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Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

WILDCATS SHOW THEIR LOVE
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College Weds
Exploring the lives of married students at Central.

No Dice
The Wildcat’s softball team loses five games in MSUB Desert Stinger in Las Vegas.

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E’burg preps for V-day

BY MAC CLARK
Staff Reporter

Couples are not the only ones who benefit from Valentine’s Day. Local businesses and campus departments are gearing up for one of their busiest days of the year. Williams’ Florist, a family-owned institution in downtown Ellensburg, is so busy on Valentine’s Day that they call on their grandchildren to drive the delivery trucks. Feb. 13 and 14 are among the busiest days of the year, for them partially due to the perishable nature of their products.

“We can’t prepare our arrangements early,” Heather Mays said. “We get our print out [from] the computer and get to work very early on the 13th and 14th.”

Red roses top the list of most popular items at Williams Florist, with mixed spring arrangements a close second. Even with big-box stores like Fred Meyer and Safeway having floral departments, Mays said Williams Florist maintains a strong local following with many repeat customers. Flowers are not the only things in demand on the day of love. Local restaurants also see a major bump in sales on Valentine’s Day.

JJ’s on Main is one of those restaurants. JJ’s manager Jessica Libey—E. Ellensburg

“Not only do we offer food specials, we will be having live music as well,” JJ’s manager Jessica Grigg said.

Alex Mabey will be performing on Valentine’s Day at JJ’s. According to Mabey’s personal website, she has previously opened for Wynonna Judd and Craig Morgan.

Before you take your date out on the town, work up an appetite at Outdoor Pursuits and Rental’s Tie the Knot top-rope belay certification clinic. According to the OPR website, the clinic is designed to teach the skills needed to pass a top-rope belay exam. The clinic will be held at climbing wall in the Recreation Center.

Climbing is from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Valentine’s Day. The cost for the clinic is $5 per person. The event is in its third year and will continue, according to climbing wall supervisor Emily Wright. The other belay clinics OPR offers are $15 per person.

“We are only this a cheap way to become top-rope belay certified, it is fun to do with a date or meet someone at the climbing wall,” Wright said.

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CONTRACEPTION MISCONCEPTIONS

BY CHLOE HILDEMAN
Staff Reporter

In 2012, Sandra Fluke, a Georgetown University law student, made headlines when she was barred from testifying about the importance of health care plans covering contraceptives.

One year later, coverage of contraception in health care plans continues to be a hot topic.

“People should be making these decisions for themselves,” said Jen Ham, public affairs manager for the Ellensburg chapter of Planned Parenthood. “I think that’s true in most areas, conservative or liberal.”

The health care coverage offered to central employees includes contraceptive coverage.

“It’s pretty standard,” Ham said. “It covers a wide range of contraceptive health care and there’s a big section where the Uniform Medical Plan talks about family services and the contraceptives that it covers.”

Under health care reform, all insurance plans are required to provide services considered “preventive health care.” This includes contraceptives as well as annual exams, according to Ham.

Despite arguments by conservatives, the money that pays for these services does not come directly from the government.

“People think that the government is paying for these, it’s the people paying for the insurance that goes back to the government,” said Ham. “We are always accepting of insurance patients and happy to serve anyone who comes through our doors.”

CATALIN CARDINALE, sophomore theater major, appreciates this fact.

“It’s important for women to be aware of what is covered in their insurance plans,” Cardinale said. “If you know what it is, you can use it for reasons other than pregnancy prevention.”

Some reasons include regulating their menstrual cycle, lessening the effects of cramps and preventing acne.

There are a lot of reasons that don’t have anything to do with preventing pregnancy,” Ham said. “So that’s why we’re very pleased that people have access to contraceptives, particularly in their health insurance plans, where they can now, since August, get birth control without a co-pay, which will help save women money.”

With the new stipulation, women would be able to save $600 a year on average, according to Ham.

Although the issue of contraception is typically viewed as pertaining to only women, some students feel it affects everyone, not just women.

“If affects people on a larger scale,” Chris Hammer, an undeclared freshman, said. “It’s not just men; women, men, all people.”

Cardinale agrees.

“If a girl gets pregnant or has some issue, it can affect the family, the community, the world. We need to be educated,” Cardinale said. “It’s not just the girl’s struggle.”

Ham believes a woman should be in charge of her own fertility.

“It’s important for health care to cover contraceptive health care, because women should be making those decisions for themselves about when and whether to have kids,” Ham said. “We think that women should be in charge of those decisions rather than their insurance plans.”

Non-traditional I Do’s and don’ts

BY SAMANTHA MONTRELLY
Staff Reporter

Most college students don’t consider marriage until after they graduate. Some students, however, choose to take on marriage and college at the same time.

According to the Center for Diversity and Social Justice, a non-traditional student fits into any of the following categories: 25 years or older, married, has children, or is a veteran.

John Swiney, associate vice president for enrollment management, said “non-traditional is not a self-reported category, but one determined through a series of questions in the admissions application.

Identifying non-traditional students in college is important in order to track trends in demographics over time.

Sophomores, Rachel Mahnke, doesn’t feel non-traditional as a married student.

“Well, a lot of my friends live in the dorms and it’s [marital life] drastically different than that, but as far as being a regular college student it’s not much different at all,” Mahnke said.

Mahnke and her husband, Renee, got married this summer and moved to Ellensburg, where they share a home in Brooklane Village.

Mahnke said getting married to Renee was perfect timing. She doesn’t regret a thing about it and they are both excited about their future together.

“We are pretty happy with everything that we are doing and everything that we have right now,” Mahnke said.

Mahnke said marriage comes with more responsibilities but it gives her a greater focus on what needs to get done.

“We can’t be as spontaneous in the fact that, ‘Oh we are just going to go eat out today,’ because it matters more than for most students because we can’t just go out and spend our money,” Mahnke said.

Mahnke offers some advice for student couples looking to get married.

“It’s not impossible, that’s for sure, and it’s not as hard as you think or as crazy as everyone makes it to be,” Mahnke said. “If you know what you want, why should you wait because society is telling you to?”

Patrick and Anjela Hasseries were dating for three years before they tied the knot.

Five days after Valentine’s Day, to be exact.

“The couple was not concerned about getting married while in college,” said Anjela.

“Honestly, being married, I don’t think it feels much different than what life was like before,” Patrick said. “I think what did make a difference was having William.”

William is Patrick and Anjela’s son.

The Hasseries say being parents has given them skills necessary for the future.

“I feel like professionally and socially skills-wise, we are a lot better off than a lot of college students who just coast through their years in college, and then have to try and figure things out when they’re out in the real world,” Patrick said.

“We already have a number of years of playing house, and have been doing the whole mediation, communication, and conflict resolution thing.”

The Hasseries have their own bit of advice regarding marriage or children.

“The one thing I would say to college couples wanting to get married or wanting to have a kid is to just wait until you are graduated,” Patrick and Anjela agreed.
The Campus Development Committee is updating the Facilities Master Plan for 2013, which sets Central Washington University’s development priorities for the next 10 years. If the state provides funding for Central’s top priority, Science Building 2, construction could get started as early as this summer, said Bill Yearwood, director of Facilities Planning and Construction.

The Master Plan incorporates all types of developments on campus: signage, parking, renovations and the creation of new buildings.

When Central requests money from the state for a project, it must be within the context of a 10-year budget. The purpose of the Master Plan is to provide a blueprint for how the 10-year budget for development gets enacted, showing how projects will fit within the framework of the campus.

The Master Plan is currently being updated to incorporate short- and long-term developments on campus.

“There’s a lot of work that could be going on here, even as early as this summer and next year, once we know what gets funded, and that’s huge,” Yearwood said.

Central’s Development Committee has divided the different projects by priority. Science Building 2 is the top priority, followed by Samuelson Communication & Technology Center, Health Sciences and Combined Utilities. Science Building 2 is the first priority at the moment because of the project’s impact on campus, Yearwood said.

“That one will have the biggest impact because, number one, we are taking out a parking lot to build it in, and so that has to be mitigated,” Yearwood said. “And that one, if it gets funded, you’re changing construction work on campus faster than any of the others.”

Other developments in the Master Plan include a $4.9 million renovation of Brooks Library, a complete replacement of the ROTC building, and the removal of Hertz Hall.

The renovations and removals of buildings need to be planned so students can have access to the facilities they need, Yearwood said.

“We are talking about taking Hertz down; well, if you take Hertz down, then where do the programs go that are currently in Hertz?” Yearwood said. “Well, they’re going to be located down in Lind and Bouillon because that’s gonna be kind of the one-stop shop for the students.”

The Master Plan also incorporates non-state funded projects, such as housing and University Recreation.

The upcoming renovation of the Short-Getz apartment complex is just one of the non-state funded projects to be included in the plan. According to Richard DeShields, senior director of University Housing and New Student Programs, Short-Getz is the next housing building due for a renovation.

“When we built Bartos Hall we added more beds into Bartos than we needed, because we knew at some point we were going to have to close the Bassettis to do its renovation and move those 150 students somewhere else,” DeShields said.

“By doing Short-Getz first, it allows for us to have apartment flexibility to move people.”

The current draft of the Master Plan has been discussed with Central and Ellensburg community members, and now must go through review by the State Environmental Policy Act, which should be completed by April.

The plan is scheduled for presentation to Central’s Board of Trustees in July for final overview.

Kelsey Furstenschw;rth, ASCWU Vice President for Student Life and Facilities, said she wants people to take a look at the plan and fill out the survey online, so they can gather more opinions in order to create a plan that works for everyone.

“Feedback would be awesome,” Furstenschw;rth said. “It's not very often that students are involved in big decisions like this, so I really want students to get as involved as possible.”
Students to lobby in Olympia

BY TYLER BELAN
Staff Reporter

On Monday, Central Washington University students will join other campuses across the state to partake in Lobby Day.

Lobby Day, held on President’s Day this year, gives students the opportunity to lobby for issues they want state legislators to be aware of.

Lobbying is a way to communicate with legislators and members of congress. The lobbyist speaks on behalf of student issues, makes connections and networks to get new laws or statutes passed.

Lobbying sessions differ, but for Central, this opportunity only comes once a year.

Two of the biggest issues being brought up this year are voter access and maintaining the Guaranteed Education Tuition program.

Voter access deals with the ability for any student to be able to vote statewide. Another proposed is to have 16- and 17-year-olds pre-register to vote when they get their drivers license.

The G.E.T. is a prepaid college tuition program that helps parents start paying for their kids’ college education well in advance. The state sets a rate for buying 100 units — or a year’s worth of tuition — and those units will still buy a year’s worth of tuition in the future, no matter how much rates have risen. The program has been so popular that it’s now underfunded by about $631 million, according to an article in The Seattle Times.

Another issue during this year’s Lobby Day is college benefits for veterans and primary registration to honor their service.

The goal is to exempt the one-year period that allows them to be a state citizen, thus allowing veterans to take advantage of in-state tuition costs immediately.

Brianne Wood, ASCWU President for Legislative Affairs, is one of the main rally leaders for this day.

“Our main issues are maintaining the G.E.T. program and trying to maintain or fund higher education,” Wood said.

Wood says it is a necessity to fund higher education these days, and believes without it, it is almost impossible to get a job.

There has been a table in the SURC this week to advertise the issues and recruit interested students.

Wood said hopes she can get at least 100 students to participate. Currently, she has 120, and the number continues to grow.

Students are also using a unique perspective to express their position. In order to express higher education needs, students are asking legislators to not dodge debt programs.

By writing students’ individual debt on dodgeballs, the students hope to leave a lasting impression on the legislators.

Currently, Central has a full-time liaison working on behalf of the students in Olympia, Jaclyn Specerich is responsible for speaking about student issues and explaining what Central has to showcase.

Wood hopes to increase Veteran benefits across the state and maintain higher education funding for Central. Rallying will help pass a multiple-county legislation to assist funding for higher education.

Wood said it’s important that the students go and see the Olympia process in action.

“The goal is to show that legislators are doing their job to focus on higher education,” Wood said. “What we have to do in order for this day to be successful is to show what we have as an institution, and getting students to go.”

There is no limit on the number of students who can participate on Lobby Day. Students interested in any of these issues, or who would just like to see what happens at the state capital, are advised to sign up online and be available on Tuesday.

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Dear Editor,

After reading the letter from Mike Tobias regarding guns and gun ownership, I feel the need to clarify a few points.

The first thing I would like to address is that gun owners are not living our lives in “fear.” We own guns because we enjoy hunting, target shooting, and all the shooting sports have to offer. Generalizations such as this one made by Mr. Tobias are irresponsible and inaccurate.

Blaming guns for suicides, or for mounting violence in our country is like blaming forks for the large and growing problem of obesity in our country. Now, if you want to talk about taking a “seniorable approach,” consider the effects of the other things in society that have led to our younger estranged generations propensity toward violence. Namely the video game and movie industries.

Call of Duty glorifies killing as many people as possible to get the highest kill to death ratio. Movies such as “Django Unchained,” “The Expendables,” and many others glorify mass killing, and make heroes out of these machine gun toting actors.

We are too quick to point the finger at an object and blame it for society, rather than placing the responsibility on those who actually commit crimes, and what causes them to commit in the first place.

Guns are not the problem, Mr. Tobias, they are neither responsible nor needed.

As a responsible gun owner, and someone who works in the firearm industry, I am offended at the generalizations that you made, and ask you to look at the bigger picture when pointing your finger at guns being the problem in our country.

So it’s nearing the end of the quarter. You’ve blown all your savings at the bars, and your recent class performance has been questionable, at best. Summer internships loom on the horizon, and you’re not sure if you’ll land that big job. You’ve got that one internship lined up, but you definitely don’t want to work for that guy.

Now, Valentine’s Day is around the corner and you’re totally lost and clueless. Your brilliant plan involves shedding a few lonely tears and digging deep in that tub of Haagen Dazs to cheer up some sort of children own you on Call of Duty.

As soon as you’re finished, you’re less of a bachelor, all the women you’ve dated are lining up, and you’re ready to go out on a date the following day. And you’re the first to date every one of the women who are available for you. You go out to Olive Garden, riding horses, drawing hearts in the sand, staring into each other’s eyes…oops, I lost got lost. Anyway, it all eventually ends, then their relationship will hit a whole new low. The guy will be mentally navigating the next minefield—her birthday—and the girl will be wondering if he actually remembers when that is.

They wake up hating themselves with a chocolate hangover and post-Valentine blues, and you wake up totally refreshed in a new apartment. Congratulations, you win. Do this enough and you may actually fall in love with yourself. If you love yourself enough, other people will get jealous of your relationship and want in. Don’t go in right away, though, because you won’t make a slut. While there’s no guarantee this will solve your long-term problems, you might get addicted to the feeling and become the next Jeff Winger. (From Community.)

Come on, he had a couple good episodes.

In all seriousness, the last thing you want to do this season is jump into a relationship in order to feel complete. You will end up disappointed and will probably hurt the other person in the process. This Valentine’s Day, instead of trying to go on a date right away, might be something that will make you love yourself more the next day. Then try doing it the next day, too.

BY LANDAN GARCIA
Copy Chief

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 earned, or status, class, 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.

--Jason Leatherman
Junior CWU undergrad—Ideology
CWU graduate student—Admin for Higher Ed

Dear Readers,

The Observer published an article about Central Washington Confessions. While many of the posts on the pages are light-hearted and looked upon comically, some are more serious and involve students talking about hurting themselves and others. If you are having problems, or know someone who is, please seek help from friends, family and the multiple services Central Washington University offers. The Student Medical & Counseling Clinic is open 8-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Medical: 509-963-1881, Counseling: 509-963-1391. There is also a crisis line available, 509 925-4168.

--Danny Schmidt, Editor-in-Chief

Photo Courtesy of Creative Commons

Not so big anymore
PED users ditching steroids

Former power-hitting outfielder Jose Canseco—at 6-foot-4 and 240 pounds during his playing career—was the face of performance enhancing drug use among professional athletes, and the walking embodiment of Major League Baseball’s “Steroid Era.”

But there’s a new breed of PED users afoot, and leading the way is Lance Armstrong. 5’9, 165-pound, pandex-clad cyclist.

My ruthless desire to win at all costs served me well. I may have broken a bicycle, but the level it went to, for whatever reason, is a flaw,” Armstrong said in his interview last month with Oprah Winfrey. “That desire, that attitude, that arrogance.”

Armstrong’s guilt had already been determined by a United States anti-doping agency investigation released last June. As a result, the disgraced cyclist was exiled from the cancer charity Livestrong and stripped of his record seven consecutive Tour de France titles and Olympic bronze medals.

He had nothing left to lose, and it wasn’t needed for the USADA investigation, but Armstrong’s admission did accomplish at least this thing: it changed public perception of PED users, casting a shadow of doubt over the entire sports world.

“Gratulations, you win. Do this enough, and you might get addicted to the feeling, and become the next Jeff Winger. (From Community.)”

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From rocks to rockstars

By Hailey Nelsen
Staff Reporter

There is more than meets the eye with Winston Norrish and Robert Lupton. The two Central Washington University faculty members are professors by day, and rock stars by night.

January 2012 marked the moment the band Norrish Reaction assembled. Prior to the creation, Lupton and Norrish played together in Rusted Souls. Norrish, a geology professor for six years at Central, is the band’s guitarist, singer and songwriter.

Lupton’s family had three to four generations of musicians in the family. He had a strong urge to play music, but prioritized education, obtaining four degrees.

“Norrish Reaction” can be found on iTunes, Rhapsody and online at norrishreaction.com


Norrish fell in love with the guitar at a young age. “I’ve been playing music longer than anything else,” Norrish said. “It’s personal, and I feel like I have a lot invested.”

Norrish Reaction was released in January 2012 marked the moment the band Norrish Reaction assembled. Prior to the creation, Lupton and Norrish played together in Rusted Souls. Norrish, a geology professor for six years at Central, is the band’s guitarist, singer and songwriter.

Both “are scientists,” Lupton said. “Norrish writes the lyrics of the songs and is a great guitarist player, but when you listen to his words you go, ‘Wow, I get it,’” Lupton said.

Lupton, a professor in information technology and administrative management, has worked at Central for 13 years and is the drummer for Norrish Reaction. Casper Van Hael, a Seattle resident, plays the bass. There are also appearances from Central grad Lenny Price, a saxophone and keyboard musician, and Lupton’s daughter, Alexandra, who plays the keyboard, drums and percussion on their self-titled album.

Lupton and his daughter collaborated on writing the song “March on Egypt” on the CD.

The name of the band refers to Norrish, but was also inspired by an organic chemistry scientist, Ronald George Weylford Norrish.

Both “are scientists,” Lupton said. “Norrish writes great music, and there is a reaction, and so we came up with the Norrish Reaction.” It captures the science and the music.

Their self-titled CD, “Norrish Reaction,” was released in the Summer of 2012, and has since spread around the world. Songs from the CD can be heard in South Africa, the United Kingdom, and Central Europe as well as in the United States.

Lupton’s family had three to four generations of musicians in the family. He had a strong urge to play music, but prioritized education, obtaining four degrees.

“I love music but I knew I’d better get my education,” Lupton said.

Norrish Reaction meets and records once or twice a week and is currently preparing for their new album.

“We are in it for the passion to share music,” Lupton said.

Norrish Reaction has a "Seattle-inspired" alternative rock feel, according to Lupton.

The song “Let it Go” contains a deeper meaning and message, and is one of Lupton’s favorite songs on the album.

The producer didn’t like the beat and drums, and we spent a week re-working it, and finally Winston said, “Let it go, I want to keep it the way it is,” Lupton said.

Norrish Reaction is a studio project with no live performances. The band plans on performing in Europe during Summer 2014, but also wants to build a live show and media presence while getting people to listen to the music.

“Don’t do it for the fame or money, you do it because you love music and you want to share it with the people,” Lupton said.

Balancing student assignments, lecture plans and musical rehearsals is no challenge for Lupton and Norrish. The band has given the two a new way of teaching.

“Teaching and playing music are the best jobs in the world,” Lupton said. “I will never give up music; I’ve been a professional musician for 40 years and teaching is about entertaining the students. I can go into the classroom and talk about complex topics but make it so that the students enjoy it.”

Letting the students relate more to a professor can help create a fun learning experience, and encourage a fresh outlook on their instructor.

“I don’t sing in class, but it is fun and I enjoy it when students find out I do this,” Norrish said. “It’s nice for the students to see a different side of me.”

Norrish Reaction’s advice for upcoming or current musicians is simple:

“Have passion and purpose and enjoy the journey,” Lupton said. “If you have it, the money and fame will follow.”

The band is in the process of working on a second album.

“It’s been an incredible experience so far,” Norrish said. “We are looking forward to doing more, I wish I hadn’t waited so long to do it.”
When George Bellah came into Elise Forier Edie’s office and said he wanted to create a new Noh drama, she quickly agreed.

“He wanted it to be based on a Greek myth and he wanted it to be put on in 2012,” said Forier Edie, associate professor of theater arts. “The project was interesting and sounded like fun.”

From this interaction, “Icarus” was born. Forier Edie wrote the text of the play while Kevin Salfen composed the music.

The play is a Noh drama, which is a 14th century Japanese form of drama where most of the characters wear masks. It’s not a traditional form of theater and Forier Edie says that it’s not like the typical Western theater people expect. She says it isn’t about something the way a TV show or a movie is.

“It’s about grief, loss and redemption,” Forier Edie said. “Anyone that is going to this play expecting to get a story will not get one. It’s more of a dance and story fusion.”

The play has been chosen to go to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. The festival is a regional and national competition for every aspect of the theater arts, with competitions in acting, directing, playwriting, design, stage management and even a technical theater Olympics.

The cast and crew of Icarus will go down to Sacramento next week in order to perform their show in the competition. This show was chosen out of 200 entrants from the Northwest to be one of the four finalists at the competition. The winners of the tournaments can get prizes and in some cases, scholarships.

Not all of the students going are competing as actors; they also are sending some technical crew down as well.

As for prepping for the competition, the cast and crew are rehearsing and remounting the show in order to get the set ready to travel down to Sacramento, Forier Edie said.

The play is judged in every aspect, from how well the cast and crew set up and take down the set to how professional and effective the performance itself is.

“It will be interesting to perform in Sacramento because the space will be different,” said Lloyd Peña, a theater arts major who plays Kyogen in the play.

The crew had to build a new set that could tour and be taken down to Sacramento. They have to deal with an entirely different space to both set up and take down in, which might be a challenge for them.

Regardless, students going are excited for more than just performing the play. They are excited about the experience of going to a different state and performing the play for a whole new group of people.

“We get to share with other theater programs what we do,” said Janice Fix, a senior performance major and head of the female chorus in the play. “I’d really love to hear other people’s takes on it, especially other school’s theater programs.”

The day after the performance in Sacramento, there will be a “talk back” which will allow all those who attended a chance discuss what they saw. Fix says she is excited to hear other people’s perspectives on the show.

“Both tours and regional finals have put us at one of the top four finalists at the competition. The winners of the tournaments can get prizes and in some cases, scholarships. Not all of the students going are competing as actors; they also are sending some technical crew down as well.

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**Honoring our Veterans: Behold the Brave**

 Soldiers are not only found in the barren desert of a battlefield or on a military base. They are sitting in classrooms, waiting in line at the grocery store, or even selling real estate.

 These veterans are working to reintroduce themselves back into civilian life. It may seem easy when compared to warfare, but many veterans struggle to fit into society after serving their country.

 Central Washington University is home to some of these veterans, and the Center for Leadership and Community Engagement, along with the Veterans Center and Veterans Club, are working to welcome some of these veterans, and the Center for Learning Community.

 “There are many veterans on campus and, at one point, regardless if you’re a student, faculty member or staff member; you will interact with student veterans,” said Ruben Cardenas, manager of the Ellensburg Animal Shelter.

 “I have eight dogs, and they are all from the animal shelter,” Hake said. The Ellensburg Animal Shelter was built in 1973. Since opening, it has provided food, water, vaccinations, and spaying and neutering for animals of all kinds, including ferrets, birds, guinea pigs and rabbits. With 16 dog kennels and 14 cat cages, the shelter handles about 3,000 animals per year throughout Kittitas County.

 In order to make sure all animals are adopted into loving homes, applicants must go through an application process. “First, people must first consider if they have enough time to devote to a dog,” Hake said.

 Once the application is filled out, the shelter calls the applicant’s landlord in order to make sure pets are allowed on the property. “After being approved, the applicant can pick any dog we have,” Hake said.

“If that wasn’t barking when I went to the kennels,” Sowder said. “I went every day to visit him until the four-day waiting period was up, and every day he seemed really excited when I would get him out to play.”

 The shelter also offers vaccinations for pets, provides local animal control services and offers refuge to lost animals.

 “All dogs that come in on strays have four days for the owner to claim them,” Hake said.

 The shelter first attempts to contact an owner by either a collar or microchip. If there is no apparent owner, the shelter then posts photos of the lost animal on their Facebook page. The page also allows local residents to post pictures of their lost pets to the community.

 Schmidt has devoted his work to veterans for very personal reasons. Besides being a veteran himself, his parents were also involved in World War II. “I have a personal interest in helping my fellow brothers and sisters in their journey home,” Schmidt said.

 There are many student veterans who return from duty and have to start all over, and may be in need some direction. “We have even more veterans coming to campus next year,” Jellison said. “We want them, as well as other students, to know we have support for our veterans.”

 Schmidt believes most people are aware of the importance of commemorating our veterans, but may not grasp the complexity of serving in the military. When these veterans return home, they are often expected to simply jump back into an ordinary lifestyle.

 “I don’t know if the population truly understands the sacrifices of entering military action,” Schmidt said.

 According to Schmidt, veterans struggle with everyday complaints, such as waiting in line at the store or finding a parking spot. Even the screaming and running up and down hallways of a residence hall can sometimes bring these veterans back to a war zone.

 “It’s important to put yourself in someone else’s shoes, no matter what the situation,” said Amber Plotke, sophomore special education elementary major.

 Benefit for the brave

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Barge Hall gave 1890s Eburg hope after fire

BY CODY SPENCER
Staff Reporter

Barge Hall is perhaps the most recognizable piece of architecture on Central’s campus. As the cornerstone building of Central Washington University, it houses the entire history of the campus within its stone and brick walls.

To understand the significance of the construction of Barge Hall, it is necessary to note that Ellensburg was destroyed by a fire on July 4, 1889. According to information found at the CWU Archives, hundreds of homes were destroyed in the blaze, which also leveled structures on 10 business blocks. The residents of Ellensburg were devastated.

The fire effectively erased Ellensburg’s chances of becoming the state’s capital. As a consolation for losing the bid of being the state capital, Ellensburg was granted Washington State Normal School, which opened its doors in 1891. (The word “Normal” signified the institution’s education-oriented academic focus.)

Classes were held at the Ellensburg Public School building until the institution’s own building was completed in 1893. “The construction of Barge Hall gave people in our community hope,” said Rocky Hively, Assistant Curator at the Kittitas County Historical Museum.

When the construction of Barge Hall began in 1891, it was a symbol of the community stepping out of the ashes of the past and toward a new future. The community bonded together behind the rebuilding of the city, and the new Washington State Normal School building was a jewel on an otherwise decimated landscape.

When Barge Hall was completed in 1893, it became a symbol of the community stepping out of the ashes of the past and towards a new future.

Principal Barge supervised three faculty members, who operated in four classrooms on the upper floor of the building. About 50 students attended classes at Barge Hall in its earliest days.

When Barge Hall opened its doors, it was Washington State Normal School’s only building. “It was named after Benjamin Franklin Barge, the first principal of the normal school,” Hively said. When Washington State Normal School opened the doors to Barge Hall, it had modest beginnings. Students ranged in age from 15 to 50, attending school free of charge.

When the building opened its doors, it was Washington State Normal School’s only building. “It was named after Benjamin Franklin Barge, the first principal of the normal school,” Hively said. When Washington State Normal School opened the doors to Barge Hall, it had modest beginnings. Students ranged in age from 15 to 50, attending school free of charge.

Today, Barge Hall continues to function as the centerpiece of Central’s ongoing evolution and expansion. While the original purpose of the building has been altered, its importance has remained intact.

Principal Barge supervised three faculty members, who operated in four classrooms on the upper floor of the building. About 50 students attended classes at Barge Hall in its earliest days.

Barge Hall included a library in its assembly room, which was located on what is now the building’s first floor. The books in the library were donated by Barge himself. This collection of books continued to grow in this location until the 1920s, when the construction of a new building (present-day Shaw-Smyser Hall) became necessary to accommodate the volumes.

Washington State Normal School increased in size during this period. Barge Hall, literally the cornerstone of this expansion, became just one of many buildings on campus.

The increase of buildings on campus attracted students from around the region, legitimizing the school’s influence and allowing it to build a strong legacy.

In 1937, Washington State Normal School was re-named Central Washington College of Education. Barge Hall was no longer the only building on campus, but still played a huge part in fortifying Central’s future.

Two winners will be announced March 8! Like us on Facebook

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There are no restrictions on who can enter, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members are all welcome. Winners will be notified via Facebook.
Life is like a box of chocolates: CWU students share Valentine’s Day plans.

BY LAUREN NOLTON
Staff Reporter

“I am going to a social justice conference.”
-Amethyst James

“I am not going to do anything because my girlfriend lives 6 hours away.”
-David Moan

“I have no plans and no date. Maybe if I am lucky I’ll get a guy before then. If not, I am going to eat ice cream and watch romantic movies.”
-Taylor Simental

“My girlfriend’s birthday is on valentine’s day, so I am going to send her flowers and the next weekend I am going to visit her and sing her a song I wrote myself.”
-Melvin Horman

“My boyfriend is coming from the Westside and we plan to go get dinner and have lots of sex. I think he might be surprising me with something.”
-Ashley Jones

“I am doing nothing on valentines day, absolutely nothing.”
-Soma Miller

“I will be working and hopefully spending a couple hours with the girl I have been seeing. What I have planned is a surprise but I will say that I am making her a card. Happy Valentine’s day Caitlyn.”
-Aaron Beacham

“My boyfriend and I are going ice skating in Portland.”
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“I am going to a party on Valentine’s Day.”
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“I am going to be eating a lot of chocolate.”
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National champions defeat Wildcats 92-82 in front of more than 2,000 fans

FINGERTIPS Junior center Kevin Davis looks for a slam dunk against No. 2 Western Washington in Nicholson Pavilion on Saturday night. The Vikings won 92-82, keeping their GNAC-record 28-game winning streak and undefeated season alive for one more week.

Inside

GNAC Championships
Central's men and women's indoor track and field teams will compete in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Championships on Feb. 15-16. Can Scott Hunter reclaim his pole vault title?

Brandon Magee
After playing two years of junior college basketball, Magee found his way into the Wildcats starting lineup in 2011-12, and has started nearly every game this year. But with success comes adversity...

Buisness Trip
Central's baseball and softball teams traveled away from home to compete in tournaments in California and Las Vegas, respectively. Find out how the Wildcat fared in their season openers...

Online
Missed one of the Wildcats home games? Want to know how they did on the road last weekend? Visit cwuobserver.com to see photo galleries and recaps from this weekend's games.

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cwuobserver.com
Most of the GNAC’s top competitors are heading to Nampa, Idaho for the conference championships Feb. 15-16. The Wildcat men’s team took the title in 2007. The Wildcat women on the other hand had their lowest finish in the nine-year history of the GNAC indoor meet.

“We had a lot of injuries this year,” said Alex Adkisson, head coach of the GNAC indoor track and field teams at the championships as the top-ranked pole-vaulter in the conference and the third-ranked participant in the heptathlon. “It was a really disappointing meet for both the men’s and women’s teams. The Wildcat men’s second-place finish was the highest since the men’s team took the title in 2007. The women’s team on the other hand had their lowest finish in the nine-year history of the GNAC indoor meet.

Agnosta, Duhamel, and Hunter enter the championships with the top GNAC Indoor Leaders.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Scott Hunter</td>
<td>Karis Anderson-WWU</td>
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<td>Weight Throw</td>
<td>Quinton Agosta-CWU</td>
<td>Becky Duhamel-CWU</td>
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<td>High Jump</td>
<td>Brett Watson-WWU</td>
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<td>60-m Hurdles</td>
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The Wildcat men’s track and field teams at the championships this Friday and Saturday and it will be the team’s fourth visit to the state of Idaho this season. The championships will be held at Jacksons Indoor Complex on the campus of Northwest Nazarene University.

Last year marked two distinctive finishes for both the men’s and women’s track and field teams at the championships. The Wildcat men’s second-place finish was the highest since the men’s team took the title in 2007. The women’s team on the other hand had their lowest finish in the nine-year history of the GNAC indoor meet.

“With the reduced squads that we have this year it will be a little tougher [to finish second] but we still hope to be right in the thick of it,” head coach Kevin Adkisson said.

Returning to the championships on the men’s side is senior Scott Hunter. Hunter won the GNAC Championship in the pole vault while also competing in the heptathlon. Hunter returns to the championships as the top-ranked pole-vaulter in the conference and the third-ranked participant in the heptathlon.

Junior Eric Holmstrom makes his second trip to the championship meet ranked second in the GNAC in shot put and fourth in the weight throw. Holmstrom finished third and sixth in the shot put and weight throw in 2012.

Along with Holmstrom, Central throwers Quinton Agosta and Mike Jensen will also reappear in the championships, each competing in both the weight throw and the shot put.

Senior Andrew Venema was able to hit GNAC auto-qualifying marks in the heptathlon and the 60-meter hurdles. Freshmen Max McIntosh and Kent McKinney will also make the trip after hitting GNAC provisional marks in the 60-meter sprint. McIntosh will also compete in the 600-meter hurdles.

Headlining the women’s team is Central newcomer Becki Duhamel. Duhamel is in her first full season as a Wildcat after transferring after two years at Division I Lehigh University. Duhamel entered the championships competition ranked No. 1 in the GNAC in both the shot put and weight throw.

In her first track meet this year, Central dual-athlete Taylor Fettig was able to hit the GNAC provisional mark in the 60 meter hurdles as well as record the second best high jump mark in the GNAC this season. Fettig, who also plays with the Central basketball team during the winter season, participated in the Wildcats away basketball game last Saturday before competing in the track meet the next day.

“It’s kind of nice that we had a Sunday meet so that she could play basketball on the weekend and come to our meet and get some qualifying marks,” Adkisson said.

Freshman Dani Eggleston hit the GNAC provisional mark for the mile run while Junior Connor Morgan qualified for the 800-meter run. Senior Kenny Krefl also qualified for the 5000-meter run.

Central runners and throwers have been seeing their times and scores increase throughout every week during the season. Last Sunday, 18 season-best marks were improved upon by the Wildcats who competed in the UW Open.

“With the quality of our workouts improving, people are definitely getting more into their true competition type form,” Adkisson said. “A lot of them are challenging their PRs already and that’s a great place to be.”
Central looks to give Alaska the big chill

BY SCOTT HERMAN
Staff Reporter

Alaskan hoops will be on display at Nicholson Pavilion this week, as the Central Washington women play host to the University of Alaska-Anchorage on Thursday and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks on Saturday.

The Alaska-Anchorage Seawolves come to town with a 6-7 record in conference play and a 12-9 record overall. Alaska-Fairbanks will take the court on Saturday looking for their first win in the GNAC; they currently sit at 0-13 in conference, and 2-19 overall.

The Seawolves are led by unanimous preseason All-GNAC selection senior point guard Sasha King, who averages 13.8 points per game and just under six assists. Anchorage is coming off two impressive comeback wins against Seattle Pacific University and Montana State Billings, both of which were ahead of Anchorage in the standings at the time. The Seawolves also feature the reigning GNAC Red Lion Player of the Week in junior guard Kylie Burns, who averaged 16.5 points per game and 9.5 rebounds.

Much is at stake for the Wildcats on Thursday as Alaska-Anchorage holds the last playoff berth for the conference tournament with just six games remaining on Central's conference schedule. Central won the last matchup on Jan. 19 in Anchorage 74-64 at the time ending an 11-game losing streak. However, the Seawolves have laid claim to the Wildcats’ home turf, emerging from Nicholson Pavillion with a win every year since 2007.

On Saturday, Central will play host to the bottom feeder in the conference, as the Wildcats will tipoff against the University Alaska-Fairbanks in a 7 p.m. matchup. The Nanooks have yet to find their first win, and hope their search will end in Ellensburg. Fairbanks will be led into Nicholson Pavilion by senior guard Taylor Aulenberg, who leads a balanced scoring attack with 13 points per game and six rebounds. The Nanooks’ lackluster season has been compounded by suffering 22 straight GNAC losses, dating back to last season when they defeated Western Oregon 69-68 on Jan. 21.

Central’s frontline will provide a formidable challenge for the Alaskan squads, with freshman forward Jasmine Parker and her league leading 2.6 blocks per game roaming the paint. Junior guard Jessica VanDyke leads the Wildcats attack with 13 points per game and 4.8 boards.

The Wildcats can expect both squads to play aggressively enough to make their long trips worthwhile. It is crucial for Central’s playoff hopes that they defend the home court before heading on a brutal road trip to Simon Fraser in British Columbia and to rival Western Washington in Bellingham next week.

Owning the Court

Sophomore Courtney Johnson handles the ball. Johnson is averaging 7.7 points per game.
Brandon Magee knows three things very well in life: drive, discipline and a love for Jesus.

The ambitious 6-foot-4 guard/forward was born in Pasadena, Calif., and is the youngest of three children. He moved to Washington when he was 10 years old, where he grew up in Spanaway with his father Carl and two older sisters, Latisha and Kanisha and his mother Renee, who passed away while he was in high school.

“My mom passed away when I was in high school, but she is always looking down on me now,” Magee said. “And my mom was a big role model and he set the bar for that,” Magee identifies his mother’s passing as a large crossroad in his life, one that could have potentially led him down a dark road.

“My mom was my everything and when she passed away it was like, ‘Wow, what’s going to happen?’” Magee said. “And I was in a lost state for a while and there were a lot of paths I could have taken, but that’s when I relied on God and put my trust in him.”

Magee’s faith remains strong, along with an admiration for his mother.

“For one, Jesus Christ is my main role model and he set the bar for that,” Magee said. “And my mom was a big role model for me and I really admire my mom, she is my heart and soul.”

Another supporter in Magee’s life is his father, Carl, who is at his son’s side in everything he does.

“My dad supports me a lot and comes to most of the games,” Magee said. “He is always sending me texts and calling me to ask how I’m doing.”

Magee first started playing basketball in sixth grade, engaging in games during recess for fun. He didn’t start taking basketball seriously until his friend approached him to be on his select team, which made Magee realize he was as good as or better than the other children.

After his stint on the select team, Magee went on to play varsity all four years for the Bethel High School Braves. At Bethel, Magee was a two-time South Puget Sound League MVP and led the SPSL in scoring with 24 points per game as a senior.

At the end of high school, Magee was faced with a choice of which college to attend. He first enrolled at Eastern Arizona College in 2007, where he played one season. He appeared in 25 games for the Gila Monsters, averaging 6.3 points and 3 rebounds per game.

Magee returned to Washington in 2008 to play at Tacoma Community College. During his sophomore season, he averaged 16 points and 6.2 rebounds per game. He earned first-team All-West Region and All-WSC recognition.

With several colleges to choose from, Magee decided to visit Central and was pleased with the outcome of his trip.

“When I came on my visit I got a vibe that I liked it here,” Magee said. “And the players were really cool and I just had this feeling that I wanted to come here. You’re not just here to play basketball, you’re expected to win.”

Magee is now in his senior year at Central and is majoring in information technology. He is looking forward to life after college and being successful in whatever life gives him after graduation.

“My main goal is to graduate and to be a great person in life and to be successful,” Magee said. “I think what motivates me is my love for the game and wanting to be the best, and not wanting to lose.”

Magee plans to intern in California at a hospital where he hopes to receive a job in the future.

“I want to know what it is like to play against someone that has that much drive and passion,”

Ironically, men’s basketball head coach Greg Sparling had a similar description of Magee’s work ethic. And while Magee has found success on the court, Sparling believes he is a great student and person.

“He’s one of the guys that’s there before practice and after practice working on his game,” Sparling said. “And he’s going to be one of those guys that’s going to be successful in life. Because he has worked so hard at it, in the classroom, too, and it’s really going to pay off for him.”

The undersized big man is tied for the team-lead in rebounds. The other three players he’s tied with are 6-9, 6-7 and 6-7.

Magee enjoys doing several things in the off-season, like hanging out with his friends, going to the movies, bowling, hiking and swimming. He also enjoys spending time with his two best friends, Geoff Macintosh and Jordan Coby.

When he isn’t hanging out with friends or going out on the town, Magee can be found shopping for shoes; he has roughly 175 pairs in his closet. During his pregame warm-ups, Magee has a special routine he follows each and every game: untie the shoes then shooting practice in the T-shirt he came in.

Superstitions aside, Magee has some advice for the aspiring teen and college athletes out there.

“Put school first, stay on top of the work and don’t ever let anyone tell you that you can’t do something,” Magee said. “And if you want something, go get it.”
The Central Washington Wildcats opened up the 2013 season by driving south to California to play eight games. The Wildcats played a four game series against the Cal-State East-Bay Pioneers in Hayward, Calif. While the weather was warm, the bats were not. Central could only muster up eight runs in the four games played, while allowing 28 to the Pioneers. Central dropped all four games to East Bay, not starting the season as they'd hoped.

“Looking to turn it around, the Wildcats made their way even farther south to play in Seaside, Calif., home of the Cal-State Monterey Bay Otters. After quickly falling to a 7-1 deficit, Central rallied back in the fifth inning for six runs, and another two in the seventh to make the score 9-7. The Otters came alive in the eighth and ninth inning for three runs bringing, the score to 10-9 and handing the Wildcats another loss.”

“We looked like a team that hasn’t been outside yet,” assistant coach Craig Driver said. “Taking ground balls in the field house is a little different from the actual playing field.”

The Wildcats bounced back, in the second game vs. Monterey Bay a seven-run third inning brought the score to 8-0. The game was all but wrapped-up. Seven unanswered runs by Monterey Bay trimmed the lead to 8-7, but senior Tyler Roberts held on and recorded his first save of the season, preserving Sky Adam’s (1-0) first win as well.

“We need to stay focused for nine innings, we can’t give away at bats,” junior short stop Joel Johnson said. “We can’t coast after we get ahead because a good team will come back.”

Junior Stuart Fewel was the workhorse in the third game against the Otters. Fewel recorded a complete game, throwing nine innings on six hits and one earned run. Senior Kyle Sani notched his second home run of the season and the Wildcats earned their second win of the season.

“I worked on getting some movement on my two-seam; it ended up having a lot of movement,” Fewel said. “It ended up getting a lot of ground balls and I just let my defense do the work behind me.”

In the finale of the California series, the Wildcats could do nothing against Otter pitcher Jeff Owen, who only allowed two hits over six innings and six strikeouts. Central dropped the game 4-0, bringing their road trip to an end, and left the golden state with a 2-6 record.

A bright spot for the Wildcats has been transfer senior from Campbellsville University, Marc Garza. Garza is hitting .348 with eight hits and four RBIs after appearing in seven games.

Central will participate in the Guardian Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning tournament in Lewiston, Idaho this weekend. The team will face The College of Idaho, then Lewis-Clark State on Friday starting at 1:00 p.m.

“We need to get ahead with strikes and let our defense do the work,” senior Tyler Roberts held on and recorded his first save of the season, preserving Sky Adam’s (1-0) first win as well.

“We need to stay focused for nine innings, we can’t give away at bats,” junior short stop Joel Johnson said. “We can’t coast after we get ahead because a good team will come back.”

Central Washington will play again on their scheduled home openers against Eastern Oregon University on Mar. 2 at Gary & Bobbi Frederick Field. They will open the Great Northwest Athletic Conference play on Mar. 8, when they play at Simon Fraser University.

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