

GRCC's alternative parking source just became more convenient



Keiley Ramseur/The CURRENT

Pacific Raceways, located just outside of campus, have recently been repaved making it easier for those looking for a place to park outside of campus.

The new gravel gives students even less of an excuse not to park at the raceways. Parking has continued to be one of the most hot button issues here on campus, if not the largest. Cars are more secure at the raceways than on campus because of the increased presence of security

Ryan Lewis
Staff Reporter

New gravel for GRCC's parking area at Pacific Raceways is yet another improvement made recently for students taking advantage of the shuttle program. The program was designed to meet the needs of excessive traffic and lack of parking spaces that has been apparent for the past few years.

Fred Creek, the head of security for GRCC, hopes that gravel as opposed to mud in the rainy season will encourage students to continue to take advantage of the program through out the year. Although, the program isn't perfect, the shuttle can be convenient for those that

don't mind a seven minute ride from the race ways to campus. The shuttle service have also improved this year as the shuttles come with increased regularity.

Creek pointed out that students cars are actually more secure at the raceways due to security posted on guard until 5 p.m. and now that the gravel has been applied to the parking area it's a much more desirable experience. Security at GRCC is spread much more thin than at the raceways as they have an entire campus to cover. Four inches of gravel was applied to the surface that has topped out at 327 cars at once earliest this year. The gravel should ultimately increase that number.

The guards on post explained that they had yet to turn a car around due to lack of

spaces and don't see that as a potential problem any time soon. Though, students might like the idea of having their cars closer to them there are apparently no plans of expanding parking lots on campus and the shuttle program has become a permanent solution for GRCC's parking dilemma. It is quickly becoming the only parking opportunity to an otherwise helpless situation.

Creek exclaims that they hope of getting a new paved parking area at the raceways within the next few years. So, it's just a matter of time before more improvements are made to make parking for GRCC more convenient and efficient for students in the years to come.

Crime rate on campus down dramatically

Mary Kieffer
Freelance Reporter

The GRCC Security Department has cracked down on campus crime. The Federal Crime Report submitted annually by the college reveals property crime has historically been its biggest problem.

However, burglaries (theft from auto, stolen purses, etc.) showed a dramatic decline from 49 cases reported in 2003 to 11 in 2004 and just nine in 2005. Security Director Fred Creek attributes this to an increase in visibility. After being "hit really hard" in early 2003, Creek assigned a security officer to every campus parking lot for over a year. While this tactic was also successful in reducing auto thefts on campus by 57 percent during the same period, some ground was lost in 2005 with nine auto thefts reported.

Creek also credits several other factors to the success of his department in maintaining a safe campus. Being situated within a community, neighbors are vigilant and feel comfortable calling the security office when things look suspicious. Officer longevity among the 17 security officers assigned to the college and a good working relationship with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) are also a plus.

Creek calls the KCSO "very responsive," adding that the deputies working in this area have come to know that the security staff has a good feel for what can be handled without police involvement and know they won't be called in for minor issues. He also gives credit to the student judiciary process, especially in dealing with liquor and drug violations.

Creek finds his biggest challenges to be money and parking - operating his department at the most effective level with the money available and "changing the behavior" of students and faculty who feel the need to park close in. With 40,000 parking stalls and a free shuttle service from Pacific Raceway, there is always plenty of parking available. Creek says he "sets the standard" by carpooling to work with his wife, who also works for the college.

Generally, Green River students seem to feel safe on campus. There are only about two calls for security escorts each night. Though there has not been much interest generated by students to offer classes in personal safety, Creek says he is willing and capable of providing them. He has been teaching an employee class, "Conflict De-escalation" for the past 5 or 6 years.

In addition to his nearly 10 years at Green River, Creek, 40, spent 14 years in the U.S. Army Military Police, recently retiring with 20 years of service. He says the reason he prefers the college setting and this type of work versus mainstream law enforcement is that he gets to provide community policing that has the flexibility of treating enforcement as part of the education process. "We're service-oriented. We don't say no."



In-depth transportation coverage continued inside...

For more on transportation here at Green River see pages 8 and 9.

Forestry wins chapter of the year

page 7



Paul Rusesabagina presents Rwanda: A lesson yet to be learned

page 10

KGRG sets up at Maris Farms

page 13



Gator Volleyball on top of division

page 16

These pages are designed to show Green River in a photographic manner. The pages are meant to chronicle Green River in a more artistic and creative way.

The On-Campus page, is also a chance to showcase Green River's diverse population and eccentric personalities doing what they do best, hanging out and goofing off on campus.

Who knows, a friend of yours, or maybe you might appear in this collection of random snapshots. Keep an eye out.

All photos taken by Dawn Morrison except where otherwise indicated.



Is it a college or a maze?



A Green River student insists our camerawoman takes a picture of her because she is a "beautiful bitch." Her words, not ours.



GRCC's art department spruces up the foresty here on campus. Notice the creature resembling a gnome hiding in the shrubbery.



Photo courtesy of Edith Bannister

A group of Danish exchange students gleefully pose for a picture during one of their first days on campus.



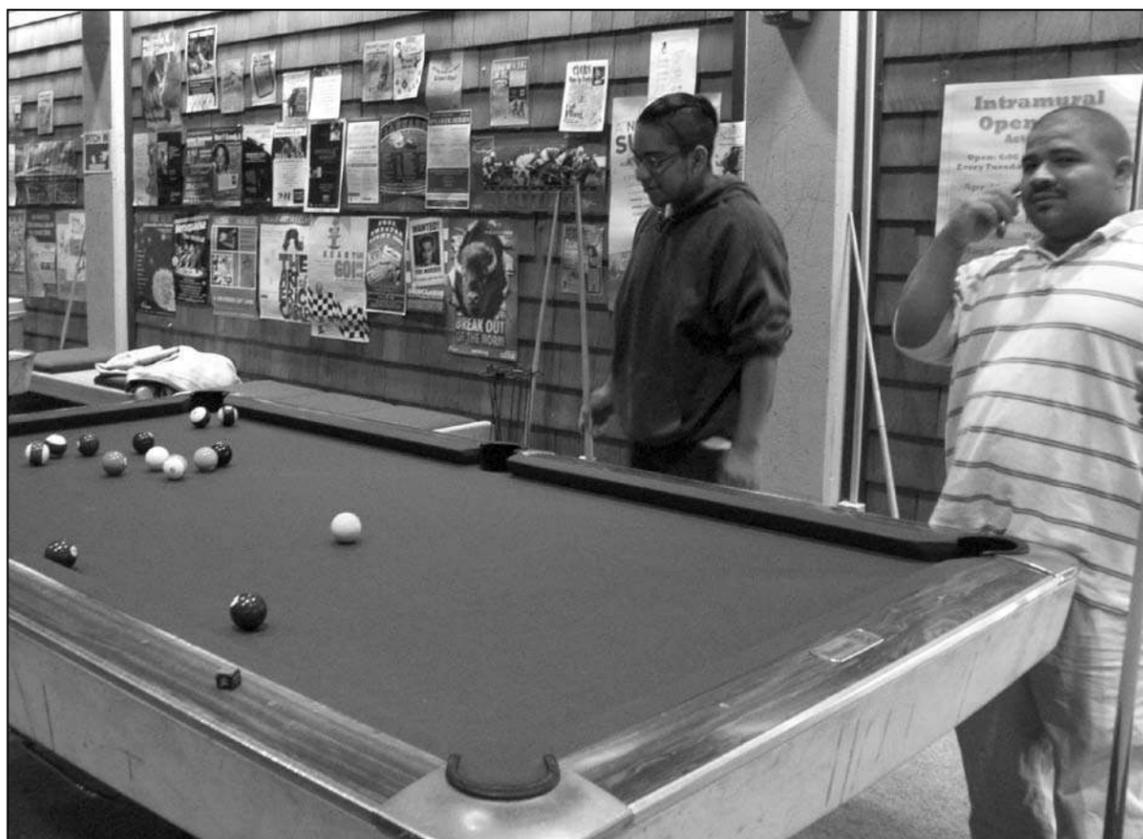
A group of guys give the cameraman some interesting facial expressions.



Green River students goofing off some more. And a peace sign.



No people here. Just the beautiful Green River campus so easily taken for granted.



A couple of guys playing pool in the Lindbloom Student Center.



Green River Student Government interviewing for Senate positions

Jaime Erickson
Staff Reporter

Student government leaders are on the prowl for new members for the 2006-2007 student Senate team. They're interviewing applicants who have a take-charge attitude, and want to make Green River a better place to learn as well as tighter community.

Chelsea Fletcher, student body chief justice, is one of the Associated Students Green River Community College members responsible for interviewing those who apply for a Senate position.

"We want someone who is really themselves, and are willing to take a stand to make GRCC a better place," she said. "We all

love it here, and if we didn't, we wouldn't all be so dedicated to fix it and make it better."

Being a Senate member is a way to interact with other students, and be a liaison between them and administration. For students who want to become more involved with GRCC, this is an excellent opportunity to join. It also looks great on college transfer applications.

Fletcher said, "Another [benefit] is because of jobs. A lot of places are looking for people who've held leadership skills or positions, and have those strong firm decision making skills. Senate teaches you that almost instantly."

According to the ASGRCC brochure, the Senate has been present at Green River since

1966, and has since then been composed of all students. Each student's job in the Senate depends on which committee they are on, because they each deal with different roles throughout Green River.

Members meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Rainier Room, in the Lindbloom Student Center. Students may join at each different quarter. Their meetings are open to the public, and they are always encouraging people to come and join in.

"We want people to come to us, with problems or concerns, ideas or praises," said Fletcher. "We want to hear that because we're here working for the students, and that's really what our passion is."

Welding class project used for science center saves GRCC \$15,000

Ashley Mathews
News Editor

With construction still underway for the new science center, many students are doing their part to contribute to the project.

The site needed a trellis, a type of gate to prevent unauthorized access to an adjacent room on the building. After reviewing estimates, Mike Bingisser, the project manager for GRCC's Science Center contacted Bayley Construction to see if it would be a good project to hand over to the welding shop. Bayley Construction enthusiastically conceded.

Scott Schreiber, the welding instructor took on the project and soon recruited students to custom

design and fabricate the trellis. This project fit in perfectly with Scott's curriculum and the benefits of on-job training. "A project of this complexity is an ideal real-world learning experience for the students," as Scott explained.

Before they started working, Scott and the students recommended design alterations and constantly improved and perfected their design before fabrication. They had to work as teams to work with the heavy steel and practiced safety procedures on a daily basis.

Altogether the welding class managed to save Green River \$15,000 as well as coming away with "real on-the-job training."

Traffic light postponed

Main entrance won't see traffic light installed until spring

Keiley Ramseur
Staff Reporter

Construction on the new traffic light at the main entrance of Green River Community College that started last spring has been put off until spring 2007.

Last year many students believed there was going to be an end to the nightmare traffic at 320th and 124th, the main three way entrance of at Green River Community College. But as everyone arriving back to school this fall found out, that that information was not correct.

Construction started last spring, but was pushed back a few months, and when we returned, traffic was just as bad as it was before.

You may wonder what the reason is, and as John Ramsey, director of public information for Green River Community College explained, there are quite a few different reasons for this.

First of all, the construction is not completely over and done with forever; it will start again prior to spring quarter.

One reason for this delay is the county did not have an adequate

amount of money in its budget to do the construction during the end of summer quarter like they originally planned. But they plan on having the means to complete it next year.

Also, the contractor of the project did not want to work on it during this winter for several reasons. Firstly, the unusually bad weather during this winter is not prime time for laying down asphalt. Another reason why spring is a better time to carry out this project is that the county cannot put in a traffic light until all of the underground work is completed, such as wiring and what not.

These things are definitely easier to accomplish in better weather than we are expecting this winter.

Now you may wonder what good is all this work and trouble going to do for me? The answer is the that the county hopes that the traffic light will help decrease all the back up on the intersection of 320th, and 124th during the peak hours of the day.

So students will get a solution to this bad problem. But unfortunately, they will have to wait a couple of months, specifically until right before spring quarter. But at least the waiting period and construction won't be as bad as the trouble from the traffic backups.

Welding shop builds money saving trellis for the new science building while at the same time learning valuable on the job training.



Photos courtesy of Green River

Students in the welding shop pose as a group on the GRCC's new Science Center behind the trellis they helped to build.



FACE YOUR FUTURE



Help transform lives.

Complete your bachelor's degree at Bastyr University.

Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Exercise Science
Health Psychology
Herbal Sciences
Nutrition

BASTYR UNIVERSITY degree.BastyrUniversity.org **Changing the face of Health Education**

Visit The Current online today at

<http://www.greenriver.edu/TheCurrent/Default.htm>



Photos courtesy of Green River

The new \$100,000 flight simulator used for aviation classes here on campus.

Open house being held for flight simulator

John Ramsey

Director of Public Information

No doubt the college's coolest addition for fall quarter is the Aviation program's new flight simulator. Now, you have a chance to see it up close and personal during an open house for students, faculty and staff on Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 9-10 a.m. and again from 12-3 p.m.

The new simulator will allow students to use any one of 12 different models of airplanes, according to George Comollo, aviation instructor. The "modular flight simulator" has the option for both single and multi-engine planes as well as two seats, which allows the instructors to have two students participate in the training.

"This simulator will allow

our students to be exposed to the latest in flight deck technology and prepare them better for when they transfer into four-year schools and/or fly newer planes," said Comollo.

Both Comollo and newly hired instructor Curt Scott will be at the open house. The flight simulator is located in the new Technology Center (TC 105). Signage will direct attendees to the correct room.

Since the open house is on Halloween, candy will be provided. Costumes are not required. Though Comollo added if you were to dress up, a pilot's costume would be appropriate!

Open House

Monday Oct. 31, 9-10am and 12-3 pm in the TC building, room 105

Study finds colleges fail to teach U.S. History

U.S. colleges neglect to teach the basics of American history, economics, and world relations

Melissa Stacy
Sports Editor

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free," Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1816, "It expects what never was and never will be."

Three year study conducted by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute (ISI) reveals the failure of America's colleges and Universities to teach American History and Institutions.

More than 14,000 randomly selected students at 50 US colleges and universities, including some of America's most elite schools, participated in a three year study conducted by University of Connecticut Department of Public Policy (UConnDPP) a non-profit, nonpartisan, tax-exempt organization.

College freshmen and seniors were given a 60 question quiz regarding American history, government, world relations, and economy. The average overall score for college seniors was 53.2 percent, only 1.5 percent higher than college freshmen, who scored at 51.7 percent. Both scores, however, represent a failing grade, and more significantly the failure to advance student knowledge about

their country's history.

Copy of the report is available a www.americancivilihera-cy.org.

This report offers the first ranking of US colleges based on learning. Some of the most prestigious and expensive colleges exhibited a phenomenon know as 'negative learning.' Schools such as Brown, Yale, and Georgetown University ranked among the lowest, with seniors showing less knowledge than freshmen.

In order to improve undergraduate learning about America's history, the report recommends five solutions including improving assessments of learning outcomes at college and university level, increasing the number of required history, political science, and economics course, holding higher education more accountable to its mission and fundamental responsibilities, better informing students and parents, as well as public officials and taxpayers, of a university's performance in teaching America's history; and building academic centers of excellence on campus to encourage and support the restoration of teaching history, political science and economics.

A LOOK AT THE CIVICS TEST GIVEN TO GRADUATING SENIORS

See if you could pass the test

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>1) This battle brought the American Revolution to an end.
A. Gettysburg
B. Saratoga
C. The Alamo
D. Yorktown
E. New Orleans</p> | <p>B. Discrimination based on race, sex, and religion
C. The ownership of guns by private individuals
D. Establishing an official religion for the United States
E. The President from vetoing a line item in a spending bill</p> | <p>taxes to income
D. Requires every income class to pay the same ratio of taxes to income
E. Earmarks revenues for poverty reduction</p> |
| <p>2) The idea that in America there should be a 'wall of separation' between church and state appears in:
A. George Washington's Farewell Address
B. The Mayflower Compact
C. The Constitution
D. The Declaration of Independence
E. Thomas Jefferson's Letters</p> | <p>5) What kind of government is a junta?
A. Military
B. Religious
C. Populist
D. Social Democratic
E. Parliamentarian</p> | <p>8) The Federal government's largest payout is for:
A. Military
B. Social security
C. Education
D. Foreign aid
E. Welfare</p> |
| <p>3) The phrase 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal' is from:
A. The Federalist
B. The Preamble to the Constitution
C. The Communist Manifesto
D. The Declaration of Independence
E. An inscription on the Statue of Liberty</p> | <p>6) Among which of these groups would Saddam Hussein have found his most reliable supporters?
A. Islamic Brotherhood
B. Baath Party
C. Communist Party
D. Hamas
E. Israelis</p> | <p>Answers & Percentage of Seniors who scored correctly
1. Yorktown - 46%
2. Thomas Jefferson's letters - 27%
3. The Declaration of Independence - 48%
4. establishing an official religion for the US - 49%
5. Military - 53%
6. Baath Party - 45%
7. Requires those with higher incomes to pay a higher ratio of taxes to income - 66%
8. Social security - 20%</p> |
| <p>4) The Bill of Rights explicitly prohibits:
A. Prayer in school</p> | <p>7) A progressive tax:
A. Encourages more investment from those with higher incomes
B. Is illustrated by a 6 percent sales tax
C. Requires those with higher incomes to pay a higher ratio of</p> | |

Got an opinion?

write a letter to the editor and send it to

thecurrent@greenriver.edu

FREE Birth Control for One Year!
at Planned Parenthood

Services Include:

- Annual exams and counseling
- Birth control pills, IUD, foam, the shot, vaginal ring, diaphragm, condoms, the patch
- Emergency contraception

Call to see if you qualify. Everything is confidential.

Planned Parenthood 1-800-238-PLAN www.ppww.org



Upcoming Events

Tree Planting for Salmon Habitat Recovery

Oct. 28
9:30 a.m.

Puget Sound Watershed

Monday's Mix: Nadine Zahr

Oct. 30
12 p.m.

Lindbloom Student Center

5 on 5 indoor soccer tournament

Oct. 30 - Nov. 2
12 p.m.

Main gym

Study sills workshop

Nov. 2
12 p.m.

Lindbloom Student Center

Transfer 101 workshop

Nov. 14
3 p.m.

Rainier Room

Current Staff**Editor-in-Chief****Ryan Gaudinier****Section Editors****Julian Martin**

Entertainment Editor

Rachael Strom

Features Editor

Ashley Mathews

News Editor

Melissa Stacy

Sports Editor

Ryan Gaudinier

Opinions Editor

Reporters**Angela McDermott****Ayca Akhun****Boomer Bentley****Eddie White****James Bluhm****Jeff Price****Kyle Riger****Ryan Lewis****Zack McMacken****Photographers****Dawn Morrison****Keiley Ramseur****Artist****Alex Fowler****Contact****The Current****Newsroom**

x2375

Advertising

Nicole Swapp

x2376

Email

thecurrent@greenriver.edu

John Knowlton

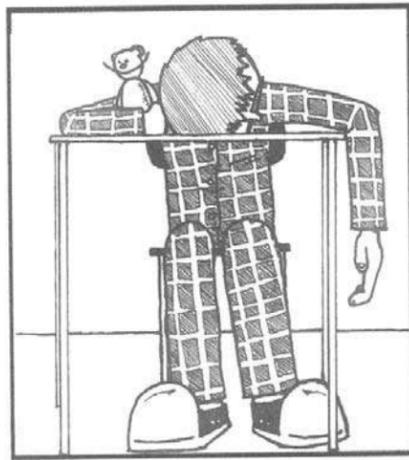
Newspaper Adviser

x4201

Green River Community College
(253) 833-9111

Printed by

King County Journal Newspapers



"Make sure you study for this test - it's very important"

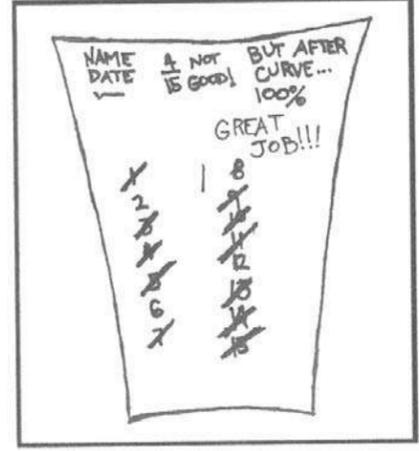


"Any questions?"

Nathan Spencer/Freelance Artist



"Here's your paper"



"Good job"

GRCC plagued with slackers, pointless classes

Ashley Mathews
News Editor

Who else out there can cry over a class? Over frustration of the inferiority of everyone in the class including the teacher. It's hard to feel anything but regret when you aren't being challenged enough to stay in class. This is my second year at Green River and at the same time, my second quarter. The same reason that made me stop attending classes last year propels me to write this article a year later. Nothing has changed; it's just become all too clear.

The establishment that claims to give students a leg-up on the competition is swiftly becoming a paraplegic. Or perhaps the handicap is only in the eye of the beholder, but either way this sucks. I and many others I'm sure, feel as if they're being cheated out of thousands of dollars. I don't mean to be so brash, but a lot of students aren't feeling challenged enough by the curriculum and can't progress up to a University for lack of money. This is why many of us flock to community colleges right after we graduate. We aren't ready to take the next step, but we aren't going to sit at home doing nothing all day either. So we decide to go to Green River community college.

Is this really the right thing to do? Once you graduate, not only

does reality bite you in the ass, but you lose that reason to wake up every morning, and instead it's filled by the obligation to learn what they teach you in class. The teacher's presence in the classroom is a privilege, and they let you know that first hand. We are the slaves to them, no longer are the teachers at our beck and call, no longer can we get away with stuff. Nope.

Its awesome, cause you can totally slack off, and they don't care. A handful of them have PhD's and teaching kids is what pays the bills. They repeat what they learned in their college year after year, and it becomes a routine. Some put no strenuous effort into what they are teaching, hell they teach the same crap every quarter for years to come. What makes them think they should spice things up for the students every quarter? Nothing. Hell, if I was a teacher, I wouldn't either.

But when you take classes like writing and history, bland subjects that really have no interest in your life, you tend to put the people lecturing you through the mental ringer because of it. You figure them out, you tear them apart, and within a week you learn their teaching style and what they expect, and exactly what you can get away with and at what bear minimum you can do to just "get by." This much is Green River.

Coming from Kent-Meridian High School (KM), I'm used to doing a lot of work for little or no praise, and the same things I had to deal with at KM, I have to deal with at Green River but on a bigger scale. The teachers and students are even less involved, which is hard to imagine I know. But the teachers aren't at fault, they're doing their best. After all, they're here to please the general public, and the general public is what's mediocre.

On any given day, students in an ordinary English class bad-mouth required readings because of their inability to understand anything that's not on television. How can you "students" say that you didn't like a story because it doesn't deal with flowers and happy endings? You don't like a short story that doesn't start beginning to end. Holy shit, flashbacks! "I'm so confused," and it "makes no sense." "Too random, it's dark," are some actual remarks used to describe a story in which the main character dies. Oh here's the doozy: the main character is "no fun." Fuck you. You simple minded dipshit, you uncultured pop-whore. You'd freak out if you read Gabriel Garcia Marquez or Isabelle Allende.

I hate this suppressed feeling. I'm screaming inside to let the simple minded students know what I think. But of course I can't. I'll need them for the daily, "get with a partner to share your elementary thoughts about a story so you can waste your own dear precious time" exercises. But it's not entirely their fault; I could as easily place blame on the English classes that give you a topic you're forced to write about. If you don't, you fail. That's not the kind of attitude we need to learn by. It's the kind of attitude that gets people nowhere and easily frustrated. This much is Green River.

In retrospect, I'm probably be-

ing too assuming and too forth-right. I'm taking the instances of one student and applying it across the whole. Green River isn't so bad. After all, shouldn't I expect this from any community college anywhere across the U.S.? But is it wrong to ask so much from a second rate establishment? I realize I can't ask too much but on the other hand I still sit here yearning for a mountain to climb, and all we got here in Auburn is hills.

"They (community colleges) are a great way for people of all ages to continue their education no matter of age and also a great way for those individuals who can not afford four years of college to save money on the first two years and then transfer into a four year school to continue their education at a higher level," says Mark Kirshenbaum, a sophomore at the University of Washington. But there a couple things wrong with this sentence. Kirshenbaum has never been to a community college and instead headed straight to a university right out of high school, so he's speaking generically and not from personal experience. He also implies that community colleges should be used as a stepping stone, "and then transfer into a 4-year school to continue their education at a higher level."

But for some of us, that's not an option in the near future. Mediocre education for the sake of low income is one of the biggest tragedies of our nation today. Going to Green River because it's our last resort is hardly the purpose its founding fathers had in mind, but that's exactly what it has become.

I don't regret signing up here. I hate every second of it, but love to hate it, if that makes any sense. I know what I want to break free from, and I want so shed light on whatever I can, to make others see, as these eyes see.

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

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

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

The views and opinions expressed in *The Current* do not necessarily reflect those of the College or the student body.

We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard. *The Current* will publish **Letters to the Editor** provided they are signed and submitted in a timely manner. Letters should be e-mailed to thecurrent@greenriver.edu. We will not publish letters which demean any person because of race, gender, class or sexual orientation. We reserve the right to edit letters for conventions and taste.

Lakota Harden, a Native American activist, to speak at GRCC

Ryan Gaudinier
Editor-in-Chief

Lakota Harden, a Native American speaker and activist, will be speaking at GRCC on Nov. 7 at noon in the Glacier Room. The presentation is being presented by the Multicultural and equity council here on campus.

Harden has devoted her life to the elimination of racism, sexism, and other negative beliefs and behaviors. Harden's presentation will directly address the issue of racism, especially the process of "unlearning racism and stereotypes."

Harden's approach is more personal than other orators of the same topic as she tries to interactively have people unlearn the stereotypes and the misconceptions and get to know other people as a unique human beings, not typecasts. She aims to create alliances among diverse individuals and groups and to "raise consciousness about multicultural challenges."

Harden has recently won the Women of Color Resource Center's Sisters of Fire award. The annual award is given to an exceptionally qualified individual and "celebrates the achieve-

ments of women of color activists, scholars, and artists.

In addition to speaking, Harden is an accomplished poet and diversity trainer.

The performance is free and open to the public, and all students, staff, and faculty is invited to come.



Photo courtesy of Mt. Holyoke College

Forestry chapter wins national award

Ryan Gaudinier
Editor-in-Chief

Green River Community College's (GRCC) student chapter tied for first place with Mississippi State University for the top student chapter in the entire nation. GRCC's beat out such school as Virginian Tech and Northern Arizona University for the coveted award.

The award is based among such criteria as service to members, service to society, service to the forestry school, service to the community, involvement with other natural resource organizations, outside recognition, chapter management, and the supporting letter from chair or dean of the forestry school.

As a reward and as a way to further their education a group from forestry went to Pittsburgh, PA to attend the SAF National Convention. The convention features students and professional foresters meeting and discussing their work. The convention is considered one of the largest events of the year for those in the business. It's one of the best and most opportune way for students to meet up and learn from with real live professionals who will eventually be working in the same profession.

The award is especially special because of the size and stature of some of the competing schools. GRCC was the only community college in the top four, with large universities rounding out the rest of the list.

Those who represented GRCC in Pittsburgh include Jenny Wren, the chair, Kyle Meier, the past chair, Dave Schoenfeld, Forestry Club chair, Derick Salmond, diversity ambassador to the group, Jessyka Lemieux, past forestry club chair, and Rob Sjogren, an instructor and co-advisor for the program.



13038 SE Kent-Kangley Rd
253-630-6900

Want some pizza, but don't have much cash?
Not a Problem! Visit Round Table Pizza on
Kent-Kangley Road to get 15% off!

**GREEN RIVER STUDENTS AND
STAFF GET 15% OFF WHEN THEY
BRING THEIR GRCC ID**

excludes alcoholic beverages and cannot be combined with other coupons or specials

An alternate way to travel

Story and photos by Melissa Stacy

A look at a dangerous and exciting mode of transportation, the motorcycle

Michael Vitalo, a pre-nursing student, started riding motor-cross when he turned 13. His passion grew from there. He now rides his 1979 Kawasaki KZ900 Vintage to GRCC for his classes.

I love riding down the highway, being out in the open and getting beat by the wind. It's really simple and personal. Just you and the bike. "It's freedom," said Vitalo.

There is, however, quite a bit of danger which comes along with this freedom. Though, motorcycles are not always the most convenient form of transportation, riders say the danger factor is the biggest disadvantage.

Chip Williams, a general studies student, believes motorcycles are dangerous for several reasons. But with practice, common sense and caution, riding a motorcycle will also make you a better driver. "You definitely have to pay attention to the vehicles around you. Sometimes, because the bike is small and moves quicker than most cars, people don't see you. And the injuries from a mo-

torcycle accident are way worse than a car wreck." Also, due to slick roads, some still riders rely on a car now that weather conditions are less than optimal. Roads with water, gravel or ice can hinder traction and control, more so with two wheels than four.

"But most of the time danger comes from other vehicles on the road," said Vitalo. "They just aren't paying attention. You get cut off, run off the road and people pull out in front of you all the time."

According to some riders, benefits of riding a motorcycle include better gas mileage. This perk sparked Williams to trade out his car for a bike when gas prices soared to over \$3 per gallon. "The gas mileage is way better, I get like 50 miles per gallon and I don't have to search for a parking spot when I ride to school. The parking is always available and it's closer to the buildings so I never have to worry about being late for class."

Motorcycle riders seem to have the image of being reckless and irresponsible. Sport bike riders especially

have a bad image. "The guys riding down the interstate popping wheelies at 100 mph don't help us with that image," said Williams.

For the most part, Vitalo and Williams seemed to agree that those people represent a small part of the motorcycle population. Vitalo said most of the people that ride with him are good riders, cautious and respectful. This is usually due to witnessing a motorcycle accident first hand.

Having a wreck on a bike is more likely to be fatal than a car because there are no restraints and no frame to shield your body from impact. Camaraderie among motorcycle riders is evident. Vitalo says he waves to other people on bikes even if he doesn't know them. "You belong to a special interest group; all these people know something that car drivers don't. That knowledge and common interest kind of unites us. It's like a club that anyone who rides, regardless of skill level, is welcomed to."



A couple of motorcycles are parked here on campus. Those who do dare to ride bikes, have an essentially limitless amount of parking spots to choose from, and usually access to spots closer to the buildings than any car does.



A motorcycle sits outside of a faculty shed at GRCC. A helmet can be seen laying on the ground next to the motorcycle, a reminder of the potential danger riders face.



A bike rider rides around an empty parking lot testing the motorcycle out and making sure the vehicle is running properly.

Paul Rusesabagina shares message of hope, perseverance and change

Man chronicled in "Hotel Rwanda" speaks at GRCC about his experiences and some lessons yet to be learned.

Zack McMacken
Staff Reporter

On Thursday Oct. 19, 500 guests congregated at Green River Community College and eagerly awaited the arrival of P. His lecture entitled, "Rwanda: A Lesson Yet to Be Learned," chronicled the real life events that were the basis of the Hollywood film "Hotel Rwanda." He touched on the subjects of the 1994 Rwandan Genocide, the political climate in today's Africa, and the current crisis in Darfur, Sudan.

Rusesabagina walked out on stage to be greeted with a standing ovation.

"Tonight, we are together," begins Rusesabagina.

The crowd was silenced with the gravity of these words. It was obvious from the start the sincerity and caring this man brought with him.

The lecture was to begin with a heartbreaking background of the Rwandan genocide. The hate he described between the Hutus and the Tutsis unfathomable. Over the 100 day genocide, it is estimated that up to 1,071,000 Rwandans were tortured and killed.

At the time, Rusesabagina was a hotel manager at the Diplomat

Hotel, and a former manager of the Mille Colline Hotel. In the beginning, when the Hutu Militia began the slaughter of local Tutsis, Rusesabagina took 26 neighbors into his home for protection. They came to live with his family of six. "We became one big family," said Rusesabagina.

Over the 100 day genocide, Rusesabagina found himself housing over 1,200 refugees in the Mille Colline Hotel in Rwanda's capital of Kigali. He told the audience that people expected death; the only hope was that it would be quick, without the pain of torture.

After his recount of the 100 day genocide, he told a wrenching tale of how he and his wife drove south to seek his mother. Upon arrival in the south-central region of Rwanda, they found his sister, mother, and her six grandchildren murdered and thrown helplessly in a pit that was once used to make banana beer.

"We sat down, and like babies, we cried," said Rusesabagina.

Rusesabagina claimed that he would still be a prisoner if he had not stayed and helped all of the refugees. He said he would be a prisoner to himself. He stressed to the audience the importance

of brotherhood and of helping one another.

Throughout the evening, Rusesabagina really stressed the importance of education and the role the young people of the world must play. The orphans abandoned by the genocide need education and need help from the global community, or history will repeat itself. He told the students in the building that through education, we can change tomorrow.

"What you want to do today, do today. What you want to do tomorrow, do today," he said.

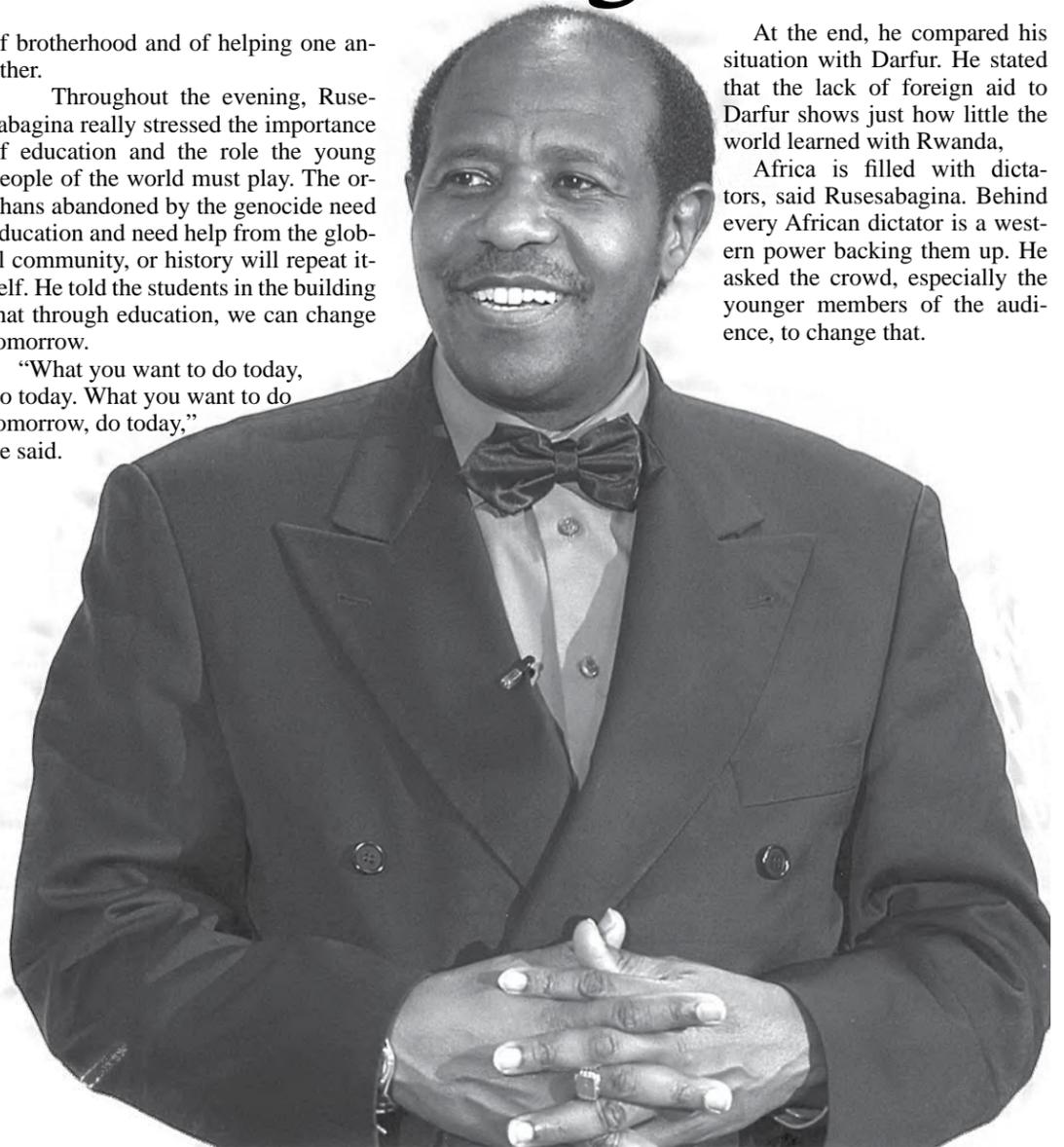


Photo courtesy of Calvin College

At the end, he compared his situation with Darfur. He stated that the lack of foreign aid to Darfur shows just how little the world learned with Rwanda,

Africa is filled with dictators, said Rusesabagina. Behind every African dictator is a western power backing them up. He asked the crowd, especially the younger members of the audience, to change that.

Zola's offers coffee, couches, cheap cuisine

James Bluhm
Staff Reporter

For those looking for an alternative to the uncomfortable, over priced dining options that the school has to offer, look no further than Zola's Coffee.

As soon as you walk into this downtown Auburn café you are greeted by soft music and an aesthetically pleasing color scheme. It has the kind of atmosphere where you feel free to hang out, work on homework, or just grab a quick bite to eat.

The food selection at Zola's is somewhat limited, but the prices are definitely fair. The main item on the menu is homemade panini. These Italian sandwiches are made daily, and come in ham, turkey, salami, seafood or vegetarian. All panini cost \$6.40. That is, of course, unless you are looking for a sweeter option. In that case you can go with the raisin-cream panini for only \$2.65.

They also have a soup of the day, \$2.50 for a cup, \$3.50 for a bowl, or \$3.00 if you want it to go. There are also chef salads, a great alternative for the lighter eater and still very generously-

portioned. You can get a small for \$3.50 and a large for \$5.50, and both come with your choice of six dressings and are topped with olives, cheese, ham and turkey.

Another big attraction of Zola's is the coffee. They have all the selection of a Starbucks, but at more modest prices. There are all of the normal option including mochas, lattes, americanos and cappuccinos.

Beyond coffee drinks Zola's also makes amazing real fruit smoothies that come in eight different flavors.

The restaurant is divided into several intimate and inviting seating sections. There is a bar that is perfect for doing homework and has easy-access power outlets for your laptop. There is also a very comfortable pair of leather sofas that are perfect for you and your friends to sit back and relax. One of the few drawbacks to Zola's ambiance is that it is not suited for groups much larger than four or five, due to limited seating.

So the next time you're feeling cramped in the cafeteria, or just looking for a quiet place to relax and eat, take a trip down to Zola's Coffee. Located just 10 minutes from the college's campus at 402 East Main Street in downtown Auburn.

Black Student Union reaches out through events and advisors

Active campus organization believes involved students are successful students

Boomer Bentley
Staff Reporter

Changes have been made this year to the Black Student Union (BSU), which are ultimately aimed to help and encourage individuals to get involved and become more than just another student on campus. An advisor/mentor team will be ready to accommodate and encourage the BSU in their efforts to organize events and help students with school-related and everyday problems.

As opposed to last year, when there were only a couple BSU advisors, there are now a variety of involved individuals with whom to establish connections. These advisors are an invaluable student resource for support and counsel.

This year's BSU president Deanna Lugo is also a member of the Senate Board, giving BSU a chance to do and become more of an active force on campus.

African American Socials, Spirit Week, a pep rally, and a June 10th BBQ, are just some of the upcoming events BSU has planned.

"I want all African American students at Green River to unite as one and become involved."

"I want all African American students at Green River to unite as one and become involved."

- Deanna Lugo, BSU president

says Lugo, who is a second year Criminal Justice major. By joining BSU one can expand their historical knowledge and discuss events and issues that affect African Americans and society as a whole. Along with these advantages comes the added benefit of active involvement in campus activities.

"Don't ignore Green River's resources," said Abeba Tewoble, BSU Secretary. Tewoble spoke about her first year experience

Black Student Union

Meetings: Every other Monday, noon
Location: Room 15 in the BI building

at GRCC, and how she found extracurricular interests actually made her life easier. By meeting new people and getting involved help was always right around the corner.

Lugo decided to become president of BSU after attending the Student Color Conference late last year, where she learned many things she did not know about her ancestry and culture. She was further encouraged by Ebone McCray, who is in her second term as vice president of BSU.

There are advisors from almost every department, with a variety of knowledge and expertise. BSU is not for strictly African Americans; it is for anyone who wants to learn and be a part of an organization that is devoted to helping students here at GRCC. For more information, meetings are held every other Monday in the BI building, Room 15 from 12-1, starting October 30th.

Brown backs student body

Jeff Price
Staff Reporter

With the senate sessions starting this week, people want to know: Who is the student body president? This year, Amanda Brown, 23, is in charge. A graduate from Shoreline High School, Brown comes into the school year with great expectations and a lot of excitement. Her number one point of concern this year is student awareness. She wants to make sure that members of the student body understand what opportunities are available to them.

One of the issues Brown wants to tackle this year is making sure students are in the know about current events at Green River Community College. She says not enough students are taking advantage of the programs that are paid for with their tuition. Part of that, she claims, is a matter of publicity and effective

advertising. Students aren't fully informed as to what GRCC is offering in terms of clubs and programs. She talked about not only hanging more posters, but also walking the campus with signup sheets for various extracurricular clubs and organizations. Along with the six clubs that carry over annually, such as Asian Student Union, students have the opportunity to found just about any club they want.

The common complaints around campus are the ongoing parking problem, and textbook/tuition prices. As much as Brown wants to make a positive difference for students in these areas she finds that, outside of storming Olympia, her options in the matters are limited. These ongoing issues are managed by our state government, and the only way to effect change would be to include schools from all over the state in our appeal.

One of the things Brown is excited about this year is the startup of the Web Portal System. Starting in April 2007, Green River will be announcing a program which gives students access to an email system similar to Outlook. Included will be a program called MyGreenspace. Similar to the popular social website Myspace, it will also include a bulletin board for professors to announce class cancellations and other information that can help students streamline their schedules.

As the student body president, it is Brown's privilege and responsibility to be the voice of the student body. She sits in on the Board of Trustees and speaks for the student body, working to make sure the students' needs are accurately portrayed. Keeping with that line of thought, Brown says, the current students will be able participate in the selection of new features that will go into the



ARCHIVES

new Student Center, which is projected to open in a few years.

Brown and her staff are optimistic about the unfolding year. Brown wants each member of the

student body to feel comfortable approaching her. She is anxious to get things moving and is ready for a productive, exciting school year.

Korean-Americans voice apprehension and anger over North Korea's nuclear testing

Eun Lae Lee
Freelance Reporter

Profound disappointment and fear of a nuclear North Korea have spread across the Korean communities in the United States, after communist North Korea announced that it conducted its first-ever nuclear test.

North Korea declared that it performed a "successful" underground nuclear test on Monday October, 9, less than a week after it threatened to do so.

On the whole, Korean communities in Northwest Washington seemed surprised of the test, but some were worried and voiced fears of a possible war on the peninsula of their mother country.

"I can't believe they did the nuke test for real," Ji Kim, 25, student at University of Washington, said. "Many of my classmates asked my opinion as a Korean on the day after the nuke test but I didn't know what to say."

She said that she still cannot understand why they did it because she believes there is nothing to benefit the North Koreans by testing nuclear weapons.

"I'm just worrying about relatives and

friends in Korea," she added.

Some of the first immigrants from Korea had very critical views about the South Korean government's policy toward the North Korea, saying that the policy only strengthened the North Korea's power.

"It's miserable to see the result of Sunshine Policy," said Yang Ahn, 52, referring to the South Korea's humanitarian aid and economic cooperation project with North which resulted in an excessive magnanimity toward North Korean transgression. "What a failure."

She believes that Former President Kim Dae-jung's policy of seeking reconciliation as an initiation to eventual Korean reunification has only ignored the fundamentally belligerent nature of North Korea, and strengthened its capability to develop nuclear bombs.

The Sunshine Policy is the South Korean doctrine towards North Korea which emphasizes peaceful cooperation, believed that military tensions can be lessened through bilateral and multilateral framework. It resulted in greater political contact between two nations and several business ventures however many critics of the

policy believed South Korea's business in North, after all, has become to make a long-term investment and to give money to the North Korean authorities.

Meanwhile, some of the older generation who were born and raised during the Korean War and afterward had much more critical views about the North Korea, saying that Kim Jung-il is nothing more than a communist taking all the Koreans as hostages for maintaining their power.

Ung Lee, 56, said South Korea should feel betrayed by the North's move, and that everything should be ended, including the South's humanitarian aid and its North Korean businesses.

"We're talking about a communist country here - the country that invaded the South, causing the Korean War. We are no longer brothers with them," Lee said.

However, some of the younger immigration generation had different views, saying the North was justified to carry out nuclear tests because it faced a threat from some big powers.

Sang Lee, 28-year-old office worker at Bellevue, said the weakening neighboring country is just trying to get the world's at-

tention.

"North Korea has a very unstable political and economic system, so I think the test was its last card in trying to get better negotiations with other North Asian countries."

Meanwhile, recent intelligence reports from Washington suggested North Korea may conduct another nuclear test in protest against the United Nations Security Council resolution passed after its first test.

North Korea allegedly notified China of more tests however South Korean government denied the reports, said that they have no facts to go on.

It is reported that the Consul-General Kwon Chan-ho at Seattle from the Second Public Relation Strategy Conference and Economic Council of 2006, asked the leaders of the Northwest Washington Korean community local group not to be disturbed by the news of the Korea crisis, and reconfirmed that the South Korean government will take every countermeasures against North Korea's additional nuke test.

According to the Census 2000 data, there are approximately 40,000 Koreans residing in Seattle area.

Part-time faculty says adjuncts are teachers, too

While the majority of GRCC instructors are part-time, their struggle for an equal voice and upward mobility is largely unsung.

Angela McDermott
Staff Reporter

Part-time teachers make up about 70% of the faculty here at Green River Community College. Why are there so many? They don't seem to be any different from the full-time instructors at Green River, but there are huge differences separating full-time teachers and part-time teachers. For instance, they are paid less, and are not afforded the same luxuries as full-time faculty. Rarely are part-time teachers offered op-

portunities to become full-time instructors.

Part-time teachers, also known as adjuncts, are paid "60% of what a full time teacher gets paid," says Phil Jack, President of the Teachers Union at GRCC. While full-time teachers don't exactly make money hand-over-fist, adjuncts make significantly less. Elaine Chase, a part-time English teacher, works at both Pierce College and GRCC. She instructs six classes between the two campuses and barely makes the bills.

"We are only paid for the time

we are teaching in front of a class, not for grading papers or tutoring students one-on-one." Chase commented while discussing salary. So while Chase is figuring out how to live, she's bustling between both campuses in her '88 Chevy Limited, pouring much of her income into her endless commute. If either college offered her a full-time position, Chase would save a substantial amount of money on gas alone.

Adding insult to injury, adjuncts find it hard to stay informed about many items of concern for

faculty members. Often they are unable to manage attendance at faculty meetings because they are between campuses. "We are not involved in any meetings," Chase said.

Jack attended a teacher's union conference earlier in the year. Topics of discussion centered on the union's goals for the year. He addressed the group, asserting that part-time teachers are often the most affected by the decisions made at such conferences. Jack asked for a show of hands as to how many of the attendees were adjuncts. He was the only one.

Adjuncts have a hard time securing favorable positions. They spend a good portion of their time and money putting together applications every year. Todd Johnson, another part-time English instruc-

tor, disclosed the average number of applications he sends out every year: "I sent 75 applications the first year Last year I sent out about 7." Despite his effort and determination, less than one out of every 10 applications Johnson has submitted has received so much as a response.

Most adjuncts are on a seemingly endless quest for a full-time position, but with so few opportunities it's easy to get discouraged.

Teaching is a noble ambition, and some work more than overtime to make ends meet in the profession. Adjuncts deserve appreciation from the student body and staff for enduring the complications of their career.

From flying pigs to *The Dark Side of the Moon*

40 Years of Pink Floyd are brought forth by Roger Waters in a night of paying tributes and playing new releases.

Ashley Mathews
News Editor

Amidst the sea of peach bobble heads, there was just one man we had all come to see. The persona behind *The Wall*, the genius behind *The Dark Side of the Moon*, the bassist of Pink Floyd; a Mr. Roger Waters graced the Key Arena Stage on a glorious October the 12 that will go down in infamy as one of this journalists influential moments in her young queer life.

There were tears in my eyes as he opened the show with "Mother" and "Run like Hell" off *The Wall* album. He did not even cease to amaze me as atom bomb-like-explosions sounded from the stage, creating mini-mushroom clouds as Waters belted out "Vera." In two words: Holy crap. This was the man I had listened to, the man whose brain spawned some of the greatest music of all time, and he was standing right in front of me.

Forty years had passed since Waters first began touring with Pink Floyd. Forty years of experience insured that this concert would be nothing but top-notch. Insane light schemes, a remnant of his acid-culture days, drowned

the audience during mid-set and kept our eyes fixated on any of the three gigantic screens up-stage. During a segment from the *Animals* record, a gigantic inflatable pig, spray painted with anti-Bush and think-for-yourself propaganda floated up and around the crowd, while confetti exploded and snowed down upon the audience for 10 minutes straight.

The show started at 8 o'clock. We didn't get out until midnight; it was simply that intense. Oh yes, he played *Dark Side of the Moon* in its entirety, but that was only one fourth of the show. Waters played an extensive repertoire starting off with sampling a song from nearly every single album Pink Floyd ever put out. Despite Rogers not being the original singer for songs such as "Wish You Were Here" and "Shine on You Crazy Diamond" he still tried to put David Gilmour (Pink Floyd's lead singer) to shame and sing them—very well in fact—by him-

self. "Shine On..." was dedicated that night to the late Syd Barrett who died earlier this year. Syd was the original singer/guitarist who suffered from schizophrenia and because of it, left the band soon after they first started.

Then he played a set from his new album, which in my opinion, was the best portion of the show. I had not heard much of his new material, and it made the experience all the more real. Instead of the concert being like one im-

mensely extensive CD recording, he played things we would not recognize, and continually incorporated the giant screen behind him. He played out his new material visually using "Sin City" style cartoons and writing out the lyrics as he sung the audience could fully understand his personal and political viewpoints on America's futile war.

Lastly he ended with *Dark Side of the Moon*, which sparked an arena wide tsunami wave as

everyone from the nose bleeds to the floor rose to their feet in celebration. The night culminated in an encore lasting almost as long as *Dark Side of the Moon*. Waters finished up with an arrangement of recognizable songs, all of which carried an upbeat, kick-ass melody. Soon the entire crowd was bobbing their heads along, lighting joints, or just singing along in perfect harmony to the very last songs of the very last stop of Roger Water's world tour.



Photo Courtesy of Brain Damage

Pink Floyd bassist Roger Waters kept the crowd captivated, playing songs from throughout the band's multitude of albums.

Thom Pain is a truly unique and fascinating experience

Ryan Gaudinier
Editor-in-Chief

"Thom Pain (Based on Nothing)" is an odd play. It has exactly one character, the appropriately named Thom Pain and one set, a dark and minimalist factory. Pain spends the 75 minutes on stage, mocking both himself and the audience, telling random seemingly unconnected stories, and simply not giving a damn about anything for he is completely hopeless. And therein lays the fun and distinct pleasure of the show, it's simple, unpredictable, and wonderfully delightful in its sheer depravity.

One of the more memorable moments is a fake lottery Pain promotes to the crowd. He then states there will be no raffle, takes a long pause and demands that the crowd not curse him 30 seconds before they died for he had literally just "fucked around" with 30 seconds of their life they would not get back. The rest of the play is simply him fucking around with the audience in similar and oddly entertaining moments.

The performance had more in common with the stylings of a stand-up comic with a dirty mouth, than the traditional five-act grandiose productions the general public is accustomed to seeing. It seemed that somehow when I stepped into the Rep, I was literally transported into one of those stereotypically grungy comedy clubs.

Pain repeatedly talks about the futility of his own existence, usually in the third person. He understands what outside forces in his life caused his will to live to disappear, but he remained powerless to actually change anything. He is so far gone that the only point in looking back to his past is to tell the audience a story. A story involving the electrocution of his dog, Pain laughing about it nonstop, and going home cutting his hair, going to sleep, and having a wet dream.

The play continues with other such stories and rantings with some audience participation and one-liners thrown in for good measure. These rants and seemingly out-of-nowhere quips will keep anyone laughing and simultaneously wondering what exactly am I watching?

"Thom Pain (Based on Nothing)" is not for the politically correct or those without a sense of humor. Many members of the audience walked out, and the first one who dared to leave was reprimanded by Pain himself who yelled "Au revoir, cunt" before the dissatisfied viewer could leave. But for those who like their entertainment dirty and provocative, it's a scandalous good time.

The play is playing at the Seattle Repertory Theatre until November 5 and it is a highly enjoyable, especially for the random and the nihilistic.

Twisted plot and all-star cast lead to magical experience



Photo Courtesy of Yahoo! Movies

Hugh Jackman and Scarlett Johansson star as magician Robert Angier and his assistant Olivia Wenscombe in "The Prestige".

"The Prestige," a story of two dueling magicians played by Hugh Jackman and Christopher Bale, hypnotizes audience.

James Bluhm
Staff Reporter

"The Prestige" is a drama that is sure to keep you guessing. Based on the novel by Christopher Priest, it tells the story of two dueling magicians locked in a battle for supremacy.

The story begins in turn of the century England with the two main characters, Rupert Angier, Hugh Jackman, and Alfred

Borden, Christian Bale, working for an older magician. While performing one of the tricks Borden is asked to tie a knot around Angier's wife's hands. She is then dropped into a tank of water where she is expected to slip the knot and escape by releasing a trick lock. But, in one instance, she is not able to escape and drowned before the tank is able to be broken. Angier blames Borden for his wife's death which spurs

the dual that becomes the premise for the movie.

The movie starts out a little slow but quickly picks up, and once it starts rolling it won't stop for you to catch your breath. The story is told in several different time lines and has more twists than a corn maze, so it can be a little difficult to follow. It is because of this that it is very important to pay close attention to the entire movie and watch it actively. This movie is definitely not for someone who is looking for the story to be laid out right in front of them. Viewers are expected to think and make connections throughout the entire movie. If you are up to the challenge, and can wrap your head around the concepts, it is a great and very rewarding movie.

Overall the film is about an A-. It boasts an all star cast that includes Scarlett Johansson, Michael Caine and David Bowie, as well as the previously mentioned actors. For the majority of the time the accents are fairly good, however, there is a little inconsistency. Also, Michael Cain's accent makes him somewhat difficult to understand in the beginning. The story line is excellent and the characters are believable and complex. This is one that you're defiantly going to want to go and see in the theaters before you hear what happens from your friends.

Maris Farms is fun for both young kids and adults

Boomer Bentley
Staff Reporter

Just a short trip from Green River, the Maris Farm has lots to offer for every one of all ages. A corn maze for the little ones, and haunted woods for the older crowd more interested in a scare are the two main attractions bringing almost 2,000 people on Friday night, a number expected to rise

dramatically next weekend.

The haunted woods has been in existence for four years down at the Maris Farm, while the corn maze has been there for seven, and has been selling pumpkins from the patch for the last 11 years. Maris Farm is located off of Sumner-Buckley Highway which is right off interstate 410.

The thrill begins as soon as you are standing in line down at

the farm, as a murdered farmer or deranged clown will sneak up behind you to try and get a rise out of you. The haunted woods themselves begin in a barn which leads to a dark corn field. As you walk through the field you can hear screams from ahead letting you know something scary is about to happen, and yet even though you know its coming, it never fails to scare the crap out of everyone

who walks by.

Beware of people in front of you for you can take dead-end routes, leading to unneeded walking and extra scares. Also after being scared by a certain goblin, he presumed to follow me and scare me again. This happens several times throughout the event.

Littered with your typical mental patients, dejected clowns, and scary movie characters, Maris Farm Haunted woods add other elements of fear that no other haunted house has. At a couple points a man with a chain saw will actually chase you through the maze, at another point pirates shoot their cannons at you which look and sound real. Also inside there is a room that when you walk through you feel like your falling down and almost walking

sideways, it was a definite trip.

The woods end bring you to a maze made of chain link fence, which looks like a short trip to the finish line, but in actuality takes almost seven minutes to get through, which would normally take ten but a blood covered, chain saw wielding man attacks you leaving you to have to run like hell.

Friday Oct. 27, KGRG will be live on air from Maris Farm, and then on Saturday a live band will be playing some country and rock mix for the crowd. You can get your tickets online, or get coupons at any Spirit Halloween store. There is a very large turnout expected. The farm has a basic concession stand along with lemonade, churros, and a roasted corn stand.



An overhead view of the impressive corn maze at Maris Farms, which is located in the Sumner/Buckley region. Photo Courtesy of Maris Farms

Campus art anthology once again exceeds expectations



Lung-chen "Rosanna" Wang's surreal image of the CCA at night, entitled "Light", as it appears in the Espial.

Release party for the Espial 2006, GRCC's art and literary publication held in Glacier Room

Rachael Strom
Features Editor

On the afternoon of Thursday, October 13, the Glacier Room was decked out for the release of Espial 2006. Tables were draped in red, copies of the journal were fanned in flickering candlelight, and Marcie Sims, co-advisor of the Espial project, demanded attendees help themselves to chicken satay and bakery confections.

For the uninitiated, Espial is Green River Community Col-

lege's (GRCC) annual literature and art anthology. Each year two classes, Art 150 and English 154, come together to experience the trials, tribulations, and deadlines of art journal publication. Students enrolled in the course actively participate in the selection of student and faculty submissions, as well as the anthology's design, layout, and publicity.

Under the brave and enthusiastic advisement of Gary Oliveira and Marcie Sims, the project has exceeded escalating expectations with each edition. At

the release party the co-advisors mingled with contributors like poet Kristine Sprague and sculptor Aubrey Molhaff. Long-time supporters of the project like Executive Vice President and Espial benefactress April Jensen were also on hand.

After guests had settled in with their snacks, Sims introduced Mike Kenyon of GRCC Math Faculty, whose generous donation to this edition of Espial made it possible for the decision to present over 20 unprecedented pages in full color. Kenyon enlivened the mood with a spirited recitation of Jerry Bryant's Ballad of Harbo and Samuelsen - a piece he called a "metaphor for the process" of creating a journal such as Espial.

Wendy Bell, enjoying her second year of publication with the project, shared her selection entitled Game On with the crowd, and Will Scott of GRCC Humanities Faculty modestly proclaimed, "I'm not a poet by trade; I'm a poet by desire," before reading aloud his piece, Awake. Even the enigmatic MacArthur Gilstrap made an appearance to perform his selected submission, Ode to Visa: Passport Control.

The event wrapped up with some words from co-advisor Oliveira, who encourages students who are interested in being involved in the democratic resolution of creative differences - what he rightly calls "small group arguments" - to register for Espial in the spring quarter (Art 150 or English 154). Avis Adams, GRCC English Faculty and Espial poet, will be assuming Marcie Sims' role as co-advisor in the spring.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy of Espial, visit the Paper Tree in the Lindbloom Student Center.

KGRG Presents:

The Music of the Month

Saturday 10/28
Club Impact
Hallad
Burn These Broken Wings For the Prize
Seven Horns Seven Eyes
\$8 door
8 p.m.

Tuesday 11/7
The Fenix
Thursday
Rise Against
Circa Survive
Billy Talent
\$20 adv. (Ticketswest)
\$23 door
8 p.m.

Sunday 10/29
El Corazon
The Bouncing Souls
Street Dogs
Whole Wheat Bread
Left Alone
\$14 adv. (Ticketswest)
8 p.m.

Tuesday 11/14
El Corazon
Atreyu
From First to Last
Every Time I Die
Chiodos
\$23.50 adv. (Ticketswest)
7 p.m.

GRCC students enjoy unique sounds of indie artist, Jason LeVasseur

Ayca Akhum
Staff Reporter

Students in the Lindbloom Student Center last Monday were visited by an unfamiliar, yet entertaining artist. Singer/songwriter Jason LeVasseur presented a blending of indie, folk rock, and pop styles as he performed songs from his past albums, as well as those from his latest CD, "Driver is the DJ". In addition, LeVasseur sang a variety of cover songs, albeit with a twist, including audience favorite "Cleaning Out My Closet" by rap artist Eminem. Those attending the show enjoyed the performance, and praised the soft, relaxing, sound the guitarist brought forth.

Born in the United States, the artist spent the majority of his childhood in Mexico and Belgium. This combined with time spent in Italy, allowed for the folk singer to craft a unique style, not limited by the sounds of a certain genre, or even country.

LeVasseur's newest record has received acclaim, not only by those attending his Green River performance, but from critics throughout the country. The artist has been named both "Best Small Venue Performer of 2003" and "Best Musical Performance of 2004" by the Campus Activities Magazine, as well as being selected to be a part of Musician Magazine's list of "Top 100 Unsigned Bands".

He has also opened for a number of larger acts including The Dave Matthews Band, Maroon 5, John Mayer, and The Roots. LeVasseur has also contributed songs to movies and video game soundtracks.

LeVasseur will continue his tour through next year, and can be seen at colleges and universities throughout the country. Tour dates, lyrics, and even wallpaper of the artist can be found at his website, www.jasonlevasseur.com.



The art ranges from moving series of black and white photographs to mixed media works featuring the use of oils, ceramics, and even string.

Photo Courtesy of Yehood Metivier

Photos by Dawn Morrison and Andy Gardner

Art created by the Green River faculty

Teachers have created many brilliant works of art displaying fall quarter in the Smith Gallery

Julian Martin
Entertainment Editor

The latest exhibit to fill the Helen S. Smith Gallery is a collection of artwork brought forth by the faculty at Green River. The gallery, located in the Holman Library, showcases a wide variety of mediums, with a diverse lineup of exhibits shown throughout the year. Artists have ranged from University of Washington professors, to students in the various art classes on campus.

The "Green River Art Faculty: Mixed Media" exhibit made its debut on the first of the quarter, and will run until October 27. The showcasing of work by the teachers occurs only once every two years, and as such presents a unique and interesting experi-

ence.

Each artist appears to have a distinctive style, with focus's ranging from the everyday to the abstract. One series of black and white photographs entitled "Unfulfilled Potential of Time" depicts seemingly random, yet utterly thought-provoking and intriguing images, while a second black and white sequence attempts to convey the mystique of Ireland's ancient past. Other mediums include ceramics and paintings. Several mixed media works are also present, combining elements of pottery, drawing,

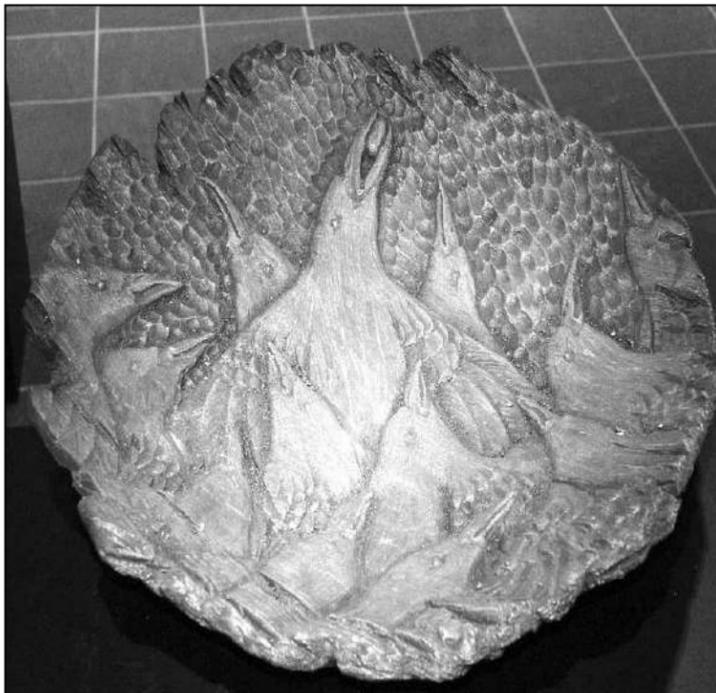
and other mediums, to create a unique piece.

The work in the exhibit is shown in a way in which the viewer is not only easily able to navigate the display, but, in a change from last year's exhibits, the names of the artist, the piece, and what year it was created, are all easily identifiable near the art.

Due to both the use of multiple pieces by talented artists, and a showcase that displays the work in an appealing style, the "Art Faculty: Mixed Media" exhibit is one that should not be missed.



Ed Brannan uses stoneware clay to create the above artwork entitled "Expanded Volume".



A murder of crows is depicted using terra cotta and stains in Paul Metivier's piece.



In Ed Brannan's untitled work, stoneware clay is used to form an impressive design.

Helen S. Smith Gallery

Calendar of Events

November 6 -
December 1

Karen Dotkin

The Smith Gallery will feature paintings by artist Karen Dotkin.

Lady Gators 'ace' the Raiders; first in West

GRCC's volleyball team at the top of western bracket play.

Ayca Akhun
Staff Reporter

The women's volleyball team has had a phenomenal season so far, racking up wins and leading the Western bracket with 10-0 record. With ten outstanding players on the team and head coach, Kyle Densley, the lady Gators have plowed through major divisional opponents and now stand to face the biggest divisional threats: the second place Highline Thunderbirds (17-7), the third place Tacoma Titans (11-13) and the fourth place Pierce Raiders (12-9).

The next game against Mt. Hood will be a difficult one since the Saints have a the strong record of 9-0 in the Southern league and a 19-4 record overall with a previous victory over the Gators.

The women's volleyball team has three players who have been named player of the week. Trish Mowatt, a 5'11" communications major, has been an outside hitter as well as a team captain. Mowatt was elected defensive player of the week for Oct. 17. "Once again Trish Mowatt raised her level in big games," said head coach Kyle Densley. "With first place on the line and undefeated Pierce in the gym, Trish was phenomenal. Time after time she comes up with the big point. She is a great defender, passer, jump server, and is just unstoppable on offense. She is a great leader who the girls trust will come through in the clutch."

Brittney Oneil, 5'7", plays as a receiver and was named Defensive player of the week. "Brittney is the best defensive passer I have coached. Her serve reception versus Clark was .846, with 11 perfect passes, and versus GHCC .875, with 7 perfect passes. A digging machine, as not only are her digs awesome they are always right on the money to set up our

attack. She has been a big part of our 11 match win streak."

Gwen Leituala, 5'7", was named Offensive player of the week. When the Gators played undefeated Pierce on Oct 11, it was clear they could not handle her jump serve.

The team motivation remains high amid the excellent season. "We love the team. There's so much chemistry. We get along really good. It's kind of scary!" Said middle blocker Taryn Baker, a sports medicine major who has been playing since junior high. "We all find a way to recover from critical situations. And we have a great coach. He is really humble..."

With bracket play coming up, the lady Gators are setting up for the NWAACC Championship Tournament Nov. 16-18.

Though support runs high and the games are full of excitement and music, the players admit they could use more support from fellow students, "Come to our games and support us!" said Taryn. "That would be awesome!"



Melissa Stacy/THE CURRENT

The Gator volleyball team sets up a spike during a practice.

Players of the Week



Gwen (G) Leituala - #11
Height - 5'8
Position - Outside Hitter
Year - Freshman
Player of the Week - Oct. 10



Brittney O'Neil - #3
Height - 5'5
Position - Libero
Year - Freshman
Player of the Week - Sept. 26



Trish Mowatt - #7
Height - 5'10
Position - Outside Hitter
Year - Freshman
Player of the Week - Oct. 17

Women's soccer slowly comes around

Boomer Bentley
Staff Reporter

The lady Gators are back on track after playing ten games dominated by powerhouse teams from the Southern region. The Gators have responded with a shutout victory over their first two division foes, struggling into second place in the Northern conference. They have two more games remain against the number one ranked Shoreline who has a ten point lead in the standings.

In the two divisional games, the Gators have scored five goals and not allowed any scores from the opposing team. This is in comparison to the average of 7-8 goals scored by opponents in the first ten non-divisional games. In

those games, the Gators averaged only three goals per game.

The Gators have four games left in the season until the NWAACC playoffs. The last home game will be against Shoreline on Nov. 1 at the Wilson Playfields in Kent. The remaining away games may prove tough for the Gator, as they have struggled so far this season on the road with an 0-5 away record.

The remaining four teams are separated by only six points, making wins crucial and losses devastating.

The improvement comes from the team playing more physical soccer and giving the offense opportunities to make goals.

If the Gators defense continues to shutout opponents and as-

sist the lead scorer, Jaime Slaten, they could be able to close the six point gap and ensure their position in the playoffs. Slaten put away two goals in the victory against Skagit Valley and the momentum could carry the Gators through to playoffs on Nov. 11.



Photo courtesy of Green River

Ashley Verkler, a midfielder, poses for her close-up

Skippers
Benson Highway
Skippers #214

**17808 180th Ave SE,
Renton, WA 98055**

**Buy one two-piece fish and
chips meal and get a sec-
ond FREE! with this ad.**

(425) 226-6326

FACE YOUR FUTURE

**Help transform
lives.**

**Complete your
bachelor's degree
at Bastyr University.**

**Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine
Exercise Science
Health Psychology
Herbal Sciences
Nutrition**

BASTYR
UNIVERSITY

degree.BastyrUniversity.org

Changing the face
of Health Education

The past and future of Green River sports: An interview with Athletic Director Bob Kickner

Kyle Riger
Staff Reporter

Green River Athletics is officially in full swing this year, with volleyball and soccer marching through the schedules. These respective programs mark the beginning of a big year for gator sports with GRCC athletic director Bob Kickner.

Background

Kickner is in his third season with the Gators as the head of athletics at GRCC. Kickner's fifteen years of rich athletic experience includes a thirteen-year stretch coaching men's and women's basketball, golf and tennis at the NCAA and NAIA levels. In serving his first two seasons here the GRCC athletics program, he has seen numerous improvements to be excited about and this year is no different.

Kickner said they had made many big steps, some of them include the men's tennis NWAACC championship, the volleyball team placing third in the NWAACC, a women's soccer playoff berth and improvements in both men's basketball and men's golf. However on the goals not quite accomplished included the basketball teams falling short of the NWAACC playoffs and the department not reaching its anticipated 3.0 cumulative academic

goal.

Academic Goals

This is a brand new year and Kickner is still aiming for the 3.0 academic goal, and for all teams to make their respective playoffs. "We are looking to improve our professionalism and our coach's retention rate." The students are helping the team reach these goals by providing stabilized funding which has allowed coaches better recruiting opportunities, and the team's better traveling conditions."

Program Progress

The first topic of discussion was the programs' progress thus far this year. In volleyball Kickner acknowledged that we are having a tremendous season. Last year the team had a very solid run down the stretch of the schedule, but talking about this year Kickner told me "we're just plain good. We are getting better players and we are putting them in better opportunities to be successful." Also talking about the soccer program he said that they are also in a position to be successful, still have a lot of optimism for this year but says that another year of recruiting will prove very helpful.

The Basketball team

Kickner also spoke about some of the specific programs forthcoming seasons. Basketball looks to make even more improvements

this year under Coach Tim Malroy (men's) and Rochelle Mitchell (women's) in the Western region, which Kickner describes as "the toughest region in basketball," citing 5 out of the last 6 years the NWAACC men's champion came out of the west. When asked how the teams are looking to improve this season he stated, "We were more selective on players; we are looking for student athletes that will commit to not only athletics, but academics too."

The Tennis team

The Championship tennis team (men's) was also a topic of discussion and the men's program looks to return to form as they only lost one player from last year's team, retaining the rest of the players and coaches. The women's squad however, will be starting from scratch this year and should be interesting to watch.

The Baseball team

After a great run last year making the playoffs there is much speculation if the momentum will carry into this spring. "Absolutely, yes" Kickner said. "The key is Coach Matt Acker has developed a winning model. We have many returning players, a better pitching staff and the motivation to reach the elite eight for his first time."

The future of GRCC sports

Talking about the long-term

direction the athletic program is going in Kickner told me that is ultimate goal is for "all student athletes finding a level of success that represents the college well." And while his job may be "to be a good steward of the student dollars" don't mistake his title for not being competitive, a personal goal of his is to create the best athletic department in the state of Washington.

Kickner outlined a very bright future for the sports department filled with much optimism. He encouraged students to come to games and take pride when GRCC does well, while at the same time being class acts. Lastly Kickner strongly encouraged the student body to support the Black Student union spirit week in mid November to show Gator spirit.



Photo courtesy of Green River

What exactly is the NWAACC?

Bob Kickner
Athletic Director

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) currently comprises



35 two-year colleges in the Northwest divided into four geographic regions making it the single largest athletic community college conference in the United States. Championships are held in 15 sports throughout the academic calendar, with the largest event being the NWAACC basketball championships held annually at the Toyota Center in Pasco, WA.

According to NWAACC statistics over 3500 student athlete represented their respective institutions in 2005-06. On Sept 14, 2006 a defining moment for

the NWAACC occurred when the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges approved the continued advancement of intercollegiate athletics with their support of legislation allowing for state approved tuition waivers for athletic merit. This legislation mirrors the Oregon State Board which approved such policy when the two state associations merged in 1983.

The mission of the NWAACC is to foster athletic participation in an environment that supports equitable opportunities for students consistent with the educational objectives of member colleges. Often student athletes use the community college experience to advance their academic experience on to four year institutions. However the community college also allows for students a first opportunity to experience high level

competition beyond high school or club opportunities. The increase in financial aid assistance will allow the Washington colleges and the respective athletic staff members a better chance to recruit and retain capable male and female student athletes.

Green River has participated in competitive athletics since the doors first opened to the college in 1966. In 1969, then as a member of the WAACC, the Gators won the school's first ever championship when the men's basketball team defeated Tacoma in the final contest. In the 1980's Green River experienced unprecedented success, winning NWAACC championships in volleyball (1984), soccer (1987), women's basketball (1985, 1987) softball (1986), men's tennis (1983 thru 1987), women's tennis (seven times) and golf (1987).

Since that time tuition rates

have risen by 400 percent and student-athletes have been choosing to forgo college and/or their athletic careers to find paying jobs. In the last ten years the NWAACC has seen the Oregon schools which represent 25 percent of the NWAACC participants win over 39 percent of the league championships. In women's sports the number rises to almost half of the championships going to Oregon while many of the Washington schools have struggled to fill their rosters.

Green River is a member of the Western Region and competes annually with Highline CC, Tacoma CC, Pierce College, South Puget Sound CC, Centralia College, Lower Columbia College, Grays Harbor College and Clark College.

