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INFESTATION Wellington's claims rat recovery PAGE 3

NEW HEAD COACH CWU finds new football leadership PAGE 12



By the students and for the students of CWU

Online daily, print weekly cwuobserver.com CWUObserver Vol. 96 No. 1, Jan. 16-22, 2014

CWU student loses 121 pounds, graces the cover of People magazine PAGE 7

PHOTO BY JAMIE WINTER

Two-Time ACP Pacemaker Award Finalist

by the students & for the students of CWU cwuobserver.com

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Editorial policy: The Observer is a public forum for stu ECH LOT Hall profit Cy: 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-folds 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 to the compus and community at large, and to be the best source for information, education 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

About The Observer

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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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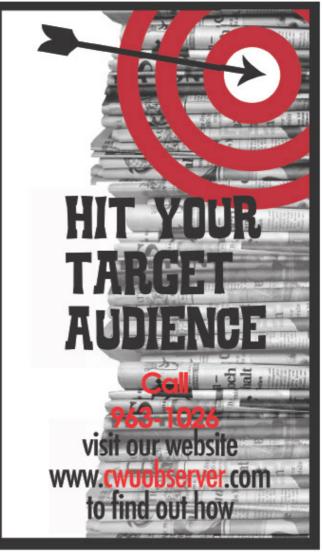
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Wellington's reopens after rat infestation

Staff Reporter

Wellington's Cafe, located in the Tunstall Commons area on campus, was shut down during the first week of the quarter due to a rat infestation.

"We received the complaint on a piece of paper anonymously in our office on Sunday," Jan. 5, Holly Myers, environmental health supervisor at the public health department, said.

The day after the health department received the complaint, they sent someone to the site to inspect.

Washington health codes require facilities to clean up, look for areas where rodents can get into the building and disinfect if any evidence of rodents is found at a dining establishment.

These requirements are set forth to avoid any food borne illnesses such as salmonella.

The manager of the facility had already recognized the issue, and began addressing it, so by the time our inspector conducted the inspection on Jan. 6, they had already contacted two pest control companies and started sanitizing and disinfecting," Myers said.

According to Myers, there were no enisting code violations, and the facility had done everything right.

Linda Schactler, director of public affairs at Central, noted that Wellington's is in a rural area and that such instances are just part of business.

"At this point, we have caught all of them," Doug Keith, student supervisor of Wellington's, said. "We haven't had any finds now for two weeks.



OPEN FOR BUSINESS Wellington's has reopened and has been rat free for two weeks.

caught all of them ... We

haven't had any finds now for

Student supervisor of Wellington's

two weeks. 95

At this point, we have

-Doug Keith

Schactler said.

The health department confirmed

Wellington's assertion when they reported that they did not see any evidence of rats when they did their follow up inspection.

Management has taken the entra pre-cautions by sealing up the Sue Lombard

building to prevent future instances from

Wellington's reopened on Jan. 13, re-

portedly clean and ready for business.

As for the other buildings on campus, students should be aware that routine inspections of Central food establishments are conducted quarterly:

"I haven't heard of any other reports [on campus],

There has been only one other report on campus this school year, which took place last quarter

"We received one complaint in Novem-ber of an area near Brooklane, where the resident was concerned because they had seen several rats being brought home by their cat and that was unusual," Myers

Rats are generally scarce in Ellensburg. The last big report was two years ago; however, the rats remained outside in that instance.

"The city of Ellensburg noted seven instances in 2012 where power lines were damaged by rats," Myers said.

Keeping Rats Out

- · Prevent access to food and
- Store food in rat-proof buildings, rooms or containers
- Keep garbage in cans and other sealed containers
- · Pick up fruit that falls to the
- Feed dogs or cats inside, and clean up their drop-
- · Prevent access to bird feeders

Source: Kittitas Public Health

Fire Dept. dampens construction plans

BY EVAN PAPPAS

Assistant News Editor

Kirritas Valley Fire and Rescue has reduced the bond amount they are asking for from the community.

The bond was originally at \$12.6 million, KVFR has reduced the amount they are requesting to \$8 million.

When the request was taken to the Citi-zen Advisory Group, it was met with some apprehension. Fire Chief John Sinclair said the Citizen Advisory Group thought reducing the amount of money and construction would be a better idea.

"Their thought was, considering the

community is still coming back from the recession, we should scale back," Sinclair said.

The original construction plans were to build a new headquarters as well as make renovations to the old headquarters.

"Initially, we had envisioned a new headquarters at 400 East Moun-

tain, and we also wanted to be able to do upgrades to the station at 2020 Vantage Highway," Sinclair said.

Now the construction will only be done to the highest priority project - the all new headquarters.

Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue is a special Fire District and its own legal entity In 2007, they signed a 10 year lease with the City of Ellensburg. Now that the end is in sight for the lease, the plans for a new facility have begun.

The confirmation for the plans are waiting on the April election, where the Fire Department's bond must win at least 60 percent of the votes. If the votes go through, then the KVFR will be able to get started on the project as early as next

"If we get an affirmative vote from the community, we can hopefully start some of the groundwork next fall, but construction wouldn't start until spring 2015," Sin-

Pat Clerf, chair for the board of commissioners for KVFR, said the Mackner Scales property was sold to the fire department by the family. Clerf is happy with the location because of the improved access it will give the Fire Department to the com-

"It allows easy access for the trucks to

We are trying to build

a station that will last and

serve the community for at

Chairforthe board of commissioners for KFVR

least 50 years.

get to the freeway, downtown Ellensburg, and also the rural community," Clerf said. "It's just a few blocks away from exit 109.

The rent building is shared with the

Ellensburg Police Department, who also are in need of a larger space. The new building will be able to provide much needed storage space and expanded resources for KVFR, as well as freeing up a large part of the original building for the Police Department to expand their space.

-Pat Clerf

"The time has come, that we need to go out on our own and they need the build-ing," Clerf said. "Purchasing this property was a huge step down that road.

Olerf said there is a committee currently working on designs KVFR wants for the building There will be more office space, larger living quarters, a classroom type facility,

easy access to the apparatus bays," Clerf

Brad Wallace, union president of the Ellensburg branch of the International Association of Fire Fighters, has started Citizens for the Fire Station Bond, a group looking to raise money in order to advertise and promote the bond to voters.

The current plan for the group is to get more members from the community involved and to decide how they will campaign through flyers, newspaper ads and more. According to Wallace, the new facilities will be very beneficial to KVFR.

"It will overall improve response times, it will allow for better efficiency in training, and allow us for more room," Wallace said. "We are going to have better storage for our gear and, of course, much better training facilities."

In addition to running a full service fire department, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue operates a paramedic service as well. Their fire suppression footprint covers 270 square miles and their emergency medical services cover 1200 square miles.

The new location will be better located within KVFR's call volume for their emergency medical services. The additional space will be welcome as KVFR will be getting a new ambulance within the next month as well.

Clerf said the new headquarters will help KVFR carry out their service to the

"We are trying to build a station that will last and serve the community for at least 50 years," Clerf said.



SHARED SPACE The building the Ellensburg Fire and Police departments share.

Geography gets a science degree

For a lot of people

who come out with a geog-

raphy degree, they're going

to work for the department

of ecology or the forest

service, or somewhere like

that, where they really are

Assistant professor of Geography

-Megan Walsh

doing science. 🦭

BY PATIENCE COLLIER News Editor

The geography department will be offering a Bachelor of Science degree starting in fall quarter of 2015. The new degree will be offered alongside the Bachelor of Arts.

The Faculty Senate unanimously approved the new major on Jan. 8. The curriculum has been decided, meaning that students who wish to pursue the degree will be able to start working towards it by next quarter.

"This is going to be great for our program," Megan Walsh, assistant professor of geography, said. "Half of us here are physical scientism... to be able to give our students the same thing is really important to us."

The new degree program will focus on physical geography classes, rather than political geography:

According to Oraig Revels, assistant professor of geography and chair of the curriculum committee for the geography department, the department took the opportunity to work on the entire department's program.

"This is a way of taking our expertise and channeling into the two best career tracks."

The curriculum committee for the geography department is a body made up of three people who handle the paperwork for curriculum proposals over the whole department. Revels and the Curriculum Committee were tasked with thinking about how the department wanted to proceed with the new Curriculum, including dealing with proposals and streamlining classrooms, Revels explained.

They were responsible for most of the paperwork concerning all the curriculum changes in the department, which would

then be presented to the faculty overall, and then revised by the group based on feedback.

"Our tagk was...
to Come up with
the proposals, work
with the proposals,
think about class
structures, things
like that." Revels
said. "Then we
would present to
the full faculty."

The department faculty has been working on the curriculum for almost

two years, and talking about getting the degree set up for over eight years, according to Revels.

Kevin Archer, dean of graduate studies and former interim dean of geography, told the Faculty Senate he had been surprised to find that Central only had a Bachelors of Arts in geography.

There had been different forms of en-

couragement for the new direction in the geography program, including a program evaluation report by Kirk Johnson, dean of the college of sciences, which Revels said indicated support of a more scientific direction in the geography department.

"There was administrative support for this over the years, and efforts from within the department over the years, and last

year it just seemed like the moment," Revels said.

The changes in curriculum not only added a Bachelor of Science degree, but changed the core classes in the department as well, according to Walsh.

"We had to streamline some of our existing curricula, just so that people could progress through with-

ress through without a hitch," Walsh said. "When you take the core classes... there's no hidden prerequisites."

"We've really just kind of streamlined the curriculum so it's better for the students and makes more sense," Revels said.

This option will make Central the only college in the state of Washington that offers both a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in geography, according to the presentation the department made to the Faculty Senate.

Many universities in the Pacific Northwest offer only a Bachelor of Science.

"A good percentage of our students who graduate with a degree in geography from Central end up in what we loosely call the GI-science end of things," Revels said. "In a more applied sense, physical geography."

The degree will give students an edge in their chosen field outside of academia or in applying to graduate school, representatives of the geography told the Faculty Senate.

Walsh agreed, stressing that a scientific background is especially important in the professional field of geography.

"For a lot of people who come out with a geography degree, they're going to work for the department of ecology or the forest service, or somewhere like that, where they really are doing science," Walsh said. "To have that science attached to the geography degree makes them a lot more connection."

Walsh said the student feedback in the department so far has been enthusiastic.

"The students I've talked to would like to have a B.S.," Walsh said. "They understand it's a lot more marketable."

Both Revels and Walsh said the department hopes that this will be a draw for students who otherwise might not have considered geography.







Bouillon Hall receives an update

Assistant News Editor

Bouillon Hall has become part of a string of undated designs for buildings on campus. A mural depicting Stuart Mountain above Ellensburg as well as some Central branding images have been put up on the walls of the entrance hall.

Olga Mayer, digital artist at Central, had to create a more inviting and cozy atmosphere for students. The collage was designed to use Central's signature graphics, like the logo, mountains and a specific

"The photo had to be chosen by a branding committee," Mayer said.

Linda Schactler, enecutive director of public affairs, said Sarah Swager, dean of student success and Steve DeSoer, Director of Human Resources, lead the project.

"It stated when Steve painted his wall red and it ignited imagination," Schactler

Schactler said they wanted to get rid of the bland atmosphere of blank walls and rework the foyer of Bouillon to be more

"It felt like a hospital, it had a very ster-ile, vacant feeling," Schactler said. "We really wanted to ... make it warmer and less institutional.

Cameron Sume, a junior and a sec-ondary math education major, said the remodeling added a more open feeling to the building.

"It's nice seeing some remodeling done

to the older buildings and it's opened it up a lot more in here," Sume said. "It feels more like a university."

One of the designs featured Central's mascot Wellington, but it was decided that he would have been too large and a shot of the landscape would make a much better mural for that space.

Mayer evaluated the room, measured and created a mockup, and shared it with the client.

"I showed it to the client, and we had many reiterations," Mayer said. "It was a

big challenge to keep it crimson." Mayer said working on large scale projects was a different, yet enjoyable, experi-

"Manipulating by feet instead of inches on the computer was different and fun, Mayer said.

According to Mayer, the mural itself is actually a large sticker. When the final design was solidified it was taken to a vendor in Yakima called Advanced Digital Imaging and was printed onto an adhesive material and then stuck up on the wall.

Schactler said that using the Fathead brand sticker saved money as well as time compared to painting the wall.

Bouillon Hall has become a part of a larger group of similar projects that have been designed in a similar way. Buildings that have seen redesigns include the Welcome Center, Wellington's Cafe, the Faculty Center, and the Seattle office.

Mayer also says that there are plans to continue this trend in the IT office in



REMODEL The mural in the foyer of Bouillon Hall gives the room a more open feel.

Bouillon as well as in the office of organinational effectiveness in the Library.

"We are trying to create a better space for everyone," Schactler said.

While the new mural in Bouillon has brought a new atmosphere to the space, there are more plans for the building's fu-

In Central Facilities' 2013 master plan, Bouillon and Lind Halls are set for renovation and reuse after the completion of the Science Two construction.

Yarwood, director of facilities planning and construction, said that they would be requesting the money for

the renovation of Bouillon Hall for 2015 through 2017 from state legislature.

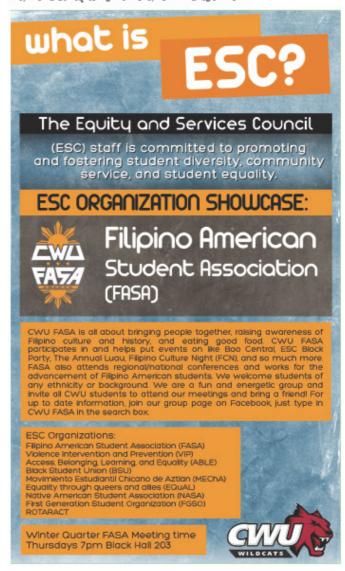
"The state funds capital projects on a biennium basis, which is once every two years," Yarwood said.

The plans are for Bouillon Hall and Lind Hall to become a sort of "one stop shop" for students. They will be places where students will be able to take care of the business and academic side of their time here at Central.

Yarwood said they would contain different departments like financial aid, advising, the department of student success and registration.







Wanted: your opinions and complaints



BY MARGO MASSEY Editor-in-Chief

Opinions are like assholes: everybody has one, but not everybody wants hear about İt.

On the other hand. The Ohserver wants to hear all about it your opinion that is!

Have you ever had a problem with something at Central that you couldn't do anything about but wanted everyone to know about?

Do the things going on in the world around us just piss you off? Maybe you think something is awesome and want to share it with the world. Please, tell us all about it.

We want to hear your complaints and opinions on what is going on in the world and at the school.

If your friends are anything like mine, they will eventually get sick of your constant ranting. That's where we come in.

The Observer wants to hear your rants, and we want the school and town to see them in the paper as well.

Most people may be intimidated at the prospect of a 500+ word opinion piece, but it's easier than it seems.

Give us an introduction, at least three points as to why that thing pisses you off, and back up those points. Pin a conclusion on the end and there you have it!

The Observer is looking for any and all opinions from both the students, faculty and staff of Central in order to bring a new life to The Observer opinion section.

Tweet rants and raves to @CWUObserver with the hashtag #CWyourant

As the editor in chief, I want the opinion section to change and have the opinions come from more than just the newsroom and the reporters on the paper.

This is my call to action - to the students, staff and professors of Central and even people from the town - who have something to say. If you have something to say, say it.

If you don't think that your opinion warrants a 500-word column in the paper, we are starting a Twitter hashtag where you can get your opinions out in 140 characters or less. Tweet @OWUObserver with the hashtag #CWyourant and we will be consider publishing them in a column on the opinion page.

If you do want to write 500+ words, please send those to OWUObserveropinion@gmail.com along with your name, year and major, if you are a student, or who you are if you aren't a student.

If you are interested in or have an idea for a weekly column, we want to hear about it and would love to feature you if we think the idea fits with the paper as a

I want people to read The Observer in order to see what people are saying about the things they think are either screwed up or working well around campus.

I want input from you! Don't be afraid to speak your mind. Tell me what you like and dislike about The Observer - itself, nothing is off limits.

This paper is by and for the students of Central, and my goal is to get more than just the paper staff involved.



BY ANDREW ULSTAD Contributing Writer

Winter not so

Lack of snow delays winter sports

Living in the Pacific Northwest, many Students have learned tO the make

season

best out of winter weather. Snowboarding, skiing and snowshoeing are common distractions to many of us.

However, this season has proven to be a lackluster performance by Jack Frost. While many who dislike winter driving or simply cannot stand the cold rejoiced. those of us who take solace in the gorgeous flurries have been waiting antiously for enough snow to accumulate. Not only has the minimal snowfall affected those of us craving an escape to the slopes, it has affected students who work in these recreation areas as well.

To give you a quick idea of how many employees are at these winter resorts, we can look at The Summit at Snoqualmie. They have a total of 24 chairlifts, each of which requires a minimum of two attendants to supervise the maximum 34,490 people going up the hill per hour. Adding the people who work in food service, the rental shop, customer service and various other positions, you have a fairly large seasonal employer.

The kicker is that very few of the sea-

sonal employees actually live near any of the lodges or chairlifts where they work. For Central students, this means that if we get called into work, we drive nearly an hour to get there.

Generally speaking, The Summit

wonderland

to be earned.

opens around mid-December. With winter conditions not being very winter-like this year (nearly a month after first training, there appeared to be less snow built up), the employees were pretty much put on standby. Week after week, that is how it went. Wait...wait...wait... watching each week pass with the realization that a pay check we were hoping for was not going

With the stress of having a job lined up, but not actually started, one would generally want to avoid other sources of stress. Sadly, this is the real world with college! Summit West and Central opened the first weekend of the quarter. For most of us Central students in such a position, we had to go from the carefree bliss of winter break right back into a full load of classes and a brand new job. For those of us working at Summit East, the area that did not open up with the rest, we now face the scramble to see if shifts are available in the Other two areas.

Some of us were lucky enough to have first jobs to support us through winter break. Some had to request financial aid advances to cover bills. Perhaps the most tragic were those who simply could not wait for the work to start, and had to abandon the beauty of the mountain for the security of a guaranteed paycheck.

In the long run, what it came down to was simply this: How long could we hold out for the opportunity to work in a winter wonderland

Personally, I am just glad that I had the



BY KASEY PETERSON Staff Reporter

In a sea of Seahawks

Three reasons I hate Colin Kapernick

In a state where 12th pride man reigns preme, it is apparent to me that the for hatred

San Francisco's quarterback, Colin Ka-pernick, is more than abundant amongst the popular majority.

I originally hail from The Bay Area myself, so it is hard to look at this subject with a less then biased eye. Kapernick is a top 10 quarterback in the NFL as well as being my main quarterback in my winning Fantasy Football league. But this does not mean I appreciate or admire any of his actions on and off the field.

1. First and foremost, Colin Kapernick is a complete and utter tool. And by tool I mean that he has the poorest character that a man in his position could have. He seems to have no ability to come off as a role model and a positive influence for anyone around him. He continues instead on a constant escapade of testosterone.

Being enveloped in this Northwestern pride, I realize that only few could match our own trophy boy Russell Wilson for being such a positive influence on a commu-

Wilson is actively involved in chadry and social work that influences a positive movement in the Northwest, where as Kapernick is constantly parading his ego around. If you need more proof, go look at his Instagram and tell me differently.

2. We've all seen Kapernick play before, and it has become extremely apparent to me that he is nothing more than a one-dimensional player. He has no finesse to his game. He has consistently not been able to make developmental reads while in the pocket. His typical throws range between bullets or streamlined passes, and he has a less than 50 percent pass completion overall. This season the only thing keeping him in the top 10 is his running game.

3. He is constantly stealing other top players' victory dances. You would think that a man with such an ego would find some pride in calling a victory dance his own, but instead he rides the coastails of other athletes. A recent occurrence was during the 49ers game against the Carolina Panthers, where he openly mocks Cam Newton (Carolina's quarterback) by using Newton's touchdown celebration.

Overall, these reasons have, to me, made Colin Kapernick a crude human and unworthy of the most-sold jersey in the NFL. But as the 49ers approach their final playoff game against the Seahawks, I, for one, will be sitting waiting for Kapernick to eat his ego with a big spoon of humble as Seattle takes the 49ers down and head to the Super bowl.

Dear Readers, Seahawks to get me through the work-free weekends

The Observer welcomes brief letters of 300 words or less from readers on current issues. Please include your full name and university affiliation: year and major, degree and year graduated, or staff position and department. To be printed in the following week's issue, please e-mail your letters to cwuobserveropinion@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Observer reserves the right to reject or edit for style and length. All letters become property of The Observer. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Attention

The Observer is looking for weekly columnists to contribute to our opinion section. If you are passionate and knowledgable about your major, email cwuobserveropinion@gmail.com for more information.



There's no crying at this funeral

"I wear black when I workout. It's a funeral for my fat."



BY CAMILLE BORODEY Assistant Scene Editor

One could say that 2013 was the best year ever for Central student Sharee Samuels. If getting married in August wagn't enciting enough, Samuels is featured on the cover of People magazine, and she also appeared on Good Morning America.

"I was just like really encited, and asking myself why they picked me out of anybody else," Sharee said.

Sharee, a grad student in school psychology, has no reason to be surprised. Her Tumble, "Funeral for My Fat," has documented her 121-pound weight loss journey that took her from 256 to 135 pounds, and 2013 marked the first time she has ever worn a bikini. Sharee's journey is also documented on a Facebook and a YouTube page.

Earlier in December, an editor from People magazine messaged Sharee on Facebook asking if she was interested in being featured in the magazine's "Half Their Size" issue.

"I didn't believe it at first," Sharee said.
"I actually Googled her [the editor] to see if she was real."

Sharee got more good news the day before Christmas Eve when she received a phone call asking if she was interested in having her story featured on Good Morning America.

On Christmas day, she received the call confirming that she would be flying to New York for her TV appearance.

"Our mouths just dropped," Kandyce Hansen, Sharee's mother, said. "It was one thing after another."

On her Good Morning America ap-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHAREE SAMUELS

BEFORE & AFTER Sharee Samuels has lost 121 pounds in the past five years.

pearance, 121 pounds of popcorn was presented on the stage to represent how much weight Sharee had lost.

"Good Morning America was terrifying because it's live," Sharee said.

Sharee said the nice thing about television appearances was that she got to see the product early while the magazine interviews take longer to hit the newsstands.

"When I landed in JFK, and I bought [People Magazine], I told the cashier it was me," Sharee said.

Sharee's story has also been featured on the television programs E! News, EX-TRA and OMG Insider.

"I wish everyone that lost weight could

get that recognition," Hansen said, "but I like to think that Sharee represents them."

Sharee isn't the only one with weight loss accomplishments. Her husband, Andre, has also lost 93 pounds since Sharee began losing weight.

"Watching her work hard and bust her butt," Andre said, "motivated me to work out and eat better."

Andre Samuels teaches physical education at Saghalie Middle School in Federal Way. He and Sharee have been together since before Sharee began her weight loss

"I would never be intimidated by her success," Andre said. "I'm always 100 perJAMIE WINTER/OBSERVER

cent supportive of anything she does."

This quarter, Sharee is teaching Total
Body Conditioning and Zumba in the rec
center at Central. Sharee got into Zumba with her mother, who is also a fitness
enthusiast, and they both got certified tomether.

On her E! News interview, Sharee discussed when she had her revelation about finally wanting to lose weight, and she recalls not wanting to let her parents down. Hansen got teary eyed upon hearing her daughter's words.

"Even at her highest weight, she never let us down," Hansen said.

Hansen knows her daughter is destined for a bright future, for Sharee is very gifted in helping others.

"Her spirit just draws the light," Hansen said. "It's nice she has such talent to expand her horizons."

For the future, Sharee hopes to continue to do well in school, and she also hopes to write a motivational book. Sharee is also very passionate about helping others to become fitness instructors.

"Find the fitness you love, and understand that it's not going to happen overnight," Sharee said.

Sharee's website, "Funeral for My Fat," features both vegan and non-vegan nutrition ideas as well as motivation and suggested enercise routines. Sharee advocates maintaining a healthy lifestyle in a sane way. She is 100 percent against starving oneself or "crash diets" as a method for losing weight.

"You didn't gain all the weight in two weeks," Sharee said, "and you're not going to lose it in two weeks."



These paint-ed bottles show just one many cen-terpieces for newlyweds to have at their wedding. Other bottles at the stand said phrases like "Bride"

The Winter **Wedding Expo**

BY ADAM WILSON Scene Editor

PHOTOS BY JAMIE WINTER Photo Editor

Central Washington Uni-versity hosted the sixth an-nual Winter Wedding & Event

Expo this past weekend.

Those interested in either getting married soon or wanting to had the chance to browse through over a dozen exhibits from several caterers,

photographers and DJs.
This year's expo theme was "winter-rustic," according to Central Wedding & Event Expo student intern Hannah

Kradenpoth in CWU Hype

magazine.

Many of the set pieces showcased had a cowboy or country theme, such as the boot vase to the right.

The fashion show, a staple of the expo, also had a special theme this year. According to Program Services Manager Robbi Goninan, the fashion show was meant to show viewers how to get the best fit for gowns and tuxes. All of the outfits displayed at the show were also donated to the Fairy Godmother Project, which helps high school students find affordable prom dresses and









Tips for drinking safely in Winter

Assistant Scene Editor

The line of 50 people waiting outside of Club 301 on Friday proved that the cold weather hasn't stopped Central students from hitting the bars over the week-

But when it's 2 a.m. and the cab wait is 45 minutes, the hassle of walking home in 25 degree weather can make a night on the town slightly more problematic.
"Have a plan in motion," Dave, the

manager at Arnie's Horseshoe Sport's Bar said, "or just wear a jacket."

Dave and Andrew Nelson, bartender at Starlight, agree that the winter cold doesn't usually stop customers from coming downtown.

"I see a lot more people taking cabs in

the winter time," Nelson said. "Ten bucks in your pocket for a cab, and it's way safer.

Students should also be aware of the risks of walking home wearing beer goggles when the sidewalks are snowy and icy.

"I know this guy that fell over and passed out, and if the police hadn't come by and seen him, he would have froze," Nelson said.

During winter quarter, Forrest Williamson, Central graduate, enjoys staying mode of transportation on a night out is usually walking

Williamson has had his fair share of winter mishaps.

"I plead the fifth," Williamson said. "Tue walked on ice and fallen way too many times

In the winter time, ladies have to face the dilemma of dressing for comfort or braving the cold in a dress and heels. Even a pair of tights and a jacket can only do so ch to protect one's skin from the blister

ing cold.
"Yeah they're slightly nuts," Dave said. "It's the price of fashion, right?"

Senior music major Emma Wolfman dresses up on rare occasions in these con-

"I think the only time I risked it was

New Years," Wolf-man said. "It has to be a very special night to go out in skirts and heels."

Erin Cone, graduate student in performance, notes that the weather conditions do not cloud her judgments about driving home intoxi-

Graduate student in performance

-Erin Cone

I'll risk slipping versus

getting a DUI ... We always

have people we can call if we

don't wanna walk.

"I'll risk slipping versus getting a DUI,"
Cone said. "We always have people we
can call if we don't wanna walk."

Doug Fulp, a health educator at Cen-



OTO ILLUSTRATION BY JAMIE WINTE

tral's Wellness Center, suggests that students who do choose to consume alcohol follow some safety tips. Fulp suggests set-ting a limit before drinking, keeping track of the drinks that are being consumed and being aware of the differences in a standard drink. One drink equals 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine or a 1.5 ounce shot of 80 proof hard alcohol.

"A Garbage Can at Starlight does not equal one drink," Fulp said.

It is smart to drink water in between alcoholic drinks, as well as to eat a balanced meal before a night of drinking.

Whether one is taking the shoe lace express, finding a designated driver or the right outfit to wear, there are many ways that Central students can ensure that they have a safe and comfortable night down-

Make sure to designate a sober driver or plan to call a taxi.

Rodeo Town Taxi's number is 509,929,4222





New a capella group hits the high notes

Scene Editor

It all started with a dream on a warm summer day at the Ellensburg taco truck.

Emily Salisbury and Nicole Prigge, both former members of Central's first a capella group, Nada Cantata, jokingly threw around the idea of forming their own group while eating at the Mexican restaurant last summer.

But that joke very soon became a reality. The group, called Boots 'n' Cats, is now spending six hours a week rehearsing their five-song lineup for the International Championship of Collegiate A Capella competition (ICCAs) 'in February.

"It happened in a matter of weeks," Prigge, senior enercise science major, said. "It went from goofy to serious in the amount of time that it took to take one sip from a Jarritos.

The name of the group comes from basic beatboxing lessons. As Antonio Fernandez, the group's beatboner and junior music composition major, explained on Boots 'n' Cats's Youtube page, the phrase refers to a basic drum heat with a bass drum ("b") and snare drum ("k"), with hihats ("ts") in between.

The group has already been working to establish a name for themselves. In late October, they launched their Facebook page with a cover of U2's song "MLK." Their page currently has 689 fans.

Boots 'n' Cats is small - only seven members strong. By comparison, Nada Cantata has 12 and Central's all-female



GOOD VIBRATIONS Boots 'n' Cats perform their set from front to back, attempting to practice from memory for the first time since they arranged the set list. They will perform the five-song set list at the regional ICCA competition at Tacoma in February.

a capella group Pretty Pitches has 11. This means that each individual person has an entire part to themselves while other groups can have multiple people singing the same lines. While Salisbury, senior vocal perfor-

mance major, admits this can have its challenges, there are also many benefits to

having everyone singing a unique part.
"It makes it easier for us to adjust prob-lems and dynamics," Salisbury said. "It's actually really worked in our favor that we don't have that fallback."

Additionally, the small group size allows them to feature everyone in their perfor-mances—much like nationally-renowned a capella group Pentatonin, who is also one of Boots 'n' Cats's musical influences.

Salisbury described Pentatonist as hav ing a modern, unique style, and that is something Boots 'n' Cats aspires to.

"We definitely wanted to have fun and do music that we like," Salisbury said. "And a lot of that is going to be more modern sounding.

Unlike Central's other a capella groups, Boots 'n' Cats was not open to auditions. Salisbury stead. and Prigge hand picked the group they wanted and asked each person to be a part of it.

"If we couldn't have the people we wanted, we weren't going to sacrifice [the] quality of the group," Prigge said. "We lucked out. We got a group full of really positive, accountable, stellar musicians and human beings."

The first person they talked to was Fer-

"Without [Fernandez], there was no reason to go further," Prigge said. "He was the only vocal percussionist that we

Fernandez has been beatboxing since middle school. Like many who attempt to learn, he started by looking up videos on the internet. But he wants to achieve much more than beathoning.

"My goal is to do things people think are not humanly possible," Fernanden

After recruiting Fernandez, Salisbury and Prigge met again at the taco truck and called the rest of their possible prospects, beginning with senior music major Aryn

Chatterton is able to sing notes far below the standard female voice range, which allows her to cover for the group's tenor Bo Mendez if he is soloing.

Prigge described Mendez, senior music education major, as having a "voice like butter." She also said he "brings swag and sexiness to the way he performs."

Salisbury and Prigge also recruited se-nior vocal performance major Ben Lundgren, who has a near-perfect pitch, which he developed by memorizing the open strings of his cello. During practices, the group will occasionally use him to provide

pirch insread of their pirch pipe.
"I didn't notice [my near-perfect pirch]
until about junior year," Lundgren said. "It comes in handy every once in a while."

Finally, the group recruited senior vo-cal performance major Sarah Hemenway, who, according to Prigge, could sing any Jesse J song and "put Jesse J to

Our hope is to have a set

Junior music composition major

-Antonio Fernandez

list that both we can groove

to and so can the audience.

shame." When it comes to arranging music or choreographing their routine, it is a total group effort-which fits with their motto: "Spread creativity through collaboration."

The singers in the group maintain a professional relationship with each other that allows them

to be direct in their criticisms. We're really honest with each other,"

Mendez said. "We can get work done. They are always honest with each other when discussing what needs improving

but they remain positive and look forward to what their Creative vision is. They want to reflect this in their set list at the ICCAs on Feb. 15.

"Our hope is to have a set list that both we can groove to and so can the audience," Fernandez said.

Hemenway added that everyone will be featured in some way during the five-song set. Each performer is capable of strong, unique solos so every song can have its own flair.

"Everybody [in Boots 'n' Cats] is 50 for the music and making beautiful 30unds with each other," Salisbury said. "It's re-ally, really humbling to be in a group with these people."

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Stars shine at the Globes

BY CAMILLE BORODEY Assistant Scene Edito



Host Amy Poehler and Tina Fey opened the 71st Annual Golden Globes with a witty monologue, which of course includes poking fun at big name people in the room. Fey ends the monologue by saving

"We'll get the show done in three hours or, as Martin Scorsese calls it, Act One."

In the opening monologue, Poehler also mentions Woody Allen is to receive a special award.

"I assume the award is for the tiniest man with the biggest glasses," Poehler

Actually, Allen is notorious for never showing up to award shows. Despite the fact that he has won two Golden Globes prior, along with an additional six nominations. Allen has never actually attended The Globes. Allen has also attended the Academy Awards only once in his four decade career even though he has received

22 nominations and four wins. After a brief introduction by Emma Stone and a montage of Allen's work, Diane Keaton, a longtime friend of Allen who collaborated with him on eight films, accepted the award on his behalf. Keaton notes that Allen always writes films with interesting female characters. Many may have been displeased with Allen's win because his scandalous personal life, but Allen's contributions to film over his career span are undeniable.

The first Globe of the night went to Jennifer Lawrence, who appeared slightly shaken when she accepted her award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance as an unhinged housewife in "American Hustle." She must have thought it was near impossible that an actress could win

a Golden Globe for two consecutive years. David O. Russell directed Lawrence in "Hustle" and the film she won for last year, "Silver Lining's Playbook."

Robert Downey Jr. presented Amy Ad-ams with the award for Best Actress-comedy or musical. Even though Adams has been nominated four times in the past, it amazes me how few people know who she is. Her career ranges from serious dra-mas such as "Doubt" and "The Fighter" to Blockbusters such as "Man of Steel" to family films such as "Enchanted" and "The Muppets."

The awards for Best Actor in a Drama and Best Supporting Actor went to under-dogs Matthew McConaughey, who lost 45 pounds for his role, and Jared Leto for "Dallas Buyer Club." I know fame speaking McConaughey isn't an underdog, but in the past couple of years, he has gone from being the hunk who stars opposite Kate Hudson in some cliché rom-com to a serious, respectable actor. In fact, this is his first Golden Globe win and nomina-

"Unexpected, but graciously accepted," McConaughey said.

This is also the first win and nomination for Jared Leto; the lead singer of the band 30 Seconds to Mars has not acted in a film since 2009

Best Screen Play went to Spike Jonze for "Her," and the award for Best Director

to Alfonso Ouarón for "Gravity." Dicaprio graciously accepted his award for Best Actor in a comedy for "Wolf of Wall Street," and he thanked Director Martin Scorgese for being his mentor Though Dicaprio is an acclaimed actor, the Oscars often snub him, not giving him a nomination since Blood Diamond in 2007. On the other hand, this is Di-

caprio's second Globe win and 10th nomination.

> "I never would've guessed that I would've won for best actor in comedy," Dicaprio said. He is known for mostly sticking to dramatic films.

Shortly after accepting his award, Dicaprio took the stage again to present the award for Best Actress- Drama to Cate Blanchett for Woody Allen's "Blue

Jasmine." Blanchett has won three Globes in the past. In her speech, Blanchett ques-tions the music that starts to play to let winner know they need to wrap up their speeches.

"Do people at home hear this music, or do they just think you're talking really fast because you're having a panic attack?" Blanchett asked.

Best Picture-comedy went to "Ameri-can Hustle." I was disappointed to see Christian Bale was absent from the ceremony. I was secretly hoping he would fly in at the last minute in his Batman costume. One can dream, right?

Looking surprisingly clean shaven and quite bored, Johnny Depp presented the award for Best Picture- Drama to Steven McQueen's "12 Years a Slave." Many may have not been expecting this win, considering the movie did not win any of the other six nominations it received.

The next big movie award show is The Academy Awards, which airs March 2.



She won't change: Mary Lambert to perform at Central

BY ADAM WILSON Scene Editor

Mary Lambert will be sharing much more than her music when she performs at Central on Friday night. Her perfor-mance will also include her sharing her inspirational life story for her entire audi-

The Everett-based musician became internationally known after being featured on Seattle-based Macklemore and Ryan Lewis's double-platinum hit "Same Love." The song discusses LGBT rights and reached #11 on the Billboard Hot 100 charts.

"Same Love" wasn't Macklemore and Ryan Lewis's first big hit, but it was what put Mary Lambert on the map. She later released her single "She Keeps Me Warm," which expanded on the chorus she wrote for "Same Love.

While "Same Love" takes a political ap-proach to the issues suffered by the LGET community, "She Keeps Me Warm" is much more simple.

"This song is not political. It's not about oppression or marriage equality, Lambert said in a blog post. "This song is a love song. That's all it is."

Ashley Stubbs, student programmer for campus activities, also recognized Lambert from speeches she gave at Seattle PRIDE last summer. She knew immediately that Lambert's career would take off and decided to book her as soon as pos-

"She's one of the voices of our generation," Stubbs said. "Everything she says will have the audience nodding in agreement and they'll walk out feeling like better people, and that they can change the world.

Lambert recently released her EP titled "Welcome to the Age of My Body" on iTunes and Amazon. In addition to "She Keeps Me Warm," she also includes her song "Sarasavati" and a two-part poem called "Body Love." The music covers several parts of her personal life, including her sexuality and body issues.

"I spent a lot of the time making this EP with tears in my eyes-both sad and happy ones," Lambert said on her blog.

Stubbs hopes Lambert will be able to reach out to Central students when she performs.

"She is such a powerful performer and speaker," Stubbs said. "Her talent goes 50 much deeper than what most students

Show Info

Who: Mary Lambert When: Friday, January 17 Where: SURC Ballroom Cost: \$12 General Admission, \$7 w/ CWU ID

Tickets can be found online at www.cwu.edu/ tickets





SPORT

FOOTRALL



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DAILY RECORD

STEPPING UP Previously the co-offensive coordinator at St. Cloud State University, Ian Shoemaker becomes the third Central head coach in the last three years, following John Picha last season.

Shoemaker brings offensive mindset to CWU

New Central football head coach Ian Shoemaker brings 16 years of offensive experience to complement the already strong Wildcat defense

As [coaching] has evolved, I've made it into a career. I really think I

can effect change in kids'

lives. 🤧



PHOTO COURTESY OF CWU.EDU

JOIN THE CONVERSATION WITH A TWEET AND A HASHTAG #CWUFOOTBALL

BY CHANCE WEEKS-WILLIAMS Staff Reporter

There is a new face in the Central Washington University athletics. Newly hired head football coach Ian Shoemaker

will take the reins of the Wildcats team this upcoming season. Shoemaker will be making his first head coaching appearance this year in place of interim coach John Picha. Picha filled in for Blaine Bennett, who was fired a day before fall practice started in 2013.

Before taking this head coaching opportunity; Shoe-maker was the co-offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at St. Oloud State University located in Minnesota. With Shoemaker at offensive coordinator. St. Oloud State was ranked fifth in the nation and has made the playoffs three times out of the last four seasons.

He started his coaching career as a grad assistant, coaching the tight ends and running backs for two years at Western Washington University while further-

ing his sports psychology studies.

After leaving WWU, he went on to be

the offensive coordinator at the University of Saint Mary in Kansas. He then moved on to Minot State University in North Dakota where he was the passing game coordinator from 2000-2003.

From there, he began his intercollegiate career

as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator at Kenyon College for three years. From there he moved on to Baldwin Wallace College as the offensive coordinator.

Shoemaker was born and raised in Graham, where he attended and graduated from Orting High School before going on to Grinnell College and obtaining his degree in psychology. That's when he knew that he wanted to make a career out of coaching

-IAN SHOEMAKER

Head football coach

"Once I got in [to sports psychology] I couldn't give up coaching and I couldn't give up being around the sport," Shoemaker said.

Offense is Shoemaker's specialty, with his entire coaching career coming on the offensive side of the ball. While he means

to have a firm grip on the offense, Shoemaker will not take immediate action on the coaching staff.

"We're evaluating the staff in place first and foremost to kind of interview on the job," Shoemaker said.

Although he just started his new job, Coach Shoemaker said he is already taking the necessary steps to keep Central on top of its game by taking on the everdifficult task of securing a great recruiting class for the upcoming season.

"The plan right now is putting my face out there, selling the vision and what I see and what is possible, and try to get those kids involved in that vision," Shoemaker said.

Being new to the program hasn't hindered the recruiting process according to Shoemaker.

"I went out and saw these kids this week, and every one of them was still very interested in one of the top schools on their list," Shoemaker said.

Not only does he serve as a coach, but he also serves as a mentor for young student athletes

"As [coaching] has evolved, I've made it into a career. I really think I can effect change in kids' lives," Shoemaker said.

The first-year head coach will be looking to build up a young and talented Wildcat football team similar to last season's team, which won seven games.

MEN'S BASKETRALL



VICTORY Senior center Kevin Davis dunks for two of his 25 points in the Wildcats' win against Western Oregon last Saturday. Davis also grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked five shots as the Wildcats improved to 3-2 in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play. Central shot 32-34 from the free-throw line, the second-best output in GNAC history.

Wildcats win thriller in double over

Staff Reporter

The Central Men's Baskethall team battled the Western Oregon Wolves in a nail-biting game Saturday night that went into double-overtime and triple figures to win 106-103.

Throughout the game, the teams alternated the roles of cat and mouse, continuously gaining and then losing the lead.

Seniors Mark McLaughlin, Kevin Davis, and JB Pillard proved to be a triple threat on the court, with all three scoring double-doubles against the Wolves. McLaughlin ran up a game-high 39 points and undoubtedly helped secure Central's third-consecutive win

The Wildcats had high expectations heading into the game, after gaining a two-win streak.

"We had already won two in a row so I was excited, and we all knew this was a big one for us," McLaughlin said. "For us to come out on top means a lot to the team because it means our hard work is paying off.

Despite putting the first points on the scoreboard, the Wildcats never created a buffer large enough to keep Western Oregon at bay. The lead changed 16 times and the score tied 19 times, with neither team allowing more than a nine-pointadvantage.

Both the Wildcats and the Wolves scored above the 50th percentile for shots, with Central trailing 52 percent (13 of 25) to Western Oregon's 57.6 percent (19 of 33). The Wolves made use of Central's mistakes, converting 11 turnovers into 18

"They [turnovers] were definitely our Achilles' heel in the first half," head coach

The Wildcats trailed 42-47 at halftime after McLaughlin scrambled under the net, only to be shut down by an impenetrable wall of Wolves

McLaughlin and Davis made for quite a duo at the beginning of the second half after McLaughlin scored seven consecutive points following Davis's explosive putdunk. McLaughlin's three-pointer with 14:13 left gave the Wildcars a one-

point edge: leading the game 59-58. The Wolves quickly regained the lead,

We have got to be ready to go ... we have to take care of the basketball, especially at home. We can't throw the ball around the yard because in the GNAC it's a grind every night and every possession is very valuable.

> -GREG SPARLING Men's basketball coach

although a Davis three-pointer with 2:26 left on the clock once again gave Central the advantage at 74-73. With less than 50 seconds left and a tie 77-77 on the board, Pillard made a leaping jump towards the net and scored two points for the Wildcats; however, a foul by sophomore Jordan Russell on Western Oregon's Devon Alexanexander sunk both free throws.

With less than a second left on the clock, Pillard gained possession of the ball and drained what would have been the winning shot of the game had the officials not called it after the buzzer, forcing over-

The Wildcats rallied during the first vertime with a 4-0 streak powered by McLaughlin, but were behind by three in the last minute. With the score reading 88-91, McLaughlin launched a three-pointer with less than 10 seconds to spare that tied the game once again, sending the teams into double-overtime.

The battle continued into double-overtime with the teams tying the game on three occasions. A fouled layup by Pillard, followed by two successful free-throws, gave the Wildcats a 104-101 lead. Western Oregon crept back up to 104-103 after two free-throws but eventually fouled McLaughlin, who finished the game via free-throws at 106-103.

Russell became a dominant presence in the paint using his size and speed to drive under the net and put up strong numbers. Russell came in fourth behind Pillard with

14 points for the game.
If turnovers were the Wildcats Achilles heel then the free-throws were their saving grace. Not one free-throw was wasted in the second half or in overtime. Davis, who scored 25 points, tallied 10 free-throws earning a double-double. For teammate McLaughlin, who was 16 for 16, trust is

"I practice a lot. So I just trust the practice I put in it. Thank God that God let me make those," McLaughlin said.

Pillard brought down the most re-

bounds at 13, adding to the team's grand total of 44.

"Especially late in the game in the second half and overtime, we know that every rebound's going to count. We knew we had to get those rebounds so [Western Oregon] couldn't score second-chance points," Pillard said.

Central is currently sitting fourth in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference with a 3-2 record behind Alaska Fairbanks, who they will play Thursday, Januacv 16 in Fairbanks.

Last Saturday the Fairbank Nanooks trumped Montana State University Billings 79-70, improving to 8-5 overall and 3-2 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Similar to Central, the Nanooks proved competent at the free-throw line, sinking all eight attempts in the final 1:25. Shooting an impressive 70 percent in the second half, Fairbanks also went six for nine in three-pointers over the final 20 minutes to finish the game 56 percent (28 of 50) from the floor

Not only will the Wildcars have to compete with a higher shooting percentage but it will be critical for Central to snag all the rebounds they can as Alaska outscored Billings 15-7 on second-chance opportuni-

In anticipation of Thursday's game, Coach Sparling acknowledged that it's not only important to defend the home court, but also to pick wins up on the road.

We have got to be ready to go. If we're ready to go, good things will happen. We have to take care of the basketball, especially at home. We can't throw the ball around the yard because in the GNAC it's a grind every night and every possession is very valuable," Sparling said.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wildcats look to get back on track at home

BY JARYD CLINE Sports Editor

Losing can be tough, especially when a team has lost 29 consecutive games to the same team. Simon Frager University has had the Oentral women's basetball team's number for the last 26 years, winning every game against the Wildcass since the 1987-88 season.

However, the Wildcats (6-8 overall, 1-5 Great Northwest Athletic Conference) didn't let the losing streak bother them as they defeated the Clan (9-4 overall, 3-2 GNAO) 63-52 for their first win in two-and-a-half decades as well as their first GNAO win this season.

Central was determined to break the streak as they jumped out to a 16-6 lead midway through the first half and took a 31-19 lead into halftime.

The Wildcars defense stifled the Clan in the first half, holding them to 33 percent shooting from the field and 0-7 from 3-point range. Central, on the other hand, shot 45 percent in the half and out-rebounded the Clan 22-12.

The second half wasn't much different as Simon Fraser shot just 34 percent. The Clan was able to stay in the game with their superb foul shooting (9-9 in the half) and by forcing 10 Wildcat turnovers.

In the end, the Wildcar's size was 100 much for Simon Fraser to overcome. Central out-rebounded the Olan 40-23 and outscored the clan 32-18 in the paint.



THOMAS VONAHLEFELD/ CWU ATHLETICS

LAYIN' IT UP Sophomore center Jasmine Parker drives for a layup against Hawaii Hilo University. Parker leads the team in rebounds with just over eight a game.

Sophomore center Jasmine Parker shot 10-16 from the field and led the team with 21 points and two blocks. Senior guard Jessica VanDyke finished with 10 points, nine rebounds and three assists.

The Wildcats' win over the Olan came after a disappointing 63-54 loss to rival Western Washington University (7-6 overall 3-2 GNAO).

Central trailed for most of the first half but was only behind by one point heading into the break. Central was able to build a four point lead in the second half before Western tied the game at 60 and took the lead for good.

Parker and VanDyke led the team with 17 points each while VanDyke also led the team with 10 rebounds for her third double-double of the season.

Nearly one-third of the way through the GNAC season, Central sits in last place in the conference with just one win.

Four of Central's six conference games

have been played away from Ellensburg. The Wildcats fell 64-75 to Alaska in their first home conference game and then dropped a nail-biter 80-82 to second place Alaska Anchorage in which junior forward Courtney Johnson scored 27 points and hit six 3-pointers.

After returning from Canada with their first conference win, the Wildcass return home to Nicholson Pavilion to take on Montana State Billings tonight and Seattle Pacific University Saturday.

Montana State Billings (10-5 overall, 3-2 GNAO) is currently tied for third place in the GNAO.

Montana State is coming off a 57-63 loss to Seattle Pacific last Saturday but has won two of its last three games in GNAC competition.

The Yellowjackets are led by senior guard Bobbi Knudsen and junior forward Janiel Olson. Knudsen leads the Yellow-jackets and is seventh in the GNAO in scoring at 15.7 a game while also averaging six assists a game, which is good for second best in the conference. Olsen ranks second in the conference in rebounding at 10 a game while also averaging 7.8 pointsper-game.

VanDyke leads the Wildcats with 16.7 points-per-game and ranks second with 7.3 rebounds-per-game. Parker leads the team with 8.4 rebounds-per-game while also averaging 10.1 points-per-game.







WINTER RECREATION

Skiers, resorts angry amid lack of snow

Winter recreation and businesses grind to a halt, causing concern for snow enthusiasts

BY JULIAN DOUMIT
Assistant Sports Editor

As winter quarter enters full swing at Central, more and more people around campus, and the Northwest as a whole, continue to wonder: Where is the snow?

Ellensburg already had to go without its usual white Christmas, but the lack of powder is beginning to affect more than just disappointed holiday junkies.

As Patrick Orawford, content director for Onthesnow.com (a website which provides international snow reports) puts it, "All the ski resorts are struggling this wear."

To the dismay of skiers and snowboarders internationally, it has been a particularly dry year. From Lake Tahoe to British Columbia, resorts are reporting well-below-average powder, with the ones that remain open offering less than their usual available lifts.

In fact, one of the only three resorts in Washington state to offer all 10 of its lifts is currently the Stevens Pass resort, which up until last Sunday had been closed due to "heavy snow and traffic." Bither way, students who recently have decided to make the trip have reported a disappointing experience.

"Me and my roommates went last weekend, and it was horrible," Brad Sweet, a business major at Central, said. "All that was there was some ice and hard



PHOTO COURTESY OF KOMO NEWS

LET IT SNOW Empty ski lifts shadow a largely snowless mountain slope at the Snoqualmie pass resort. Four out of 25 lifts remain closed due to lack of snow.

packed snow. Not fun."

The other nearby resorts are also struggling to keep up with demand. One of the closest, The Summit at Snoqualmie, has only four of its 25 lifts open due to the lack of fresh snow. Crystal and Mount Baker each have eight of their 10 lifts open. Even White Pass has a lift closure.

This comes as especially troubling news for a state that, according to SnowSports Industries, makes up over ten percent of the total snowboarders and skiers in the United States. Washington, along with Colorado, California and New York, is widely regarded by winter recreation athletes of all kinds as the home of some of the best slopes in the country.

If the winter athletes are mad, then the local businesses that serve them are furious. Area restaurants, rental shops and even gas stations say that their financial situations have been negatively affected by the lack of their usual seasonal customers.

The Last Resort, northwest of Ronald, reports numerous cancellations at both their motel and snowmobile rental shop, which according to an article by the Daily Record, has owner Don May struggling to make ends meet without shortening the hours of his employees.

Despire the general lack of fresh snow, the fact that there is any snow at all comes as welcoming news for an area that has been all but devoid of it, with the exception of a couple of chilly days.

That, coupled with the fact that temperatures are expected to drop steadily through the middle of January, provides

Me and my roommates went last weekend, and it was horrible ... All that was there was some ice and hardpacked snow. Not fun.

-Brad Sweet Business major

some hope to the largely dissatisfied local population of snowboarders and skiers, as well as local businesses in the area.

People interested in winter recreation will have to settle for the few functioning resorts until more snow appears. Despite some local resorts still reporting ski lift and run closures, most of the nearby hot spots for winter sports remain open to some extent.

Most people aching to hit the slopes have resolved to wait it out until a worthwhile amount of fresh powder appears on more of the popular local slopes.

"It's really not even worth it to go at this point," Sweet said. "If I go, then I'll wait until the experience is worth the price of a lift ticket."

This is a sentiment largely agreed upon by the student population of Central. Seven out of 10 students, when asked whether or not it would be worth it to go skiing at the Snoqualmie pass (or any other nearby ski resort) answered no.

With lift ticket prices generally rising nationwide, skiers, snowboarders and tubers alike are looking to get more bang for their buck when it comes to making ski trins

Some mountain resorts have begun looking for ways to encourage skiers to keep skiing by offering a variety of different deals.

Mt. Bachelor, for example, recently out prices on season tickets to encourage winter recreation, even though lift tickets were raised as a result.

For now, it seems, businesses and winter recreation enthusiasts of all kinds will have to keep holding out, in the hopes that a large amount of fresh powder will soon grace mountain slopes. If not, then many popular ski destinations may have to resort to drastic measures to attract the skiers and snowboarders that are so necessary to keep their businesses alive.





NEC CHAMPIONSHIP PREDECTIONS



49ers, 21 Seahawks, 20

"The hot 49ers will travel to Seattle and win a nail-biter relying strictly on defense and a strong running game."

— Chance Weeks-Williams Staff Reporter

Seahawks, 21 49ers, 7

"The Seahawks will win because they have home field advantage. The 12th man helps the Hawks out."

> — Julia Sanderson Staff Reporter

Seahawks, 31 49ers, 19

"Colin Kaepernick is 0-2 at the Clink. Over the past two years the Hawks have had success when limiting Vernon Davis."

> — James NaranJo Staff Reporter

Seahawks, 21 49ers, 17

"The 49ers had their season last year, now it's our turn. The Seahawks have been on fire this season and I trust they'll go all the way."

— Margo Massey
£ditor-in-Chief



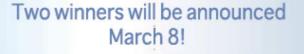
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