (114, 8.8 Avg/G)
Scoring defense: No. 3 (693 pts, 53.3 Avg/G)
Rebounding defense: No. 3 (446, 34.3 Avg/G)
3-Point FG made: No. 1 - - Jessica VanDyke (35, 2.7 Avg/G)
Blocked shots: No. 1 - - Jasmine Parker (28, 2.2 Avg/G)

Alaska Fairbanks
Steals: No. 1 (155 pts, 11.9 Avg/G)
Offensive rebounds: No. 2 (206, 15.8 Pct)
Rebounding offense: No.5 (528, 40.6 Avg/G)
Steals: No. 5 - - Benissa Bulaya (30 pts, 2.5 Avg/G)
Offensive rebounds: No. 7 - - April Fultz (37 made, 2.8 Pct)

PLAYERS TO WATCH
#22 JR Jessica VanDyke
5’9 | Guard
VanDyke currently leads the GNAC and is 27th in Division II in three-point field goals with 35 made on the season. VanDyke has started at guard for the Wildcats ever since she transferred from Carroll College in 2011 with head coach Shawn Nelson.

#52 FR Jasmine Parker
6’2 | Guard/Center
Parker ranks first in the GNAC and 18th nationally in blocked shots with 28 on the season and an average of 2.2 per game. The 6’2 true freshman’s .405 shooting percentage is best among the Wildcat starters, after starting all 13 games in 2012 for CWU.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
RECENT GAME:
W 89-84 vs. Simon Fraser
Junior Dom Williams scored 19 of his team-high 21 points in the first half and finished the game having made 7 out of his 11 field goals, including 5 out of his 8 three-pointers.

STANDINGS
CONFERENCE OVERALL
#3 Western Washington 5-0 14-0
Alaska Fairbanks 5-1 10-4
#6 Seattle Pacific 4-1 11-2
Alaska Anchorage 3-3 10-4
Northwest Nazarene 3-3 9-5
Central Washington 3-3 9-5
Western Oregon 2-3 7-6
MSU Billings 1-4 8-8
Saint Martin’s 1-4 5-8
Simon Fraser 0-5 5-8

NEXT ON THE SCHEDULE:
1/17 MSU Billings @ Nicholson Pavilion | 7 P.M.
1/19 No.5 Seattle Pacific @ Nicholson Pavilion | 7 P.M.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
RECENT GAME:
W 60-49 vs. Western Oregon
Redshirt freshman Hannah Shine scored 14 points and converted 5 out of her 10 field goals on the night, including 4 out of 7 her shots from the three-point range.

STANDINGS
CONFERENCE OVERALL
#8 Western Washington 5-0 11-2
MSU Billings 5-1 11-3
#10 Simon Fraser 4-1 11-2
Seattle Pacific 4-2 10-4
Northwest Nazarene 3-3 11-2
Alaska Anchorage 3-3 8-5
Saint Martin’s 2-3 9-7
Central Washington 1-4 6-7
Western Oregon 1-4 6-10
Alaska Fairbanks 0-5 2-11

NEXT ON THE SCHEDULE:
1/17 Alaska Fairbanks @ Petty Center | 7 P.M.
1/19 Alaska Anchorage @ Wells Fargo Sports Complex | 7 P.M.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD
RECENT MEET:
UW Indoor Preview
Junior thrower Becki Duhamel broke the GNAC all-time top 10 list in her Central Washington University debut in the women’s weight throw.

SCHEDULE
LOCATION
DATE
Idaho Collegiate Moscow, ID Jan. 19
UW Invitational Seattle, WA Jan. 25-26
Vandal Indoor Moscow, ID Feb. 1
Vandal Collegiate Moscow, ID Feb. 2
UW Open Seattle, WA Feb. 10
GNAC Indoor Track & Field Championships Nampa, ID Feb. 15-16
DII Last Chance Qualifier Seattle, WA Feb. 23
NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships Birmingham, AL March. 8-9

HAVE A SPORTS-RELATED QUESTION REGARDING CWU ATHLETICS?
SEND US A TWEET AND YOU’LL HAVE YOUR ANSWER.
@CWUOBSERVER
Redshirt to role player

After joining the Wildcats in 2011 as the only freshman in his recruiting class, Roppo has found his way onto the court and the leaderboards.

BY JAYY CLINE Staff reporter

A miniature Fisher Price basketball hoop hangs from the edge of a crib as a small orange plush basketball drops straight through the net, thus starting the basketball career of Joey Roppo.

“I started playing [basketball] when I was in kindergarten, but I remember having a hoop set up in my crib when I was one year old,” Roppo said.

The redshirt freshman has appeared in 12 out of 13 games for the Wildcats this year and is averaging about four points per game while playing around 12 minutes a game. Roppo ranked as high as eighth in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) with his 47.8 percent accuracy from the three-point range.

Before Roppo attended Central and started playing for the Wildcats, he led the Monroe high school Bearcats to their first state tournament appearance since 1994 and was also named to the all-WoCo 4A North first team. Shortly after Roppo decided to sign with Everett Community College until he was offered a scholarship by Central Washington University.

“Joey is an ultimate teammate,” senior guard Jordan Starr said. “He is always positive and I have always thought that he is mature beyond his years.”

Playing in the GNAC as a freshman isn’t by any means a small feat.

“What a lot of people don’t understand is that it’s very tough for freshman to play in our conference right out of the gate,” Sparling said. “He should be fun to coach for the next three years.”

Teammates of Roppo have also noticed his maturity in the locker room.

“He is somebody that every team needs, a valuable experience of playing with some of the best players in the league.”

Roppo arrives at Central in the fall of 2011 for his freshman year of college but wasn’t able to play basketball due to the team redshirting him. Redshirting a player is described as delaying an athlete’s participation in order to lengthen his or her period of eligibility. In a redshirt year, a student athlete may attend classes at the college or university, practice with an athletic team, and dress for play but he or she may not compete during the game.

“I had a great experience [redshirting], I loved it,” said Roppo. “It sinking that you can’t play but I was really happy with getting my feet wet and learning and just getting my first college experience, which made it a lot easier for this year.”

Redshirting for a year may have helped Roppo in more ways than just getting the valuable experience of playing with some of the best players in the league.

“This year you can tell definitely he’s a lot more mature,” Sparling said. “He should be fun to coach for the next three years.”

Along with getting his degree and possibly becoming an accountant when he graduates, Roppo hopes that he can stay close to basketball even after his career at Central.

“I started playing [basketball] when I was in kindergarten, but I remember having a hoop set up in my crib when I was one year old,” Roppo said.

Off the basketball court and on the campus of Central Roppo hopes to earn a degree in accounting, which he hopes will lead him to a job as an accountant in the future.

“He’s really organized and dependable and I think that’s going to really help him in the real world” Sparling said. “When you work as hard as him and are as dependable as he is, you know he is going to be very valuable to some business or company when he gets out of here.”

During the season Roppo and his teammates keep busy with all the basketball. During an average day in basketball season Roppo stays busy with the multiple practices, multiple classes, homework, weightlifting, and other college activities.

“It takes up all day,” Roppo said. “I definitely say I am busier than the regular students.”

Along with getting his degree and possibly becoming an accountant when he graduates, Roppo hopes that he can stay close to basketball even after his career at Central.

“Hopefully I can coach somewhere,” Roppo said. “Maybe I can play overseas if I get the opportunity but I have a long ways to go for that.”

In just his short time at Central, Roppo has already begun making an impact on the basketball team with his great work ethic and his always improving play.

“He is somebody that every team needs, a hard working respectful individual,” Starr said. “I think he has a bright future here at Central Washington University.”
JOIN THE CONVERSATION WITH A TWEET AND A HASHTAG #CWUMBBALL

BY SCOTT HERMAN
Staff Reporter

After battling through two challenging road games last week, the Central men will be glad to return home to Nicholson Pavilion.

After the Wildcats’ heartbreaking loss to then-No.5 ranked Western Washington, the team saved face by posting a remarkable comeback win against Simon Fraser, eliminating a 11 point deficit to find victory in Burnaby, British Columbia.

This Thursday, the Wildcats will be playing host to Montana State-Billings (8-8 overall, 1-4 in GNAC play) with hopes of continuing their recent success against the Yellow Jackets. Central has won the last five meetings with the Yellow Jackets, and MSUB hasn’t won in Ellensburg since March 4, 2010.

Central’s interior defense will be tasked with containing Yellow Jackets’ senior forward Jarrell Crayton. At 6 feet 7 inches and 220 pounds, Crayton could be a load to handle in the paint; he ranks in the top 10 of six major statistical categories in the conference, while averaging 15.5 points per game and 7.4 rebounds.

The larger goal for the Wildcats in Thursday’s game is to not look past MSUB at the looming matchup taking place on Saturday when sixth-ranked Seattle Pacific University rolls into the valley for a 7 p.m. tipoff in Nicholson Pavilion.

Although the Falcons swept the regular season matchups against CWU last year, the Wildcats got the better of SPU when it mattered most, winning 70-69 in the first round of the playoffs.

The Falcons bring to town the league’s grittiest defense, surrendering only 59.5 points per game. They also dominate the glass, scooping more boards than every team they have faced thus far this season by a sound margin of 12.2 rebounds per game.

The Falcons are also ranked sixth in the nation in assists and, as further testimony to their defense, have allowed only one opponent to crack the 70 point barrier, something Central will be looking to achieve Saturday night.

Central’s potent offense is unquestioned, with five players averaging double figures and collectively putting up 90.4 points per contest, good enough to rank fourth in the nation. The Wildcats are giving up 83.5 points per game, which needs to be corrected if Saturday’s heavyweight bout becomes a defensive standoff.

Something will have to give however, as the best offense and stingiest defense in the GNAC will each be trying their best to force their style of play on the other teams.

A pair of Wildcat victories this week could be crucial and also lend some clarity to an otherwise cluttered pack in the GNAC standings. Central, Alaska-Anchorage, and Northwest Nazarene are all deadlocked at 3-3 in conference play.
BY CLAIRE COX
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats will compete with a full team for the first time this indoor track and field season, when they travel to Moscow for Idaho Collegiate on Jan. 19.

The Central Washington University track and field team opened up the season strong at the UW Indoor Preview on Saturday in Seattle. Junior newcomer Becki Duhamel grabbed a spot on the Great Northwest Athletic Conference all-time top 10 list in her season debut with a top throw of 15.97 meters in the women’s weight throw.

Junior Eric Holmstrom and senior Mike Jensen both performed well enough to finish first in their respective events. Holmstrom received the top mark in shot put with 14.95 meters, while Jensen received the top mark in the weight throw with 15.97 meters.

Duhamel transferred to Central from Division I Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. She found the transition from coaches slightly difficult but has a positive outlook on her progress.

“Things are going really well,” Duhamel said. “I didn’t do that well [at the UW meet], but I enjoy throwing a lot. I’d like to qualify for a championship meet.”

Track coach Kevin Adkisson shares Duhamel’s enthusiasm for the meet.

“She’s a really good weight thrower. She is going to have a good shot to improve,” Adkisson said.

Holmstrom believes much of the team’s success can be attributed to the preparation that went into the season.

“We’ve been working hard and working out since October,” Holmstrom said. “We are doing the same things as last year, but fine tuning it.”

Like Duhamel and Adkisson, Holmstrom is looking forward to the Idaho meet.

“My expectations have raised a lot, I want to get further,” Holmstrom said, “you have to go in confident.”

Coach Adkisson pointed out that they purposefully kept a smaller team at the UW meet, but they will go back to a full-squad at the Idaho meet.

“The people who competed this week were getting their bearings, but it was a good-quality first day,” Adkisson said, “We are training hard and people are getting back into the swing of things. There is a lot of work to do in the coming months, but I am really excited to see how everyone is going to do.”

There is a lot of work to do in the coming months, but I am really excited to see how everyone is going to do.

-KEVIN ADKISSON
Head coach