

Hearing changes at KGRG?  
Learn about them on Page 12!

Silent Movie Mondays come to the Paramount Theater in  
Seattle...Find out more on Page 9!

# THE CURRENT



FRIDAY | JANUARY 28, 2005 | GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER



## **ARE SQUIRRELS TAKING OVER GREEN RIVER?**

One reporter reveals the  
startling truths about our  
numerous woodland residents  
and how Green River students  
are coping...

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New state laws clear up the  
ambiguity of sex-ed...Page 8

# Current on Campus

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FRIDAY | JANUARY 28, 2005

## EVENTS CALENDAR

compiled by Melanie Wittman

### January 28, 2005

1:00p -2:00p  
Mexican Movie & Fun - Small World of Friends Club CCA Community Room

### January 31, 2005

12:00p -1:00p  
Monday Mix presents Raining Jane Lindbloom Student Center Main Dining Area - FREE!

### February 2, 2005

2:00p -1:00p  
Student Senate Meeting - Rainier Room

### February 3, 2005

2:00p -1:00p  
Student Senate Meeting - Rainier Room

### February 10, 2005

12:00p -1:00p  
Student Senate Meeting - Rainier Room

### February 11, 2005

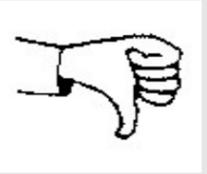
2:00p -4:00p  
Sr. Citizen's Valentine's Day Dance - Lindbloom Student Center, Main Dining Area

## THUMBS UP & THUMBS DOWN



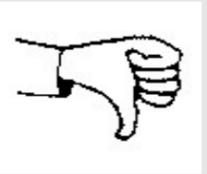
Thumbs up to Fred Creek, head of campus security, for being so hospitable to us at The Current.

Thumbs down to the Academy of Arts and Sciences for only awarding "Eternal Sunshine" with two nominations!



Thumbs up to the 33 Green River athletes who made honor roll. Congrats for keeping your eye on the ball!

Thumbs down to felons! Keep your votes to yourself and please refrain from stealing our cars. We can't even afford lunch (especially at this cafeteria) so please leave our transportation alone!



Thumbs up to the "likelihood" of acquiring a new office for the staff at the Current!

What do you think we are, pessimists?



## SECURITY BLOTTER

compiled by Nate Dillow

### Auto Break-In

On 01/18/05, a green Honda Accord parked in the I lot was broken into. The stereo was ripped out and someone tried to start the car with no success.

### Auto Theft

On 01/18/05, a red Acura Integra parked in the I lot was stolen.

### Auto Theft

On 01/18/05, a black Acura Integra parked in the I lot was stolen.

## The Current Staff and Info

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**We at The Current encourage robust discussion among all members of the Green River Community College campus. Letters to the editor, editorial and opinion pieces, freelance articles and photographs may be submitted to The Current via snail mail or email to the attention of the editor-in-chief. Contact information must accompany all submissions.**

# Opinions & Editorials

P3

## New state laws clear up the ambiguity of sex-ed *Confusing and sometimes false information has forced legislatures to unify state sex-ed guidelines*

by Jason Wells  
Staff Writer

Sex education is beginning to become uniform across the state. Washington legislatures released a set of guidelines for sexual education for grades from five to twelve. These guidelines are an attempt to unify what is otherwise an extremely varied educational experience; an experience which presents knowledge of utmost importance to our everyday lives.

It's not just that children and teens have the right to know about what makes us tick sexually (i.e. our physiology), but it is absolutely essential that they are provided with accurate and timely information on subjects such as pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI).

The reason the state has released these guidelines is because students across Washington have reported being told information that is not only blatantly inaccurate but also potentially harmful to their health. One student reported being taught that victims of rape become infertile. Another claimed he had been told condoms do not protect against HIV. Birth control pills are only 33% accurate said another. These were not the only discrepancies,

nor did they come from the same district. This implies a great problem: school administrators/teachers across the state are either uninformed or purposely misinforming students because of their own personal agendas.

While no school is required to follow the guidelines, the state hopes most will, as they provide a good basis of accurate information for students to form their own opinions around.

One major turning point in these guidelines is they push education that claims abstinence is the best, but not the only, policy for avoiding pregnancy and STI's. It urges teachers and administrators to provide accurate information on condom effectiveness for preventing pregnancy and STI's, various forms of female birth-control effectiveness, and actual statistical risks for any given disease.

This is an excellent step in the right direction. Kids and teens must know the true facts about the risks involved in their behavior. They need to know that while abstinence is the safest policy for avoiding complications, it is not the only viable policy. Besides, claiming abstinence is a form of birth control is ridiculous. Birth control implies there is a sexual act going on, while abstinence is specifically

to understand the real consequences of their actions, not false or inaccurate consequences. We want our children to have every potential defense they can against the problems of the outside world, so why not arm them with the most accurate knowledge possible?

This brings forth another problem though. Many people are opponents of accurate sexual education. The reasons for this vary, but an underlying theme is often personal morals. Well, there is proof that personal morals against teen sex should not mean an abstinence-only policy. "There was a study done in a Texas town whose leadership decided upon an abstinence-only system. After only a few short years of this, the town had the highest percentage of teenage pregnancy and STI's across the nation," said Mike Brislaw, a Psychology teacher here at Green River. All the abstinence education succeeded in doing was neglecting the teens with the tools and knowledge they need to protect themselves while sex-

ually active. If one looks at mainland Europe, the opposite effect has occurred. Sexual education is accurate and started at a young age. As a result, many European countries have a low percentage of STI's and teen pregnancy, whilst having a high percentage of teen sexual activity. Now, an obvious side effect is when educated properly, teens seem to have more sex, which of course butts heads with the anti-premarital sex morals.

Personal morals should never rule education. Actual facts and proven research should. If we want our children to be safe from STI's and avoid teen pregnancy, we need to tell them the truth. They may in fact have more sex than before, but that is a far better and safer side-effect than increases in both pregnancy and STI's. Next time there is an issue about this, stop and think, "Do I want my personal morals against sex to possibly condemn my child and other children to life-long (and sometimes fatal) diseases?" Remember, while you may disagree with premarital sex, the fact remains that it happens and we need to protect our children with what we can.

Due to misinformation, some students believe that birth control pills are only 33% effective.



photo courtesy of www.agi-usa.org

Due to misinformation, some students believe that birth control pills are only 33% effective.

the lack of. Even uneducated teens (I say uneducated, not inaccurately educated) understand you can't get pregnant if you don't have sex.

Barring that little discrepancy, the guidelines are a good thing. If someone is expected to make an intelligent decision, they need

## Who knew that Janet Jackson's breast held so much power?

*The fallout from the infamous 'wardrobe malfunction' can still be felt, almost a year later*

by Corey F. Thies  
Staff Writer

It all started with a wardrobe malfunction. After Janet Jackson's breast was revealed during the 2004 Super Bowl Halftime Show complaints flooded the FCC. Subsequently fines were given and a new era of conservatism was unleashed on network television. After the debacle scenes were cut from E.R. and an unedited version of Saving Private Ryan was refused by some ABC affiliates. The networks that are policed by the FCC (including the Big 3: CBS, ABC, and NBC) are now panicked and are attempting to tone down suggestive material to please conservative viewers.

This is an extremely bad situation. It is evident that network television must now be appropriate for all ages or the FCC will fine the stations for indecency. Our society has become so paranoid that our children will be corrupted that it is impossible for the networks to air a truly adults only show: one that features characters that speak like the



photo courtesy of www.desertnews.com

The breast baring occurred during halftime of last years Super Bowl and sent the media and concerned parents into a frenzy.

average American and don't rely on innuendo to titillate. In the 1970's CBS featured adult comedies like All in the Family and Maude that truthfully poked fun at such issues as racism and abortion. In today's T.V. world these issues are taboo. Network sitcoms now run on a wink-wink

nudge-nudge mentality that doesn't allow the characters to become fully developed.

But there is hope: Cable. Cable networks are not controlled by the FCC. Therefore they can produce and air anything that they choose. Basic cable networks, like MTV and FX, instead

choose to police themselves which allows shows like South Park and Nip/Tuck to air without fear of a FCC fine. These racy shows do get complaints, but parents seem to know which shows are *NBC, ABC, and CBS* are all policed by the FCC, forcing adult viewers to turn to cable to find edgier entertainment.

This year HBO received more nominations than the Big 3 combined at the Golden Globes. I would speculate this is because HBO is allowed the produce shows that are compelling and believable. HBO does not need to rely on innuendo; this network utilizes adult language and themes to produce shows that are for adults only.

But why should I be forced to pay extra for channels that program to adults? Parents need to utilize the information that is given about television programs

and decide for themselves if it is appropriate for their children. Parents need to stop relying on the networks to only program shows that are appropriate for the family. I do not

have kids and I am upset that every-thing on the Big 3 is watered down so that younger viewers will not be tainted by "indecency."

It is imperative that the television lover does not allow the FCC to go too far. It has been reported that the FCC wants to start controlling the cable stations also. If this occurs say goodbye to the days when there was truly adult programming and hello to hours and hours of safe, family friendly programs. To reach FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell email him at: Michael.Powell@fcc.gov



picture courtesy of www.fcc.gov

# Opinions & Editorials

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FRIDAY | JANUARY 28, 2005

## Cutthroat college: the high stakes game of tuition

by Joshua Riel  
Staff writer

Few things in life are ever free and college tuition is not one of them. In the game of life all the high rollers are the ones attending college. The dream of every modern college student is to graduate, and not have any debt waiting for them to payoff. But with tuition on the rise this dream is considered only a figment of the modern imagination. Like water in a desert, it seems that the funds for higher education have all but dried up. With many struggling students attempting to keep up with the high price, the dreams of higher education are slipping away.

Washington State has always had the policy of keeping tuition low. But with the current economic bind budgets come up short and financial aid can only go so far. Tuition has increased by nine percent per year from 2003-2005.

This increase has kept many low-income students from obtaining higher education needed in today's world of complex industries. In order to cope with the rising tuition, many local students have taken on second jobs. Whether it's an office job working at a desk all day, or simply mowing a lawn for an hour, students vie for breathing space

when it comes to paying tuition. Many are not lucky enough to obtain second jobs and must resort to other measures to save money. One such measure, as explained by a local student, is to move back in with one's parents.

"It may not be my ideal place to live right now, but at least it's a place that I know will be there at the end of the month," the student said.

Another lifestyle change that comes with fronting the bill of tuition is food. With more

money going into the college fund and less into the refrigerator students have developed creative ways to "stretch" every dollar. Just ask any college student and they could probably name off at least five different ways to cook up some Top Ramen.

However eating the same foods repeatedly, the taste buds start to dull and the urge for something new is always on the mind and thus the college student begins to seek out that second job.

For those who do end up with a second job, it comes at a high price. Those who had 4.0 GPAs can steadily see their grades dip toward the mid-section of the grading scale until "C" level is considered adequate.

Aside from taking away from one's grades a second job does take its toll on one's health. We all know what it's like to come home after an eight hour shift and be exhausted. You only have two things on your mind when you stagger in the front door, "Where is the food?" and "Point me to the nearest bed."

Now just imagine you have that second job. You're exhausted from the days work, and are ready to enter vegetate mode when you realize you have less than 20 minutes to eat, change clothes and head off to your second place of employment. Your



photo courtesy of www.students.bath.ac.uk

Juggling work and school leaves little time to sleep for busy students. second shift finally ends and you crawl, not stagger, into your home on all fours. You glance up at the clock to see that it is some ungodly hour and your only function left is to pass out on the floor.

You awake the next morning in a jolt to your nagging alarm clock, which you proceed to assault with various items till it shuts off. You then realize class started 10 minutes ago. You scramble to the last 15 minutes of your first class and once it ends you wonder why you're even going to school in the first place and if it's worth it. Such are the lives of many students.

However, all is not lost to the seekers of higher education because with the increase of college tuition there follows a logical increase in financial aid as well. There are several ways of

paying off tuition through work studies and grants here on campus. Many students hold jobs at the bookstore, with security, at the library and even for the campus newspaper.

Even with all these opportunities of employment, the positions are limited and a student can only qualify for so much money from financial aid. The last resort for those determined are student loans. It can become the savior of those who are on the brink of losing their education. Loans can seem to be the copout to keep you above "C" level, but in the end you'll have to pay it back and then some.

In the end, education is worth the risk. So if you're going to pay to play the game of higher education, remember to dig down and have your wallet ready.



photo courtesy of www.1-in-loans.com

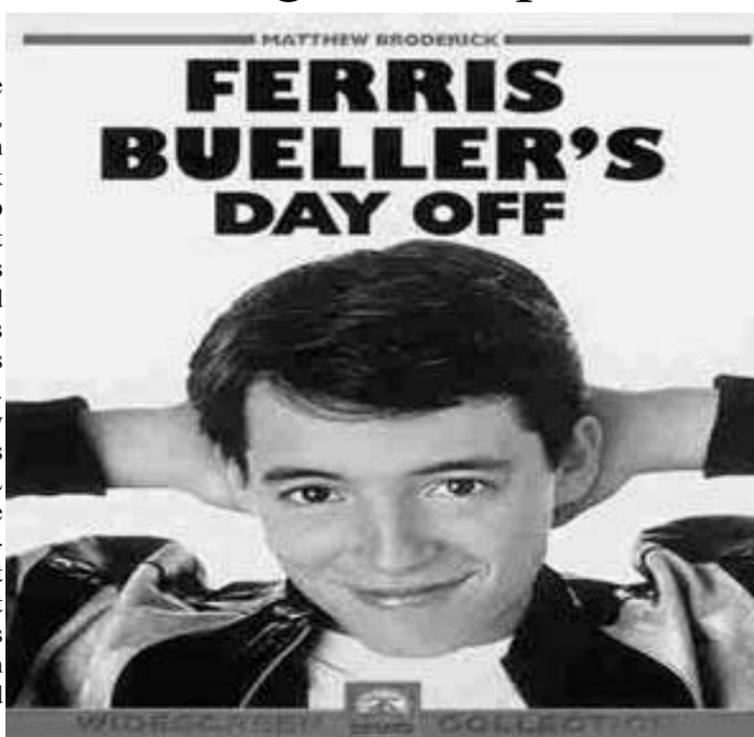
Higher education is not free, and students who opt for loans can end up paying a hefty sum when it's all said and done.

## Role's 'role' in a college atmosphere is unnecessary and juvenile

by Dan Jeremiah  
Staff Writer

I am sure that many people have seen the famous movie, Ferris Bueller's Day Off, in which Matthew Broderick decides that he is going to skip high school for a day of fun out in Chicago. Broderick realizes that it is his senior year, and missing a few hours of school is not going to greatly affect his grades or attending a University. One thing that stands out in my mind though is the fact that it is a story about a HIGH SCHOOL student. It is based on someone that is not supposed to understand or value the class time that they have paid for. My first week at Green River I was shocked to see role being taken in the classroom to see if we had chosen to show up for class.

Many classes on our campus have a participation grade built into the curriculum to encourage students to attend class on a regular basis. Personally I found this to be an insult. Ladies and Gentlemen, there are no bells, there is no detention and you can forget about study hall, you have now entered the scary world of College. What you do



The 1986 cult classic, Ferris Bueller's Day Off, tells the story of a high school kid who devises a crafty plan to skip school and fool his principal. Attendance is taken very seriously in high school. But in today's college atmosphere, does role need to be an essential part of certain classes? After all, the students are the ones choosing and paying to go to school. The responsibility to attend class should be placed solely on the student.

here will count and stay with you for many years, believe me, I

learned this the hard way. Why would they do this, we are

adults, we can make our own decisions.

One thing that I have learned over my time spent in school is this, "if you miss class, you WILL fall behind". In High school, if you missed class, your teacher would give you a few days to make it up and all the notes that you missed would be provided for you. In college though, if you

miss, you are going to miss out on at least an hour worth of instruction you are responsible for, your grades will suffer. My question is this, "if our attendance will reflect our performance, then why are we being docked a second time for not being in a chair from an allotted time?" I could understand the argument being made that the "running start" students need a certain level of structure due to their age (running start students-I in no way mean to offend you, in fact I applaud you for taking advantage of a wonderful opportunity, yet at the same time I am 23 in classes with 16 year olds).

I personally pay out of pocket though for my education and therefore contemplate seriously weather or not missing class is a smart move.

My last quarter I had some of the most talented and attentive

*"Ladies and Gentlemen, there are no bells, there is no detention and you can forget about study hall, you have now entered the scary world of College."*

professors I have had in my college career, class was fun for me. I took one class that was a "coordinated studies", meaning two profes-

sors taught different subjects in a 2-hour block period. If I missed one class, I missed the other. One professor though had me down for ten absences, while the other only four. My grade was based on weather I was recognized during role call or not.

When I originally set out to write this article, I wanted to be upset with the "system", yet now I see there is a deeper problem. Our professors take role because we obviously are incapable of showing that we as a student body are prepared to take responsibility for our actions, day in and class out.

## New program director voices hopes to make KGRG top-rated college station *KGRG DJs not registered in the class will soon be off the air*

by Eric Thompson  
*Staff writer*

As of Jan. 1, 2005, you may be hearing some changes taking place if you have your radio dial tuned to 89.9 FM. Eric Paul, the brand new and very ambitious program director of KGRG has taken hold the reins to the station. Armed with a good crew, radical plans to change the station in a positive way and determination, his goal is for KGRG to be the number one-rated college radio station in the country.

"It is not going to be only one specific tactic or approach," said Paul when asked about how he plans to undertake this tremendous task, "but a whole new system which will focus on the

*"The new all-request Friday won't be limited only to songs on the KGRG playlist but to anything under the rock genre."*

basic necessities the station needs in order to be successful."

"One of the things we want to focus on to improve the station is enforcing the policy of getting all the people not enrolled in

radio classes off the air. Doing this will allow us to give new talent a chance to develop and be discovered, and in turn, make the station better."

One of the main goals on the new program director's plate is giving the listeners what they want to hear.

The most radical of the many changes in programming will be the Friday line up, which will be changed to an all request format. The current format for Fridays on KGRG is all request from 3

p.m.- midnight. It will be changed starting Feb. 11 to all request from 6 a.m. - midnight. The big change is not so much the time difference but the music. The new all-request Friday won't be limited only to songs on the KGRG playlist but to anything under the rock genre.

"I think that broadening our playlist is the key to creating more listeners. Making our listeners happy is our biggest goal,

and that is what we are going to try to focus on," says Eric Paul.

In an industry like radio, technology is constantly evolving and improving. It is Green River Community College's responsibility to adapt its curriculum to best teach us to succeed in today's workplace environment. One of the other main objectives of the new program director is not only to ensure that the listener gets something out of the radio station, but that so do the students that make it run.

Eric Paul stated that "not necessarily all the students who participate in the radio station want to find a career in the broadcasting field. But certainly the ones that do we want to help get them where they want to go."

"Out of all the people who work at the station who have chosen the broadcasting industry as a profession, about 25 percent make it, which is really good considering the scarcity of the positions," he said.

With almost all the commercial stations converting to totally digital systems, one of the many possible changes the future holds for KGRG is the slow conversion to being a completely digitally-run station like its sister station The Pulse 1330 AM.

Of course a change like that doesn't happen over night for a non-commercial college station like KGRG. If the change was to

occur, Paul predicts it will happen over the next few years.

The future looks like a promising one for Green River's own KGRG. With a new program director taking charge with a lot of aggressive and encouraging ideas on how to make the station number one, it would seem that it is definitely moving in a positive direction.

*"Out of all the people who work at the station who have chosen the broadcasting industry as a profession, about 25 percent make it"*



Logo courtesy of www.kgrg.com

## Stolen speakers may rob evening students of a place to hang out *LSC may cut closing time back from 10 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.*

by Melanie Wittman  
*Senior reporter*

Student government and the campus faculty have been in discussion lately about closing the LSC earlier than its current hours. This proposal was started last November when eight concert speakers were stolen from the LSC the night after an event had taken place in the cafeteria.

The speakers, valued at about \$5,000, are used for various events throughout the year. Without them things like concerts, guest speakers, school events, and graduation are affected negatively. As a result of the theft, the scheduling office has suggested that the LSC begin closing once the other offices inside the building close down. This means locking up the student center at 7:30 instead of 10 p.m. each night, when the bookstore closes. The Student Senate and the faculty are trying to see if this could work.

Some faculty members who teach night classes are against

closing the Center early.

"If a [night] class lets out early it's safer for the students to go wait in the LSC for their rides to pick them up than having them wander around campus," says Fred Creek, director of security.



The Lindbloom Student Center, one of only two campus facilities open past 7:30 p.m., may begin closing earlier

"We're doing a survey of students right now to see what they think if the Center closed early."

Current results of the survey show that most students have no opinion of the matter. The only negative comments received are some students' desire to get to a snack machine late in the evening. The staff in the scheduling office thinks that closing the LSC at 7:30 won't affect the students negatively.

"I've stayed late some nights to see how many students use the LSC

after the offices close down," says Sal Salaguinto of the scheduling and conference office. "Not very many students are in here. The library would still be open late and students still have somewhere to go if they need it."

A lawyer who was hired by the parents of the person who stole them returned six of the eight that were stolen. He refuses to release any information on his client.

Campus security is still investigating what might have happened to the other two and who took the six that were returned. There is no information that proves it was the same person.

As a precaution against future possibility of theft, the speakers will now be hung from the ceiling.

*If you have any information regarding this incident or any other illegal activities on campus please contact Green River Security @ 253-933-9111 ext. 3335.*



Proposed By-Laws and Amendments

The following are proposed By-Laws or amendments to the ASGRCC By-Laws. They will be discussed and voted upon by the ASGRCC Senate at the February 10th meeting at 12pm in the Rainier Room.

Article II Section 2, line 3

All officers, excluding the ASGRCC President, must attend all Senate workshops and meetings within one quarter. Officers are allowed 2 unexcused absences, 3 excused absences, and 4 tardies for all workshops and meetings. Once an officer has 2 unexcused absences, the officer is placed on probation; further unexcused absences will result in expulsion. Once an officer has 4 tardies, the officer will be placed on probation; further tardies will result in expulsion. In the event of an emergency, additional absences should be requested to be excused at the discretion of the ASGRCC Executive Board. All officers may be placed on probation once per term of office.

Submitted by student government

## Two stolen cars in one day prompts tighter security

*Director of security gives pointers to make sure your car isn't next*

by *The Current*

Sometime after 9:50 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18, two cars were stolen from Green River's parking lot I. A third car had been broken into with the obvious intent of theft, said Frek Creek, director of security.

"They're stealing from the poor," said Creek. "College students are poor."

Two Acura Integras, a 1996 and a 1997, were stolen. The third car was a Honda Accord Creek guesses was a 2000 model. The consul had been removed and the alarm cable had been cut.

The thieves were unable to steal the Honda because it had a kill switch, which, depending on the type, shuts off either the car's fuel supply or power.

The cars have not been recovered, and there are no suspects.

In response to the thefts, Green River has added a security officer to patrol the parking lot. The college previously had an officer

assigned to this task, but the position was removed.

Creek says the campus crime reates have gone "way down" in the past few years. Car thefts have decreased by 50 percent.

To keep your car from being stolen, Creek recommends installing a kill switch or a device that locks the breaks. He says most alarm systems come with kill switches, but they haven't been activated.

He especially recommends taking extra precautions if your car is listed as one of the models most commonly stolen, as the recent stolen cars were.

Another way to make your car safer is to park at the Raceway and take the shuttle to campus. There is a security guard on duty the entire time the lot is open, and the guard's only duty is to patrol the lot. Since cars are parked in an open field, visibility is high.



photos by Denise Coville

Above: Following security's tips can help ensure that you don't go back to an empty parking space. Right: The parking lot is now under security's full-time surveillance.



## And the results are in...

*Student government elects new class officers - and nobody is suing for a revote*

by Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

About 18 people, representing both the student body and staff, came to the student government meeting on Jan. 13 to enjoy a free serving of milk and cookies while witnessing this year's class officer elections. A total of six well qualified students ran for the positions

of sophomore president, sophomore vice president, freshman president, and freshman vice president. The members of student government had the truly difficult task of selecting just four out of the six amazing candidates to fill this year's class officer positions.

The results of the election are as follows; sophomore president is Evita Luminto, the sophomore vice president is Emma Cheung, the freshman president is Adrian Sta-Rosa, and the freshman vice president is Jolyn Chew.



## KGRG, athletic department awarded a combined \$5,500

by Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

KGRG was awarded \$4,000 over the past two weeks by student government to help with the purchase of a new control board to replace the current one that is now 20 years old and broken beyond further repair.

At the Jan. 13 meeting, the finance committee recommended that student government award KGRG \$2,000 from the 522 student activities budget rather than the \$4,000 that was originally requested. While conducting the necessary research, the finance committee concluded that the request served instructional purposes more than student activities purposes after reading a part of the long range goal that states "... and to help students learn production in a more modernized environment."

All revenue requests from the 522 budget must be used to fund activities that directly impact the student body only.

Jake Westhoff, assistant program director of KGRG, explained that in cases like this, the money will be used to serve both instructional and student activities purposes. A new control

board will enhance the overall output for the station's listeners, which include many in the Green River student body.

While this explanation did help clear things up for members of student government, the finance committee's original recommendation of \$2,000 was the one approved.

At the Jan. 20 meeting one week later, the finance committee recommended the student government approve a second request from KGRG for \$2,000 from the one-time emergency equipment fund. Thanks to Jake Westhoff's explanation at the previous meeting, the request was quickly approved without further debate.

Student government also approved a request from the college athletics department for \$1,500 to help pay for sporting events to be shown on Puget Sound Access Television. A total of 60 games from boys and girls basketball, baseball and fast pitch will be broadcasted over channel 77 on Comcast Cable.

All 522 budget request forms are due in the student programs office by 4:30 p.m. today.

For more information, contact Susan Evans at extension 2402.



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## Resident rodents: Nutty nemesis or furry friend?

by Andy Gardner  
Staff writer

Last fall quarter, for the first time in the history of Green River Community College students had the opportunity of a true tenure here at Green River Community College, thanks to the construction of the Campus Corner apartments. Yet, long before the construction of those much needed dormitory buildings current housing full time students of this prestigious academia, resided here a rodent, a fluffy tailed critter, cute, creepy and far from concerned about its G.P.A., Gator pride, or garbage (less it be edible).

I am talking about the Green River Community College squirrels, resident vermin with a thirst for the finer things in life and an obsessive habit of burrowing them in the dirt. A coveting creature it is, this squirrel, and rather peculiar to point. Though the sight of a squirrel is quite common in the Pacific Northwest, these rampant rodents are, more often than not, fickle toward humanity. However, the average campus squirrel appears to

### How does the student body feel about a forced coexistence with these critters?

be quite desensitized to us Homo sapiens, often strolling in tandem with students. Therefore this campus critter is the formation of the new generation of squirrel, a new breed of socially mutated rodent.

One can hypothesize that Green River squirrels are, quite possibly, nuttier than their own rectal secretions.

Lauren Dalisky, 19, firmly believes that Green River squirrels are insane. "They are definitely psychotic!" she shouts, "they growl at you!"

Rachell Kauffman, 19, told a tale of horror about the Green River squirrels and their desensitized nature. "They have no fear!" she explained, "One time a squirrel jumped out of a garbage can on to me."

These fluffy tailed rodents, frolicking around, gay and peculiar, pausing here and there to model their squirreliness, can be found anywhere and everywhere around the campus. They roam and rummage eerily in little packs of three or more. As the squirrels scurry around they tag team tree climb lookouts while tucking treats safely away in to the terra. Pausing only to embed a stare in to the minds of onlookers with their beady,

glassy black eyes.

In fact the abundance of squirrels here at Green River is so prominent that this reporter is quite curious as how the student body of Green River Community College really feels about a forced coexistence with these critters, nutty neighbor or nemesis?

It is safe to say that everyone who has ever attended this educational institution, at one point in time or another has encountered Green River squirrels.

Some people are just plain mean to the squirrels. "I tried to feed a squirrel an energy bar and some gum once," Tim Robinette, 21, stated and continued, explaining that despite his high hopes the squirrel ate neither, "I think that's because it was a cheap energy bar."

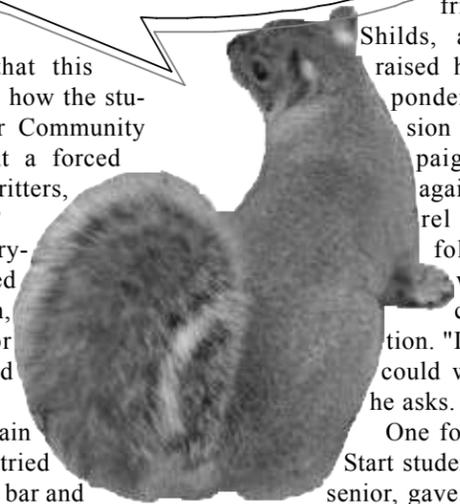
Despite his animal cruelty, Robinette doesn't hold to strong of an opinion against our resident vermin. "Some times I find them annoying, but I don't find them threatening," he explains.

Even though one particular squirrel was seemingly uninterested in Robinette's energy bar The Green River model of squirrel still seems to have a sweet tooth for human food. "They're entertaining when you have something to feed them." Adam Songwa, 37, says about the Green River squirrels.

In contrast, Alina Petrick, 19, finds little in the way of humor about the squirrels' appetite. "They're really cute, but don't walk around with food," she states.

John Noll, a running start student and a member of Kentwood high school's ROTC program, shot back with angst when asked about his opinion on our campus critters. "I WANT TO SHOOT THEM SO BAD!" he hollered mimicking a two handed grasp of a rifle. "I want to start a squirrel population control club," Noll continued, "we need to strike fear back into the

MWA HAH  
HAH!!!!



heart of the squirrel!"

Noll's friend Christian Shields, allegedly 21, raised his brow in a pondering expression as Noll campaigned briefly against our squirrel population, following up with a rather curious question. "If we kill them could we eat them?" he asks.

One former Running Start student, now a UW senior, gave his theory on the Green River squirrels. Ryan Dalisky, 21, explains, "They're like little pocket dogs," as he describes them, "they pilage everything [food] and sh\*t everywhere." Ryan Dalisky laughs for a second then thrusts a rather off the wall comment, "I don't know why you guys are the Green River Gators. You should be the Green River Squirrel Hunters!"

Not everyone has such a colorful, in depth, even derogatory response to the squirrels.

Ashley Pederson, 19, simply said, "I am scared of them," giving no explanation as why they creep her out so.

Melissa Pelfrey, 20, said she thinks that it is "cool that they [Green River squirrels] aren't afraid of humans."

So whether or not you approve of these little fluffy tailed critters, they're without a doubt an animated part of our woody scenery here at Green River. Whether they steal your lunch or give you a reason to sleep with the light on, just try not to step on them for they're probably harder to scrap off than gum.



Picture by Andy Gardner



Picture by Liane Behrens.

### Young woman attacked on campus -- by squirrel!

By Liane Behrens  
Feature editor

Now, I've always been a squirrel lover. Sure, they're nasty little creatures that carry diseases which may be deadly to me and wouldn't hesitate to bite me and give me such illnesses, but, come on, they're adorable! Those fluffy tails and quirky noses as they hop about and scamper across trails -- I can't help but love squirrels. I must admit, the constant presence of such a creature was one of the main attractions of Green River to me.

As an admitted admirer of the

race, of course I cluck at them whenever I see them and toss them food if I have some. Who doesn't like seeing a squirrel happily bite their way through a cheerio or two? One day, though, this all changed.

There I am, walking out of biology class to find my friend. A squirrel crossed the walkway and, like normal, I made some kissy noises at it. It moved closer. It was acting a little odd, but nothing big. I smiled at it but, knowing I had no food to offer, I kept on walking. It didn't. The squirrel pounced. This squirrel,

no longer than my forearm (massive tail not included, naturally) landed on my shin and clung there, looking up at me with wide, calm brown eyes.

Me, on the other hand? Not calm. Not calm at all. I shrieked and jerked and shook the little bugger off my leg. Don't act like you wouldn't've done the same - I could feel its claws through my jeans! It could have torn my eyes out and eaten them for breakfast.

After cracking up, probably from fear and adrenaline more than anything else, because above all I am a weak little girl, I

found my friend and related this story to him. He laughed at me, almost not believing this tale of terror and woe. But as I told him what happened, the squirrel returned! And not only did it come back, it came back with friends.

Suddenly there are three squirrels surrounding us. I, being the trusty journalist I am, pulled out my digital camera and snapped a few shots. My friend, being the silly boy HE is, sat down and let a squirrel climb on his lap (pic-

tured above left). I was too quick and, well, frightened to let any come near me, though. I'd learned my lesson - the squirrels would not dare attack me again!

Although I have regained a partial bit of my love for the creatures, I shall never again trust them as I did so readily. I know their devious ways now and am quick to dash if one strolls toward me again.

## The growing art of tattoos

An interview with a tattooist reveals how the field is expanding

By Jackie Kim  
Staff writer

The growing popularity of tattoos brings the question of its legitimacy as an art form to the fore. The old marm hysteria and stereotypes of criminals and sailors are dying away as the number of 'normal' people with tattoos rises.

Tattoo shops like Seattle's Slave to the Needle offer a glimpse into what the world of tattooing has become: a safe creative hotbed for living canvases.

"People are breaking all the stereotypes. People are doing tattoos for the art, not just for the money." Erika Jones, an artist at Slave to the Needle with ten years experience, said on the developing field of tattoos. "Artist vision, talent and boldness have gotten better. So has the equipment, the inks, technique."

Recognizing the change that has occurred over the last ten years is as easy as looking at

old issues of tattoo magazines. "Just flipping through the pictures you can totally tell," Erika laughs, "It's like- gross! 80s!"

Picking a tattoo from ready made designs, or flash, has moved beyond the old dancing ladies and anchors. The available flash makes up less than 30 percent of Slave to the Needle's business, and artists are more than willing to add their own unique embellishments.

Commissioning art work is no longer the realm of the likes of the Medici, artists will draw complete pieces combining suggestions from customers with their own vision. The finished work bears the stroke of the artist's style. "It's instant gratification, those people

become walking art shows," Jones adds. Being a canvas for certain wildly sought after artists can be more than just buying their services, it's a privilege. The wait list to get under Paul Booth's needles is two years. But you don't need to have a wait list attached to your name to make a person of merit. Most shops have portfolios for anyone looking.

With a little searching you can find the right person with the style you admire.

Things have changed and continue as tattooing's star is still on the rise. "The more mainstream it becomes the more people understand it. And the crazier things people will do." Erika comments on the trajectory of the art, "It's going to be getting better and better, I think. I hope."



The Slave of the Needle neon sign. Picture by Jackie Kim.

## Green River students nominated for ecology volunteering award

By Jackie Kim  
Staff writer

Nancy Lane's northwest ecology class was recently nominated by the Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group for their outstanding volunteer work in 2004.

The restoration of local habitats wasn't just a topic of discussion for this

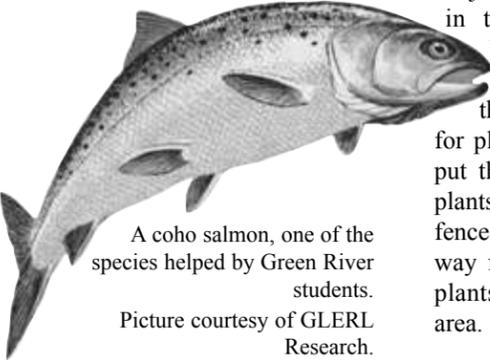
Green River class, they actually went out and did something. The small property at Mahler Park, owned by the city of Enumclaw, was turned into a side channel that will provide a home for our threatened salmon species like Coho.

Woody debris, important for creating pools and cover areas for juvenile salmon, was placed in the fall before students began their work. Once the site was at this phase the students prepared plans for planting native species and put them into action. Invasive plants and some barbed wire fence were removed to make way for the almost 500 native plants chosen to restore the area.

Invasive plants like reed canary grass can destroy habitats by eliminating natural sources of food and cover for all kinds of wildlife. Woody debris is sometimes removed for aesthetic reasons and the false concern that it might be getting in the way of fish.

Volunteers from the Boy Scouts, Brownies, Girl Scouts, Boeing, and Enumclaw High School all participated in the project. The winners of the award will be announced at the Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group's Annual Meeting and Gala on April 21st.

For more information about volunteering contact Mid-Sound Fisheries at (206) 529-9467.



A coho salmon, one of the species helped by Green River students.

Picture courtesy of GLERL Research.

## Groundhog's Day: The oddest holiday of the year approaches

by Jeanne Dinehart  
Managing editor

In keeping with our varmint themed issue, Punxsutawney Phil, the groundhog, will give his weather forecast on February 2. The story goes that if the critter sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If he does not see his shadow, there will be an early spring. According to the official groundhog organization, (yes there is such a thing),

Punxsutawney Phil is the only official forecasting groundhog and has been on the job for the last 118 years. Legend has it that the furry beast has a sip of special "groundhog punch," every summer and magically acquires an additional seven years of life.

I agree there's definitely been some "punch" drinking going on.

The enhanced Phil will make his appearance at the

Punxsutawney Phil event held at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, PA. The celebration runs from January 29 thru February 2. You can actually call (800) 752-PHIL if you'd like to attend the official Groundhog's day celebration. Either that, or you could check out the 1993 movie Groundhog Day starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell. Or simply drink some "groundhog punch," and call it a day.

## Voices of Green River

Compiled by Randy Zweigle and Nathaniel Dillow

When asked what they were thinking *right now*, without actually thinking about it, some Green River students were able to really speak their minds.



"I want to go home!"  
-- Tara Hoover



"This is really random."  
-- Meghan Strupp



"Lemonade is really good."  
-- Austin Waler



"This isn't where I parked my car!"  
-- Adam Ward



"God is good!"  
-- Michaela Silzer and Jessica Albert

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— Journal of the American Medical Association

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## Silent movies return to life at the Paramount

by Nadine Bedford  
Staff writer

The classic brilliance of early modern cinema is brought to life once again for Silent Movie Mondays at The Paramount in Seattle.

This year, there will be two different sets of Silent Movie Mondays. Starting on February 7, the Love on Film Series will begin with the 1927-film *Sunrise*. Greta Garbo and John Gilbert will grace the silver screen in 1927's *Love*, just in time for St. Valentine's Day on February 14. On the following Monday, Male and Female from 1919 showcasing Gloria Swanson and the legendary directing talents of Cecil B. DeMille will be shown and to round out the romance movies of February, *Piccadilly* featuring the styling of director E.A. DuPont and American screen favorites Anna May Wong and Gilda Gray (the girl who popularized the shimmy dance) will be played. A live Wurlitzer organ accompanies each film from the golden age.

The Paramount is the perfect backdrop to complete the essence of 1920s Hollywood with its detailed gold gilded walls and ceiling.

In case you have never been to such an event, I will give you a brief overview. I attended the Rudolph Valentino series that went on last summer. It just so happens I went on a special night where they played two classic movies, *The Sheik* and *Son of the Sheik*, back to back. There is nothing like watching a silent movie in a movie house built in 1908 with a live organ, exactly how movies would have been shown seven or eight decades ago. Most people came in comfortable clothing, settling in for what would be an hour or two of reading, while others decided to come decked out in true vintage attire. There are opportunities to buy tickets online, but it is self seat and most likely won't sell out. If you are searching for something a little out of the ordinary and unique to celebrate St.

Valentine's Day, I encourage you to check out this living piece of history. This may be something you will never have the chance to see again in such a wonderful setting. For only \$12, this is an event definitely worth seeing at least once.

For those not interested in romance movies, here is a heads up for what silent movies are slated for August. The Buster Keaton Festival will air starting August 1 through August 29, every Monday. During this comedy series, two Buster Keaton films will be shown back to back. His classic films to be shown are all from between 1920 to 1924 and include such classics as *The Balloonatic* and *Sherlock Jr.* For more information, take a peak at [www.theparamount.com](http://www.theparamount.com).

Upper right: poster image for the film *Sunrise* (courtesy of [www.film-site.org](http://www.film-site.org))

Right: screenshot from Rudolph Valentino's *The Sheik* (courtesy of [www.doctormacro.com](http://www.doctormacro.com))



## Precinct 13 pulls off the assault with ease

By Tyler Foster  
Movie aficionado

### MOVIE REVIEW

As far as remakes go, *Assault on Precinct 13* has quite a bit going for it. Based off the veteran John Carpenter's contemporary update of *Rio Bravo*, featuring a good cast headed by Laurence Fishburne and Ethan Hawke, a cushy budget provided by major-player Universal's subsidiary company Rogue Pictures, and free of the sugar-coated studio mentality, there's nothing standing in its way. But the reason *Precinct 13* capitalizes on all that potential is because director Jean-François Richet understands and captures the most important element: true uncertainty of whether or not anyone is going to make it through the night.

Marion Bishop (Fishburne) is a hardened cop killer, a man who was reportedly shot five times and ripped a man's spine out of his back. Caught leaving a church containing the body of his most recent police victim, he is sent to jail, and during a particularly snowy New Year's Eve, ends up stranded, along with his fellow prisoners Beck (John Leguizamo), Smiley (Ja Rule), and Anna (Aisha Hinds), at the soon-to-be-closed Precinct 13, headed by Jake

Roenick (Hawke). But they instantly have company, and it becomes evident that they must fight together if anyone is going to leave Precinct 13 alive.

As a huge fan of Carpenter's older work, it's a shame that this critic has not had a chance to see the original *Assault* from 1976. But the new script, by James DeMonaco, is, for the most part, well-oiled and smart, picking



just the right moments to ratchet up the tension. The movie takes off from frame one, with the opening sequence likely to take viewers off-guard. Meanwhile, Richet, despite maybe one too many shots of trickling gunshot wounds, makes sure his directorial vision never overcomes the action, the story, or the charac-

ters, and keeps the focus on the human drama inside *Precinct 13*.

The performances by the cast are very good. Hawke, as Roenick, crafts a believable character without falling into the various stereotypes and cliches that could easily trip up other actors. In the supporting cast, Leguizamo borders on annoying but thankfully stays away, Ja Rule keeps as restrained as possible, and Aisha Hinds only has so much to work with, but does her best. Maria Bello is sexy and likable as a psychiatrist who may or may not be interested in Roenick. The star of this movie, however, is Laurence Fishburne, who, for the first time in quite awhile, delivers a performance that really makes one believe he's a cold-blooded killer. Commanding, stylish, and ruthless, his Bishop has no soft spot, no lingering heart, and takes no prisoners.

Of course, *Assault on Precinct 13* can't keep its footing the entire time, and there are a couple of hitches keeping everything from running smoothly. Most of them are early in the film, which is filled with a bit too much leaden, self-important dialogue ("this night," instead of "tonight," "live or die" instead of "survive"), and a bit too much slow-footedness in getting the plot moving. Since the audience knows what's coming, the movie would be better at

just getting to it, and focusing less on the little cliches and storylines meant to reassure that It Was Just A Normal Night. And possibly the biggest disappointment is Gabriel Byrne, who is given too little screen time, too few lines, and not enough character development to stand as a truly menacing bad guy.

But hey, it's January, isn't it? Despite being shoved in the month for all-too-familiar studio garbage, *Assault on Precinct 13* packs a punch many summer films don't. It seems that the film's likely a victim of test audiences not prepared for a film without compassion or all-American heroes. It's just not often enough that an audience truly gets to feel fear for a character, to be worried about the next victim, to feel that sensation of uncertainty. And it's nice that a

movie with so much going for it in the cast, direction, and premise manages to find that special ground. But maybe that's it -- with criminals like Bishop keeping people we like alive, the last thing someone wants to feel is unsafe.

Overall Grade:

**A-**

**Assault on Precinct 13 Specs**  
Starring Ethan Hawke, Laurence Fishburne, Maria Bello, John Leguizamo, Ja Rule, Brian Dennehy and Gabriel Byrne  
Directed by Jean-François Richet  
Rogue Pictures (2004), 109 Minutes  
Rated R for strong violence and language throughout, and for some drug content

**KGRG**  
89.9 FM

Concert Calendar

January 30, Sunday @ Hell's Kitchen

KGRG presents Pretty Girls Make Graves, Kane Hodder, and Chinatown. \$10. All Ages. Show @ 5.

February 5, Saturday @ El Corazon (formerly Graceland)

Local Chaos and KGRG present "LOCALCHAOSPALOOZA"

featuring Instant Winner, 10 Minutes Down, Porn Store Janitor, Kaprii, Contra, Mind Candy, 5 Good Reasons, The Pulverts, Hang, Lethal Rejection, and No Means Yes. \$8 adv. or \$10 day of show. All Ages/Bar with ID. Doors @ 6, Show @ 6:30

February 5, Saturday @ Hell's Kitchen

KGRG presents Aiden, Fall From Grace, Amber Pacific, and Boy's Don't Bleed. \$7. All Ages. Show @ 5.

for more information check out [www.kgrg.com](http://www.kgrg.com) or tune into 89.9 FM.

# Arts & Entertainment

## Cuisine at Seattle Japanese restaurant is 'Todai' for

by Jessica Doyle  
Staff writer

It isn't often that you'd associate stuffing yourself full to the last belt notch with the reserved cuisine of Japan. That's why after the third person told me he'd gone out for all you can eat sushi for his birthday, I realized I'd been seriously missing out on something.

At Todai on the top floor of Seattle's Pacific Place, my culinary student friend and I indulged on the buffet's

many delicious offerings. This is miles from your typical three-day-old, heat lamp warmed buffet where you might observe a portly man wearing a Big Daddy T-shirt tonging at all things deep fried.

At Todai, you'll watch skilled chefs rolling beautiful sushi behind a counter displaying countless varieties. For the inexperienced, there are California rolls and cucumber-smoked-salmon rolls, but if you're daring you'll head to the

end of the row where the raw squid, salmon, ahi-tuna and other things I can't pronounce are presented next to an overflowing tray of pickled ginger and wasabi.

Those not into sushi will find satisfaction in the hot buffet, with things ranging from old favorites like Teryaki chicken and chow mein, to steamed mussels and super spicy calamari. There is also a huge selection of salads to cool your tastebuds, and save room for dessert! Try their bite-sized cheesecake and brownies, or the fresh tropical fruit and cream puffs. But the sweetest dessert highlight is the crepe stand, where you can



Entrance to the recently-opened Todai restaurant in Westminister, CA.

Photo courtesy of www.todai.com

watch as someone prepares the French delight with your choice of fruit, chocolate, or whipped cream. I was tempted into stopping by the sushi buffet again

after dessert.

The Saturday lunch crowd varied from older folks to college students to a large Japanese family celebrating a gorgeous kimono-dressed baby's first birthday. Todai's casual ambiance is perfect for a lunch after a downtown shopping spree, or a romantic dinner; and is complemented by a great view of the city and gracious helpful service. At \$15 for lunch and \$22 for dinner, the prices rival many restaurants and you'll actually leave with a full stomach. The best part is that everyone is free on their birthday, so there's no reason not to try it at some point. You won't regret it.

## A Perfect Circle returns with a 'nine inch' collaboration

by Marcella Deiser  
Staff writer

When A Perfect Circle's Maynard Keenan, Billy Howerdel, James Iha, Jeordi White, and Josh Freese sit down and record a new album with the help of Nine Inch Nails members, Trent Reznor and Danny Lohner, fans know they're in for a real treat. Although the new *eMOTIVE* album has been out since November 2, 2004, I would encourage anyone who hasn't checked it out to do so now!

The album includes the song "Passive,"



which is the featured song in the film *Constantine*. Along with several remixes of legendary protest songs by John Lennon and Marvin Gaye, along with classics such as Fear's "Let's Have A War," Depeche Mode's "People Are People," and Memphis Minnie's Blues Stomper, "When The Levee Breaks," and

the track "Passive" is one of two original compositions on *eMOTIVE*. Maynard Keenan describes this album as "a collection of songs about war, peace, love and greed."

Keenan's voice hauntingly carries John Lennon's song "Imagine" with an assortment of masterfully played instruments accompanying the lyrics. This holds true in a following song, a remake of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On." A Perfect Circle's own works, "Passive" and "Counting Bodies Like

Sheep to the Rhythm of the War Drums" fall into the albums line up with ease. The mix of hardcore punk, heavy metal, new wave, delta blues, folk rock, and rhythm and blues combine smoothly together to express feelings of

revolution, hope, bitterness and hopelessness.

The *eMOTIVE* album is what I hope to be a renaissance of new music for our time. The music on this album is very refreshing and mellow and will fit any emotion or feeling that may enter your mind. A Perfect Circle has perfected their sound in this album by mixing in the new with the old and bringing their talent around, shall we say, full circle?

Anyone can appreciate this new album as it has such a broad range of music from heavy metal to blues. The older generations may appreciate it as it brings familiar songs from their young adult lives back to life without losing the messages the original artists were trying to convey. For the new generation, we can appreciate the music that is familiar to us and hopefully relate the old school lyrical messages to what we are facing in our lives now.

### MUSIC REVIEW

## Entertainment Release Calendar

### MOVIES

1/28  
-Alone in the Dark  
-Hide and Seek

2/8  
-Boogeyman  
-The Wedding Date

2/11  
-Hitch

### MUSIC

2/1  
-All the Best (Tina Turner)  
-Here's to the Mourning (Unwritten Law)  
-Red, White, and Crue (Motley Crue)  
-2005 Grammy Nominees (Various)  
-Never Take Friendship Personal (Anberlin)

2/8  
-Seventeen Days (3 Doors Down)  
-Deadwood: Music From the HBO Series

### DVDS

2/1  
-Cheers: The Complete Fourth Season

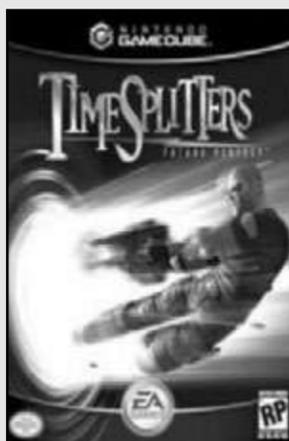
-Frasier: The Complete Fourth Season  
-I Love Lucy: The Complete Third Season  
-The Grudge  
-Mr. 3000  
-Ray  
-Shall We Dance?  
-Taxi: The Complete Second Season  
-Vanity Fair

2/8  
-7th Heaven: The Complete Second Season  
-Deadwood: The Complete First Season  
-The Fresh Prince of Bel Air: The Complete First Season  
-Full House: The Complete First Season  
-Malcom X: Special Edition  
-Miami Vice: Season One  
-Night Court: The Complete First Season  
-Shark Tale

### VIDEO GAMES

2/1  
-Monster Jam 3 (Xbox)  
-Winning Eleven 8 (PlayStation 2)

2/8  
-Death by Degrees (PS2)  
-Ford Racing 3 (Xbox)  
-NBA Street V3  
-TimeSplitters: Future Perfect (GC)



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## Two teams remain after exciting playoff season



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Patriot's Tom Brady and Eagle's Donovan McNabb



nfl-football-merchandise.com

### Patriots, Eagles face off at Super Bowl XXXIX on Feb. 6

by Nate Ells Miller  
Staff writer

Before the dip, before the parties, before the wardrobe malfunctions and before a random Sunday in February becomes a national event, is the playoffs. The playoffs for some is a last

teams lose over and over again" says Jordan Esteban a Green River football fan who watched all of his teams get beat early in the playoffs.

It wasn't a pretty scene in the NFC by December, just look at the NFC west division champs, the Seahawks who had a 9-7 record, or the St. Lewis Rams and Minnesota Vikings who both only won half their games and yet still managed to beat there division champs the Seahawks and the Packers and reach the second round of the Playoffs. The only bright side in the NFC is Andy Reed's 14-2 Eagles who have yet to make it to the Superbowl in three straight playoff appearances, and Michael Vick's Playoff impassioned Falcons. On January 15th the Rams went to Atlanta to face the Falcons. Atlanta got the ball first and took control, right away it was off to the races with a 47 yard run by Vick after a brake down in the pocket followed by a 18yd pass for a Touchdown. St. Lewis answered back with repeated run plays to Marshal Faulk.

Then quarterback Marc Bulger went with a play fake to Steven Jackson and then threw deep to Kevin Curtis for a 57 yard Touchdown pass. Despite the effort throughout the first half, it was all about the run. Even though the Ram's displayed balance and disciplined passing to Kevin Curtis, Isaac Bruce,

Steven Jackson, and Tory Holt, the Rams couldn't shut down the explosive run plays of Worrik Dunn who broke repeated tackles to put a 32 yard run into the end zone. Dunn would make it a two score game with another touchdown. As the Atlanta stadium began to echo the hopes of an entire city, Tory Holt silenced the excitement with a thirty yard touchdown reception. Special teams on both sides of the field was the big story with 55 yard field goal (second largest in playoff history) to give St. Lewis three more points which would be their last. Then Atlanta Punt returner Allen Rossum set the new NFL record for punt returns. This along with star performances by both T.J. Duckett and Alge Crumpler closed a 47-17 win for Atlanta. In Philadelphia it had been three weeks since all of Phillies starters had played at once and that along with the absence of Terrell Owens gave the 8-8 Vikings a chance. However the Vikings were also facing their own challenges with the

pass to Freddie Mitchell from McNabb. Followed by another dump off pass to Todd Pinkston. In the end it just seemed everything went the Eagles way to win 21-7. While for the Viking missed opportunities and turnovers plagued them, Culpepper who had gone three games without an interception threw two on Sunday.

In the AFC things were a different story as the Giganteus offense in New England broke the record for the most consecutive wins Peyton Manning was breaking Dan Moreano's record for most touchdowns in a single season with 49 and he didn't even play the last game. By the way it just so happens the team that finally broke the Patriots winning streak was a team no one saw coming. The shocking Steelers lead by Rookie Ben Roethlisberger who would take his team to a 15-1 season after an injury to Tommy Maddox. Not forgetting Herman Edwards and his red hot Jets, who put on a fist fight to close the game in the San Diego against the Chargers lead by Drew Brees in the first round of the playoffs. It was just a far more talented scene in the AFC and you could see why if you watched the Steelers battle the Jets in Pittsburgh. The grudge match began with Jerome Bettis a veteran who began his career playing for the Rams in Los Angeles against the League' leading rusher Curtis Martin. The game was close all

the way until two missed field goals by Doug Brien sent the game into overtime where the Steeler's Jeff Reed kicked a 33 yard field goal to win it 20-17. The big game on Sunday was clearly New England vs. Indianapolis who had the record



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ditch effort to prove themselves as athletes, and to reach the dream that has dominated every yard they've ran, every pass they've thrown, every hit they've taken and every hardship they've faced. For these men there is only one goal in the NFL to go to the Superbowl.

The playoffs will be just the end of another season for some and the climax of a career for others. After sixteen games only twelve teams have the right to enter the playoffs. This years season began with a strong outlook toward the NFC with huge new contracts like Terrel Owens in Philadelphia. However, after high expectations and a impressive year, Owens broke his leg just two games shy of the Playoffs. There was also a lot of talk surrounding certain teams before the season even began like Carolina and Seattle. While Carolina couldn't clinch a wild card seat to get into the playoffs; we sat in our homes and watched our Seahawks who were "destined to reach the Superbowl," lose in the first round of the playoffs yet again. "Its heartbreaking to watch your

shenanigans of www.madden2004.de/ Randy Moss overshadowing their huge win over the Packers. Although, on Sunday it didn't come down to just one man, in the end Philly triumphed as its team came together as one. At times they resembled Superbowl teams from the past. It started with a Touchdown



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this season for scoring the most points per game. Well, not even that was enough to stop the Patriots. As snow fell in New England, Coach Dungy was forced to watch his record breaking Colts only score three points against the Patriots. It's impossible to predict which team will have what it takes to win the Superbowl. However whether your team lost or won its been an exciting road and judging from what we've seen so far there promises to be a lot more left to come.

### Sport notes...

**Way to go to the 33 Green River athletes who made honor roll!!!**

Contact Coach Gary Jones if you'd like to be an assistant for fastpitch softball. Season starts 2/1/05.

## Sonics bounce their way out of purgatory and are looking up

by Randy Zweigle  
*Opinion editor*

The surprisingly good SuperSonics came out of nowhere this year and sit atop the standings in the Northwest Division. After back to back losing seasons and a two year play-off drought, expectations weren't high going into the 2004-2005 season. With only one household name on the team, Ray Allen, the Sonics were pushed aside and seen as no threat to the elite powerhouses of San Antonio and Minnesota. On opening day, the Sonics were blown out by the L.A. Clippers 114-84. Once again it seemed like the Sonics were poised for another disappointing season.

To the shock of everyone, including Seattle fans and players, the Sonics proceeded to spout off nine straight wins to go to 9-1. Buzz slowly began to grow as the Sonics established

their legitimacy with huge wins against San Antonio and Minnesota who were heavy favorites. The Sonics were an enigma to the league; a low profile team who vaulted itself into a force to be reckoned with.

Critics became puzzled as to how the Sonics were winning and began to write them off as a fluke. However, by the eighth of December, the Sonics held the NBA's best record at 15-3. Even after such a hot start, teams still refused to give the Sonics the respect they deserved. On December eighth, the Sonics earned that respect as a legitimate team on the road vs.

San Antonio, handing the Spurs their only home loss this season.

The Sonics were for real and the league finally began to take

Oregon grad, Luke Ridnour, shows very Paytonesque features in only his second year and Reggie Evans and Jerome James

supply the muscle and rebounds as starters. The starting line up of the Sonics is strong, but their real strength lies in their bench play. With Vladimir Radmonovic, Antonio Daniels, Nick Collison, and Danny Fortson coming off the bench, the Sonics have the depth needed to take them far into the playoffs.

Radmonovic provides great three point shooting and rebounding and Fortson gives the tough inside presence that the Sonics desperately need. Collison continues to grow into

a great defender and Daniels provides the quickness and outside shot needed when the starters grow tired. All this combines to become the leagues eighth best offense at just over 100 points per game. Just scoring points doesn't win games though. The focal point of the Sonics success is their comradery, unselfishness, and team play. If you watch the Sonics play you'll see that it's not all about one single person.

Unlike some NBA teams, there are no show boats on the Sonics' roster with all the players putting a team win above individual stats. This teamwork and unification is exemplified after every game, win or lose, with a huddle in the middle of the court where the players come together and share a moment as a team. Other teams should take note of the Sonics' selflessness and teamwork, as it is proving to be a recipe for success.



sonics on the rebound photo by Randy Zweigle

notice. The Sonics winning formula consists of an unselfish style of basketball mixed with solid defense and outstanding outside shooting. Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis lead all starters in scoring with 23.9 and 20.5 points per game respectively.

## Gator women defeat Tacoma, 68-45

by Nate Ells Miller  
*Staff writer*

It was quite the site to see, and one that would never be forgotten by both the crowd and the Green River Women's Basketball team as they fought a team that was built to destroy any team that stood in its way. It was the beginning of their season and as the seconds slipped away they watched their last attempt to win also slip away but not without first giving Highline their toughest game yet.

Now it's the middle of the season and Highline is sitting tied for first while the Green River women are 1-4 and tied for fifth place in their division but on January 22 a win against the Tacoma Titans could make them tied for fourth. Although Tacoma was is in last place that didn't mean this would be a give me for the women. Tacoma is a tough team and was also looking to make a mid-season comeback. TCC established a small lead early in the first half but the women answered back with two

turnovers and two 3 pointers then an aggressive 2 pointer by Marian Franklin.

You could definitely feel the tempo was getting hot as Lydia Lewellyn took back the ball and drove in a painful 2 pointer for Tacoma. As TCC searched for some momentum, the gators did-



n't let up instead they secured a six point lead with another shot from Renee Kilgore. However after an energetic come back, Tacoma took control of the lead and the game with only four minutes left in the first half. After two missed fowl shots against Green River, Tacoma was ready for the rebound but Freshmen Mary Layton would take back the ball and control of the first half.

As Renee Kilgore ripped the

ball from Tacoma and sets #20 Gillian Terhune up for a three followed by another 2 points to end the first half with Green River up 31-29 on Tacoma. Although Tacoma came out strong in the second half as they took back the lead. Then with new found confidence Sophomore Jubilee Cristel controlled the ball on both sides of the court and set up an assist to #12 Apay Moore and along with Kilgore and Franklin led their team to a ten point lead over the Titans.

The rest of the game would be dictated by the Gators all the way up until they won 68-45. This could be the game to turn around their record and their season. Although I think coach Finlon summed it up best when I talked to him after the game "Hard work pays off." Well hopefully it pays off again because this week they is the rematch between Green River and Highline and this win might just give them the confidence they need.

## Gator men's basketball team fights on despite agonizing defeat

by Dan Jeremiah  
*Staff writer*

This week our men's basketball team fell by 13 points to Pierce Community College in an away game on Jan. 19. With the unfortunate loss to Pierce, in which Dwayne Wright led the Gators with 17, the mens' team fell to 1-4 in conference, and 6-9 overall. Many people with anything less than a champion's heart would throw in the towel and call it quits, but not our

guys.

"Coach said in practice the other day, 'When our perseverance meets opportunity, we'll create our own luck,'" said freshman forward John Franklin about the season.

There are 11 games left before the playoffs, and our men plan on taking advantage of every last one of them. Their intensity does not waver, like a runner fixed on the finish line, this team continues to go out every game night and leave every-

thing on the floor.

But don't count the guys with the hearts of lions out yet. "It's



not the size of the dog in the fight, it's the size of the fight in the dog," is a famous line that

has been passed down from generation to generation. A person's heart and perseverance determines their destiny. Many years ago, a small boy went to Notre Dame to try to play football, despite the fact that he was too small and with all the chips against him, he pushed longer and harder than anyone else so that now we know the name Rudy to be synonymous with the word, "warrior."

As I sit at my computer and ponder how hard our mens team

has worked, I can't help but ask myself, what I can do, as a student of Green River to help our team on to victory?

Then it hit me, I can come out and support them at every chance. As a student, I don't even have to pay for admission; I get to see some hardfought games of hoops for free. The next home game will be Saturday, January 29th at 7 pm, it's a great way to start out a fun-filled night.

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