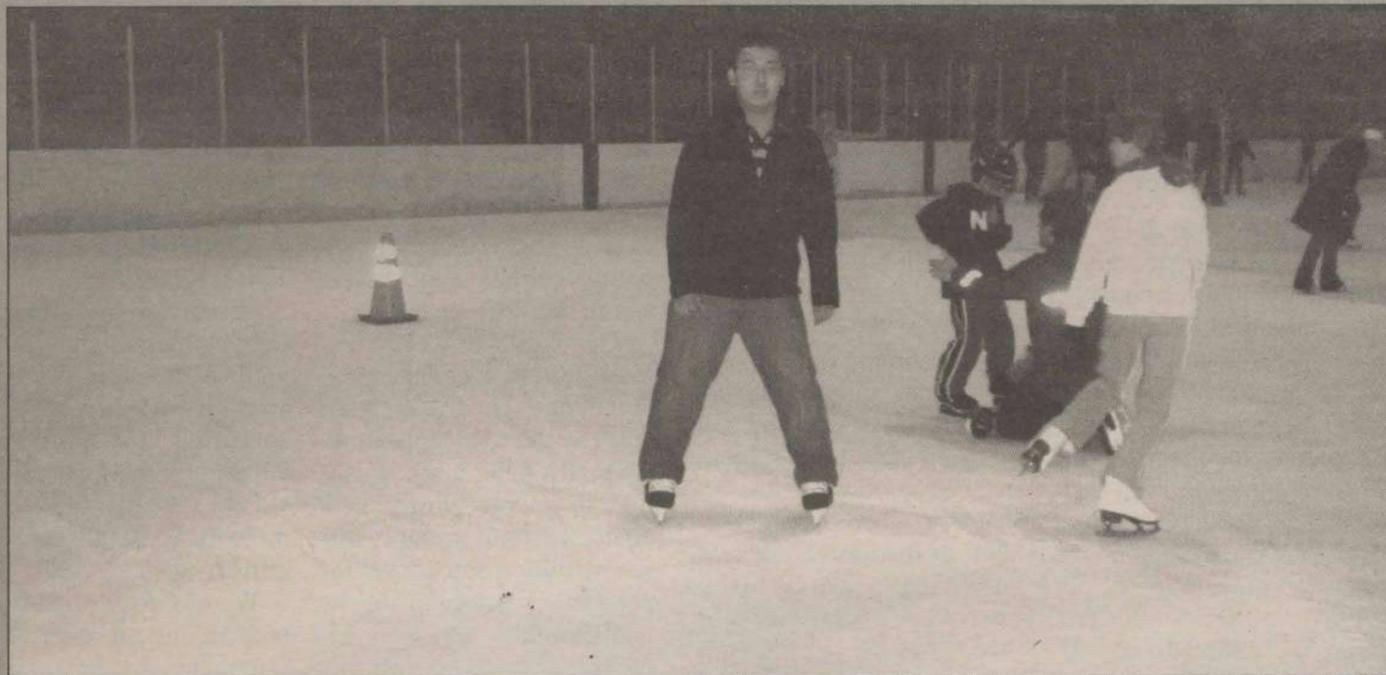


GRCC students go ice skating...



GRCC students enjoy a day of ice skating at the Kent Skating Center. The event was put on by student programs and sold out quickly.

Bimla Thapa/THE CURRENT

See full story on page 6

International students share thoughts on GRCC life and stories of schools at home

Bimla Thapa
Staff Reporter

It is a well-known feature of Green River Community College (GRCC) that its student body is comprised not only of American students but also of students from different parts of Asia.

The different racial and ethnic groups' blending as one is what makes Green River most outstanding compared to several other colleges.

GRCC hosts students from Vietnam. "Schools in Vietnam are pretty much like any other schools," Daniel, a first quarter student from Vietnam said. An obvious difference would be school uniforms; long pants and shirt for boys and a skirt and blouse for the girls. Uniforms are actually a similarity almost all the Asian schools share, but that is depending which school a student studies in (private/public) and what grades they are in.

Next stop; Indonesia. When I asked Ray Atmadja, a 2nd quarter student, to describe the education system in Indonesia, he said "schools in Indonesia are British-based." In other words, the way the system is run is exactly like British schools, probably because

Indonesia was a British colony once before. Uniforms are required in Indonesia as well.

Moving on to Japan, Yoshiro, a 4th quarter student, gave more details on the education system back in his home-country. All the classes are conducted in one room, unlike the American schools. In fact, it is actually the teachers who change rooms each time the bell rings, signaling a change of period. "Having to wear school uniforms depended on the school you're studying in," he added.

In China, class begins at a standard time, 7.30 am, and continues until 6pm! "Of course we have breaks in between," James, a 5th quarter student from China added hastily when he saw my shocked expression. "Two hours' lunch break and a 10 minutes break in between each class - classes are 45 minutes long." One rather different factor about the schools in China is the fact that grades are actually not important when joining in the school sports and extracurricular teams. This gives students from all academic backgrounds an opportunity to try out and participate for the school teams.

Wouldn't it be great if we did not have to worry about countless test, quizzes and exams? That is

exactly what the students in Hong Kong don't have to fret about. According to Alice, a 6th quarter student, they have 2 semester a year where they have only 2 unit tests and a final exam. After that, you're all good for the entire year! And yes, school uniform is required.

Last but not least, our final stop would be in Singapore, once under British rule, hence the British education system, much like Indonesia. Like the Japanese schools, classes in Singapore are also conducted in a single classroom with the same classmates. A regular day starts at 8.00 am and ends at 2.00 pm, with a 30 minute lunch break where Kusal Sherchan, a second quarter student, stated that the canteen (as the Singaporean call the cafeteria) not only has several different varieties of food but also at "very cheap prices." One could tell he missed the food terribly.

I asked all these international students which education system they preferred; American or their country. All of them preferred the American education system, and expressed fondness for Green River. The students explained why in their own words: "Classes here are shorter and more relaxing, unlike the draggy hours back home. We are also able to choose the classes

we like," offered one student. This is something none of the Asian school permitted.

American schools also have excellent connection to the universities, and the advisors are also very friendly." Ray Atmadja added, while others nodded in agreement.

"Here we are also given independent responsibility which we never got in Singapore schools," Kusal Sherchan added. When asked to define "independent responsibility," he replied "It's our responsibility to hand in assignments here, while we are forced to do so in Singapore. It's not a choice of 'can't' or 'don't want.' We just have to do it."

Now you have an idea of how the education systems in the home countries of our fellow International students work back home and why they prefer the system in America. I can definitely conclude that it's not the system that attracted me as an International student, but it is how devoted the instructors, advisors, administrators and other faculty are in making the environment more education-friendly for us students. Little wonder on how fast International students adapt to Green River.

Police forced to use taser gun on sex offender located on campus

Boomer Bently
Staff Reporter

Late Wednesday night, Jan. 31, the campus parking lot behind the Holman Library became illuminated with flashing lights just before 7 p.m. The cops were called when a man approached a female student in her car and tried to get her to come out. The man was not a student, but an unclassified sex offender living within the vicinity of the school.

The female student did exactly what Fred Creek, director of parking and security, said to do, which was always drive with doors locked and if approached get out of harms way and contact a campus security.

By contacting campus security quickly, they were able to get the police on the scene quickly and apprehend the suspect, who was only subdued after being shot with a taser gun.

This incident brings up an important issue regarding safety on campus in the evening hours. There are a couple ways to keep yourself safer when going to and from your car.

First have your keys out before you get to your so if approached you can get inside of your car quickly. Also once in your car be sure to lock your doors, and if approached, don't respond or roll your window down just enough to hear what the person wants. In most cases just drive away and notify campus security and contact the authorities.

Events like this one are rare, but by knowing the proper steps and procedures you can keep yourself safe and help catch the assailant. Stay safe, and late at night when walking back to your car be observant and cautious.

GRCC strengthens ties with international program

page 4



A look at the best snowboarding and skiing in the area

page 6



Sculpture park provides art to Seattle Waterfront

page 10

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Tuition is too high for international students

Jonathan Gordon
Guest Reporter

International students pay over the top tuition for the chance to study abroad at Green River Community College.

Being a student who lives at the college's on-campus housing, I have become close with many international students, all of whom complain frequently about their tuition costs.

Non-resident and international students are paying much higher amounts of money for precisely the exact education. Non-residents pay \$87.50 per unit from one to ten credit hours, then another \$25.70 per unit for all units after ten. And for international students it's even worse. They pay \$246 per unit from one to ten credit hours, then another \$27 per unit for all units after ten. This is \$172 more than the resident unit price per unit and to me that seems like an outrage. But I am not the only one.

Laura Kemp, a first year international student from Holland, has openly expressed her distaste for the outrageous fees. "I have only been a student for one quarter and it just seems as though I am overpaying to go here. I mean, I am paying over two times as much as state residents for the exact same education."

I recall that last year my roommate also voiced some dislike for the fees. "I was paying almost \$3,000 per quarter in tuition alone," said Keith Augusston, a former international student from Sweden who now attends a university there. "Not to mention book fees and living expenses. Many international kids last year joked that the school built the new science building with international money."

To put it simply, it seems as though international students are being charged way too much for their chance to study at Green River Community College.

GRCC's international tuition is comparable to all other schools

Ross Jennings
Director of Intl. Programs

Nonresident, international student tuition is indeed expensive, there's no question about that. This is true not only at GRCC but at every public college and university in the U.S.

This is how it works: Tuition at public colleges and universities in Washington is set by the state legislature. Like all other states, Washington public institutions charge two substantially different tuition rates, one for permanent state residents and another for nonresidents.

Resident tuition covers only a relatively small portion of the actual educational costs. The rest is made up by state taxes, paid by residents. Nonresident tuition is based on the non-subsidized, full cost of education,

without taxpayer support.

The same is true in other states. Both U.S. citizens from Washington and international students would pay the same nonresident tuition rate at any public university in California, Michigan or Texas, for example.

It should be noted that GRCC international tuition, while definitely not cheap, is a relative bargain at \$7,875 compared to more than \$20,000 at most public universities, including UW, and more than \$30,000 at private universities like USC.

We at GRCC greatly appreciate the presence of our international students, and sincerely hope the considerable expense outlaid is ultimately worth it on the pathway to job success and transfer to a top U.S. university.

International travel safety for students

Many college students are getting ready for that much anticipated trip abroad as the time approaches for spring and summer breaks. Most will have a safe and enjoyable adventure, but for some the trip will become a nightmare. A number of vacations are ruined by one or more of the following: drugs, alcohol, disorderly behavior, and preventable accidents.

Each year, more than 2,500 American citizens are arrested abroad -- about half on narcotics charges, including possession of very small amounts of illegal substances. A drug that is legal in one country may not be legal in a neighboring nation. Some young people are victimized because they are unaware of the laws, customs, or standards of the country they are visiting.

Besides drugs, alcohol can also cause trouble for U.S. citizens traveling abroad. Students have been arrested for being intoxicated in public areas, for underage drinking, and for drunk driving. Disorderly or reckless behavior is to be avoided. In many countries, conduct that would not re-

sult in an arrest in the United States may constitute a violation of local law. Some young Americans go abroad assuming that local authorities will overlook such conduct, believing that they are immune from prosecution in foreign countries because they are American citizens. The truth is that Americans are expected to obey all of the laws of the countries they visit, and those who break these laws could face severe penalties, including prison sentences.

Being arrested is not the only misfortune that can occur on a foreign vacation. Young Americans have suffered injury or even death from automobile accidents, drowning, and falls, in addition to other mishaps. While these accidents are sometimes chance occurrences, many are caused by alcohol or drug abuse. Sadly, other Americans have been sexually assaulted or robbed because they have found themselves in unfamiliar locales or are incapable of exercising prudent judgment while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or have been the unwitting victim of a "date rape" drug.

Other hidden safety issues are of major concern as well. Because standards of security, safety and supervision are not the same in many countries as they are in the U.S., many young persons have died after automobile accidents, after falls from balconies or into open ditches, by drowning in the ocean as well as in hotel pools, and in water-sports mishaps, among others. In some countries, the water sports industry is not carefully regulated. Unlicensed operators have been linked to assaults, and a number of Americans have been killed or injured by the improper use of jet-skis and other personal watercraft. Although it is crucial that young Americans be aware of these safety risks as they are enjoying their time abroad, it is also important to remember that prudent behavior may help minimize these risks.

Young Americans traveling abroad should remember that the use of drugs or alcohol or engaging in reckless behavior while in another country can do more than ruin their vacation; it can land them in a foreign jail, cause them to suffer

physical harm, or worse. Common sense should prevail in any activities young Americans engage in so that safety hazards may be minimized. It is possible to have a safe and fun trip if risky behavior is avoided and familiarity is attained with the basic laws and customs of the country being visited.

In addition, even if a passport is not required to visit a foreign country, U.S. immigration authorities require that U.S. citizenship and identity must be proved to reenter the United States. A U.S. passport is the best proof of U.S. citizenship. More information about traveling abroad is available at the Department of State's web site: <http://travel.state.gov>.

For further information contact:

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Teachers concerned more with egos, less on teaching

Jernissa Johnson
Staff Reporter

I'm concerned with some of the egotistic instructors that have made the grade to be employed here at Green River Community College (GRCC). It is clearly understood that some classes are totally Greek to students of all different backgrounds, but does that mean the subject matter should not be explained in a way everyone in the class can understand?

Everyone has a different

learning style. For example, in many of my classes, my classmates consisted of people between the ages of 16 and 66. Which shows that if an instructor is unable to teach in a flexible manner then someone might leave class without understanding what is taught.

Just because someone has a

degree in a certain subject does not mean that they are always right. A survey of

100 students showed that since there have encountered an instructor that was more concerned with the idea of what they say is always right.

When dealing with an instructor that displays this sort of behavior hinders

students. It decreases the amount of class discussion as well as student input on the subject matter.

Jazmine Rooks, a student who graduated from GRCC two years ago with her AA degree stated, "I have been in many classes at GRCC, many of which I didn't graduate remember what was taught... a few a my instructors acted as if my learning ability was on a level below theirs, which caused me to feel as though I was stupid at times."

"Jazmine Rooks, a student who graduated from GRCC two years ago with her AA degree stated, "I have been in many classes at GRCC, many of which I didn't graduate remember what was taught... a few a my instructors acted as if my learning ability was on a level below theirs, which caused me to feel as though I was stupid at times.""

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The Current considers itself a limited public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions.

Green River Community College delegates editorial responsibility for student publications to students, and therefore assumes no responsibility for the content of the publications. The College acknowledges the dual purpose of student publications as instructional tools and as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the academic community.

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GRCC strengthens ties to Chinese University



Photo Courtesy of Gator Net

The President of Beijing Normal University gives a gift to Rich Rutkowski.

Matt Cannon
Staff Reporter

The Zhuhai and GRCC 1+1+2 program for Beijing Normal University students attending this program has largely been a success. There are 38 students signed up for the program this semester, and as many as 50-70 students are expected to attend in the spring semester.

Green River and Beijing Normal University began the program in October of 2003, and from then until now they have been sharing a largely successful program designed to get the students accepted into top colleges all around the United States.

This program was developed to recruit for GRCC overseas in Asia, and so far it has done its job. The 1+1+2 program means that the students involved will spend their first year attending Beijing Normal University in Beijing, China, and then come to Auburn, Washington to take their second year at GRCC before applying to universities for two or more years to attain at least their bachelors' degree. Pet

The individuals involved with this program, however, will need to be financially well-off to attend, because they will be going to school for three years on a different continent having to pay for tuition and other finances. Also, it will be very tough for these indi-



Photo Courtesy of Gator Net

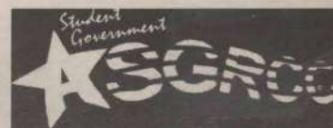
Rutkowski, Brad Owen, Zhong Zhang Miao, and Peter Chow meet.

viduals to even get accepted into the program, because they will need to do very well on the Gaokao test, China's equivalent to the SAT. But the ones who decide to sign up to this program have been doing very well in it, averaging a 3.73 GPA and have been accepted into top universities including USC and UW.

Green River and BNU Zhuhai are also working on bringing students from Green River overseas to China to study and take classes over at the BNU Zhuhai campus, located near an hour from Hong Kong.

Ross Jennings, the Executive Director of International Programs, feels the 1+1+2 program has been a success, and hopes the program to bring Green River students into China will share the same kind of success.

So far, the universities that students involved in this program have been admitted into are the University of Southern California, University of Washington, Indiana University, University of Wisconsin, Arizona State University, Seattle University, Michigan State University, Washington University (St. Louis). Once at these colleges, the students attend two years of studies at these colleges to attain their Bachelor's degree in business or finance and are off into the business world with a head start above the rest of their class



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President's Day No Class

Feb. 19

Chinese New Year LION DANCE & KUNG FU PERFORMANCE

Feb. 21
Commons

Transfer 101 workshop

Feb. 21
3 - 5 p.m.
Rainier Room

5-on-5 Intra-murals Volleyball Tournament

Feb. 21-22
12 - 1 p.m.

Piano Concert

Feb. 23
1 - 2 p.m.
Performing Arts Building

Trio Day Celebration

Feb. 23
12 - 1 p.m.
Glacier Room

Got a story idea?

E-mail it to

THE **CURRENT**

at

thecurrent@greenriver.edu

Summer trip to Hawaii

Howard Hardee
Staff Reporter

Students looking to soak in some sun rays on Waikiki beach this summer will be pleased to know Student Programs has scheduled a trip to the Hawaiian island of Oahu from August 18th through the 24th. \$760 must be paid upon sign up. The vacation will have no mandatory activities, but there will be an optional visit to Pearl Harbor.

An extra \$20 is due for non-students who want to take the trip.

Lodging will be in the Ocean Tower Resort on Waikiki. Lodging will be four people will to a room. Each room will feature kitchenettes that include a micro fridge and a cooking area.

Students interested should contact Keri Weinbercht on her office phone (253-833-9111, extension 2400) or schedule an appointment through Student Programs on the second floor of the Lindbloom Center. Space is limited to 26 participants and they're going quick.

Massage-a-thon held

Caitlin Leady
Staff Reporter

On Feb. 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the students from the physical therapist assistant program offered massages and advice to the GRCC students. Students during this time were there to raise money for a party that they have at the end of the quarter to celebrate the successful year.

Donations were only \$5 dollars a massage and were put towards a Mariners game, a body exhibit, or the graduation party. Ryan Georgi, who is in his first year in the physical therapist assistants program says, "Working with the people, and helping them get through," is his favorite part about the program.

This is a very competitive job opportunity for students; in fact it

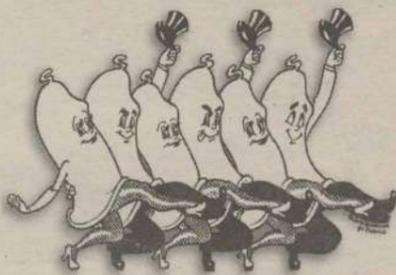
is in the top ten professional job demands for employers.

The GRCC physical therapist assistance program is one of the oldest programs in the nation as it was one of the first ten that was started. Michelle Morris, who moved here from Yakima, joined the GRCC program where she is in her first year in the program. She applied to get into the program, where she had to get a prior degree in anatomy, physiology, and biology. Morris said, "She really enjoyed working with the people, and especially the different age groups".

The instructor for the program really wants to encourage students to apply to the program. There is one hand on lab per quarter. The final always includes hands on tests.

Every Friday afternoon you get to practice massage techniques on the other students in the class.

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Kent Campus looks to improve and expand

Krista Weaver
Staff Reporter

The extension of the Kent Campus is in phase two. Their mission is to add an additional 40,000 square feet to expand their programs and services. At the Kent Campus you can earn a college degree, develop your professional skill, prepare to earn your GED, become proficient in English, train your employees, or consult with a small business advisor, etc.

Leslie Moore and others have been looking for space in Kent for about eight years. She is an administrator who oversees four different departments (one being the Kent Campus). They would like to extend the Kent Campus to serve students who live too far away to come to the Auburn Campus.

The Kent Campus has been very successful and they wish to improve it to better serve the community. They have been looking for space in Kent since the late 90's; they opened in the fall of 2005, but have been planning since 2002. The ideal time that they would like to have the extension done would be by fall of 2008.

The Kent Campus has five full-time staff and about 12-15 staff there per day. They are expected to serve about 3,000 students per quarter. The daily traffic to and from Kent Campus includes about 400 students. At the Kent Campus you can get your Associates degrees (two year degrees) for academic transfer to colleges and universities. They offer tu-

ition free Running Start for high school students who are getting a high school diploma while earning college credits.

For students who are not quite ready for college level work, they have developmental courses in English and math. They also have ABE which is Adult Basic Education. The Kent Campus has Pro-

fessional/Technical Job Training Programs for students leaning toward degrees or certificates. Also they have Business and Professional Development.

Moore, who has worked at Green River Community College for 20 years, says the cost of the extension would be about \$20 million. Now to get that they

have to find the money, they have to work with the Legislature and get regional and financial partners then work with an architect. They also have to decide what kind of classes to add, and they would love to have a science lab added.

Phase one of the Kent Campus was completed in 2005 which now has 22,000 square feet and

ten classrooms (seven general purpose lecture rooms and three computer labs). The campus already has a variety of student services, job skill training, customized corporate training, and small business assistance. With the new location, GRCC can provide more opportunities for learning than ever before.



The Kent campus of Green River Community College is looking to expand its buildings and course offerings to better assist students.

GRCC holds workshop to help students apply to universities

Matt Cannon
Staff Reporter

If you are one of the thirteen students that attended the application essay writing workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 12-1 pm, the chances are that you gained more knowledge about how to get into universities, and how to write the application essay.

During this workshop, the instructor handed out three examples of essays: one poor statement, one statement that needed revision and one very good essay that showed how an application essay should look.

She went through what makes a good essay, what you should stay away from while writing the essay, and various helpful hints that would make this essay much easier.

In addition to talking about how to write this essay, the instructor of this workshop took a good amount of time talking about tips to get into universities, how to find the right university for you personally, and the differences between public and private schools.

The best recommendations will be written by advisors and instructors that know you, or just individuals who have been around you enough to know your attitude and work habits.

Also, the instructor placed a big emphasis on standing out from the crowd, not to make your transcript look like every other person trying to transfer to the university. Colleges get around one thousand transcripts each day in some cases, and if you don't stand out at all, in all likelihood your transcript will just be thrown to the bottom of the pile.

When writing your essay, talk about things that affected your life personally, or just your academic career. For instance, if your parents got divorced during your sophomore year and your grades dropped dramatically because of that, you should mention that in your paper.

In the workshop that took place in the writing center, me and twelve other individuals gained knowledge about how to write your application essays that many other transfer students don't get a chance to have.

Reach beyond.

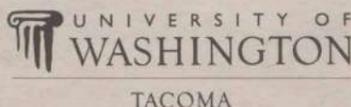
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*— Whitney Rhodes,
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Winter fun goes downhill at Snoqualmie Pass

Snoqualmie Pass provides local, cost-effective winter fun for skiers and snowboarders alike that rates with bigger-name resorts

Kelsey LaRoche
Guest Reporter

The Summit at Snoqualmie is the best deal for those who want to ski and/or snowboard this year.

Snoqualmie has the best price, compared to three other mountains in the area (Crystal Mountain, Whistler-Blackcomb Mountain, and Mission Ridge.)

A lift ticket for Snoqualmie is \$46 for an eight hour morning session, or a nine hour night session. This is about \$5.50 per hour if you ski the entire time.

A lift ticket for Crystal Mountain is \$53 for a seven hour session or \$48 for a three and a half hour session. This is \$7.50 per hour if you ski all day and \$13.70 per hour for half a day. The half date rate is more than double the cost of a day lift ticket at Snoqualmie.

"As a college student, money can be really tight. Snoqualmie gives me and my friends the best

deal," said Jennifer Wilson, 18, a student attending Green River Community College.

A lift ticket at Whistler-Blackcomb in Canada is \$47.50 through \$58.00 for a six and a half hour day. This is between \$7.30 and \$8.90 an hour, or about \$2 more per hour than Snoqualmie's prices.

A lift ticket for Mission Ridge is \$46 for seven hours or about \$6.90 per hour. This is over a dollar per hour more than Snoqualmie's prices.

Snoqualmie is also the mountain closest to people residing in the Auburn area. This is something to consider, because long car rides mean less time skiing and more money spent on gas.

Snoqualmie is 55 miles from Auburn and it takes about 50 minutes to get to the mountain. This makes it the closest ski/snowboard mountain in the area.

Crystal Mountain is also close. It is 53 miles from Auburn, but takes about 80 minutes

to get there.

"Highway 410, the road to Crystal, is always packed with cars," says Jacob Snoen, 18, a student at the college. "I hate driving up there." Snoen described the drive to Snoqualmie as much faster and time-efficient.

Whistler is very far away; with about a four and a half hour drive. This equates to 220 miles, more than four times the miles to Snoqualmie. For a round trip, that is almost 350 more miles to get to Whistler.

Mission Ridge is not much closer, with about a 3 hour drive and 155 miles to travel.

The amount of snow on the mountain is important as well. Whistler does have more snow at the base, but Snoqualmie comes in second. Because Snoqualmie has a better price and a closer distance, those extra 17 inches don't make Whistler a better choice.

Snoqualmie is clearly the best deal when it comes to ski and/or snowboard areas for those living near Auburn.

"Every time I go skiing, I beg my parents to take me to Snoqualmie," says Lauren Kremling, 18, a GRCC student.



Bimla Thapa/THE CURRENT

GRCC students enjoy ice skating event put on by the college's student programs.

Student Programs puts GRCC students on ice

Bimla Thapa
Staff Reporter

Care for some excitement? Just head down to Kent Valley Ice Skating Rink and skate to your heart's content.

Excitement was precisely what the Student Programs aroused among the Green River Community College students by organizing an ice skating activity on Sat. Feb 10, a mere 15 to 20 minutes drive from GRCC. And I have to say it was sure fun!

Gabriella Lestari, the Student Ambassador of the CLEO programs was the brain who came up with the idea of organizing a trip to the ice skating rink. "I wanted to give the International students a chance to try out something new and at the same time give them something fun to do over the weekend after a long week of classes."

Ivan, a 2nd quarter student, on the other hand was a first time skater, trying to keep his balance by skating near the wooden boards in case he needed support. When asked if he was having a good time and why he decided to try ice skating, he answered simply, "Yeah, I'm having fun. It's a school event, so why not? Plus the price was pretty reasonable (\$10 for GRCC students and \$20 for non-students, including of transport and snacks)."

And I agree to that thoroughly. Fun and excitement at a super good deal, I sure am up for that anytime!

Ice skating is not just for large

groups of friends, but it is also an excellent way of spending quality time with families and our significant others.

And all was well until it was time to head back home. Students continued skating for a while before slowly making their way to take off their skates. It's amazing how exhausting such fun activities can be. It was rather visible that the students were drained from all the slipping and sliding on ice. Some endured bruises from abrupt falls, enough to leave a mark but not to drain their spirits.

I, for one sure did have a sore rear end from an unbalanced fall. A rather bad landing, I'd say and yet it did not dampen the thrill of getting up and skating again, which I believe the students who slipped can account to as well. All of us did it with a smile.

These are the type of activities Student Programs come up with: fun, exhilarating and tiring.

I caught up with Lestari again before heading off, asking about another other events Student Programs have planned out for us. "Lion Dance during Chinese New year on Feb 21st, a trip to Skagit Valley, Imax to watch Spiderman 3, trip to watch Mariners and Super Sonics Live, etc. I'll keep you posted," she smiled.

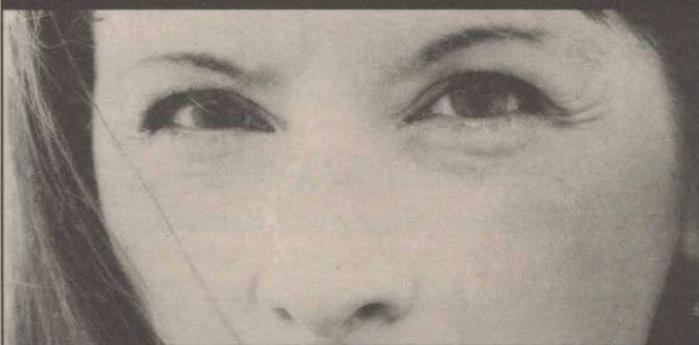
I must say, ice skating was sure a successful activity Student Programs organized, which sold out. All in all, every one of us had a spectacular day, we left exhausted but content.



Photo Courtesy of www.alaska.edu

A snowboarder enjoys the Summit at Snoqualmie, the best value of any of the nearby Snow Resorts.

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New Science and Tech Center anticipated

Marv Nelson Science and Learning Center is poised to be open for classes in the coming fall

Whitney Houser
Guest Reporter

Green River Community College's Science and Technology complex has been long overdue for an upgrade and, after 41 years, it will be replaced with the Marv Nelson Science Learning Center.

The building will be named after former GRCC physics teacher Marv Nelson. He was instrumental in improving science-program offerings at the college. He also helped establish Project Teach, a teacher preparation program for community college students, at GRCC.

All classes are hoped to be up and running in the new building by fall, as well as a few general purpose classes as early as this summer. This is the biggest move yet because of all the equipment the science programs must be

transported. It may be possible to have some faculty move their offices during spring break.

All of the current science programs, including geology, biology and chemistry, will be moved into the new facility. The old Science and Technology complex is no longer able to satisfy the ever-growing needs of the science programs on campus.

An increase in enrollment, along with the demand for cutting-edge vocational programs, coupled with the outdated computer technology and inadequate labs all combine to equal a need for entirely new science facilities. This new 75,000 square-foot facility will be able to provide modern science lab facilities and classes that are applicable in current and future science professions.

In 2005, it became a requirement in the state of Washington

that all new state-funded buildings over 5,000 square feet in size, including schools, offices and universities, be built and certified according to the Leed (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Standard. The Leed Standard is a "green" way of building which is both cost- and energy-efficient.

Philosophically, GRCC is on board with incorporating sustainable features in all new construction. Every new building on campus designed after 2005 must be certified according to the Leed Standard and certification is an expensive, non-funded process.

In 2001, the request for state funds was granted and a design team, made up of faculty and architects was formed. They gath-

ered together to make important decisions on how the energy efficient design will eventually make the investment worth their while. Some of the design concepts they came up with include: natural day lighting, native landscaping, natural ventilation, and energy efficient mechanical systems.

But Sam Ball, the dean of instruction for capital projects at the college, indicated that the air handling requirements for the science labs made the building of the new science learning center particularly difficult. "It's always a balance of how much you're going to spend for how much your pay off will be," Ball said.

Besides these cost-saving features, the welding students at GRCC have also come along

side the construction to help save money. They had a wonderful opportunity to leave a legacy with their work on the science building's third floor trellis. The science center architects designed this steel trellis and bench seat to be fabricated by the students in a shop and then installed on an outdoor third floor deck.

The trellis will prevent unauthorized access to an adjacent roof and the seating will be used by science faculty and students who access a new greenhouse which will be located on the deck.

After almost five years of planning and construction the Marv Nelson Science Learning Center is becoming a reality.



The new Science Center which is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007.

Ryan Gaudinier/THE CURRENT

Balancing school and home life an ongoing struggle

Marielle Madison
Guest Reporter

Many students are running into trouble achieving their two-year degree in just two years due to added pressures and stresses brought on by juggling school, work, and family issues.

The premise of a two-year degree is to achieve this degree at an institution, such as Green River Community College (GRCC) and then continue schooling at a four-year university, or go into the work environment. Many students on campus have other obligations that contribute to a delay in reaching all the credits necessary to graduate from community college.

"Having to work adds stress onto the stress I have from school already," says Liz Thomas, a student at Green River for three years. "If I didn't have bills to pay, I wouldn't have to juggle my time between school and work, but life isn't perfect."

Advisors are available on campus to guide students in the direction they need to be going in order to efficiently and successfully graduate, on time and with the best grade point average possible. While many students use this to their advantage, other students feel not enough students use this opportunity to help them.

"My counselor has been very encouraging, giving me opportunities to make up all the times I've messed up," says student Elena Williams, who has taken three quarters off because of the need to work. "I think the advisors need to be more available, though. It's understandable to make appointments, but they need to be on campus from the time it opens until it closes," she says.

In response to that allegation, one advisor said, "We are here to help the students; however we have lives, too. Students have to remember that we're trying to guide them, not do the work for them. With upwards of 9,000 students here, it's hard to accommodate everyone."

Some students feel as though the COMPASS placement test has affected their graduation process. "I think the math placement is a huge factor, it doesn't make sense that the classes don't count for transfer credit," says Williams.

According to the Green River website, of the over 9,000 full-time students on campus, associate degrees were awarded to 926 students last June. Of those students, 488 transferred to state public four-year institutions.

The factors students list to blame the delay range from counselor availability to the atmosphere at class, and even inspiration from other students.

"I think the transfer students from other countries are more motivated, they came all that way just for an education," says Williams.

Other students blame certain teachers. "I didn't go to class one quarter because I didn't like my teacher," says Thomas. "He made everything boring."

Wherever the excuse, most students accept full responsibility themselves. "If I don't have an interest, I don't go to class," said Williams. "I think I'm just lazy and I need to stop taking time off. I have to suck it up and keep going, because I could have my degree by now, I just don't."

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Shopping safely while you surf

Jernissa Johnson
Staff Reporter

Millions of Americans shop online for all sorts of things, from clothing to cooking supplies to concert tickets. Many banks make it their business to offer college students \$300 to \$1000. But how safe are you when shopping online? The most important thing to consider is your safety.

There has been an ongoing concern over identity theft from online shopping. Some things to look out for while shopping online are contact numbers and addresses.

Lacey Phillips was shopping online for shoes when she came across a site offering a great deal. But there was no contact information for the seller. "I was not about to put my information into a site without knowing if I was even going to get my shoes," says Phillips, a 3rd year student at Green River Community College.

Sometimes it is better to shop at the stores themselves instead of their online stores. Keisha Crumb, a freshman, said "I don't shop online, but I'm tempted to all the time. I prefer to see the quality of things before I buy them."

Which do you think is more effective? Students should do their own research to find out the shipping and handling costs, and the store's return policies. Some websites might charge you for shipping and handling based on price, and others based on weight. I have ordered several pairs of shoes from eastbay.com and my shipping and handling was a total \$14. The price was based of the price of each pair of shoes.

I suggest that you don't shop online based on fashion or accessory trends if you can find the same products in the stores. When shopping at a store your understanding of prices are explained as well as return policies. Most importantly if you have any questions or concerns you have someone available to answer your questions.

Be aware and be prepared for disappointment when shopping online. There has been many times when products online can be found in the stores for a much cheaper price. Also, the quality of the products tends to be less than satisfactory. Just remember to think before you purchase.

Former student tells story about career as a stenoscryptionists

Arielle Caputo
Guest Reporter

I would like to take a minute to tell you my experience with school and my transcription job. I began my job as a medical receptionist while completing my high school senior year.

At the time my employer, who is a doctor, was using the Dictaphone method for patient appointments. She began searching around for a faster and easier method for entering appointment notes into patient files.

She came across the machine shorthand skill and looked around for schools teaching this skill. After brainstorming and researching, she e-mailed Lori Rapozo at Green River Community College with questions about combining the Stenograph machine with medical transcription.

My employer approached me with the offer of putting me through school in exchange for becoming her medical transcriptionist. The classes for machine shorthand were offered online at GRCC, and I started school the fall quarter of 2005.

There was setting up my work computer for online school, which included loading programs and dictionaries, and making the computer compatible for online lectures. I would log into a virtual classroom, where I could type questions and answers with the teacher, who would wear a headset so I could hear him or her during the live lecture.

My first class was with Mr. Lewis from 8 through 10:30 a.m., and then I worked as a receptionist till 5:30. I took the court reporting theory and speed classes and also medical termi-

nology, along with other required distance-learning classes.

As class times and school homework loads changed, my employer allowed me to adjust work hours to accommodate class times. During this year I would drive to GRCC to pick up books and meet new teachers at the beginning of the quarter.

The last two quarters, my classes switched to evenings, and I was able to work full-time and attend school at night. There were a couple classes that weren't offered online, but thanks to Sidney Weldele-Wallace, I was able to complete them online. I completed four quarters (43 credits) completely online and passed 80 wpm in August of 2006.

At this time my employer decided to go ahead and have me start part-time as her medical transcriptionist. Then our real trouble-shooting days began. We started with having Michael Kerns from Stenograph come to my office with a variety of Stenograph machines.

My doctor purchased the élan Mira, which I love. At this point I felt like I was hacking my way through the jungle; we had loads of new questions and issues to address. There was the question of whether I should sit in the room with the doctor and patient and real-time on my Mira; have the doctor wear a mic and listen to the conversion on a headset while I sit in the next room writing real-time; or record the conversion and then write the audio file later on my Mira.

There was the question of what type of mic, because being in the medical field there is the HIPAA privacy act. There was the question of what transcription program to use that would meet our needs. I spent hours on the phone talking to companies about their mics and transcription programs and trying out numerous demo programs.

I met with medical transcriptionists all over the area who worked at hospitals or private practices; talked to court reporters, asking them many questions. I also had to build a medical dictionary because at that point most of the classes I took covered court reporting terminology.

I started out transcribing at 80 wpm in September of 2006. The transcription program we chose has a wonderful speed adjustment feature. In the

beginning I would slow the audio file down to a speed that was comfortable for me, and I use a foot pedal to control the audio. I spent hours adding medical terms and the doctor's personal phrases into my dictionary, and adjusting to her voice. Every day I find myself looking up words and adding them to my dictionary.

Now, six months later, I have developed my little system. The doctor carries a mic with her into the room and records the discussion. At the end of the day, I download the audio files to my computer. I then write the previous days' appointments on my Mira and copy them into the patient's electronic chart.

My latest accomplishment was switching to working at home. I can now work anywhere. I download the audio files onto my laptop, write away on my Mira, and save them into the patient's electronic chart. I work my own hours and sit comfortably at home every day.

There was also the question of payment type, whether to be paid per hour or production rate. Each audio file's time length is noted, and I submit so many minutes of writing per day. I am paid on a production basis.

I am disappointed that my last few medical transcription classes are not currently offered online at GRCC.

I feel these classes are vital to complete my skill. I have yet to make the decision as to whether or not I want to spend time driving from Olympia to Auburn every day in order to finish my Certificate of Proficiency on campus.

I am very grateful for the opportunity my employer gave me in learning this awesome skill and appreciate those at Green River Community College who have made it possible for me to go this far. There were many days I asked myself what I was doing, because everything was not already laid out for me. I have only come this far thanks to my doctor, parents and many court reporters and transcriptionists I have met along the way who encouraged me to continue.

My goals for the future are to possibly pick up more clients in the medical field and start a consulting business to help others set up for school to learn machine shorthand online, and then to help them set up their office to be a "stenoscryptionist" in any location.

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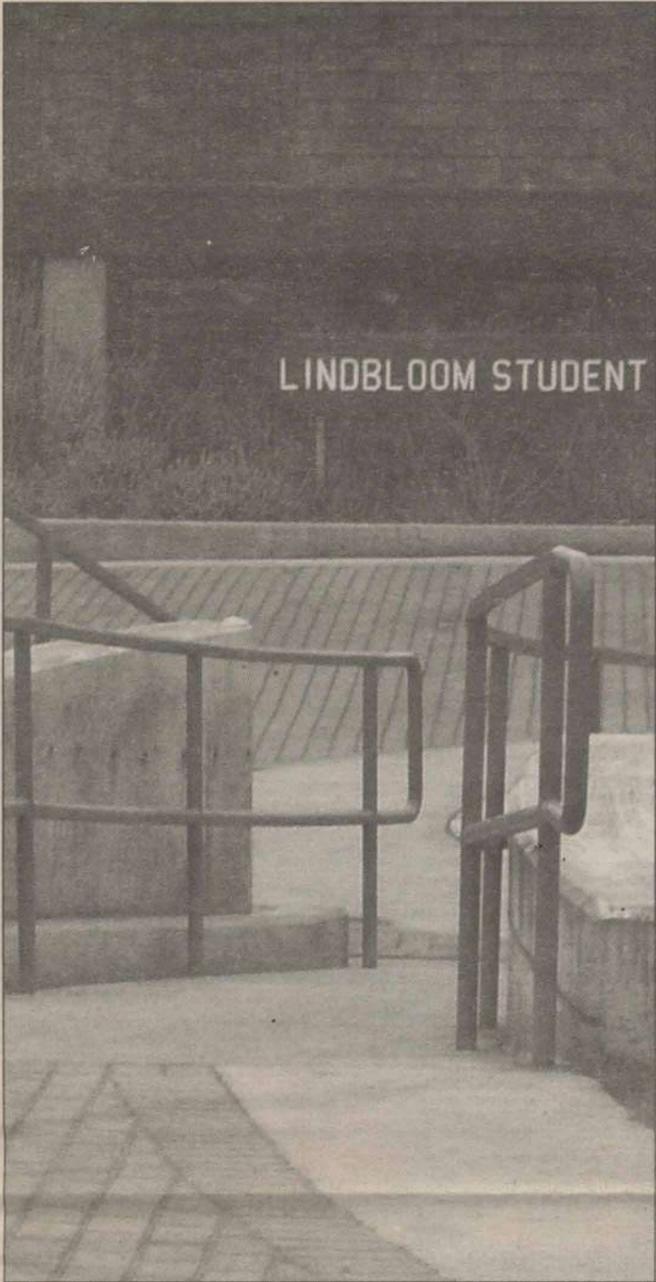
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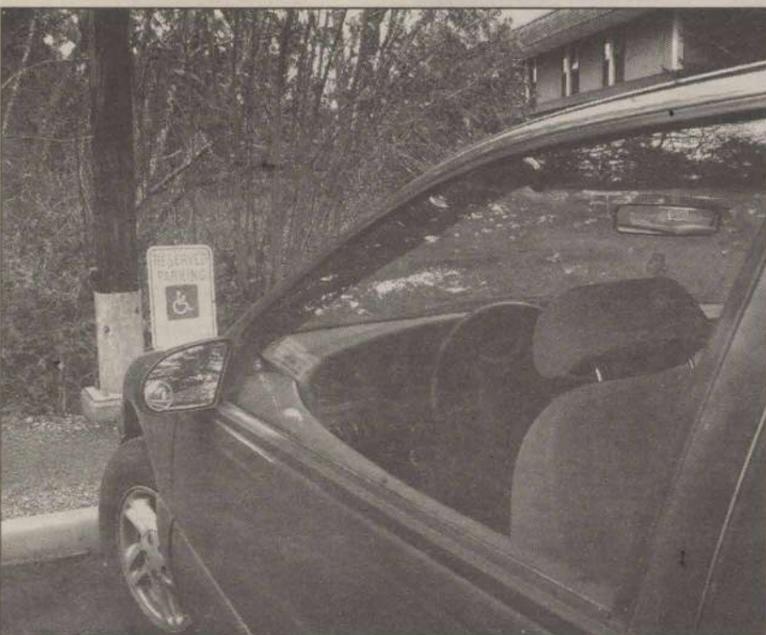
A look down a ramp approaching the Lindbloom Student Center



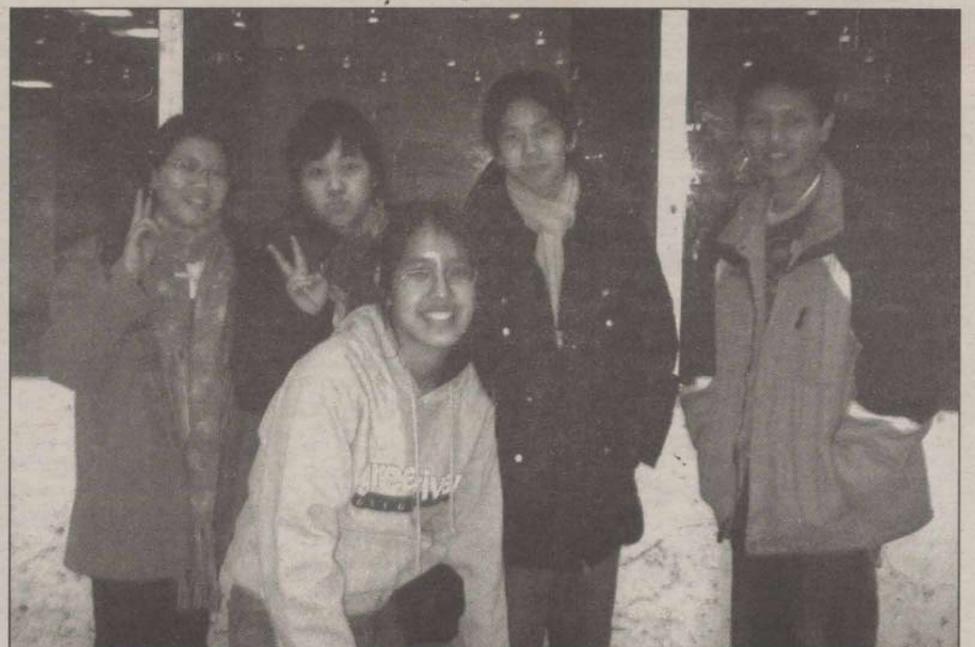
Leftover dead tree remains from the wind storm this winter.



Students chatting and waiting for a bus to arrive.



No handicap sticker, no problem for this driver. An all too common sight in the parking lots at Green River.



Some GRCC students enjoy ice skating put on by student programs,.

Photos taken by The Current staff members and Brittany Gaudinier

Olympic Sculpture Park brings artwork to the Seattle waterfront

Taylor Gillan
Staff Reporter

The newly opened Olympic Sculpture Park is a valuable addition to Seattle's waterfront culture. The park does an excellent job of incorporating the busy and hectic visuals of Seattle, modern art, and the natural Pacific Northwest environment.

Rising above the waterline and the most visible sculpture is Calder's "Eagle," an orange, 39 feet high arching sculpture that looks to be a cross between the

water current, giving off a calming effect. On Elliot Avenue is Mark Dion's "Seattle Vivarium," a controversial greenhouse that holds 60 feet western hemlock nurse log. The Vivarium is controversial because there is debate as to whether it should have been included in a sculpture park; many people thinking it would be more appropriate for the Seattle Science Center.

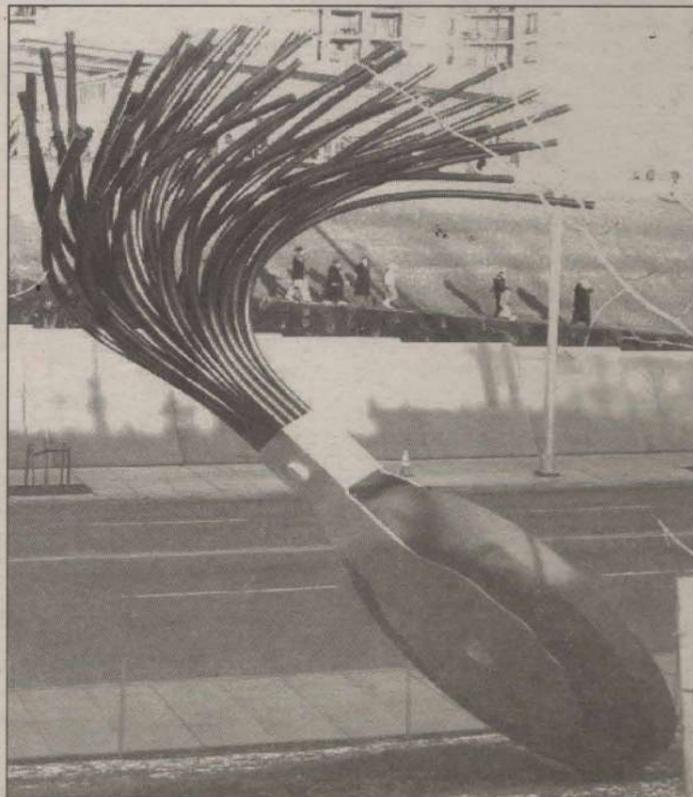
Plans for the nine acre Olympic sculpture park, located on 2901 Western Avenue, began in

began in the summer of 2005, keeping in mind the importance of making this an environmentally sound effort. Construction was even halted for 28 days in 2006, at the advice of the Audubon Society, when a mother duck made a nest on the site. The park opened January 20, 2007.

Important to the aesthetic of the sculpture park was Charles Anderson Landscape Architecture, a Seattle firm that designs the natural aspects of the park. The firm planted 80,000 plants which now act as an excellent water filter for the storm water that runs down into Elliot Bay. Among the trees planted are North American green ash, Western larches, and a grove of 140 quaking aspen. All of the open grass areas are replicas of natural meadows, and all plants are chosen for their local beauty. The tertiary pathways are made from recycled cobble stone from Belltown.

Admission is free, and thanks to Mary and Jon Shirley, the park is unfenced and open to the public. In the winter (Oct. 1 to April 30) the park is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and in the summer (May 1 to Sept. 30) 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Paccar Pavilion is open Tuesdays through Sundays in the winter 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and summer 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and stays open until 9 p.m. on Fridays. The Café, found inside the Paccar Pavilion, is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and in the summer 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and stays open until 8 p.m. on Fridays. The park has heavy visual and audio surveillance 24 hours, to compensate for the lack of fencing and to help prevent vandalism.

Parking is available in the parking garage on Broad Street. It will cost \$6 for up to 2 hours or \$22 for the entire day. Metered parking can be found on Western Avenue and Alaskan Way. There



The vibrant "Typewriter Eraser, Scale X", created by famed artists Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen.



The park features unique seating made possible by sculptor Louise Bourgeois.

silhouette of an Orca whale and a large cargo crane. The attention getter is Oldenburg and Bruggen's "Typewriter Eraser, Scale X," a bright orange and white disc with vivid blue threads reaching into the air.

The Typewriter can be seen from Elliot Ave, which passes under the park. Richard Serra's "Wake" is a simplistically impressive sculpture. The 300 ton sculpture has five wedges that seem to bend and ripple as if in a

the fall of 1995 when Jon and Mary Shirley proposed a sculpture park be included in the plans for a park downtown. Those plans were rejected by voters. In 1999, the Seattle Art Museum (SAM) bought the \$17 million land on the shoreline of Elliot Bay. The site purchased was a former fuel storage and transfer facility. 200,000 cubic yards of clean soil had to be brought in to replace the old, contaminated soil. After a long cleanup of the industrially polluted area, construction on the park

are bike racks available, and the park is wheelchair accessible. Seattle Metro buses that stop near the sculpture park: 1, 2, 13, 15, 18, 21, 22, 36, 56, 57, 99, 131, and 132.

There are some important people that helped to bring the Olympic Sculpture Park to Seattle. Mary and Jon Shirley became involved when they had the idea for the original sculpture park that was voted against. They bought the first sculpture for the park, Alexander Calder's, "The Eagle" for \$10 million. The Shirley's also contributed \$25 million into the project. Mimi Gates, SAM's art director since the early 90's, and wife of Bill Gates' father, William Gates, oversaw the project. Mar-

tha Wyckoff is SAM's environmental consultant, and works for the Trust for Public Land. Chris Rogers managed the formation of the park with degrees in forestry and art history. New Yorkers Marion Weiss and Michael Manfredi designed the park. Lisa Corrin chose the art as SAM's curator of modern and contemporary art. Corrin has made plans to leave parts of the park open for future sculptures so it will be available to change. And of course, Bagely and Virginia Wright, a prominent Seattle couple who support the arts, contributed with money donations and gifts from their private collection.

State-of-the-art programs unfortunately makes Windows Vista too far ahead of its time

Chris Bloomquist
Staff Reporter

Microsoft has recently launched a new operating system called Windows Vista. An operating system is the interface on a computer that organizes your programs and files for easy access. It also includes other features such as firewalls or multimedia players.

Vista offers many new features including Flip3D, instant search, live thumbnails and most importantly DirectX 10. Flip3D is a window management technique where all the windows you are currently running become 3D so you can see each one at the same time and easily switch between them. Instant search is similar to Google, only instead of having to go to a website, it will always be available for use. Live thumbnails allow you to

have a picture in a picture view of different programs. DirectX 10 allows a computer to have smarter resource management, improved API and driver efficiencies, and modifications that shift work from the CPU (processor) to the GPU (graphics card). Giving the GPU more efficient ways to write and access data will reduce CPU overhead costs by keeping more of the work on the video card. The end effect of all of this is to improve performance and increase graphical complexity, according to James Yu and Sarju Shah at Gamespot. Other than visual improvements DirectX 10 is one of the few performance upgrades. Unfortunately, nothing is yet on the market that can take advantage of it.

Windows Vista comes in four editions. Windows Vista Home Basic is the cheapest version at \$199

dollars. It is the bare bones package with DirectX 10 support, instant search, Windows Sidebar, and all the security updates. Windows Vista Home Premium runs at \$239 and includes including Aero, Flip3D, and live thumbnail icons. The Premium version also has new media applications, including Windows DVD Maker and Windows Movie Maker, in addition to the features in the Basic edition. For big spenders there is also an Ultimate Edition for \$399 which has a few extra bells and whistles. There is also a Business edition for large companies to use.

At the moment it does not seem like Vista is a must have. Possibly in time, when programs that are able to take advantage of DirectX 10 become available, it will become a better buy.

Got a story idea?

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Unrealistic and recycled scenes fill and ruin The Messengers



The vibrant "Typewriter Eraser, Scale X", created by famed artists Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen.

Chris Bloomquist
Staff Reporter

The Messengers is a horror movie about a family that has moved into a haunted house. The house is in a small farm somewhere in North Dakota. There isn't much of a storyline in this movie and it never becomes clear what the reason is for the haunting. This film is directed by brothers Oxide and Danny Pang. It

stars Kristen Stewart as Jenn and Dylan McDermott and Penelope Ann Miller as her parents.

The McDermott children are the only ones who see the zombies that like to jump out of doors and scuttle on ceilings. Her parents think she is crazy and do not believe her. Then the farm hand is attacked by crows and suddenly goes insane and tries to kill everyone. To tell the truth this movie didn't make too much sense. This

movie didn't have much uniqueness to it and was not very entertaining.

The setting in the movie and the sets were nicely done. The house really did look creepy and haunted. Sometimes I felt the camera was too close to the people in the scene. It felt claustrophobic at times when I could only see one eye and the forehead of an actor. The special effects were pretty poor as well. In several scenes you could see the controller wires going into the robot crows, or when real crows were used you could see the wires that tied their feet onto whatever they were standing on. Also, the zombies just looked like people with white makeup on and were not scary. Additionally, when they crawled on the ceiling it looked like they had used stop motion claymation or something because it was really jerky and very unrealistic.

This film wasn't very scary, it seemed to have to resort to having things jump around corners and scream to make the audience jump. Mostly it seemed like it was trying to copy movies like The Ring, but it didn't do a good job. My suggestion is that you avoid this movie and see something else because you have most likely seen a movie similar to this one before, and it was probably better.

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Big win gives new hope for GRCC men's basketball

Kyle Riger
Sports Editor

Men's basketball at GRCC has had it's ups and downs this season with some very highs along with some very lows. After dropping three in a row and getting handed a substantial loss at Lower Columbia 51-78 the Gators came back to pick up the W here at home against second place Pierce College (15-9, 9-3 league) in what turned out to be a 14 point rout.

Struggling heavily in the Lower Columbia loss the gators shot just 22% from the field on 10-35 shooting 12.5% on 3-24 from the 3 point line and 18 turnovers the Gators needed a solid win on Saturday and that is exactly what they got.

Marc Williams exploded for 33 points and nine rebounds on 13 of 20 on the floor. The Gators came out hot and never looked back as they went for 43 points in the first half outscoring Pierce by 15. Pierce came out with a little more intensity in the second half outscoring the Gators but only by 1 point (37-38) as Green River cruised to the victory.

Head coach Tim Malroy was very pleased with the win against the second place Pierce "I will say that I received a lot of compliments about how well we played

as a team, and I would agree 100%, we really put it together as a group defensively, when one guy on defense got out of position someone was there to pick him up, and that's really what good defense is all about," and the gators did play great defense, capitalizing on the Raiders' 21 turn-

overs and scoring 19 points off of them, keeping the pressure on.

"I think Saturday was the first thing we did that for forty minutes. That's encouraging because if we do that we feel we can beat anybody and I think the win against Pierce, who at the top of the division, shows that."

With this win the Gators are definitely in the hunt for a post season birth though, playing with a 4-7 record in the division with five games left they are not out of the running by far.

"By beating pierce we've boosted our capability, but we do need to go on a run. We're still

in the hunt and fortunately we've talked about this as a team and I think we can beat any of the teams we play in the next 5 games. I think it's a matter of the coaches and players preparing well for the games and preparing the scouting reports on the upcoming games. We're not so talented that we can play poorly and beat some of these teams, we need to play well for forty minutes to win." Malroy said talking about the remainder of the season.

The next five games for Green River look to be tough but are also very winnable games, even against the division leaders Highline who Green River took to the last minutes in a 80-84 loss. Two of the five games will be at home and Malroy wants to encourage fan support for both of those games.

"Any support we can get in the next couple of games on Saturday against Centralia and Wednesday against South Puget Sound would be greatly appreciated. The guys really appreciate the support and welcome as much as possible."

The Gators play Tacoma Monday, Feb. 12 and Tacoma Feb. 14 on the road but come home on Saturday Feb. 17 to play Centralia in a sure to be important match.



Photo Courtesy of www.nwaacc.com

Gator Women make positive strides

Howard Hardee
Staff Reporter

The GRCC women's basketball team have had their fair share of struggles in the '07 season. They stumbled badly out of the gate, losing their first five non-conference games, and have lost seven of ten against divisional rivals. However, head coach Rochelle Mitchell still considers the season a success. She believes her athletes have developed well on the court and have matured as young women.

"I'm really proud of how the girls are finishing off the season," Mitchell said. "If you asked me two weeks ago, I might have said it was a disappointment, but the strides we have made recently have been in the right direction. If you're losing a lot of games, you can show a lot of character through how you deal with that."

With six games left in the season, the girls and Mitchell have begun to feel a sense of urgency. The lady Gators would have to win all of their remaining games to have a shot at competing in the NWAACC state tournament. If such a push is to be made, Mitchell will look to sophomore Kasi Wells and freshman Sharrisa Pauley to step up.

"Pauley has led us statistically in a lot of games, Wells is more of our emotional leader," Mitchell said. "All of the girls have improved, skill-wise."

Mitchell believes their season long woes can be explained by a lack of team unity. "We weren't together as a team. We didn't support each other, but I see that changing."

A change will certainly be necessary if the women's basketball team is going to avoid it's sixth losing season in seven years.

Tennis facility problem for Gators?

Christopher Dew
Guest Reporter

Students in general need a home. For instance, residents need an apartment, singers need a concert hall, basketball players need a gymnasium, baseball players need a baseball field, and, well, tennis players need tennis courts. For years tennis players and student enthusiasts have been unhappy with the lack of tennis facilities at Green River Community College and hope for change in the future.

The only courts - that is, only court available to GRCC students is one slick, cracked, weed-infested court at Lea Hill Park next to the baseball field. The tennis players on the tennis team are continually sent packing to a variety of facilities in the Kent/Auburn area looking for a place to improve their skills and to play their matches. The team also lacks the recruiting edge that all other schools have in the fact that it's harder to recruit when potential players don't have a facility to see. Campus corner residents use the space regularly but because of the poor conditions of the courts tend to ride skateboards and play soccer on them.

So an exact cost just really depends on the variables that one wants for their tennis courts. Money can be raised, time is something that can be

worked out, but the biggest problem is space. Space is the one thing all GRCC students know will have to be created on our campus

"Since we can't get rid of parking, the best way to make room for tennis courts would be to clear out some trees to make space," says Adam Blackner, who is the defending NWAACC men's singles champion from a team that brought home the NWACC championship last spring.

"It wasn't a good thing that we had to practice at an elementary school in Federal Way or even have our matches at the Bally's near there. But it was worse when we started having our matches at Auburn Senior High School. It just didn't give us that "home" feeling," says Blackner.

Since this is Blackner's second year he wouldn't get to experience new tennis courts if the opportunity to have them built occurred. But what he means is that without courts of their own the Green River tennis team will never have "home court advantage" if all their matches are on "neutral" ground, so to speak.

How much space is really needed for a college team and its tennis courts? Typically four to six courts is efficient enough for a college team and having them side by side is probably the best bet. Rea-

sonably speaking having four would take a lot of space, and there is plenty of space if used wisely at the college campus.

How would this affect the students at GRCC? Tennis fans, Campus Corner apartment residents and the varsity tennis team would all be positively affected the addition. So why is building tennis courts so important? The men's varsity team did win the 2006 NWAACC championships without them.

"It's just a hassle having to leave the campus after class and go to Federal Way for practice then go back to Auburn for class when you're already at school to start with," say Michael Parretta, who was also a part of last year's championship team. "And it will also be easier on the future athletes who don't drive and live on campus to make it to practice everyday."

"We would love to have on-campus tennis courts," said athletic director Bob Kickner. "There are community colleges in the NWAACC that have courts but do not sponsor a team. Meanwhile we have a very competitive team, but make our athletes jump through hoops to represent the college. It is unfortunate, but it is not a new problem. The best bet is to partner with the city to improve and expand Lea Hill Park."

Remaining Winter Sports Schedule

Boys Basketball

Wed Feb. 14 @ Grays Harbor, 8:00 p.m.
Sat Feb. 17 vs. Centralia, 5:00 p.m.
Wed Feb 21 S. Puget Sound, 8:00 p.m.
Sat Feb 24 @ Highline, 3:00 p.m.
March 1-4 NWAACC Championships

Girls Basketball

Wed Feb 14 @ Grays Harbor, 6:00 p.m.
Sat Feb 17 vs. Centralia, 3:00 p.m.
Wed Feb 21 vs. S Puget Sound, 6:00 p.m.
Sat Feb 24 @ Highline, 1:00 p.m.
March 1-4 NWAACC Championship