College honors Aadland, Wickstrom

One part of campus already has a new name and another soon will.

The walkway that runs through the center of campus was officially named during a ceremony April 27 and the Studio Theatre in Washington Hall will be renamed during a ceremony in May.

Aadland Esplanade is the name chosen for the brick walkway that has facilitated the campus travels of students since it was installed in the 1980s. It is named for former English instructor Gordon Aadland, who began his career at Centralia College in 1961.

He was an employee of the college until 1985.

The Aadland Esplanade

Mid-morning, Monday through Friday, the campus walkway is a flurry of footsteps. People of all ages and backgrounds rush up and down the brick road that runs from Rock Street to Washington Street.

Like a metropolitan freeway, diverging in all directions, this is the stretch that connects students to nearly every building on campus.

But by early afternoon, the walkway is calm as a country road.

A lone pedestrian can easily fall into contemplation. Or pay attention to the details. Like the cherry blossoms now in bloom, or the bare sugar maples that branch to the heavens. Or pay attention to the early 20th century antiques.

Pause and look below sometime. Here, you’ll notice the harmonic geometry of bricks and cement. How salmon and ash-colored orbs, rectangles and squares go on and on.

Street lamps evenly border both sides of the walkway, complementing the symmetry of the scene. Their thick, yellow bulbs look like eyeballs watching the row. “I like the lamps,” says Gordon Aadland, 84, a retired Centralia College faculty member.

Aadland points out two lamps located in front of the library. These lamps are taller and have five bulbs instead of three. They appear older because they were actually restored from the old Centralia High School that was here before the college campus. The other lamps that line the walkway are modern replicas of these early 20th century antiques.

Aadland knows a lot about the college. President James Walton calls Aadland “the college’s unofficial historian.”

This is just one reason why the college has recently named the campus walkway after Aadland. The scenic strip is now poetically called the “Aadland Esplanade.”

The college held a naming ceremony April 27 on the walkway.

Embedded in college affairs long before the walkway was built, Aadland began his career here as an English instructor. Later, he served as one of the college’s first public information officers. Eventually he became director of legislative and academic affairs. Eventually he became one of the college’s first public information officers.

Aadland also is remembered for his innovative contributions to the college.

By Jessica Nash

The Wickstrom Theatre

At the end of a long hallway in Washington Hall, there is a 45-square-foot room called the Studio Theatre.

When not in use, an eerie silence permeates the room.

The square walls are the color of granite. The floor is flat and cold. Above beams a grid of ghost-white lights.

About 50 unified chairs face the barren stage. The chairs are blood red, bright in the dimness.

Spaces like these are called black-box theaters.

They are commonly found on college campuses. They are ideal for low-budget, experimental works that rely on story and performance rather than on technical elements such as lighting and set design.

Theater troupes can easily mold these spaces to suit their artistic visions.

The college decided to name its black-box theater after Phillip Wickstrom, a longtime drama instructor at Centralia College.

Wickstrom raised the drama program to a professional level, producing exemplary performances each year during a 29-year career.

Recently, the college decided to name its black-box theater after Phillip Wickstrom, who led Centralia College’s drama department from 1962 to 1991.

A naming ceremony honoring Wickstrom will take place May 24 at 3 p.m. in the theater.

By Jessica Nash

Student Government elections May 9, 10

Students are encouraged to vote for next year’s Student Government team May 9 and 10 in the Student Center.

Currently an interview committee is looking for a range of students to serve the college community on next year’s Student Government team, said Shelly Bannish, director of student programs.

“I’d like to see a diverse Student Government,” she said.

Student Government should represent the student body, said Bannish. This means it should include students of all ages with culturally diverse backgrounds.

Each student who applied was required to have a quarterly grade point average of 2.0 and a cumulative grade point average of 2.5. They also were required to be taking 10 credits of college-level courses.

When applying, the students completed an application, and submitted two letters of recommendation and a personal essay aboard of Student Government.

The applications were due April 26.

The interview committee will interview candidates May 1-10.

The committee will award points to the applicants with a maximum of 30 points possible.

The points are awarded based on both the written application as well as the interview.

Of the committee has finished interviewing, the students are given a chance to vote.

Students will vote for the president, vice president, senator for clubs and organizations and the senator for legislative and academic affairs.

The senator for technology and the senator for executive affairs are both appointed by the interview committee.

The appointed senators follow the same process as the others, except their campaign ends after the interview.

During the interview process, those applying for the senator for technology must present a self-designed Web site, and those applying for the senator for executive affairs must show their skills during a mock meeting, said Bannish.

After students vote for the officials not appointed, their votes are added to the points from the committee to determine who wins the elections.

Because the interview committee awards points to each candidate, it is possible for a candidate who has received the majority of votes from the students to lose the election, said Bannish.

During their year serving in their elected positions, the students must maintain at least 10 hours of work a week as well as attend weekly meetings throughout the year and leadership training during the summer before their term begins.

Each student holding a Student Government position is provided with a stipend at the end of each quarter of $1,100, said Bannish.
**DRAMA**

**Aesop’s fable ‘The Tortoise and the Hair’ basis for May performance of ‘The Great Cross Country Race’**

**BY TRINITY HOFFMAN**

This quarter’s drama students will get in touch with their animal side as they prepare for the spring play, “The Great Cross Country Race.”

This play is a children’s show, so many students who have children will be able to enjoy a college production that their children will enjoy as well.

“We were long overdue to produce a children’s play,” said Brian Tyrrell, director. “The Great Cross Country Race” by Alan Broadhurst is a 1965 production based on Aesop’s fable of “The Tortoise and The Hare.”

“It has always been a very popular play, but it’s not often done because of the elaborate and expensive costumes,” said Tyrrell.

This play requires actors to behave as animals would as well as look like the kind of animals they are portraying, demanding much imagination and exaggeration with the costumes.

“It’s very animatronic and unrealistic with a very cartoon-ish feeling,” said Sheila O’Hara, cast-member. “So it can be challenging, especially if you haven’t performed in front an audience made up primarily of kids, but it definitely be good and fun.”

The cast members and make-up artists will wear are unusually charming, but kids, but it’ll definitely be good and fun.”

**The Ensembles and Make-Up**

The ensembles and make-up the actors wear will be unusual charming, but the set design won’t be upstaged by the embellishment of the costumes.

Michael Kohlmeier, a Centralia College student, has worked on numerous sets with Tyrrell and this time he will have to create a travel-worthy set.

Since this is a popular children’s story, it will be challenging and exciting but also work with the story can be tricky, but Kohlmeier is able to make a set that works well, said Tyrrell.

“The set is designed as a pop-up book,” said Tyrrell. “As each page turns over, a new locale and different things pop-up.”

The story commences with a grand event unfolding and a strange new creature suddenly disrupting the other animals’ lives.

“The Tortoise is a bizarre being and none of the animals know what it is, but it doesn’t seem to be any harm. For the grand event, it’s Sports Days in the woods, and the undeclared champion of the occasion is The Hare.

“The Hare is virtually unbeatable, so he’s a bit of a braggart and everybody idolizes him,” said Tyrrell. “But The Tortoise sees him as what he is.”

True to the fable, The Tortoise challenges The Hare to a three-mile race. This story emphasizes staying the course and being patient, which humanizes the story, said Tyrrell.

There are six humans in the play, two of which are children around 6 and 7 years of age, two young lovers, a laundress and a fisherman. But they don’t speak normal English.

“We will create our own Pig Latin language,” said Tyrrell. “We’ll change letters around to make a gobbledygook and subtle language.”

This is one of the many idiosyncrasies of this play. Other aspects are schedule changes from the last productions, such as rehearsal time.

Rehearsal is done in the Intermediate/Advanced Acting class in the morning, rather than after classes in the afternoon and evening.

Another thing that Tyrrell hasn’t had to do in his productions recently is double cast, which is to cast two or more people for one role.

The play includes 15 characters, but 21 people do every show as the same character and six others also do all shows but with alternating roles, so “the rest will split the number of performances.”

But every performance will be fun for the young and the heart, said Tyrrell.

The cast includes: Madison Bassett (team blue) and Dominica D’Andrea (team gold), Mrs. Warren; Dan Dreftin (blue) and Bryan Medina (gold), Mr. Spiney; Milo Mullins (blue) and Andrew Arth (gold), Mr. Sett; Sheila O’Hara (blue) and Hannah Neill (gold), Mrs. Paddle; Rick Erdman (blue) and Chick Wilson (gold), Mr. Brush; Jill Hassler (blue) and Shastine Scire (gold), Mrs. Dark; Kat Prill (blue) and Casi Scott (gold) and Kate Belden, Mrs. Basket; Josh Colien (blue) and Phillip Massey (gold), Mr. Sloe; Sean Bolinger (blue) and Amanda Anderson (gold), Mr. Fleet; Laura Arcuri; Jackie; Heather Krieg, Robin; Grant Nelson, George; Hannah O’Neill (blue) and Sheila O’Hara (gold), Mr. Sets; Dominica D’Andrea (blue) and Madison Bassett (gold); Mrs. Stainer; Andrea Arth (blue) and Mike Mertes, Mrs. Spriney; Linda Black.

Stage managing is Shastine Scire (blue) and Dan Dreftin (gold), assisted by Bryan Medina (blue), Jill Hassler (gold), Chuck Wilson (blue) and Rick Erdman (gold).

“The Great Cross Country Race” will perform in Wickstrom Theatre (formerly the Studio Theatre) of Washington Hall May 19 at 7 p.m. and at 2 p.m. and May 20 performances May 20 and 21 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and tickets are $7 for adults, $5 for senior citizens. Reservations can be made after May 1 by calling the box office at ext. 525.

**PROFILES**

**Anderson: A mainstay of college stage productions**

**BY TRINITY HOFFMAN**

One of the most active students in the drama department will participate in his fifth consecutive performance next month in the spring play, “The Great Cross Country Race.”

Austen Anderson, 20, Winlock, is the only current second-year student to perform in five shows. A week after a pop-up performance, said Brian Tyrrell, drama professor.

Anderson has come a long way from his small role in last year’s winter musical, “How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.” He had a cameo appearance at the beginning and end of the show.

“At the beginning all I had to do was walk across the stage, but I had a hard time because I kept running in to people,” said Anderson jokingly. “I think it wasn’t until the last night that I finally got the hang of it.”

He must have gotten the hang of acting, because Tyrrell describes Anderson as one of the most energetic and vigorous members of the department.

“Nobody comes close to his involvement in the theater here,” said Tyrrell.

Anderson’s first experience with drama was a long way from Tyrrell’s osteo pathetic productions.

“In high school a friend wrote a small play and I was in it, but it was really bad,” he said. “We had a terrible set that kept falling over.”

Anderson graduated from high school, Anderson came here as a music major, but it didn’t last long.

“I was a music major for two quarters,” said Anderson. “I liked it but it wasn’t for me.”

Now Anderson describes himself as an unofficial drama major.

“When or if I eventually transfer to a university I probably would be a drama major because drama fits my personality,” he said.  

**LETTER WRITERS**

Letters must be typed (double-spaced) and are preferably received by e-mail.

E-mail letters to bluegold@centralia.ctc.edu.

Post letters to the blue&gold, Centralia College, 600 West Locust Street, Centralia, Wash. 98531.

Letters should be less than 400 words and must include the writer’s real name, address and phone number for verification.

Please write to the reader rather than to a specific person.

The blue&gold reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar, libel and matters of taste.

The next scheduled edition of the newspaper is Friday, May 26, 2006.
CONDUCTIVE

Widening of I-5 should reduce congestion

BY CORINNE STROHBACH

Two major construction projects are scheduled to improve safety and capacity on I-5 in Lewis County.

The projects will widen portions of I-5 to three lanes in both directions and expand and improve interchanges. Both projects are scheduled to be completed by 2014.

Because of congestion on I-5, there has been an increase in accidents and the highway has become more hazardous.

During a three-year period, between 2002-2004, there were 572 collisions resulting in 315 injuries and seven fatalities on I-5 in Lewis County, according to the Washington State Department of Transportation Web site.

Speed limits recently were reduced to 60 mph in Lewis County in hopes of reducing the collision rate, but the reductions could be temporary, according to the WSDOT Web site.

After the completion of the construction projects that will provide more space for drivers, eliminating many of the safety concerns, the state may return the speed limit back to 70 mph.

Rush Road to 13th Street

In Chehalis, not only will I-5 be widened to three lanes in both directions, a new interchange will be built at the LaBree overpass between the two existing interchanges, said Densys Tak of WSDOT.

Construction is scheduled to begin as early as summer 2007 between the 13th Street exit in Chehalis and Mellen Street in Centralia due to the possibility of increased flooding that construction could cause, said Vicki King of WSDOT.

Mellen Street to Grand Mound

In Centralia, plans to widen and decrease current hazards are underway for the seven-mile stretch between the Mellen Street and Grand Mound exits.

The state Legislature has approved $160 million of gas-tax funds for the project.

Construction between Centralia and Rochester is scheduled to begin in 2008 and is divided into three phases, said Vicki King of WSDOT.

The first phase of the project will widen I-5 to three lanes in both directions with a 10-foot shoulder on each side between Grand Mound and Harrison Avenue.

Just north of the Harrison Avenue exit in Centralia, drivers are faced with a hazard when the current route of the freeway takes a major curve, said Vickie Albert of WSDOT.

The sight is limited and the shoulder is too narrow, she said. It is a high accident corridor.

Construction to fix the problem areas between Grand Mound and Harrison Avenue is scheduled for 2009 and will be completed by 2011.

Phases two of the project is the rebuilding of the interchange at Mellen Street in Centralia.

Inadequate height beneath the underpass as well as ramps that are too short cause concern for drivers, especially truckers who are faced with the challenge of accelerating to the speed of the other vehicles already traveling on the freeway in only a short distance and limited amount of time, said Tom McDonald of WSDOT.

Not only will the interchange be rebuilt, it will have a completely new design, he said.

Currently WSDOT is looking at a single-point interchange that brings all traffic to a central location, said McDonald.

The design should be complete by 2009 and construction is planned to begin in 2010.

An open house is planned for early May to discuss alternatives for the Mellen Street Exit, said King.

Harrison Avenue expansion

The next phase of the project, which will be under a $60 million construction budget, is the Harrison Avenue interchange in Centralia.

A major concern when driving on the freeway is the short distance between Harrison Avenue and Mellen Street, said Colin Newell of the WSDOT.

Not only will this problem be fixed, but the Mellen Street to Ground Mound project is the expansion of the Harrison Avenue interchange in Centralia.

Construction between Centralia and Harrison Avenue is scheduled for 2009 and will have a completely new interchange as well, said McDonald.

The project is expected to be completed by late 2009, according to the WSDOT Web site.

Construction between Grand Mound and Harrison Avenue is scheduled for 2009 and will have a completely new interchange as well, said Newell.

Although it is not clear how the state will handle the Harrison exit and the distance of freeway between it and the Mellen Street exit, construction is planned to begin in 2010.

At the conclusion of the three phases and after both projects in Lewis County are completed, there will be more efficient and prepared for the increasing number of vehicles that travel on I-5 daily.

“These are safety and capacity improvement projects,” said Newell. “By 2014 we should be done.”

CLUBS

Rotaract’s Relay for Life funds a success

BY EMILY ALLEN

Rotaract, the beginning club on campus, recently held a talent show in an effort to raise funds for the upcoming American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life.

The event was designed to showcase the local talent of Lewis County, with donations taken at the door.

Due to a minor scheduling conflict, the contestants and the audience were bumped from Corbett Theatre to the Studio Theatre, though the change did not seem to affect the turn out.

“We maxed out the Studio Theatre,” said Terry Carver, Rotaract advisor. “The event brought in close to 200 people.”

It also generated a grand total of more than $2,100 in donations, all of which was promised to the Relay for Life of Lewis County.

At the conclusion of the evening, first place prize went to Jim Westley in the vocal category, Keirra Wheeler in the instrumental category and members from the Southwest Washington Dance Center in the miscellaneous category.

Megan Briggs also took home the overall best performance award.

Rotaract is still actively seeking donations for this year’s relay effort.

“You can still come in and donate money, contact the American Cancer Society at www.americancancersociety.com.

Anderson

Continued from page 2

Many would agree that drama fits his spontaneous personality, and it’s because of this impulsive quality that Anderson didn’t plan his switch from music to drama.

When “How To Succeed” came, Anderson was going to play drums in the pit, but Tyrrell asked him to be in the cast so he did it and liked it. He agreed to the minor role he was given. However, he worked and helped the production in any way he could.

“He has a great work ethic which has really advanced him in many ways,” said Tyrrell.

The next Centralia College production Anderson tackled was Shakespeare’s comedy “Much Ado About Nothing.”

“It was a lot of fun, especially playing around with the language,” he said. “Language is one of the main things where Anderson finds his inspiration. With his “Saturday Night Live”–like humor he enjoys the diverse ways people say things.

“It’s fun watching TV and observing the different people say things and act in similar situations,” he said.

Language played a big role in “Fuddy Meers,” the 2005 fall play, in which Anderson played the main character’s teenage son.

“I had very little time to prepare. My role in ‘Fuddy Meers’ was almost too much fun,” he said. “It was great getting to play an angry pothead.”

Tyrrell says that Anderson’s ability to transform from a Shakespearean villain to a 21st century incensed youth illustrates his talent.

“He has played a variety of roles and has transferred from one character to the next flawlessly and at the same time giving the new character something entirely unexpected,” said Tyrrell. “He is very imaginative and witty, which is always a plus in theater, especially in comedy. It always helps to have a good sense of humor because being a part of a large production requires much patience, which he possesses.”

Another thing that sets Anderson apart is his growing confidence and developing personable attitude, said Tyrrell.

Anderson agrees.

“It’s exciting and fun to be goofy,” he said. “I like the outlandish and wacky characters.

His most recent role, The Hare in the “The Great Cross Country Race,” will certainly be an outlandish and wacky character to portray.

To prepare himself for this role, Anderson works himself physically to be able to do all the movement required of the character.

“The Hare is a super athlete, so I try to jog every day as a warm-up,” he said. “I also watch cartoons to get ideas to be more animated and exaggerate dialogue and movement.”

In the play, The Hare has a big problem because he eats too much food, and Anderson has to portray a great outburst on stage.

“I’m looking forward to it,” he said. “It could be fun to do and fun to watch, I just hope I don’t have an MI.”
Visiting African professor provides college community with unique learning opportunity

BY EMILY ALLEN

Administrator, educator and librarian, Augustine Msiska, from the University of Livingstonia in Malawi, Africa, is currently on campus serving as the college’s first official visiting professor. Msiska, 63, along with his wife, Ninas, arrived in mid-March and will be here until late June.

While here, Msiska is teaching an African history course, as well as offering his free time for other lectures on campus and in the community.

“I hope to bring my educational and cultural experience to Centralia College and to Lewis County at large,” he said. “Above all, the cross-cultural experience will be of mutual benefit to me, my students, Centralia College, as well as my own institution and my country.”

Msiska began his career in education in 1970 – immediately after graduating from the University of Malawi. He also earned his doctorate in information studies from the University of Natal.

He has worked at several universities in Africa, including the University of Zambia, the University of Malawi and the University of Livingstonia, where he is currently employed as a librarian, administrator and professor of history.

As a veteran professor, Msiska has developed a unique teaching style to help his students, whether in Livingstonia or Centralia, achieve the most out of the course.

“I’m used to a more interactive style of teaching,” he said. “During the week, students come to class for my lectures, but they can also meet in smaller groups during the week for seminars and tutorials to develop the material.”

Beyond that, I’m always asking the class, ‘Do you get me?’”

Msiska’s presence on campus is the result of a “sistering” partnership between Centralia College and the University of Malawi – developed after former Centralia College president, Hank Kirk, accepted a post as vice chancellor in Malawi.

His visit is a part of the cooperative agreement between the two institutions that Jim Walton, current Centralia College president, hopes will continue.

“We have talked about starting a visiting professor program for several years and started researching the process a couple of years ago,” Walton said. “Having Augustine and Ninas here will help us better understand their culture, their people and their part of the world…and, allow us to see ourselves and our culture through their eyes.”

Msiska, a native of Malawi, has had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Africa, as well as visit the United Kingdom and Germany, but he has never been to the United States.

He hopes this opportunity will provide him with a cross-cultural experience on campus, as well as some sightseeing throughout Washington – as long as time permits.

Fund-raiser nets Foundation $2,400

The Centralia College Foundation, in partnership with McMenamins Olympic Club, raised more than $2,400 at a recent fund-raiser.

Proceeds will support Foundation student scholarships for the 2006-07 college year.

The Olympic Club donated half of the proceeds from sales, except gift certificates and retail items, generated during the evening of March 16, to the Foundation’s scholarship fund.

“We appreciate that McMenamins-partnered with us in our scholarship efforts,” said Steve Ward, Foundation executive director. “It’s especially satisfying when leading businesses partner with us in activities that benefit our students. It creates a more personal relationship between the college and our community.”

The Foundation provided scholarships to more than 100 currently enrolled students last year.

For information about the college Foundation or how to support Centralia College students, call, ext 290.

Visiting professor program provides college community with unique learning opportunity

BY EMILY ALLEN

Walking through the corridors of Washington Hall, it is no secret that she is different from the other students.

She is tall and what some might call a “returning student,” but there is something more that makes her stand out. She’s a native of Malawi, but that’s not it either.

Oh yes, that’s right, she’s Dr. Augustine Msiska’s wife, Ninas. And while Augustine is teaching classes and preparing lectures, Ninas is also spending time in the classroom; however, she’s learning the basics of the computer.

“I’m really starting from scratch,” she said. “But I want to learn, and know how to do this and how to do that on the computer.”

Ninas, 60, currently retired after 31 years of working at a bank, is grateful for the opportunity to visit the United States and Centralia College, though the nearly two-day journey over here was rather exhausting.

Before now, she had only visited Zambia and South Africa, making this her first trip off the African continent.

She hopes to use this experience not only to become more computer literate, but also to learn more about America and “mix with Americans,” something she has had no problem doing thus far, she said.

In Malawi, Ninas said there is much to do if you’re not working, except tend to the garden and take care of the house.

However, the labor-intensive lifestyle did not prevent the Misskas from raising seven children.

“It was very hard to raise seven kids,” Ninas said. “Many times I would send them to school without breakfast.”

The hard years of rearing a family have paid off, though, in the sense all the children – except the eldest who recently passed away – are either in school, working or doing a little of both.

Their youngest son, age 16, is currently preparing for his final exams before entering the college setting. If he was in the United States, Ninas was shocked to think that he would be able to drive.

“The boys and girls here are able to drive and do other things at such a young age,” she said. “In Africa, driving courses are very expensive.”

Yet, she doesn’t find American children spoiled, but rather the lifestyle is easier than in Malawi. Besides, the younger American generations are “just enjoying their elders’ sweat,” she said.

Another difference she found particularly interesting between Washington and Malawi, beyond the obvious, was the attitude toward rain.

Coming to Washington, the proclaimed “rainy state,” Ninas was surprised by the mild climate. Compared to Malawi, Washington does not have heavy rains, she said.

The mild weather, along with their home’s close proximity to the campus has made not having a personal mode of transportation bearable for Augustine and Ninas.

They are thankful for their friends in the community who have been willing to take them places and act as their tour guide – though she still hasn’t found anyone to take her to the mountains to see snow.

Professor’s wife returns to the classroom

Ninas, along with her husband, Dr. Augustine Msiska, a native of Malawi, has had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Africa, as well as visit the University of Natal.

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The mild weather, along with their home’s close proximity to the campus has made not having a personal mode of transportation bearable for Augustine and Ninas.

They are thankful for their friends in the community who have been willing to take them places and act as their tour guide – though she still hasn’t found anyone to take her to the mountains to see snow.
Experience other cultures at International Night

By Trinity Hoffman

The International Club is hosting its 11th annual International Night May 6. The event will consist of dinner and entertainment by the members of the club, said Vida Long, International Students Program specialist.

“This night is really a chance for the international students to share their culture with the rest of us,” said Long. “It is their time to shine.”

The theme of the event is “Blooming Friendships,” which captures the concept that more people are getting to know each other than ever before, said Long.

The International Night event originated in 1995 and it has grown considerably.

“It always sells out and it’s a lot of fun for the students to show their talents,” said Laju Nankanli, International Students Program interim director.

One of the things that will be included in the program is a fashion show.

“Traditional or common dress will be presented from several countries,” said Long. “It’s a fun thing for the students to bring out their own unique clothing or make clothes specifically for this event and show them off.”

Fiona Chong is an international student who took part in this event last year and modeled her host mother’s African dress.

“It was a fun experience and I really liked learning about the different ways people wear clothes,” said Chong.

She found it interesting the several ways the various cultures would wear basically one piece of clothing.

Last year’s event had a primarily Japanese influence, but this year will feature a Nepalese dinner and talent show.

“Last year we had Japanese-style calligraphy and tongue twisters, but this year will be more of a Nepalese feel,” said Chong.

To recommend a blog, e-mail Zang at wzang@krtinfo.com.

Blog it:

Everybody Likes Sandwiches

By Wendy Zang

I am food obsessed. I think about what I’m going to eat for dinner before I’m even eating breakfast. Last night I poured over the menu of a local pizza bistro online to determine what type of pizza I might get for lunch today (spicy meatball, prosciutto white, chicken pesto ... choices, choices, choices!). This is why I was so happy to find Everybody Likes Sandwiches (http://everybodylikes-sandwiches.blogspot.com/), an “uncomplicated journal about food ... not just sandwiches.”

The blog is written by a 30-something, food-obsessed designer living in Vancouver, British Columbia. Her frequent posts include complicated and explicit instructions on what I might get for lunch today (spicy meatball, prosciutto white, chicken pesto ... choices, choices, choices!). This is why I was so happy to find Everybody Likes Sandwiches (http://everybodylikes-sandwiches.blogspot.com/), an “uncomplicated journal about food ... not just sandwiches.”

An admission that “recipes with complicated and explicit instructions scare me and I usually pass those by.”

Double chocolate oatmeal cookies.

Perhaps you missed that ... DOUBLE CHOCOLATE OATMEAL COOKIES! Everybody Likes Sandwiches has made my blog rotation, and as soon as I can make it to the grocery I’ll be trying out her recipe for butter tarts, a supposedly Canadian dessert involving not quite as much butter as the name would imply, but copious amounts of brown sugar, as well as walnuts, raisins and coconut. Yum!

(Wendy Zang writes Blog It for Knight Rider/Tribune News Service. To recommend a blog, e-mail Zang at wzang@krtinfo.com.)

Community Auction for Theater Arts

By Jessica Nash

Student Activities Admission Team member Breezie Thompson was recently crowned Miss Lewis County and won a $1,500 scholarship.

The Miss Lewis County Scholarship Program is a Miss America preliminary. For 44 years, the program has helped young women fine-tune their education and improve their personal skills.

In July, Thompson will compete for the Miss Washington title against other county winners. She will also have a chance to win more cash for college.

Besides poise and beauty, the competition seeks out women who are passionate about social issues.

All contestants choose a social cause they wish to promote called a platform. During the competition, the women are interviewed for 12 minutes about their platform, constituting for 25 percent of their total score.

The program looks for young women who are aware of current events and who act as leaders in their community, Thompson said.

Thompson’s winning platform was youth involvement in the arts.

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Thompson’s winning platform was youth involvement in the arts.

For the last couple of years, she has exercised this interest into action by organizing arts events at the college and in her community.

Thompson currently acts as SAAT’s social issues coordinator. In addition, she volunteers as a board member for Community Auction for Theater Arts and the East Lewis County based Fire Mountain Arts Council.

Fred Schwindt, president of Fire Mountain Arts Council, said the board appreciates Thompson for the perspective she brings as a young adult.

The competition has allowed her to broaden her audience and connect with other leaders in the community, Thompson said.

One of her goals is to work with the Washington State Arts Commission to help foster support for her platform. She is concerned about how arts programs at small high schools are being cut, robbing young people of vital opportunities.

As Miss Lewis County, Thompson serves as a community representative. Throughout the year, she will attend scheduled events such as festivals and fairs. She will also have a chance to gain more experience in public speaking.

Currently, she is meeting with business owners and organizations to officially thank them for supporting the Miss Lewis County Scholarship Program.

Thompson recommends young women get involved in the program, whether they are looking for scholarships or wish to take a stand on pressing issues.

Thompson sees her new role in the community as a means for professional development.

People often ask her if being Miss Lewis County is a job.

“It’s a job that’s also an awesome opportunity,” Thompson said.

With her scholarship, 19-year-old Thompson plans to transfer to Saint Martin’s University and major in community services.
Winter quarter honor students named

By TRINITY HOFFMAN

Locally born dance master Merce Cunningham will be honored with a photo display at Washington Hall.

“It’s a work in progress, but we are planning to have a permanent display in the lobby and halls of Washington Hall consisting of pictures of Merce (Cunningham) throughout his life,” said Julie J. Morgan, director of development for the Centralia Foundation.

This display will be extensive, because Cunningham led an exciting and eventful life, said John Johnson, coordinator of student activities for the Centralia College Foundation.

In Cunningham’s early choreography, dance and music shared a time relationship – dance. And he has rarely stopped dancing since he took classes in tap and ballroom during his junior year in high school.

“His achievements have been recognized several times around the world, and among his many awards and honors, Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the first performance. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started. Cunningham’s work with a step that will lead him to the discovery of something he did not know before he started.
Mark Brosz, math professor, and Karen Knutsen, chemistry professor, will both receive tenure effective fall quarter 2006.

For Brosz, acquiring tenure is a blessing. "I really enjoy working here because the faculty are so great and this is genuinely a good college," said Brosz.

Brosz describes himself as a "gypsy," having moved several times during the past 20 years. He decided to stay in Centralia because it's the kind of community he grew up in, and he likes working here.

Brosz first came here as a student, and like many students changed his major more than once. He was originally a music major, but changed to English because he wanted more stability in his career. He was surprised to find something entirely out of his field that he was good at and unexpectedly enjoyed: math.

"I found math to be fun and relatively easy," he said.

His first job was working as a lab tech and teaching some classes as an adjunct. When it came time to make a serious decision to stay, he opted to remain in Lewis County.

"I appreciate the small, close-knit community that Centralia offers, and I think that Centralia College is an institution that doesn't sell closeness," he said. "People really care and it's student-centered, which benefits both the students and faculty."

Brosz hopes that he can contribute to the positive things the college does and the good reputation it upholds.

"I look forward to helping people improve their lives, especially since math is a hindrance to many people," said Brosz. "I hope that if I can bring them a little more understanding in one area of their lives that maybe it will make the community and a little piece of the world better for them."

Knutsen also greatly enjoys the community and helping people understand her field.

This is Knutsen's first teaching job, but she has plenty of experience to fall back on in her classroom.

She was originally a research chemist, but she had to leave that job due to health reasons, and she found herself looking for a way to stay in the area when a position opened here. But she didn't know it would bring her to a place that she would fall in love with.

"It's been fun meeting so many new people and playing in the lab," she said lightly. "It's a great job because I get paid to play."

Like Brosz, Knutsen was originally a music major but decided she liked the sciences better, so she switched.

"I found it fascinating, discovering how things work and the processes that occur," she said. "It really puts curiosity in motion."

Curiosity is one of the many attributes that Knutsen encourages in her classes. Naturally she tries to spark interest in data and research in her students, especially considering she was a research chemist before she came here.

"I mostly try to encourage a deep interest in learning, beyond science," she said. "I teach not to be intimidated by things that look complex, but rather pursue them."

The tenure process is certainly complex, but ultimately it is a positive practice which improves the academic community.

"The purpose of tenure is to ensure academic freedom," said John Martens, vice president of Instruction. "It is also a form of recognition given to faculty members the college feels have met high standards of quality in the performance of their job."

Knutsen's process runs for only three years, as opposed to many universities that have a seven-year process, but the nine quarters a faculty member meets with a committee that evaluates instructors.

"After the college hires a full-time faculty member, a committee is established for that person which includes an administrator, three tenured faculty members and one student representative," said Martens.

The administrator is appointed by the vice president of Instruction, the three tenured faculty members are chosen by the Centralia College Federation of Teachers and the Student Government appoints the student member to the committee.

The committee evaluates the individual's ability to teach, advise and participate in college events," said Martens. "At the end of the nine quarters the tenure committee makes a report and meets with the Board of Trustees to give a presentation on the individual they evaluated." The whole tenure process helps the college and the individual decide whether or not this is the best place for him or her, said Martens.

Brosz had a stressful time for people, being evaluated and not knowing whether you'll be here long term or not, but it is a good experience because it allows indepth look at the classroom and in and around the college to help him or her.

"I think anybody, Brosz and Knutsen included, would enjoy the freedom tenure offers and foster new ideas with students and fellow faculty members."

BY CORINNE STROHBACH

Tighter security measures are being taken in computer labs across campus. Any students who use the computers for illegal activities or anything that violates the student policy will be appropriately punished, said Steve Ward, vice president of finance and administration.

The need for better monitoring in the computer labs came about when a faculty member found pornographic images in a lab. The police were called at a lab in Washington Hall February 23.

The faculty member brought it to the attention of administration when she immediately contacted the Centralia Police Department, said Ward.

The police identified the images as child pornography and for the next few days monitored the computer labs.

Within 24 hours the Centralia Police Department arrested their suspect and charged him with 10 counts of possession of child pornography, according to a police report.

"The police were awesome on this one," said Ward.

To ensure that other situations like these do not occur, the college has not only installed new cameras on the computer labs, but is also working on a student log-on program.

The policy strictly disallows any illegal behavior such as viewing pornography or communicating against the government, said Ward.

When an illegal activity is detected, the police will be notified and the student will deal with the police department, not the college directly.

However, if a student is not conducting an illegal act, but still something that violates the college's policy, the student will need to go through the college's student judicial system, said Ward.

Activities that violate the policy in class or outside of the college, such as racial or sexual jokes, or any behavior that is offensive to others, he said. "It's a harassment issue," said Ward.

To further enforce the standards set by the policy, the college is creating a student log-on program.

The log-on program will require students to enter a personal identification number before logging onto a computer. With the log-on program in place, the college will be able to track which students have been violating the policy, said Ward.

If a student's PIN is stolen, the college will disable the old PIN and administer a new PIN.

BY CORINNE STROHBACH

The annual Family Fun Festival will be celebrating its 25th anniversary May 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the college's gymnasium.

The festival, a yearly event for pre-school students, is hosted by the Child and Family Studies program and is open to all pre-school students accompanied by their parents, said Nancy Keaton, event coordinator.

Outside the gymnasium, the Centralia trolley will be providing rides between the gymnasium and technical building, she said.

Also, a fire truck and aid-car will be outside for the children to climb on as well as learn about safety.

The fire department will also be selling bike helmets for $5.

Inside will be an astro-jump for the children to jump on, an obstacle course, kiosk businesses which provide instruments for the children to play with, a rock collection provided by Louis Synder, representatives from the Centralia College Children program and a visit from the Lewis County Dairy Princess.

Students from V.F.W. West High school also will be participating in the event by providing face-painting, mini-golf, a bean-bag toss and miniature terrariums.

Although the college funds the majority of the festival, it also receives donations such as a $100 donation from Soroptimist, an international volunteer organization for women.

On the day of the event, the college grounds and maintenance crew will help set up the event, but the faculty in the Child and Family Studies prepares and hosts the event.

The college's various days, as well as the students in the community, will be participating in the event.

In previous years, more than 200 children have attended the festival.

For more information, contact Keaton at ext. 46s.

SHE WAS A COP!?

WELCOME TO MOTHER'S DAY!

BY CORINNE STROHBACH

A 19-year-old, driving his mother's car, reached out and grabbed the rear end of a woman jogging the streets of Tampa, Florida, police said on May 9. The woman was not injured but she was not happy and was arrested.

A child was in the backseat of the car and apparently the teen's mother had told him he could not do it. The child was in the backseat of the car and apparently the teen's mother had told him he could not do it. The teen was still at large, police said.

"He was a deputy sheriff. She wrote down the license plate number, and her daughter showed up at mommy's house shortly afterward."
Six lectures remain for this year’s theme “Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting”

BY EMILY ALLEN

Spring quarter is nearing its end—only seven weeks until graduation—but there is still a handful of LCCEM lectures remaining, so here’s a preview:

**Tales of the Trees**

Pat Pringle, geology instructor, has planned a virtual field trip of the buried and submerged forests of Washington, May 4.

“Buried and submerged forests are the ‘time capsule’ that provide important clues to our ‘recent’ geologic and environmental history,” he wrote in an e-mail.

“In 2006-2007 school year, as many current club officers are graduating in June. This year, with seven active members, as drop boxes for supplies. Collection announcements regarding the drive, as well as students pursuing elementary through post-secondary teaching certificates.

The club is also open to WSU and City University students. However, according to the Centralia College club handbook, such students cannot hold office. Currently, plans for a school supply drive are being made, with hopes of promoting the club and exhibiting community service.

Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements regarding the drive, as well as drop boxes for supplies. Collection days are scheduled for mid-May.

For those interested in a career in education and becoming a member, the next meeting is April 28 at 1 p.m. in the Writing Center.

Following meetings are held in the Writing Center at 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Friday of each month.

As supplemental evening lecture is also planned and will begin at 7 p.m. in WAB 103.

See related article on page 9.

**Theatrical Grab Bag**

For lack of a better title, “Theatrical Grab Bag” is the title of the June 1 presentation, said Bryan Tyrrell, drama instructor.

In essence, the presentation will provide the audience with a viewpoint from behind the curtain.

“Rarely does the audience get a chance to look at the inside process of writing and producing plays,” Tyrrell said. “This presentation will act as good exposure.”

Learning to write 10-minute plays is one of the assignments of Drama 120, a playwriting class. The LCCEM presentation will present a few of the selected plays, performed by the intermediate and advanced drama students.

**Liberation Theology**

Liberation theology is an important, sometimes controversial, school of theological thought.

Don Foran, English instructor and former ordained Jesuit priest, plans to provide a brief history, as well as the shifts in power and the future of the liberation movement in his presentation June 8.

The idea of liberation theology came out of the 1968 Medellin Conference in Columbia. It provided a new way of “doing” theology, Foran said.

“By ‘doing’ he means that the movement has changed the emphasis from orthodoxy to orthopraxy. It has also been associated with socialism and communism, and for this reason, along with others, Pope Benedict XVI, has been known to oppose liberation theology. This is evident in his establishment of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

But, what is it a liberation from?

“It is a liberation from ideology,” Foran said. “I see a lot of good in it because in time the winds of truth will blow institution down.”

He also said that it is not a movement of irrational people, but of logical, average people, and though some within it advocate taking up arms, liberation theology is a non-violent movement.

Foran’s background and credibility regarding the issue includes his 17 years as a Jesuit, three years as an ordained priest (1975-1978), as well as his part in the Peace and Justice Movement.

Though he has had the opportunity to travel to various third world nations, due to his teaching obligations, Foran has yet had the chance to visit El Salvador, the center of the liberation movement.

The presentation will focus primarily on this area, along with other parts of Central America, since they are the forerunners of the movement.

Lectures are scheduled for Thursdays of each week at 1 p.m. and, unless otherwise noted, will meet in WAB 103.

**CLUBS**

**Future Teachers of America**

hopes to increase membership

BY EMILY ALLEN

Future Teachers of America has experienced a rollercoaster ride, in terms of membership, throughout its various years on campus.

This year, with seven active members, Stephanie Hall, club president, fears that numbers will be low going into the 2006-2007 school year, as many current members are graduating in June.

She believes the main problem lies in a misunderstanding of who the club is for.

Even though the current club officers are all future Washington State University students (who will be taking part in the 2+2 program on campus), anyone who is planning a career in education can be a member, regardless of their future college plans.

This includes students pursuing elementary through post-secondary teaching certificates.

The club is also open to WSU and City University students. However, according to the Centralia College club handbook, such students cannot hold office. Currently, plans for a school supply drive are being made, with hopes of promoting the club and exhibiting community service.

Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements regarding the drive, as well as drop boxes for supplies. Collection days are scheduled for mid-May.

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Speaker examines health and environmental hazards associated with the oil industry

BY EMILY ALLEN

Marine oil pollution expert Riki Ott was on the scene before, during and after one of the biggest environmental disasters in the United States – the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

In her latest book, “Sound Truth and Corporate Myth$,” Ott exposes oil as a human and environmental health hazard, based on stories of key witnesses and participants in the environmental tragedy that struck Prince William Sound March 24, 1989.

Now Ott is coming to campus for a day of lectures, May 25.

As an activist and marine toxicologist, Ott will address the unexpected long-term effects of the spill, the ongoing corporate cover up, global ramifications for public health and the environment, as well as reshaping the nation’s global energy future.

She is scheduled to speak at the day’s Lyceum, followed by an evening lecture at 7 p.m. in WAB 103.

Childhood epiphany

Ott’s career path began with a childhood epiphany.

Living in Wisconsin in the late 1960s, Ott, then 13 years old, began noticing dead robins in her neighborhood.


She received a bachelor of science degree from Colby College in Waterville, Maine in 1976, a master of science degree in 1980 from the University of South Carolina and a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1985.

It was at this point that Ott’s life took a slight turn in an unexpected direction.

“Two days after graduating from the University of Washington with my Ph.D., I heard my name called to crew on a salmon fishing boat for the summer,” she wrote in an e-mail. “I figured I would take one summer off of my career options.”

Instead, Ott fell in love with Cordova, a small, rural, coastal fishing community in Prince William Sound, Alaska, later buying a boat, a commercial fishing permit for salmon and a home in Cordova.

“Dr. Jane Goodall calls that a nonliner career choice,” she wrote.

She is scheduled to speak at the day’s Lyceum, followed by an evening lecture at 7 p.m. in WAB 103.

Ott quickly found herself volunteering with the local fishermen’s organization, Cordova District Fisherman United, on oil issues in Prince William Sound.

“I wanted to offer something back into the fishery that supported me,” she wrote.

“I was promptly assigned to ‘Alyeska Responsibility’ – a non-profit organization run by an association of oil company owners in Port Valdez. This particular tanker was polluting the water and air of the port. Ott wrote.

“I was working on these issues when the spill happened,” she explained.

She realized she knew enough to make a difference and cared enough for the sound and community to commit her life to it.

“Up until that point my life was seemingly random – until March 24,” Ott wrote. She felt like a giant board, being moved by an invisible hand. All the odd bits and pieces of my life fell together and I could clearly see my destiny.”

This commitment has since guided Ott’s life’s work.

She retired from commercial fishing in 1994, after the pink salmon and herring populations collapsed in Prince William Sound, and began working full time on the “myriad issues that tie oil spills and oil use in with public health, the environment, and global climate change,” she wrote.

Ott later founded and co-founded numerous nonprofit organizations to deal with the area’s lingering social, economic and environmental harm – including the Oiled Regions of Alaska Foundation, the Copper River Watershed Project,

Students needed to serve on next year’s activities-admissions team

BY CORINNE STRODBACH

Student Programs is recruiting students to serve on next year’s Student Activities and Admissions Team.

The SAAT will be composed of an entertainment coordinator, a health and wellness coordinator, a publicity coordinator, a social issues coordinator and a lecture coordinator, said Lucy Page, SAAT advisor.

The SAAT is responsible for bringing musical performances and comedians, guest speakers and health fairs to campus.

They also host the annual Hoopfest, Spring Break and the recently added Rockfest.

Students serving on the team also travel to local high schools to talk with students about attending Centralia College.

Page said they are looking for students who are only fairly new to campus, but also understand the importance of balancing their school and work on the SAAT.

“I’d like to see students that are outgoing, feel comfortable talking to people, are energetic and really good at setting priorities,” she said.

Page would also like to see the number of students who apply increase this year.

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Students spend spring break visiting Maya archaeological sites in Mexico

BY CORINNE STROHBACH

Thirty students, led by Dr. Gregory van Alstyne, instructor of anthropology, and Laura Yocom, instructor of Spanish, left Centralia College and headed south to the Mexican Yucatan for a nine-day excursion during spring break.

The students went to study both the Spanish language and culture as well as visit historical Maya archaeological sites.

At the start of the journey, the trip did not appear to be going in a good direction.

One of the college’s vans that the group was using to travel to the airport was having problems and caused the group to run behind and almost miss their plane, said student Holly King.

“We already had something you could count on and tell people about,” said Katy Genson, another student on the trip.

But, everything worked out and the group stayed on schedule, boarded an airplane and headed to the Mexican Yucatan.

After catching a connecting flight from Mexico City to the Mexican town of Merida, the group took an hour long van ride to the Sache Bungalows, which are small cabanas where they lodged for the next eight nights.

Yocom described each location where they stayed throughout the trip as rugged and simple, but clean.

“There were no five-stars, we did not even have one star,” she said.

While staying at the cabanas, each day the group would travel short van rides to surrounding archaeological sites.

Use iPods carefully to avoid damaging hearing

BY LISA ROBERTS, KRT CAMPUS

In the age of the iPod, where the music never stops, how can users of personal stereos ensure their ears don’t give out? It’s easy: by turning down the volume, taking breaks from listening or using noise-canceling earphones, according to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

And as of last month, those who have Nano or video-capable iPods can download software that limits the top volume of the units.

The electronic units usually are packaged with “ear buds” — earphones that insert into the outer ear. Unfortunately, they visited the archaeological sites of Chichen Itza, Uxmal, the ruins at Kabah and Loltun as well as a market at Ticul.

The group was also given the opportunity to experience the culture by visiting the markets and interacting with the people daily.

All students on the trip spoke Spanish at some level, said Yocom.

“You can’t take language out of a culture or culture out of a language,” she said.

Through their struggles with the language, the group displayed their abilities to work well together while trying to break the language barrier.

The people spoke quickly in their native tongue and were at first intimidating, said student Selah Newkirk.

But, by the end of the trip, the students felt comfortable having conversations with the community, she said.

And through communication, the students were able to barter for souvenirs such as chess sets, hammocks, jewelry and clothes, said Yocom.

The next leg of the journey was an eight hour van ride Monday afternoon. The group traveled from the dry climate of the northern Yucatan to the rainforest climate of the southern Yucatan.

For the following two nights, they stayed in a traditional hotel in the Mexican city of Palenque. There, the group enjoyed good food and an interesting nightlife, said King.

“When it was a happening place,” said Genson.

The group also visited the ruins of Palenque.

The following day they traveled about two hours to a location alongside the Usumacinta River, the largest river between Venezuela and Texas, said van Alstyne.

The huts they stayed in while at the river had thatch roofs and only shutters to keep the air and bugs out, no glass or screens, said Yocom. There also was an opening between the top of the walls and where the ceiling began where air could come in and out throughout the day and night.

While staying there, the group visited two archaeological sites – the site of Bonampak and the site of Yaxchilan.

Yaxchilan is an archaeological site only accessible by boat. So, the group traveled 50 minutes downstream on motorized canoes and another 90 minutes upstream.

While at the archaeological site, the students were greeted by howler monkeys that are named after the unique noise they make that sounds more like a lion’s roar than a monkey, said van Alstyne.

It was difficult to even hear each other’s voices because the monkeys were so loud, he said.

After leaving Yaxchilan, the group traveled back to the city of Palenque, but leaving Yaxchilan did not end their encounters with Mexican animals.

While still on the river they saw a Caiman alligator, an alligator native to the new world, said van Alstyne.

While in Mexico they also saw a Toucan, mot-mot bird and other birds native to the region, he said.

“We saw a lot of wonderful things,” said Yocom.

After spending one last night in Palenque, the group traveled north once again to stay at the Sache Bungalows before heading back home the following day.

On their journey back to the bungalows, the group stopped at their final historical site at the ruins of Edzna.

In the end, the group visited eight historical sites.

The students learned a lot about Maya culture and maintained an amazing level of interest and excitement, said van Alstyne.

Although they visited numerous sites, each site proved to be diverse and provided unique archaeological designs.

“They didn’t run together. They were different and always something new,” said Genson.

As for expectations, King believed the archaeological sites would represent a lot of spiritual significance, but her thoughts proved to be wrong.

Instead, she, along with the others, found that the sites represented Maya history – defined by war, bloodshed and aggression, she said.

Although the trip had a few inconveniences, such as 100-degree weather, getting lost and encountering six military roadblocks, they were fortunate to have an abundance of water, a chaperone (Yocom) who spoke fluent Spanish and compatible personalities, said van Alstyne.

“We’ve been to the top of temple pyramids and down in black passages,” he said. “A number of our students were fundamentally transformed.”

And based on the success of this trip, van Alstyne and Yocom are already planning another trip to take place possibly spring break of next year.

Confessions of a clutter queen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

more on an unconscious level. I just can’t stand a perfectly clean room. Put me in a sanitized hotel suite and suddenly I’m struck with the urge to jump on the bed and send pillows and blankets flying.

But don’t get me wrong—I love my mom. Hey, I even admire her Martha Stewart ways.

My mom is a living testimony of the “woman’s work” was. My mom is what I’d call a housewife artist, who can whip up a batch of homemade temal to climb pyramids while having Howler monkeys screaming in the background.

And as for expectations, King believed the archaeological sites would represent a lot of spiritual significance, but her thoughts proved to be wrong.

Instead, she, along with the others, found that the sites represented Maya history – defined by war, bloodshed and aggression, she said.

Although the trip had a few inconveniences, such as 100-degree weather, getting lost and encountering six military roadblocks, they were fortunate to have an abundance of water, a chaperone (Yocom) who spoke fluent Spanish and compatible personalities, said van Alstyne.

“We’ve been to the top of temple pyramids and down in black passages,” he said. “A number of our students were fundamentally transformed.”

And based on the success of this trip, van Alstyne and Yocom are already planning another trip to take place possibly spring break of next year.
After watching her daughter quietly—let’s be honest, in this case it is a girl—watch TV, I will push us to tackle the clutter and make our home a safe place. As an adult, I still rebel against my mom. HA, HA.

To us, playtime meant dumping loads of laundry in the washer and dryer and picking them up. That’s right—the kids of a clean freak wanted nothing else but to help you fold the towels... and then make a mess. They drove my mom nuts. She demands we clean our rooms and she’d pack our toys in the attic. Sometimes she grounded us for weeks when we were soiled. My sisters and I held on as long as we could without picking up a single toy. Once, my sister Amber and I made a jail break by jumping out the window. We made a quick getaway on our bikes to Tiffany Park and didn’t come home until we were hungry, two hours later.

My parents, to say the least, were not happy. However, as an adult, I still rebel against my mom’s household-kingdom. But now, it’s a full-time faculty members are given the opportunity to critique themselves, via student evaluation or certificate scores, with the intention of improving the course and the teaching.

Here’s the deal: In the college setting assessment days (and the action of assessment in general) help in the accreditation process of an institution. Without accreditation there would be no reason for attending classes— at least not for transfer students, technical program students, Running Start students or any other kind of student because accreditation makes the diploma or certificate more than just a piece of paper. Believe it or not, but our instructors evaluating us on a regular basis. This evaluation, or assessment, can come in the form of a test, a student feedback questionnaire at the beginning of or end of the quarter, a project evaluation or all of the above. The assessment, in turn, helps the instructor review the course, make revisions and improve the course, which is where the ends of the grading a course. The idea of an assessment day has not changed or morphed drastically since its creation. Students are still given a day off while the faculty is required to be on campus, though the importance of it has elevated slightly.

So, what’s all the fuss about assessing? Here’s the deal: In the college setting assessment days (and the action of assessment in general) help in the accreditation process of an institution. Without accreditation there would be no reason for attending classes—at least not for transfer students, technical program students, Running Start students or any other kind of student because accreditation makes the diploma or certificate more than just a piece of paper. Believe it or not, but our instructors evaluate us on a regular basis. This evaluation, or assessment, can come in the form of a test, a student feedback questionnaire. Assessment: What’s all the fuss?

Confessions of a clutter queen

Let’s encourage healthier eating habits

I was shocked recently when I saw my 5-year-old cousin at a family barbecue. I had not seen her for a few months, and in that time she had gained a significant amount of weight. I was ushering an old T-shirt and sweat pants, not the cute pink flowered clothes most girls her age are wearing. But what really surprised me was how much she ate—and how much her mom did not care.

I sat next to her and watched in amazement as she ate a hot dog, followed by another, then mounds of potato chips, while already drinking her second, sugar-filled soda. Her mother did not seem to care. She allowed her to sit in her lap to keep her quiet— in fact, it was food.

When she was done eating, she didn’t play with the other kids, but instead walked inside to the couch, where she immediately sat down to watch television. Unfortunately, she is not the only child in the United States who is overeating and consequently gaining too much weight.

According to a recent study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 34 percent of all American children are overweight.

This should alarm parents. Children who are overweight face an increased risk of diabetes, heart disease and numerous other health-related issues. But parents appear to be less concerned with their children’s increased health risks and more concerned about how society will accommodate their children’s size.

A study in the Journal of Pediatrics found that nearly 300,000 children under the age of 7 in the United States cannot fit into a standard child safety or booster seat.

So parents complained and manufacturers saw an opportunity for profit. “Oh no, my mom is Betty Crocker. Name the dish, and I bet she can make it from scratch. Curious about how to lift stains from sweaters or remove soap scum from your bathtub? Ask her, because she knows the lowdown of every cleaning product in the supermarket aisle. Brian likes to jokingly nudge me to take cooking and cleaning lessons from mom. Ha, ha.”

Every home is like a government, with its own rules and regulations. When it comes to domestic order, my mom is queen.

Growing up, my sisters and I couldn’t do much of anything without my mom saying, “Clean up your messes!”

She assigned us daily chores. After we completed our tasks, mom inspected our work. Rarely, did we please her.

We always missed a crumb on the kitchen counter. We always folded our father’s sweatspants wrong. We always left a hair on the bathroom linoleum. We always left our bedroom beds and relished in wild mess making.

To us, playtime meant dumping loads of laundry in the washer and dryer and picking them up. That’s right—the kids of a clean freak wanted nothing else but to help you fold the towels... and then make a mess. They drove my mom nuts. She demanded we clean our rooms and she’d pack our toys in the attic. Sometimes she grounded us for weeks when we were soiled. My sisters and I held on as long as we could without picking up a single toy.

Once, my sister Amber and I made a jail break by jumping out the window. We made a quick getaway on our bikes to Tiffany Park and didn’t come home until we were hungry, two hours later.

My parents, to say the least, were not happy. However, as an adult, I still rebel against my mom’s household-kingdom. But now, it’s

- So who is to blame for the increase in weight?
- It is easy to blame the parents for not being responsible enough to direct their children toward healthy lifestyles.
- And 80 percent of teenagers who are obese will carry their extra weight into their adult lives.
- It is during the assessment day that students, could sleep in while we, the teachers, continued to sleep in.
- The idea of an assessment day has not changed or morphed drastically since its creation. Students are still given a day off while the faculty is required to be on campus, though the importance of it has elevated slightly.
- So, what’s all the fuss about assessing? Here’s the deal: For this reason assessment days, in terms of overtaking academic days, should be and will be reconsidered for the 2006-2007 academic calendar.
- Let’s encourage healthier eating habits.

During its first year on the college campus, assessment day has seen less than positive feedback from various faculty, as well as students. Let’s encourage healthier eating habits. How do we get parents, they cost about $240. To us, playtime meant dumping loads of laundry in the washer and dryer and picking them up. That’s right—the kids of a clean freak wanted nothing else but to help you fold the towels... and then make a mess. They drove my mom nuts. She demanded we clean our rooms and she’d pack our toys in the attic. Sometimes she grounded us for weeks when we were soiled. My sisters and I held on as long as we could without picking up a single toy. Once, my sister Amber and I made a jail break by jumping out the window. We made a quick getaway on our bikes to Tiffany Park and didn’t come home until we were hungry, two hours later.

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STUDENT LIFE

Springfest provides a break from studies

BY CORINNE STROBACH
This year’s annual Springfest will be held May 4 on the Quad.

To incorporate the theme of “Survivor,” there will be daily intramural competitions. According to Natalie Stur, Student Activity and Admissions Team publicity coordinator.

All events are welcome to participate in any of the intramural competitions. The festival will also incorporate music, food, refreshments, and vendors from the community.

One booth, the tie-dying booth, will be present throughout the festival or until supplies run out, for students to create their own tie-died shirts, said Garrity. The SAAT will also feature a booth at the festival promoting events that will occur next fall, he said.

The college will serve as the official midpoint for the Seattle to Portland Bicycle Classic. The college will serve as the capital City Bike Club race and provide a go-kart track for Ward.

According to their Web site, Raining Jane has released two albums, their first, an eponymous album in 2001 followed by their second, “Diamond Lane,” in 2005. During the seven years since the band was formed, they have been named as one of Music Connections hot 100, gone on a national college tour in 2004, and have been named band of the month in January 2005 at NewestSongAlert.com.

As in August 2005 Billboard Magazine said that it “was lucky enough to catch a sterling performance by Raining Jane.” And earlier, during January 2005, Raining Jane received a full endorsement from Fox, which has also awarded a national sponsor and its campus manager.

“We’re getting bigger and bigger,” said Rebecca Robbins, Student Activities and Admissions Team entertainment coordinator at Centralia.

They are one of the most frequently booked bands by colleges nationwide, she said. All four members of the band play musical instruments, and some play two or three.

In addition to the guitar, bass and drums, to create a wider range of sounds, members of the band play instruments such as the cello, clarinet and sitar.

“Their music is described as having an eclectic, rock-folk sound, as well as some rapping,” said Robbins.

“They’re absolutely amazing,” said Robbins. “They’re so fun and down to earth.”

After Raining Jane performs, Amadan, an Irish Rock band will take the stage. “They’re totally original and out there,” she said. “They’re really cool.”

Although the six-member band is originally from Corvallis, Ore., they play Irish punk/rock music.

For more information about the STP concert, contact Bob Peters at ext. 307 or by e-mail at bpeters@centralia.edu.

Bands take center stage May 4 for Rockfest

BY CORINNE STROBACH
Two teams of performances by Raining Jane and Amadan will be held in Corbett Theatre May 4 at 7 p.m. for this year’s Rockfest.

First to take the stage will be Raining Jane, a four-member female band based out of Southern California.

According to their Web site, Raining Jane consists of rock, folk and bluegrass. Since then, Raining Jane has released two albums, their first, an eponymous album in 2001 followed by their second, “Diamond Lane,” in 2005.

During the past 39 years, Springfest has only been affected by the weather once, said Garrity.

Flyers with more information advertising Springfest will be posted around campus during the first week of May.

 cloves and Admissions Team entertainment coordinator.

To kick off Springfest, Ryanhood, a guitar-playing duo will perform on the lawn beside the clock tower. The duo – Ryan and Cameron Hood – have opened for artists such as Better Than Ezra, Matt Nathanson and Jason Mraz.

So far, the concert has been well attended, said Ward. “They put on a good show,” said Robbins.

One of the most popular events during Springfest will be the bike race.

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Plan to meet with your advisor May 19

BY TRINITY HOFFMAN
May 19 is advising day this quarter, with advising week following through May 25. This quarter’s advising week is unique because it is for choosing classes for both summer and fall quarters.

“This appointment is extremely important for returning students because they need to be advised now so they can pre-register,” said Paul Mitchell of the Counseling Center. “Otherwise they’ll come back to campus in July or August and find that their advisor isn’t here, then they will have to sign up for ‘leftover’ classes.”

It is important to pre-register if you are planning to return because new students will quickly fill up classes and you may find that you can’t get into a class that you need to take, said Mitchell.

“Register for fall now and pay later,” said Mitchell.

This way you have more than a month to gather your finances and meet the payments.

As usual, one week before advising day advisors will set up shops near their doors so students may make appointments.

Following advising week is registration week, May 26, 29-31. Priority students will be mailed registration notices one week before advising.

After seeing your advisor, you will make a registration appointment to register for classes and, if you choose, pay tuition for the summer or fall.

Web registration is another option. It is more convenient and easy, but you still need to see your advisor to get your Web registration PIN, said Mitchell.

For more information contact the Counseling Center in the Student Center or at ext. 265.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE

Burglars broke into a bar in Amstetten, Austria, and were caught when a drunk staggered in and asked for a beer.

They gave him free drinks until he passed out and then they fled with the loot.

REGISTRATION
Can you all just shut up?

All you gossips, you self-appointed political experts, you loose-jawed babblers, it is my turn to speak. Tape your mouths, cease your verbal cacophony and stop polluting the auditory environment with your toxic voices. I have been holding my thoughts to myself, something that has never crossed your minds, but there comes a time when silence must be upheld through speech, and it seems that I must be the speaker.

Repugnant
Perhaps my audience does not realize that it is the object of society’s irritation. We know who you people are, but do you?

Do you not notice that others hate your incessant chatter, or are you fully aware of your auditory repugnance but care nothing for the comfort and sanity of your fellow humans?

I am addressing those members of society who seemingly do not understand that other people do not want to endure 20 minutes of loud and tedious speech. I am not even approaching the topic of cell phones; my concern here lies with those persons who are irrelevant, irritating or both.

The speaker bludgeons the unfortunate many whose jaws flap at their friends, but at such volume that no individual within the room can escape the fact that yes, it is indeed raining. And so I must make clear that which polite society declines to spell out to the socially inept. Your oft-stated opinions are not constructive or appreciated. You add nothing of value to the world by speaking your mind at high volume.

Un-sadistic bludgeoning
Here on this college campus, the problem is most irritating within the classroom, when the audience cannot escape. The instructor, not the professor says in lecture, bringing up additional points that have nothing to do with the handout.

But sometimes, self-elected public orators feel that they must share their insights with everyone whenever they meet.

Stamped out
It is a strange thing that the level of insight seems to be inversely proportional to the volume of the enlightened party. In other words, loud people seem to enjoy making stupidly obvious or monumentally stupid revelations which they feel they must share.

It is, of course, elitist and snobbish to state that “loud people are dumb.” But some people cannot differentiate between the poorly dressed or peers in childhood and developed a belief that they do are lying. Unless the listener is a family member and genuine interest. Perhaps signs should be posted in businesses: PLEASE DO NOT TELL THE EMPLOYEES YOUR LIFE STORY.

This has been a digression, but it was a horribly noisy family.

Squeezed mandibles
I also mentioned plain social ignorance. This suggests that the person cannot learn interaction by example, and must have social protocol explained in the most basic terms:

Unless the listener is a family member or intimate friend, that listener doesn’t care.

No one appreciates your spoken public contributions, and those who say that they do are lying.

Don’t explain your motivations to everyone you meet. It doesn’t make you look better.

Keep the volume down. The list could go on and on. Most people know these things by intuition or childhood experience, but somehow the basics escape a small but vocal fraction of the population.

Is there hope?

It would seem that some people who are competent or more in other areas simply do not care what others think. Why do these babblers persist when the poor employee, and therefore half the world, needed to know every detail about that person? Why didn’t the kids simply try on some shoes and buy what worked best?

What do you think?

No, the mother had to explain every step of the process to the clerk, chiding her for being so insensitive. Why don’t they just say, “Good morning” and such frivolities are not constructive or appreciated. You add nothing of value to the world by speaking your mind at high volume.

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**BY JOHNNY HONG**

One can easily assume that Blazer golfer Babe Prante was named after the last at the 2004-2005 Metro League championships with 27-2 and 2004-2005 and 29-0 in 2005.

They also were engaged in one of my favorite things about sports cheating.

Cheating is just another dimension of sports. It encourages participants to cheat.

Regardless of who cheats, how they did it, or whether cheating is caught or discovered, cheating only takes place during competition. Any game is something done in full view of opponents, game officials and spectators.

Players are the only participants who can engage in good cheating. That is to say, a coach can tell or instruct his players how to cheat, but any kind of actual physical involvement by the coach would not be considered good cheating.

A dynasty they built.

The Metro League has won two straight 3A state championships with records of 19-4 in 2004 and 2004-2005 and 29-0 in 2005.

The districts reasoning for the absence of forfeits is not sound: "The evidence and recruiting rules or the consequences of violating those rules.

Therefore, (Seattle Public Schools) decided not to rule any of the recruited players girls in person as an influence among many other factors that have helped her. In 2003, she attended the U.S. Women's Open at Pumpkin Ridge in Oregon. There, she saw her favorite golfers, including Annika Sorenstam. She took note of how the golfers were detail oriented. See Prante, PAGE 15

The districts reasoning for the absence of forfeits is not sound: "The evidence and recruiting rules or the consequences of violating those rules. Therefore, (Seattle Public Schools) decided not to rule any of the recruited players as ineligible, or invalidate the two state titles won by Chief Sealth in 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

But, that is not what happened in Seattle. After the Seattle Times broke the Chief Sealth story Feb. 14, Seattle Public Schools launched an investigation.Upon completion of the investigation, Seattle Public Schools issued a press release that included the findings and self-imposed penalties. In the April 7 release, the district said it "found substantial evidence of improper activity related to recruiting."

"The violations included fake lease documents that were used to establish eligibility and recruiting." Between her choices of community colleges at Tacoma and Centralia, Prante chose the school that best fit her interests. "I liked this school because it was smaller and the people were more friendly," Prante said. The size of the school and the commute from Tumwater made her choice clear.

Already, she has made her presence felt with an outstanding performance in the WIAA state tournament.

Prante shot a scorching tournament-best 76 at the Grays Harbor Invitational. However, the Blazer team was short one person and did not qualify to place in the tournament.

Prante’s teammate Jen Wilson was also interested in golfing. "She’s just fun to watch,” said Wilson. “She makes it look so easy.”

Prante credits watching professional players in person as an influence among many other factors that have helped her. In 2003, she attended the U.S. Women’s Open at Pumpkin Ridge in Oregon. There, she saw her favorite golfers, including Annika Sorenstam. She took note of how the golfers were detail oriented.
BY JOHNNY HONG

Last year's disappointing 10-21 fast pitch record was what current coach Jill Stockdale wanted to improve upon, among other problem areas.

So far, the 8-7 overall record and the 7-3 start in league play has shown that the Blazers are moving in the right direction and that Stockdale's plans have worked.

After starting the season on a five-game winning streak, the players gained confidence in their ability to perform.

Sophomore infielder Callie Zuber sees that Stockdale is an experienced and knowledgeable leader who has preached communication as a key to success.

“I really like her,” Zubr said. “She knows what she’s talking about and she’s always getting us to talk. If someone messes up, we’re always encouraging each other.”

The level of communication displayed by the team has made for a relaxed environment.

“We all get along really well,” said sophomore pitcher Haylee Cox.

But the experience gained from the communication has been the coaching staff.

Sophomore second baseman Kristina Fittinger agrees that Stockdale is a major factor in the team’s progress.

“Everything is working for this team this year,” Fittinger said. “From the coaches, the players, and the level of skills, it’s a completely different program.”

The Blazers worked their way through a rough start with injuries and a roster of only 12 players to determine to finish the season strong.

“Highline

The Blazers made mincemeat of the Thunderbirds, winning 13-5 and 16-2.

The Thunderbirds had six errors in the first game to overshadow their six hits and five runs, whereas the Blazers committed none, with two hits and 13 runs.

Kaelie Johnson got the win on the mound to start her league play.

In the second game, Haylee Cox earned her first win on the mound.

Grays Harbor

Johnson won the game on the mound, running her wins up to three.

The Clippers smashed seven home runs against the Blazers in the second game, increasing the Clipper’s record of home runs in a single season.

Ahle Ideal scored for the Blazers was Cox, who went 4-0.

But there was more to the game.

In the fall of 2005 when she coached a seventh-grade volleyball team.

She coached Morton Junior High’s seventh grade volleyball team to the state title with their cousin, who coached the “A” team,

appointed Cox to that position.

Cox had finally accepted the opportunity but knew little of what to expect from the girls who would turn out for volleyball.

“I like the middle school kids because they’re funny,” Cox said. “It’s not like kids that I’ve coached before at that age, it wasn’t going to be like baby-sitting.”

To her surprise, Cox was uncomfortable with the job when she met her team.

Most of Cox’s players were inexperienced and had never even touched a volleyball.

In addition to the lack of experience, some of the girls questioned Cox’s authority and as a result, did not show her respect.

“They would say, ‘So what are you 16?’” Cox said, because the players did not initially recognize her as an older person.

After the wonderment of having a young coach wore off, the players eventually showed Cox her deserved respect.

“Everything was great. We were really good,” Cox said. “We had a hard time teaching the players how to properly play volleyball.

“I would repeatedly tell them the same thing over and over again,” Cox said. “It was hard for them to understand because some of them had never played before.”

It was difficult for Cox to grasp the idea of players who were unfamiliar with sports because she always played sports.

Cox knew deep down that she could not expect the girls to know everything.

“It wasn’t that bad because they were only little kids,” said Cox. “It was really frustrating, but I think I helped them play and understand the game better.”

Overall, the experience gave Cox a taste of what coaching glory is as she saw improvement in all of the individual players that made the job worthwhile.

“When I’d show them something and it just seemed like something she will do.

She’s really devoted to what she does,” said the sophomore second baseman.

“Being a teacher fits her personality and it just seems like something she will do.

Job well done.”

Coaching the seventh-grade volleyball team forced Cox to see her future more clearly and deter her from fulfilling her career goal.

Her teammate Kristina Fittinger feels that Cox is perfect in the role of a teacher and coach.

“She really devoted to what she does,” said the sophomore second baseman. “Fittinger.

“Be a baby-sitter for her and it just seems like something she will do.

Crossover Tournament

The Blazers looked to bounce back from their three-game slump in the tournament at Walla Walla Park in Wenatchee, but came back disappointing.

Out of the three games played during the weekend tournament, Centralia barely slipped away with a victory against Skagit Valley and were beaten in two lopsided games against Blue Mountain.

Against the Skagit Valley Cardinals, the Blazers gained their composure to start the tournament with a win.

Led by Johnson, who got the win, Centralia had eight hits and committed only two errors.

Johnson lost on the mound.

Pierce

Johnson lost on the mound.

The first time this season, the Blazers lost at home and in both games of a double-header against the Raiders.

Playing in Fort Boz Park, the Blazers lost 9-5 and 9-3.

Although the Blazers connected on 11 doubles, they were up by two against the Raider squad that had nine hits and just a single error.

Johnson took her second straight loss on the mound.

In the second game, the Raiders hit three balls out of the park and played flawlessly.

The Blazer scored three runs on seven hits but also had three errors to lose the game.

Johnson homered once and Cox suffered her first loss on the mound.

BY JOHNNY HONG

While sophomore Haylee Cox helped kick the Blazers fastpitch season into gear by being one of the few players that her team went undefeated in, she played the role that she is all too familiar with.

“By seventh grade I knew what to expect,” Cox said.

However, while she grew up, Cox picked by default through her career because she was sometimes the only player with pitching experience on a team.

Though that still has not changed, she continues to pitch because she is needed and simply because she likes helping her team.

She is familiar with most sports and is tolerant of accepting roles on a team, no matter the sport or position.

Cox played volleyball, basketball and softball in her childhood years and plans to become a middle school teacher and also a part-time coach.

In order to get to that point, Cox is already a member of the University of Washington State University in Pullman, to pursue a degree in education.

Cox caught a glimpse into her future at Grays Harbor.

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Golf season underway

BY JOHNNY HONG

Despite a lack of players that caused the golf team to miss placing at three tournaments, the team features one of the state’s top performers.

South Puget Sound Community College transfer Babe Prante was the medalist two times in three matches after shooting a tournament-best 76 in the Grays Harbor Invitational at Grays Harbor Country Club March 13 and again at Riverside Country Club in Chehalis April 18.

However, the Blazers were short one person that did not qualify to place in each of the tournaments.

Freshman Jennifer Wilson shot a 113 at Grays Harbor, a 111 at Tacoma’s Oakbrook Country Club April 17 and a 110 at Riverside Country Club.

Prante, a Black Hills High School graduate, was disappointed when she shot an 86 at Tacoma and did not approve of her performance.

“I knew that I could have shot better,” Prante said. “There are a lot of other things that I can improve on.”

That she did, as Prante improved her score by 10 strokes the following day.

Now the team can look forward to competing after adding a third player to the roster for future tournaments.

Freshman Amy Gagner from Yelm replaces sophomore Jillian Shewfelt on the team.

The team has currently lost three matches by disqualification.

Prante

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

“Everything they did was so meticu- lous,” Prante said. “They would take the shot they had a specific routine and were very precise. If anything was wrong, they would back out.”

Prante said she was most influenced by the golfers taking time and incorpo- rated that trait into her style.

If there is anything that Prante has learned from playing golf, it’s that golf is the most popular sport of all.

“Golf doesn’t get the respect it de- serves,” Prante said. “If you can play golf, you must be mentally tough.”
BASEBALL

BY TONY HOLM

Losing record disappoints coaches

Blazer baseball coaches Bruce Pocklington and Joe Thomas are hard pressed to identify the cause of their team’s 4-21 start.

“The pair cite immaturity and too much individualism. There is a lack of hustle, savvy and intensity. “We’re making a lot of the same mistakes over and over again,” Pocklington said.

Pocklington is surprised by the poor start and the fact that players have not stepped up, but he takes part of the blame.

“We need to teach them to compete better,” he said. “I haven’t gotten them ready, I haven’t done a good job of coaching.”

After a 3-12 non-league season the Blazers dropped 9-of-10 to open Western Division play and sit in last place.

“I wouldn’t have guessed this coming into the spring,” he said. “I thought we were further along this year than we were last year.”

As of April 20, Johnny Grandorff had a 2-3 record on the mound, Landon Cruickshank was 1-2 and Galen Andrews was 1-1.

Linn-Benton

The Blazers started quickly at The Dalles, Ore., March 4. Playing as the home team, the Blazers scored four first-inning runs.

Richard Knutz hit a three-run triple in his first at bat of the season.

Sean Dickey cruised through three innings before he was tagged for three runs in the fourth and left with a 2-0 lead.

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**Baseball**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Green River scored all its runs it needed with two in the second inning. Dickey started for the Blazers and fell to 0-4.

The Blazers were held to five hits again. Gottbrecht had a double and Lotten drove in two runs on a pair of RBI singles.

In the first loss, the Blue Mountain Gators April 18 soundly defeating the Blazers 6-5.

But after seeing Grandorff play slow pitch softball in a local recreation league last summer, Hawes changed his mind.

“Softball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

Auburn team at home 20-2 and 23-2 in a doubleheader. Again, the Blazers watched the other team smash the ball for 15 hits. Johnson lost for the second time in the tournament.

Green River

The Blazers jumped down on the Gators April 18 soundly defeating the Auburn team at home 20-2 and 23-2 in a doubleheader.

The Choker sweep ran the Blazer losses to 1-7 in the division (4-17 overall).

Lower Columbia

The Red Devils used dominant pitching to take both ends of this April 17 doubleheader at LCC’s Ed Davis Field.

D.J. Lidyard tossed a four-hit shutout in the opener, a 5-0 Red Devil win.

His effort overshadowed another strong outing by Grandorff, who fell to 2-3.

Grandorff allowed six hits, all singles, and only three earned runs.

Brown doubled in the sixth inning to highlight the Blazer offense.

In the nightcap the Blazers scored an unearned run in the first inning.

With one out, Wilson drew a walk.

Brown followed with a double over Josh Hobson’s head in center field that scored Wilson but that was all the offense could muster in the 9-1 loss.

Blazer starting pitcher Sean Dickey fell to 0-5 after allowing nine runs on six hits in six innings.

Andrews finished with two innings of hitless relief.

Four Red Devils combined to strikeout 16 Centralia batters in the game.

Weather dampens nonleague play

**BY JOHNNY HONG**

The women’s fastpitch team had only four pre-league games scheduled to polish their skills for league play, but as a result of inclement weather, they played only two.

The team also expected to have all-star pitcher Ashley Baker in uniform.

Haylee Cox took the second loss while Grays Harbor pushed an unearned run across in the bottom half of the win.

Hultberg (0-3) lost the game in the nightcap, a 7-2 Choker victory.

The sweep dropped the Blazers to 1-7 in the division (4-17 overall).

Grays Harbor

The Blazers dropped both ends of a doubleheader in this April 19 matchup of last-place teams.

The Choker sweep ran the Blazer losing streak to eight as they fell to 1-9 in league play (4-21 overall).

Lotton (0-4) threw a complete game in the opener and allowed one earned run in a 3-2 loss.

Kiekhaver hit a two-run single in the top of the seventh inning to tie the game but Grays Harbor pushed an unearned run across in the bottom half of the win.

Henry got the win for the Choker as they improved to 2-0 in nonleague play.

The women’s fastpitch team had only four pre-league games scheduled to polish their skills for league play, but as a result of inclement weather, they played only two.

The team also expected to have all-star pitcher Ashley Baker in uniform.

Haylee Cox took the second loss while Grays Harbor pushed an unearned run across in the bottom half of the win.
With the way we were playing in the field and nobody with playoff experience, the Blazers could have easily played the underdog card at the NWAC tournament in Kennewick’s Toyota Center March 9-12. But head coach Dave Klovdahl didn’t think his team had that much room for error that week. “We were peaking at the end of the season,” he said. “We played so well down the stretch in terms of execution and confidence that I thought we could place. If you compete in your league, you can’t be any bit off.”

And compete the Blazers did. Led by the play of three Western Division all stars, the team went 3-1 at the tournament to finish the season 17-15 and scored the Blazers 12-0 over the next four games. “They made it easier to get the spot on the tournament’s third in 1994.”

Hinton averaged 22.9 points during the regular season in addition to seven rebounds and four assists. His 14-14 team fit the bill.

Fulton started the game hot and finished with 25 points. He hit 6-of-7 from the floor and scored 12 points in the first nine minutes before Hinton and Thompson took over. The duo scored the last 20 Blazer points of the half as the team took a 43-32 lead into the locker room.

After scoring the first seven points of the second half, it looked like the Blazers might blow the game open, but the Dolphins did not roll over. Trailng 52-39, Shoreline strung together an 11-0 run to close the gap to one. The Dolphins actually took a 62-61 lead at the 5:45 mark but only scored seven points the rest of the way as the Blazers held on for a 76-69 win. Fulton scored five points and Hinton scored four during a 12-2 run that finally closed the door.

Hinton finished with 27 points and played the entire game for the second consecutive day. Thompson also played all 40 minutes and finished with 16 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists. The Blazers led the tournament in both three-point attempts and made with 99-of-216.

Women also place fifth at tourney

The Women also place fifth at tourney. And compete the Blazers did. “The fouls resulted in a free-throw line that just missed.”

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Hinton turned things around in the second half, scoring four points in the first 2:20 but Clackamas kept the pace to maintain the lead. Clackamas had a four-point lead until Hinton closed the gap to 70-68 at the 1:24 mark. No one scored again until Fulton tied the game at 70 with two free throws and only three seconds on the clock, sending the game over to overtime.

Hinton scored the first six Blazer points in the extra period and assisted Fulton for two more as the Blazers took a 78-72 lead. The Cougars responded with baskets by Jessica Mooney and David Carmichael before Markus Travis hit two free throws for an 80-76 Blazer lead. “Carmichael followed Travis’ clutch shots with a deep three-pointer, his seventh of the game.”

Hinton turned the ball over to the Cougars, the no. 5 seed, but missed the second one for an 81-79 lead, but missed the second and Voebert was given his fourth foul and was fouled. Joke Keetles also hit the first free throw but missed the second and Voebert was given his fourth foul and was fouled.

With a chance to extend the lead to three, Voebert missed both free throws and the Blazers were on the edge.

Klovdahl also fouled out and missed the second free throw.

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Klovdahl also fouled out and missed the second free throw.
**Sophomores end stellar careers**

BY JOHNNY HONG

During the course of two years, the sophomores on the women’s basketball team paved their way into the Blazer basketball history.

“It was a good year,” sophomore post Sade Smith said. “There were really great lifelong friendships. It’s like a family, with the coaches and players.”

The emphasis on being a family rather than just a team was a motto that the coaches applied and carried out throughout each player’s career here.

The family bond helped put Smith and her sophomore teammates—Autumn Spencer, Maile Kauhola, Ashley Baker, Karissa Scherer and Andrea Staley—in the school record book, as well as in the record book for community colleges in the state of Washington for the most wins in two seasons, with 55.

The Gary Viggers-led Blazers also placed a school record three players on the all-league first team this season. Smith was named to the all-league team in addition to Baker and Scherer, who was the third Blazer in history to win the division MVP.

Scherle was named division coach of the year. Scherer, the team captain, feels Viggers is well deserving of the award and has taken his team to new heights.

“We capitalized,” Scherer said. “And we showed that with the four people making first and second team. But it doesn’t matter if all live are from the same team. This just goes to show that we were a team that wasn’t all just one person.”

The unselfishness that the team portrayed is most apparent in Scherer’s humble demeanor.

Scherer pays tribute to the commitment by the players who did not play significant minutes to helping her earn MVP and lead the team along the way.

The back-up point guards receive the most credit from Scherer. “If it wasn’t for Trisha (Kaut), Valeria (Lopez) and everyone else pushing me as hard as they did in practice, I don’t think I would have gotten MVP,” she said.

Scherer was trailed by Smith and Baker as runner-ups for the prestigious award.

After finishing her career here, Scherer says heading to Concordia College was a decision that she will never regret.

“I know I would have made the wrong decision if I didn’t choose to play here,” Scherer said. “I remember after last year, I knew for sure that I belonged here. Baker and Staley knew that Centralia was the college of their choice, however, Smith, a Pullman native, came rather abruptly.

“I didn’t even visit the school before I decided to go here,” Smith said.

Even though the players had different paths to get here, they all came to a conclusion that the head of the team is the reason the team has succeeded.

They all agree that Viggers is a devoted coach with a unique style.

“He puts more time into basketball than anyone else,” Staley said.

For the most part, Viggers’ coaching style ranks him high in the minds of his players.

He emphasizes that we’re a family,” said Scherer.

During the course of two years, the sophomores and will remember them as members of his basketball family.

It’s a “we sit back and accept on what they have accomplished,” Viggers said. “They are a great group and all six of them will be missed. Even though they are leaving the school, they are not leaving our family. They will take a piece of the college with them and they have definitely left a piece of themselves behind.”

Smith’s future is still undecided, but she hopes to land herself at a four-year school, possibly the University of Mary-land, St. Martin’s University, Pacific Lutheran University, Whitman College or the University of Puget Sound.

Staley will transfer to Dickinson State University in North Dakota next fall with the hope of coming back from her season-ending knee injury.

Scherer is also unsure of where she will continue her school and basketball. She lists some possibilities as George Fox University, Pacific Lutheran University or Pacific University. Overall, she would like to play in Oregon, where she has family.

She is keeping her options open for now as she wonders among going to school at Biola University in California, Concordia University, the Evergreen State College, Pacific Lutheran University or George Fox University.

**Women place fifth at NWACC tournament**

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shots in the first half to enter the halftime trailing the Blazers by only three points, and had three assists and one steal.

Scherer hit the Blazers only three pointers and finished with five points, two assists and one steal. Ashlee Fitch scored nine points, had seven rebounds and three steals on route to the Blazer win.

As a team, they made 23-of-38 free throws.

“Karissa was running the offense and the game plan perfectly,” Viggers said. “Winning this game was huge because it meant we trophied.”

With the win, the Blazers advanced to play on the last day of the tournament for a tie-breaking meeting against the only team to have beaten the Blazers this season.

Lower Columbia

The Blazers were presented with the opportunity to play against Lower Colum-bia for a third time in a single season and took full advantage by winning, 59-53.

The two teams split their games in league-play with respective wins on each other’s home floor.

Lower Columbia finished third in the Western Division entering the tournament after losing to Centralia March 4.

The stakes at the time for both teams were either tying with Highline for first place in the division or sending LCC to the third place.

The stakes in this March 12 meeting were similar but without Highline in the picture (the Thunderbirds exited the tour-nament after losing two straight games).

The winner of the games would take fifth place but lose 18 points.

Baker had another busy game as she was on the floor for 38 minutes. In that time, she scored 12 points, grabbed eight rebounds and had two assists.

Clevenger played eight minutes in the first half after playing 15 minutes against Skagit Valley and three minutes against Olympic. She scored six points and grabbed four rebounds after Viggers asked her if she wanted to replace Smith who was in foul trouble. Clevenger also nailed clutch free-throws and ran an in-bound play to keep running the clock.

Fitch and Kauhola had solid games by adding four and seven points and hauling in seven and four rebounds.

Scherer scored a season-high 11 points and had three assists in her last game as a Blazer uniform as Smith scored 15 points and had five rebounds.

Centralia had the edge on points over turn-overs, 16-10, and points in the paint, 16-8.

“We got huge contributions from everyone, whether it was in five minutes or 30 minutes of play because it was the state tournament and every move, shot, play and substitution is magnified,” said Viggers. “I was very proud of everyone for stepping up their game. We couldn’t have done it without everyone.”

Viggers also praised the teams’ perfor-mance despite injuries.

“The game went well,” Viggers said. “Finishing fifth without two starters was a huge accomplishment. Who knows what we could have done with our whole team?”

Maile Kauhola caught fire from three-point land hitting 4-of-6 attempts on her way to 14 points.

Sade Smith had a double-double by adding four and seven points and hauling in seven and four rebounds.

Burkey shot 7-for-8 from the free-throw line and went 3-for-5 from the field on her way to her season-high in points. Kauhola and Smith scored 12 points each while Baker chipped in 11 points.

Scherer hit the Blazers only three pointers and finished with five points, two assists and one steal. Shadleen Fitch scored nine points, had seven rebounds and three steals on route to the Blazer win.

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**SOPHOMORE POINT GUARD Karissa Scherer was named Western Division Most Valuable Player for the 2005-2006 season.**

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naming the Studio Theatre after him in a drama instructor Phillip Wickstrom by on three major productions a year. In ad gallons of black paint and made their own ware store, he directed intimate plays for people’s lives. He sees theater as a central force in fulfilling. He sees theater as a central force in investigating life and been and will always be the primary means in which we investigate life and the community. One by one, Wickstrom’s five brothers abandoned. In the center of the building, found a theater to call his own.

The black-box theater was an ideal setting for the literary scripts Wickstrom offered by the college, he has gained recognition. According to the Total Experience Gospel Choir Web site, the ensemble in 1973 at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Seattle as a joint music class with members from the Black Experience Gospel Choir of Roosevelt High School and the Franklin High School Gospel Choir of Seattle, according to the Web site. Over time, the choir became the Total Experience Gospel Choir, but it wasn’t meant to remain a high school choir. After the choirs were officially merged, Wright invited the community’s children to participate. Within the first two months, the choir’s members grew to 108, the youngest being 8 years old.

Today, the choir’s ages range from 6 to 65. As places the choir has traveled to are even more diverse. They have performed in 38 states, on five continents and in 22 countries. Most recently, the choir is returning from Paris, France, a long way from where Wright started out in Carthage, Texas. 

According to the Web site, Wright was born into a large family; her father was a preacher and her mother was a teacher. When she was introduced to music early in life, singing her first solo at the age of 3. By the time she was 14 years old, she had taught herself to play the piano and was directing two choirs in her father’s church. She went on to attend college at Prairie View A & M University and eventually moved to Seattle in 1964. But Wright didn’t stop at being a choir director.

In 1997, she co-founded and is pastor of the Oneness Christian Center, a “spiritual refuge” for people who are struggling with problems related to alcohol and drug addiction. She serves as a counselor to the church ministers to the drug and alcohol addicted and have seen numerous cases where people change and become productive citizens. With her husband Rev. Benny Wright, she heads the King County Youth Detention Facility in Seattle. Among her many accomplishments and experiences, Wright and the Total Experience Gospel Choir have done some of the same billing with Ray Charles, Quincy Jones, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Michael Bolton, The Judus, Pete Seeger and Steely Dan.

The choir has recorded seven albums and recently Wright released her first solo CD. It was so successful that a second re-release was held in March 2005. She is also on the soundtrack of the film “Because of Winn-Dixie.”

The appearance of the Total Experience Gospel Choir concert is co-sponsored by the Student Activities Administrations Team. Portions of the proceeds go to the President’s Scholarship and the choir to donate its portion to victims of Hurricane Katrina. The concert will be held in the Cortez Theatre in Washington Hall May 5 at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are $10 for adults and $7 for students and seniors, with special group rates. For more information and to purchase tickets contact Candy Layman at ext. 665.