

11-15-2007

Observer

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**Election results
and effects for
county
residents**

NEWS, page 6



**Marching
band extends
year with
football team**

SCENE, page 9

**Volleyball
spikes at the
end of the
season**

SPORTS, page 12



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November 15, 2007 - volume 81, number 7

Classic Christmas story comes to Central

by Tim Kukes
Asst. Scene editor

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is part history and part fantasy. Written in the Victorian Era, when the dividing line between the rich and poor was quite distinct, its purpose was to remind people of the giving spirit of Christmas. Central Washington University students and staff are planning to bring that spirit to the stage this Friday.

"A Christmas Carol" is the story of one man, Ebenezer Scrooge, and his redemption through the intervention of supernatural and human kindness. Scrooge, a miser and loveless man, is taken on a voyage into his past and future to see the joys that he left behind and the follies that persist in living.

"It is [a story] about a man who is visited by ghosts and all that implies," said director George Bellah, associate professor of theatre arts.

Auditions took place the first day of classes fall quarter with rehearsals beginning the following Monday. Rehearsals are held Monday through Friday and typically last three to four hours. Some of the actors also work in the production shops. It can be a challenge for many students to juggle school, work, shop-time and rehearsals.

Though "Vietnam 101: The War On Campus" ends a week before "A Christmas Carol" opens, the cast and crew were prohibited from participating in both plays, said Justin Carroll, senior theatre arts major and production stage manager for "A Christmas Carol." The only overlap between the two plays occurs in the production shops.

There are also issues specific to "A Christmas Carol." The cast consists of 24 members: 14 students, eight children, one guest artist and one community member. Running time for the play is approximately 90 minutes and there is very little off-stage time. Behind the scenes, there is a stage crew of approximately 25 members.

"It really is a small army of people to put on every production," Bellah said.

Keith Edie, a lecturer in the theatre department and a guest artist courtesy of the Actor's Equity Association, plays Scrooge. Edie said that this is the first time he has ever played a 66-year-old crotchety man. He describes himself as a "counter-Scrooge," considering his own 33 years of age and easy-going nature.

SEE CAROL PAGE 10



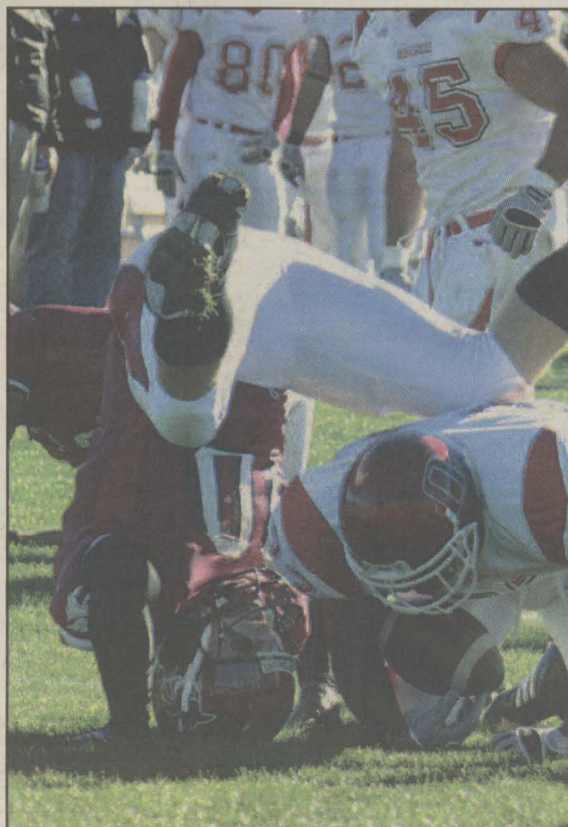
Brianne Jette/Observer

A trio of Wildcats, led by senior defensive back Chris Hemphill (8), attempt to block a Mavericks field goal.



Above:
Junior
quarterback
Mike Reilly
struggles to
get free from
Mavericks
linebacker
Chris Smith.

Right:
Sophomore
linebacker
Buddy Wood
goes head
over heels
while
making a
tackle.



photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Blowout in 'Burg

**Mavericks beat Wildcats for the
NCC championship title**

by Melanie Lockhart
Sports editor

In what was deemed one of the nation's most important NCAA Division II matchups this season, the visiting Mavericks took away the Wildcats' shot at a share of the North Central Conference (NCC) championship title last weekend.

Last Saturday at Tomlinson Stadium, Central Washington University suffered an upsetting 59-21 loss as the University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks snapped the Wildcats' seven-game winning streak in front of 3,872 fans. The loss, however, didn't stop Central from qualifying for the first round in the playoffs.

"We'll definitely learn something from this and gain a little stride going into the playoffs," head coach Beau Baldwin said.

Central completed the regular season with an 8-2 overall record and 6-2 in NCC play, leaving them third in league standings and fourth in the Northwest Region. For the first time since 1954, the Mavericks finished the regular season undefeated (10-0 overall, 8-0 NCC).

The Wildcat defense held strong during the Mavericks' opening possession, forcing a three-and-out and giving Central control of the ball. The Wildcats pressured the Maverick defense to Nebraska-Omaha's 30-yard line, but

were forced to set up a 48-yard field goal on the fourth down. Sophomore wide receiver Johnny Spevak was sacked for a loss of 15 yards by Mavericks senior cornerback Reed Taylor after a botched snap.

"The snap was a little low, but it's something I catch in practice every day," Spevak said. "I should have got it down so Garrett [Rolsma] could kick it."

The Mavericks answered with a 52-yard drive to Central's 3-yard line, but the Wildcat defense protected the end zone, forcing a field goal and giving Nebraska-Omaha a 3-0 lead going into the second period.

A pass by junior quarterback Mike Reilly was intercepted by Taylor during Central's first possession of the second quarter. The Mavericks took control in seven plays, gaining a 10-0 lead after junior running back Brian McNeill scored on a 14-yard run.

"Me and Mike [Reilly] weren't on the same page on that first pick," Spevak said. "We got drives going and stalled out at the end. It's kind of demoralizing."

The Wildcats punted after only 14 yards on their next possession. Two plays and seven game seconds later, Mavericks senior running back Nate Wurth took off on an 81-yard rushing play, scoring a touchdown to bring the score to 17-0.

SEE FOOTBALL PAGE 16

BLOOMSBURG

David Soltz
Central Provost



Central Washington University Provost David Soltz was recently chosen to be Bloomsburg University's new president. The new position begins January 7, 2008. Soltz will be replacing Jessica S. Kozloff, the current university president at Bloomsburg. Central President Jerilyn McIntyre initiated a search for an internal replacement prior to the decision, anticipating that Soltz would get the position.

'Big Brother' could be on the way

Jennifer Weigel
Staff reporter

With the rising trend of violence in schools, campus security has become an issue which is cropping up at universities across the nation.

Students, however, may be surprised to know that when it comes to campus security at Central Washington University, big brother is not watching.

Security cameras are all around us as we conduct our daily lives in the public sphere, but here at Central this is not the case.

Central Washington University has web cameras at various sites around campus, as well as at the Wenas Creek Mammoth Project and the wind turbines between Ellensburg and Vantage, but they have no official security cameras on campus.

In fact the only security cameras that exist on campus are at the new U.S. bank branch in the Student Union and Recreation facility. Those cameras have been paid for and installed by the corporation itself.

According to Bill Yarwood, Director of Facilities Planning, this is something that Central is looking into. A security committee has been put together to look at Central's security situation and to see if security cameras fit into that equation

anywhere. The committee consists of representative from the school including those from Campus police, the IT department and others and operates under the facilities department.

"Right now the committee is looking into hiring an expert to come and help us evaluate where there are security problems and then help us develop a plan to fix them," Yarwood said. "The committee wasn't convened specifically to look at adding cameras, we are looking at them but we are also looking at reader boards in the Student Union and at a PA system."

Security cameras haven't been on campus before for a couple of reasons. According to Yarwood it's partially because a need for them hasn't been identified.

University Police Captain, Kevin Higgins, stated that part of the reason was that the technology changes so fast that they held off on buying them.

If the university were to install security cameras there are two types which could be purchased. The first type would be cameras which just taped what was going on and could be used after a crime had been committed. The second would be cameras which were monitored by personnel.

"The monitored system would be more effective, it would help up to

thwart crimes in progress," Higgins said.

While Higgins thinks cameras in certain areas on campus could be a useful tool he stresses that Central is a safe campus without them,

"Students are fairly safe on campus. We have the blue light phones and the walking companions [Courtesy Assistance Team]. That service is used fairly frequently."

Students seem to agree that Central is a safe campus without cameras. Patricia Doshier, a junior sociology major voiced that opinion,

"I think Central is a safe campus because things are close together, well lit, and they have those blue lights," Patricia Doshier, junior sociology said. "Security cameras probably wouldn't make me feel safer; it would make me feel like big brother was watching."

Yarwood is very interested in the ways which students think security could be improved,

"We want to keep students in the loop, sometimes what we think students want is not what they really want," said Yarwood.

If students are interested in getting involved they can voice their opinion at the weekly meetings of the ASCWU-BOD or get in touch with the facilities department.



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Broadcast TV goes digital by Feb. 2009

by Dan Fisher
Copy editor

Beginning Feb. 17, 2009, analog television broadcasting will have gone the way of the Dodo and a full transition to digital broadcasting will be in effect.

Analog broadcasting has been the technological standard since the birth of television. As computers, cellular phones, and personal music players have advanced through digital programming, television broadcasting standards have lagged behind the trend. This digital television (DTV) transition offers benefits to both producers and consumers.

The easiest way to compare analog to digital broadcasting is to look at the differences between cassette tapes and mp3 audio files. A drawback to analog broadcasting is its inefficient consumption of available airwaves.

The capacity of these airwaves is limited, and by condensing information into digital "bits" to be transmitted electronically, much less space is needed for the same amount of information. By freeing up these airways, they are able to grant more access to public safety organizations, such as police and fire services, and also provide space to facilitate new and growing wireless services.

Current cable and satellite television customers will, in general, remain unaffected by the transition. The people who will need to take some kind of action before this date are the ones receiving broadcast through an antenna.

For these people, there are three options.

The first is to purchase a "digital-to-analog" signal converter box, which will allow consumers to continue using the same television set they currently own.

The cost is expected to be between \$50 and \$70. However, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce has developed a program granting up to two \$40 coupons to each U.S. household to help facilitate the cost.

The other two options for these consumers is to either subscribe to a cable, satellite or telecommunications service or to purchase a new television set with a digital tuner built in. This cost would not be supplemented by the \$40 coupons.

Programming content may also see long-term effects. The relationship between technology and the kinds of shows we are presented with is closer than perceived, and this transition may have unforeseen impacts. High Definition service is an optional upgrade available from many digital carriers, and will become even more available after the digital broadcast transition.

"Technology will drive the content," said Robert Fordan, Central Washington

"As broadcasters, we are 100 percent committed to ensuring that no consumer is left unprepared, by lack of information, for the transition from analog to digital TV."

JONATHAN COLLEGIO
DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION TEAM VICE PRESIDENT

University associate professor of broadcast journalism. "Interpersonal relationships were important on the small screen, but that doesn't really work as well as action and adventure does on today's large-screen TV's."

What requires consideration is the level of interaction, or lack thereof, that today's programming requires of its viewers. In short, Americans have become detached from the messages sent through broadcast media. The High Definition technology available today puts more emphasis on explosions, car chases, and sporting events, while neglecting the more thought provoking, plot-driven programs.

Whether it's for the better or for the worse, television is going digital. The industry is taking the needed steps to inform consumers of this upcoming change, along with what adjustments to their habits will be needed. However, no amount of speculation will predict how consumers will react.

"Over 90 percent of local broadcasters have completed the transition and are already broadcasting in digital, but the public has a longer way to go," said Jonathan Collegio, vice president of the Digital Television Transition Team, National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), at a DTV Transition Coalition press conference in February. "As broadcasters, we are 100 percent committed to ensuring that no consumer is left unprepared, by lack of information, for the transition from analog to digital TV."

For more information, visit either the official Web site of the DTV Transition Coalition at www.dtvtransition.org, the official DTV transition Web site of the Federal Communications Commission.

Washoe remembered Memorial held service for lost friend



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

In a packed tent, violinist and professor Carrie Michael plays the closing hymn, "All Things Bright and Beautiful All Creatures Great and Small." Outside, only backs of heads and a set of warm, inviting eyes just peaking above the crowd can be seen. Monday morning family and friends warmed the cold morning with telling of stories and shared memories about a chimpanzee named Washoe. Those closest to her said she was compassionate, a leader, a mother and a sister. Washoe was thanked for giving the gift of sight, for socializing her.

Student veterans fight for benefits

by Katherine Kersten
Special to the Observer

Sand on one's skin, cries of the innocent and constant fear of the unknown, it's enough to make most veterans pledge that upon leaving a war-torn country, they will pursue a higher education, and put to use hard earned Veteran Affairs (VA) Benefits.

However, as many U.S. troops return home and enroll in school, it's becoming apparent to some that VA Education Benefits are not benefits at all.

When students apply for financial aid, by no accident there is a box asking students to check yes or no as to whether or not they are a veteran. The Federal Government, based off the information provided on the forms, determines a student's eligibility for aid and how much money they will need for the academic school year.

Sean Turpin, a Navy veteran and senior public relations major at Central Washington University, is just one of many veterans faced with the conflict of having his VA Benefits be recognized as a form of financial aid and not benefits earned by serving in a war.

"I was not aware at all that my VA Benefits were being included in my federally-determined need amount," said Turpin. "I feel that by combining my VA Benefits with my financial aid, lowering the amount of money I am otherwise entitled to, is wrong."

Current policy was outlined by Congress in 1958 when financial aid for students was established, and it has traditionally included VA Benefits into a student's determined need amount. Agnes Canedo, director of financial aid at Central noted that this was always the intent. "To limit the amount of aid received by veterans," said Canedo.

With policy incorporating VA Benefits into a student's need, not only can it limit the amount of Federal, State, and

institutional assistance veterans receive, but it can also determine whether a student will be put over their need amount. When a student's need amount is exceeded because their VA Benefits are added to the equation, aid provided in the form of grants, waivers, and scholarships are removed until the student's need amount is returned to its determined figure.

Dottie Louttit, veteran affairs coordinator at Central, is dissatisfied with the current policy and its effect on students.

"It's frustrating for me...I love my veterans, how can they [the government] give and then take away from them?" Louttit said.

As the current policy becomes more publicized, perhaps veterans' requests will be heard and their VA Benefits omitted as a form of aid. Lance Cpl. Adam Vogt, is a Marine Corps veteran and Junior majoring in Education at Central.

"I and others fight for everyone, but nobody seems willing to fight for us," Vogt said.



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Top 10 DVDs in Brooks Library

by Matthew Hartmann
Staff reporter

Brook's library at Central Washington University has a media circulation section that checks out equipment to faculty members. It also has 905 DVD titles that are available for both faculty and students to check out. The following list of the top 10 movies checked out is based on figures since 2002.

1. *The Godfather, Part I*

Directed by Francis Ford Coppola, starring Marlon Brando and Al Pacino. It is the first part of the saga of the Corleone mafia family as one generation eventually takes over from the other.

2. *Fargo*

Directed by Joel Coen, starring Frances MacDormand, William H. Macy and Steve Buscemi. The story of a man that hires two men to kidnap his wife and ransom her for \$1,000,000 leading to what becomes a string of crimes and murders.

3. *Taxi Driver*

Directed by Paul Schrader, starring Robert De Niro and Jodie Foster. The plot follows a cab driver named Travis Bickle (De Niro) and his attempts to save a young woman named Iris (Foster) from the prostitution ring that she was forced into.

4. *Blade Runner*

Directed by Ridley Scott, starring Harrison Ford. Taking place in a dystopian world in the near future, humanity's created artificial humans, known as Replicants that were realized to be a threat to humanity. The Replicants are hunted by a force known as Blade Runners. Deckard (Ford) is a retired Blade Runner that's called back for duty for one last mission.

5. *The Godfather, Part II*

Directed by Francis Ford Coppola, starring Al Pacino. Continuing the saga of the Corleone family, Michael Corleone (Pacino) deals with troubles with other mafia families and attempts to keep his family intact.



6. *Goodfellas*

Directed by Martin Scorsese, starring Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta and Joe Pesci. The story of Henry Hill (Liotta) and his rise and fall within the ranks of organized crime.

7. *Casablanca*

Directed by Hal B. Wallis, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. Taking place in Casablanca, Morocco during World War II. It captures Rick Blaine's (Bogart) struggle in choosing between his passions and the greater good of helping the resistance against the Nazis.

8. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

Directed by Ang Lee, starring Chow Yun-Fat, Michelle Yeoh and Zhang Ziyi. In a mythical China, the story of two warriors unfolds in attempts to protect a magical sword that forces of evil want to take for themselves.

9. *Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*

Directed by Stanley Kubrick, starring Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, S A satire of the Cold War situation between the United States and the Soviet Union that makes fun of the often tense situation of the time.

10. *The Graduate*

Directed by Mike Nichols, starring Dustin Hoffman, Anne Bancroft, and Katharine Ross. The story of Benjamin Braddock (Hoffman) and his encounters with Mrs. Robinson (Bancroft) who seduces him even though being in love with her daughter.

Dining passes inspection

by Jessica May
Staff reporter

It cannot be said that Dining Services at Central Washington University passed recent health inspections with flying colors because what they do right receives no credit.

"While the inspections highlight problem areas, they do not cite areas we do great in," Dan Layman, director of Dining Services, said. "The 'doing great' would be not having any red or blue points [demerit]."

Bars and restaurants receive a visit from a health inspector only once every year. Central, however, is inspected once per quarter because they fall into a different category of food service.

The Department of Health receives approximately 40 to 60 reports of food-borne illness outbreaks per year, involving approximately 400 to 700 ill persons. Some commonly known organisms causing food borne illness outbreaks include Norovirus, Salmonella and E. coli.

"We take our inspection seriously and try to respond to inquiries or problems as soon as they might be noticed or brought to our attention," Layman said.

Central and Kittitas County did not have any record of food borne outbreaks for 2006.

With the recent "super-bug" scare, it is more crucial than ever for food handlers to follow proper procedures to prevent the spread of illness.

Currently, all of Central's dining staff has Washington State Food Handlers Permits and new-hired all student staff must obtain one within 30 days after hire. Many of the staff are SERVSAFE certified, which is a national certification for food service employees.

A review of the most recent health inspection report for Central shows only one violation, which was corrected during the inspection. The violation was concerning the holding temperatures for the deli meats and potato salad.

The coolers containing the meats and salad were changed to decrease the temperature and lids were added to maintain consistent cooler temperatures.

Central was in compliance with all other areas of the regulations set forth by the health department.

Any food borne outbreaks should be immediately reported to the Department of Health to ensure quick action against the spread of illness.

Health inspection reports are available for public review through the Kittitas County Department of Health. (509) 962-7698

COURT RULING

Judge Michael Cooper ruled last Friday on the recall petitions that were initiated by Kittitas County Businessman, Desmond Knudson. The three petitions, calling for the recall of County Commissioners Alan Crankovich, Mark McClain and David Bowen, were dismissed. Crankovich and McClain had seven charges filed against them, with an additional charge leveled against Commissioner Bowen. The seven charges consist of malfeasance of office, malice of office, and violation of oath of office, mostly in regard to the application of ordinance #2207-22, which is the update of Kittitas County Development Code and compliance with the Growth Management Act.

The additional charge against Bowen is malfeasance of office in regard to his filing a lawsuit against the State of Washington, contesting Governor Christine Gregoire's decision on wind farm development. The charges were dismissed for a lack of factual support. The court also determined the charges were legally insufficient, because the acts mentioned were "acts of discretion in the exercise of the authority and duties of the Commissioners," according to the court documents.

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Vehicle gets physical with Central building



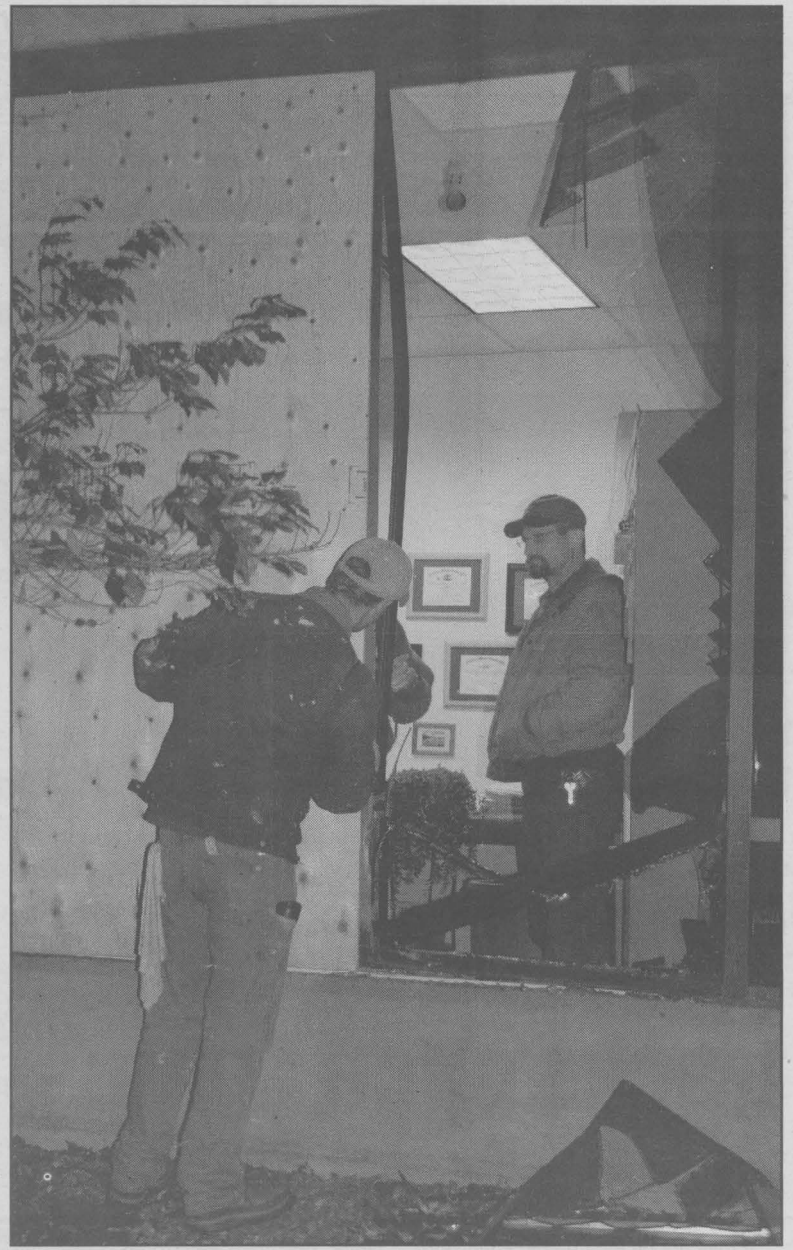
photos courtesy of Jessica Liddle



Above: Tape blocks off the crime scene as police officers investigate the crash site. The car careened into the Physical Education Building around 9:30 p.m. last Thursday night, hitting a tree as it came in. There were no reported injuries with the accident.

Opposite: Workers from facilities clear shards of glass found at the crash site. The glass came from the two windows that were shattered in the collision.

Left: Workers from facilities board up the window's of the Physical Education building office after clearing the broken glass.



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News from around the Ellensburg community



Ken Stanton/Observer

Ellensburg's train depot hasn't heard the sound of a passenger train for the past 26 years. Voters passed a proposition to re-establish the trains.

Trains ride E-burg tracks once again

by Ken Stanton
Staff reporter

It may not be long before Ellensburg hears the sound of a train whistle as passenger service could resume to and from Seattle, Portland and anywhere else home might be.

In the Nov. 6 elections, voters passed the proposition for the re-establishment of a county rail district to bring commuter service back to Ellensburg and Kittitas County after a 26-year absence.

What thundered into Ellensburg with tremendous applause left with on October 24, 1981, as the final Amtrak Empire Builder passed through Ellensburg at 7:55 p.m. with barely a blast from its horn ending 95 years of service.

"We didn't want to see it go," Gene Nicholson, the Ellensburg station operator said in an article that appeared in the Ellensburg Localizer in October of 1981.

Since then, there has been a desire to bring back service and restore the old depot that resides at the end of 3rd Street, a designated historical landmark.

What has started out with good intentions, however, has become more complicated than expected. The city had difficulties obtaining the old building from its current owners, who have let the historic building deteriorate into its current condition.

Local business owner David Bean and his partners tried selling the building to the city of Ellensburg for a total of \$240,000.

The total amounted to double its current value, according to the Eastman Company out of Seattle, a third-party independent appraiser to get a fair appraisal of the depot.

According to the Ellensburg Localizer, the city is where it is today because of John Shoudy, who negotiated a land deal to place depot station at its current location.

The negotiation kept the city from having to be moved to the other side of the Yakima River.

The depot was built in 1910, and was quite lavish for its day with Tiffany

tiling, Terrazzo flooring and toiletries made from Tennessee marble. The ticketing windows were finished in oak, a ladies' private waiting room, a smoking room and a prominent dining room with modern kitchen and electrical lighting.

"Growing up here during the First World War, I can remember dozens of passenger and freight-trains ripping through town everyday," Mose Wippel wrote in an article for the Ellensburg paper.

The arrival of passenger service in Ellensburg could bring a much-needed solution to the commuter options available for those who travel between the west side and Ellensburg. Some students at Central Washington University think that this is a good thing.

"I definitely would [take the train] if it was comparable," said Nicholas Bate, sophomore undeclared. Bate described the process of having to take the bus home to Seattle. "They have [a bus station] way over on the edge of town which sucks, because you have to go way over on the edge of town, before you can even catch the bus and then its 50 bucks. I don't drive, so my cab ride to the bus station is seven bucks, and then its 25 bucks each way, so if it was cheaper, I would definitely, definitely catch it."

Jason Swan, freshman undeclared, lives in the Tacoma area, travels home on breaks and would probably use the train service as well, along with Richard Stephen-Mcrae, freshman undeclared, in Bainbridge who said he would use the train.

"I would, definitely. I think it would be great to have a train system," said Heidi Clum, junior elementary education major from Port Townsend.

Clum has commuted in the past between Central and home saying "It's a beautiful drive, but its really long and it costs a lot in gas, so if there was a cheaper way of getting there, that would be fantastic."

Votes will bring six new police officers to patrol Ellensburg

by Ken Stanton
Staff reporter

The Ellensburg Police Department (EPD) will hire six new officers as voters approved a three percent sales tax increase.

In Tuesday's election, the proposition to increase local sales taxes by three cents for every ten dollars was approved by 64 percent, giving the city of Ellensburg the opportunity to hire much-needed patrolmen, animal control personnel and a full time School Resource Officer (SRO).

"We have needed these officers for years," Captain Ross Green, of the EPD, said. "It's very exciting to be able to have these officers and add to our level of service."

The EPD has been significantly shorthanded for some time now, as two or three independent studies by an outside agency have assessed the departments needs based on formulas used to determine the number of officers for the size of the city or town.

One of the most significant areas this money will benefit the EPD is being able to hire a full-time SRO.

Without one SRO, the department has had to pull officers off of patrols in order to cover both Ellensburg middle schools and Ellensburg High School. Captain Green said it'll be beneficial for everyone having this SRO on duty.

Hiring these new officers will not be an easy task, as police agencies across the state are having problems finding qualified officers to fill much-needed positions.

"We're not going to lower our standards because of this," Green said.

Green said it is more important to have qualified people from the beginning, as no amount of training can make a bad applicant a good officer.

The EPD is using normal internal sources to find applicants, but they are also taking applications from recent college graduates and lateral officers, who may be looking to switch from other agencies, such as a Sheriff's office or the State Patrol.

Captain Green said that the tax increase was a fair way of paying for the new officers, as visitors who are traveling through on their way to go camping at nearby areas and jet skiing at nearby Vantage use up much of the services

that the police have to offer.

By having the sales tax, these people, as they travel through, stop and buy things, helping to pay for the services they use.

But some students here at Central Washington University believe that there are enough police here in Ellensburg, and that more police won't make them feel any safer.

"Ellensburg is a pretty safe place as it is," Adam Alldredge said, junior undeclared. "I don't know the specifics, but it seems [Ellensburg has] a lot; they have the city, county, campus and State Patrol."

Katie Cottage, sophomore theater technology major, and Megan Jones, also a sophomore theater technology major, come from the Seattle area and say that walking through downtown Ellensburg at night is nothing compared to a larger city.

Cottage and Jones said they both feel pretty safe, but are in favor of supporting the EPD and don't mind paying such a small amount for something as important as the police.

Election results bring new city council members and tax increases



Makayla Lee/Observer

A Fred Meyer checker scans a package of sheets. With the new sales tax rising to three cents for every \$10, customer's purchasing their items are now provide funding for the Ellensburg Police Department.

The results are in. Ellensburg's city council received four new members out of the seven positions.

Positions number four went to Bruce Tabb with 63% of the votes.

Position five went to Stan Bassett with 55% of the votes. Position six went to Fennella Miller with 56% of the votes, and position seven went to George Bottcher with 63% of the votes.

Also, the proposition to establish a county rail district passed with 59% (3862) of the votes, and the proposition to use sales for taxes to toward the criminal justice passed with 63% (4281) of

the votes.

Bob Haberman won the director number two position with 59% of the votes while Chuck Wahle won the number four position with 58% of the votes.

Sandy Elliot ran unopposed and won the number five director position.

An increase in sales taxes was approved by voters with 64% approval to raise nearly \$2 million in funds for hiring more city police and other criminal justice personnel for the county.

Election results are not official until November 27.

City Council Members:

Tabb vs. Walker
1194 to 708

Bassette vs. Huckabay
1111 to 916

Miller vs. Barry
1129 to 873

Bottcher vs. Perrie
1264 to 756

Ellensburg School District:

Haberman vs. Campbell
1956 to 1342

Wahle vs. Schmidt
1778 to 1271

Elliot
2674

Proposition Votes:

Proposition 1
County Rail District
Yes 5621
No 4083

Proposition 2
Sales Tax Increase
Yes 6384
No 3650

Opinion

Observance

Celebrity racism in the nation today

I have begun to wonder if saying racist remarks is the new "going out on the town pantyless." In the past year there have been at least three celebrities who have gone off on racist tirades and, in turn, received a large amount of press in return.



Kathryn Lake
Editor-in-Chief

The latest example in this string of celebrities' questionable use of the "n-word" has been Duane ("Dog the Bounty Hunter") Chapman. Earlier this month a tape was released where Chapman criticizes his son about having a black girlfriend. He says his problem is not that she is black, but rather his team often refers to black people as the "n-word" and he wants to avoid the bad press Michael Richards and Don Imus received for similar expressions.

Approximately a year ago, Richards, known for his role as Kramer in the sitcom "Seinfeld," called two black audience members the "n-word" during a show.

Earlier this year, Imus was fired by CBS from his radio show after calling the Rutgers women's basketball players "nappy-headed hos." Eight months after that, Imus will be back on the airwaves Dec. 3 on WABC-AM. Well, that blew over rather quickly.

We have heard rappers say they are using the "n-word" to take the power away from the word. Well they have been saying that for two decades; has anything really changed because they use it 10 times in a song?

Our language is always evolving; much of that evolution is in the way of slang. I am curious if the difference between "gga" and "gger" really has a different effect?

Richards, Chapman and Mel Gibson quickly stated they are not racist. But you know, you'll never hear someone say, "Yes, I am a racist." It is easy to say "I was just kidding," or "It is just a word."

I am all for free speech—I preach that almost weekly on my opinion pages. But when it comes to bigoted speech, I have a hard time being completely OK with that sort of free expression. I think that that right, there comes responsibility.

I believe as a society we should try

to be more mindful of the language we use and the affects words may have on others.

I know racism has been around for ages and unfortunately will continue. My point here is I'm frustrated that celebrities get so much press from using racial slurs and being bigoted. It just doesn't seem right.



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Observer Opinion Forum

Designed to generate discussion and encourage reader interaction with The Observer.

Question:
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to de-stress
before or during
finals week?

Please e-mail your answers along
with your year and major to The
Observer's *NEW* e-mail at
cwuobserver@gmail.com

Learn to drive and be respectful

For many of us, we take the long trek over the passes to get home on weekends. For others, they have to drive numerous hours to get home. Yet being stuck in a car for a long period is even worse when you have to deal with crazy drivers.



Courtney Naccarato
Online editor

Somewhat every time I go home, I have to deal with a driver that cannot seem to get there quick enough and I'm left wondering where these people learned to drive.

I'm sure many people feel I have no room to talk since I've been driving seven years which, compared to some people, is nothing. Yet in that time I have witnessed many crazy drivers.

For example, I'll be driving in the fast lane going slightly over the speed limit and I'll come up behind someone who is clearly going under. I'll be patient and wait for the person to move over, but they never do. There will be 10 cars behind me and the person still doesn't move. After five people have passed on the right-hand side they finally get the clue. Unfortunately, sometimes they don't.

Then there are the times that you'll be going over the speed limit. Someone will come up behind you going at least 90 and they decide to go around you and cut you off. I've never understood this. I could be going well over and somehow this happens every time.

If people just learned to move over

and let the faster cars pass, there might not be so many accidents. For one thing, it is illegal to pass on the right. I don't understand how people don't remember this from their driving tests. Plus there are signs that say keep to the right except to pass.

When my parents were in Germany, driving on the Autobahn, they witnessed someone trying to pass on the right side. Let's say that person was never able to do that again because both the car and person were totaled.

I hate to say it but no one would survive in Europe if they drove this way. Europeans seem to know how to drive and they are polite drivers. Even as a multitask driver, they would never imagine trying to pass on the right or driving erratically, which I witnessed when I was in France.

The sad thing is crazy drivers seem to be everywhere. I was in Florida with my fiancé. We were driving down a road which everyone seemed to speed on. We were going 20 over the limit and people still passed us.

I hate seeing people drive this way. There is no excuse for it.

In 2003, there were 42,884 deaths in the United States compared to 48,706 in all of Europe that same year, according to driveandstayalive.com.

Even with this information, people still seem to think that they are in control of the situation and that it won't happen to them. Yet people choose to break the law and people often suffer from the consequences.

People need to start being respectful because they are not the only ones on the road.

Paying attention to details, impact

Last Sunday, 10 tankers either sunk or ran aground during a storm near the Black Sea, killing three sailors. Five sailors remain missing.



Chelsea Krotzer
News editor

One of the tankers was carrying 1.3 million gallons of fuel oil alone. According to the Seattle Post Intelligencer, nearly half of the oil has already leaked out of the tank.

More than 30,000 birds and countless numbers of fish were killed as a result to the spill.

People cannot control nature, but the tanker that carried the 1.3 million gallons of oil happened to be meant for river use. Therefore it could not "endure the severe weather at sea," according to the Seattle P.I.

It was one ship that could have been saved, as well as who knows how many people and wildlife.

Unfortunately, this was not the

only recent oil spill caused by negligence.

Last Wednesday, a second spill occurred on the other side of the globe in San Francisco Bay. According to the Seattle P.I., the ship "just touched," the Bay Bridge resulting in a spill of 58,000 gallons of fuel oil into the bay.

The spill resulted in the closure of two-dozen beaches and piers, as well as the death of dozens of seabirds in the San Francisco area.

According to the Seattle P.I., the captain of the ship, John Cota, "could hardly feel anything on the ship" and assumed there wasn't much damage after hitting the bridge.

The week before there had been complaints in regard to communication on the ship's bridge. Had the communication been better, the entire ordeal could have been avoided.

People in general just do not seem to realize the impact they have on the world in general. One careless act can have dire consequences on the world around us. We need to simply be more aware of our impact on not only each other, but our world around us.

Letters to the editor

Dear Observer Staff,

I would like to congratulate The Observer for an excellent edition (vol. 81, no. 5)! It was well written and researched — very high quality I would say for a student newspaper. If only papers such as the Daily Record with professional staff produced such interesting stories.

I do hope that there will be other examples of investigative reporting. Using the public record and commenting on it is good reporting. You will be criticized by some, but good journalism is not for the faint-hearted.

Keep up the good work.

Best wishes,
Stephen Glasby
MATH PROFESSOR

Letters policy

The Observer welcomes brief letters (300 words or fewer) from readers of The Observer on current issues. Letters must include the author's full name and Central Washington University affiliation: year and major for students, department for faculty and staff or degree and year graduated for alumni. The Observer will not publish letters that respond to previous letters, unless they offer meaningful additions to the topic. All letters become property of The Observer and may be edited for length, style, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially libelous elements. Letters may be e-mailed to the cwuobserver@gmail.com



Listen to Editor-in-Chief,
Kathryn Lake, and News editor,
Chelsea Krotzer every
Thursday at noon.

SCENE

WINTERFEST

WONDERLAND

Time to chill as Winterfest descends on Central for three days of outdoor recreation

by Amy Sitzler
Staff reporter

Everyone who has endured an Ellensburg winter knows that the town can reach lows well into the teens in the night and not rise much higher during the day.

While it is cold and windy, Ellensburg offers numerous opportunities for students to participate in outdoor winter activities.

Central Washington University and Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals (OPR) is sponsoring Winterfest 2008, a series of films, presentations and events that focus on the outdoors and winter recreation. The Winterfest, also known as the Winter Adventure Series, will be held on Nov. 14, 15 and 19.

"We hope students will gain excitement and energy for winter activities from coming to these events," Ryan Hopkins, coordinator of OPR, said. "Students can also meet possible employers and see the most recent, updated gear."

One of the highlights is the Outdoor Gear Swap, held in the Student Union Ballroom on Nov. 14 - 17. Students can sell and purchase new and used equipment, from backpacks and sleeping bags to skis and snowboards.

Winterfest provides students with the opportunity to attend numerous events that describe how to participate in outdoor sports and how to make the most of the winter season.

There will also be films, such as a selection from the Banff Film Festival. The festival is sponsored by National Geographic and features people around the world performing dangerous and exciting activities such as scaling icebergs and skiing off cliff faces.

"[The Banff Film Festival is] beneficial and informative on outdoor activities, not only in Washington, but around the world," said Darrell Kangiser, junior nutrition major and student employee at OPR. "Banff is amazing because it features people doing stunts and it shows the commitment people have to do outdoor activities."

There will also be two other films: Warren Miller's ski film, "Playground," and Match Stick's "Seven Sunny Days." Door prizes will be provided at each film by Mountain High Sports.

"There is great diversity found between the three [films] which will be played in the next six days, with Banff being one of the more diverse outdoor film presentations throughout the world," Hopkins said.

OPR hopes to get the word out about Winterfest more this year. In addition to OPR's flyers, press releases, podcasts and Web page announcements, they have made every effort to get the information directly to students.

"This face-to-face marketing has included providing classroom presentations and working with professors on campus," Hopkins said. "Other forms of marketing that we are always improving upon are making radio announcements and working with the residence halls to ensure that on-campus students are receiving updated information."

On Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., students can also talk with representatives from Mission Ridge, the Summit at Snoqualmie, Mountain High Sports, Stevens Pass, Outdoors for All, Blurr Clothing and many other outdoor organizations for possible job opportunities. These companies will be on-hand with displays and information on their programs. They will be located in the Student Union and Recreation Center vendor booths and will have giveaways, mini clinics, music and more. The companies will also be selling equipment at the Gear Swap.

"Outdoor companies will have the task to show what they have to offer and to get students more familiar with outdoor recreation," Kangiser said. "Students can also have the chance to get a job because they will have the opportunity to talk with employees."

Jobs offered at the event will all relate to outdoor activities or companies that specialize in recreation. Companies will include ski resorts, instructional organizations and clothing companies. There will also be a program promoting activities for people with disabilities.

"There are more activities for people to enjoy than many people realize," Kangiser said. "There's more than just skiing and snowboarding; there's also snowshoeing, ice climbing, and cross-country skiing."

While the Cascade Mountains received some snow over the weekend, the overall lack of snow so far has posed problems for people working at Snoqualmie Pass.

"I don't really know what the weather is going to do, but I'm ready for the snow to hit," Caitlin Caffall, senior elementary education major, said. "Some people say we are in for a cold, dry winter, while others say we are in for some great snow conditions. All I know is it better snow soon, and a lot."

Central also offers winter classes, such as skiing, cross country skiing and snowshoeing. If students can't schedule in these classes, there are one-day discount lift tickets available at the OPR office. These Thursday passes provide transportation and are offered through the end of winter quarter. Passes include Mission Ridge, Stevens Pass and the Summit at Snoqualmie, saving students from \$8 to \$13.

Courtesy of Warren Miller and skinet.com

A skier plows down a steep face in Warren Miller's film "Playground."

Transgender Day remembers the victims

by Brooke Mortensen
Staff reporter

Maxwell Confait was burned to death by three teenagers, Debra Forte died after suffering multiple stab wounds and 9-year-old Steven Wilson was brutally raped and murdered by a 15-year-old boy in his neighborhood.

These are only a few out of hundreds of hate-crimes that are brought to the nation's attention on National Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20.

"Most of the murders happen because of fear and hatred," said Natalie Washington, senior sociology major and program coordinator for the Diversity Education Center at Central Washington University.

This day of remembrance began after the murder of Rita Hester in her apartment in Brighton, Mass., in 1998. Rita identified herself as transgender. Transgender is a term given to those whose gender identities do not match their gender from birth, such as transsexuals or cross-dressers.

Throughout the nation, people march in honor and respect for those like Confait, Forte, Wilson and Hester. On this day, speakers talk about the lives that were taken because of hate for those identifying as transgendered.

Candlelight vigils are also held for the victims, as individuals come together to remember them in cities like San Francisco, where the first vigil



Courtesy of imdb.com

A scene from the film "Boys Don't Cry," which deals with transgender issues and society's intolerance.

was held for National Transgender Day of Remembrance in 1999.

This event is also honored for two days on Central's campus, and has become an annual event.

At 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 19, a candlelight vigil will be held outside of the Mary Grupe Center, where everyone is welcome to light a candle for transgender victims of hate crimes.

Following the vigil, the movie "Boys Don't Cry" will be shown in Black Hall 151 at 7 p.m.

This movie is based on a true story about Brandon Teena, played by

actress Hillary Swank, who was murdered because he identified himself as transgendered.

"This was an actual man who faced this type of violence simply for being himself," Washington said.

At noon on Tuesday, Nov. 20, a memorial service will be held in the Student Union Pit, where stories of those whose lives were taken will be read by various Central students. Washington will also speak about the history of violence against transgender people and stress the importance of standing up against it.

"This event helps give a voice to those who can no longer speak," Washington said.

Aside from the Diversity Center informing others on the actual Day of Remembrance, Central's Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) coordinates campus events year-round dealing with this issue.

"We have Pride Week, where we hold learning sessions, history on the topic, Ally Day and last year, we had a drag fashion show," said Gabe Ingalls, Ellensburg High School senior and an assistant for GALA.

Both Ally Day and the Annual Drag Show are traditions that will be seen in future Pride Weeks held in May.

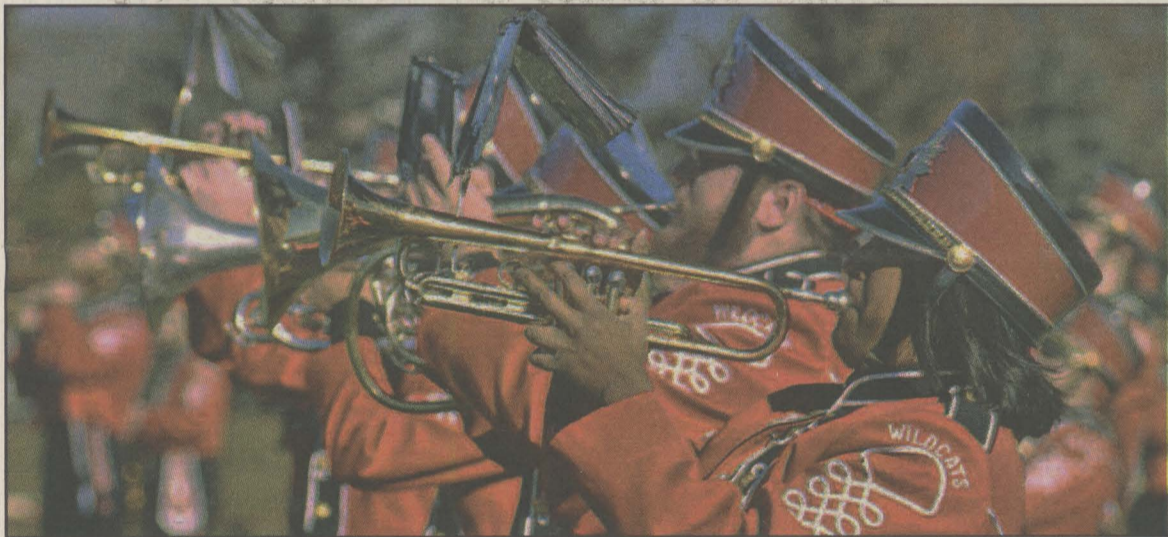
Ally Day serves as a time for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) community to thank their allies by awarding them for their consistent support. The Annual Drag Show had a professional drag group from Seattle perform dancing and singing. They also held a relay race for the people in the audience to take part in.

Central has also set up a Bias Incidents Response Plan, which allows students targeted for discrimination based on race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity, sex, gender or gender identity to report the incident and receive help.

"A student can report any hate or bias incident and then someone will work with you," said Derrick Peacock, ASCWU/BOD Vice President for Equity and Community Service.

Hate crimes against transgender individuals continue to happen today, but because transgender, along with women and the disabled, are not taken as seriously as others, the crimes seldom get reported.

"My hope is that students will realize that difference does not equal dangerous and once we begin to understand that people are being murdered in cold blood simply because of who they are, the question of 'What can I do?' will arise," Washington said.



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Members of the Central Washington University marching band perform at last Saturday's football game.

Central's marching band keeps school spirit wild

by Kayla Schroeder
Staff reporter

Keeping the fans entertained, pumping up the Wildcat football team and representing a hard-working music department describe only a few of the responsibilities of Central Washington University's Marching Band.

"Our games would not be the same without the band supporting us on Saturdays," said Ian Thorsett, senior art major and member of the Central football team. "They bring an amazing amount of energy and enthusiasm to our games."

According to Larry Gookin, Central director of bands, Central's marching band has existed for as long as the football team has.

Music majors make up 95 percent of the 150-member band. Students gather before the start of each school year to prepare music and drills for the upcoming football season. The marching band commits more than five hours a week to practices, often balancing a full load of classes, symphonic band and part-time

jobs for what is described as a "hybrid rehearsal schedule."

Dedication, self-discipline, musicianship and a strong work ethic are the words used by Gookin when describing his students. He and Mark Lane, assistant director of bands, guide the students during practices and performances, but emphasize student leadership.

This teaching style presents band members pursuing music education degrees with hands-on experience for learning how to run a marching band.

Mark Claassen, senior performance and education major, performed at his last game on Saturday during which he acted as drum major and conducted most of the marching band performances. The game marked the end of a six-year stint with the band.

According to Claassen, it may not always be ideal to spend each weekend preparing for events, but the students' positive attitudes and enthusiasm is what gives the performances strength.

"These guys are awesome," Claassen said. "I just tell them to start and stop, they provide the energy. It

says a lot for the program and atmosphere of the music department."

Despite recent rumors regarding tightening funds and budget cuts for the music department, the marching band is standing strong.

While uniforms have not been replaced in 20 years and the sousaphones are nearly 30 years old, the university has placed the band in the base budget for a portion of expenses, giving some security.

"Funding is always a real dilemma," Gookin said. "Every year we ask for enough funds to keep us going. It is a collaboration across the whole campus."

The budget has also allowed for the development of the new field in front of the music building, a lot now used by Gookin and his students for marching band rehearsals.

"There is a public relations aspect to the marching band," Gookin said. "[My] students realize this is a part of the program. We perform for [as many as] 20,000 people [and illustrate] how strong our music program is."

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CAROL : Theatre department ushers in the holiday spirit

continued from cover

In his role, and "A Christmas Carol" in general, he says dealing with the imaginary is a challenge. Not only is Scrooge dealing with ghosts, but also elements of time travel.

"You have to make sure your imagination is completely engaged to what is going on," Edie said.

The children, whose ages range from 7 to 14, are their own unique challenge to the production; having fewer hours for rehearsals, little or no training and less focus than older, more seasoned actors. To help deal with these issues, the production has a "Child Wrangler." Kathryn Stahl, junior theatre education major, works with the kids getting them into costume, working on lines and stage movement.

"It's kind of like I am eight actors in one," Stahl said.

Technical elements also play a strong role in "A Christmas Carol." Timing is crucial to the use of props and special effects. An example is the scene where Marley's ghost, Scrooge's partner, visits Scrooge. The scene involves the use of chains.

"[It] only happens once in the show, but we have to make sure we drop the chains at the same time and then keep the chains quiet when we are done," said Crystal Love, senior theatre performance major, who plays Mrs. Cratchit.

Leslee Caul, director of marketing and development, said they plan on making the play bi-annual.

"We would like to establish a holiday tradition for the community," Caul said.

Shows run Nov. 16, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 7 p.m., and Nov. 17-18 and Dec. 1-2 at 2 p.m.



Top: The Christmas toast at the Cratchit family dinner table.
Below: Scrooge is shown the love between Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim.

"Saw" doesn't hack it anymore

While talking with my younger brother regarding which movie to see after our traditional Thanksgiving feast, he suggested we go to see "Saw IV."

I then dropped a few f-bombs about how ridiculous it would be to even suggest that to our family, because nothing says Thanksgiving cheer like a brutal rape scene.

With an opening weekend of \$31 million, it's apparent that filmmakers have found a way to milk a certain market for their less-than-artful cinematic adventures. Instead of well-written, tension-filled atmospheric nightmares, we're given films built solely around the creative annihilation of people.

I've seen the first three films and I didn't find any of them scary. The first film had its moments of tension and mystery; I wasn't sure how the movie was going to end. After the first film, it was easy to see the formula being used for the endless sequels. With "Saw V" in production, I highly doubt filmmakers would change things up.

In the "Saw" films, audiences are presented images of extreme graphic violence and that's about all they're given. There's no noteworthy story, no interesting characters and no reason to care about what might happen. What's really the point of these films?

It would have to be the adrenaline rush of not wanting to see someone get ripped apart like a bag of potato chips. On the other hand, there are those who actually get the rush from seeing the people get torn to bits. I guess these movies are a way for people to secretly dabble in their sick and twisted side.

Horror films of the past, such as "Halloween" and "The Birds," used tension as the driving force and gore as the exclamation point. The new direction of horror is just to use gore as the selling point.

Proof of this was the tag line for the second Saw film: "Oh yes, there will be blood." If I wanted to see violence that really horrified me, I would turn on the news and see what's happening in Iraq.

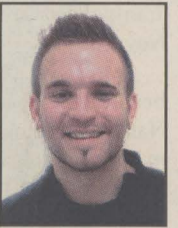
The trend in these types of horror films, where gore greatly outweighs substance, makes me wonder if we are on our way to desensitizing ourselves to the world around us.

After all of my years of watching extremely violent movies I do feel a bit desensitized. I shouldn't be able to hit a puppy with a hammer and feel ok about it. Not that I have or anything, it's just an example.

The best kinds of horror films are the ones that have a message or some type of social commentary. There is no real message to be expressed in the "Saw" films; they exist to showcase murder and mayhem.

Some people might think I'm a wimp who can't handle gore. I enjoy the hell out of a bottle of Jack Daniels, so "wimpy" is not a word that comes to mind when I think of myself. I just don't believe anything good can come from watching two hours of people being brutally murdered.

Try and argue against that.



Joshua Rumley
Staff reporter

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WINTERFEST: Gear swap and films highlight outdoor recreation

continued from page 8

It can also be challenging for students to balance classes and a job at Snoqualmie Pass.

"They [Snoqualmie] do a great job of working with you on your schedule," Cafall said. "The benefits of working at the mountain far outweigh the fact that you may have to work a little bit harder to get everything done."

With the different events that Winterfest is putting on and such a

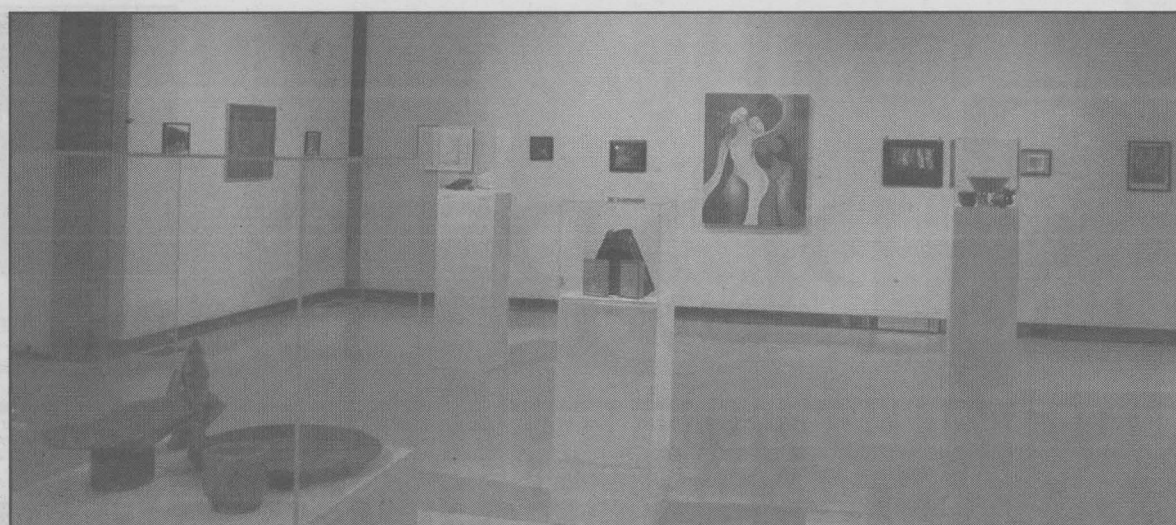
variety of winter recreational activities, students can study hard and play hard at the same time by making the most of what is typically a cold and dark winter in Ellensburg.

"I think it's great that we live in a place and go to a school that is so encouraging when it comes to outdoor activities," Cafall said. "I love that we show the Warren Miller film and have the gear swap in the SURC. OPR does a great job of getting the student population stoked for the season."



Courtesy of the Banff Centre

A skier takes flight in a scene featured in the Banff Film Festival.



Steve Franich/Observer

A collection of student, faculty and community member art to be auctioned off in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery.

Art going once, going twice, sold at auction

by Bryant Phillips
Scene editor

Ellensburg residents will get an annual treat this Friday when they dress up in their finest attire, socialize amidst the sounds of jazz and compete with one another for some of Ellensburg's finest artwork. The Sarah Spurgeon Gallery will host the eighth Art Auction, with work contributed by Central Washington University students, alumni, faculty members and Ellensburg residents.

The auction is sponsored by the Student Art Council (SAC) of Central, and many of the club members are contributing their own work. There will be two auctions held, with a silent auction from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and a live auction beginning at 7 p.m.

"It's a great opportunity to support the [art] students at Central," said Donna Stack, associate professor of sculpture and faculty advisor to SAC. "One of the benefits is it not only showcases student work, but also community and alumni, and gives community members a chance to see what our grads have been up to."

Joe Churchman, senior studio art major and president of SAC, will contribute some of his work and said that the auction is an excellent résumé builder for art students who need real-world exposure.

"It's a chance for everyone who attends to see what's going on in the minds of those who donate, and to see the work that's produced," Churchman said. "It's also an opportunity for community members, if they like what they see, to get in contact with artists and pursue more of their work."

Churchman said that students who contribute their work are asked to donate at least 50 percent of the proceeds received from the auction to SAC.

Funding for SAC goes toward an annual juried art exhibition held in the spring, where a juror is chosen by art students to critique their work.

Additional funding also goes toward paying for workshops and field trips for club members.

"[SAC] helps educate undergrads on what it means to be a living, breathing artist," Genne Laasko, grad student jewelry and metalsmithing, said. "Stu-

dents learn how to set up art shows and what's involved in the process."

Community artists and local favorites Richard "Dick" Elliott and Jane Orleman, of "Dick and Jane's Spot" along Main Street, are annual supporters of the art auction and will be contributing some of their work.

Orleman showcased her work earlier this year in the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery as part of an exhibition titled "Beneath the Canopy of Heaven."

The variety of artists contributing to the auction will be matched by the variety of artwork styles, which include anything from pottery to jewelry.

Another of the key factors in the auction is the auctioneer, Mark Burvee, who has auctioned at Central in years past and is known for his ability to attract buyers.

While participants in the auction can look forward to some of the finest artwork from Central students, ultimately this is an opportunity to help support student artists and SAC.

Churchman has just one piece of advice for those who attend: "Have fun and give generously."

November

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|--|--|
| <p>15 • Winter Adventure Series: "Seven Sunny Days" film showing, 7 p.m. in SURC Theatre, \$8 general, \$4 students.</p> | <p>22 • Harvest Fest Lunch, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in Early Childhood Learning Center, free.</p> |
| <p>16 • Natural Science Seminar: Beth Pratt-Situala's "The Himalayas: Impact of Climate on Mountains from Human to Geologic Timescales," 4 p.m. in Science 147.</p> | <p>23 • Festival of Trees: Grand Unveiling of the Trees, 6 to 8 p.m. in the historic district of downtown Ellensburg, free.</p> |
| <p>17 • Nature of Night educational event featuring "Bubble Planetarium," 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Black Hall lobby, free.</p> | <p>24 • Moments to Remember: historic downtown Ellensburg lighting ceremony, photos with Santa and parades, free.</p> |
| <p>18 • Sunday Cinema Series: "The Grapes of Wrath," 7 p.m. in SURC Theatre, \$3.</p> | <p>25 • Leavenworth's "ChristKindlMarkt", all day in downtown Leavenworth, free.</p> |
| <p>19 • Winter Adventure Series: The Banff Film Festival, 7 p.m. in SURC Theatre, \$12 general, \$8 students.</p> | <p>26 • Composer's Concert musical performance, 7 p.m. in recital hall, free.</p> |
| <p>20 • National Transgender Day of Remembrance speaker presentation, noon in SURC Pit, free.</p> | <p>27 • String Studio Recital, 7 p.m. in recital hall, free.</p> |
| <p>21 • Thanksgiving break begins, no classes! Enjoy your five day break!</p> | <p>28 • Festival of Trees: Wine and Cocoa Stroll, 6 to 8 p.m. in downtown Ellensburg, free.</p> |

Pale Pacific returns to Central

by Frank Stanley
Copy Desk chief

To most people across the world, there are only two true guarantees in life: death and taxes.

For Central Washington University students, however, a performance from local rock group The Pale Pacific can also be included.

At 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, in the Student Union Ballroom, the Bellingham quartet brings their indie-rock grooves and power-pop sound to Ellensburg for the third time in the past four years.

Friday's show would be the first time in nearly four months that the band has performed, as the band has been spending more time in the studio with various other projects, including a live recording, side project bands and marriages.

These past couple of weeks have been the first in a while that they've practiced for a show.

"This past year, we've spent so much time together as a band and haven't really spent time just hanging out as friends," drummer Greg Swinehart said. "We did that over the summer, and it felt great."

Swinehart, along with lead singer and frontman Gabe Archer, each tied the knot with their significant others during their hiatus. Guitarist Cameron Nicklaus continued his previous work as a recording engineer and bassist, Justin Harcus continued to perform in other bands. Archer also continues work at downtown Seattle's concert venue The Showbox.

"It's cool how all of our previous jobs really helped out the band," Swinehart said. "Cam took care of the record-

ing, I had the marketing and promotion and Gabe did the songwriting."

The band is currently working on their recent live album, recorded in August, their last performance. Also, the Pale Pacific is collaborating with both local and national talent in compiling a tribute album to 1980s group Huey Lewis and the News.

This year's opening act will be The Lonely Forest, an alternative rock trio based out of Anacortes, Wash.

Despite the Pale Pacific's touring of small-town venues, their biggest following comes from their shows on colleges along the West Coast.

"I've seen them here, at Western [Washington University] and at Eastern [Washington University]," Matt Kaplan, junior information technology major, said. "All of their lyrics are simple enough that anyone can relate to."

510 Entry Fee

Oak Rail

Guitar Hero Contest

Sunday Nov. 18 @ 7PM

must be 21 or older

Grand Prize:
XBOX 360
&
Guitar Hero 3

Win a shirt...

Sign up Now!

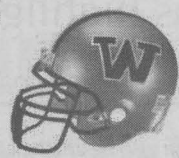
11 beers \$35

RUN THE TAPS

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Wheel Night!

SPORTS



Senior Hemphill transfers to Central from UW (Page 13)

2007 marks 100th year of the Apple Cup (Page 15)

Volleyball concludes with weekend sweep

by Joseph Siemandel
Staff reporter

Last weekend, the Central Washington University women's volleyball team finished up the season the right way: by sweeping the last homestand of the season.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, the Wildcats defeated the Saint Martin's University Saints 30-27, 32-30, 30-28. Then on Saturday, Nov. 10, Central upset the regionally-ranked Western Oregon University Wolves in five matches, 30-22, 30-22, 27-30, 20-30, and 15-9.

Against the Saints, freshman outside hitter Kady Try had a match-high 19 kills to help lead the Wildcats to a victory over the upset-minded Saints, who have only four wins on the season.

Junior middle blocker Rachael Schurman pitched in with 12 kills and junior setter Maggie Olson had another great game with 51 assists.

"We just keep growing as a team," Olson said. "We are all just best friends and it helps our team chemistry."

Saturday, the Wildcats had to work for every point against the Western Oregon Wolves. All five matches went back and forth as the Wildcats pulled out the win in the final game.

Schurman lead the Wildcats with 15 kills and six blocks, while Try added 10 kills of her own along with 12 digs. Sophomore liber Deidre Scheidt had 18 digs.

Senior liber Erika Stevens, playing in her last collegiate game, had 21 digs.

She finishes her collegiate career with 1,070 total, putting her fourth on Central's all-time list for digs.

Central, who loses two seniors, Stevens and middle blocker Bree Brandt, finish the season 13-14 after starting 1-8. Even with losing two key contributors, the Wildcats seem to be optimistic about the future of the team.

"We just have to continue to get better as a team and continue with the momentum we gained at the end of this year," Try said.

Brandt and Stevens were also named to the Academic All-Conference volleyball team for the third consecutive season. Four others were named to the team for the first time.

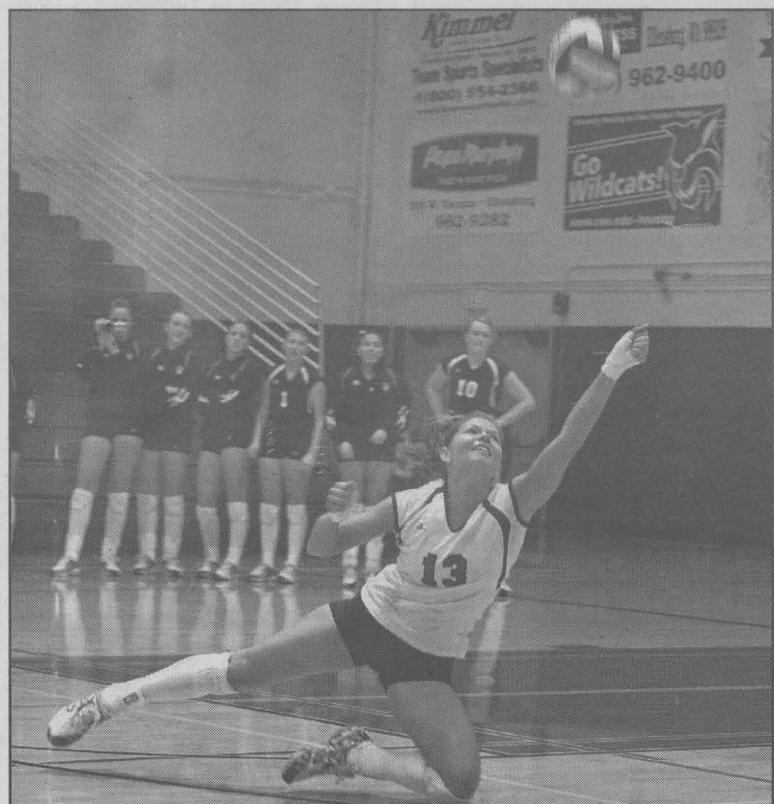
The Academic All-Conference team is for players who earn a minimum 3.20 grade point average, along with being a letter winner for the current year and in at least their second season of competition at their current university.

On Monday, Schurman was named to the All-Great Northwest Athletic Conference first team. She ranked among the top five in four statistical categories. Stevens and sophomore middle blocker Erin Norris were named to the Conference Honorable Mention team. Norris lead the Conference in aces and broke the Central record earlier this season.

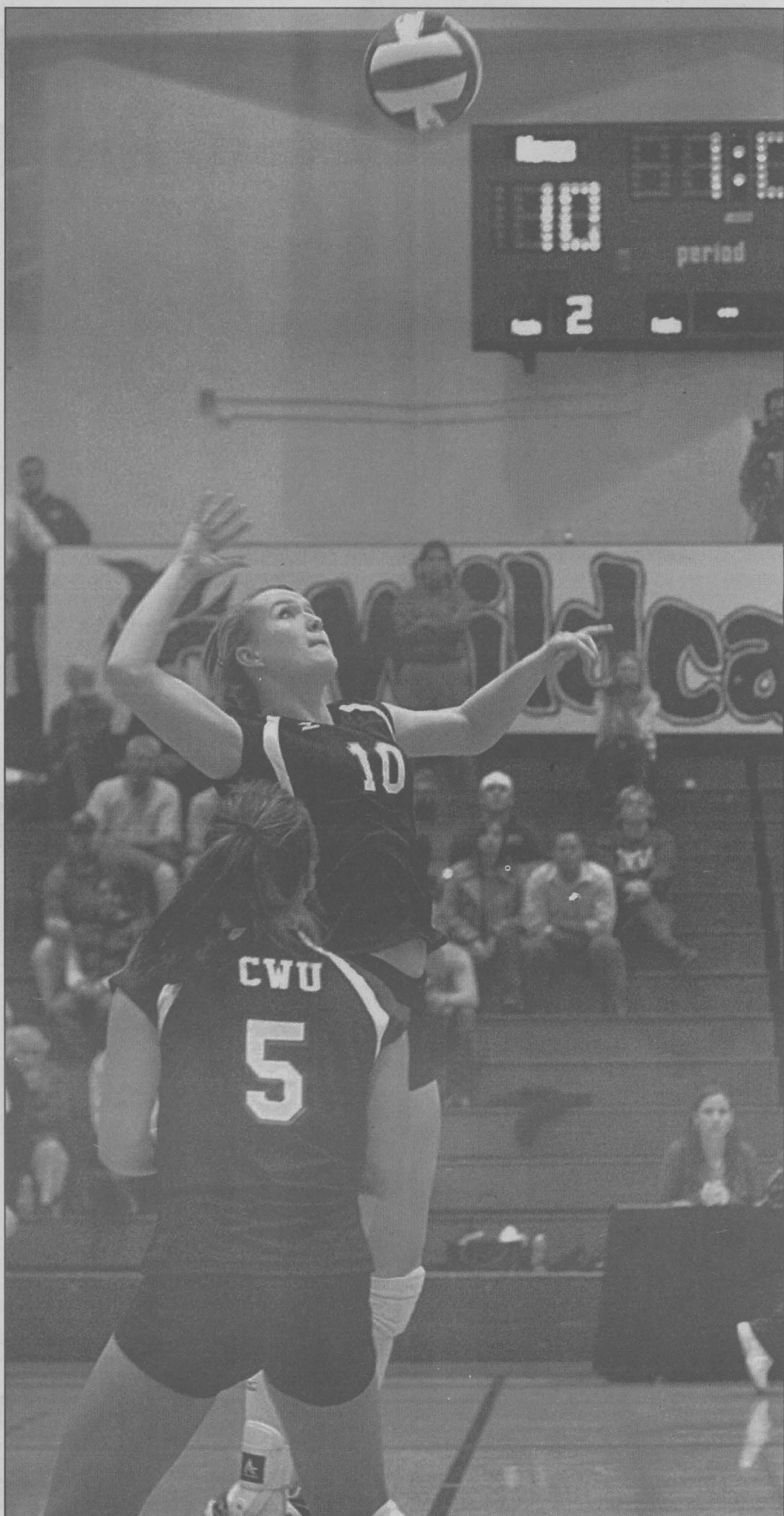
"We will sit down and play over the season," head coach Mario Andaya said. "Individually, we need to get stronger and gain experience in the spring and also mature in the off-season."

"We just have to continue to get better as a team and continue with the momentum we gained at the end of this year."

**KADY TRY,
FRESHMAN OUTSIDE HITTER**



Brianne Jette/Observer



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Above: Junior middle blocker Rachael Schurman goes up for a spike against Western Oregon last Saturday. Left: Senior liber Erika Stevens digs out a shot against the Wolves. The game concluded the 2007 season.

Athletic department budget still in the red

by Casey Donovan
Senior reporter

Central Washington University's athletic department looked ahead to the future with revenue opportunities and lost all focus of controlling expenses, according to President Jerilyn McIntyre.

Central's athletic department is now \$327,553 behind current budget regulations accumulated over the past three years according to a fund balance report published on Aug. 24, 2007, by the university.

McIntyre feels that student athletic fees need to increase to help with inflation. The current \$35 student fee has not been an adequate source of funding. It's something she hopes will hit home with students.

"People understand inflation," McIntyre said.

The student government alone would need to put the issue to vote.

"I don't think we have added more deficits, its just not balancing," McIntyre said.

McIntyre attended a Great Northwest Athletic

Conference president's meeting discussing the difficulties of travel within the conference.

According to McIntyre, the Knight Foundation - a group that monitors NCAA athletics - said 80 percent of athletic departments operate in the red.

"Our department wants to be part of the 20 percent that operates in the black," McIntyre said.

Much of the blame has been given to Athletic Director Jack Bishop. McIntyre completely disagrees.

"Jack Bishop's job is not on the line," McIntyre said. "It's not fair to blame him for the problems."

Officials inside the athletic department feel the problem is slowly fixing itself.

"Right now we feel like we are in pretty good shape," Bishop said.

At some universities, presidents will dismiss athletic department debts.

This school has the money to cover the athletic department's debt.

However, according to McIntyre, that is not going to happen at Central.

"The athletic department has to pay it back," McIntyre said.

The real issue is within the athletic department's budget.

Rich Corona, vice president for business and financial affairs is helping the athletic department piece back together the financial puzzle.

"The athletic department has a complex and complicated budget," Corona said. "There are lots of sources for funds and almost everything is variable. One year there might not be a large budget and the next can be the largest the athletic department has had."

Corona said that team travel is the biggest hit in the pocketbook, something that skyrocketed out of control when Central decided to join the soon-defunct North Central Conference (NCC). Travel costs for our team are absolutely brutal," Bishop said.

McIntyre likes the idea of Central football playing a team once during the regular season in the NCC. As comical as it is, Central will be in the GNAC next season, where they will double-dip every team in the conference.

"We want to make changes to our athletics," Bishop said. "But we don't

want to dilute or delete anything in the process."

Central's football team had an operating cost of \$192,685 in 2005, the last available account on NCAA's Office of Post Secondary Education reported by McIntyre. That, included with Bishop's estimation of \$90,000 in travel costs since moving to the NCC, would make this year's operating cost close to \$275,000.

High budget costs are butchering men's and women's basketball, allowing only seven scholarships per team.

"We have to get to eight scholarships to bring in the talent to Central and win championships," women's basketball head coach Jeff Whitney said. "Eight is the minimum. 10 scholarships would be ideal."

What Whitney does to make up for lack of scholarships and finances is putting on fundraisers such as basketball camps. According to a Central Washington University

funds report, the women's basketball camp actually lost close to \$5,000 within the last year, something that student funds cover.

"The athletic department needs to go out and figure how to bring in some bigger bucks," Corona said. "Increased fundraising and sponsorships are needed."

The whirlwind of finger-pointing and blaming is alive and well inside Central's athletic program.

Numerous people inside or closely related to Central athletics state that a championship will not be seen in the near future.

"We finish above where we fit [in athletic spending]," Bishop said. "We kind of overachieve."

If one idea is certain, its that Central's athletic

department financial woes don't have an estimated stoppage.

"It is unrealistic to know when all the problems will be fixed," Corona said. "It could be as soon as a few months or much longer."



UW transfer Hemphill gels Wildcat secondary

by Curtis Crabtree
Asst. Sports editor

When it comes to Division II football, it's just a fact of life that the players are going to be a little smaller, a little slower and not quite as strong as their Division I counterparts.

Football factories such as Florida, Ohio State, USC and LSU always bring in the five-star, blue-chip prospects out of high school; the athletic elite.

However, the Central Washington Wildcats managed to get their hands on one of these remarkable athletes, and his name is Chris Hemphill.

Hemphill is a fifth-year senior transfer from the University of Washington, playing out his final collegiate season for the Wildcats, who was originally recruited by former Husky head coach Rick Neuheisel out of Junipero Serra High School in Gardena, Calif.

Hemphill never played a game for Neuheisel as he was fired in the sum-

"Sometimes you don't know what those guys in the NFL are thinking, but I would be surprised if he didn't get a shot."

BEAU BALDWIN, HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

mer before Hemphill's freshman year as a Husky.

Two coaching changes later, Hemphill was playing for new head

coach Tyrone Willingham and looking to get his chance to shine on Saturdays in Husky Stadium.

Then Hemphill, along with Michael Braunstein, Marlon Wood and fellow Wildcats Durrell Moss and Charles Smith, were told by Willingham that they would not be welcome back to the program for their fifth year of eligibility.

"It was heartbreaking," Hemphill said. "I was planning on starting [at safety] and finishing my career as a Husky. Then coach [Willingham] told me I wasn't going to be on the team anymore."

With one year of eligibility remaining, he made the decision to transfer to Central. According to Hemphill, he couldn't transfer to another Division I program because he would have to sit out a whole season to comply with NCAA rules and lose his year of eligibility in the process.

This made Central, which already had former Huskies Chris Rohrbach and Jared Bronson on its roster, an enticing spot for Hemphill and his six-foot five-inch, 240 pound frame to end up.

With that kind of size and the sub 4.54 second 40-yard dash times have not only turned the heads of Wildcat fans, but has caught the eye of NFL scouts as well.

"I would be surprised if he doesn't get an opportunity," head coach Beau Baldwin said. "Sometimes you don't know what those guys in the NFL are thinking, but I would be surprised if he didn't get a shot."

Hemphill is listed as one of 19 pro hopefuls by d2football.com, along with NCAA all-time leading rusher Danny Woodhead of Chadron State and Western Washington linebacker

Shane Simmons.

"Sometimes you don't see it from a taller, rangier guy, but [Hemphill] does a great job of turning his hips and tracking the ball," Baldwin said.

But before the NFL can come calling, Hemphill and the rest of the Wildcats have business left to finish in the Division II playoffs. He's started every game at safety for the Wildcats and leads the North Central Conference (NCC) in interceptions, with five.

"The playoff system is new to me," Hemphill said. "It's all on you once you make the playoffs. If you keep winning you keep playing."

Sophomore defensive back Jerome Williams also notices the impact of Hemphill's size. Williams said that Hemphill draws so much of the other team's attention that it creates opportunities for him to make plays.

"A lot of teams have to put him into their gameplan," Williams said. "He can do a lot of things. He can cover, he can run support. He's a good player and a good teammate."

Hemphill credits the Wildcat coaching staff for much of the team's success this year and easing his transition to Central.

"The coaching staff here cares about every player where a school like Washington only seems to care about winning and their star players," Hemphill said. "Coach Baldwin is more the definition of a coach. He emphasizes what a coach should. Coach Willingham tried to be everyone's father. He would get into your business off the field and check on your MySpace and stuff like that."

Hemphill helped lead the Wildcats to an 8-2 overall record and a 6-2 record in the NCC. Their effort was good enough to secure a number four seed in the Division II Northwest Region and a first-round home game against the Eagles of Ashland University at noon this Saturday at Tomlinson Stadium.

"It's been a great deal for us and I hope Chris feels it's been a good situation for him as well," Baldwin said.



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Senior safety Chris Hemphill, left, looks to take down Nebraska-Omaha running back Brian McNeill, right, last Saturday against the Mavericks. Hemphill transferred to Central after four years at the University of Washington.

Can the Patriots stay perfect?

It comes as no surprise this year that the evil empire has once again asserted its dominance. I am not talking about the Yankees, but rather I am talking about the New England Patriots.

In the history of the NFL, there has been only one team to go undefeated in the regular season and that team was the 1972 Miami Dolphins.

The most recent run at history came in 2005 as the Indianapolis Colts started 14-0 before losing to the San Diego Chargers in week 16.

In the offseason, the Patriots went out and got strong support for the Pro Bowl starting quarterback Tom Brady. They picked up wide receiver Wes Welker from the Miami Dolphins in a trade for a second-and seventh-round pick in the 2007 NFL draft and then signed Donte Stallworth as a free agent.

With these two new receivers on Brady's staff, the offense would surely improve. But the Patriots had one more trick up their sleeves as they went out and got Pro Bowl wide receiver Randy Moss from the Oakland Raiders. The Patriots acquired Moss in a trade from Oakland for their fourth-round pick in the draft.

This season, the Patriots have gone through opponents like they were playing junior varsity high school teams. The



Ryan Larsen
Staff reporter

Patriots have averaged nearly 40 points per game this season and are giving up an average of only 16 points per game.

The Patriots have had few tests this season against both top contenders in the NFC and AFC. Their first true test of the season was when they went up against the Dallas Cowboys in Irving, Texas. The Patriots went into the hostile environment and showed they were the superior team by beating the Cowboys 48-27.

There second test this season was in week nine against the then unbeaten Colts. The Patriots trailed early in the game 21-10, but then rallied back in the fourth quarter to win 24-21. Much of their success this season has come from their stellar defense, and mainly by their unstoppable offense led by Tom Brady.

The scary thing about this team is they keep on getting better and better as a team progresses every week. The defense has had two key players sidelined for part of the season in defensive end Richard Seymour and safety Rodney Harrison, but they still found ways to keep their opponents down. Also the offense had injury problems with their running backs, but that didn't seem to faze them at all because they could just air it out to Moss, Welker, and Stallworth all day long and still win by 30 points or more.

Brady is playing like a man possessed this season and making a pretty good case for a run away candidate for the leagues most valuable player.

Brady's stats through mid-season are 33 touchdowns, 2,686 yards passing, and only four interceptions. These stats

are good enough for any quarterback in the NFL for a full season. Much of Brady's success has come thanks to Moss, as he has become Brady's favorite target on the field.

As of right now the Patriots are 9-0 this season and are pushing for an undefeated season.

The only teams I see them having difficulty beating and staying perfect this season are the Pittsburgh Steelers and New York Giants. The Steelers are playing well as of late, but I don't see them being able to stop New England's high-powered offense.

The Steelers defense gave up 28 points to the Cleveland Browns last weekend and barely squeaked by, beating them by only three points. Moss, Welker, and Brady will be too much for the Steelers to handle, and the Patriot's defense will shut down the Steelers offense.

If the Patriots are undefeated by the time they play the New York Giants, I believe they won't sit down their starters to prevent injury before the playoffs. They will want to go after the record, even if they say it's not a priority.

Pride will be a factor and every player and coach on the Patriots will want that record. I am still not sold on the Giants this year, and after watching their game against Dallas, I don't see them being able to beat the Patriots in week 17. My prediction is that if they can get past the Steelers in week 14, they should be able to become the second team in NFL history to be unbeaten in the regular season.

Seahawks Central: Hawks rout Niners

The Seattle Seahawks once again took care of business against a hapless NFC West team in the San Francisco 49ers and kept their one-game cushion in the division.

The Seahawks (4-4) entered the contest coming off a heart-wrenching 33-30 defeat at the hands of the Cleveland Browns in which the running game failed to convert a fourth and one in overtime to keep an important drive alive.

The 49ers (2-6) entered the game as losers of six straight after a promising 2-0 start to the 2007 campaign. After a loss to the Steelers in week three, the 49ers offense took a hit when Seahawks defensive tackle Rocky Bernard separated quarterback Alex Smith shoulder on the first drive of the first meeting between the teams in week four.

The team started to nose dive behind backup quarterback and former Seahawk Trent Dilfer, losing to the Baltimore Ravens and New York Giants in Smith's absence.

The San Francisco offense has continued to struggle even after the return of Smith in week eight. They have failed to score more than 10 points in four of their nine games so far this season.

As far as the Seahawks are concerned, head coach Mike Holmgren finally decided to stop force-feeding an anemic rushing game and put the team's success on the shoulders of Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Hasselbeck.

On the Seahawks' first drive of the game, Holmgren called 11 pass plays to only two run plays, both of which were draws culminating in a one-yard touchdown pass to tight end Will Heller.

Holmgren continued to change things up as he used the shotgun formation, a formation he usually detests, a total of 16 times, including twice on the opening drive. While the shotgun can help with providing better protection for the quarterback, it can also mess with the timing of an offense as inherently based on timing as Holmgren's version of the West Coast offense is.

Kicker Josh Brown added a field goal to increase the lead to 10 after a recovered Smith fumble forced by Seattle defensive end Patrick Kerney.

A second field goal by Brown two drives later, a 17-play 56-yard scoring drive, was nullified by a holding penalty on Heller pushed the Seahawks out of field goal range.

After another three-and-out by the 49ers, Hasselbeck connected with wide receiver DJ Hackett for 46 yards down to the San Francisco six-yard line, which set up a six-yard touchdown run by running back Maurice Morris two plays later to put the Seahawks up 17-0.

The touchdown by Morris was the first rushing touchdown for the Seahawks since running back Shaun Alexander scored in week two against Arizona, which is more than 360 game min-

utes without a rushing touchdown.

After a mostly uneventful third quarter, the Seahawks put together a 12-play, 77-yard scoring drive, ending with a 10-yard touchdown pass to Hackett on the first play of the fourth quarter to give the Seahawks a 24-0 lead.

The 49ers failed to put any points on the board as the Seahawks shutout the 49ers and the hapless San Francisco offense.

Seattle holds the record for shutouts on Monday Night Football with five total including three in the last three seasons. The Seahawks earned a 16-0 victory at home over the Oakland Raiders in 2006 as well as a 42-0 pounding of the Philadelphia Eagles in 2005. The victory over the Eagles remains the largest shutout in Monday Night Football history.

This week, the Seahawks play host to the Chicago Bears in a rematch of the NFC Divisional Playoffs last January. The Bears escaped with a 27-24 overtime win enroute to the Super Bowl where they lost to the Indianapolis Colts.

This year's Bears team isn't nearly as formidable as the team Seattle played in January. They've tried switching quarterbacks, benching Rex Grossman in week four in favor of veteran journeyman Brian Griese. Now with Griese going down to injury, Grossman will retake the helm this week against the Seahawks.

They traded away their leading rusher from last year, Thomas Jones, to the Jets and former first round pick Cedric Benson has failed to carry the load.

Defensive tackle Dusty Dvoracek and safety Mike Brown are out for the season with injuries and the Chicago defense has struggled in their absence, allowing 224 rushing yards to Minnesota's Adrian Peterson in week six.

The Seahawks are still waiting to get wide receiver Deion Branch back from injury. He sprained his foot in week seven against the St. Louis Rams and has not seen the field since.

Running back Shaun Alexander sat out against the 49ers with a sprained knee and ankle on top of his already broken wrist. Alexander may play this weekend against the Bears but his status is still questionable.

The Bears' defense is still a much more agile and dominant unit than the 49ers defense and will create more problems for the Seahawks' offense. In the playoff game last year, the Seahawks had trouble running the ball in third and fourth and short situations that ultimately led to their defeat. If Holmgren continues with his new pass-happy attitude, it's possible to loosen up the Bears' coverages to find running lanes for Alexander or Morris.

Hasselbeck has to remain effective throwing the ball and not create turnovers with errant throws. If Hasselbeck and the Seattle offense can put up more than 20 points they should be able to pull out a win because of the lack of scoring ability of the Bears offense.

Prediction: Chicago Bears 13 - Seattle Seahawks 27

Notes: TE Marcus Pollard played in his first game in several weeks after undergoing minor knee surgery for a partially torn meniscus. Alexander and Branch were inactive.



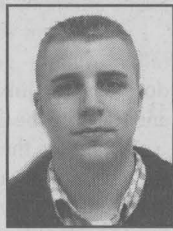
Curtis Crabtree
Asst. Sports editor

Mariners look to free agency

Pardon me as I take a time out from the Alex Rodriguez lottery and focus on something a little more interesting: Seattle Mariners baseball.

As the Red Sox soak in champagne from their second World Series title in four years, the Mariners look ahead to 2008 for what could be a stellar season for a team that had its first winning season since 2003.

In August, they inked Ichiro Suzuki to a new contract that hopefully keeps him in Seattle for the rest of his career. Along



Joseph Siemandel
Staff reporter

with the great play of young second baseman Jose Lopez and shortstop Yuniesky Betancourt, the Mariners have a great start to a team that could compete in the American League West. Starting pitcher Felix Hernandez should continue to get better and will help a team that had one of the most dominant bullpens in baseball until September.

Baseball in late November is more or less a crapshoot: a game of who is going where and who is signing who. I felt that I needed to step outside the A-Rod lottery to explain a few moves that the Mariners could possibly make in the next couple months.

Move one: Richie Sexson goes to Florida. **Fact:** The Florida Marlins are interested in the 6'11" void that has become a problem at first base for the

Mariners. A trade with the Marlins could possibly bring in former all-star pitcher Dontrelle Willis.

Move two: Seattle signs a Japanese pitcher. **Fact:** Hiroki Kuroda is a free agent that has played for the Hiroshima Carp in Japan. He is 33 years old and Seattle actually has the best chance of getting him because of catcher Kenji Jojhima. Also, according to Hiroki, the thought of facing Ichiro is scary.

Move three: Seattle might pick up designated hitter Tony Clark. **Fact:** He is still a great fastball hitter and has some strong lefty power. He is a great presence for a young clubhouse and could play some first base if Sexson leaves.

Move four: Freddy Garcia could come back to Seattle. **Fact:** Believe it or not, Freddy Garcia, the former Mariner and World Series champion with the Chicago White Sox, is a free agent this year. In a weak pitching class of free agents, Garcia is a big name that the Mariners might try to get. He still has a good fastball and his relationship with the team could be a reason to come back to the M's.

Move five: Raul Ibanez might get traded. **Fact:** Sad but true, Seattle needs trade bait. Ibanez, who is a fixture in the lineup and an all-around great guy for the Mariners, is likely to come up in every trade talk the Mariners will have this off-season. Moving him could bring in Willis, or possibly Giants pitcher Noah Lowry, a nice left-hander who, at 27, can be a nice complement for Hernandez or for 26-year-old Baltimore pitcher Daniel Cabrera. He is a Randy Johnson-type pitcher with a nasty fastball, but has some control problems.

Whatever the Mariners do this off-season will only complement the moves made with dismissing his entire coaching staff, save for hitting coach Jeff Pentland. McLaren now has a new lineup, including former Yankee pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre and former Baltimore Orioles manger Sam Perlozzo. Only time will tell if keeping general manager Bill Bavasi will pay off.

★★ **IRON HORSE** ★★
★ **BREWERY** Night. ★

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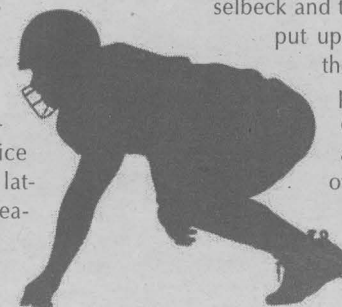
Location: **Iron Horse brewery**

Date: **Friday nov. 16th**

Time: **5:00 - 10:00 pm**

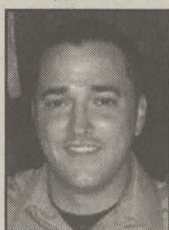
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2007 Apple Cup: pillow fight of the century

On Saturday, Nov. 24, the University of Washington Huskies and the Washington State Cougars face off in Washington's biggest and most celebrated game of the year: the Apple Cup.



Nick Scotti
Staff reporter

This year's game marks the 100th time the two biggest schools in the state have faced each other and there isn't a football fan in Washington who doesn't have a favorite Apple Cup memory.

This year, the stakes for each team could not be higher. On one side, you have the Huskies, who boast a 3-7 record overall, 1-6 in the Pacific-10 Conference (Pac-10), and with a win against the rival Cougars, they may be able to climb out of last place in the conference, beating Stanford for that "coveted" ninth place.

On the other side of the ball, a win for the Cougs gives them a chance to qualify for a postseason Bowl berth, despite their 4-6 record overall and a 2-5 Pac-10 record.

Maybe a prestigious bowl bid at the San Francisco, Insight.com, GMAC or Emerald Bowl. Awesome. This game is looking to shape up as an instant classic. One for the record books.

Are you sensing my sarcasm? Good, I would hope so. Because I am laying it on pretty thick. The fact of the matter is that over the last couple of years, the Apple Cup has turned into the Toilet Bowl game of the Pac-10.

What happened to the days when the Apple Cup actually mattered? When it was a game that literally determined who played in the Rose Bowl? Where the game was nationally televised because it was considered one of the great rivalry games in the nation?

Obviously, those days are gone and don't look like they are coming back any time soon. Ever since the scandals of plenty of Slick Ricky Neuheisel at

UW and Mike Price leaving WSU for the shortest coaching stint ever at Alabama after an "alleged" bender with a special lady friend, things have been dire for both schools' celebrated football teams.

The Huskies showed a lot of promise at the beginning of the season, beating Boise State and hanging around in games against Ohio State and USC. They tried going score-for-score against what may very well be the best team in the nation, Oregon, only to be out-classed late and beaten handily.

Then there was Arizona. They blew an 18-point lead at home, in the fourth quarter.

Talk in Husky nation quickly went from "this team is so close to being really, really good," to "OK, this team is pretty bad." In last week's loss to Oregon State, the Huskies may have lost more than the game. Jake Locker, or as he is known to Husky fans "the savior," was carted off on a stretcher with a neck injury.

Even though Locker was seen walking the sidelines in the fourth quarter of that game, it is unknown if his season is over. Locker would be a huge loss for their three remaining games.

Then there's the Cougs. Cougar fans are always optimistic and excited for their beloved team to do something special every year. Sorry, guys. This team is not very good.

They may have come close to victories over nationally ranked Arizona State and Cal, but it is clear that both of those teams were overrated, and WSU lacks the ability to put games away. Two of their four wins were against University of Idaho and San Diego State. Not really statement games.

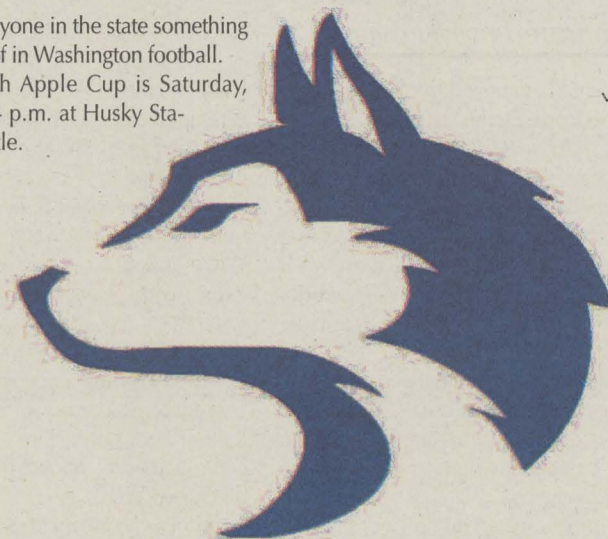
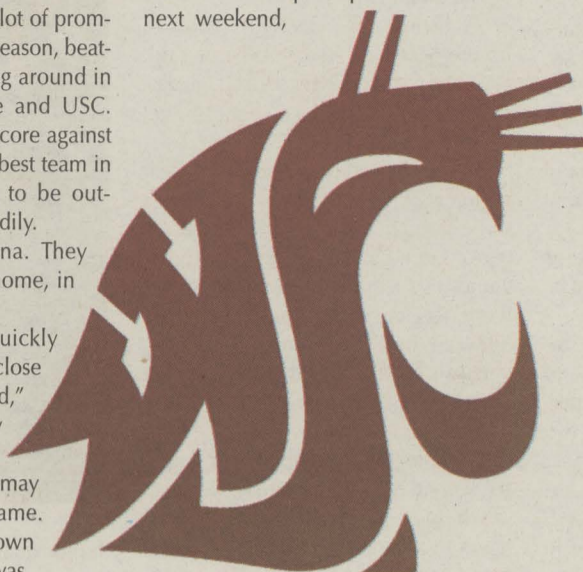
The win over UCLA was impressive, but in the Pac-10, it takes more than one big win to make a name for yourself.

Look, someone has to win. I'm not really sure who will be the favorite, so there isn't really a chance of a major

upset. I guess I am just bitter and miss the old days. The great snow games in Pullman, or the last minute heroics at Husky Stadium. It was always a game to look forward to. I guess my only hope is that these teams step it up next weekend,

and give everyone in the state something to be proud of in Washington football.

The 100th Apple Cup is Saturday, Nov. 24, at 4 p.m. at Husky Stadium in Seattle.



APPLE CUP: THE LAST FIVE YEARS

2006: Washington	35	Washington State	32
2005: Washington State	26	Washington	22
2004: Washington State	28	Washington	25
2003: Washington	27	Washington State	19
2002: Washington	29	Washington State	26

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FOOTBALL: Central faces Ashland University at Tomlinson Stadium in first round of Division II playoffs

continued from cover

Central continued to struggle during its next possession as senior running back Johnny Lopez fumbled at the Wildcats' 48-yard line. Mavericks junior linebacker Jeff Souder returned the ball for 44 yards as Reilly forced him out-of-bounds just inside the 5-yard line. Junior quarterback Zach Miller scored for Nebraska-Omaha, finalizing the first half score at 24-0.

"They definitely did a good job pressuring us and got us out of our running game early," Baldwin said. "It's tough to stay balanced when trying to come back."

The Wildcats couldn't get the ball moving on the opening possession of the second half. The Mavericks took advantage of their first possession and pushed their lead to 31-0 after Miller connected for a 35-yard pass to junior wide receiver David Carey. The connection was one of only three successful pass completions by the Mavericks, out of six attempted during the game.

"I didn't think we'd rush the ball that well," Mavericks head coach Pat Behrns said. "Going into the game I thought [Central's] two safeties were the best we've seen."

Reilly completed five passes on the Wildcats' next drive, including a 4-yard connection with Spevak for Central's first touchdown of the game. The Wildcats looked like they might try to rally back early in the third quarter.

Senior linebacker Bret Stray picked up a Nebraska-Omaha fumble on the Mavericks' next possession, leading to a one-yard touchdown run by Reilly to bring the score up 31-14.

However, Mavericks junior wide receiver Keith Eloi answered with an 80-yard kickoff return, scoring for the Mavericks with 22 seconds left in the third quarter and taking a 38-14 lead.

"I wish we would've started better," Reilly said. "But there's no way I'm going to make an excuse. I give [Nebraska-Omaha] a lot of credit."

The Wildcats scored once more in the fourth quarter after a connection between Reilly and Spevak at the 5:07 mark, but Central was overwhelmed by two huge scoring runs by the Mavericks. Wurth completed a 60-yard run for a touchdown with 10:20 on the clock, and McNeill answered Central's final touchdown with an 80-yard run. Sophomore running back Robert Wesley scored the game's final points for the Mavericks with 2:04, finalizing the score at 59-21.

The 59 points surrendered by the Wildcats was the second-most allowed in Central's history. In 1968, Boise State scored 61 points in a 61-7 victory over the Wildcats.

Central dominated in first downs with 24 while the Mavericks had 13, but Nebraska-Omaha's defense controlled the Wildcats with 10 sacks, and Central struggled with turnovers.

"The turnover battle will win or lose a game every time," Reilly said. "It killed drives we had going."

With the final drive of the game, Reilly became the third player in Central's history to complete more than 8,000 career passing yards. He completed 29 of 46 passes for 292 yards and two touchdowns for the Wildcats on Saturday. Last Friday, Reilly was also announced as one of 24 nationwide candidates for the 2007 Harlon Hill Trophy, which is awarded to the Division II National Player of the Year.

Senior wide receiver Chris Rohrbach had six catches for 78 yards in his final regular season game, while Spevak caught eight passes for 93 yards and two touchdowns.

Lopez gained only 44 yards on 15 carries, but became the 10th player in Central history with 1,000 more rushing

yards in a single season.

Despite the loss, the Wildcats still head into the NCAA Division II Football Championship playoffs as the number four seed from the Northwest Region this weekend.

"It's a tough spot to be in," Baldwin said. "But there are worse places to be. We're still 8-2 on the season. Many teams would gladly trade places with us."

Central will host fifth-seed Ashland University during a first round game at Tomlinson Stadium Saturday, Nov. 17. Kickoff is at noon. Since the game is controlled by the NCAA, tickets must be purchased.

Adults can attend for \$10, while students with ID, senior citizens (55 and over) and youth (18 and under) can purchase tickets for \$5. Children under two years can watch for free.

This is the first time Central has qualified for the postseason since 2002, when they finished as the top seed in the West Region. Ashland finished second to Grand Valley State University in

the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC). Grand Valley (11-0, 10-0 GLIAC) finished as the number two seed in the Northwest Region and receives a first-round bye, along with Nebraska-Omaha.

"[Having a bye week,] it's going to be pretty critical for us," Behrns said. "We had some guys get banged up [Saturday] and it'll give us a chance to get better throwing the ball."

While the top two seeds from each region receive first-round byes, seeds three through six from all four NCAA regions will compete in the first round games this Saturday. The other Northwest Region first round game is between third-seed North Dakota University (9-1) and sixth-seed Winona State University (10-1).

Nebraska-Omaha will host the Central Washington-Ashland winner during the second round on Saturday, Nov. 24.

"If we play [Nebraska-Omaha] again in a couple weeks, we've got to be aggressive," Reilly said. "They're 10-0 for a reason."



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Junior quarterback Mike Reilly (13) throws wide to senior running back Johnny Lopez (2). Reilly went 29-for-46 with 292 yards and two interceptions in a 59-21 loss to the Mavericks. Central hosts Ashland this Saturday.

NCAA Division II N.W. Regional Poll

1. Nebraska-Omaha 10-0
2. Grand Valley State 10-0
3. North Dakota 9-1
4. CENTRAL WASHINGTON 8-2
5. Ashland 8-1
6. Winona State 10-1
7. Saginaw Valley State 7-3
8. Hillsdale 8-3
9. South Dakota 6-5
10. Michigan Tech 6-5
11. Ferris State 6-5
12. Wayne State 7-4

D2football.com Poll

1. Grand Valley State 10-0
2. Nebraska-Omaha 10-0
3. Chadron State 11-0
4. West Texas A&M 11-0
5. Northwest Missouri State 9-1
6. North Dakota 9-1
7. California of Pennsylvania 11-0
8. Valdosta State 9-1
9. North Alabama 9-1
10. Delta State 9-1
11. Carson Newman 10-1
12. Shepherd 9-1
13. Tuskegee 10-0
14. Catawba 10-1
15. Abilene Christian 9-2
16. West Chester 9-2
17. Newberry 9-2
18. Ashland 8-1
19. CENTRAL WASHINGTON 8-2
20. Winona State 10-1
21. Mesa State 10-1
22. Tarleton State 9-2
23. Washburn 8-3
24. Midwestern State 8-3
25. Indiana of Pennsylvania 8-2

AFCA Division II Poll

1. Grand Valley State 10-0
2. Chadron State 11-0
3. Nebraska-Omaha 10-0
4. West Texas A&M 11-0
5. Northwest Missouri State 9-1
6. California of Pennsylvania 11-0
7. North Dakota 9-1
8. Valdosta State 9-1
9. Delta State 9-1
10. North Alabama 9-1
11. Carson-Newman 10-1
12. Catawba 10-1
13. Tuskegee 10-0
14. Shepherd 9-1
15. Abilene Christian 9-2
16. West Chester 9-2
17. Mesa State 10-1
18. Newberry 9-2
19. Winona State 10-1
20. Tarleton State 9-2
21. CENTRAL WASHINGTON 8-2
22. Ashland 8-1
23. Indiana of Pennsylvania 8-2
24. Midwestern State 8-3
25. Washburn 8-3

*NCC teams in bold

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