



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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For Immediate Release

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Bannish's Last-Second Free Throw Gives Wildcats 73-72 Win

Central Men Win Second Straight Game on Foul Shot with One Second Left

ELLENSBURG, Wash. – Senior **Chris Bannish** (Menlo, Wash./Willapa Valley HS) made a free throw with one second remaining to give Central Washington a 73-72 men's basketball victory over Alaska Anchorage on New Year's Eve afternoon at Nicholson Pavilion.

The Wildcats are now 7-4 overall and tied for first place in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference with a 2-0 conference record. Central Washington has now won three straight home games and is 4-2 at Nicholson Pavilion on the year. Alaska Anchorage dropped to 9-5 overall and 0-2 in the GNAC.

Bannish was fouled after rebounding a miss by junior **Lance Den Boer** (Sunnyside, Wash./Sunnyside Christian HS) with three seconds to go. With the game tied at 72-72, he made the first and then intentionally missed the second shot. Alaska Anchorage corralled the rebound, but the Seawolves were unable to get off a potential game-winning shot before time expired.

The last-second free throw broke the game's eleventh and final tie. Nine of those deadlocks came in the second half, although the two teams were knotted at 34-34 at the halftime intermission. Alaska Anchorage had tied the game on a three-pointer by Kemmy Burgess with 27 seconds to go. Burgess, who scored a career-high 35 in Thursday's loss at Western Washington, atoned for a free throw miss with 1:11 to go that would have brought the Seawolves into a tie entering the final minute.

The see-saw battle between two evenly-matched teams had Alaska Anchorage leading by two points with 3:09 remaining. Neither team could ever build much of a cushion – each team's largest lead was just five points.

Central Washington finished the game with a slight edge in both field goal percentage and three-point percentage. The Wildcats made 47 percent overall and 43 percent from long distance, while Alaska Anchorage shot 43 and 42 percent, respectively. In a relatively clean game, the two teams combined for just 21 turnovers (CWU had 12, UAA nine). Alaska Anchorage finished with a 33-32 edge in rebounds.

Individually, Central's Den Boer produced his second straight high-scoring performance with 20 to lead all scorers. Bannish finished with 14 points and **Grant Assink** (Lynden, Wash.) connected for 13. **Julius McMillion** (Seattle, Wash./Cleveland HS) claimed team-leading rebounding numbers with eight rebounds despite playing just 16 minutes.

Alaska Anchorage was led by Burgess with 16 points, while James Hartman finished with a double-double of 14 points and 10 rebounds off the bench. Brian Hills was the only other Seawolf in double figures, scoring 11.

(more)

Central Washington now hits the road for three consecutive conference contests. The Wildcats have a return match-up with archrival and third-ranked Western Washington next Saturday (Jan. 7) in Bellingham, and will then face in-state foes Saint Martin's and Seattle on Jan. 12 and 14, respectively. Central returns home to Nicholson Pavilion on Jan. 19 to face Seattle Pacific.

GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE MEN'S BASKETBALL

At Ellensburg, WA (Nicholson Pavilion)

Central Washington 73, Alaska Anchorage 72

12/31/05 4:15 pm PST

ALASKA ANCHORAGE (9-5, 0-2 GNAC) - Burgess,Kemmy 5-15 3-4 16; Hartman,James 4-7 5-5 14; Hills,Brian 5-9 1-1 11; Davis,Joe 4-7 1-2 9; Arts,Carl 3-6 0-0 7; Fitt-Chappell,Adam 2-4 0-0 6; Draper,Eric 1-4 2-2 5; Lawrence,Aaron 1-5 0-1 2; Cooper,Luke 0-1 2-2 2. Totals 25-58 14-17 72.

CENTRAL WASHINGTON (7-4, 2-0 GNAC) - Den Boer,Lance 8-15 0-0 20; Bannish,Chris 3-4 6-8 14; Assink,Grant 5-11 2-2 13; Monti,Colton 3-4 0-0 8; Conner,Mike 2-5 0-0 5; McMillion,Julius 1-2 3-4 5; Spevak,Johnny 2-5 0-0 4; Craven,Teddy 1-3 0-1 2; Curry,Tremaine 1-4 0-0 2; Hicks,Robert 0-2 0-0 0; Luke,Joey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-55 11-15 73.

Halftime-Alaska Anchorage 34, Central Washington 34. **3-point goals**-Alaska Anchorage 8-19 (Burgess,Kemmy 3-7; Fitt-Chappell,Adam 2-4; Arts,Carl 1-2; Hartman,James 1-2; Draper,Eric 1-2; Lawrence,Aaron 0-2), Central Washington 10-23 (Den Boer,Lance 4-5; Bannish,Chris 2-3; Monti,Colton 2-3; Conner,Mike 1-2; Assink,Grant 1-6; Hicks,Robert 0-1; Curry,Tremaine 0-1; Spevak,Johnny 0-2). **Fouled out**--Alaska Anchorage-None, Central Washington-None. **Rebounds**-Alaska Anchorage 33 (Hartman,James 10), Central Washington 32 (McMillion,Julius 8). **Assists**-Alaska Anchorage 15 (Cooper,Luke 4), Central Washington 10 (Bannish,Chris 5). **Total fouls**-Alaska Anchorage 18, Central Washington 20. **A-287**
Great Northwest Athletic Conference game

-CWU-