

Does the build-up to *Robots* fall apart? Read more on page 14!

Your finals are coming, your finals are coming! Find out on page 6 how to prepare!

# THE CURRENT



FRIDAY | MARCH 11, 2005 | GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER

*With summer, fall, and winter passed, guess which season's come at last?*

# SPRING



*with temperatures rising...*

*Spring fever sweeps Green River!*

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PHI THETA KAPPA RETURNS!  
Find out more on page 11!

# Current on Campus

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FRIDAY | MARCH 11, 2005

## SECURITY BLOTTER

compiled by Nate Dillow

### Auto Theft

On 1/26/05, a lowered Honda CRX was stolen from the on student housing parking lot. It was later found dismantled.

### Car Fire

On 2/7/05, a car fire was reported and immediately put out by an on security officer that was on the scene with a fire extinguisher.

### Student Conduct Rule Violation

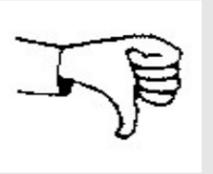
On 2/11/05, contraband was reported in the student housing. Upon arrival, bottles of liquor, small amounts of pot, and a smoking pipe were found. The liquor and pot was properly disposed of and the pipe was destroyed.

## THUMBS UP & THUMBS DOWN



Thumbs up to the return of ESPIAL!

Thumbs down to litter bugs here on campus! PICK UP YOUR TRASH (that shouldn't be too hard with your eight legs!)



Thumbs up to our contributing reporters for putting their free time into helping make this paper so successful!

Thumbs down to waitlists! Who would have thought we'd have to take yoga at 8 p.m. to guarantee a spot?!



Thumbs up...just in general! We're feeling optimistic!

Thumbs down to losing Jeanne Dinehart, The Current's Managing Editor! Good luck to you in the future and we'll miss you :)



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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.**

**We are published fortnightly.**

## Student Government Speaks

by Ashley French  
ASGRCC President

It seems like being a student requires that you worry about money. Students are always looking for ways to save especially when it comes to paying for classes. Interested in help with paying for tuition at GRCC in 2005? Apply for the ASGRCC Senate Scholarship today! Come to Student Programs or Financial aid and pick up a Foundation Scholarship application.

The Foundation will sort through thousands of scholarships this spring allocating different applications to different scholarship committees depending on each applicants' varied skills and abilities.

The committee for this scholarship will choose two candidates to receive \$500 dollars each toward tuition at Green River starting fall 2005. One candidate must be an international student, the other domestic. There is no need to be eligible for financial aid because this scholarship is merit based.

In order to receive the scholarship

you don't have to be a senate member or even involved in student government, however to ensure that you will be eligible for this scholarship focus your application on leadership skills and abilities and past experience qualifying you for a money from student government.

As the President of the student body one job that she must undertake is the upkeep of the funds for the student government scholarship. This is done each year through fund raising activities and letters to local businesses asking for donations on behalf of the scholarship. Also senators propose a bill to direct remaining funds from the 522 Legislative Budget at the end of spring quarter.

Contact Ashley French in student Government with any questions. The student government office is located upstairs in the LSC towards the back of Student Programs. So what are you waiting for? Come visit us today and pick up an application! But don't wait too long because Applications are due April 29th by 4:00pm!

## The Richards Wrap-Up

by Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

The 522 Budget, which governs all funds reserved for student activities, was the topic of discussion at the Feb 24 meeting of Student Government. Two budget line items, Ethnic Cultural Awareness and Fitness Lab, which received a budget cut of \$2,000 each, remained in the center of fierce debate throughout the meeting.

The first item of discussion was Ethnic Cultural Awareness, whose overall funding is shared by Green River's five ethnically and gender-based clubs; which include Gay/Straight Alliance, Black Student Union, Asian Student Union, Native American Student Association and Latinos Unidos.

The initial cut was based on the spending history of the five programs, who have repeatedly had leftover funds at the end of previous academic years which weren't spent. Because this is a tight budget year, the normally leftover money was removed from Ethnic Cultural Awareness's overall budget. Chief Justice Lorenzo Oltiz, spoke in favor of a \$1,000 budget cut rather than the proposed \$2,000, pointing out that the Native American Student Association is now much more active than in the past years and that most of the events, which take up a large part of the given money, don't occur until after the budget development process.

While all the Student Government members clearly understood these reasons why Ethnic Cultural Awareness's budget shouldn't be cut to the proposed extent, most held that all five clubs need to produce a continuous history of improvement in their spending practices before more money could be granted.

The second, and least debated issue, was the Fitness Lab which governs the funding for the popular fitness center on campus. The proposed cut wouldn't effect the hours of the center, rather the salaries of those currently working there. One possible solution that was

brought forth by Student Government is to have assistant coaches work in the center, which would fulfill the requirement of professional supervisors to be present during all hours of operation.

The 522 Budget continued into the March 3 meeting with an accidental oversight concerning the voting members of the Student Programs Budget Team, which is a committee selected officials and students who balance the 522 Budget every year. According to Article V, Section 3, line item 4, the Student Government vice-president is supposed to be a voting member of the committee. But for the past ten years or so, the vice-president was only allowed to observe rather than serve as a voting member, this was overlooked by those in charge of the 522 Budget development process.

Dani Chang, the director of student programs, proposed that the members of Student Government allow the current vice-president, Laura Leyde, to vote in the final open hearing, which occurred March 9. Chief Justice Lorenzo Oltiz recommended that Leyde remain as an observer, because the procedure as been this way since the planning began, and make the change for next year's process. Both Chang's and Oltiz's recommendations were taken into consideration by the members of Student Government, who vote to temporarily allow Leyde to vote in the last open hearing. Executive Dean of Student Programs Bill Belden will have to make the final approval.

The Student Government By-Laws Committee have included a provision in Article VII, Section 2 of the By-Laws that allows all Green River clubs and organizations to impose a GPA requirement for all voting members at the approval of Student Government, with all non-voting members of the club or organization excluded. These changes will be discussed on March 10 at 12pm on the Rainer Room on the second floor of the LSC.

## Student Success Updates

by Mark Mitsui

Asst. Dean of Student Services

This week features some reminders from Registration and a job announcement from Health Services. Have a great week!

### Wanted: Peer Health Educator

Help your fellow students and get paid!

Students who are interested in student health, preventative wellness, sex education, and alcohol and other drug education should apply. Health Services is looking for students who can:

- empower other students to take charge of their health
- educate GRCC students and community to make positive decisions that lead to healthy behaviors
- be available to work up to 7 hours a week during Fall 05- Spring 06

For more information contact Julie French in the Health Services office by March 17. The location of the Health Services is LC227- phone 253-833-9111 ext. 2430

### Registration Dates

Have you registered yet for spring quarter? If so, great. There are a lot of important registration deadlines to consider throughout your next quarter so we've put them in a handy list for your reference.

### Remaining Winter Quarter Dates

- March 17 Study Day (no classes)
- March 18, 21-22 Final exams for winter quarter
- March 22 Last day of instruction
- March 29 Grades available online

### SPRING QUARTER

April 4 to June 16, 2005

### REGISTRATION DATES:

- Feb. 14 Registration begins for currently enrolled and returning students, by appointment only.
- Feb. 28-Mar. 30 Registration for new students, by appointment only.
- April 4 Spring classes begin
- April 4-6 Open registration for all classes, no appointment required

### REGISTRATION CALENDAR:

- March 7 Tuition due (drop for lack of payment).
- March 8 Tuition due within 48 hours of registration.
- March 23 Faculty In-Service Day
- April 1 Last day to add name to waitlist (by 10:30 p.m.)
- April 4 SPRING CLASSES BEGIN
- April 4 Last day for 100% refund (less \$5.00)
- April 6 Last day to register for spring quarter without instructor's signature
- April 7 Senior Citizen discounts accepted
- April 7 WA employee and National Guard waivers accepted
- April 7 All registrations, adds, and drops require instructor signature - no web registrations
- April 8 Last day for 80% refund (less \$5.00)
- April 15 Last day to register for spring quarter
- April 18 All late enrollments require instructor and dean signature. \$35 late fee applies to each course addition
- April 22 Last day to apply for graduation for spring quarter.
- April 22 Last day to withdraw and not have class(es) posted to permanent transcript.
- April 22 Last day for 40% refund (less \$5.00)
- May 3 Last day to apply for residency reclassification.
- May 27 Last day to submit pass/non-credit petition to Enrollment Services
- May 27 Last day to complete official withdrawal from spring quarter - All registration transactions must be completed
- May 30 Memorial Day holiday (campus closed)
- June 13 Study Day (no day classes)
- June 14, 15, 16 Final exams for spring quarter
- June 16 Commencement
- June 16 Last day of instruction
- June 22 Grades available online



Below is a stylized self-portrait submitted by "FIND TROUT" winner: Barbara Vincent-Price, who will be featured in an exposé spring quarter!



Trout McCodfish, the shapeshifting mascot for The Current, is in the mood for celebration! With a winner from last month's "FIND TROUT!" contest and Easter right around the proverbial corner, Trout has been wearing his own model of "formal wear" in jubilation!

# Opinions & Editorials

P4

FRIDAY | MARCH 11, 2005

## Government looks to raise cigarette tax

*Proposed senate bill would raise the tax on cigarettes from \$1.42 per pack to \$2.50 per pack*

by Jason Wells  
Staff writer

There have been many times in history when the rich took advantage of the poor. How often, though, have there been situations where the healthy exploit the sickly? Would it be deemed acceptable to sap the resources of a man chained to a pole as an excuse for letting him stay chained to that pole? And if said man can't afford to pay the taxes to remain chained up, he



picture courtesy of gauntlet.ucalgary.ca

**The government hopes to gain \$300 million off the tax hike, as well as divert futre smokers from smoking.**

must find a way to break free without any real help.

That is exactly what Washington State is trying to do to smokers. There is a proposed bill in the senate which would raise the current cigarette tax from \$1.42 per pack to \$2.50 per pack. The hope is that it will generate over \$300 million in two years and also deter people from smoking.

Lets get some statistics about smoking out there. Approximately 18-25 percent of the adult population smokes depending on which survey is looked at. Smoking is the single most addictive habit known due to the nicotine content of cigarettes. On average, a person will try to quit eight times before being successful.

According to the Pierce County Department of Health propaganda commercials, only 18 percent of the adult population smokes. They cling to the lowest percentage in order to push their current smoking ban in bars and restaurants. After all, if only 18 percent of the population smokes, why should the other 82 percent be subject to their second-hand smoke?

But wait, why then is the state senate proposing to place a \$300 million dollar burden on 18 percent of the population? If you



picture courtesy of www.nycclash.com

still do not understand how severe this is, try this number. The current cigarette tax per pack is being raised by 76 percent. The state is proposing to raise the tax almost by as much as the percentage of adults who do not smoke.

If taxes anywhere else were raised by 76 percent there would be riots in the streets. Can you imagine a sudden increase of 76 percent in sales tax or property taxes? Of course not, because those must be approved by voters who are not going to subject themselves to such high tax rates. Basically, the state is taking advantage of smokers who are tethered to their habit by the most addictive substance known strictly because they know the smokers have little alternative.

Here are more statistics to chew on. Last year the state made over \$330 million in taxes on cigarette sales. However,

approximately \$240 million was lost to tax-free locations, such as tribal reservations and the internet. The state is attempting (although not admitting) to make up that lost revenue by raising the tax so drastically. Unfortunately, such an increase will only push more people to purchase from tax-free places, leaving a hole in the projected revenue and more of a burden on those left purchasing from state outlets.

There are apparently negotiations with tribes to implement their own tribal taxes similar to those imposed by the state in hopes that it will discourage people from purchasing based on tax evasion. That might work, as 17 tribes have already signed agreements to do so. Others though are still being worked with. Even if all the tribes agree to do so, there are still the tax-free internet sales.

The state claims the tax will deter people from smoking. Granted, it may deter people from starting smoking. However, current smokers are still at a huge disadvantage. If the state really wanted people to quit smoking they would enact programs to make it easier. The price of nicotine gum, patches, and inhalers would be supplemented by the state so those with

lower incomes and/or no medical insurance could afford them.

Instead, they are raising the taxes. The state knows that it takes eight times for the average person to quit smoking. They know the addictive properties of nicotine. They don't want people to quit smoking, they want smokers to keep paying for their current budget flaws. Even if it does push smokers to quit, they will still have to make the

*"The current cigarette tax per pack is being raised by 76 percent... If taxes anywhere else were raised by 76 percent there would be riots in the streets. Can you imagine a sudden increase of 76 percent in sales tax or property taxes?"*

attempt eight times on average in order to be successful. That's eight times they will still be paying into the states purses.

I count myself lucky that I'm not part of the smoking minority. To the smokers, \$500 million of the states healthcare budget is on your shoulders. Enjoy the responsibility.

## And I'll leave you with this.... Final thoughts from a departing editor

by Jeanne Dinehart  
Managing editor

This is most likely my last piece for The Current, (stop jumping about with glee!). I'm moving on to something hopefully better. Can it get worse than a ratty trailer without a bathroom? Anyway, I'm going to end with some questions:

Why do we have a multi-million dollar war on drugs, yet the government is in business with the tobacco companies even though smoking causes more deaths than all the illegal drugs combined? Why was so much energy and time focused on Janet Jackson's breast? Why was her breast considered more harmful for children than the constant barrage of television violence which included beheadings?

How come the media couldn't have used some of Janet's breast time to inform the public about depleted and non-depleted uranium? How many people are aware that the four million pounds of radioactive

uranium dropped in Iraq has a half-life of 4.5 billion years?

Do people know that the uranium particles cut through DNA and have already caused an untold amount of deaths, mutations and cancer? How come there is so much time spent on whether it's ok to use birth control methods but there is no out cry about the thousands of Iraq war veterans that are returning home contaminated with uranium?

Why does the public think that keeping a sex offender out of their neighborhood ensures the safety of their children when statistics show that only 3% of offenders are ever caught? That means the other 97% reside in your neighborhood and homes as your trusted dads, husbands, uncles and family friends. How come there has been a much higher number of abortions performed during the Bush administration than during the Clinton administration? Could it be possible that non-fear based education is more life

affirming?

How did an entire nation follow the madness of Hitler? How did he figure out that people will, "much more easily believe a big lie than a small one?" Do brain washed people know they are brain washed? What did Governor and Senator, Huey Long mean when he said, "Great fascism will come in the form of great Americanism?"

How can denying basic legal rights to gays possibly improve a 'Christian' straight marriage? Which will ruin your family more: Ted and Fred being allowed a legal union or North Korea dropping a nuclear bomb in your backyard? Why is there such focus on issues that don't actually matter in one's daily life? How many issues are just smoke screens covering up real issues? And why are you going along with it?

Finally, how can I possibly be sad about leaving a ratty trailer that doesn't even have a bathroom?



**All of us here at the Current (including Trout) would like to thank Jeanne for her superb editing and writing skills over the past three quarters. We wish you luck in your future endeavors!**

# Opinions & Editorials

## Sit down..... Shut up..... and Study

by Joshua Riel  
Staff writer

As the quarter begins to unwind here on campus it seems that the attendance rate for classes jumps up about 50%. Everyone is trying to pull off last minute tricks in order to save their drowning grade. Of all places, the masses of students have settled in the library. A place of wisdom, learning, and above all quiet has turned into the last haven before finals. At first glance the library may appear to be the perfect quiet place to study, but during

finals week it's packed full of the chaos known as stressed out students.

This rather desolate place has become a thriving metropolis in just a matter of days. There are so many students in the library that nearly all the chairs are filled. With such high occupation it makes getting a computer for research almost impossible.

With the appearance of students, naturally follows conversations among friends about their current plights, stresses and rants about their classes. But in a

library where "silence is golden" few will stand for such cacophony. Recently, it can be documented that the librarians have had to issue several general warnings to the masses about being quiet. What started out as a peaceful conversation

has grown into a battle of who can speak the loudest. However, with ignorance, the masses have ignored the warnings and the librarians have had to resort to turning off the lights to quiet the chaos down. Are we in third grade or something? No. We're responsible adults who can supposedly manage themselves. However, it seems that these adults can't even do a simple thing like control their voice. Many students are irritated at the childlike treatment, and in response have chosen to completely ignore any strategy that is employed to hush them up. It seems to be a never ending battle between those who are trying to study and those who are trying to act like they're going to college. The point of the matter is that students are here to learn and those who aren't, are messing things up for those who are trying to succeed. For if you were truly a college student, you wouldn't need a reminder to quiet down in the library because you would naturally understand that people are studying there and do not wish to be disturbed.

The fact of the matter is that with all this increasing amount of noise, this once haven has



picture courtesy of [www.unknowncolumn.blogspot.com](http://www.unknowncolumn.blogspot.com)

### *A message to the students who decide to use the library quiet zones as their hot spot for socializ-*

turned into a nightmare for those who are attempting to work in silence. A new chaos has been brought to the library and with tensions high; you might want to find another place to study. Many have tried to study elsewhere but the options other than the library seem less than adequate. We've all tried to do the same trick, "Well I'll study at home." Many have tried but only few were successful in avoiding the distractions of

everyday life like the telephone. These everyday distractions are what bring them to the library. The library becomes a final refuge for the students who can't study at home. But these walls of silence have come under siege by the never ending onslaught of adolescent conversation. Here is some free advice if you wish to come to the library to study, either be ready to regulate on others around for disturbing you, or bring your own ear plugs.



*Our very own Holman Library is a sanctuary for students eager to get some quiet studying in.*

## Voices of Green River

by Jessica Doyle  
Staff writer

*Question: "How do you feel about the United States' refusal to be involved with the Kyoto Protocol?"*



*"We should participate because we consume the most fossil fuels. The government needs to take the initiative in order for everyone else to do something about it." - Aaron Woodall*



*"Its just another example of our government not taking environmental issues seriously." - Jonah Cline*



*"I can understand why they're reluctant because the protocol isn't specific enough, but the US should still take steps to lower their emissions." - Brianna Popson*



*"The US is being a dumb-ass!" - Benjamin*



*"Our focus doesn't need to be as dramatic as theirs is. It's a ploy by those countries to emphasize something negative about the US that I think is invalid." - Paula Flowers*

## Hit the books before finals hit your grades

by McKenzie Waters  
Staff writer

Every time the week of finals is mentioned, the expressions on students' faces go from happy..... to unexplainable, sometimes blank faces. The week is, I think, officially one of the most stressful weeks of the quarter, if not the worst as well.

Cramming last minute work, long nights of studying, and the projects and tests for classes are excruciating.

Finals begin Friday, March 18 and last until Tuesday, March 22. Most students can expect stress,

bad moods, and long nights until the tests are over.

It seems like winter quarter has just started, so when finals week catches up to us, I want all students to be prepared. There are many problems students can run into during finals, so staying on top of them is important.

Procrastination is a major problem for finals, because students think that they can put everything off until the last minute - at least this has been the case for most of the students I've talked to.

When students and teachers

think of finals, they also realize that this means the end of the quarter - which in most cases the tests can either make or break your grade.

To prepare for finals, getting to bed at a decent hour, studying steady hours every night, not procrastinating, and having a good breakfast can keep you concentrated for finals.

Campus Corner is planning a midnight breakfast where students can go eat pancakes and other breakfast items, and just take a break from the work awaiting, and what is coming up.

Just make sure that you know what is being tested, and what needs to be done to be prepared. Teachers and other faculty are always there to help you, the library is open a good portion of the day for studying and others are there for help, preparation, encouragement and support!

Good luck, and just think - after finals, get ready for Spring Break!



Photo courtesy of www.google.com

Start preparing for finals now - they're almost here.

### Finals schedule

#### Friday, March 18, 2005

8 a.m. to 10 p.m. --- All 9 a.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. --- All 1 p.m. classes  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. --- All 4 p.m. classes  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. --- Available test time for classes with conflicts.

#### Monday March 21, 2005

7 a.m. to 9 a.m. --- All 9 a.m. classes  
9 a.m. to 11 a.m. --- All 10 a.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. --- All noon classes  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. --- All 2 p.m. classes  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday- Thursday classes that do not fit regular scheduled time. Available test time for classes with conflicts.

#### Tuesday, March 22, 2005

8 a.m. to 10 a.m. --- All 8 a.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m. --- All 11 a.m. classes  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. --- All 3 p.m. classes  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. --- Available test time for classes with conflicts

All dates subject to change

## GSA invites dialogue at GRCC

Submitted by Jacob Badinger  
Future GSA president

Civility dies with the death of dialogue, and Green River Community College's Gay Straight Alliance wants to publicize and vocalize their presence here on the campus of Green River. I invite you to voice your opinions and come to our meet-

ings every Friday from 12-1pm in the MDA room.

What goes on at GSA meeting you might wonder? Here is what we have been planning:

On Tuesday, March 8th, GSA members attended a rally in support of gay marriage in Olympia where this century's hottest and most important civil-rights topic

was argued in front of the Supreme Court. Go to [www.maydayformarriage.com/press](http://www.maydayformarriage.com/press) for the results.

Wednesday, March 9th at 6pm in the Campus Corner Apartment's Community Room, GSA presented to you "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." This even was free of charge,

snacks were provided and we'd like to extend a warm thank you to everyone who attended!

On Friday, May 8th from 8-11pm in the Glacier room, GSA hosts "Pink Prom" in an ancient Greece style. Perhaps you

didn't feel welcomed at your prom for some reason? Everyone is invited to "Pink Prom." A special event especially for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, questioning students and their straight family and friends, we invite you to dance and mingle, meet new friends in the community and become more informed about sexual education. Refreshments will be provided, and pictures shall be taken. We are also featuring a sexual education speaker, so bring your questions about sex and be prepared to learn something new. We welcome people from all orientations and hope to see you there!

On another note, the debate over homosexuality remains a hot topic. Homophobia and the public scrutiny of gays is an ever-present reality, especially today as the issue of gay marriage is finding itself in front of the Supreme Court more so now than ever. This directly impacts you. 94 percent of homophobes

are male, 46 percent are under 22 years of age, and 67 percent are white. They do not conform to what are customarily thought of as criminal attitudes.

"Many conform to or are models of middle class respectability... If you went to a [shopping mall] and picked up any group of young males about the same age as these boys, that is what they were like. Average." (Comstock)

There is a good chance these statistics include you. But do you know any openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered people personally? Maybe you have a relative who is gay? What if I argued that homosexuality can occur naturally, randomly, and because of that, it is a beautiful thing? Why must we detest and defy nature? This and more will be discussed at this Friday's GSA meeting from 12-1pm in the MDA. GSA invites your comments and opinions. Thank you very much!

**The New Food Entrepreneur**  
Value-Added Processing for Farm Profitability and Sustainable Food Systems

**Conference: Friday & Saturday, April 1-2, 2005**  
Green River Community College - Auburn, WA

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION Presented by WSU's Small Farms Team

Don't Miss This!

- Finance and start a community kitchen or cooperative
- Earn more by processing what you already grow
- Develop and test new products on a limited budget
- Learn food safety, government regulations, business planning

**DOZENS OF WORKSHOPS: DAIRY PRODUCTS, MEAT & POULTRY, FRUITS & VEGETABLES, WINE & CIDER, HERBS, AND MORE**

Chefs & food entrepreneurs: Learn how to find and use local farm products!

**Acclaimed Experts**

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- Joel Salatin — Farmer, author, and renowned speaker on sustainable, value-added farming
- Karl Kupers — Farmer and founder, Shepherd's Grain
- Harvey Hartman — CEO, Hartman Group, researcher of health and wellness markets
- Cameron Wold — Author, *Establishing a Shared-Use Commercial Kitchen*

Space Limited! Register now at [www.csmmps.wsu.edu/value-added](http://www.csmmps.wsu.edu/value-added) or (509) 335-2811  
More info: Call (360) 417-2279 or email [beusc@wsu.edu](mailto:beusc@wsu.edu).

Sponsored By: RMA (Risk Management Agency), Western Region (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education), FIC (Food Innovation Center), Center for Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Revival, WSU (Washington State University), ORGANIC VALLEY (Standards of Excellence).

Cascade Harvest Coalition, Shorebank Enterprise Pacific, The Hartman Group, Washington Small Business Development Centers, Oregon Gourmet Foods — Agri-Business Council of Oregon, Wenatchee Valley College — Institute for Rural Innovation and Stewardship

**Espial**  
a  
Literary/Art Journal

**All students, faculty, and staff are invited to submit original work to GRCC's Literary/Arts Journal, Espial (es-spy-all).**

**We welcome poetry, fiction, photography, drawings, paintings, and images of 3-D art.**

**Submission Deadline March 22, 2005**

For more information contact Marcie Sims, mail stop-HS [msims@greenriver.edu](mailto:msims@greenriver.edu) ext. 4481 or Gary Oliveira, mail stop-ST [goliveir@greenriver.edu](mailto:goliveir@greenriver.edu)

## Move out without shelling it out

### Learn the do's and don'ts of moving to the city before it costs you

by Jaqueline Kim  
Staff writer

Moving to closer to your college can cost you extra if you don't plan properly in advance.

Schools within Washington State, like the University of Washington, Seattle, and Eastern Washington University, estimate living expenses for a year to be between \$8,000-10,000. Making the move on top of tuition is a considerable financial decision that students planning to attend a four year institution must face.

The convenience of living on campus can cost more than living off of it, according to some estimates given by the National Center of Education Statistics (NCES).

Picking what's best for you includes calculating transportation and even considering your safety. A cheap apartment in a demilitarized zone may not be in your best interest. Check out things like Crime Lab on home-fair.com, or for more

specific information check public records for statistics.

The college may not be the most reliable source, as there have been some reports of them downplaying crimes in order to maintain a healthy enrollment.

Students can find themselves paying more than they need to with out the careful planning that such an important decision demands.



photo courtesy of www.google.com

Using a cell phone might be cheaper than owning a standard phone.

It is usually cheaper to opt for a cell phone instead of the wired phone at the dorms. Read all the plans carefully before signing anything, or get a phone card.

Be aware of your leasing agreement, and the responsibilities your building manager has to you. Check out tenant rights in the state you're moving to and avoid getting the wool pulled over your eyes. Ground floor units are the more expensive - don't be afraid to ask to see one of the basement units- or at least the pricing of one- when you're taking a tour of an apartment candidate. Getting caught up in the excitement compounded with inexperience can make for a costly mistake.

Students are also being sucked in by aggressive credit card campaigns. The industry looks at the inexperience of the individual and their earning potential when making offers, as well as the opportunity to build brand loyalty. According to Nellie Mae, a non-profit student loan provider in Massachusetts,



photo courtesy of www.apartments.com

Moving out can be exciting, but it can also be expensive if you're unprepared.

10 percent of credit card holding students have balances over \$7,000. More than half of all college students have a credit card for general use, according to Student Monitor a market research firm in New Jersey. We're putting an average of \$107 a month on our cards, and 47 percent of us are carrying a balance of an average \$626.

In addition to the larger points like living on or off campus, taking a look at the smaller details

involved in moving can make for a more pleasant move.

Look online to take advantage of moving advice and things like the move calculators and financial calculators. Plan for expenses, and look up "frugal living" online for a plethora of free advice.

For more information, visit [www.homefair.com](http://www.homefair.com), <http://nces.ed.gov/>

## Smoking is fiery topic around campus

### Results of smoking survey are in

by Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

After carefully reviewing the results from the smoking survey and research of other community colleges' smoking policies throughout the area, the "smoking policy" sub-committee is leaning toward revising the policy to allow smoking in designated areas on campus along with the addition of more smoking shelters.

According to the survey, most respondents said they'd like to see the college adopt a smoking policy that allowed smoking in designated areas and that most smokers would use smoking shelters if about five to seven more were added at different locations around campus within the newly-designated boundaries.

When asked about where the information regarding the smoking policy should be posted on campus, a little over half of the respondents said they'd like to have flyers posted in classrooms and on bulletin boards while the rest of the respondents chose the more common forms of media such as the student handbook

and the school website. Both of these results were taken into consideration as the members reviewed the smoking policies of other community colleges around the area - Bellevue Community College, Everett Community College, Edmonds Community College, Highline Community College, and North Seattle Community College. These smoking policies focused mostly on smoking designated areas while on campus with numerous smoking shelters within those areas.

Some surface discussion was done among the members of the sub-committee concerning areas on campus in which to designate as smoking areas and where to place shelters. The area of greatest concern was the area near the SMT building where the new technology center and science complex will be located. The technology center will open on schedule next quarter and the science complex, which will replace the Science and Technology classrooms, is scheduled to begin construction in July 2005.



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## Enjoying spring break is simple south of the border

By Stacie Engen  
Staff writer

Paradise has been described as a state of mind, but in Mexico, it is a reality. Destinations such as Los Cabos can let this year's spring-breakers spend their time in the culture and entertainments of a rich Mexican hideaway that is much beyond the realm of the mind.

A traveler's paradise, Mexico supplies a multitude of contrasting uniqueness:



Wildlife, such as this gecko, can be seen most readily in Mexico.

desert landscapes, ruins, volcanoes, modern cities, colonial towns, grand resorts, secluded beaches and an abundance of one-of-a-kind nightlife hot-spots.

This mix of contemporary and vintage, the passé and the bizarre, is the key to Mexico's charm, whether your fervor is throwing back shots and cocktails, listening to mariachis and dancing to meringue, surfing the Mexican coastline, running on the beach or absorbing the sun till you're a golden brown; south of the border will bring you satisfaction.

With tourism thriving in Los Cabos, the borough that includes Cabo San Lucas, San Jose del Cabo and the Tourist Corridor among the two; the Los Cabos region is indisputably one of the most rapidly growing regions in Mexico. It embraces notable, majestic San Jose del Cabo to the east, and flourishing Cabo San Lucas to the west, and is connected

by the twenty-mile Tourist Corridor.

Most people come to Los Cabos, Mexico because of its undeniably warm, indescribable iridescent blue sea and isolated strand of soft golden beach sand, twisting far into a matchless horizon.

But Los Cabos is renowned for world-class championship golf and sport fishing, and a striking array of water sports, desert trails that take one meandering into and up 7,000-foot mountain trails. Snorkeling and scuba diving in the thrilling cobalt water of the Sea of Cortez fills a remarkable afternoon. Mornings spent studying a pod of whales off the coast start the day on a positive note. Thrill seekers may grab the wheel of a desert race style off road vehicle and take it for a spin in the Baja desert near Cabo San Lucas or sail on authentic ships and imagine days of pirates sailing the seven seas.

There's no lack of stimulating, extraordinary and amusing activities to do in Cabo San Lucas and the Los Cabos area of Baja California Sur, Mexico.

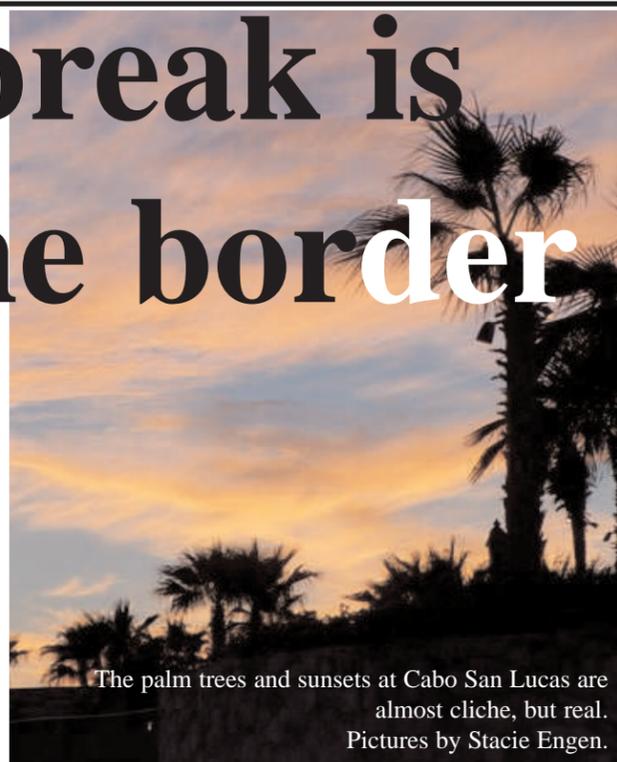
The night starts with a majestic sunset, and for some this marks the beginnings of the ever so desired and anticipated night life of Cabo San Lucas. While sunsets may be viewed from any number of bars and restaurants in Cabo San Lucas, for enthusiasts, western facing vantage points are a must. Hotel Solmar Suites and Playa Grande Resort & Grand Spa, have relaxed oceanfront bars with munchies and wandering Mariachis playing animated Mexican melodies.

In Los Cabos, self-indulgence and good fun abounds. Variety is

the name of the game. For the social gathering, Cabo San Lucas offers a nightlife entertainment for every person of every vacation taste. Retreating to world famous Cabo Wabo Cantina, The Giggling Marlin Bar & Grille, and El Squid Roe is a must for your Cabo festivities. The most recent trimmings to the nightclub scene are the Body Shot Night Club, MamboCafe Discotheque and Crazy Iguana Restaurant and Bar in downtown Cabo.

Sancho Panza Wine Bistro and Nightclub has live music most nights and is a fine spot for dancing and a wine after an exceptional dinner. Down the way in San Jose del Cabo, the atmosphere may be less lively but there's still an ample opportunity of a first-class evening.

The city is rather dense, so it's easy to walk anywhere in Cabo. Those staying in the heart of town, such as at the Plaza Las Glorias in the harbor, may wonder why any other means of transportation is even necessary. The clubs are within painless walking distance of one another and for



The palm trees and sunsets at Cabo San Lucas are almost cliché, but real. Pictures by Stacie Engen.

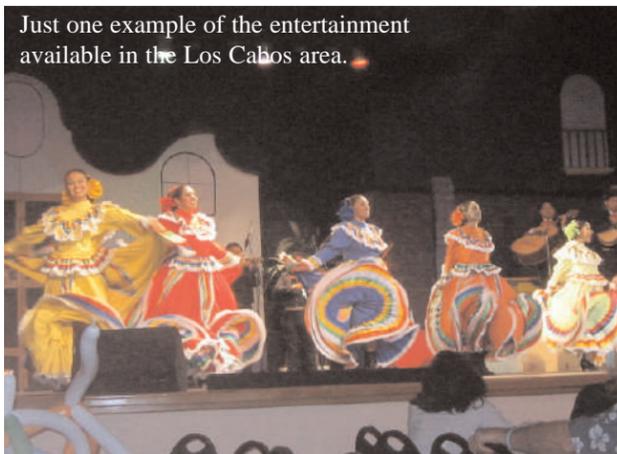
those content to lay by the pool or the beach in the daytime, not much else is needed.

However, if the short walk is more effort than you are willing to exert on your well deserved holiday, don't worry about ever leaving the resort. Stay in one of Mexico's many all-inclusive resorts - one price with everything included!

Royal Solaris Los Cabos, a deluxe all-inclusive resort with ocean view rooms and convention facilities situated on private beach. Enjoy either of the two pools or relax in an outdoor whirlpool. Cool off or get a scuba lesson in the diving pool. A full gym and water aerobics are available as well as tennis court facilities, basketball court, and mini golf. Rates start at \$130 per person per night, all inclusive basis.

While other parts of the world may possess their own attractive beaches, Cabo San Lucas and the Los Cabos area have rich stunning coasts and, unlike much of the world, fewer crowds.

Beaches offer a cornucopia of selection, from the untamed and barren Pacific Ocean coast to serene Sea of Cortez bays and coves; the end seemingly created for nothing more than lazy days of snorkeling and meandering about in the surf.



Just one example of the entertainment available in the Los Cabos area.

## Affordable spring break destinations in your own backyard

By Heather Sawyer  
Staff writer

Running low on money? Can't afford that trip to Cancun this year? There are many places in the Puget Sound area to spend your spring break.

If you prefer to spend your time in nature, the Cascades are about one to one and a half hour drive from most Puget Sound cities. The mountains offer excellent sightseeing areas. Several parks and forests have picnic areas. The town of Leavenworth offers snow inter-tubing and sledding. If the weather permits, there are a lot of camping areas in, by, and around Leavenworth and the cascades. Forest Road 74 off of 410

offers fishing and camping on the White River for free, minus the fishing permit.

If you want to see nature but you don't want to suffer the elements there are accommodations to be had. Crystal Mountain Ski Resort costs around \$250 a nights stay sometimes with a two night minimum but it is well worth the stay. They are close to many activities such as skiing, snowshoeing, inter-tubing, sightseeing and fishing to name a few. There is also a nice lodge at Snoqualamie Pass. It runs a little more affordable, but just a little.

If you want to stay in town Seattle offers a wide variety of activities. There are quite a few

museums in Seattle. The Burke Museum offers a view of natural history and cultural art. You can see a mastodon and prehistoric artifacts as well as Native American masks.

If you have children or young family members that are going to be with you The Childrens Museum offers hands on activities and a global village to explore. The Experience Music Project is a must see while in Seattle. The EMP is an interactive museum dedicated to American popular music. The building itself is a sight to see. Other museums to see are the Seattle Asian Art Museum, Seattle Art Museum (offers over

21,000 objects). These museums cost \$25 and under for admission. The Pacific Science Center offers an IMAX movie. Usually it is a nature movie of some kind. The center is kind of like a science museum and is open most days and is under \$20.

To experience the Seattle waterfront Argosy cruises offers a harbor cruise, a lake cruise and a cruise of the locks all under \$31 a person. For free you may walk Alaskan way if weather permits. It runs parallel with the waterfront and has many stores to shop in along the way. If the weather is bad but you still want to be in downtown try the underground tour of Old Seattle, it runs year

round and it does not depend on the weather.

Night life is a must do while in Seattle. The Contour has a happy hour from 4-8pm daily with \$1.95 appetizers. At night they have Fire shows as well as music. Jazz, Blues, Hip-Hop, Break Beats, House, Trance, Old School, and Reggae are types of music that the Contour offers. In the University District, on the Ave, is a place called the spot. Admission varies but it is a small rave most weekend nights and is inexpensive.

To find other attractions that may interest you that are not in this article go to [WWW.SEATTLEATTRACTIVE.COM](http://WWW.SEATTLEATTRACTIVE.COM).



Left: One of the many artistic sculptures in Fisherman Wharf.  
Top: Sea lions, while unbearably smelly, are undoubtedly a huge attraction in San Francisco. The big creatures mostly just lay there and grunt, except for one (middle) was active enough to pose for the camera.  
Below: One of the many, unbearably steep hills in San Francisco.

Pictures by Liane Behrens.

## Adventures in San Francisco

*The Current* staff learned how to write editorials, important journalistic laws, and how steep ‘Frisco’s hills really are. From visiting Alcatraz to listening to keynote speakers such as Peter Phillips, director of Project Censored, and Susan Goldberg, executive editor of the San Jose Mercury Times, fun times were had by all.

The weekend was filled with sessions teaching the staff to write using more advanced techniques, create interesting and intriguing layouts and how to successfully manage a newsroom.

Aside from learning about the profession, though, the staff also was able to truly enjoy the Bay City. Trips were taken to Fisherman’s Wharf, Chinatown, Union Square and even a few forays into the more seedy parts of town.



Left: The staff that went to San Francisco is happy to be back home. Not pictured: Tyler Foster.  
Right: Cody Peeler, editor of *The Current*, discovers that the streets really ARE as steep as they say.

# Features

P10

FRIDAY | MARCH 11, 2005

## PULSE 1330: The heartbeat of Green River's digital radio program KENU grows, expands under new student direction

By Andy Gardner  
Staff writer

When you step into the office of Green River's digital radio station, the pulsating presence of perpetual techno drumbeats is undeniable. A peek into the first cubicle on the right when entering the KGRG / KENU home base in the late morning hours of the midweek will bring you face to face with the pony tailed program director of KGRG's infant sibling, 19 year old Green River student Jess Flarity.

When I met Flarity, he welcomed me from an elevated couch in the cubicle. Flarity began by telling me a little about the history behind KENU.

According to Flarity, KENU 1330 AM, now widely known as Pulse 1330, was originally a country station when the Green River Foundation purchased it for use as an academic program at the College.

Though KENU is technically broadcasted on an AM bandwidth, its main radio purpose at Green River is actually a leap ahead from an FM broadcast. What is now PULSE 1330 is a primarily internet radio broadcast, a mechanism of the digital radio program that allows students to develop and demonstrate their ability to partake in the operation of an authentic digital radio station. In comparison,



Photo by Liane Behrens.

Jess Flarity works on the station, getting everything ready for the DJ.

KGRG, is broadcast on an FM bandwidth as primarily analog, teaching the learned skills in the operation of a classic style radio station.

After a few years the student body got tired of the dear siren song of Sally Joe fueling their bleeding heart. So in 2001, KENU became PULSE, ditching the soap dish warfronts of country and taking on a whole new identity with electronica.

"KGRG is the alternative rock, which a lot of teenagers listen to, and lot of teenagers listen to electronica primarily so we took the electronica side of it," Flarity explained.

However, even though this change of face appeared to be a step into a better direction as an academic program, KENU was still in need of a little refinement.

"We were new music and new dance KENU," Flarity explained. "We were playing a lot of club music, similar to C89.5."

When Flarity became program in director he sought to remold KENU into an underground radio expose project and so started PULSE 1330 AM. Flarity became program director in May of 2004.

"Recently, this past summer, we changed over," Flarity said. "I was told I could do whatever I felt needed to be done...I was a big fan of trance [music] so I add a lot of trance on the station...we've been trance for that past six months now."

This recent genre refinement seems to be catching. And in the blossoming of this new year, Flarity has his focus set on the strength of diversity within the genre of electronica music

with scheduled programming of seemingly unrelated musical styles, all technically falling in the category of electronica.

"We are the Northwest underground music source, so we are going to try and steer away from the mainstream stuff [dance music] as much as possible," Flarity explains in reference to the weekly line up. "We try to find local DJs and local producers."

As a digital radio station, KENU 1330

Photo by Liane Behrens.

Andy Gardner spins on the air.

### Know what you're listening to

Here is the current weekly line up for PULSE 1330:

**Monday:** All fast BPM dance music, hardcore, gabber, etc.

**Tuesday:** Call "Train Wreck Tuesday" with no restraints to style. All forms of dance music are played.

**Wednesday:** Mostly house music

**Thursday:** Pre Party Thursday, Various live DJ's throughout the day and "The Danger Zone" w/ DJ Danger spinning house and breaks from 5p.m.-7p.m.

**Friday:** More live DJs with Digitel Drew spinning Tribal, Progressive Trance, and Progressive Techno from 3p.m-5p.m. and The Zero Street Crew dropping Drum'n'Bass tracks from 5p.m.-7p.m.

**Saturday:** All Trance, all day.

**Sunday:** Dubbed "Junglist Paradise," playing Drum'n'Bass all day.

AM can be accessed over the Internet through [www.PULSE1330.com](http://www.PULSE1330.com), allowing listeners to tune into the live broadcast of KENU even if they happen to be outside its 500 watt range, which yelps from the densely populated city of Enumclaw.

Unfortunately, a look into the PULSE broadcast room unearths the existence of archaic digital radio machinery still pushing at obsolete limits a decade beyond its prime. Though KENU has made a musical flip from the flop country station that it was, there has been little in the way of change involving the digital broadcast methods. PULSE currently broadcasts over the Internet at a measly 56Kbps, compared to professional stations, which can broadcast at over 200Kbps.

"It's not as simple turning up the dial," Flarity said. "We can't just turn up the power to like 5,000 watts or something, the cows will probably [start getting] cancer."

The problem is funding. KENU operates at roughly \$10,000 a year, almost unheard of in the radio industry. This year, as program director, Flarity hopes to help generate \$150,000 for the radio station.

"There's a lot of work with setting up new towers to broadcast to different areas but, hopefully with that \$150,000 we should be able to broadcast [on an AM bandwidth] at 5,000 watts," Flarity explains, "reaching as far as north Seattle."

**Flarity has his focus set on the strength of diversity within the genre of electronic dance music.**



## Phi Theta Kappa returns under new dynamic leadership

By Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

It's sent to all dedicated Green River students who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or better. It's a renowned privilege across the nation. It sets more grade-oriented students apart from those not so focused. It's an invitation to join the college's own honor society, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK).

Phi Theta Kappa's goal is to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of 2-year college students and to provide opportunities of individual growth and development through the organization's four hallmarks which are scholarship, leadership, fellowship and service. Numerous scholarship opportunities are available to only the leaders and members of the society, at the 2-year and 4-year levels. However, many eligible Green River students are unaware that this organization, along with its unique opportunities, is right here on campus.

PTK was founded in 1918 at Stephens

College in Missouri and currently includes more than 1.5 million members throughout U.S., Canada, and Germany with 1,200 individual chapters at 2-year colleges and universities. Green River's own chapter, Alpha Chi Beta, was founded on June 1, 1992. But this once shining light of scholarly excellence and achievement has dwindled to almost complete dormancy in recent years due to the lack of leadership among the club's officers and advisor.

According to Riley Relfe, the current President of Alpha Chi Beta, "this chapter [of Phi Theta Kappa] wasn't as effective in past years because all the officers graduated, leaving only one person to fill all the offices while still maintaining a 3.5 GPA." Last year, the advisor also resigned, which contributed to Alpha Chi Beta's recent decline in the student body.

While Phi Theta Kappa's chapter at Green River was on its way to extinction, Executive Dean of Student Services Bill Belden invited Amy Warren, a former student, Phi Theta Kappa member, and

employee in the Student Programs office, to apply for the club advisor position of Phi Theta Kappa when it opened in June 2004.

Warren was soon chosen among the applicants as the new advisor of Green River's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa sometime between July and August of that same year. At the same time, Public Relations Officer Riley Relfe had been elected president, and both women began working to rebuild the society's damaged reputation.

As the new president, Relfe began with officer leadership reforms such as creating a rigorous application process for all officer positions. This measure was meant to limit power and prevent past abuse, similar to the one already used to select student government members.

Both Relfe and Warren have been working closely with other college chapters to organize several events. They're currently in the process of creating a hallmark event each month, focusing on one of the four hallmark's of the club to enhance member-

ship motivation so they may succeed within their local chapter. As a result of their hard work, the membership total of Alpha Chi Beta has increased over 80% in the course of the past year. This increase has not been left unnoticed at the national level, which awarded the Alpha Chi Beta Chapter the Pinnacle Scholarship Award for \$100. Green River will also be recognized at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention from April 14-16 in Dallas, Texas participants in the 5-star achievement level program.

On an individual basis, Relfe has received the All Washington Academic Team Scholarship worth \$750 with her fellow member Younseon Lee and the Sandsuky Scholars Scholarship which covers nearly all her tuition expenses. Warren has received the Advisor Scholarship which covers all registration fees for the 2005 International Convention in Texas this April out of over 100 eligible advisors in the international organization.

## Summer jobs are easy to find if you know where to look

By Jessica Doyle  
Staff writer

With the warmer weather and spring break approaching, its time to start hunting for summer jobs. Other than scoring the local classifieds, there are lots of resources out there for students wanting an adventure or to earn some money during summer vacation.

When you start your search, there are lots of options and the internet is a great start. If you are already employed but dont want to be stuck inside stocking shelves or rolling burritos all summer, there are plenty of good-paying jobs out there that can provide you with a bit of adventure, some cash, and a reason to get out of town.

If money is your main motivation, you can always go to Alaska and work in a fish cannery. You'll be knee deep in fish guts and smell repulsive for 2 months. But you'll come out with at least five thousand dollars since there aren't alot of spending opportunities there, housing is often provided and overtime is encouraged.

If thats not your idea of summer fun, surf over coolworks.com, peter-sons.com, or jobweb.com. They offer college students huge databases of jobs in resorts, cruise lines, national parks, summer camps, theme parks, and even dude ranches. Most of the jobs provide room and board and are a great way to make friends from all over the country.

Student Jonah Cline spent last summer working at Rosario Resort on Orcas Island. He says, "It was fun being in a different environment, meeting new people and making alot of money. Plus there was lots to do

outside of work like swimming and parties."

Former Green River student Shannon Weber spent a summer working at the Ponderosa Ranch, of Bonanza fame. She says she "had the best time dressing up in old west costumes for the skits and giving tours, but the best part was making so many good friends." Some of the jobs available offer great travel opportunities on top of the pay.

There's more to life than spending another lame summer in the Auburn area, working at Taco Bell and saving up for a paintjob for your hatchback. No offense. But if you are tied down in the South end, make sure to take advantage of all of its natural splendors.

Camping at Mt. Rainier is a recreation sta-

ple along with trips to Ocean Shores and the San Juans. Closer to home, you can innertube at Flaming Geyser and let the revelers treat you to a complimentary canned beverage "fresh" from the riverbed. If you are confused by this just go there and see.

And if this thought isn't too exciting, start your job search early and come September, you'll have awesome memories as well as some money saved up for the grueling school year ahead.

**Work-related stress can double the risk of dying from heart disease.**

- National Mental Health Association

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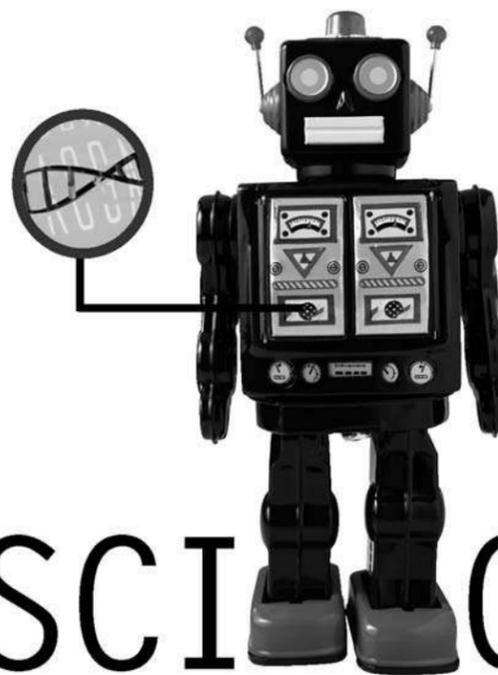
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## Guess how a stereotype-based comedy stays funny

by Jeanne Dinehart  
Managing Editor

*Guess Who* is a sweet, funny, sometimes corny and sometimes poignant film that will be released on March 25. Eye candy and producer, Ashton Kutcher plays the Oh-My-God-He's-White boyfriend, Simon, who is engaged to the beautiful Theresa (Zoe Saldana), daughter of Percy Jones (Bernie Mac). The story is the retelling of the 1967 *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* and it has similarities in that it's a comedy/romance centered around race relations, stereotypes and prejudice.

### Movie review

Except this time the issues are in reverse because Percy doesn't want his daughter to marry an "unemployed white guy." Somehow the cast, in particular curmudgeonly Bernie Mac who makes the best,

bad faces ever and Ashton Kutcher who is so adorable he should have whiskers and a tail, make this topic fun and funny. *Guess Who* shines light on the insanity of prejudice without being preachy or offensive. Watch this story and marvel at how just 40 years ago this movie couldn't have been made, let alone shown in mainstream theaters.

So though this PG-13 movie is so wholesome, cute and funny, it doesn't



seem cutting edge. Keep in mind that it really is because groups like the KKK are still going strong and further more, they keep morphing into more pleasant sounding euphemisms for hate such as the Aryan Nation, the World Church of the Creator, the National Socialist Movement, White Aryan Resistance, White Power Liberation Front and ironically, Truth in God.

If there is a sad

element to this light movie it would be that the prejudice which is highlighted is current and not historical. Another sad ingredient would be that after Simon defends his, "hard working single mom," she's never heard of or mentioned again.

However, there are a lot of funny moments in *Guess Who* which has a little of a *Meet the Parents* flavor. At one point, they are all eating dinner together and Percy persuades Simon to tell racists jokes. The family manages to laugh at the first few and so scheming Percy keeps egging Simon on. Of course Simon tells one too many and nearly gets punched by Theresa's grandfather.

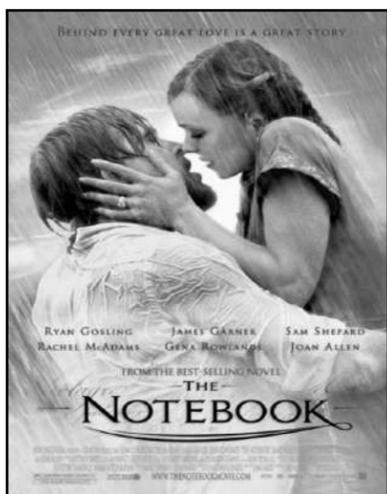
On a scale of 1-5 multi-hued gators, I give *Guess Who*, 5 Gators up because it includes all things positive: Laughing, thinking and be it ever so humble, progress.



## Romance movie based on novel makes a great DVD

by McKenzie Waters  
Staff writer

The novel *The Notebook*, by Nicholas Sparks is a book on the New York Best Sellers list; it was then adapted into a movie, and to no surprise the film had the same results. *The Notebook* is a story about finding true love and never letting it go. It's about two teen lovers named Allie Hamilton and Noah Calhoun, who met at a summer carnival. This



meeting would soon lead into a full-blown romance that is abruptly ended by Allie's parents, who are some of the wealthiest people in the town, while Noah has the bare minimum and works in a lumberyard. Allie then moves away, and Noah goes into the mili-

tary.

After long awaiting letters from Noah, Allie falls in love with a soldier named Lon, who soon became her fiancé. When seeing Noah's name in a local newspaper, she decided to see how he was doing. This decision leads to difficult situations, and she has to choose between her fiancé, Lon and her first and longtime love, Noah.

### DVD review

The characters are portrayed in the movie just like the book. They give a strong feeling of depth and it seems like you are feeling the same things Allie and

Noah feel. Seeing this story on the big screen, and not just reading about it, makes the plot even more realistic. Saying how nobody ever forgets his or her first love could not be truer, which is portrayed awesomely in this movie, and is definitely a movie that will be stuck in your head hours after it's over.

The DVD has many special bonus features to *The Notebook*. It includes many deleted scenes, commentary, behind the scenes of the movie, the place, the director, and Nicholas Sparks himself. If you feel like a love story, this movie is for you: a memorable tale of your first true love and how you will never forget them.

## Documentary cools the heat of Fahrenheit 9/11

Dan Jeremiah  
Staff writer

Throughout this ongoing journey that we like to call life, man must seek to find truth. In our court systems we have duel parties, the defendant and the prosecutor, on a sports field we also have two teams, and in politics, we have two primary parties. Some people like to look at both sides of a story, and then from those facts, they like to determine the truth, Michael Moore on the other hand, would rather just make up his own truth, and then hope nothing falls through.

Driven by a desire to understand both sides of the argument, I subjected myself to watching Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11*. A strong sense of fear gripped my stomach as I waited to see Moore prove a point, any point that would make me question my President and Government. I was pleasantly rewarded as the credits ran and I felt like I had just watched a child running around with his parents' camera, trying to get people to say what he wanted them to.

One part of the movie that I found to be very interesting was the end, when Moore is running around downtown trying to get senators to sign their kids up to go to war. Only one person stops to talk to him, the rest want nothing to do with him, so he concludes that they don't want to send their kids to war (not that they can sign their eighteen year old child up anyway). I had personally found a number of holes in Moore's portrayal of events, yet I still wanted to see more. I raced to the Blockbuster by my house and picked up *FahrenHYPE 9/11*.

In response to Moore's outrageous claims against America, a second movie was put out that could dispel some of the vague claims made by *Fahrenheit 9/11*, the rebuttal carried the fitting name *Fahrenhype 9/11*. This movie was done in a much more tasteful manner, and people from both parties had a chance to speak. A number of people from *Fahrenheit* had a chance to speak on their own behalf on what really was going on during the interviews that were shown in Moore's "masterpiece." We are given a better look into what the President's life is like, and a better look at what it takes for counter-intelligence to stop terrorism on our very own soil.

Personally I feel that in order to debate a topic, one needs to take a close look at both sides of the story. If you are a creationist, you need to know about evolution. If you are pro-life, you need to understand pro-choice. Thus the phrase, "well-rounded" came to pass. Unfortunately, Hollywood is extremely liberal and *Fahrenhype* was not given the same praise as *Fahrenheit*, despite the fact that it speaks truthfully. Due to its lack of recognition, it is much harder to find. For example, our very own Paper Tree bookstore does not carry *Fahrenhype*, when I inquired why that was, I was informed that the website they order movies from had not posted it as a new release yet.

The search for truth is not always an easy one, but it is a journey worth taking, do yourself a favor and expand your mind.

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# Arts & Entertainment

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## Book looks to improve our way of living through simplicity

by Jessica Doyle  
Staff writer

*Radical Simplicity* by Jim Merkel makes a case for reducing our impact on the earth and takes into account the many factors that are causing the environment and human health to decline - the first being our huge population of over-consumers.

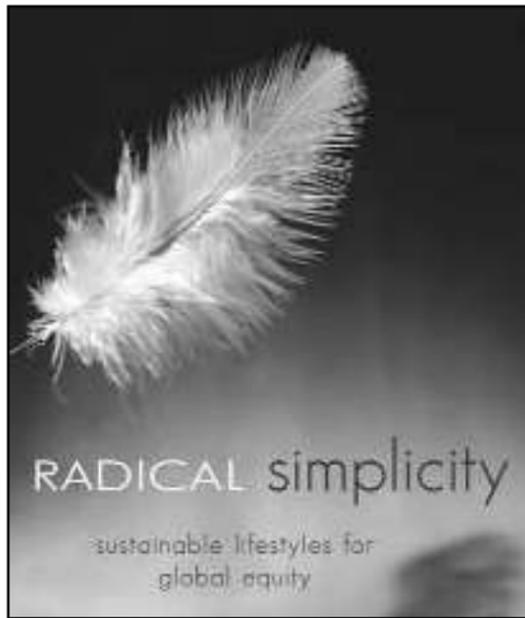
After quitting his job as a military weapons engineer for ethical reasons, Merkel traveled to cultures with sustainable ways of life and sought ways to integrate these into our Western culture. The two main principles he lives by and invites others to live by are 1) not amassing personal wealth and 2) not overpopulating the region. He argues that both need to be adopted by us all in order to promote the equity of all living things - not just humans.

Merkel brings a simple yet powerful solution to these problems by addressing them in terms we can all understand and

touches readers emotionally through his clear passion for saving this beautiful earth. He doesn't preach this message, but illustrates its importance by living this way and explaining to readers how it has enriched his life and reduced the ethical conflicts he had with consuming a volume of resources that left others in poverty.

His 100 year plan sends a hopeful message that it is possible to live happily within the earth's means and not create suffering for other creatures - to live sustainably. It involves the two above principles of living on less and mindfully reducing population, both of which would reduce global suffering and allow for wild natural space for other species.

The theme of sustainability through voluntary simplicity is central to this book's purpose. It



Merkel's book promotes living simply so others may simply live.

al for those who want to learn more about a pressing environmental issue as well as a how-to for people wanting to live simply but may be lacking a clear plan. In the context of environmental science, this book is basically all you need to begin living the way most environmentally conscious people know is necessary but aren't completely sure how. Merkel even makes it sound exciting and uplifting to live this way - which seems counterintuitive because of how we've all grown up around so much consumption and waste.

At a time when environmental issues seem to be coming to the forefront with climate changes, overpopulation, and genetically modified foods, this book

touches every base and explains the reasons for and solutions to many different problems.

Throughout the book, Merkel emphasizes how much he has gained by purposely living simply and closer to nature. The material possessions seemed to slip away unnoticed while his health, happiness and quality of life improved. Living as simply as Merkel may not be practical for everyone but there are still lots of easy ways to reduce your impact on the environment. Making smart choices in your everyday life can eventually add up to a smaller environmental footprint.

This book gives a deeper understanding into the consequences of our consumption and an optimistic message urging everyone to adopt a simpler way of life - it may be the only way to sustain the earth's people and natural bioproductivity.

## Art festival aims to seduce Seattle

by Nadine Bedford  
Staff writer

The Seattle Erotic Art Festival opens its doors for the third year in a row April 15 to April 17. The festival was founded in 2002 by Seattle's Sex Positive Community Center to promote freedom of sexuality, speech and creativity through the erotic expression of fine art.

This art show is designed to expose people to various forms of art that might otherwise be hidden. A total of more than 2,000 people showed up to the Inaugural Festival and over 4,000 visitors came out to

support the festival in 2004.

This year the festival will be held at Consolidated Works in Seattle with the theme "Own Your Pleasure." At the festival, you can find over 180 artists

duced by Sex On Screen, stage performances, a large auction and exhibition art tours featuring Pet Silvia of the New York gallery Art@Large.

Festival passes will be \$30 in

Little Red Studio Theater performances. If \$30 is a bit much for you, Friday April 15 will showcase the Juried and Invited Artists Exhibition, Art@Large gallery, a Festival Store and the

Opening Night Party, there will be an Art Party. Saturday's price is \$6 advance and \$10 at the door. For the cheapest of all three days, go on Sunday for \$5 and check out the Juried and

Invited Artist Exhibition and the Art@Large gallery. This event is 18+ and ID will be required at the door.

This art festival isn't for the shy. Those with open minds should go see

it at least once. If you still need more persuasion, skim through the website which offers a calendar, gallery, media kit and much more at [www.seattleerotic.org](http://www.seattleerotic.org).

SEATTLE EROTIC  
ART FESTIVAL *Own Your Pleasure*

April 15-17 2005

from around the world, an expansive exhibition of erotic art, interactive installations, a gallery store for small works and prints, an opportunity to meet the artists, a special film series pro-

advance through [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com) or \$40 at the door. The passes will include the Juried and Invited Artist Exhibition, Gala Opening Night Party, Sex on Screen Films and

Gala Opening Night Party for \$10 advance or \$15 at the door.

If you're looking for even cheaper, Saturday's line-up includes all the same as Friday except instead of the Gala

## Entertainment Release Calendar

FILM	Sin City	Vera Drake	18 - Various
3/18 Ice Princess The Ring TWO	<u>DVD</u> 3/15 Alfie	4/5 Elektra Sideways Spanglish	3/22 Best Little Secrets Are Kept - Louis XIV Hotel - Moby Lullabies to Paralyze - Queens of the Stone Age
3/24 Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	The Incredibles Red Dwarf VI	4/12 Hotel Rwanda Ocean's Twelve	3/29 Guero - Beck Language. Sex. Violence. Other? - Stereophonics
3/25 Guess Who	3/22 Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason Finding Neverland	<u>MUSIC</u>	
3/30 Beauty Shop	3/29 Apollo 13: Anniversary Edition Closer	3/15 Employment - Kaiser Chiefs Human After All - Daft Punk Now That's What I call Music	4/5 Music From the O.C. 4 - Various Now What - Lisa Marie Presley
4/1			

# Arts & Entertainment

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FRIDAY | MARCH 11, 2005

## With an all-star cast, *Robots* proves to be a highly functional movie

by Tyler Foster  
Staff writer

One of the most appealing aspects of Pixar's *Monsters, Inc.* was that while the characters were interesting, the story was heartwarming and the comedy was sharp, the world that the movie took place in felt genuine, thought out, and was awe-inspiring and fun to watch. It's the same way with *Robots*, in which Chris Wedge's Blue Sky Studios has made themselves a universe where things that have one purpose to us have an entirely different purpose to them, in an imaginative and entertaining way. And while *Robots* has some narrative kinks, the movie is also funny, charming, and a lot of fun to watch.

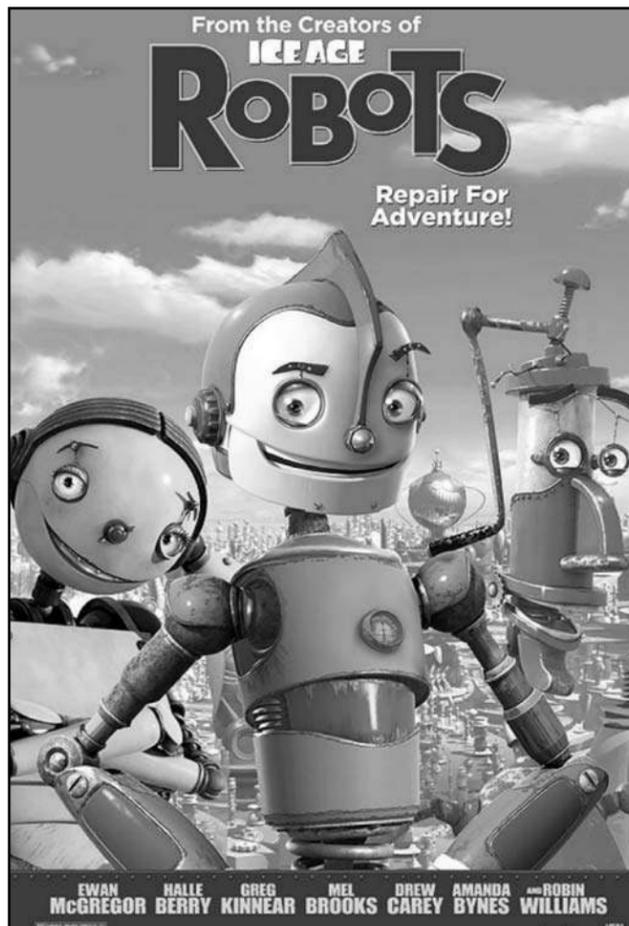
Ewan McGregor voices Rodney Copperbottom, a young robot who, inspired by the madcap inventor Big Weld (Mel Brooks), heads away from home and into the big city in order to meet Big Weld and show him some of his amazing inventions. But Big Weld's corporation is in the hands of the evil Ratchet (Greg Kinnear), and nobody knows where Big Weld has gone. And when Ratchet's plans threaten to melt down all of the robots with a ding or a scratch, it's up to Rodney, teamed up with misfits Piper (Amanda Bynes), Crank (Drew Carey), unhappy executive Cappy (Halle Berry), and the insane Fender (Robin Williams) to save everyone.

The cast is by far the best part of the movie. Everyone shines, and while Williams's madcap vocal work is a highlight, everyone keeps pace. McGregor makes for a nice, earnest hero, and Bynes and Carey are amusing as Fender's pals (that's right, Amanda Bynes is not annoying). Greg Kinnear oozes sleaze, and Paul Giamatti has a small but notable role as a little guy guarding the gate of Big Weld's factory. And, speaking of which, Mel Brooks is wonderful as Big Weld, a great mentor-like figure to Rodney who has all sorts of wisdom and is excited by the prospect of seeing some new wonderful invention that someone's made. Halle Berry's role is underwritten, but she does what she can with the character.

The visuals of Robot City are beautiful, with all sorts of fun things to look at. Chris Wedge and Carlos Saldanha have packed the screen from side to side with all sorts of gizmos

and doohickeys that are instantly recognizable and used in all sorts of fun ways. But their breakneck pace only lets you look at them when things aren't action-packed and exciting, and it has to be said that someone must be dreaming up a way to make *Robots: The*

train station is exhilarating, and the finale is equally exciting. In the middle, there's all sorts of small moments, and there's even another technical extravaganza - using millions of dominos. But to say more would ruin the surprise...



Amongst all this is that pesky plot, which also includes Jim Broadbent as the villainous mother of Ratchet, Jennifer Coolidge as Ms. Fanny, who lodges Fender and his pals, and a bunch of other nonsense that might have been interesting if it wasn't choppy edited in around the humor and action. *Robots* feels like a 105 minute movie that lost 10 minutes of plot because the kid-audience wouldn't stand it, and in its place are a few moments of groaner jokes (although these are usually redeemed by a better line topping it). Many of the cast members, while good, are

lines, while they may tug at the heartstrings via the sweet-natured tone and direction, are still of Hallmark-card caliber

But who cares? *Robots* is a well-made and extremely fun movie, and it sure as hell beats the forced pop culture jabs that *Shark Tale* marches out as if it's funny, and the simply painful talking bobblehead doll in *Are We There Yet?*, which is the best the world of family entertainment has had to offer recently. What with Pixar's movie *Cars* a long way from being finished, Blue Sky Studios has made a winning film with some good messages, jokes for all ages, and then placed it in a truly creative and interesting world. It's almost suspicious: a story about a creative genius inventor almost sounds like Wedge and his team (deservedly) patting themselves on the back.

**Grade: B+**

### Movie Specs

Starring Ewan McGregor, Mel Brooks, Halle Berry, Greg Kinnear, Amanda Bynes, Drew Carey, Jim Broadbent, Jennifer Coolidge, Paul Giamatti and Robin Williams  
Directed by Chris Wedge and Carlos Saldanha  
Twentieth Century Fox (2005), 91 Minutes  
Rated PG for some brief language and suggestive humor

Ride a reality, because an early sequence highlighted in the trailers in which Rodney travels from

only around so much in a movie filled with so many characters, and a couple of the sentimental



## Gatorscopes

A sneak peek at your collegiate future

by Stacie Engen and Dan Jeremiah  
Staff writers

**Disclaimer: If you are easily offended, do not read the Gatorscopes for their frightening accuracy may...frighten you. If for some reason, you do not find them to be accurate, then relax...it's only a joke.**

### Errees

Your life might suck or your life does suck. Either way there is a strong potential for suck in your life. Take pleasure in what you enjoy and you might not mind how much your life sucks. Someone, somewhere might do something to make you feel somewhat other than your life sucking, but the truth cannot be sucked away.

### Tarris

Upper or downer, you are a drug through life. When times are dope you feel as through you are the heroin. You might even find your self smackdab in the middle of an amazing rush. As you blow through life, stop every once in a while and take a good sniff. Your personality type is chronic in this percolating melting pot so look for friends in the haze.

### Jemmyneye

Bubble, bubble, toil and trouble, whether you are casting spells or four letter words you cannot remove that itch. Maybe you feel that if you weren't so ugly people would find you pretty. There are special place for people like you. Pursue a career in a center for the blind.

### Kansir

You feel you are the catch of the day, no higher-grade fish found than yours, the fisherman's prized massive big mouth bass. You aren't any ordinary canned tuna and you know it. When the glory of the world rises up the flagstaff, you accept the salute every

time. Show those who are watching how swiftly you maneuver that great, great wetness of the world.

### Leeow

The last thing you need to cook up is another serving of B.S. considering that you are already completely full of crap. Silence is golden when your senses have been browned. A little verbal constipation never hurt the world. Take some time to really taste your own creation as flies swirl around your pile of lies. It is time for the town crier to crap out.

### Vrrgoh

You are such a pansy. If it were politically correct, I would call you a #@%!. No good has come of existence thus far. Why is it important for you to be such a wuss? You ponder this too often. Stop worrying about your little, medial, nibblets of crap that you have to deal with.

### Leebrah

Exercise would be good for your obesity. Find motivation inside yourself and not your fridge for once. Convenience food is obviously inconvenient, as it has stayed with you like a bad disease. Master the stairs and lose that fork! If you keep packing it in your pie hole you're gonna keep porkin' it on up.

### Skorrpeeow

You've been acting squirrely lately and every one is looking at you like you're nuts. Stop staring at the world through beady black eyes but don't go out on a limb for others. Stay to your own wood for a while. Watch for the heavy step of Leebrah.

### Akwareios

Y es que si hemos conocido gente con tanto amor para dar y tanta felicidad que compartir, como Cheech y Alejandra, hemos tenido suerte, pues esta pareja, inseparable en todo momento, recibía a todos de una manera muy especial y rápidamente lo envolvían a uno en esa manera de apreciar la vida, una manera que no hay palabras para poderla expresar.

### Kapreecowrn

Nobody cares about you, Kapreecowrn. Now go home and cry.

## Barry Bonds and other athletes deny using steroids

by Yasunori Chiba  
Staff writer

On February 22, Barry Bonds opened the first official press conference since he was accused of using a steroid over the last couple of years. Bonds obviously paid attention to his image and put forth a relaxed demeanor and smile. When he came out of the conference, he smiled and joked with the media. However, it was only the first couple of minutes.

Whether or not Bonds wanted to answer, the question was pointed on the steroid issue because some players had already issued a statement about themselves. Gary Sheffield and

Jason Giambi, which both are playing for the New York Yankees, has admitted to using steroids during the last two or three years.

Sheffield denied using the prohibited drug deliberately. "I said I didn't know I took steroids, the bottom line was I thought it was rubbing cream on my legs. But I'm not like Jason



www.allstarz.org/users/barrybonds/pictures

Giambi, I'm not going to sit here and cry about things being unfair or that the attacks are unfair," Sheffield said.

Teammate, Jason Giambi had officially apologized for continuing to use a steroid even after joining the Yankees. Both players did not mention Bonds. However, they received a steroid and instructions from the same company.

The company has been in contact with Barry Bonds. Bonds never admitted that his tremendous scores in the recent years was built by the drug.

"Hard work that's about it, that's it" Bonds said about his historical achievement. Bonds hit the major league record 73 homerun in 2001 season and got over 200 walks and .600 on base percentages in 2004. None of the players even reached 130 walks and .470 OBP in the last year so Bonds performance was just outstanding.

The question also went to his homerun record. The Bonds's record, 703 lifetime homerun, is close to one of the baseball legend Babe Ruth's homerun 714.

However because of the steroid issue, his record might not be thought of as having the value of Ruth's.

Bonds could not hide his annoyance. "Babe Ruth is one of the greatest baseball players ever, and Babe Ruth ain't black, either. I'm black," Bonds said.

Barry Bonds has undergone two surgeries during the off season and is still recovering. Will it be a good excuse if he can not do the same as what he has done in the last couple of years? Can he hit 45 homeruns again without a steroid? In any case, Bonds will get more media attention in 2005, no matter what the result is.

## Green River baseball: Iron men and wooden Sticks

by Andrew Gardner  
Staff writer

I wasn't quite sure what to make of the men on the field. My pupils were dilated and it was quite hard to focus through



Courtesy of www.usatoday.com/

the blood shot haze; white tracers arching back and forth streaming between the uniforms. The men were warming

up, stretching their limbs, flexing their digits, preparing for the battle; they were cave men, throwing and clubbing at each other with intelligence as their fortitude.

Preparing to work collectively as a team, patiently waiting to strike, timing their attack for precision, the men were like soldiers, and they swore like soldiers.

They had guns, a pair a piece, meaty, muscular and they trained hard; dedication drove them, passion of some kind. A passion they possessed, to throw things and to hit things that are

thrown, and then run around in a circle. This is baseball.

Like any other pursuit in a Gator man's life, the general objective of baseball is to score while a team works collectively against you, trying to keep you from going all the way, taking it

"...to throw things and to hit things that are thrown, and then run around in a circle. This is baseball." - Andrew Gardner, staff writer.

back home. As the heat of the baseball season of 2005 swiftly approaches. America's favorite way to pass time while sitting and drinking beer in the sun is ready for another fist full of hometown battles all across the United States and other parts of America, like Canada.

This year, instead of plopping down in front of that 47" High Definition plasma screen that you will be paying of in three years for three hours of courted cricket, drive that car you'll pay off in only 60 months, up to your beloved academia, Green



Courtesy of www.kottke.org/plus/photos/baseball

River community college, and watch the Gators chew their way through what is hoped to be a good season.

### March men's baseball Schedule

March 11/12/13 Treasure Valley Tournament  
Ontario, OR  
Sat March 19 Everett Everett 1:00  
Sun March 20 Skagit Valley Mt. Vernon 1:00  
March 24-27 Walla Walla Tournament  
Walla Walla  
Thur March 24 Walla Walla 7:00  
Fri March 25 Olympic or Columbia Basin 1:00 or 7:00  
Sat March 26 TBA TBA

## Pre-season tennis report



by Tiffany Richards  
Staff writer

Kevin Kniestedt, Green River's new head coach of the men's and women's tennis teams is optimistic about the 2005 season.

The women's team, which is made up of eight members, has three returning athletes from last year's highly successful season in which they won the Women's NWAACC Team Championships.

"This years girls are hard working and bring plenty of energy to the program", commented Coach Kniestedt. The men's team is made of ten athletes who are all nearing the

end of their first year at Green River. Coach Kniestedt sees this as an opportunity to "develop a core group and allow them to grow together as a team," which can be easier formed between fellow athletes who remain with the team for a longer period of time.

Kniestedt also intends to continue the commitment to both the athletic and academic well-being of all the tennis players, one that was passed down by his predecessor, the late Steve Sauers. Kniestedt had this to say about the coach he worked



image courtesy of japanesecentral.com/.../sports/tennis



image courtesy of www.dickssport-inggoo... mages

with during the 2002 and 2003 seasons as an assistant coach:

"Steve helped the athletes do well both academically and athletically". The 2005 season officially began on March 1, the first game of the season isn't until Apr 6, just two days after Spring Quarter begins.

Kniestedt is confident both teams will finish well. "This is the strongest womens team I've seen at Green River in four years. And the work ethic of the mens team will help them place high in the state championships," said Kniestedt.

### Women's Tennis...

April 5 Tacoma\* Tacoma 2:00  
April 9 Western Washington Bellingham Noon  
April 12 Univ of Puget Sound Tacoma 3:30  
April 16 Shoreline\* GRCC 5:00  
April 22 Spokane\* Spokane 1:00

### Men's Tennis...

April 9 Western Washington Bellingham Noon  
April 12 Puget Sound Tacoma 3:30  
April 16 Shoreline\* GRCC 5:00  
April 19 Pierce Spanaway 2:00  
April 22 Spokane\* Spokane 1:00

More than **50%** of American adults do **not** get enough physical activity to benefit their health.

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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## T-Birds, Hawks and Giants mix it up on the ice

### T-Birds, Hawks, call it a draw feb 26

by Sean Golden  
Guest writer

When Seattle captain, Tyler Metcalfe scored at 11:28 of the second period, the ice was soon littered with teddy bears.

It was "Teddy Bear Toss" night in Seattle, where the crowd of



5442 was asked to throw teddy bears on the ice after Seattle's first goal. The bears were donated to local charities.

Unfortunately for the T-Birds, the lead was not able to hold up, as the Winter Hawks Captain, Braydon Coburn netted his 12th goal of the year at 17:38 of the second period.

Both teams traded chances in

the third period, and T-Birds Captain Tyler Metcalfe found himself with a breakaway with 10 seconds remaining, but he was turned away by Portland netminder Blake Grenier.

After five minutes of overtime with only a few shots each way, the T-Birds and Hawks called it a tie. Seattle coach Rob Sumner said of the game, "I thought we played a pretty good game," and of Coburn, "And that's a really good player that made that shot."



Courtesy of [www.geocities.com/seattle\\_thunderbirds/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/seattle_thunderbirds/index.html)

The Winter Hawks, who are chasing the Everett Silvertips for second place in the division and home ice in the first round, don't seem to be too worried.

"With as strong as teams are home and away now, I don't think it's as significant as it was even ten years ago", Portland coach Mike Williamson said of home ice.

The tie left the Thunderbirds remaining in a comfortable 11 point lead in first place.

After a 3-0 win Sunday night against the Spokane Chiefs, the T-Birds found themselves with a twelve point lead on second place Everett, and a four game unbeaten streak.

### T-Birds cut Giants down to size

The next task was the Vancouver Giants, who the T-Birds had beaten five times in as many games so far this year.

However, Vancouver left wing Mitch Bartley got the scoring started with his 28th of the year at 10:03 of the first to give his Giants a 1-0 lead.

After a goal by T-Birds forward Derek Couture to tie the game up going into the second period, Seattle's Denis Tolpecko put the T-Birds up for good with his 11th tally of the year at 2:26 of the second.

Veteran Center Nate Thompson rounded out the scored with an empty-net goal at 18:41 of the third, to ensure that the KeyArena crowd of

3025 would go home happy. The Thunderbirds, who have only allowed four goals against the Giants all year long, don't take the Giants lightly.

"You look at their top guys ... we've shut them down." T-Birds defenseman said of Vancouver's star forwards Adam Courchaine and Gilbert Brule.

Thunderbirds center Chris Durand, with 3 assists, said the key was, "Limiting their skill and their time to create in our blueline." Next up for the Giants are the Portland Winter Hawks at home on Friday, and the T-Birds take on the Everett Silvertips at home on Saturday the 5th.



courtesy of [www.saskatoonblades.com](http://www.saskatoonblades.com)

## Spring 2005 season is near for the new Seattle Mariners

by Nathaniel Dillow  
Staff writer

The Seattle Mariners began spring training last week with a big bang. After a disappointing 2004 season last year of 99 losses, the team's worst season in 21 years, the Mariners have made some improvements by addressing some issues that needed to be addressed in the off season.

With the introduction of a new head coach, new heavy hitters, and some returning healthy players, the Seattle Mariners want to be among the best and have success in the playoffs like

everyone expects of them. "I'd say 70 percent of our team last year, at least, didn't play the way they're capable of," said second baseman Bret Boone in



courtesy of [seattle.mariners.mlb.com](http://seattle.mariners.mlb.com)

Ichiro Suzuki

an interview with ESPN. "I think that gives you some incentive to work harder and

show that last year was a fluke."

After a disappointing 2004 season, the Seattle Mariners decided it was time for some changes. They fired head coach Bob Melvin after two years on the team, and hired another coach with 13 years of experience, Mike Hargrove. Once leading the team, Hargrove picked up some new heavy hitters for the team.

These hitters included Adrian Beltre from the Los Angeles Dodgers, Pokey Reese from the Boston Red Sox, and Richie Sexson from the Arizona Diamondbacks. Some healthy returning players include Bret

Boone, Jamie Moyer, Joel Pineiro, and Eddie Guardado.

If you are in desperate need



courtesy of [art.shoppingssavvy.com/](http://art.shoppingssavvy.com/)  
Seattle Mariners

for some sunshine and some great up close baseball, then

Mariners spring training might be the cure for you. The Seattle Mariners spring training is held in sunny Peoria, Arizona against other teams like the San Diego Padres, Oakland Athletics, and Kansas City Royals. Games are low key and enjoyable if you like baseball but don't like the large crowds and expensive Safeco Field ticket prices.

Another big plus for spring training is the player and fan interaction that you can have during team practices. Fans can watch close up batting practices and fielding drills, and interact with their favorite Seattle Mariner player.

## Gator basketball teams end the season, winners at heart

by Nate Ells Miller  
Staff writer



There is a sports saying that goes "Pain is temporary, but pride lasts forever." This saying is a perfect analogy for this year's basketball season for both the women and men. With sports you don't have the option to choose whether you win or lose. You have to prove you're worthy of victory and some

times no matter how hard you fight, you still can't win.

Even though it may hurt inside to end the season 7-19 or 9-17, that pain from losing is only temporary. It's the pride of your hard work, the struggles you didn't run away from, and the trust in your team mates that will last forever.

The women's season started out rough right from the beginning with a loss, but the women didn't stay down and answered back with a win to tie their record. However they all understood the fact they had a hard schedule ahead of them starting with Highline. With the chips stacked against Green

River do to Highline having a better record Green River played the second half of that game as a superior team and just



barely missed the winning shot.

It would seem this loss lead to a spiral of defeats, but while speaking to the players after that game I saw a team that was confident and eager. I even asked the team if that loss was going

to affect them and together they convinced me it wouldn't. From that game on it seemed that no matter how hard they tried they just couldn't get an upper hand on their competition and despite winning two of their last three games they ended their season 7-19. The women leading scorer Renee Kilgore told me early in the season that her main focus was getting to understand her team mates and judging from their display on the court it looks like at least one goal was achieved this season.

It was the same story for the men's team as well, who started off the season rough and even with some late heat they could-

n't end their season the way they wished. After this season you'll probably find one of two kinds of Green River basketball fans. the first are those that are disap-

**"You can't win them all." - Nate Ells Miller, Staff writer**

pointed with the season and the other fans are the ones that actual went to the games, because if you had gone you would have seen two teams that played with heart. As the pain from this season passes, the pride in a team will return and any Washington sports fan will tell you, "you can't win them all."