

Alyson Ambler signs on at Connecticut

Wa-Hi softball star promises another exciting season



Walla Walla High School Senior **Alyson Ambler**, with her parents Debbie and Gerald “Chip” at her side, signs a national letter of intent Tuesday night at the district office to play softball for the University of Connecticut Huskies next season. Ambler led the Walla Walla High School softball team to its first-ever 4A State Softball title last spring. Ambler has gone 25-0 over the past three seasons. She thanked her parents, teammates and coaches for their support.

Thanksgiving Holiday Break

- No School - November 21-25
- Classes resume - Monday, November 28
- Have a safe and restful break!

In other School Board meeting business...

Board members:

- approved minutes of November 1, 2011 board meeting, personnel report, out-of-state travel, November 15, 2011 accounts payable and October financial report.
- approved the adoption of a revision to Board Policy 1110-Election.
- received a report from Assistant Superintendent **Dr. Linda Boggs** on the district's Improvement Plan which was recently adopted. Boggs says school improvement plans also align with the district plan and the new Strategic Plan.

Focus on Education Week

November 13-19

Senior citizens and elected officials to be honored during Focus on Education Week event

Last night WWVEA President **Margo Piver**, Green Park teacher **Wes Sanders** and Edison teacher **Kay Barga** reported to school board members on efforts the district has taken to raise awareness and thank the community for *Focus on Education Week*.

Piver published a guest column in last Sunday's Union Bulletin newspaper honoring teachers. Monday students from Lincoln High School served as greeters at the Exchange Club luncheon and members of the JROTC presented the colors and Walla Walla High School senior Kayla Leinweber sang the National Anthem.

Thursday area senior citizens and elected officials will go back to school from 10 a.m. to noon to celebrate *Focus on Education Week*. Guests will visit Green Park or Edison Elementary Schools as part of *Senior Citizen and Elected Officials Appreciation Day*. This event is an opportunity for senior citizens and elected officials to visit and tour a local school and have lunch with students. Thanks to Piver, Sanders and Barga for all their efforts organizing this week's events.

Personnel Report

Employment

(Certificated) **Mildred Crawford**, School Psychologist, Special Programs
(Classified) **Arthur Cadieux**, Bus Driver, Transportation
Stephanie Guzman, Birth-to-Five Para-Educator, Prospect Pt/Blue Ridge
Carolyn McFetridge, Bus Driver, Transportation

Resignation/Retirement

(Classified)

Sherry Orchard, Secretary to Assistant Principal, Garrison MS, 10 years

Leave of Absence - Julie Maney, Special Education, Green Park, 1.5 years
(Beginning January 2, 2012 for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.)

Out-of-State Travel

Susan Bauer and **Shelly Crump** to attend AVID Path Training in Phoenix, AZ (Funding: AD Match/Professional Dev.)

Excellence in Every Classroom

Quote of the Week

"They may forget what you said but they will never forget how you made them feel."

Carol Buchner

Voter Registration Forms

*Available at the district office
and all WWPS schools*

Superintendent Miller updates board on budget

District remains fiscally sound despite state economic woes

Superintendent **Mick Miller** provided the school board an update on the district's budget during last night's meeting. He said the district's conservative budgeting practices have helped the district build its unrestricted reserves to more than nine percent.

Miller said the district spent down some of its reserves to balance the 2011-12 general fund budget. He said this practice cannot sustain itself over time and administrators will soon begin looking at options for future spending reductions. He reported the district set aside \$200,000 as a contingency for possible mid-year state budget cuts for the 2011-12 budget. Last year legislators passed on a nearly \$500,000 midyear funding reduction to the district.

Miller said enrollment is up 60 students at elementary, but down slightly in district secondary schools. He said the district will closely monitor enrollment figures the rest of the year and work hard to keep students enrolled.

Final week to see *Radium Girls* fall production

In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, *Radium Girls* traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court.

Her chief adversary is her former employer, Arthur Roeder, an idealistic man who cannot bring himself to believe that the same element that shrinks tumors could have anything to do with the terrifying rash of illnesses among his employees. As the case goes on, however, Grace finds herself battling not just with the U.S. Radium Corporation, but with her own family and friends, who fear that her campaign for justice will backfire.

- Box office open 4 to 6 p.m. weekdays and one hour before shows
- Box office number: 526-8613
- Show dates: (remaining) November 17 and 18 at 7 p.m.
- November 19 at 2 p.m.
- \$6 student tickets & \$12 adult tickets

Winter weather is on the way!

School closure and delay procedures

Walla Walla Public Schools strives to post up-to-the-minute information due to inclement weather or any circumstance that would delay or cancel the normal school schedule.

Decisions to delay or close school usually are made by 5:30 a.m. or earlier. This triggers the district's comprehensive school closure/delay announcement plan.

The district makes every effort to begin announcements by 6 a.m.

Announcements include:

- Media release (radio, tv, newspaper)
- Telephone automated message
(*staff and parents*)
- Web posting (www.wwps.org)
- Staff e-mail (GroupWise)
- E-news message (sign up on the district web site: www.wwps.org)
- Twitter message
(twitter.com/wwschools)
- Facebook page message
- Orange signs posted in front of schools