

3-7-2013

The Observer

Central Washington University

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Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

The OBSERVER

cwuobserver.com

by the students & for the students of CWU

Vol. 93 No. 9, March 7 - April 3, 2013

CWUObserver



SHOWTIME
AT THE
MCCONNELL

SHOWTIME
AT THE
MCCONNELL

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY VICKY VALDOVINOS & SETH LONBORG/OBSERVER

JOURNEY 7

Central senior, once called the next Nelson Mandela, looks to make a difference.



DUAL CAT 13

Sophomore Tayler Fettig puts it all on the line on the field and the hardwood.



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Free tax filing for Ellensburg

BY JUSTINE SISSON
Staff Reporter

Beta Alpha Psi and the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide are offering a free income tax preparation class. The class is open to Central students and members of the community.

“Many Central students haven’t done their own income taxes so I feel like this is a good opportunity for students to learn,” said sophomore Elizabeth Keck.

The class is an opportunity for individuals to get their 2012 IRS taxes completed for free.

“The members [of Beta Alpha Psi]

have been training since January,” said senior Alisha Larion, president of Beta Alpha Psi.

Beta Alpha Psi is the accounting honor society fraternity on campus.

The members are using this income tax preparation as groundwork for when they graduate from college and begin their careers.

The free income tax preparation class “sounds like something I would take advantage of,” sophomore Alexandra Leong said.

The class will be offered in Shaw Smyser room 212 from Feb. 9 to April 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Individuals need to bring the following 2012 documents

- Copy of last year’s income tax return
- W-2 forms or unemployment compensation statements
- Social Security SSA-1099 form
- All 1099 forms for 2012
- All miscellaneous forms showing federal income tax paid
- Dependent care provider information (name, employer, ID, social security number)
- Receipts and cancelled checks if itemizing deductions
- Social Security card or other official documentation for yourself and all dependents
- Both parties for joint returns must be present to sign

Correction:

In the article titled “Bridging the gap” in the Feb. 28 issue, stated that Carolyn Honeycutt and the EDA worked with PRSSA, when in fact, the EDA worked with Agency.

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

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Weekend sports information:
Sunday 5 p.m.

Letters to the editor:
Sunday 5 p.m.

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

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SHOWTIME

BY JOE COLUCCIO
 Staff Reporter

Last year, a Martial Arts performer was kicked off stage and the Kisses dance group dragged in the biggest cheers.

This year, “Showtime at the McConnell” is taking place at 7 p.m. tonight in McConnell Auditorium.

Hosting the festivities will be comedian Terrence Parsons, brother of Black Student Union President Tianna Parsons, and a regular on the Nate Jackson Comedy Show. Jackson previously hosted the show, which is being put on by Central’s BSU.

“Showtime at the McConnell is our biggest event,” Tianna Parsons said.

The show will feature acts from students and people from the surrounding

communities. They will be competing for a \$450 grand prize, with the winner decided by audience vote.

For each person who performs, the audience can boo or cheer for them.

The crowd has to wait 30 seconds before they can boo. If the crowd boos enough, the “Sandman,” who is an iconic part of Showtime, will come out and sweep them off the stage.

At the end, the performers who did not get booed off will come out, and whoever the audience cheers for the loudest wins the prize.

The event is inspired by the long-running, nationally syndicated television show, “Showtime at the Apollo,” held at the legendary Apollo Theater in New

York City. Notable performers on “Showtime at the Apollo” include Eartha Kitt, Patti LaBelle, Run D.M.C. and Martin Lawrence.

“The tradition of Showtime is to give underrepresented and marginalized people of color, in the past, time to show their talents,”

Tianna Parsons said. “A lot of the greats in black music had their start at Showtime, so the idea is to allow students and community members who are on an amateur level the opportunity to express their cultural art to people.”

The field of performers includes Central students and high school friends Tre’ Kelly and Amanda Lynn, who met in the music department at Decatur High

PREP (Below) Professor Christina Barrigan, theatre tech and head of design tests the lighting grid in McConnell Auditorium. (Left) Last year’s MC addresses the crowd.

Seth Lonborg/Observer

School.

“I know this is typical, but I have been singing forever, really,” said Lynn, a freshman musical theatre major. “I heard Lauryn Hill sing for the first time, and it kind of changed everything for me.”

Lynn claims to have an “old voice,” counting Aretha Franklin and Billie Holiday among her musical inspirations.

“Christina Aguilera is my girl,” Lynn said. “But I also like Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder—that is my boy.”

Kelly, who will be rapping at Thursday’s show, has been rapping for the past two years and also has a drumming background. He hopes the audience will take something away from his act.

“I pretty much just want to go up to entertain,” said Kelly, a junior exercise science major. “I am not sure that people really listen to rap, but mine has a message about my life. I am just hoping people can feel what I am about and what I have to say.”

Although the grand prize is at the forefront of the event, most acts are not in it for the money.

“I just want people to enjoy the music for what it is,” Lynn said. “As much as people may think that I am in it for myself, how the audience reacts and how they feel about it is the most important thing.”

What: Showtime at the McConnell
 When: 7 p.m. tonight
 Where: McConnell Auditorium
 Tickets: Free for students



Letters to Gaudino

Minority students express concerns about treatment

BY SAMANTHA MONTERREY
Staff Reporter

A number of Central students feel they are presumed to have an opinion about certain issues based on their ethnicity, appearance, or sexual orientation.

Students are currently drafting letters to be presented to Central Washington University President James Gaudino and college administrators regarding concerns students have when certain issues are discussed in the classroom.

While the letters are being organized through the Equity and Services Council, they do not represent the official stance of the ESC.

According to Bryan Elliot, vice president for equity and community affairs for Central's Student Board of Directors, the letters are to bring the issue to the attention of the administration in hopes that they can make professors more conscious about what they say in the classroom.

"I've read a few of the letters," Elliot said. "They are essentially very short, to-the-point letters involving situations that cause discomfort, like micro-aggressions, stereotyping and so on."

One of the organizations on campus involved with writing letters is Movimien to Estudiantil Chican@ Aztlan.

Thomas Garza, senior law and justice major and co-president of M.E.Ch.A., stated the letters voice a concern about being singled out in the classroom during topics of hot-button political issues.

"I felt that because of the new presidential elections this fall, one of the major issues was border control and immigration," Garza said. "It just so happens that I am Mexican American, and it's an issue that inherently affects me regardless of whether I do or do not have family involved in that."

Garza also said people perceive him to be involved with such topics without knowing his background.

"I am perceived and expected to have personal knowledge about these issues because of my appearance such as skin color



Photo Illustration by Seth Lonborg

and ethnicity," Garza said, "and so that's where I think we are taking the stand not so much [about] direct issues."

When asked what he hopes these letters will accomplish, Garza replied, "I don't believe that I or any other students that are voicing these concerns are qualified to demand certain aspects of change on a major university like this one, whereas we want to be able to trust the people who do have the knowledge and qualifications to make the necessary changes that they see fit."

Another organization on campus that wants its voice to be heard is Central's Equality through Queers and Allies. EQUAl is an Equity and Services Council organization, and provides support for, and awareness about, the LGBT community on campus.

Nikki Cook, senior sociology and communication studies major, is president of EQUAl and said she believes it is important for students to take initiative on issues they want changed.

"I think it is vital to us as students to be willing and able to challenge issues on our campus," Cook said. "If students don't take initiative, nothing will change, and we will lose our power to be heard."

Although EQUAl members haven't submitted any letters yet, they are planning to begin the process fairly soon.

"We are unsure as to how many letters will be submitted, but we are devoting a majority of our next meeting to writing them as a group," Cook said.

Cook hopes to see action from the administration upon receiving the letters.

"It is one thing if the administration receives our stories; it is entirely different for administration to do something about them," Cook said. "One concern with the letters is to be heard, but the primary focus is for oppressed groups on campus to be valued by our university."

Lanna Abuhudra, senior business and psychology major, isn't involved in writing a letter herself, but is aware they are being written and says she stands behind the

idea.

"I know a little bit about the letters and I support the cause since in classrooms a lot of professors aren't socially aware of the context that they are teaching and how different audiences from different backgrounds perceive it," Abuhudra said.

When Abuhudra first learned about the letters, she said she did not fully understand the purpose behind them.

It wasn't until she talked to a friend about them that she learned what they truly aim to accomplish.

"I had a friend who is writing a letter talk to me about it, and at first I was like, 'Why are you doing that?'" Abuhudra said. "I was a bit hesitant. It took me a second to process and then I realized it is actually a very good thing. When you live in such a small community like Ellensburg it is more difficult to be culturally aware."

Abuhudra hasn't necessarily been directly affected, but says that when it comes to her Muslim background there is always something to be said.

"I have heard a lot of comments on Muslims, and it's not so much to me exactly, but it is to my heritage, and I think teachers are in a position to educate and not discriminate," Abuhudra said. "I know people have their personal experiences but we are in the classroom to broaden our perspective and if you narrow your mind to be so subjective, then you really aren't doing your job as an educator."

Having Issues?

Contact: Equity and Services

Council or Board of Directors.

Phone: (509) 963-1697

Office: SURC 236

Email: bodcommunity@cwu.edu

S&A Committee panel discusses "admin fee"

BY EVAN PAPPAS
Staff Reporter

Members of the Services and Activities Fee Committee held a panel on Feb. 26 to discuss Central's controversial administrative fee and to answer questions from the public.

The panel was held by S&A committee members Matthew Baird, Dustin Waddle-Ford, Kylea Wells Brown and Connie Williams. The administrative fee is an allocation charged to units all across campus that is used to pay for administrative services. In the past two fiscal years, the administration has received \$1.36 million out of S&A's supplemental budget. And now, the administration is asking for regu-

lar base funding for the next four years.

Depending on how much an S&A department utilizes the services provided by the administration, it will have to pay a certain percentage. The administrative departments receiving the fees include payroll, human resources, IT management, and more.

"Rather than being a fee, it is a method of assessing the cost of the utilization of those departments," said Williams, assistant vice president of finance and business auxiliaries.

The original request for S&A's share of the admin fee totaled around \$800,000 a year, but has since been changed to \$448,000.

Williams said it had been reduced because they excluded some categories the administration did not feel should be included in the allocation.

"We wanted to impact student activities to as little a degree as possible and still have them pick up a portion of what

they're using," Williams said. "We get down to as fine a level as we possibly can to make sure that we are charging as correct a percentage as we can."

S&A Committee member Kylea Wells-Brown talked about how the reduction to \$448,000 will still affect the stability of the programs.

"There is a concern regarding the fact that we do have more requests than we are able to fulfill," Brown said. "If this is approved, that is money we will have to budget from other departments to cover the cost."

The Washington State Auditor's Office is investigating the admin fee because such usage of the fee could be illegal.

The former audit review said, according to state law, S&A fees must be used for the purpose of funding student activities and programs, not indirect administration charges.

The auditor's office was unaware of any statute allowing for indirect costs.

Williams explained direct and indirect costs and that RCWs are the law, but there are other guides, such as the Killian Outline, that say S&A fees must be used for direct costs only and that the current fees are being used for in-direct costs.

Williams said that this allocation does not charge S&A for the general operational costs of the university.

"They're only being allocated for their actual usage," Williams said. "We are measuring as direct an association as we possibly can for this cost."

Williams referred to Washington State Legislature RCW 28B.15.045 and said the fee will go to stabilize programs that benefit students.

"It wouldn't be stable if you didn't have the services that we provide, like payroll, like procurement, like accounting," Williams said.

Megan Epperson, senior English major, said she believes there is a lack of transparency in the finances of the university.

"I would rather see the money put in other places where I know what's happening with it and where I can see at any given time what happened with it," Epperson said. "I think that it's about time for the administrative services on this campus [to be] held fully responsible to the students who are paying for them."

Senior mathematics lecturer Fred McDonald said the admin fee violates the policies and procedures of the university.

McDonald said taking away \$448,000 from student activities and putting it toward administrative costs is illegal and promotes instability in those programs.

"They have an affirmative obligation to provide all the facts and to fully document its assertions," McDonald said.

Summer wages may take a dive

BY EVAN PAPPAS
Staff Reporter

New employees could be making 75 percent of minimum wage at new jobs if Senate Bill 5275 is approved, which means instead of making \$9.19 an hour, new employees would make \$6.89 an hour.

Sponsored by 13th District Sen. Janea Holmquist Newbry, Senate Bill 5275 introduces a "training wage," which would allow employers to pay new hires 75 percent of minimum wage for up to 680 hours.

The bill also comes with some protections.

This training wage can only be used by businesses with 50 employees or less, and only 10 percent of the workforce can be working for this lowered wage.

If an employee is let go before the training wage period is complete, the employer is no longer able to use that wage for one year.

"My number one top priority is private sector job creation," Holmquist Newbry said.

According to Sen. Holmquist Newbry, the goal of this bill is to entice employers to hire young workers who might not have adequate work experience.

By lowering the cost of employment, businesses could take on new employees without as much investment.

It also provides opportunities for young workers to gain work experience, she said.

"I'm looking out for their best interests by giving employers additional tools so that once they leave school [they] would be able to find a job," Newbry said. "We need to give incentives to employers to hire them."

Patrick Connor, state director for the National Federation of Independent Business, said employers have a tough time justifying hiring young workers.

He also said work experience is the most important factor in terms of getting hired, as it is not affordable for employers to hire someone with no work experience.

"As long as unemployment is as high as it is, young workers will have a difficult time being competitive for the limited number of jobs out there," Connor said.

Washington State Labor Council President Jeff Johnson said there are multiple issues with this bill.

The first is the lack of age restrictions: the training wage could be applied to employees who are adults with work experience, further interfering with their ability to earn a living.

Another issue Johnson outlined is how lowering wages for young people to get through school is contradictory.

"It's unnecessary and flies in the face of the fact that we have staggering unem-



POTENTIAL
SUMMER NEW
EMPLOYEE
WAGE

MINIMUM WAGE

Graphic by Vicky Valdovinos

ployment rates and staggering inequality of income," Johnson said.

Johnson says the Labor Council has lobbied against this bill and has its own series of bills that are job enhancing.

In the most recent State of the Union address, President Barack Obama addressed the issue of the minimum wage, stating he wants to bring up the federal

minimum wage to \$9 per hour.

If the president's goal was to be achieved, the training wage bill could become an issue, as the \$9 goal is incredibly close to the state's own minimum wage of \$9.19.

Feb. 22 was the cutoff date for the bill to be heard by committees, and on March 13, the Senate and House will take action.

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TIFFANY MCLEOD
Copy Editor

A few months ago I overheard a group of freshmen discussing clothing in the library. I don't remember who they were, or why they were talking about clothes, but what I overheard stunned me.

Every last one of them agreed that wearing clothes from a thrift store was "gross." One of them even compared wearing secondhand clothing to wearing clothing stolen from graves. What?!

Maybe this is due to an age gap, or a city/country culture clash, but I found their opinions shocking, to say the least. In my social group, finding a great bargain at a thrift store or yard sale is something to brag about. There is no shame associated with wearing thrifted or upcycled clothing.

Pop tags

And why would there be? Reusing, remaking and recycling are thrifty, responsible and creative.

According to the EPA, 13.1 million tons of textile waste was thrown away in 2010 in the U.S., and only two tons of that waste was recycled. That means 11.1 million tons of textiles went straight to the landfill. That was about 65 pounds of textile waste per person in the U.S. Talk about waste!

I grew up with the mindset that second-hand was clever, not disgusting. Making, repairing and refashioning clothing and other items was commonplace in our household. As an adult, the last time I purchased brand new clothing for everyday wear was around eight years ago, when I started college. I bought four moleskin skirts from Wal-Mart for \$10 each, and I'm still wearing those same skirts today. Just last month, I reinforced the seams and replaced the zippers, and I fully expect to

still be wearing those skirts in 2020.

Last year I scored an entire outfit at a thrift store for only 50 cents. A lovely moleskin skirt and a matching turtleneck blouse, just 25 cents apiece. Two more items of clothing that won't be going to a landfill. And in February, I replaced the curtains on six large windows for about \$10. Not \$10 apiece, but \$10 total. And the lace curtains I replaced? They'll be used as netting to keep the bugs out of my cabbage and broccoli this year.

Reusing clothing and other textile goods isn't just about saving money; it's also about saving the planet. Reuse is green and smart. Reuse and refashioning allow you to display your creativity and unique style, instead of looking like just another fashion zombie.

So the next time you just have to have that \$70 blouse, remember the rotting mountains of clothing in our landfills and go to the thrift store instead.

Shell shocked: bursting social bubbles



DEREK SHUCK
Assistant Sports Editor

When I took over the position of assistant sports editor at the start of the quarter, my biggest fear wasn't if I was qualified for the job or how long it would take me to learn the ins-and-outs of making a newspaper. Instead, I stressed out about fitting in with a group of eight other people who had already spent a quarter together bonding and becoming friends.

It's not that I have trouble fitting in; I can get along with people just fine. The issue is that a lot of times I view meeting new people as a hassle. I've had the same best friend since 1995, so why do I need more? I know I'm not the only one with this attitude; everyone is nice and secure in

his or her own little friendship circles.

So on my first day, I assumed I'd be polite to my new co-workers, and they'd answer any questions I had. I had too much to learn to worry about making friends.

Over the next couple days, something interesting happened. I never felt like a co-worker, instead, every editor took time out of their day to help me learn the ropes, but somehow I never felt like I was just the new guy. Their inside jokes slowly became my inside jokes, too. Suddenly it wasn't as much of a hassle to get to know these people.

That's when I began to think about the opportunities I've missed just because I was too comfortable in my own space. The very first day I came to Central, I met two guys playing pool. I decided they were going to be my friends and four years later, I still hang out with those same two guys. I don't have a problem with that; in fact

I'm happy they're still my friends after all this time. But it's also a testament to how routine my life has become since starting college.

I assumed the "try and make friends so you aren't a complete loser" stage of school ended after the first weeks, when everyone begins to settle into groups. In reality, I feel like that stage should never really end. Throughout my years here, I can't count the number of times I've turned down hanging out with people because I had other plans that mostly involved my couch, my Xbox and a cold drink. While those nights were fun, I'm starting to realize I probably missed out on a lot by assuming my friend-making phase was over.

Looking back, it just seems stupid that I didn't try harder to make more friends. Every single one I've made here has been excellent, so why not try and make more?

As I sit here in the Observer newsroom,

I greet every editor that walks in by name. I even play practical jokes on them. I'm proud of a lot of things I did on the Observer this quarter, but I'm most proud of the fact that I now count these people as my friends. I was able to bust out of my shell and now I look forward to coming in to work everyday. I get to hang out with cool people while doing something I love.

It's a great feeling, and I can't believe it took me this long to realize I'm not locked into any group of friends. People won't bite your head off if you try and talk to them. In fact, most people are very friendly. It's hard to remember that when you're so locked into your own social circle.

So I encourage everyone to look around and realize the student population is bigger than the four people sitting at your lunch table. It's OK to approach new people, you never know what new friends are literally sitting right behind you.

Much ado about nothing



CHANET STEVENSON
Assistant Scene Editor

I once had this dream that every day of my college life would be like a party. And I don't so much mean a party in the most literal sense, but more that I would constantly be meeting all these awesome people, and that we would go on all these awesome adventures and everything would just be, well, awesome.

But then I started college, and now my dream of a good day in college consists of falling asleep at a decent hour, eating three square meals a day instead of just snack-

ing, and having enough time to finish my homework and clean my apartment. I know what you're thinking, and yes, I'm really dreaming big here.

Now don't get me wrong, I've been fortunate to meet some truly amazing people, ones that I know will still be close friends even after we graduate. I've also made some pretty fantastic memories. Really I'm not complaining, my time at college has been great.

All I'm trying to say is that, at some point throughout my college career, I've forgotten what it's like to go a whole day without any plans or agenda. I've lost that spontaneity that often resulted in some of my favorite college memories.

There's a picture I have sitting on my desk that makes me laugh every time I see it. It is of my roommate and I trying to dig her car out of the snowy hillside we got it

stuck on last year. The picture is not only funny because of how it clearly shows that her car, and us for that matter, were not equipped to be out in the snow, but also because of the panic-stricken looks on our faces. Needless to say the picture was not worthy of being a Facebook profile photo.

This particular memory is definitely one of my favorites from being at college because it was an incident that occurred as a spur-of-the-moment idea to go look for a hiking trail our friends had told us about. Granted, we had underestimated the snow being a factor and therefore we hadn't planned to have to deal with it. But regardless, we survived, and now it's just one of those things we joke about.

It is days like that that I wish I could have more often. That's not to say that I want to get a car stuck in snow again, because as I recall, we were terrified of not

getting her car out. But in general, having agenda-free and stress-free days would be greatly welcomed. Sadly, I'm currently at the stage where if I can find time to fit in a nap during the day, I'm happy about it.

So here's to hoping that those spontaneous days are not long gone, and that if ever I completely have a day off with no prior commitments and responsibilities to deal with, more ridiculously awesome shenanigans can go down. After all, I strongly believe that it is important to occasionally just relax, smell the roses or whatever, and just be "happy, happy, happy."

P.S. If you didn't catch that Duck Dynasty quote I snuck in there, you're missing out on a funny show. Perhaps you might consider watching it on one of your off days. I guarantee you'll laugh at least once.

Seeing the world in the right way

Student opens up about living through Sudanese civil war and what he hopes to accomplish

BY HAILEY NELSEN
 Staff Reporter

Peter (Mabeny) Malath, who has been described as the next Nelson Mandela, recently discovered his destiny was greater than he had ever imagined.

Malath was born and raised in Rumbek, South Sudan until 2001. Between 1991 and 1997, the North and South Sudan civil war took about 2.5 million lives and an estimated four million residents were displaced.

On July 9, 2011, after 40 years of fighting, Southern Sudan received its independence.

"When I was there it was a mixture of everything: the happiness, the sadness and everything in between," Malath said. "I was growing up during the war, everything was destroyed. We didn't live in towns anymore."

Malath, a senior at Central, is double majoring in public relations and ITAM, along with a business minor. He hopes to return to Uganda and South Sudan after his graduation next fall to visit the area and people who have inspired him to change the world.

After his trips, Malath will continue his education at either the University of Washington or Mississippi State University, where he plans to get a master's degree in public affairs. After he receives his master's, he plans to become an acting member within the United Nations.

During his time in South Sudan, Malath was determined to receive an education. His schooling took place sitting underneath a mango tree, and when it rained, the lessons would have to be delayed until the it stopped raining.

"We didn't have books in the beginning," Malath said. "We would use cardboard and pile them up and write on them. You didn't use a pen, because a pen is for a teacher. You would use a pencil. We had no good facilities but they were teaching us well. We were hungry to learn."

The Dinka-Nuer Civil War affected the lives of the students seeking an education. Malath said the war made school more challenging, but it helped teach the students to grab every opportunity and hold onto it with both hands.

Growing up, Malath's uncle didn't want him to get an education, and would stop him from going to school.

"I would write my name on my sister's books and she would go to school, and I would escape to meet her at school," Malath said. "One day he found out and burned my books, so I didn't go to school

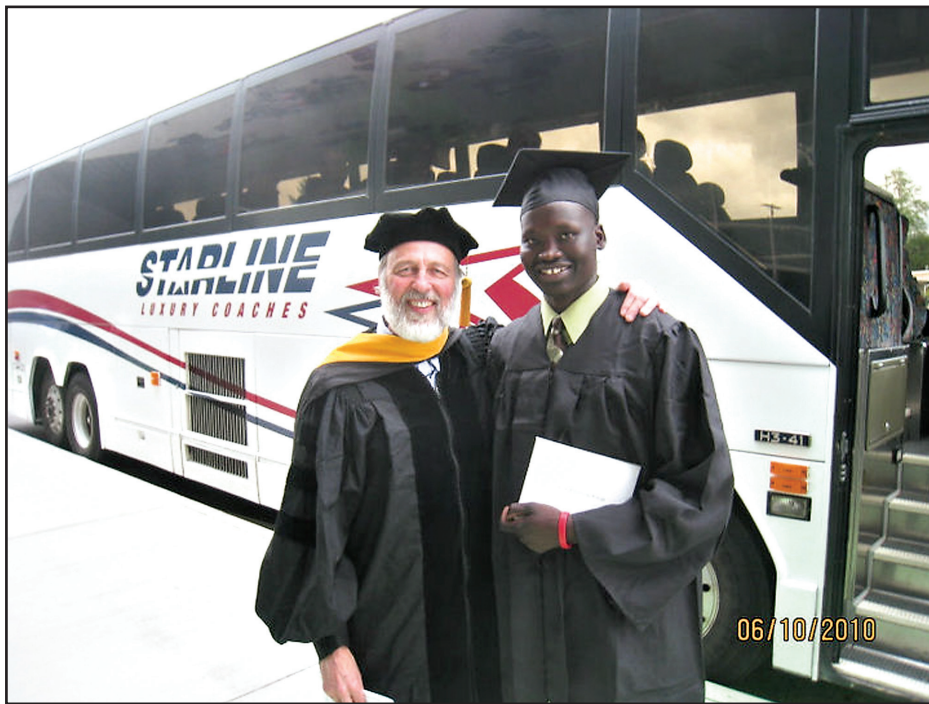


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIL WATTERS

LEADER The name Malath means "leader" in Dinka, and he strives to live up to that.

for four years until 1999."

To avoid the conflicts of the civil war between Sudan and South Sudan, Malath left his home country and moved to Kampala, Uganda.

While in Uganda, Malath continued his education, even if it meant studying ahead of his school years.

Malath attended Rubaga Girls Primary school, a mixed school, and was placed into a third grade setting. After one day, he advanced to the fourth grade level, and two days later, he was once again bumped up to the fifth grade level.

He attended fifth, sixth and seventh grade in Uganda. Malath then went to St. Peter's Senior Secondary School Naalya in Uganda until he moved to the United States in 2006 as a junior in high school.

After his arrival in the United States, Malath attended Foster High School in Tukwilla.

"When I first came to Foster High School, they didn't think I knew English," Malath said. "They put me in ESL, and I asked them, 'What am I doing here?' They told me I would stay in there until I learned English."

Having been able to speak English for nearly a decade, Malath challenged his school district to give him a chance to take non-ESL courses. Malath currently speaks English, Arabic, Luganda, Dinka and a little bit of French.

"When I refused to stay in the class, they took me to the principal," Malath

said. "I asked him to give me any test he would like and if I failed, I would stay in the [ESL] class. They tested me in English and in math, and I passed them with 100 percent."

The experiences Malath acquired over the course of his childhood and young adult years shaped the person he is today.

"I encourage people to go outside and see the world, and that's when you will see the world in the right way," Malath said. "But when you are in one place, you only have one picture in your mind of the world."

What motivated Malath to push through the disparities of war and challenges of receiving his education comes from the forgiveness expressed by Nelson Mandela.

Since he was seven years old, Malath was moved by Mandela's forgiveness to the people and country after his incarceration and how he wanted everyone to come together and work as one to benefit all after the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Malath pushes himself to share love and compassion and to help everyone work together to make the world a better place. His destiny was recognized when his parent's gave him the name Mabeny, which in Dinka means "leader," and growing up he sought to be a positive example for others.

In the process of achieving his goals, Malath networked with the College Suc-

cess Foundation. He received four years worth of academic scholarships and is using his experiences and knowledge to help other students become successful with their lives.

The College Success Foundation allows students from low-income backgrounds an opportunity to attend a college. The foundation has been established for more than 10 years and has provided a unique integrated system of support to help scholars receive the resources and support necessary to graduate college and be successful in society.

"We hired Peter as a passport navigator who is a student mentor for the students on campus," said Peter Ruelas, 1996 Central Washington University alum and Malath's College Success Foundation mentor. "He will help bring them together, build a sense of community and direct them to resources."

As a passport navigator at Central, Malath helps direct students to resources on campus. He is helping between 11 and 14 students receive funds for books, supplies and academic guidance. Malath helps students who were once in the foster care system, receive the funding and mentoring necessary to become successful during their college careers.

"These students are coming from a foster care environment and segwaying into a university setting. Mabeny has this opportunity to support them," said Lorinda Anderson, coordinator of TRiO. "They might not even have sheets for their beds in the residence halls or [know] how to direct them to the right resources. This is the type of support Mabeny can offer them."

In addition to helping the foundation and attending classes, Malath is working with his friend Dau Jok, also from South Sudan, to raise money and supplies for children back home. The foundation is named after Dau Jok's father, Dut Jok, who was a general in the army fighting for South Sudan's freedom, but was killed in action.

"What inspires me most about Peter is that he has a positive outlook on the world," Anderson said. "His future is something he creates in a positive way."

Malath inspires to become the next global leader of the world, and lives his life one day at a time; enjoying the journey along the way.

"I'm just me," Malath said. "Peter Malath, a human being, just like you."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIL WATTERS

HOME Malath grew up in Sudan, but moved to America in 2006 as a junior in high school. Since, he has continued to further his education in other schools and at Central.

Students get schooled in the science of sketching

Artist and biologist mix art and science to inspire all-encompassing educational experience

BY BRADEN DENHERDER
Staff Reporter

The common misunderstanding that the arts and sciences don't blend well is challenged in the class, The Importance of Drawing in Science.

The teachers, well-known artist and lecturer Margo Selski and evolutionary biologist Dave Darda, have created a class that takes students on an educational journey from under the skin of a cadaver to clay molding and art easels.

"Drawing has played a role in actually visualizing scientific concepts," said Claire Hurrey, class assistant. "And historically, artists have been part of the idea making, because visualizing it brings it to another level beyond just words."



Students learn how to translate a 3D object and draw it two dimensionally, using a variety of measurement methods. They also study human biology, specifically facial muscles.

This quarter, students have been studying, building and drawing the anatomy of the human head.

"This is one of the very few cross-disciplinary classes offered here at Central," Selski said. "We do drawing, clay, sculpting, print making, just everything needed to understand the arts and science and the relation between the two."

Students work quietly at their own stations, trying to take the 3D clay model of a head and draw it on their art easel. The number of small measurements needed when transferring a model to paper is immense.

"There are so many ways one measurement can be off and it might mix up the whole drawing," Hurrey said. "That is why Margo goes around and checks our measurements sometimes."

Most students enjoy the idea of mixing art and science, and learning how both relate.

"I decided to take this class because I could doodle and learn about science," said Cody Taylor, sophomore math major.

The span of information covered in the class is extensive and ranges from the specific muscles in the face to how long it really takes to make a clay model.

"Since making the clay head, I have been looking at people's faces differently," said Zac Olson, sophomore undeclared. "Also, Dave Darda has talked to us about some pretty interesting things."

While this class is only offered to Douglas Honors College students, many students agree the class should be offered to

everyone. Joseph Guggino is auditing the class this quarter.

"I would recommend this class to any student looking to round out their education," Guggino said. "It's one thing to take an art appreciation class and one thing to actually try and do it."

The common opinion of the class was there is a large amount of time and work invested in completing classwork and projects. While the class is enter-

tain- ing and educational, the workload can be a lot for some students.

"A lot of work and time goes into this class," said Daniel Kempf, freshman physics and engineering major. "I remember one weekend I spent legitimately 25-30 hours working" on the project.

Selski said she hopes Central continues to offer cross-disciplinary classes such as this one.

"There are so many ways you can combine different disciplines," Selski said. "An artist could work with a botanist and make paints from plant mate-

rial."

This unique blend of art and science gives students a new look on the disciplines by understanding that there is a science behind art and there is plenty of art involved in science.



JOIE SULLIVAN/OBSERVER

Spring break: what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas

BY CHARLENE WILSON
Staff Reporter

With finals done and sunglasses packed, Wildcats are venturing out of Ellensburg for spring break with one city in mind: Las Vegas.

For senior accounting major Caitlin Gordon, another visit to Vegas means drinking, clubbing and swimming.

Las Vegas is not only a perfect 70 degrees, but it is also home to world-famous casinos, gourmet dining and the hottest clubs in the Mojave Desert.

Traveling with her roommates, Gordon hopes this trip will top her last vacation to Sin City.

Last time "we were partying with Boston cops for two days," Gordon said.

Her roommate, senior exercise science major Samantha Bellefeuille, has a few things left on her Vegas to-do list, but managed to cross off one infamous "must-do" on her last trip.

"I was married to a 26-year-old cop for a day and a half," Bellefeuille said. "This year, the girls' only plans include tequila shots and swimsuits."

In a city MTV named a top destination for college spring breakers, it is no



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS
wonder so many students visit the city of lights to let loose.

Vegas can drain a life-savings, either from clubs that charge \$60 covers or from losing big money at one of 122 casinos. If planned early enough, however, a trip can cost less than someone might think.

Josh Byers, senior exercise science major, is a Vegas professional. He planned his Vegas spring break months in advance and ended up booking a nice hotel for only \$40 with the perks of a discount card.

"If you plan early enough, hotels can provide a lot of discounts and other perks

on plenty of things around town," Byers said.

On his last trip, Byers and his friends had a few hours to kill before leaving.

"Stopping by the Palms Casino, the group was greeted by a line that was large enough to wrap around Bouillon Hall four times," Byers said.

Just as they made it to the end of the line, a man from MTV talked to them, pulled them backstage and Byers ended up spending his last hours of spring break partying in the MTV pool, listening to DJ Pauly D.

"We were just randomly selected out of thousands to be pulled backstage," Byers said.

A self-proclaimed rollercoaster junkie, Byers has ridden almost all 18 of Vegas's thrill rides, including his favorite, Turbo Jump, which slowly brings riders up to a 180-foot point then plunges then to the bottom in 45 seconds.

If clubbing doesn't quite appeal to you, the city also features shopping, entertainment shows and museums, such as Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. Known as the entertainment capital of the world, Las Vegas has something for every kind of spring breaker.

For students who are not Vegas bound, other popular spring break vacation spots include Hawaii, Daytona Beach, Fla., and Mexico.

Not everyone is leaving town for break, though. Chelsea Aleaga, junior public relations major, plans to stay in Ellensburg. With no classes and only work for the week, Aleaga plans to catch up on sleep and watch Netflix.

"All my friends are going somewhere exciting, and I get asked to watch and feed their cats," Aleaga said.

Breaking new ground for a student-run garden

Campus garden initiative to benefit campus and add sense of community

BY CHLOE RAMBERG
Staff Reporter

Students at Central Washington University are putting their green thumb to the test and transforming a mud pit into a garden.

Rebecca Pearson, professor of health and education, along with the public health and pre-nursing club, are working to provide Central with a campus garden. Pearson and her students already have a location: an old playground.

"I've been really interested in seeing a spot on campus for students to garden in," Pearson said.

The garden will be located near the free parking lot and Wahle complex. Students frequently walk to and from the free parking lot on the way to class, and will now have something beautiful to look at.

"It's a prime location to have something that will brighten someone's day," said Wil Watters, junior public health major.

Pearson has been working on this project for over two years and is starting to develop the blueprints for the garden. The focus of the garden is entirely campus-oriented, and all students can get involved.

Central has never had a student-run garden, for fear it would not be properly cared for. Pearson has faith that the students working with her, and those who will join later, will take pride in their project. The university, as well as facilities management, has been very supportive as the



project has taken form.

"Let's try this," Pearson said. "Let's trust the students with this garden."

Laecio Rocha, junior public health, has been involved in the project and is inspired by the work Pearson has put in to making this dream a reality.

"I'd like to acknowledge Dr. Pearson," Rocha said. "As a student, seeing how much effort she's putting into it makes me want to walk that extra mile to be right there with her."

Even in the earliest stages, there has been positive student feedback regarding the idea of a campus garden. A student assessment was conducted in order to de-

termine the interest around a community garden.

"There was very little dissent, almost no one thought this was a bad idea," said Josina Bickel, junior public health.

The hope for the garden is that everyone feels included. Students from any major are welcome to participate, as well as clubs around campus.

"One of our main goals is getting a diverse group of people involved," Watters said.

In order to make that goal a reality, the garden will be open to anybody on campus. There will be an emphasis placed on accessibility.

"Anyone can come into that space, however they move, and feel like they can be a part of things," Pearson said.

Ideally, when the garden is finished, students and clubs will have the opportunity to plant in their own plots. Flowers, produce, herbs, and various other plants will be featured, as well as a bench. The garden will be completely organic, with a buffer zone in which no chemicals can be sprayed.

Students will have the opportunity to learn how to garden from the ground up, and to learn about alternative food sources. Students from the public health club have campus community health in mind.

"I think learning how to grow your own food has been lost to this generation," Bickel said. "Gardening is a way to benefit your overall health."

Eric Setiz, senior public health major, has very high hopes for the garden but realizes it will not transform overnight.

"Gardening is a process," Setiz said.

It is a process that requires a lot of love and attention from as many individuals as possible. Even though the garden is not fully up and running, students have the opportunity to get involved immediately.

A campus garden has the potential to bring a sense of community, and join students from all walks of life together.

"This garden is ours," Rocha said. "It's something to be proud of."

Celebrate Irish Heritage

BY CODY SPENCER
Staff Reporter



ary Matson. Matson will engage the audience and teach them a few traditional Irish dancing techniques.

Following the dancing portion of the event, an Irish breakfast will be served by members of the CDSJ. The menu includes potatoes, eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, baked beans and various beverages.

Anybody is welcome to attend the event.

"You don't have to wear anything fancy," Molohon said. "We want it to be a 'come-as-you-are' event."

Although the event will showcase dancing, any student can participate.

"We will help people with disabilities," Molohon said. "Just let us know a week ahead of time, and we will be happy to assist you."

Daniel Neale, a volunteer at the CDSJ, hopes to foster a respectful atmosphere at the event.

"It will be a fun learning experience," Neal said. "Come with an open mind and enjoy the evening."

Students will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn about little-known aspects of Irish culture.

"I'm not even close [to having Irish heritage]," Malath said. "I just like respecting different races and cultures."

More information about the event can be found by visiting the Center for Diversity and Student Justice, located on the second floor of the SURC.

In recognition of Irish Celebration Month, the Center for Diversity and Social Justice is showcasing an Irish Celebration Night to highlight different aspects of Irish culture.

"I think different cultures are represented [on campus], but I feel like [Central] can do a lot more," said Peter Mabeny Malath, a senior public relations and IT administrative management major who is planning to attend the event. "The same representation should apply to different cultures, not for black cultures only."

One goal of the event is to provide a well-rounded representation of the Irish culture.

"We want to have a family-oriented event," said Patrick Evan Molohon, a graduate student studying resource management and a student programmer at the CDSJ. "We want to show other aspects of Irish culture besides drinking."

The event will feature an interactive Irish dancing experience, hosted by Hill-

The event will take place in:
The Sue Lombard dining room from 5-7 p.m.
Central students can attend for \$5 and non-students will be charged \$7.

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KAYSE DAHL/OBSERVER

DRAMA QUEEN Central Washington University and Ellensburg High School theater programs worked together to cast young dancers in the production of "Anything Goes".

'Anything Goes' unveils new talent

BY HENRY VAN LEISHOUT
Staff Reporter

The ensemble of Ellensburg High School and Central Theatre Ensemble's production of "Anything Goes" prepared for their second weekend of performances last Thursday night.

"It's kind of amazing," said Avery Bachman-Rhodes, high school freshman and one of the ensemble members.

This was Bachman-Rhodes' first time performing in a show.

She decided she wanted to try theatre when her mom took her to a production of *Mary Poppins* in Seattle. She became entranced by the ambiance of the show.

"It was amazing," Bachman-Rhodes said. "I couldn't look away."

Bachman-Rhodes was a part of a smaller section of the ensemble known as the "Angels." The angels were the main dancers of the show and Bachman-

Rhodes, along with three other girls, was highlighted for her dancing throughout the show.

"I love dancing," Bachman-Rhodes said. "It's what I'd do all day if I could."

Mckenzie Brown, high school sophomore, is also one of the angel dancers. She loves dancing and has been doing it since she was a little girl.

"It's my favorite thing to do in any show," Brown said.

She was assigned to be dance captain of the show. Not only did she have to learn

her own dances for the performance, she also had to learn every other dance so if someone had a question, she could answer it.

Even though there was a lot of responsibility involved in the position of dance captain, Brown didn't regret the job at all.

"I love being a dance captain," Brown said. "I really do."

While three of the girls were experienced dancers, Mellissa Senter, high

school junior and angel number three, had never danced before this show.

Senter was apprehensive about starting in such a choreography heavy show in a dance-specific role. Despite her fears, Senter felt she was able to gain enough confidence to step up to the task.

"I think I did very well," Senter said, "for someone without any dance experience."

Eryn McVay, high school senior and the final angel, has been dancing since she was little and had never done a musical until her first year at EHS.

McVay had some friends audition for the show during her freshman year and she wasn't going to audition until her mom's friend pushed her to try out.

"It was the best thing that could have happened to me," McVay said.

McVay has been a part of every musical since then, and none of her directors have been shy about taking advantage of her dancing abilities.

"Every year I've been cast as a dancer," McVay said.

She had never wanted to do theatre before, and now it's all she wants to do with her life. She plans to go out of state to pursue a degree in musical theatre.

These angels and the whole ensemble had to spend so much time together that the cast and crew became a sort of family. McVay met all of her friends within the theatre program.

She and the other angels spent most of their time together because they were sometimes separated from the other cast members for dances.

According to Bachman-Rhodes, everybody liked each other, and the cast became a tight-knit group. In the end of the process, after all the jealousy and anger and exhaustion fade, the actors just wanted each other to succeed.

"There are some amazing other people here," Brown said. "It's like a family."

"It was the best thing that could have happened to me."
-ERYN MCVAY
EHS Senior and dancer

"There are some amazing other people here. It's like a family."
-MCKENZIE BROWN
EHS Sophomore and dancer

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Getting defensive: class teaches women protective precautions

Central partners with Campus Police to help community, students

BY LAUREN NOLTON
Staff Reporter

The Campus police try to reduce the trend of assault against women by offering a women's self-defense PE class each quarter. The class is for students and community members.

Jason Berthon-Koch, captain of the University Police Department, teaches the community class this quarter and has taught defense classes for the past four years.

"I teach the women how to properly strike," Berthon-Koch said, "I also show them how they can use their own body mechanics, which could give them the power to get out of a lot of situations."

This class first educates women on being more safe and aware of their environment before getting into the physical techniques.

Alongside Berthon-Koch is corporal officer Brian Melton who has been teaching RAD classes the last four years.

"My favorite part is watching the stimulation fighting at the end of the course," Melton said. "You actually get to observe people who have never fought before and you can see how the women have new confidence in themselves because they now know that they have the tools to protect themselves from harm."

Women's self-defense either reinforces confidence or gives confidence to women who otherwise would not have had any.

The class is offered for community

members, and a lot of women travel from Moses Lake, Royal City or Wenatchee. Some even drive an hour just to take this self-defense class twice a week.

Deb Murphy and Denise Anderson travel an hour from Royal City.

"I wanted to be more familiar because I am a domestic violence sexual assault advocate but I haven't got a lot of training defending myself," Murphy said.

By being an advocate, Murphy is aware that no woman is immune to being assaulted Anderson is well aware of this as well taking this class.

"It is interesting that there are so many victims in this class; many of these women have actually been assaulted or have been put in situations we practice getting out of," Anderson said. "It makes you realize that [sexual assault] is real and it is prevalent."

According to Anderson, class is treated professionally. The officers make sure to answer questions in class and also respectfully listen to women's concerns, questions or stories.

Some class attendees use it as both an educational and bonding experience, such as mother Marlene Pfeifer and her daughter Kaitlin. Kaitlin is a sophomore at Central majoring in business and Spanish.

"This class makes me more aware while walking to my car and it makes me more prepared if a situation did arise," Kaitlin said.

Pfeifer had never taken a defense class

before and thought it would be a good idea to sign her and her daughter right up.

"This class has been a huge eye-opener for me," Pfeifer said, "I think it should be a pre-requisite for any girl coming into college for the first time." Though no one wants to be in a harmful situation, attend-

ees of this class can expect to be prepared for the unexpected by combining already learned techniques with new ones.

The instructors encourage all women to sign up for PE 152 and learn these techniques. The class will meet every Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m.



KASEY PETERSON/OBSERVER

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Third time's the charm

Senior-laden Wildcats hope to earn a first-round victory for a third consecutive year. The GNAC champion will receive an automatic berth to the NCAA championships

BY JARYD CLINE
 Staff Reporter

With their backs against the wall the past couple of weeks and control of their own destiny in hand, the Central Washington University Wildcats won their first game since Feb. 7, defeating Western Oregon University last Thursday.

The victory stamped their ticket to the post-season conference tournament.

After advancing to the Great Northwest Athletic Conference tournament, the Wildcats (14-12 overall 8-10 GNAC) will look to win their opening game for the third year in a row when they play will battle the University of Alaska Anchorage Seawolves (18-8 overall, 11-7 GNAC) tonight for the chance to extend their season.

The Wildcats finished the season as the sixth seed in the GNAC, narrowly edging out Northwest Nazarene University for the final spot in the tournament.

Just one win was needed this past weekend for the Wildcats to guarantee themselves a spot in the single-elimination GNAC tournament.

A short-handed Wildcat team took care of business against WOU at home, defeating them 107-87.

The Wildcats were without senior forward Derrick Davis and junior forward Kevin Davis (no relation), the two tallest players on the team.

The run-and-gun offense that the Wildcat's implemented

was just too much in the end for WOU as the Wildcats shot 58 percent from the field and 45 percent from down town.

"I think the guys knew what was riding on the game. Our backs were against the wall and they needed to step up and get it done," head coach Greg Sparling said. "We kept switching up the defenses and I thought that really helped."

Junior guard Mark McLaughlin once again paced the Wildcats in scoring with 29 points on 10-14 shooting to go along with nine rebounds.

In just his eighth start of the season, senior guard Jordan Coby scored a career high 23 points, grabbed seven rebounds, and dished out five assists in his best game as a Wildcat.

A win on senior night would have bumped the Wildcats from the sixth seed to the fifth seed, but the Saint Martin's University Saints spoiled the Wildcat seniors' final home game, defeating Central 82-71.

The Wildcats enter the GNAC tournament as the sixth seed for the second straight season.

"Making the GNAC tournament is an accomplishment no matter how we look at it," senior guard Jordan Starr said. "We have not had the season we expected to have but we still have the opportunity to win three games at the tournament."

Central and UAA split in both its meetings earlier this year, with each home team

winning. The first matchup of the season saw Central knock off the No. 25 ranked Seawolves 81-72.

The game came down to the final minute after two UAA free-throws tied the game up at 72.

McLaughlin iced the game by scoring nine points in the final 35 seconds.

Central took great care of the ball, only committing five turnovers compared to 14 UAA turnovers, which led to 23 points off turnovers for the Wildcats.

The second matchup of the season was a different story, as the Wildcats fell in Anchorage 69-98. The Seawolves finished the game shooting 55 percent from the field and 56 percent from the three point zone.

The Seawolves are led this season by junior guard Kyle Fossman. Fossman leads the team with 15 points per game and is one of the conference's most lethal shooters, finishing the season with the second most three pointers in the GNAC.

Teancum Stafford is second on the Seawolves in scoring, averaging 14.5 points per game, and along with Fossman, ranks in the GNAC top-ten for three-pointers made this season.

The Wildcats and Seawolves are no strangers when it comes to meeting in the post season.

In the previous two GNAC post season tournaments, Central and Anchorage have faced each other twice and split the games.

“They know it’s a one game season and once you lose a lot of people will be hanging up their uniforms.”

-Greg Sparling
 Head coach



ZACH OLNEY/OBSERVER

In 2011, the first year of the GNAC tournament, the Wildcats defeated the Seawolves in the championship game 83-71.

The following year both teams met in the semifinals, with a different outcome from the year before.

The Seawolves beat the Wildcats 93-81 before going on to lose the championship game to Montana State Billings.

A loss would eliminate the Wildcats from the tournament and their chance of continuing post season play.

A win would pair the Wildcats with in-state rival Seattle Pacific University (23-3 overall 16-2 GNAC) for the semifinal game.

The Wildcats lost their previous two games to SPU this season by an average of 24 points.

"They know it's a one game season, and once you lose, a lot of people will be hanging up their uniforms," Sparling said. "We have to take it one game at a time."

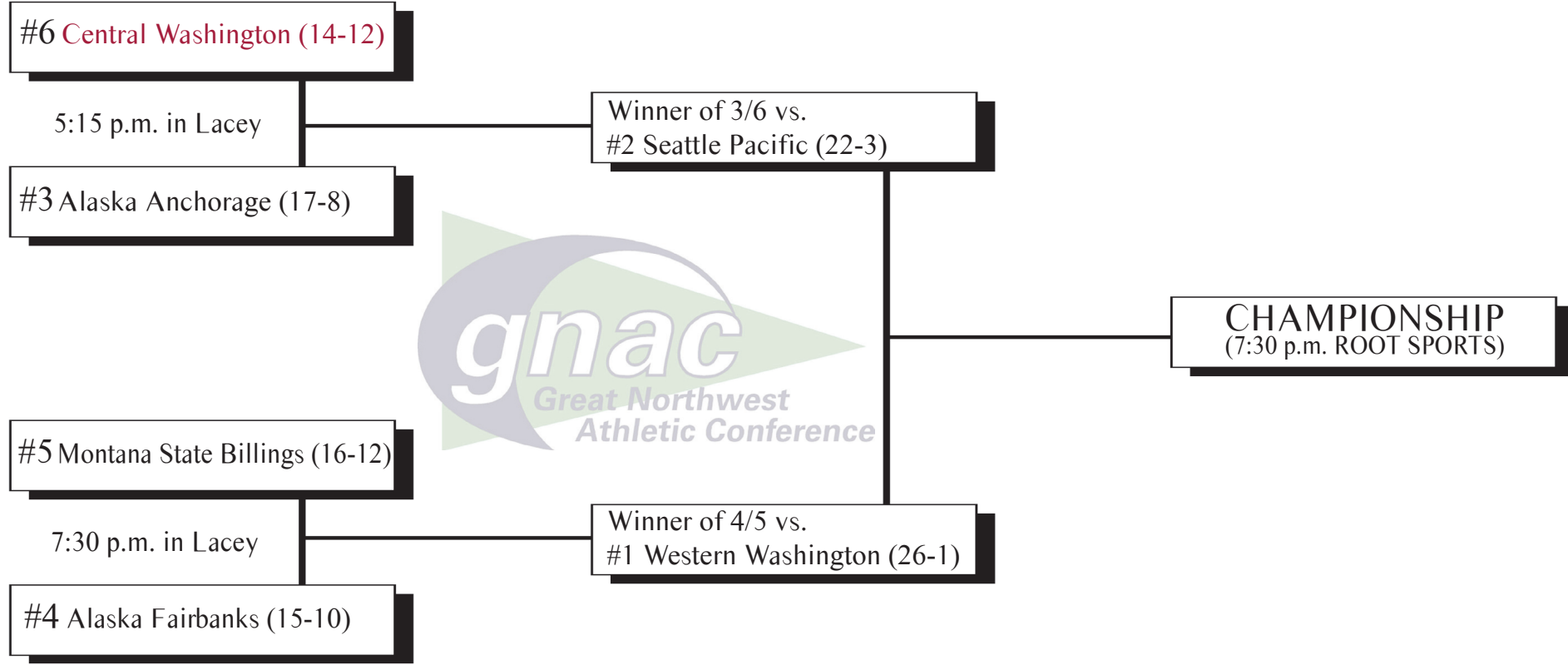
REMATCH The Wildcats went 1-1 vs. Alaska Anchorage this season.

2012-13 GNAC Men's Basketball Championships

Day One

Day Two

Day Three

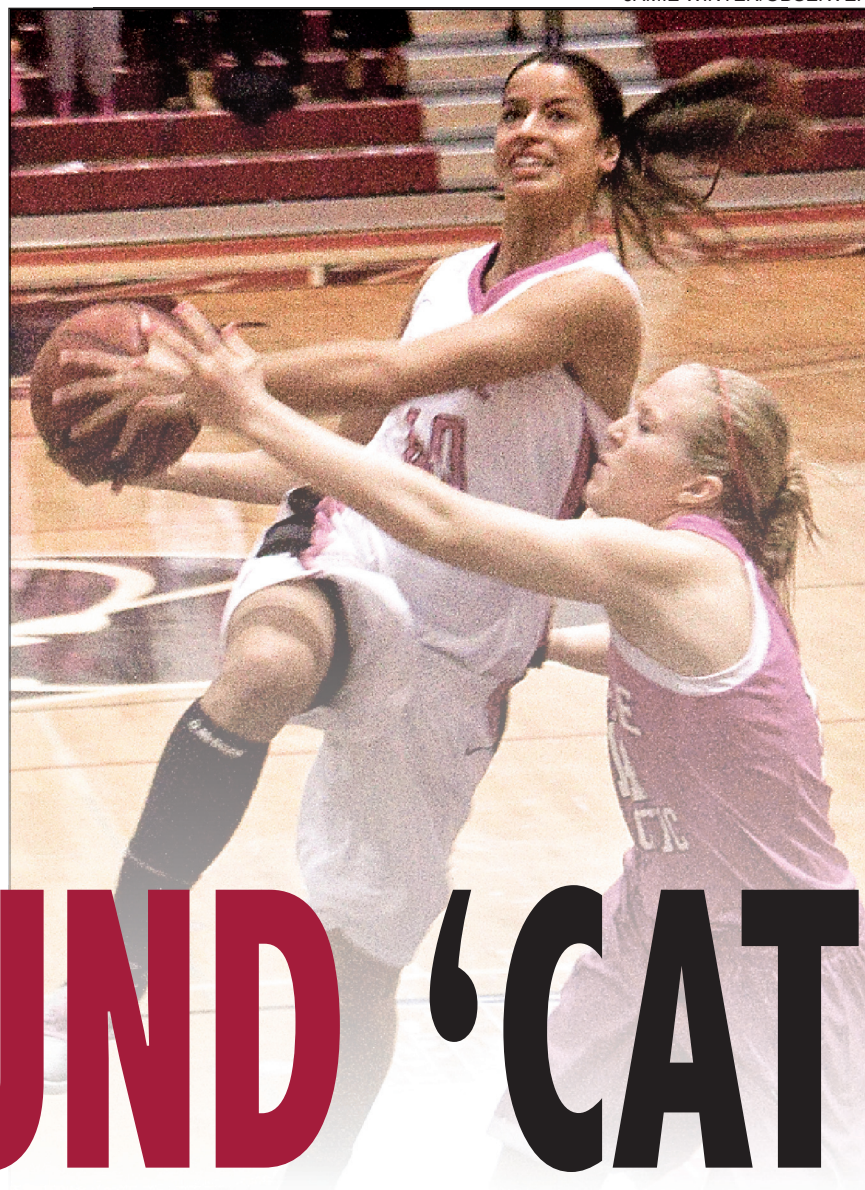




KATHARINE LOTZE/OBSERVER



TOM VONAHLEFELD/CWU SPORTS INFORMATION



JAMIE WINTER/OBSERVER

YEAR-ROUND 'CAT

Sophomore Tayler Fettig is living her dream as a **dual-sport** athlete

BY CLAIRE COX
Staff Reporter

A hardworking and dedicated athlete is an easy find around Central Washington University. But finding an athlete that can not only compete but excel in two sports may be a little more difficult.

But that's what makes sophomore Tayler Fettig special.

Fettig is not only a forward for Central's women's basketball team, but she is also a high jump and multi-events competitor for both the indoor and outdoor track and field teams.

She has always dreamed of competing in both sports in college, but says she couldn't do it without the support of God.

"I usually give all the glory to God; he's my biggest motivation," Fettig said. "But also just wanting to succeed with my dreams is what makes me do both."

Fettig has been competing in both track and field and basketball since her high school days at Olympia Senior High. She was also on the high school's cheer team during her four years there. She kept very busy with sports and activities, not having as much down time as a "normal" teenager would have.

"I've always been involved in two sports since high school and I didn't want to have to quit any of the sports I was playing," Fettig said. "I have a strong pas-

sion for both."

After competing all four years in high school in both track and field and basketball, Fettig received an athletic scholarship to Central Washington. The scholarship was for track and field and after a visit to the campus, she was sure this was good fit for her. The biggest draw to Central, however, was the fact the school agreed to let her compete in both sports, a goal she had had for many years.

"I came on a visit here and I really loved the campus. It wasn't too big and it wasn't too small," Fettig said, "and being able to play both sports here, which many schools don't like."

DUAL-ATHLETE
CONTINUED ON P.14

Seven qualify for nationals; Wildcats regional champs



SEAN WANIGASEKARA/OBSERVER

CHAMPION Steven Alfi (174 lbs) won his weight class on Sunday and paved his way to the 2013 NCWA National Championships in Allen, Tex.

Central finished first at Northwest Region championships held in the SURC, and look to improve upon their seventh-place finish at nationals in 2012.

BY EVAN THOMPSON
Sports Editor

Seven Wildcats qualified for the 2013 National Collegiate Wrestling Association National Championships in Allen, Tex. on March 14-16.

Central won the NCWA Northwest Regional Championships which decided who would move on to nationals on Sunday, which were held inside the SURC on Courts C and D.

The Wildcats finished ahead of eight other schools, beating out Washington State and Western Washington University who finished second and third in the standings, respectively.

Freshman Andrew Vulliet, juniors Nick Bendon and Adam Raemer and se-

niors Steven Alfi and Kyle Moore all earned individual titles in their respective weight classes.

Junior Kevin Madson and sophomore Andrew Huerta placed third but will still move on to nationals via voting from coaches around the region.

The three-day championships will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday March 14, and will conclude Saturday evening on the March 16.

10 conferences from around the country that are separated by region will compete in the Division II national championships, with over 80 teams in attendance.

Notre Dame won the national championship as a team in 2012, while the Wildcats finished seventh as a team.

Glory to God

Fettig attributes the success in her life to God and her family.

DUAL-ATHLETE
CONTINUED FROM P.13

Balancing sports, school, friends, and family can be tough for Fettig at times. She finds her days packed with school-work and two practices for two different sports. Resting at the end of a long day is her favorite part though.

"It's very hard," Fettig said. "I get up early and workout on my own everyday at the SURC. Then I have classes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and then I have track from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and then I go right to basketball."

To add to her busy daily schedule, Fettig also has quite a few church events she engages in. It is easy to see that God plays a huge role in her day-to-day life, giving all she succeeds in to his glory. She shares a special saying with her brother and family when a big win comes or just when things are going right.

"GTG is what we say in our family. [Glory to God]," Fettig said.

Fettig pointed out that she has a great support system in life, driving her to be bigger and better. Her family is her biggest support, with her brother Mitch always trying to keep her positive and constantly reminding her of GTG.

"My family is one of my main motivators," Fettig said. "My brother Mitch is a junior in high school and also does two sports. Without him I really don't think I would be where I am right now. I am so blessed to have the support group I have and I love them deeply."

Fettig would like to pursue her track and field career once she leaves college. She feels like track and field will be where she would succeed most, but she will miss basketball once she is done. During her summers at Central, she enjoys playing softball as a fun outdoor activity. She also enjoys spending time with her best friend Jasmine Parker, who also plays women's basketball for Central.



ZACH OLNEY/OBSERVER

PERFECT Fettig's best game this season came on Feb. 16 against the Alaska Nanooks. She was 8-8 in field goals and finished with a career-high 18 points.

"Her personality is so special, she is such a loving and caring person," Parker said. "She will always go out of her way to do things for other people."

Parker and Fettig also enjoy activities off the basketball court. According to Parker, Fettig has an amazing singing voice and can play the piano well. They enjoy going up to the music room when they have free time to "goof" around on the piano and sing along with it.

"We always go to the music room and play piano and sing," Parker said.

Knowing an athlete who seriously competes in two sports has affected Parker as well. She believes Fettig will always have a career involving sports, mentioning P.E. as a special interest of hers.

"It makes me have even more respect [for] her because I know for me its tough to do one sport and school and try to keep up all my studies," Parker said. "But to do two sports has to be 10 times harder."

Going from one sport to the other can be tough for Fettig, but she does look forward to the switch from basketball to the outdoor track and field season, her favorite sport. With all of her hardwork and dedication, Fettig had some words of advice for those college and teen athletes out there.

"I would just say if you love the sport you play, don't give up on it," Fettig said. "Don't give up a chance that might be there, just give the glory to God and let him guide you to the way."

Mo' miles mo' money: Central students compete in the Amazing Race

BY LANDAN GARCIA
Copy Desk Chief

Ten minutes before the fourth annual Amazing Race last Friday, the SURC Ballroom was alive with chatter as teams discussed strategies. As the last five minutes approached, the fear in the room became palpable and chatter dimmed.

The moment the clock hit 4 p.m., 42 crosswalk-yellow shirts stampeded out of the Ballroom toward the heart of Ellensburg.

"This is a race," said Ryan Gregson, lead coordinator of the event and program leader at the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement. "Don't get mad - have some fun."

Team Landshark was competing for its second year in this race. To represent the team, both racers spent the hour before the race in matching shark-grey sweat-shirts with jaws decorating the hood. Team Landshark was comprised of Samantha Zykowski, a sophomore clinical physiology major, and Kelli Capps, sophomore undeclared. Matching white headbands and ponytails indicated their past - the two former roommates were close after four years of soccer together.

The two came prepared with team spirit and a special drive: Capps' boyfriend was competing on an opposing team.

"You will receive a clue when you leave this location," Gregson said. "That location will lead you to a pit stop. Find the facilitator and get the [next] clue."

The event, which was hosted by the CLCE, consisted of staff and volunteers administering challenges at various residence halls and local businesses which the racers would have to find through clues. A one-hour buffer took place before the race to organize racers and teach them the rules, with snacks and pizza provided and a video of last year's race shown on the projector.

Makaiya Simmons, a program leader at the CLCE, was one of the many volunteers in a blue shirt running an event station. Simmons was responsible for planning and coordinating last year's event, which was the first Amazing Race to include pit stops. She claims she's never participated in this sort of event, outside of volunteering.

"I've never done anything like this, so I don't know the other side of it," Simmons said.

Gregson opened the event by going over safety and health precautions with competitors, emphasizing that racers use crosswalks and obey all traffic laws.

"Your safety is the No. 1 priority of the challenge," Gregson said.

Teams could earn a maximum of 10 points per event. Boundaries this year were from Eighteenth Street down to Third Street, to Main. No vehicles were permitted, and cell phones could only be used to keep time - returning after 6 p.m. meant instant disqualification. A water station was available outside Kiku-Chan for teams to hydrate between stations.

Team Landshark's first clue had them

running from the SURC to the Ellensburg Pet Center, where the two faced their first challenge: match pictures of dog breeds with names, then guess their country of origin.

After completing their first challenge in town, the duo hit their first landmine: the clue for their next station mentioned "more Reeses," and had the two pondering every candy store in Ellensburg. After saying the phrase out loud to each other several times, they realized "Maurices" had nothing to do with chocolate, and quickly jogged to the next event location.

The clothing store had an adequate challenge: match the picture of clothing with the appropriate season.

Norfolkin' Chance, an opposing team, had been trailing them at their last two stations, and Team Landshark became concerned about being followed. They began devising a plan for their "skip slip" in order to move past a station.

The Palace Café was the next event location "fit for royalty." The challenge would include a barrage of historical questions, including when Ellensburg was founded (1883), Central's original school name (Washington State Normal School), and the year of the Ellensburg fire (1889).

"Hey Kelli! Josh and Bryan are gonna win!" A challenging voice shouted from a passing car.

Mountain High Sports' sports equipment challenge was next, followed by a challenge at Jerrol's which consisted of rearranging block letters to form the names

of halls at Central.

"These questions are a lot harder than last year," Zykowski said. "This year everybody has a better opportunity to earn points."

The two elaborated on how last year's locations didn't award equal points, which gave some participants an unfair advantage by getting better stations.

"This year if you suck, you just suck," Capps said.

The next clue hinted at a New York spin on Taglianos, but the two failed to remember that Taglianos is a pizza place in the SURC. The two immediately headed to the Ellensburg Pasta Company, then Morelli's, then Pizza Rita - any place that sounded Italian.

After debating whether to waste more time running back to the SURC to check on their suspicion, they realized the "Brooklyn's" in Brooklyn's Pizza sounded like New York. Once there, the two had to find a stranger and get him to jump rope 10 times.

Their next clue, which mentioned a "largest auditorium," wouldn't prove any less cruel in terms of time wasted. They tried the doors of McConnell, only to find them locked, making the music building on the other side of campus was the next logical choice.

"This is the point where we start getting tired and run/walking," Zykowski said.

AMAZING RACE
CONTINUED ON P.16

Despite slow start, Wildcats hitting stays hot

Central wins home opener 7-2 over Whitworth University. Wildcats total 15 hits

BY QUIN WALKER
Staff Reporter

The Wildcats continued their hot streak in 7-2 non-conference victory over Whitworth University. Despite starting the game with flurries of snow, sophomore right-handed pitcher David Engel pitched three innings of solid baseball.

The Wildcats improve to 7-8 on the season and have won seven of their last 10 games.

Engel, who started and is 1-1 on the season, showed he had everything working in his short start.

"I adjusted after the first inning and we got the W," Engel said. "My two seam had good movement and the hitters especially in this cold weather just drove it right into the ground."

It wasn't just the pitching staff that showed up however.

The Wildcats compiled seven runs off of fifteen hits on the day. After being down 1-0 in the first inning, Central scored four unanswered runs starting in the

second inning and ending in the fifth, making the score 4-0.

The charge was led by two-time GNAC player of the week senior Kyle Sani, who was 3 for 5 with three RBIs, including a double and a towering two-run home run.

The senior catcher bumped his average to .308 on the season and has been working on his swing to improve even more.

"I'm seeing the ball really well," Sani said. "I cleaned up and shortened up my swing and took out a lot of extra motion. It's giving me a lot more time to see the ball and hit the ball."

Assistant coach Craig Driver is a believer in Sani's skills.

"The guy is a good hitter man," Driver said. "If he sees fastball up he is going to hit it hard."

Senior Marc Garza also joined the home run column with a solo shot in the bottom of the fifth to extend the lead to 5-1.

Garza, who is leading the team in hitting, went 2-4 with an RBI and moved his average up to .368.

Senior Justin Peterson and sophomore Kasey Bielec were also catalysts in the Wildcats 7-2 win today. Peterson went 3 for 4 with an RBI while Bielec finished

2 for 3 and added an RBI.

A growing strength for the Wildcats has been the bullpen. While the Wildcats' plan was to use a lot of the pitching staff in the game, pitchers Jeff Gonzales, Willie Davies, Stinson Ott, Tyler Roberts and Skye Adams all combined for 6 innings, allowing one earned run and no walks with eight strikeouts.

"We have a ton of arms who can come up and be starters," Engel said. "But as people are learning their roles, we just have to be ready to pitch and shut it down and that's what we have been doing"

Driver agreed that the Wildcats bullpen has showed improvement in each of their games this season.

"We have been doing an increasingly better job with the bullpen every game," Driver said. "They had some adversity at the beginning of the year but I think that is good for a bullpen. I think it helps those guys out to face some adversity early to get comfortable as the year goes on."

Engel was excited after getting his first win of the year as a starter, but more importantly he was happy to see that the roles on the team are being figured out and improved as the season



ZACH OLNEY/OBSERVER

STABLE Six pitchers combined to strike out eight batters in their 7-2 victory over Whitworth. Junior RHP Jeff Gonzales pitched three innings.

progresses.

"It's nice being back home instead of being away of traveling," Engel said. "We are in a groove right now we are starting to figure out our roles as a team and individuals and that really

helps out."

Central returns to Great Northwest Athletic Conference play on March 16-17, when they will host a four-game series against Saint Martin's University in Ellensburg.



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AMAZING RACE
CONTINUED FROM P.14

"Once it gets dark."

A function was taking place inside the music building auditorium, which meant an event station would not be near. Frustrated, the two trekked back across campus towards Hertz, their final hope.

"We are so stupid, Kelli," Zykowski said.

"This race is not amazing!" Capps agreed.

Desperate for points upon reaching Hertz, the two just wrote down answers. They immediately headed toward Lind Hall, where they had to group photographs and identify whether a star was forming or dying.

"What is it?" Zykowski asked, turning toward Capps. "What is your head telling you?"

The two ended up getting five out of 10 questions correct.

They high-fived and headed toward Dean Hall, where they were tasked with identifying pictures of people and places at Central. The next station, located outside Hebler Hall, consisted of an easy juggling event. Inside Farrell Hall, the "fortress behind the archives," they had to piece together a puzzle wedges to create a square.

"Dang, we won't get to visit Utopia," Capps said, checking the time.

Purser Hall held the final challenge: a card match game that involved communication between partners. The event took a substantial amount of time to complete, and didn't score the team many points.

"Why is this so hard for us?" Zykowski asked, running between stations.

They duo left Purser with six minutes remaining, pumped from the events but carrying heavy hearts as they returned to the SURC Ballroom for check-in.

"Next year we need to study hardcore," Zykowski said.

Their next clue, which included "salute as you enter," suggested the Veterans Center in Bouillon, but the two didn't want to risk getting disqualified.

"Maybe we still beat Chris and them—maybe they tried to be macho and went too far or something and got disqualified," Capps said.

Of the 30 teams originally signed up, 21 competed in the challenge. Neither Team Landshark nor their opponent would place in this year's competition.

The \$500 prize would be divided between The Good Guys, comprised of Josh Thorne, sophomore safety and health management major, and Brian Schneider, a sophomore. Runner-ups included Leaping Lezzards, comprised of Chelsea Dowdell, sophomore mechanical engineering tech major, and Erin Chinchier, sophomore elementary education major. In third was C&C Music Factory, comprised of senior Cody Spencer, and senior Connie Morgan.

The runner's high from travelling over five miles between stations challenged each of them, and from the excited conversation it was obvious there would be participants competing for the prize next year.

"I'm ecstatic. \$250 is awesome – gotta pay for college somehow," Thorne said. "It could be I don't have to take out another loan."

Softball uses exhibition game as stepping stone

BY SARAH RUIZ
Staff Reporter

The Central Washington University softball team is in full swing as they prepare to take on Simon Fraser University this Saturday.

The team recently took on Washington State's club team and the game was exactly what the Wildcats needed, sweeping the club with a 17-0 victory followed by a 12-0 showing.

"I think the girls felt really good," head coach Mallory Holtman said. "We definitely needed that. It's not like that team was horrible, we really came out and our pitching was amazing. I think it's a way to kick off a big season."

The team looked forward to getting in game situations so when they face off this weekend against Simon Fraser, they will be able to have their best game.

"They [Simon Fraser] rarely make mistakes, what we expect is we need to go and hit them and give our pitchers run support. We need to put the runs on the board for our pitchers," senior Elena Carter said.

The team will continue to work on coming together as a team and getting ready to go out and play. The women on the team say that they have a strong dynamic that helps them to bond, and that will show on the field.

"They're coached to be very precise," Holtman said. "Their coach really expects perfection in everything. I think the one thing we have over them is they re-

ally don't get to have that much fun in that game, I think being able to have fun while you play is really important and I think our girls get to have fun and relax and that's really important."

In the case of the Wildcats, strengthening the team's bond will likely help them face off against a team who beat them last year.

"I think we have a lot tougher of a team, which means I think we can play more competitively seven innings," Holtman said. "We're going to be more competitive than last year."

The team is comprised of a group of women who have come together since the beginning of the season to share their goals. While the age differences between some of the players has left some of the dynamic up to chance, the showing from last weekend helped to prove the team already has a deep bond.

"We get along really well. Most of the time I don't even feel like a freshman cause everyone is so welcoming and we all work so well together," freshman Jessi Miracle said.

Her teammates are quick to back her up, and the upperclassman want to ensure that age and years won't get in the way of the team succeeding.

"I just see a team," Carter said. "Usually you can tell a difference between upperclassmen and lowerclassmen, but this team we don't really see lowerclassmen; I see girls that come in everyday and work hard for what they want."

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