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Green River Community College
Current

A Newspaper by and for the Students of Green River

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photo by Robert Brock

Occupational Therapy offered at GRCC

Cathy Pacheco
Assistant Editor

Besides the general transfer program, Green River Community College also offers about 31 different training programs to prepare students for entry-level jobs in industry. The Occupational Therapy Assistant Program, accredited by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation in cooperation with the American Occupational Therapy Association, is one of the two-year programs.

Occupational Therapy is a health profession that provides people of all ages with mental, physical, or developmental disabilities. The profession focuses on the development of abilities needed to function in the everyday activities of life.

It sounds similar to special education programs at schools, but as Barbara Ron, an instructor in the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program explained, there is a distinction between the two: "A special education instructor teaches the students the basic reading and writing skills."

An occupational therapist or occupational therapist assistant helps individuals to obtain a maximum level of individual living by

training a patient to dress oneself, prepare meals, care for the home or whatever the patient needs to concentrate on.

Physical Therapy is similar, however, and the two professions often work together. For example, a physical therapist will help a patient regain movement and increase strength and endurance. The occupa-

tional
therapist
or

"(Occupational Therapy) focuses on the development of abilities needed to function in the everyday activities in life"

assistant takes these functions and applies them to training the patient to perform specific activities and self-care skills.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program at GRCC is a full-time, day-time, 2-year Associate in Applied Science degree program, a minimum of 6 quarters.

Although the program is full for Fall Quarter, along with a long waiting list, students may still apply if interested. Enrollment starts at the beginning of Fall quarter. Ap-

plications are accepted for fall quarter beginning December 1. The program is on a first-come, first-served basis once the prerequisites are met.

It is crucial for the student to confer with an instructor to discuss the field. A handwritten statement explaining interest and experience in occupational therapy needs to be submitted at the conference. Evidence of academic preparation should also be submitted.

Once accepted, students get hands-on experience in the program. Besides studying and working with people who require treatment, they make and design special instruments for people with disabilities. For example, one of the first projects is to make a plastic hand splint.

According to Ron, "This is not for everyone." It requires concentration, good human relations skills, patience, flexible personality, the ability to handle the physical and mental demands of working with the public on a daily basis, and average to above-average eye-hand coordination. "You really have to be on the ball," she added.

According to the US. Bureau of Labor Statistics, this is one of the fastest growing occupations. Students who complete the program, are eligible to take the certification examination. This opens up doors for jobs in hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, health agencies, nursing clinics, and others. There is also a video tape available in the Career Center that shows three graduates of the program successfully on the job.

Career counselors help students find jobs

Meredith Franklin
Staff Reporter

Now that you are finished with College, how do you go about finding the right person or sources to help you land that "great job?" Well, one place to start is by seeking the help of a professional, skilled and trained Certified Career Counselor.

Expert job guidance is very important, but finding reputable career counselors does not promise you a job in six months, or that your fee will be paid by your next employer. It simply means that you will be helped by an experienced person who can guide you in the right direction to finding that great job.

They do promise support, direction, analysis and information. Trained in counseling, they help to reduce the emotional stress of job-hunting. They have hourly fees and allow you to terminate sessions at any time and pay only for the services received. Their fees can range anywhere from \$45 to \$75 an hour.

In some states career counselors are leeches, so you might want to avoid being taken or scammed.

You can check with your local Better Business Bureau and find out whether or not the counselor is certified. Only about 1,000 of the 15,000 to 25,000 career counselors in the United States

earn between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year.

Career counselors don't get jobs for people; they teach job-hunting strategies. Some people involved in career counseling are former business-people who have no credentials in career counseling, but who see this as a nice way to make a buck. And they are making a lot of money. Fees range from \$3,000 to \$10,000 up front. When they tell you that, seek a certified career counselor.

It's okay to question the

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certi-
fied.

To become a Certified Career Counselor, a person must pass a national exam. Among the prerequisites to take the exam are a Master's or Doctorate degree in counseling or a closely related field, and two years of documented experience. Certified Career Counselors agree to abide by high ethical standards.

Certified career counselors



*Remember-
Taxes due
April 15!*

Student tutors provoke change

*Becky Chin
Sports Editor*

The Department of Education and Green River Community College have teamed up to reach out to the community through the Literary Grant Tutors Program. The purpose of the program, which is funded by the Department of Education and GRCC, is to train Green River students and high-school students to tutor in the nearby Auburn and Kent School Districts. The tutors program can take as many as 24 Green River students and 24 high school students. It is a one-hour seminar class, once a week, and offers two to three credits. The class teaches students

how kids learn the best, as well as how to motivate and discipline them. There is a training session that is four to six hours a week, working one-on-one in small groups. Steven Kinholdt and Harry Rosemond, two teachers from Green River Community College, are the instructors for this program.

Students who are thinking about pursuing a career in the field of education are encouraged to join the tutors program. It is a good experience, and the hours transfer to four-year universities. The program tries to place students with the age groups they are interested in tutoring. The student-tutors work closely

with the teachers, and assist the teachers in need. "Teachers in the school district are really happy to have the students come in," Kinholdt said. The tutors program helps kids who need more personal attention, that sometimes teachers are unable to give. The program is hoping to involve more students and faculty as the demand for more volunteers grows. The Literary Grant Tutors Program is an excellent way for Green River Community College to become more involved in the surrounding communities. It is also an excellent experience for students who are interested in teaching, or just helping out.

Green River offers personal counseling for students in crisis

*David Burr
Executive Editor*

Personal counseling services are available to the students of Green River Community College.

The services, limited to seven 50-minute sessions, are designed to help students cope with the personal problems in their lives. According to Ted Broussard, a GRCC counselor, the most frequent problems are centered around relationships and stress as a result of school or finances.

Broussard said that many students are afraid to come forward with their problems. He emphasized that gaining a student's trust is an

important first step. Broussard also said that often begins the sessions by asking general "nonthreatening" questions. By doing this, the crisis usually becomes evident, therefore allowing him to relate to the student on more of a personal level. If Broussard senses that the problem cannot be dealt with on a short term basis, he may refer the student to other, off-campus sources.

Broussard also stressed that all counseling is strictly confidential, within the confines of the law, as long as the person is not in "immediate danger of hurting themselves or someone else."

The student is not required to

pay a fee for the counseling. The office is on the second floor of the Lindbloom Student Center (LSD-231), with appointment hours from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Walk-in hours are from noon until 1 p.m., Monday, Thursday, and Friday.

In addition to counseling, Broussard also conducts personal workshops. The groups meet on Thursdays, in SG-59, at noon. Topics discussed range from stress management to self-esteem. More information is available by contacting Ted Broussard or Marie Sundberg at 833-9111, extension 304.

Kuwaiti students plant friendship tree

David Woodard
Staff Reporter

It was the smallest of gestures. Just an evergreen shrub and a plaque on a rock. But when the Kuwaiti students of Green River Community College donated the items to our school at a lunch time ceremony last Friday, an important statement was made. These students chose February 25th, the Independence Day of Kuwait, to thank all Americans, particularly those who served in the Gulf War for helping to restore their freedom.

We often hear that Americans are not welcomed in parts of the world. We know that our country's actions are not always above reproach. But on this day it was a time instead to remember that many peoples all over the world have a great deal to thank us for. Speaking for the group, Talal Mohammad said that the group was unanimous in wanting to bring this message to our campus.

Scholarships accessible to GRCC students

Lynn Hulstrom
Staff Reporter

Many scholarships are offered to students here at Green River. Unfortunately, the number of applicants for scholarships is very low. Some of the scholarships available receive very few or no applications. The financial aid office has information on more than fifty scholarships. The library also has books available with listings of scholarships. The application process for scholarships varies depending on the scholarship. Some only require an application. Others require both an application and a short essay.



Tree planting ceremony by the Kuwaiti students

photo by Robert Brock

This permanent display is located just south of the LSC towards the gymnasium and KGRG radio. Next time you wander that direction, stop and take a short look. If the weather clears so that the plaque can dry in place, it will be there. I and the several faculty members and stu-

dents who took part by placing a shovel of dirt on the tree roots enjoyed the short presentation. It is a nice change to feel appreciated just for being American. Thank you, Kuwaiti students of GRCC, for this wonderful gift.

The standard application is fairly basic: two to three pages of personal questions regarding the students interests, achievements, and career goals. Scholarships are usually awarded on a yearly basis. The financial award can be up to \$2500, and even more for a few scholarships awarded on a quarterly basis. Each scholarship looks for different criteria in their recipients. Some offer assistance to single parents, students in financial need, or specific ethnic groups. Others are based on the students merit.

Many scholarships are directed toward students pursuing a

particular educational program such as accounting, teaching, health care, or music. Scholarships are also offered by groups or organizations to their members or descendents of their alumni. These scholarships are available to benefit students. However, unless students apply for them, they may go unused. Take the time to get information and apply for scholarships. Considering the recent lack of applicants, students that do apply will have a greater chance of being awarded. The financial aid office can offer listings and information for interested students.

The What's Happening Report

Compiled by Robert Brock

Student Government has the following position vacancies: Freshman Senator, Senator-at-Large, and Sophomore Senator. Liberals are encouraged to apply. Pick up applications in Student Programs. Completed applications due by **Wednesday, March 9th** for Freshman Senator and **Wednesday, March 16th** for both at Large and Sophomore Senators.

Clothing Drive for the Muckleshoot Resource Center "CLOTHES CLOSET." Sponsored by Native American Student Association, the drive runs through **March 7th**. Donation boxes are located in the Lindbloom Student Center, or call ext. 337 or 286.

SPRING GRADUATION DEADLINE is **April 12th**. Applications available at the information window in the LSC, or for more info call Becky Riverman at ext. 412.

AA Lunch time recovery meetings are **12-1p.m.** in rotating rooms every Wednesday. For more info call ext. 292 or 330.

The **Native American Student Association (N.A.S.A)** meets every **Monday** in SG-62 at 12-1p.m.

The **BLACK STUDENT UNION (B.S.U.)** meets **Tuesday** at noon in HS-2.

The **ASIAN STUDENT UNION** meets every **Thursday** at noon in HS-7.

LOS LATINOS UNIDOS meets every **Tuesday** at noon in the Student Programs club area. Bring a friend.

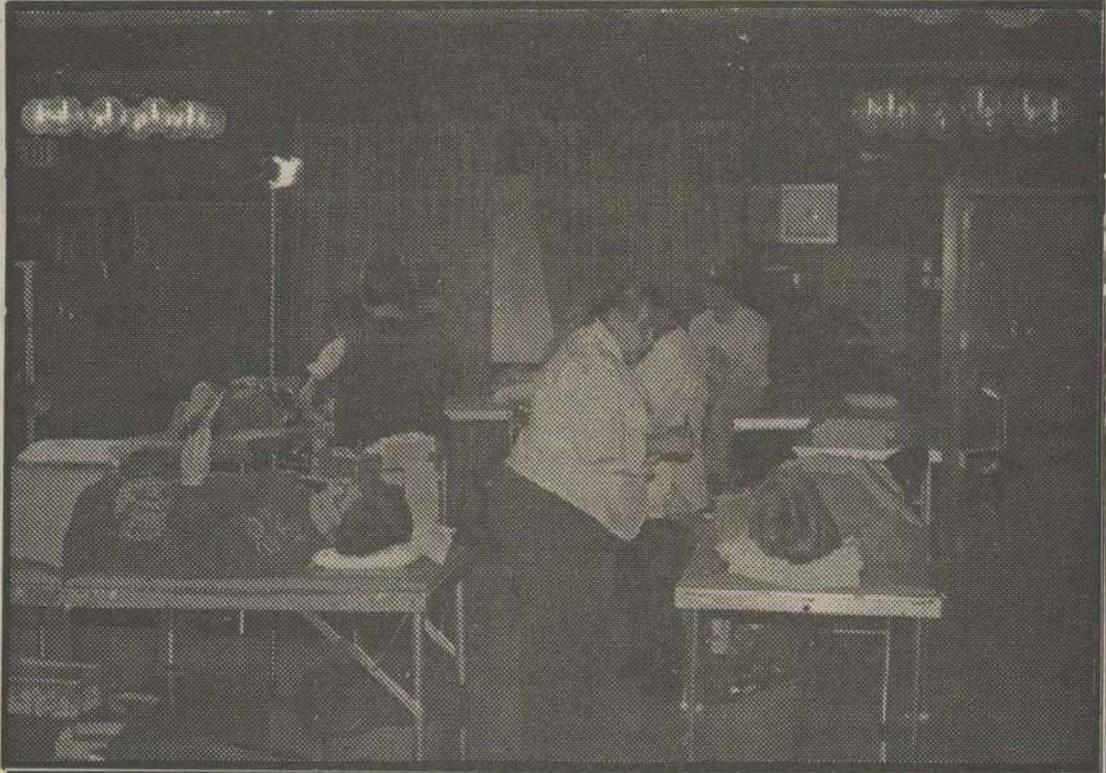
ANN JILLIAN PERFORMS AT GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE. Join Ann Jillian for an elegant evening of music and talk that will both entertain and inform you, **THURSDAY, MARCH 10** at **7:30 p.m.** in the LSC. Jillian will share her secrets and capture her audience with songs that highlight her message of hope, in a humorous fashion as only she can. Jillian has starred in Broadway shows and the T.V. series **IT'S A LIVING**, as well as the feature film **MR. MOM** and the critically acclaimed **THE ANN JILLIAN STORY**, which portrayed her positive message about the hopeful side of breast cancer. Tickets are **\$15 reserved**, and **\$12 general admission**. Further information is available by contacting Student Programs at ext. 337.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS are offered on **THURSDAYS** at **NOON** in SG-59:

MARCH 3-- Learning to listen, feeling heard: An exercise for couples

MARCH 10-- Stress break

Blood supplies are critically low. You can help by donating at the Puget Sound Blood Center located at 130 Andover Park East in Tukwila. Hours are M-TH 10-8p.m., Friday 10-5p.m., and Saturday 10-4p.m.



Volunteers donating blood at GRCC

photo by Robert Brock

COLLEGE MONEY-

300,000 scholarships available. Over 6 billion dollars goes unused. We show you where and how to apply. Free Details:

1-800-886-0113.

Results Guaranteed



Automobile repairs available at low cost

Johann Hulstrom
Staff Reporter

Are you a person in need of car repair? Don't have a lot of money to get your car fixed? Or maybe you just don't have the time to fix it yourself. There may be a solution for you. The automotive department at Green River Commu-

nity College is looking for cars that need to get fixed.

Here is how it works. You need to fill out a work report, available in the automotive office, and describe the work that is needed on the car or engine. When a student in the automotive department is in need of work, the student will call

the customer, as a part of his/her customer relations education. Although it may take a little longer than a downtown repair shop, the work is fully supervised and is done right the first time. The student gets graded by his/her performance from beginning to end.

The only request is that the car be no older than ten years old. Also, the automotive department will not do any lower engine work. They will do anything foreign or domestic, and any upper engine work.

The customer is only required to pay the retail price of the parts and a \$10.00 per hour shop fee. If desired, the customer may also make a donation to the Student Scholarship Fund, provided he/she is satisfied with the results.

All of the instructors, and some of the students, are either partially or fully certified by the National Institute for Automotive Excellence.

The automotive department can use your help.



Students at work in the Auto Shop

photo by Robert Brock

A letter to the former editor

Dear Editor:

Since certain members of the Current staff clearly have difficulty accurately reporting the news, even when given many opportunities to obtain factual information, I must step in as a student, a student leader and a former Current staffer to point out to your readers and yourself several inexcusable errors in the story headlined "Exercise of authority questioned regarding Green River student government members," on page seven of the February 17, 1994 issue.

This story appears to have been drafted in a creative writing class rather than in a newsroom, and some crucial details have been mysteriously omitted. First, the allegations with which I "came forward" implicate only ASGRCC President Johanna Nagel and Sophomore Justice Derek Johnson, who was not even mentioned in the article.

At the time this story broke, Judicial Board Chief Justice David Weitzenhoffer had not been accused of any direct misconduct. The statement I submitted to the Current states the names

of the accused at the top of the first page; his is not among them.

(Speaking of names, mine was misspelled—after Editor Cary Williams asked me to spell it for him and wrote it down. My name is also at the top of the first page of my statement, where it is spelled correctly.)

The article says, "an executive session held Feb. 10 in the Rainier Room at the Lindbloom Student Center"; only the date and location are accurate.

This was an official, regularly-scheduled public meeting of the ASGRCC Senate. Had it been an executive session, as the article states, the editor, photographer and reporter in attendance from the Current would have been required to leave, along with any other uninvolved in the "gallery" (audience), and the statement I submitted would have become confidential. The Current could not have printed this story, inaccurately or otherwise.

Though it is clearly indicated in my statement, the fact of the existence of hard evidence—the illegal forms in question—was omitted entirely. I won-

der why. My statement is not merely a "claim."

That fact that Nagel also threatened to remove me from my position as chair of the Review Committee if I did not sign the forms was also missing from the article. Again, I wonder why.

As for the article's final sentence, "the issue has been moved to the Senate By-Laws Committee, where Odegard will push for Nagel's impeachment," I am not in the Senate.

Even if it were my goal, which it is not, to "push for Nagel's impeachment," I have no influence or power over a body of which I am not a member. As far as the Senate is concerned, this matter is now out of my hands. Nowhere in my statement is the intention expressed which the Current has printed.

It is true that my allegations, when proven true, will be grounds, as outlined in my statement, for Nagel's impeachment. The article in the Current, however, has already sparked rumors that I am "out to get her," which is false. Prior to the events

Continued on page 11

GRCC: the school without a daycare

Michelle Workman
Staff Reporter

Green River does not have a daycare, but GRCC does have parenting classes. The parenting classes aren't set for any particular age group. The youngest parent there is 18, and the oldest is 40.

Each program is self supporting. The parents collect tuition. On the average they meet twice a week, and the maximum enrollment is sixteen children. Their budget is under \$5,000 a year. Out of that budget, they have money left over for scholarships. Only a small percentage of the parents in the classes actually attend the college. Diana Holz, M.A., is head of the curriculum and instruction for the Early Childhood Education department, and the coordinator of family studies. Some 200 students question whether GRCC will ever have a daycare. Holz receives numerous phone calls and visitors each day questioning about daycare. Her hands are tied, and she's getting irritated and overwhelmed by it all. The topic of daycare has been in the works for years. They've been talking and talking, and now it is time for them to do something. There used to be frequent meetings, but everything has been at a standstill. Daycare at

the college is desperately needed, and the issue needs to be addressed.

Holz feels something could be done on a smaller scale. People just need to work for it, and they will see results. Child care is a major issue that is spreading to every department. Even the faculty daycares have a problem with part time hours, and many students only attend the college part time. Holz feels that daycare should remain in the hands of ECE, that they should set it up and run it.

It's been at least a year since any progress has been made on daycare at GRCC. The main prob-

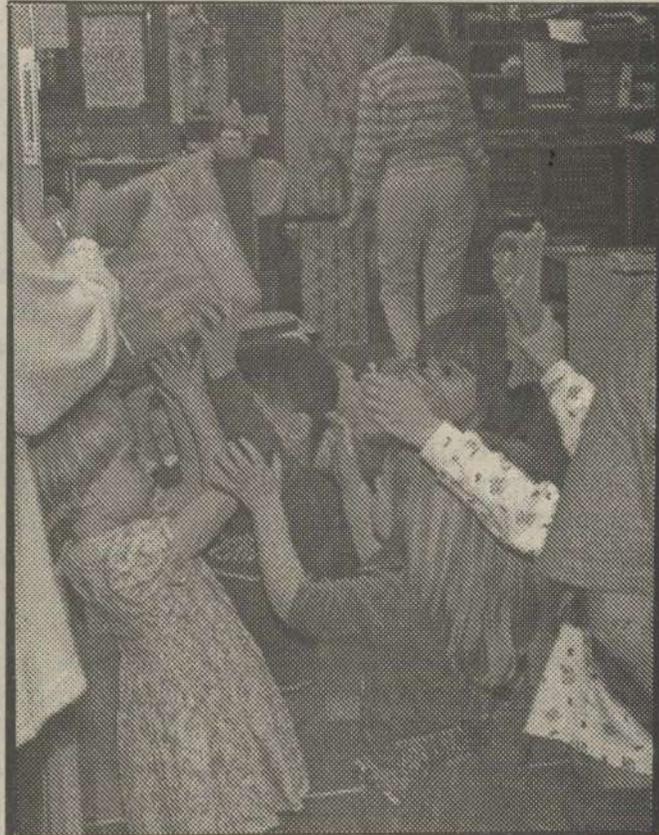


photo by Robert Brock

lem is space. Green River is already short on classrooms. There are many in ECE who feel the same as Holz. They are losing hope and wondering if daycare at GRCC will ever happen.

Notice from GRCC Parking and Security

This is the last chance to check lost and found for items you may have lost between July and November, 1993. Some of the items we have are: books, book bags, personal planners, eye glasses, wallets, and ID's. All items not claimed within 30 days will be discarded. Contact Parking and Security (AD-27).

Continued from page 9

in question I had absolutely no animosity toward nor any dislike for Nagel or anyone else in student government. By coming forward as I have, I am merely upholding my obligation for honesty and integrity as an officer; I am just doing my job. The absence of crucial information about evidence, the final bit of fiction about my intentions and the ensuing rumors lead to a situation any knowledgeable, self-respecting journalist should be eager to avoid:

libel. As defined on page 234 of the fourth edition of *Reporting for the Print Media*, by Fred Fedler, libel is "a written statement that exposes a person to hatred, ridicule or contempt, that causes other people to avoid the victim, or that impairs the victim's ability to earn a living. Stated more simply, a libel is a written statement that damages a person's reputation." Further, "an individual who believes that a printed statement has damaged his or her reputation can file a civil law-

suit against the publication." Needless to say, it is in the Current's best interests to both print a correction of this story and print this letter, in its entirety and free of error, in the next issue.

As for why this story—despite the availability of my written statement, Current staffers' attendance at the aforementioned meeting and further time I spent in interviews with Editor Cary Williams to clarify specific

Continued on page 15

Alcohol: still a threat to society

Michelle Workman
Staff Reporter

Some 28 million adults have grown up in an alcoholic environment. It used to be that children of alcoholics were not recognized by society as a problem. That was a time when education, intervention, and counseling for the effects of growing up with an alcoholic role-model were desperately needed.

In the last decade, alcoholism has been recognized as a family disease. The parents have the problem—which in turn is handed down to the offspring—allowing the problem to continue. However, not all children of alcoholics become alcoholics themselves. It depends on each individual's family environment, and whether or not one or both parents have the problem.

When teenage children of al-

coholics become alcoholics themselves, it is more accepted by the parent, in most cases, because it is seen as a normal activity. Few parents encourage their children to drink, but many see nothing wrong with an occasional drink. Many adults don't realize that alcohol is a drug, yet alcohol is just as bad and dangerous to your health.

Alcohol is an important subject for all teenagers. So much publicity is given to teenage drinking that many adults assume all teenagers drink too much. Other adults feel that the media has blown teenage drinking way out of proportion, and that the problem is no worse today than it was 40 years ago. From 1951 to 1965, the average age of an adolescent's first drink was 13. Now, 93 percent of young men, and

87 percent of young women, have tried at least one drink by the 12th grade. In 1983, a survey reported that half of children, ages nine to 12, had been pressured by their peers to drink.

Every state has some kind of alcohol-education program. Some states begin teaching it as early as the third grade. In the mid-1980's evidence appeared that attitudes toward drinking were changing. These attitudes helped to raise the legal drinking age and prompted lawmakers to impose tougher penalties for drunk driving.

There are teens who choose not to drink, but it is important to focus on the 95 million Americans who do drink. We are responsible for creating the society our children will grow up in. Every individual has a choice.

"Don't care majority" power play

David Weathersby
News Editor

In the last few years, morality has become the new "in" thing. It seems that every time somebody does something a little out of the norm, a preacher from the church of moral righteousness finds a reason to protest, convinced that it is evil. Whether it's television, music, movies or sports you'll find people pumped and ready to be offended. I don't know if this some kind of trend or if people are really bored, but its getting kind of annoying. Instead of writing an article slamming the moral majority, I propose my own group: the "Don't care majority." It is a small underground movement that is growing in numbers.

To become a member you will need certain qualifications. First of all, it is recommended that members have their own fully-functioning life. When you have reason for living, you don't have to harass horny old men coming out of a strip club. Secondly, announce all perversions you might have to the group. Whatever you did in that horse stable is your business, but there's no need to hide it. And finally, you must have the gift of thinking for yourself. If you pass all these qualifications you can be an official member. Being a part of this organization is a big responsibility. You are now crusaders for a non-judgmental America.

The first thing that we must do is form a cartoon protection unit, a group of members assigned the task of informing excessively sensitive people the shocking news that CAR-

TOONS ARE NOT REAL! The fact that cats and mice don't talk and wear clothes in real life should have tipped everyone off that you probably couldn't drop an anvil on anyone's head either. Maybe its just me, but isn't it funny how we had a Vice President that couldn't spell potato, yet Beavis and Butthead are considered the decline of civilization? The problem isn't the show that the psychotic kid is watching. The problem is the psychotic kid.

This whole dress code thing has to be addressed as well. If a kid with an expensive coat gets killed for it, everyone blames the coat. I personally think the kid with the gun had more to do with it. Has it occurred to anyone that a kid wearing a Raiders hat might just be a fan of the team? Keep in mind that Jeffrey Dahmer had a blue shirt on when he went to court. According to this dress code logic, all people wearing blue shirts are cannibals.

It is also our duty to let people know that a song, amazingly enough, is just a song. Maybe I'm

wrong, but the news will show people getting blown away in Bosnia, yet Snoop Doggy Dog promotes violence. The news doesn't even have a warning label. People who go on a killing spree because of a 2Pac record are probably the same people who don't go

in their kitchen because the toaster keeps laughing at them.

Life is too short to worry about your neighbor's actions all the time. Unless somebody is breaking into your house and playing Ice Cube's music, laying *Playboys* about and hanging up Melthorpe paintings, it's really not your concern. Take a deep breath, relax, and for God's sake, get laid-back for just a little while! In that brief moment, released from your moral stranglehold, you might find a new inner peace.

(see *Flip Side*, page 14)

"People who go on a killing spree because of a 2pac record are probably the same people who don't go in their kitchen because the toaster keeps laughing at them."

An Open Letter to the People of Japan

The following article was reprinted by permission in an effort to address the issue of gun-related violence in the United States. The article was written shortly after the killing of Yoshihiro Hatori, a foreign exchange student from Japan. Mr. Hatori was planning to attend a Halloween party. However, when the young student accidentally went to the wrong address, he was greeted by a man with a gun. The man ordered Mr. Hatori to "freeze." Unable to understand American slang, Mr. Hatori proceeded to walk away. The man shot him.

The inquest determined that Mr. Hatori had literally charged up to the man's door in a threatening way, and the man's wife was terrified.

The author of the following article is Research Director for the Independence Institute in Golden, Colorado.

The tragic death of Yoshihiro Hatori is understandably causing many Japanese to question the nature of American Society, and its attitudes toward guns. As the author of a book which contrasted Japanese and American gun control policies, perhaps I can explain why America treats guns so differently from Japan.

In Japan, personal security is a basic reality. In the same way that Japanese (and Americans) do not spend much time worrying if their drinking water is contaminated, Japanese usually do not need to take extraordinary steps to protect themselves from violent criminal attack.

Americans are not so fortunate. Unlike the Japanese, Americans kidnapped slaves from Africa, and, after the slaves were freed, kept Black people in very poor conditions. Much of America's current crime is a direct result of racist mistreatment of Black people in previous years.

In addition, American police spend an enormous amount of their resources enforcing the drug laws; consequently, there are insufficient police resources to fight violent crime.

And of course America's government run schools are a disaster. Many students graduate from American high schools unable to read; such people often find that they cannot find a job which will pay as well as does a life of crime.

With so much crime, the police are simply unable to protect all people at all times. In fact, under the legal doctrine of "sovereign immunity," American police forces have no legal obligation to protect people before a crime is committed; police only have the legal duty to investigate crime after it has taken place.

If the government in Japan failed to supply clean drinking water, people would find their own water. In the United States, where the government cannot find personal security, people provide their own.

Firearms are one option that many people chose for security, and, on the whole, firearms in the hands of law-abiding people make America safer than it would otherwise be. According to criminologist Gary Kleck, of Florida State Uni-

versity, Americans use handguns about 645,000 times a year to defend themselves against criminal attack.

About half of all American homes contain a gun, and the prevalence of guns in American households plays a major role in reducing burglary. As a result, an American burglar's chance of getting shot is about equal to his chance of getting caught and going to jail. In countries such as Great Britain, Canada or Australia, where people are not allowed to own guns for protection, the burglary rate is much higher than in the United States.

When American burglaries do occur, the burglars generally break in during the daytime. American burglars take the extra risk of daylight entry because they realize that if they break in at night, people may be home, and the burglar stands a good chance of getting shot. Burglars in other English-speaking countries, in contrast, are much more willing to attack a home when people are present.

Another reason so many Americans choose to own guns is the example set by the government. The Japanese police almost never draw their revolvers, and instead use their expertise in judo and other martial arts to subdue criminals. In America, on the other hand, about a person a day is fatally shot by the police. The frequent use of guns by American police legitimates the use of guns in general.

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"Don't care majority": the flip side

(continued from page 12)

Cathy Pacheco
Assistant Editor

Since when is morality a bad thing? Since when is free speech and speaking your mind a terrible thing to do? Since when was it encouraged that people sit back, listen to someone's views, smile, nod, and keep their own thoughts to themselves? If this is a beginning of the "Don't care majority," don't count me in.

I admit, there are a few crazy people, in my opinion, who can't seem to get a reality check. Take the "I'm white, I have a swastika on my arm, therefore, I am of the Aryan race and am superior to all" group. These people are so ignorant. Don't they realize that when they tell the minorities to go back where they came from "because we were here

first," they are totally oblivious to reality? Hello in there? Don't you realize that maybe you should take your racist selves out of here and go back to wherever it is that you came from? Or don't you remember that the Native Americans were here before anyone else?

What does sexual preference have to do with anything anyway? I hope not all people who have this homophobia thing believe that all gays and lesbians are attracted to all men and women who walk the face of the earth. Just because I prefer men sexually doesn't mean that every guy I see I think of sexually. Sexual preferences should not affect the way we treat people! What is this world coming to? Pretty soon we'll be judging people according to the kind of pizza they like.

Dress codes (the Raiders jackets, etc.), violent songs, and violence

on television are issues that are bugging a lot of people. Okay, so some of the arguments are ridiculous. But if we didn't hear these views, we probably wouldn't have even examined the issues. If we didn't hear about this stuff, we would have never realized how violent Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck really are. (Ed: Wiley Coyote's Acme Explosives come to mind also!)

There are a billion issues that are argued everyday. That doesn't call for a "Don't care majority" though. If people didn't challenge these issues, the public wouldn't be half as aware as they are. Maybe if they heard a different point of view, they would be more open-minded and realize how ignorant or intelligent they are being about the whole thing. If nobody cared, they would probably go on with their prehistoric views.

Let it burn in hell

Richard Wallace
Senior Editor

For those who are taking, or have taken Math 101 or 102 on this campus, that miserable text for the class, the BLACK BOOK becomes very impressionable!

While the wheels of progress sometimes grind slowly, sometimes a real clunker does get dumped — Instructor Sally Glover gives us the good news that the BLACK BOOK

is getting the deep-six! GRCC's math department established a committee to come up with a better text (it would be difficult to find a worse one!), and a replacement is in the works.

So, after a zillion BLACK BOOKS have been foisted off on innocent, bright-eyed and unsuspected students (while *The Papertree* just sells the books, one gets the impression there was a

used-car salesman involved somewhere), GRCC students finally get this millstone removed from their necks.

Too late for many of us, at least the BLACK BOOK (a prime example of crapola) will not be deep in the memory of future students — If there was ever a book that should be burned, the BLACK BOOK is the one!

Continued from page 11

details—is so hopelessly inaccurate, Williams' disclosure to me that Nagel and other unnamed parties "got to [him the night before the issue went to press]"

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and "asked what [he] was going to print" is most intriguing.

Perhaps the Current is not, as it claims, "a newspaper by and for the Students of Green River," so much as a newspaper by and for certain unprofessional, cowardly Current staffers under the thumb of certain student leaders.

It is a shame that truth and student advocacy, the two main goals of any worthy student publication, have been so thoroughly trashed by the Current in its reporting of this story.

In its attempt to emulate the cutesy, self-deprecating humor ("just when you thought it couldn't

get any worse") of the University of Washington newspaper the Daily, the Current also should have adopted one of the Daily's favorite slogans: "Accuracy is no obstacle."

With great disappointment,

Kirsten Odegard

*Continued on
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An Open Letter to the People of Japan

Continued from page 13

Mr. Hatori's grieving family has circulated petitions urging the American government to ban the possession of guns in the home. Such a measure is unlikely to be successful. Whenever American cities or states have enacted laws forbidding the possession of particular types of guns, or simply requiring that people tell the government what kinds of guns they own, Americans have refused to obey such laws. Depending on the law and region, compliance rates range from as low as two percent to only 25 percent at best!

in the case of prohibition against owning guns in the home, at least 50-60 million Americans would refuse to comply. The American criminal justice system, which cannot even control a few hundred thousand violent criminals at present, would simply collapse under the weight of 50 million new "criminals." And, incredible as it may sound to Japanese, many Americans would shoot a policeman who came to confiscate their guns.

And perhaps even more incredibly (from a Japanese viewpoint), the American Constitution implicitly endorses such behavior. Americans are, in their hearts, deeply afraid of the government. The Second Amendment of the American Constitution guarantees the right to own and carry firearms. The historical record shows that the core purpose of the Second Amendment was to ensure that if the cen-

tral government ever became dictatorial, the American people would be able to overpower it. The people who wrote the American Constitution presumed that any government that would confiscate guns would be doing so as a first step toward enslaving or murdering the people.

Indeed, many Americans would argue that the Japanese historical experience validates the importance of armed populace. As the Japanese historian Hidehiro Sonada explains, the military was able to dominate Japan in the 1920s, '30s and early '40s partly because "The army and the navy were vast organizations with a monopoly on physical violence. There was no force in Japan that could offer any resistance."

Many Americans would not be surprised that when Hideyoshi disarmed Japan in 1588 with the Sword Hunt, he did so because, as he put it, the possession of weapons by peasants "makes difficult the collection of taxes and tends to foment uprisings."

And once the peasantry had been disarmed, they became increasingly oppressed. American historian Stephen Turnbull notes that after the Sword Hunt was completed, "The growing social mobility of peasants was thus flung suddenly into reverse." Having once enjoyed the freedom to choose jobs as they pleased, the disarmed peasants were forbidden to leave their land without their superior's permission.

To many Japanese (and to the small American lobbies which advocate disarming the people) the

idea that an armed populace could resist a powerful army seems preposterous. But as America learned in Vietnam, Russia learned in Afghanistan, and Japan learned in Manchuria, an armed population can wear down even the mightiest imperial army.

Indeed, the United States won its independence in 1783 after armed citizens using their own muskets, rifles, and handguns fought an eight-year guerrilla war against the might British Empire.

The American ownership of guns is, therefore, deeply tied to American concepts of individualism, self-protection and freedom from oppressive government. To Japanese, whose orientation tends to focus on the group rather than the individual, the American attitude may seem absurd or even barbaric. But just as Japanese would resent Americans who gathered petitions telling the Japanese how to run their own affairs, Americans will not change their ways based on pressure from abroad. Perhaps the best path to international harmony between America and Japan is for each nation to respect the other nation's basic values, and not attempt to force one country to become like the other.

By David Kopel

The former editor responds

Continued from page 17

Dear Kirsten Odegard;

Did you ever notice that "Nagel" rhymes with "Bagel?" Not that there's anything wrong with that. It's just a fact, and there can certainly be no blame put on anyone for such occurrences. In a similar instance, I was once awakened out of bed with a phone call from the Chair of the Judicial Board Review Committee (which is a pretty hefty title), and ordered to come to the Current office right away. Of course I realized that I didn't have to come. But I came, figuring that the place was on fire, or that I was being arrested.

Upon my arrival, a staff member and myself were not requested but ordered to come to a meeting of the Superpowers. It was certainly a life-or-death situation. Again, I realized that there was no real necessity for my attendance,

but I thought that anyone absurd enough to order me around when they had no right to do so was worth checking out.

Meredith Franklin was kind enough to come and take notes, as was Robert Brock, acting in the capacity of photographer. Now I must interrupt here and point out a few important observations before continuing my charming little story:

One of the major rules regarding journalism is that a story be newsworthy. It must be interesting. People should want to hear about it. And, it shouldn't be off-the-wall, gung-ho, Rambo fantasy. Thank you, and on to my next observation.

Every member of the student government whom I have encountered this year has been more than civil. Very nice folks, in fact, whose interests simply lay in different areas than my own. You, on the other hand, are in my humble

opinion one of the most snot-nosed, vindictive, paranoid persons I have met in my life. I may be entirely wrong, but it is my opinion, and therefore not subject to any liability.

The story continues thusly (and now we travel as if by some miracle to the present, and out of the air): It was obviously poor journalism on my part to spell your name wrong. I really should have double checked, I'll admit. Just to pacify your blood-lust for my "inexcusable error...", I will voluntarily misspell my own name and the end of this rebuke, thus shaming myself publicly. As far as intent to purposely libel your good name, "lady/ I swear by all flowers/ Don't cry" (courtesy of e.e. cummings); I didn't do it on purpose. I also didn't intentionally leave out anything which I thought was of

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page 22*

Justin describes Course of Empire

Justin Ruedebusch
Staff Reporter

When I first recieved this CD I thought I was in for a treat. I heard their single on KGRG titled "Infested," a song that blends hard-core techno, with old big-band songs. This could strike someone as creative. After all, you don't hear it very much.

I knew that even if this CD sucked, it would have one good

song. With this in mind I popped *Course of Empire* into the C.D. player. The first track had a very cool intro and that's about it. I can honestly say free of guilt, that not one of the 11 songs gets off the ground. This band travels down the runway of relentless drums and heavily distorted guitars like a 747 jet, but it never takes off. Listening to this music can only be compared to eating a lot of bread and water. It

fills up your stomach like their music fills up your sense of hearing, yet neither have taste. It's just too bland for me. ?

Oh, and what about that creative song I heard that was good called "Infested?" Well, I guess the band saw fit to take out the big band music. They managed to suck out any trace of passion.

Advice: Don't buy it.

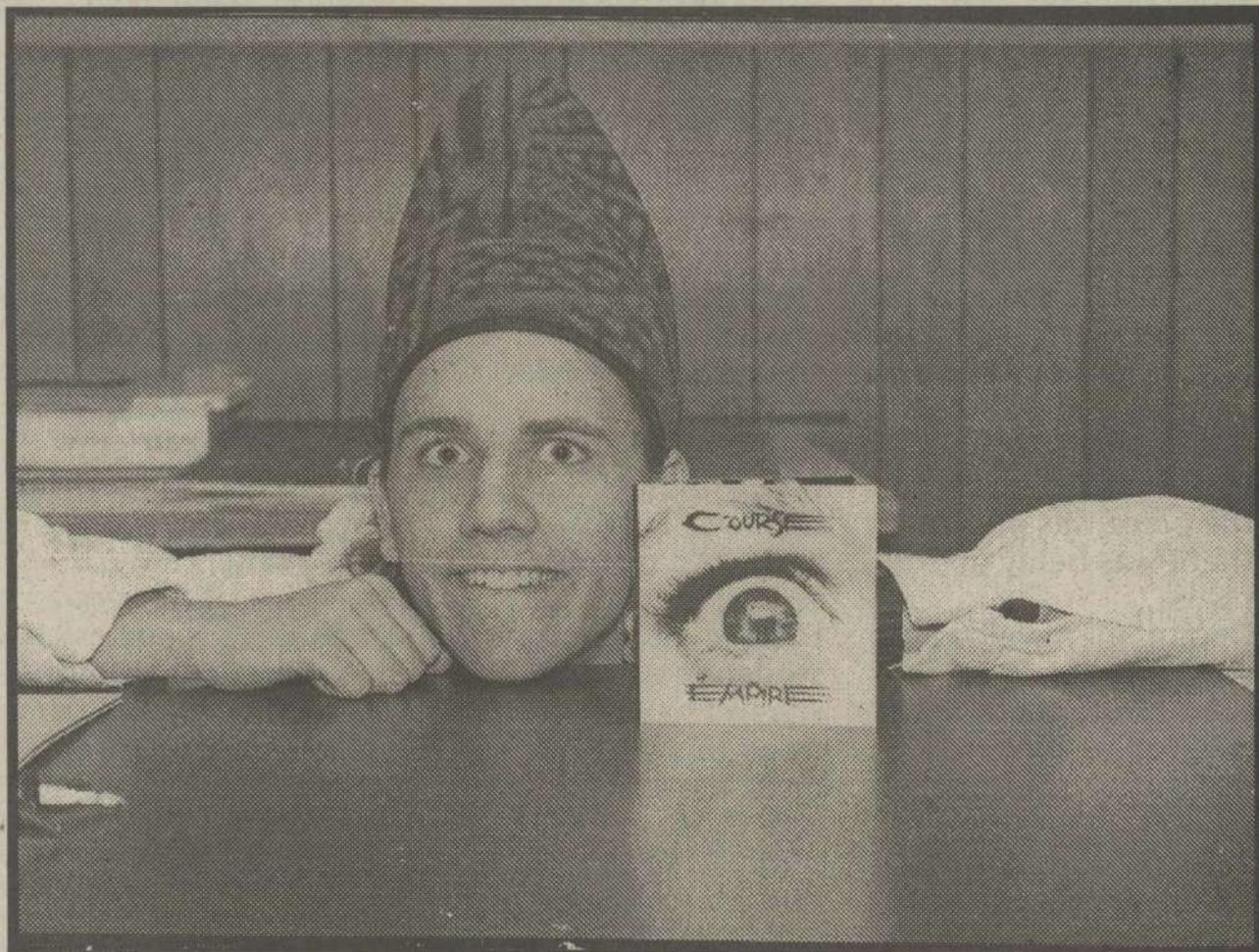


photo by Robert Brock

David Burr reviews Marillion's latest

The solemn opening textures of Marillion's latest release, *Brave*, draw the listener into a dark chasm of suggested tranquillity. The beautiful production and complex musical structuring may distinguish this work as one of the year's ten-best albums.

It is seldom that such an extraordinary piece of art is presented with such modesty. "Living in the Big Life," the album's second track, begins with a soft glow that soon rises to an aggressive high point. The fierce guitar work blends comfortably with an ensemble of colorful keyboards, embracing the ragged edges of self-discovery.

Throughout the disc there is an often eerie mix of emotions, ranging from loneliness to anger. "Hollow Man"

is a slow, desolate piece for which vocalist Steve Hogarth creates an intimate, yet self-absorbed feel. The delicate piano adds character to the brilliant lyrics, and provides the "backbone" of the song in the highest compositional sense.

Headphone use is strongly recommended, especially on tracks such as "Alone Again in the Lap of Luxury," "Paper Lies," and the title track, "Brave." The outstanding use of effects is breathtaking, allowing one to visualize a variety of atmospheres. The album also provides compelling evidence that art-rock has reached an exciting new plateau.

One of the most appealing aspects of *Brave* is the honest nature of the album, both musically and lyrically. "The

Great Escape" is a velvety mini-masterpiece that captures the essence of society's everyday existence, longing to reach far beyond that of what is expected.

Track after track, it is clear that Marillion is confident and focused. As the listener continues through the disc, it is obvious that there are few, if any, "bad" tracks. The music is also presented in a generous helping of over 70 minutes.

The final track, "Made Again," is a light layering of acoustic guitars that lovingly accommodates the serene vocal technique, giving *Brave* an appropriate ending that is as graceful as it's beginning.

Geoff Reed eats quiche (Geoff Reed's movie corner)

As I lay half unconscious on my sofa in front of my television, I was bombarded with previews of a new, "Coming Of Age" movie called *Reality Bites*. Starring the charming Ethan Hawk, Wynonna Ryder, and Ben Stiller, who also directed the film, this turned out to be an amazing 90 minute magic-carpet ride, for myself and my long time companion.

The movie starts at the end of three college students' graduation, as they say good-bye to the security of their rich parents, and prepare to live in the real world. Actress Jennea Garapalo and Ryder, best friends in the film, end up living together, and then, out of the blue, the cute guy friend, played by Hawk, moves in. This leads to all kinds of wacky fights and chaos between Ryder and Hawk, foreshadow-

ing the inevitable love scene the two will no doubt engage in. Now keep in mind, these characters are all struggling, hippie-like kids, which wouldn't really matter, except that Ryder falls for a big time MTV executive, who wants to buy a film that Ryder is making about her life and her friend's life. Needless to say, Hawk and Stiller have their fight for Ryder, and it's a virtual Hurdy Gurdy oil slick of a film. I haven't had this much fun at the theater since the Nasty Boy cinema in beautiful downtown Burbank presented their Hard Core Porn weekend festival.

The film was Ben Stiller's directing debut and actress Jennea Garapalo's first film, which, in my opinion, were the best aspects of the film. The love story thing is very interesting, but some of the supporting actors defi-

nately keep the story alive.

The film's soundtrack helps as well, boasting such artists as U2, Dinosaur Jr., and the Knack (with "My Sharona" -- an homage to the days when liquor was cheap, and the dogs were cheaper).

The movie is rated R for drug use, and language.

Critic's Rating: *****

Rating Scale

***** = Excellent film -- a must see.

**** = Good, yet at the same time strangely bad; do or don't see it.

*** = Not as good as two stars.

** = The worst film in the history of the world.

* = A must see -- Excellent film

Spring Sports Preview

Becky Chin
Sports Editor

Get ready to swing into action with the Green River Gator's spring sports season. This spring Green River Community College has baseball, fast pitch softball, tennis and golf teams that are looking forward to an outstanding season.

The Gator's baseball team is looking to be one of the best ball clubs in their division. They are led by coach Dan Spencer, and all-star players Darren Case and Dion Ruecker. "We have a real chance to win our division and contend for the NWAACC championship," Coach Spencer said. The team has speed, power, defense, and pitching: every-

thing it needs to have a winning season. The Gators open the season on March 18-19 against a Canadian team in Vancouver, B.C.

Green River Community College's fast pitch softball team will start its season at home against Central Washington, on March 5. The Gators will be led by new coach Phil Scott, and four returning players from last year: Shellie Ogden, Stephanie Pine, Erin Erb, and Jennie Kindle. They hope to continuously build on fundamentals. "We players are already showing a willingness to work," Coach Scott commented. "And we'll try to have fun while we're working hard." With hitting and defense being the Lady

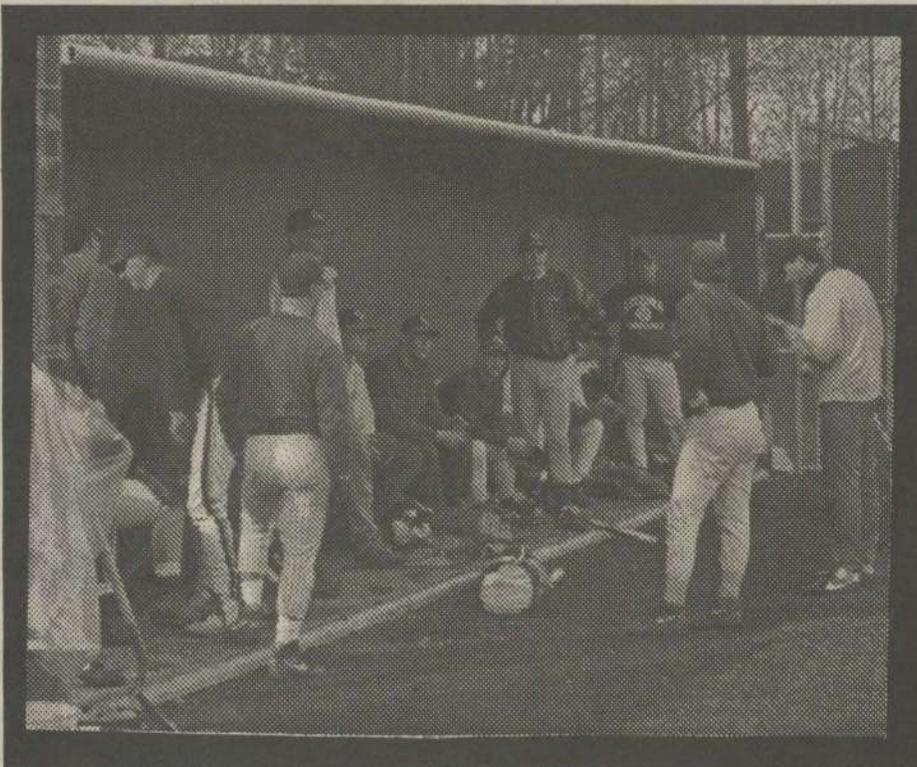
Gators strong points, they look forward to an exciting season.

The putters and drivers are coming out of the bag and ready to hit the greens, as Green River Community College men's golf team prepares to start their season. The Gators will defend their Western Division title, and take revenge for their fourth place finish in the NWAACC Championship last year. The Gators are led by Dave Chancey and Jeff McKenzie, and are coached by Pat Jenkins. The men's first tournament is the City Championships on March 25.

Green River Community College will also have their first women's golf team this season.

They are led by freshmen Deena Worden and Angie Korn. The Lady Gators first tournament is the Edmonds Invitational on April 7-8. Come on out and support the Lady Gators and Coach Pat Jenkins as they start their first season!

Rounding out the spring season action is the Green River Community College men's and women's tennis teams. Both teams have won back to back NWAACC Championships, and are looking for

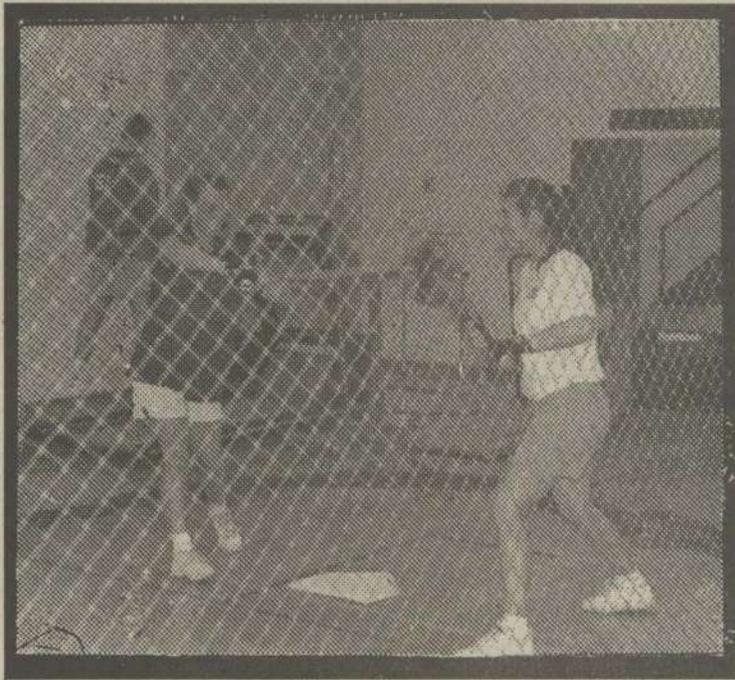


The Gators in Spring Training.

photo by Robert Brock

a three-peat! Both tennis teams are led by the coaching excellence of Steve Sauers, who is in his 25th season as the tennis coach. Since 1979, the teams have racked up 10 championships, making the Green River team the most successful in the league.

The men's tennis team is led by sophomores Ryan Tuininga and Chris Morrison, along with freshmen Brian Jensen and Lars Svensson. The women's team will be led by returning players Elsa Hiemstra and Candy DeVore. With Coach Sauers' expertise and record of 386 wins to 65 losses with the men, and 255 wins to 33 losses with the women, this year's Gator's tennis teams should be a dominant force in league.



Gators at play

photo by Robert Brock

Tennis Players Wanted

The GRCC tennis team is looking for women tennis players to join their program. The team has an excellent program with a lot to offer. If any of you Gators out there are interested in joining, contact Coach Steve Sours at 833-9111, ext.392.

A very special message to the Green River Cheerleaders

Dear Cheerleaders,

I am writing to apologize for the obvious delay of the publication of articles concerning you beautiful women. We understand how upsetting incomplete biographies can be, but we don't want to publish anything misleading. What we desire is to capture the essence of your spirit, the entire fraility you invoke to spice up a game's ooh la

la. I'm sure all of you are different, therefore you deserve more than the normal bourgeoisie treatment.

I am proposing to the editor of our newspaper the idea of dedicating an entire issue to the cheerleaders, including a feature about each one of you. As you can see, the idea is difficult to sell because of other activities the school is involved with. However, I feel we owe you at least that. Afterall,

you cheered our teams to VICTORY! We thank you for that. So, until then, ta-ta! Pip, pip, cheerio! Keep on with the pep.

Your slacking author,

Linda Harrison

any value or interest to
Continued from page 17

the story. The misinformation as to the date and place of the famed "trial," you can check my notes for accuracy. And might I say that you take your job altogether too seriously? Can I? Please? Perhaps you should relax. Take a breast of fresh air. Oops! There I go again! Back to business. The following is from your friendly letter. "...At the time this story broke..." As I have pointed out, the only thing that has "broken" are certain individual's sense of a

newsworthy story. Everything would have been all right, I swear, if I could have slept later that morning.

Concerning your interpretation of the line from the story, which reads, "the issue has been moved to the Senate By-Laws Committee, where Odegard will push for Nagel's impeachment," I was not suggesting that your were a member of the By-Laws Committee. Sorry for your misunderstanding. When I got down to the paragraph regarding libel, I must admit I had a good chuckle. You so judiciously insinuate a lawsuit, when you have no

grounds to do so, since there was no intent to damage your reputation (and I don't believe any damage was incurred). To top it all off, you go on to say, "Perhaps the Current is... a newspaper by and for certain unprofessional, cowardly Current staffers under the thumb of certain student leaders," which is not only a groundless accusation, but a stupid one as well. So you big baby, waaaaaah!

Sincerely,

Cawy Woowams, ex-editor,
The Current



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Wanted: A good used kid-sized, dirt motorcycle. Running or not. Call Jeff at 863-5479

One-year old male, neutered, yellow lab. Good with kids, housebroken. FREE to good home. He

needs more room to run (my back yard is small). Call Linda at 735-2678. After 5:00 pm please.

HELP! I need information regarding a hit-and-run accident in the GRCC parking lot "B" (by the OE Bldgs.). It took place on 2/15/94 between 6:00-8:00 pm. If anyone saw the accident, please contact Sandy at 630-8862. THANKS FOR BEING HONEST!

Wanted: Male nonsmoker to share apartment with male student from Utah. Call Wiley Adams (801) 546-1198 or Pat Jenkins (206) 841-1862.

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TO GRCC STUDENTS AND STAFF

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This issue is dedicated Cary Williams, the former editor of this publication who vanished mysteriously shortly after the sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object, hovering at low altitude near his home, was reported.

photo by Robert Brock

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