Central meets the future

by Jill Johnson
Managing editor

Dr. Ivory Nelson speaks at last Friday's press conference where it was announced he will be Central's 11th president.

Nelson looking for strengths to develop Central's future

by Jill Johnson
Managing editor

College District in San Antonio, Texas. Nelson has spent 29 years working in higher education.

Throughout those years Nelson said he has witnessed a lot of changes economically, socially, and technologically. It is these changes which have "destroyed the traditional approach to teaching," Nelson said.

Nelson sees this change as a challenge to himself and other members of Central's educational community.

"We must provide an educational environment that will nourish student's abilities to reason, to evaluate, to care and to be concerned," he said.

"We must not develop a sense of hopelessness and despair, we must face the world and Central Washington as they are."

Nelson did not accept the position at Central blindly. He is aware of the troubles the university is having with its education program, its image throughout the state and the possibility of further budget cuts, but chooses to look at the problems realistically.

"One of the things we have to do is find out what our strengths are and to develop them. And then try to recognize you cannot be all things to all people and that's the starting point for building on the strengths of this university," he said.

Business Week founder dies

by Jill Johnson
Managing editor

Hal Wolf, 65, longtime Central advocate and founder of Central's Business Week, died Wednesday Jan. 8, 1992, following a short illness.

Known to many as "The Father of Business Week," Wolf was actively involved with the Washington Business Week Foundation that sponsors Washington Business Week, a summer program designed to encourage leadership among Washington state's high school students.

Wolf had a strong commitment to higher education and testified at Legislative hearings on Central's behalf as well as lobbying privately on issues of importance to the university.

A native of Yelm, Wash., Wolf owned and operated a full-service grocery and retail center in Yelm and most recently served as the Regional Director of the Federal Small Business Administration in Seattle.

"Hal will be missed by many of us who knew him as a friend, counselor, advocate, fan, and doorman of limitless time, energy,"

by Chris Ames
Contributing writer

A second budget cut is expected to come during the current Washington state Legislative session that could result in losses of some tenured faculty.

Also, the salary increase scheduled for 1993 will not take place.

The three areas hardest hit by the recent 2.5 percent cuts were the equipment budget, the book budget and the physical plant.

The cuts hurt the institution, there's no doubt about it," said Courtney Jones, vice president for business and financial affairs.

See BRIEFS / page 3
Memorial service Saturday

From WOLF / page 1

...and interest," James Pappas, interim president, said in a memo to the campus community.

"His contributions to Central were not always known to a large numbers of people but they were representative of a person who loved this university for it's underlying principles," Pappas wrote.

President of the CWU Foundation, an organization designed to collect private donations made to the university, Wolf devoted himself to serving the university through the development of programs for young people.

"He was a great friend to Central Washington University and we will miss him," said Lawrence Liun, vice president of university relations and development.

A memorial service for Wolf will take place Jan. 25, at 2 p.m. in The Yelm Middle School Auditorium.

Remembrances may be made to the Business Week Endowment Fund. Contributions should be addressed to: Beverlee Hughes, Business Week, P.O. Box 615, Olympia, Wash. 98507.

You'll Get Great Savings With These Coupons

Bumps, bruises, bikes and bangs

CAMPUS COPS
by Joe Butler

Campus police were called to Muzzall Hall early Saturday morning when they found a man on his hands and knees with his head over a garbage can in a room on the fourth floor. His roommate found him on the hallway floor and asked an LGA for help. Officers said they noticed an odor of intoxicants on the man, as well as slurred speech and red and watery eyes.

When officers asked him his name, date of birth, and what he had done that evening, the man had difficulty answering the questions.

Witnesses said between the hours of 11 p.m. and 12 a.m., the man drank approximately 20 shots of different beverages, including vodka, tequila and MD 20/20 wine.

The officer also noticed a large bump on the man's forehead, but the man could not remember where he received it.

An ambulance was called to transport him to Kittitas Valley Community Hospital, and he was issued a minor in possession by summons.

Campus police answered a call for medical assistance in Berto Hall on Saturday. When they arrived, they found an LGA applying a towel to a woman's head and a large amount of blood on the woman's sweater.

Police noticed a large bump on her head and a strong odor of intoxicants about her. An LGA said he would take the responsibility of transporting her to the hospital after she refused to be transported by an ambulance.

The officers noticed that the woman was off-balance as she began to walk away. The LGA later told police the woman said she remembered standing in a Berto room, feeling off-balance and sitting down on a couch. When she sat down, she hit her head on the brick wall behind the couch. She was issued a MIP by summons.

Campus police were called to Quigley Hall on Tuesday, after a resident broke a window in the front lobby with his bicycle tire. The man told campus police that his brakes failed and his tire hit and broke the glass.

He also said he would pay for any damage. The window was taped up and the repair cost is estimated at $75 according to police.

Nelson will be at the university in early March.

Nelson attended the University of Kansas and graduated with a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry. His activities, which include serving on the Board of Directors for the United Way, and involvement with the Committee of Judicial Reform, accompanied with his leadership in the corporate sector and in the field of education have led to listins in "Who's Who in America" (southwest) and "Who's Who among Black Americans.

Nelson is married to Dr. Patricia Ann Nelson and they have four grown children.

Nelson will be at the university in early March.
**Cuts to library, equipment and physical plant**

"However, we wanted to minimize the impact on the students," said Jones. 

Dan Lewis, dean of library services, said five areas in the library and media center lost funds—with the book and the audiovisual collections taking the biggest cuts. 

The student-workers budget lost nearly $10,000. A fact Lewis tried to downplay before the cut was implemented. 

"We doubled the amount of student workers for fall of 1991," Lewis said. 

"So it was a small cut back in that area." 

"We still have nearly double the amount of student workers as in the past. The more student workers we have, the better our service is going to be." 

John Holman, director of facility management, said students may not notice cuts in his area until spring. 

"The cuts took away from our spring maintenance," said Holman. 

"We won't hire as many temporary workers." 

Students may be able to see it in the landscapes, and the classrooms may not be as perfect as before," he said. 

"Also, we're trying to be conservative with the materials we already have." 

An energy conservation committee has been activated in a special effort to save energy during this period. 

Part of Governor Booth Gardner’s state budget includes a 14 percent surcharge on resident-undergraduate tuition. 

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**Waiting is the hardest part**

by Kristy Ojala

Contribution writer

Katsuko Matsubara sits quietly on the neatly made bed in her dorm room and waits for a letter that has the potential to determine her future. 

Like many students on Central’s campus, Matsubara, 23, attends classes, hangs out with her friends and sometimes finds it hard to study, especially with Nirvana’s latest tune echoing down the dorm hallway. 

The main element missing in Matsubara’s life, one she hopes will soon be found is the form of a letter stamped in English. 

"I wanted to come here directly, but it was too full," said Matsubara. 

"I had to wait to apply." 

Matsubara, who arrived in Ellensburg last September from Nagoya, Japan, is one of 15 students involved in Central’s University English as a Second Language (UESL) Program, which offers four-year intensive English training to students from around the world. 

"Sometimes this can spill over into racism," said Steve Horowitz, director of the UESL Program. 

Horowitz encourages students to abandon their preconceptions and acknowledge the cultural differences international students bring to the campus. 

According to Horowitz, all UESL participants are self-supporting. Matsubara received money for one year to attend Central, which attracted her attention because of its size and education program. "In Japan, many people think that America is a dangerous country," said Matsubara. 

"My parents were worried at first, but Ellensburg is safe." 

UESL students are involved in a five-level core curriculum, and are evaluated and graded at each level before progressing to the next. 

Horowitz claims that Matsubara, who hopes to obtain a degree in education and return to her homeland to teach, is at a high language level. She has already obtained a degree from a Japanese university. 

While many foreign students come to the United States to learn, the reverse is not necessarily true. "We know the basics here, but could we function in another society?" inquires Horowitz. 

The UESL students are eager to learn from Americans, an effort the program hopes other students will respond to. 

Meanwhile, Matsubara will continue to attend her core UESL classes and practice her reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills—not in her native tongue, but in English. She will also continue to wait, keeping an eye out for the letter that thousands of past and present Central students...
Blue light phones finally operating

by Sam Ernst
Staff reporter

The 10 blue light emergency phones installed throughout campus last quarter are now operational.

The phones, enclosed in 10-foot tall black cylinders, are activated by simply pressing a button.

Once the button is pressed a direct phone connection is made to the police department.

After the system is activated there is constant communication with the police through a speaker phone and a flashing blue light on the pole is used as a visual indication of position.

The activated emergency phone also points to police dispatcher the exact phone that is being used.

John Holman, director of facilities management, said the cost of the system was $115,000.

He said the original plan was to install 35 blue light phones, but was cut back to 10 because of cost.

How effective they are is yet to be determined.

Central has never had much of a problem with safety, but prevention of a problem is what is hoped for, said campus Police Chief Steve Rittereiser.

So far the system has been used by stranded motorists who were unable to get to a phone after they discovered their car wouldn't start.

Rittereiser said everybody has different ideas of what an emergency is.

Rittereiser said the blue light system would gain the confidence of the students as time went on.

"It is like seatbelts," said Rittereiser. "It took more than 30 years and many saved lives before people actually took faith in using them."

Jenna Fisher, a senior, said she had heard about the emergency phone system from a friend who attends Cornell University in New York and actually used that system to save herself from an assault.

Fisher said her friend activated the phones as she was being pursued in an attempt to leave a trail.

"She kept throwing switches as she was being followed and (the police) got him at the next one," said Fisher.

Look for the blue emergency phone nearest you.
Teaching quality may be reduced with job security

by Cristine Jung
Copy editor

Most students have heard at least one horror story about a professor who reaches a point of extreme incompetence but continues to teach, thanks to tenure.

"There are a lot of hard feelings out there about tenure, but it's job protection," said Dr. Zoltan Kramar, dean of history.

'Universities are like museums—professors stimulate new thoughts, ideas, knowledge and also keep old ideas alive'
— Dr. Don Cummings, dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

"It is like a very fragile plant, if we don't protect it, it dies."

According to the Faculty Code, tenure "entitles a faculty member to continuous appointment in a specific department or section of the university or in the university as a whole, and retention of rank without discriminatory reduction of salary and without dismissal except for adequate reason."

"Tenure enables the professor to challenge the status quo," said Dr. Don Cummings, dean of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences.

"Universities are like museums—professors stimulate new thoughts, ideas, knowledge and also keep old ideas alive," Cummings said.

"Tenure was created to prevent the administration from interfering with this process. Despite the common attitude that tenure is easily awarded to any professor who puts in his/her time, tenure recipients must meet the requirements set in place by the university before the honor is awarded. Requirements involve teaching ability, scholarship, administrative work (committee service) and character. A professor must teach for a minimum of two years before it is even possible to consider tenure, but it takes an average of six years for most professors to reach this level within their profession.

During this time the professor is watched and evaluated by other tenured faculty in the department, the department chair, members of the personnel committee, his/her respective dean and the Board of Trustees.

Once a professor receives tenure he/she has relative job security—something some students feel allows a professor to become lazy and indifferent to the quality of instruction that is being provided.

"I know one professor who battled to get tenure and now that he has it, I think he'd rather be elsewhere," Beth Maw, 22, a mass communication major said.

Carl Huber, 24, an engineering major, said he thought there should be a probationary period after a professor receives tenure to allow for problems in a professors performance.

The way things stand now the only way a professor with tenure can be terminated is if he/she does something horrendous, such as sexual harassment, illegal behavior or insubordination.

If a student has a problem with any professor they need to make their concerns known. "There is something that students can do," said Dr. Cummings.

"If there is a problem with a professor (they should) go to the professor first, then the chair of the department and then to the dean."

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Graduate Assistantships

Applications available for summer quarter and for the 1992-93 academic year are due in the Graduate Admissions Office, Houghton 205
OBSERVANCE

Tuition hike is tuition tax

The state legislature has proposed a 14 percent tuition increase to begin next fall. This, along with an already in place 4.4 percent raise would amount to a 14.4 percent tuition hike over $700 for fall 1992. If tuition jumps $100, there will be students who will not only feel the effect, but will be forced to end their education. Students who qualify for grants and loans may barely notice the raise because the index that determines their grants and loans will raise right along with the tuition. The government isn’t stupid enough to boost tuition and then knock out the students who keep sinking their fortunes into loans that will have to be paid back. It’s too good of a turnover.

Students whose parents make the big bucks and buy their sons and daughters Gucci backpacks, Pump Reeboks and $600 mountain bikes, because it isn’t cool to walk to class, will still write it off the tuition jump as a financial learning experience.

It is the students who try to work and pay for their education at the same time who will suffer the most from a 14 percent tuition hike. Students like Mike Gibbons don’t need the extra education. Mike, a roommate from last year, has always been adamant about the cost of education.

He pays for his schooling. No loans and definately no grants. His family made too much money by financial aid standards.

He has a good job and a VISA to help him stay afloat. So, when I asked him about the state’s proposed 14 percent tuition hike it didn’t surprise me that he was incensed.

He said he had already called his state representative over Christmas break and barked a few words about re-election and told the man they should not balance the budget on the backs of the students.

He quickly pointed out this particular 14 percent tuition jump will actually go toward balancing the very out of whack state budget. Don’t be fooled, that extra tuition money won’t come back to our school. It will end up printed over 100 students had used the SUB phone in his report at Bellevue Community College co-ed.

Once tuition is raised it will never go down. Tuition just keeps going up, never down.

A 14 percent raise is just asking too much.

—Mark Eaton
Editor

Once upon a time in the state legislature...

Dear Campus Community:

You may not be aware of us, or you may be all too aware of us, but the fact remains, we are here. We are your roommates, co-workers, family members, and friends. We are gays, lesbians, and bisexuals.

We would like to bring to your attention two campus organizations that exist to deal with our specialized issues—The Gay/Lesbian/ Bisexual Support Group, and Central’s Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA). These entities provide students the opportunity to meet other gay, lesbian, and bisexual students, participate in social activities, and make available the literature and culture that accompanies the lifestyle. In a community such as Ellenbeek, these things are not readily accessible to interested people.

The support group operates out of the Counseling Center. It meets weekly to offer students a chance to hang out in a comfortable, confidential, and nonjudgemental atmosphere. Current issues are discussed, videos are shown and activities are planned. Participation in the group does not involve self-disclosure or confessions. If you would like more information about the group, call Sally Thelen at 963-1391. All calls are treated confidentially.

Central GALA is just like any other campus club. We hold fund raisers, do community service projects, and have parties. One such activity happened in September when Central GALA participated in the Northwest AIDS Walk. The Club raised over $600 for the cause. For more club information, call Linda Ruffer at 963-2127, or Murry Larsen at 963-1515.

Once again, all calls are treated confidentially.

In closing, it is important to remember that you deal with gays, lesbians, and bisexuals every day. The lifestyle is more than just sexual activity. Affection, caring and intimacy are present—just like in heterosexual relationships. We are not freaks—we are your friends, roommates, co-workers, relatives, and associates.

Central’s Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA)

in care of Linda Ruffer
Women’s Resource Center

LETTER WRITERS:
All letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday the week before the next publication date. Letters must be typewritten, less than 500 words and must include your name and a daytime phone number for verification. Please write to the reader rather than to any specific person.

The Observer reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, spelling and fact.

Send letters to: Bouillon 227, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or bring them to the newsroom (Bouillon 227) in person.
We walk into the bar on a Monday night and casually look around. My friend and I ask the bartender for a pitcher of Bud Light. He gives us a flirtatious smile, and head for the dart board. I plug a couple of quarters into the machine and throw my first dart. Our game is under way.

It is merely that I don't want to be hit on. I have a boyfriend, and I am happy with him. Therefore, I must have gone to a bar with a friend when I have not been propositioned. It doesn't matter what I am wearing or how I act. It is a poor attempt at a pick-up line. I reply, none too politely, "I'm winning." I then turn my attention away from the man and talk to Andrea. It is obvious, or should be obvious, that I am ignoring him. However, he doesn't leave. He then asks me if I want to join him and his friends for a drink. I say shortly, no. He still doesn't leave. What is a girl to do to enjoy a game of darts without being harrassed? There is not one time that I have gone to a bar with a friend when I have not been propositioned. It doesn't matter what I am wearing or how I act. It is merely that I am female. Therefore, I must want to be picked-up since I am in a bar, right? Wrong. I have a boyfriend that I am happy with; therefore, I am not looking for options. Do all guys that are in college and of a single status assume that girls enjoy being hit-on all the time? It must be so, because anytime I'm out it never fails that some girl ends up being b. ... to some drunk guy who can't understand why he's been turned down. It is not fair to say that all guys do this, but it is fair to say a majority of guys do. It is also not fair to girls to always be on their guard and have to resort to viciousness to enjoy their night out.

Then don't go out to bars, you say? That is probably why you get hit on because it is a known fact that girls go out to bars to get picked up, correct? Again, wrong. This attitude is not only chauvinistic; it is ignorant. Take a hint guys. If the girl is not interested don't be so clueless.

— Cristine Jung

Conspiracy Contest
Top 5
1. This year MY ANGER was secretly caused by THE HOLE IN MY HEAD.
2. This year THE CHICKEN FRIED STEAK AT HOLMES was secretly caused by FRAZITINGS because of LOW TURNOUT AT TUESDAY NIGHT PIZZA FEED.
3. This year THE ERUPTION OF MT. ETNA was secretly caused by DOLPHINS because of THEIR WORLD DOMINATION PLAN.
4. This year THE WEAKNESS OF THE NEW UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT was secretly caused by WOODHOUSE AND THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES because of THEIR PRAB OF A STRONG ADMINISTRATOR.
5. This year QUIGLEY'S HOT WATER SHORTAGE was secretly caused by UNDERCOVER HEALTH SPA WORKERS because of TESTING OF A NEW CHLORINE PRODUCT.

Read them and weep. I did.

Mark Eaton
Editor

Summer Jobs on Orcas Island
Representatives will be on campus on February 13, 1992 from 9-4 in SUB
YMCA Camp Orkila is now hiring for all summer positions. Counsels, teen trips leaders, lifeguard, program and support staff. Interview on campus or call for an application.
Call (206) 382-5009 for more information. E.O.E.

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Wildcat cadets earn top honors

by Marvin Rosete
Staff writer

Last week, Central’s Air Force ROTC recognized three people for their outstanding work to aerospace studies.

Cadet Holly Edwards, a senior majoring in psychology, was elected as Corps Commander for the 1992 winter quarter.

Edwards is the highest ranking Air Force cadet at Central, responsible for leading more than 40 other officer candidates. She is also the first female to hold the position since the mid-80s.

“It’s a big responsibility and I have a good staff that’s supportive,” says the 24-year-old commander. “I hope to learn a lot from this experience.”

Kendra Sterkel, department secretary for aerospace studies, was awarded Air Force ROTC Civilian of the Quarter for the Northwest Region.

Sterkel was selected from 27 other schools in the region for leadership and dedication to the program.

As a mother of two children, Ms. Sterkel still finds time to work as a volunteer for many community events in Ellensburg, such as youth activities and the Ellensburg Rodeo “Top Hands,” which plans the rodeo activities during the Labor Day weekend.

The final recognition goes to Cadet Yvonne Calhoun, who was selected for the British Royal Air Force Exchange Program this summer. A junior majoring in English, Cadet Calhoun is one of

See CADETS / page 12

Closed minds cause problems

Homophobic attitudes cause unneeded problems

by Michael Radice
Scene editor

What would it be like to live in a world where your beliefs and preferences were not like those around you?

A world where people alienated others who were not part of society’s mold of what it means to be human.

A world full of hate.

John, Jack and Cathy (not their real names) know all too well what it means to live in that world. As homosexuals, they face everyday with those kinds of feelings.

All are students at Central. All speak of the homophobic attitudes at Central and around town. All speak of trying to make changes for the better.

However, according to them, the Homophobia / page 9

How many of these people choose to lead alternative lifestyles? According to members of the Gay and Lesbian Club, there are more than we all think.

Safe sex, alive and well at Central

Chandra Burdette
Staff writer

Since AIDS became an epidemic, safe sex has been highly promoted. Almost everywhere you go, you see posters, pamphlets and hear commercials on the radio and TV, promoting safe sex.

Despite all of the methods used to persuade people to practice safe sex, it can be said that not many people have ever heard of a Safer Sex Kit.

That is about to change. The newly formed HIV/AIDS Peer Educator group will be distributing Safer Sex Kits after workshops informing people about HIV/AIDS beginning this spring.

Murray Larsen, vice president of student affairs said, "The Safer Sex Kits, distributed to anyone who tends the HIV/AIDS education workshops, contains condoms, literature and professional input used to put together the kits.

The contents of the kits were donated by the County Health Department, Washington State Department of Health, and various companies which choose to send samples.

The Safer Sex Kits are free, but in order for the peer group to continue their distribution, funds need to be generated to help cover costs.

Some of the money will come from the sale of condoms located in the vending machines in the residence halls on campus. The remainder of the funds will come from donations from various health organizations and members of the community.

Contributions for Safer Sex Kits can be sent to: CWU Foundation—HIV/AIDS Education Team, Student Affairs c/o Murray Larsen, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

See CADETS

Scene
From Homophobia/ page 8
road to acceptance is a long, tedi­ous one full of trial and tribulation.

Gaining acceptance in a small town is difficult, but they say, worth it, and still a ways away.

In the mean time, there is sanctuary for people preferring alternative lifestyles, even in Ellensburg. The Gay and Lesbian Association on campus is a club not unlike those for homosexuals, the club members chose to meet in confidence, according to Cathy.

"We're more afraid of what could happen if we chose to meet publicly," she said.

As far as campuses go, Central is fairly close-minded, according to Cathy. Narrow-minded attitudes can make for difficult times for people not choosing to live the way everyone else does.

"It seems like if you don't have a brew in your hand and cowboy boots on your feet, you can't be cool here," John said.

Being out of the closet at Central is taking a big risk, according to Cathy. Narrow-minded attitudes can make for difficult times for people not choosing to live the way everyone else does.

"This is a small town and we wanted a permanent location." Holloway also said they have noticed business has picked up since they moved to the new location. He attributes that to the drive up window which makes the shop one of five in the state.

The gas station was built in 1937 by the Whippel family, and continued to serve as a gas station until 1989. D and M Espresso opened for business in February of last year, according to the owners because "We wanted to be independent and it was a change from our other professions.

"With the trailer, we became the first mobile espresso bar in Eastern Washington," Holloway said.

"This is a landmark spot," Holloway said. "With the trailer, we became the first mobile espresso bar in Eastern Washington," Holloway said.

American Masters

CWU UNIVERSITY THEATRE presents 3 one-act plays

Horton Foote's
BLIND DATE

(Mr. Foote won Academy Awards for To Kill a Mockingbird and Tender Mercies) directed by Mark Hatten

---

Elaine May's
ADAPTATION

(Ms. May co-founded Second City and headlights American comedy in the 60's and 70's) directed by Wessley Van Tassel

---

January 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4
Tower Theatre • 8:00 p.m.

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"...a very funny evening of theatre."
What's Happening

In Music...

"Mere Image"
Buckboard tavern, Wednesday nights.

Sophomore Recital, Julie Piercy, flute Thursday Jan. 23, 8 p.m. Hertz Recital Hall

Senior Recital, Jim Carlson, Composition, Saturday Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Hertz Recital Hall

Faculty Recital Series, Jeffrey Sneude and Margret Gries, 20th Century works for Horn and Organ, Saturday Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Hertz Recital Hall

Faculty Recital Series, Geoffrey Boers, tenor, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 8 p.m. Hertz Recital Hall

In Film...

Korzcaz, (Poland, 1990) with English subtitles. Classic Film Series, McConnell Auditorium, Sunday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m.

Tickets, $2.50.

JU DOU, (China, 1990) with English subtitles. Classic Film Series, McConnell Auditorium, Sunday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m.

Tickets, $2.50.

In Education...

Sexual Diversity Workshops, Monday, Jan. 27, The Invisable Minority: Gay and Lesbian persons on campus, SUB pit noon.

In an effort to support the diverse campus communities. Tower Theatre, 2:30 p.m. Someone you know is Gay, lesbian or bisexual.

Barto Hall lounge, 7 p.m.

Shortchasing Girls, Shortchasing America, A call for educational equity, Jan. 28, 4:30 p.m. Grupe Conference Center

People, not the president will stop recession

So I'm watching a network newscast over the holidays. Big deal right? Well, anyway, one of the segments was a piece on college graduates. I'm enjoying a beer one minute and drowning my sorrows the next. Why? Well, it's because according to their information, this is the worst year to graduate in decades. DECADES! Now normally, I wouldn't be bothered by such information. I mean, we all have to take what we see and hear with a grain of salt, right? However, that, coupled with the fact that they (whoever THEY are) say we're deep in the bowels of a recession, is starting to seriously affect my sanity.

Because of the recession, I may go crazy. When all is said and done, my reasons for insanity will be the great recession of the 90s. Lately though, in an attempt to cure my overpowering feelings of anxiety, I've been trying to figure out exactly why our country has been infested by this economic disease that seems to be spreading. First and foremost, the president is taking undue blame in this situation. What can one person do to spark a sagging economy, even if that person is the president. Blaming Mr. Bush for the slow economy is like blaming Magic Johnson for the increase in AIDS infections. Nonsense.

Second, the media (yours truly inclusive) is guilty of subjective coverage. Let us not forget the science of economics is not an exact one. The experts, as they call themselves, are merely giving the public their best "educated guesses." While any press is good press, as the saying goes, people are scared by what they're hearing in the media. I'm not trying to deny the fact there is a recession. My point is this: People watch, read and listen to the news. They hear about the recession fit for a nightmare. Thus, they end up spending less of their disposable income, in an attempt to "vaccinate themselves" from this horror.

This, in turn drives retail sales down. When sales are down, people lose their jobs. Now less money is being circulated. These are two main ingredients for making a small problem a large one.

You've all heard the old saying "you get out of something what you put in to it." Well, the old adage rings true today, perhaps more than ever. We need to start putting back into this economy. That will create jobs, which in turn, will lift this sagging economy.

One thing Mr. Bush could do is put a stop to the one-way free trade agreement we have with Japan. When he went there recently, I was thrilled. Upon his return, I found myself disgusted.

Absolutely no results! We must be able to sell our goods there as freely as they sell their's here.

People will probably say that their products are superior, which is absurd and not the point. We deserve the same chance to sell there as they have to sell here.

I know these aren't the end all solutions to this huge problem. However, instead of sitting there, moaning about the state of our country, why not sit down and evaluate how and why we got ourselves into this truly pathetic situation. It is only through understanding that we can solve this, or any problem.

Thespians get new leader

Wesley Van Tassel named new drama department chairperson

by Robert Koser

Contribution writer

The drama department at Central was treated to a new mentor when it named Wesley Van Tassel as its new chairperson.

The new head of the drama department has spent over 30 years in the theatre business, half of which he has spent teaching.

Van Tassel attended the University of North Carolina where he studied drama as a minor. He says his first love is teaching.

He feels the best way to teach students is to expose them to professionals in the business. Working with professionals, he feels, makes the students perform to a higher level.

Wesley Van Tassel

"Having a professional actor working with students is like having a professional quarterback on your football team," he said. "The quarterback makes the team better, just like the professional actor makes the students better."

"American Masters," Van Tassel's first production as the department head, is a series of three one-act plays written by famous American playwrights.

Van Tassel directs one of the plays, "Adaptation." The plays will run Jan. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Feb. 1.

Van Tassel compares the three plays to a meal.

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'Backdraft' not just prettyboy wannabes

I have a brother-in-law, or I should say, future brother-in-law, who is a firefighter in Lacey. Of course, when Ron Howard's latest picture, "Backdraft" came out he and my sister got their respective panties in a big old knot to rush out and see it.

I, however, was not in any big hurry. After seeing the adds for "Backdraft," I saw it as little more than a parade of pretty boys playing fireman. I mean, I wish I had a nickel for every time a guy like Pat Swayze or that little Johnny Depp is ripped from the cover of "Teen Beat" and thrown into the role of a big tough cop or G.I. J. or something.

Nine times out of 10 such movies end up as artistic disasters and box office flops that are geared toward audiences of pigtails and teenage brains instead of what one might see in the first 10 rows of a New Kids concert. Anyways, I finally did get around to seeing this movie on tape and to say the least, I was pleasantly surprised.

"Backdraft" has something for everyone. It's got action, offty visual effects, a couple of love stories, a cool murder mystery and a top-notch cast including Kurt Russell, William Baldwin, Robert DeNiro, Scott Glenn, Jennifer Jason Leigh, and Rebecca DeMornay who I will always remember as that fabulous little sex-kitten from "Risky Business.

The film is basically a whodunit about a crew of crooked civil servants being systematically burned to death. The mystery is eventually solved by veteran firefighter turned investigator Donald Rimgale (DeNiro) and rookie Brian McCaffrey (Baldwin).

The stand-out performance, though, has to go to Donald Sutherland as the psychotic arsonist who later turns out to have killed McCaffrey's father.

Sutherland is not the bad guy in this movie, however. He plays Ronald, a character who parallels the Hannibal Lecter character from the "Red Dragon" and "Silence of the Lambs" books in that he is called upon by McCaffrey to help determine the identity of the killer.

You know, a "get inside the killer's mind" sort of thing. But this picture isn't simply about solving a murder. In fact, the process of catching the bad guy isn't really all that complicated and often takes a back seat to the stormy but air-tight relationship between McCaffrey and his older, superfireman brother Steven (Russell).

Young McCaffrey spends much of the movie competing with and trying to measure up to brother Steven. Big brother, in the mean time, continually rides Brian under the guise of protecting him. There's a little more to it than that but you get the idea.

It's nice to see this relationship develop throughout the movie. "Backdraft" is a little longer than usual, about two hours and 15 minutes. But it easily holds our attention with exceptional performances by Russell, Baldwin, DeNiro and, of course, Donald Sutherland.

This is quality entertainment folks, a definite no-misser.

-Rentals courtesy of New World Video

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Only time will tell if the emergency phones will earn their keep. But in the meantime, aren't they pretty to look at?
Central ends losing streak by beating Seals, 102-44

by Ron Munson
Sports editor

Central's men's basketball team ended its three game losing streak by hammering Sheldon Jackson Tuesday night at Nicholson Pavilion, 102-44. Although the 'Cats won, they had to do it without the help of Otto Pijpker, who went down one minute and four seconds into the game. He went down in the same spot where he originally injured his knee earlier in the season. His status was unconfirmed after the game.

The 'Cats used a high-pressure, text-book half court defense to force the Seals into 19 first half turnovers, including 13 steals by the Wildcats. The 'Cats, led by Larry Foster with 10 points and Jason Pepper with eight points, went on a 28-5 scoring spree in the middle of the first half and never looked back. The Wildcats took a 45-24 lead and complete control of the game into the lockerroom with them at half-time. Pepper and Ryan Pepper caught fire in the second half and combined for 36 points, including 16 points from Ryan who ended the game with 18 points. Defensively, the 'Cats forced another 19 turnovers in the second half, which tied a school record for most turnovers in one game (38). The Wildcats also held the Seals to 10 points in the last 15 minutes of the game.

The victory marked the largest margin since Central beat Northwest College by 76 points in 1989. For Sheldon Jackson, the loss marked the largest defeat of their current road trip. The Seals (1-5, 2-15) lost to Seattle University by 21, St. Martin's by 34, Western by 31, and Simon Fraser by 19, before losing to Central by 58.

The Seals leave Ellensburg with a 0-11 record against the 'Cats, including six losses at Nicholson Pavilion.

Top scorers for Central were Jason Pepper and Ryan Pepper, both with 18 points. Shane McCullough added 14 points. Heath Dolven and Foster both ended with 13.

The Wildcats travel to Seattle University on Jan. 25 and will be home again on Jan. 31 to play Simon Fraser.

Ladycats can't keep up with Western Vikings

by Ron Munson
Sports editor

Western's women's basketball upped its win streak over Central to eight games, last Saturday.

Western (11-8, 5-2) thumped the Ladycats (6-9, 3-5) 66-44. The Ladycats, led by Stacey Gordon's 13 points, led for most of the first 20 minutes and were only down by two points at the half.

The Vikings went on a 28-6 scoring spree early in the third quarter to break the Ladycats' spirits.

Center Heidi Robinson led Central with nine rebounds, however, Western outrebounded the Ladycats 47-25. The loss was Central's fifteenth straight on its opponents home floor, dating back to last season. Central's only road win this year in eight tries was on a neutral court over Northwest College.

Central played at P.L.U. on Tuesday, but results from that game were not available at press time.

Central will be back at home versus Lewis and Clark on Saturday, Jan. 25.

Matmen hammer Lower Columbia

by Eric Sawyer
Staff writer

Central's wrestling team traveled south to Lower Columbia College for a dual meet last Thursday, and to the Clackamas open last Friday.

The first stop at Lower Columbia proved an easy 33-9 victory as LC had problems filling a team because of ineligibility. The Cats improved their dual meet record to 7-3 following that lopsided win over the Red Devils.

Mark Bonthuis won a 5-4 match at 190 pounds. The Wildcats had five other matches forfeited because of LC's eligibility problems.

Lee MacDiarmid, Central's top winner with 29 wins, took the weekend off. Jason Stevenson also missed both dates due to illness.

"The team is being hurt a little due to some kind of flu bug going around," said Coach Heikes.

"The guys wrestled really well though, and some of them got some valuable experience and mat time."

Two wrestlers placed at the Clackamas Open. Nick Nastri won four matches to improve his record to 14-7-1. He placed third which was also good enough to qualify him for the NAIA National Tournament March 5-7 in Hays, Kans. He joins four others who have already qualified for the national tournament; Lee MacDiarmid 126, Jason Stevenson-142, Roger Shoup-177, and Bonthuis. 
Despite brother's torture, I'm still a fan

Washington 31
Buffalo 17

"But Ron," you say sarcastically, "that's a pretty small limb you're going out on." I know the Redskins are, at least, a six-point favorite. I also know there hasn't been a Super Bowl upset since Nameth beat the Colts in Super Bowl III. So, why am I jumping on the Redskins bandwagon? Well, I've been there all year. From their 12-0 start to the dismantling of the NFC Central champions, the Detroit Lions.

As a matter of fact I've been a Washington Redskin fan since I was 10 years old. Even after my mother had to tell me that there were two Washingtions and the Redskinds resided in the other one.

The Bills may be the Denver Broncos of the nineties.

By then it was too late. I was hooked on the Redskins. I used to clip articles from the newspaper every Monday morning, win or lose. And back then, it was mostly lose.

I can remember waking up about 7:30 Sunday mornings and turning on the television. I would struggle about 7:30 Sunday mornings through the early Sunday programming just waiting for the pregame show to come on. If, on my luckiest days, the Redskins were playing a good team, CBS would deliver the game to me in its entirety.

There was nothing worse than the Redskins losing except going back to school Monday morning. I lived through the "over the hill gang" and all the losing streaks ever fall. I never lost interest even though the Redskins articles on my wall gave way to those "cool" hydro plane pictures from the summer before. It wasn't until the early eighties when the Redskins started winning, which was about the same time the Rams and the Vikings (my two big brothers’ teams) started losing. If I even thought about enjoying that old out loud, I would have gotten a "brownie" or a "charlie" or something to remind me that my brothers were supreme. So those are the reasons that I'm sticking with the Redskins in the Super Bowl. Those aren't the only reasons.

This is the Redskins fifth Super Bowl and they have an even record (2-2) going into Sunday's game. Those aren't the only reasons.

This year's Super Bowl will be played indoors in Minnesota. This could be the only drawback to the game itself. John Madden and I worked feverishly to have the game rescheduled to a real football stadium, but John couldn't get train reservations to Pasadena. He'll be in the Metrodome where he's used to playing in front of 65,000 fans. So those are the reasons for the Broncos fans."

Ron Munson
Sports editor

AFC Championship game. The Bills could only muster a defensive touchdown to keep the Broncos from their fourth Super Bowl loss.

In Washington, the Redskins could do no wrong in their lopsided victory over the Rams who deserved to be there.

The Bills have an offense that is capable of scoring from almost anywhere on the field. They will be going up against the number two-rated defense in the league in the Redskins.

I had Jim Kelly and James Lofton on my fantasy football team this year. I can say they are explosive at times, however, they must be winning the game to keep playing well. They are not a comeback type of offense.

Washington's defense will pressure the Bills into making mistakes. They have been doing it all year.

When Washington has the ball, you'll be watching the most productive offense in the NFL this year. This year's Super Bowl will be played indoors in Minnesota. This could be the only drawback to the game itself. John Madden and I worked feverishly to have the game rescheduled to a real football stadium, but John couldn't get train reservations to Pasadena. He'll be in the Metrodome where he's used to playing in front of 65,000 fans. So those are the reasons for the Broncos fans.

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Central football players Ken Thompson, Tracy McKenzie and Darrell Roulst have recently been named to the NAIA division II All-American football team. All three were first-team selections and were among a school record 11 players to be named to the All-American squad.

Central has now had 17 first team NAIA All-Americans in its history, but it's the first time three players have made the team in the same year.

The most Central had ever previously been named to the All-American football team was two players in 1984, Spencer Minnix was the only Wildcat named to the second team.

Seven Wildcats were named honorable mention. They were; wide receiver Eric Boles, tight end Dick Gallagher; offensive lineman Eric Lampphere and David Jagal; defensive lineman John Olson; defensive back Brian Mattson; and quarterback Ken Stradley.

All are seniors except for Mattson (jr) and Roulst (so). Only five Columbia Football Association players earned first team honors. Joining the Central trio on the first team were Lewis and Clark running back Dan Ruhl and Linfield linebacker John Yeakey.

Thompson led the Wildcats in rushing with 845 yards and in scoring with 16 touchdowns. McKenzie led Central in tackles with 74, including seven for losses. Roulst was the national kicking scoring leader with 74 points. He made 44 of 47 extra points and 10 of 13 field goal attempts.

Central football has moved to the NAIA All-American level. They have a definite shot at the national championship.

Ron Munson  
Sports editor  

Central begins its 1992 indoor track season this Saturday at Eastern Washington University in Cheney.

The men's team will be lead by All-American Keith Baker who was last year's NAIA national indoor champion in the 55 meter hurdles. Also trying to get Central back to Kansas City in March for the NAIA national championships will be Mario Andaya, Darrin Smith, Gary Anderson, D.J. Livingston, Rick Maib, Brian Meyer, James Mitchell, Jay Spears and Ken Thompson.

Thompson, who is still recovering from a hamstring injury incurred during the football season, finished sixth in the nation in the high jump and received All-American honors last year. The women's team consists of Lori Moon, Heather Wade, Mikki Bergman, Keili Lambert, Kennedy Lewis and Kris Kiolan. Last Saturday, Baker qualified for the NAIA National Indoor Track and Field Meet with wins in the 55 meter dash and the 55 meter hurdles, at the Early Bird Indoor meet in Cheney.

Andaya and Smith finished first and third, respectively, in the men's long jump with distances of 21 feet, seven inches and 18 feet, 10 inches. Central's next meet will also be at Cheney when they compete in the University of Washington Open, on Jan. 25, 26.

Central swimmers say Tacoma or bust Saturday  

US swim invitational called a success

Central's swimming teams travel to Tacoma Saturday for a men's and women's dual meet with Pacific Lutheran University. Both Central teams are 1-2 in duals and will be attempting to even their records at 2-2.

Last weekend, Central's women posted four new NAIA national qualifying marks in a meet at Central's swimming complex.

United States Swimming meet at Central's swimming complex.

The Cat's competed on a time-trial basis in the age-group meet for 16-year-olds and under.

Establishing national qualifying marks were Allison Walsh in the women's 400 meter individual medley and the 600 meter freestyle, Shannon Pinquoch qualified in the 1,500 meter freestyle and Nicole Lindstrom also qualified in the 200 meter breaststroke.

Improving on previous national qualifying marks were Stacey Bell in the 200 meter backstroke, Annette Harris in the 100 meter butterfly and Nikki Wilson in the 200 meter butterfly.

Central's 400 meter medley team of Bell, Lindstrom, Harris and Julie Morris swam a season-best time, which bettered the national standard time by 18 seconds.

Central's men didn't post any new national qualifying marks in the meet, but did have five Central season best swims.

Scott Zabel had the 'Cats' season best swims in the 200 meter individual medley and the 200 meter freestyle.

Bill Morach swam a season-best in the 200 meter fly and the 400 meter individual medley and Scott Kelley topped out in the 200 meter backstroke.

Central's home swim meet was scheduled for Jan. 24 with Whitworth has been cancelled and Central's match scheduled with Whitworth for Feb. 7 will be moved to the Central swimming complex.

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