

Volunteers aid in  
Kobe Aftermath  
See Page 4

Theatre Extempore  
Presents Irish Play  
See Page 16



# CURRENT

Green River Community College Volume 31 Issue 9 March 4, 1996



## CURRENT

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The Green River Current is published five times per quarter, by the newspaper staff of Green River Community College. The views expressed in the opinions section are views of the individual writer. Editorials are written by the Editorial Board of the *Current*.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor must be signed by the individual and must include the date and home phone number for verification.

Have an interest in sci-fi, fantasy, or comic books? If so, check out GRCC's newest club, GRiFFiN. Meetings are held Mondays at 12-1 p.m., in SG-59.

If you enjoy bloopers and other zanny stuff, Green River's 1st Funniest Video contest may be just what the doctor ordered. This event, scheduled for Thursday, Mar. 7, 12-1 p.m., will be held in the Glacier Room of the LSC. Everyone is encouraged to bring in a video. However, the time slot allows for only six, 10 minute videos to be shown. More information is available by calling Multicultural events at ext. 286

Those interested in helping mankind are encouraged to participate in the upcoming Bone Marrow Registration Drive. It is scheduled to take place Tuesday, Mar. 12, from 9-3:30 p.m., in the Baker Room of the LSC. For more information, contact Julie French at ext. 330 or call 1-800-Marrow-2.

Oh no! Deadline for spring graduation hopefuls is almost here. On April 12, those eligible can pick-up applications at Enrollment Services. Completed applications, along with a \$10 non-refundable graduation/diploma fee should be returned to the Cashiers window.

Neil Diamond will be performing in the Key Arena on July 31, at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale Monday March 4, at 10 a.m. and may be obtained by contacting any Ticket Master at 292-ARTS.

Student interested in learning about occupational therapy or just want to eat some free cake can join the SOTA club in OE-104. An informational meeting will be held Mar. 4, 12-1 p.m.

Tickets are on sale for the Seattle Sonics Monday, Mar. 18 matchup against the hapless Los Angeles Clippers. Cost for the event is \$9 for students and \$10 for non-students. For those needing transportation, a bus will be leaving GRCC at 5:30 p.m. More information is available by contacting Student Programs at ext. 337.

In 1995, over 2,200 Americans were arrested abroad for violation of local laws. Many of them are young students who take their school breaks in foreign lands, thinking that the atmosphere is more laidback, indulge in alcohol and end up in a foreign jail. Getting too relaxed may cause more harm than pleasure in one's vacation. Americans are expected to obey all laws that are in effect in the area that they are visiting.

Mr. "Superharp" him-self will be performing at the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts. Friday, Apr. 5, at 7:30 p.m. James Cotton, of the James Cotton Blues Band, will perform a one time concert with his "high energy" blues band. A pre-performance discussion will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Broadway Center Rehearsal Hall. Tickets can be obtained at the Broadway Center Ticket Office for \$20, \$18, \$16, and \$12. For information on group discounts or any other information call (206) 591-5894.

## On the Cover:

T2 and Don Nguyen dance in the Dragon costume for the Chinese New Year's Celebration put on by the Asian Student Union. Photo By Heather Wallace.

# GRCC Lobbies for Supplemental Budget

By JILL CLIFFORD

STAFF REPORTER

On Wednesday, February 14, 1996, a lobby group left Green River Community College (GRCC) for Olympia, Washington, to persuade state legislators to support community college and technical school funding. GRCC President Richard Rutkowski was accompanied by College Foundation President Don Lisko, many community supporters and service club representatives like Auburn City Councilwoman Jeanne Barber and Valley Kiwanis President Leila Booth, Board of Trustee members, retired GRCC faculty members, and current students and faculty. High points of the trip included meetings with 31st District Representatives Les Thomas and Eric Robertson, who answered questions concerning their support for GRCC's issues; dinner with 47th District Senator Steve Johnson and Representatives Suzette Cooke and Jack Cairnes; and a surprise visit from Governor Mike Lowry, who happened to have a meeting at the hotel at the time of the dinner.

Rutkowski addressing the issues, said, "Olympia is trying to perform a three-way balancing act. One, they are cutting taxes, but by how much? Two, they must keep a state reserve, and again how much? And three, they must provide services, a.k.a. determine the spending level. We have two legislative issues to address now, access and technology."

Access is being driven by a surging demand for higher education, Rutkowski explained, consisting of a 45% increase in high school graduates within the next ten years, training needs for ongoing education, and by employers demands for skilled labor. Beyond these, there are needs for "readiness skills" to succeed in college and society. According to charts prepared from student testing throughout Washington, nearly 40% of incoming college students were below college reading, 60% below college writing, and nearly 90% below college mathematics skill levels.

"Higher education's share of the budget is on the downswing again," said



President Richard Rutkowski briefed the lobbying group. "We have two legislative issues -access and technology." Photo supplied by Student Programs

Rutkowski. "The question is will your children and their children have access to higher education? Our goal is 1000 new, fully-funded student slots for community colleges in 1996."

The group was briefed in Olympia by Earl Hale, representative of the Community and Technical Colleges, and former Senator Mark Gaspar. Hale, who addressed both the House and Senate on community college issues, explained that the legislators had 2 to 3 days to wrap up their respective budgets, and then compromise to get approval by March 6th, if a supplemental budget is to be passed.

Gaspar, the Executive Director of the Higher Education Board, emphasized the vitalness of community colleges' involvement in changing views of public education. "Fully 90% of parents expect their children to get some higher education, and 4 out of 5 think paying taxes entitles them access to it. In addition, 20% are planning to return to school for job requirements or other reasons," said Gaspar. "If the budgeting remains status quo, only 28% of the growing population of 17 to 28-year olds

will be able to attend." Gaspar explained three other reasons that funding for access was critical. "More and more families are living in poverty, and more and more need financial aid in Washington. Workforce pressure comes in as 1 out of 5 employees need new or re-training, most of which happens in community colleges or vocational schools. And financial pressure is driving the percentage of the budget (for higher education) down year by year as we compete with K through 12 funding, social services, prisons, and so forth. Coupled with the passing of Initiative 601, limiting the amounts that can be appropriated, the situation is serious."

Gaspar said, "We want to be within the 5 best states for access to higher education. We need to find room for 8400 new students by 2010. We have never been known as a state that closes its doors to students. We have to finance the 8400 now; we'll need an additional \$470 million a year by 2010. Can we afford not to do this?"

Continued on next page

## GRCC Lobbies

*Continued from page 3*

The technology issue being addressed by the lobby group was limited somewhat to the Washington Higher Education Network (W.H.E.N.) proposal. W.H.E.N. would link all public institutes throughout the state together to provide interactive video classes, student services, E-mail, library and media services, data transmission, and Internet access.

After the briefing, some of the group attended the Senate, and some the House Appropriations committee hearings on the support for higher education. In the House committee meeting, the group heard University of Washington President Richard L. McCormick, Terry Teal, representing the Council of Presidents, Martha Linley of Central Community College, and Hale thank the representatives for their support, but express concern over the limited num-

ber and distribution (major universities versus community colleges) of new slots, and funding for network staff and equipment resources for the W.H.E.N. proposal.

In later discussions, Senator Johnson and all of the representatives present agreed that it would be difficult to get a supplemental budget passed at all this year, and the college might have to wait until the next biannual budget preparations to get their issues addressed. Representative Thomas said, "The House is determined not to have a budget increase over last year. Although we want to support the needs of the community, the House is holding firmly to that principle."

However, in the proposed supplemental budgets, the State Board and Governor's budget, contained funding for 900 full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollments, the House 740, and the Senate 1000. The House allocated \$5.1 million to study the W.H.E.N. proposal, while the

Senate allocated \$34.5 million for its implementation. Additionally, the House recommended \$2.5 million for disabled students in their budget. If a supplemental budget is approved, the discrepancies between the House and Senate budgets will be worked out and hopefully more FTE's and W.H.E.N. will become available.

Governor Lowry addressed the lobby group, "As you know, I've been very supportive of higher education in my budget. I'm well aware of the access and technology issues, and have argued strongly for their coverage in the supplemental budget. Community colleges have been doing a great service for this state in providing the kind of training and skill sets our employers need. I am especially proud of Green River Community College for the high quality of education it offers. Thank you all for coming down and lobbying for these issues in the supplemental budget."

## Kobe Relief Effort Being Helped by GRCC Students

BY SAM LEVESQUE

STAFF REPORTER

"People didn't know what to do, even when their houses were burning. They just didn't know what to do. They didn't know how to rescue people. They just stood there watching their houses burn."

This is how Jun Ichi Nagano, a Green River Community College student and resident of Osaka, Japan, described the aftermath of the January 17, 1995 earthquake that destroyed much of Kobe, Seattle's sister-city just 32 miles west of Osaka. The quake left tens of thousands dead and hundreds of thousands homeless.

Nagano was one of three Japanese students who told of their experiences after the Kobe quake at a presentation that took place in the Glacier

Room in the Lindbloom Student Center from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Thursday, Feb. 8.

Another student, Yoko Kawauchi was active organizing relief for the quake's victims from her home in Okayama.

"My friends and I were trying to find out what we could do to help them out," said Kawauchi. "We decided to collect blankets, food, water, and warm clothes and sent them to Kobe. Also, we collected money and sent it with a message signed by about 200 people."

Nagano and his family were also active in the relief effort. His brother, an electrician, worked for days with little sleep and no showers as part of the frantic effort to restore water, power, and gas to the crippled city. Nagano said that the city was ill-prepared for the quake.

"People didn't know what happened

because an earthquake hadn't occurred for over 500 years in that area," said Nagano. Nagano also told a story about a little known facet of the international and national relief efforts.

"Kobe is the home of the 'yakuza', or Japanese mafia. Before anyone else was arriving to help, the yakuza had were already coming to help," said Nagano.

Nancy Kremer, International Program's regional director for Japan, choose the quake as the theme for the last activity of International Week due to the international relief effort it inspired, as well as the close economic and social ties between our region and the region affected by the quake. About 45 people attended at least some part of the presentation. A film produced by a Japanese news agency was shown.

# Dragon Storms Lindbloom Center!

BY ANDY REMTER

LAYOUT EDITOR

The usual lunchtime banter was interrupted on Wednesday, February 21st, when the Asian Student Union sponsored a Chinese New Year's celebration from noon to one o'clock. A karate demonstration was given by a local school during the celebration, while the ASU served free samples of traditional foods from their respective countries.

"We had too many things going on at the same time," said Veronica Johnson, an ASU member, in response to the organized confusion in the Lindbloom center.

The ASU had a money tree where one could pay for a chance to gain more money by picking the right envelope off a tree. Another contest one could try was balancing a bottle for five seconds.

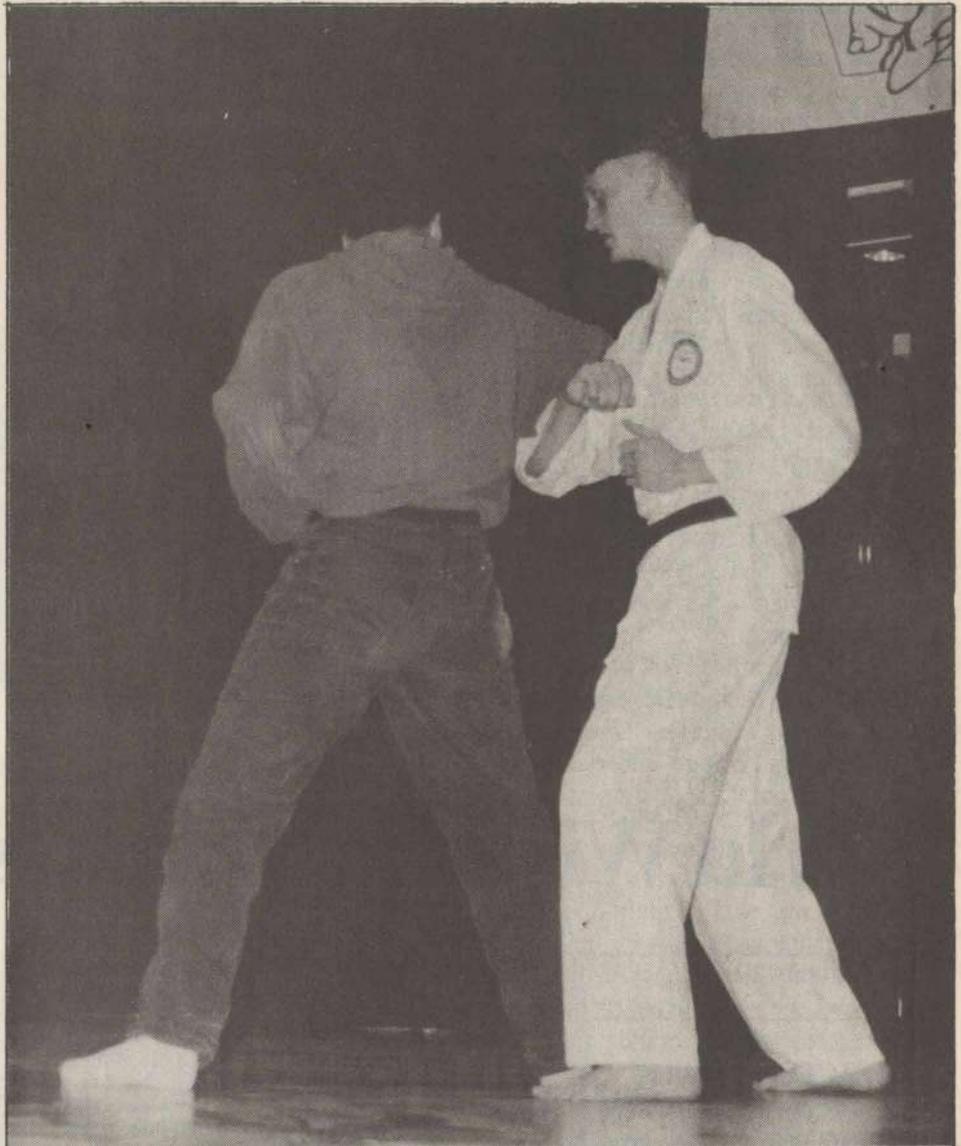
Some of the foods served were: prawn crackers, barbecue pork rolls, sweet rice, Vietnamese jello, and a fruit salad. Along with the free food, there were displays of the art and culture from different countries.

For instance, there was a large paper dragon displayed at one corner of the Lindbloom center.

## Again, An Apology

Once again, The Current had a computer failure as we were preparing to go to press. This represents the third consecutive quarter the campus newspaper has been plagued with production problems. We hope they will soon be resolved and we apologize for any errors that appear in this issue.

—The Staff



*A GRCC student painfully learns what it's like to attack a person who knows karate.  
Photo by Heather Wallace*



# Technology: One Piece of the Picture

BY JILL CLIFFORD

STAFF REPORTER

"The issue of the technology fee is central to some extent to the question of access," said Green River Community College (GRCC) President Richard Rutkowski. "We've had to struggle with the issue of charging a fee. How would it affect our students? A technology fee could be construed as a tuition increase. Throughout the community college system we are very opposed to high tuition. Access to higher education is related to ability to pay, and we feel that holding the door open is very important."

As Rutkowski explained, the college wondered how it could possibly keep up with the new technology equipment and software, provide students with what they were asking for and employers the skills they were seeking in that arena, given the funding available.

GRCC determined that a technology fee would be the best option, especially if financial aid was available. One third of the community college and technical

schools came to the same conclusion. Unfortunately, the presidents of 2 out of 3 of the community colleges disagreed and voted down the imposing of mandatory technology fees, expecting legislation to pick up the costs.

"It's not realistic. The mood of legislation is not to augment support of community college technology," Rutkowski said. "The history of funding is not good. People tend to look at technology as part of the cost of education and think it should be provided."

However, in the past 15 years the percentage of funding from the state general fund for higher education has dropped from 20% to 11%. At the same time demand for access to higher education is surging. In the next 15 years, 50,000 additional students are projected for Washington colleges. The dramatic rise can be seen even in the current numbers of local high school students. As examples, Auburn, which had 600 students in their 1995 graduating class, has 950 in their 1998 class; Kent high schools which had 1200 students in their 1995 class, has

1650 in 1998; Federal Way which had 1300 in 1995, has 1550 in 1998, and Tahoma had 275 in 1995, has 375 in 1998.

Other area schools that have an impact on GRCC have similar growing numbers of students.

"These are not speculative numbers," Rutkowski said. "They're here now and will be seeking room now and in the next few years. The issues are to provide that room, maintain the quality of our education, and upgrade our technology. No answers are forthcoming from legislators."

So what are the options?

Rutkowski said, "We can sit and wait for legislative help, but that puts us at a great disadvantage. We will continue to work with businesses, to get donations and to establish partnerships, and to be effective with the resources that we do have. They may not necessarily be the latest technology, but we need to be responsible. We will ask the students to pay a fee when there will be real value given and financial aid available."

## World Wide Web Comes to GRCC

BY JILL CLIFFORD

STAFF REPORTER

### GRCC Home Page

The Green River Community College World Wide Web page was brought up for the first time on February 14, 1996. The page is designed to give the college's mission, objectives, programs, courses, and general information and news items concerning the college. The page, still under construction, will soon provide a visual tour of the campus as well. This page can be accessed from Internet or Web software by entering [hppt://www.greenriver.ctc.edu](http://www.greenriver.ctc.edu)

### Student Programs Adds New Computers

Rene Teterud is in charge of a project

to install six new computers in Student Programs in the Lindbloom Student Center. This area will not be used as an open computer lab, but as a kiosk for student activities. The computers will be dedicated to Student Programs updates, activities, minutes from Senate meetings, and Current Newspaper and KRGR Radio news. E-mail and time-limited World Wide Web (or Internet) access, primarily for International students to communicate with their families and home communities or schools, will also be available. There will be one printer networked to all six computers for printing at the receptionist's desk. A Student Programs home page will be created and accessed for information on student activities, outdoor activities, International and clubs news, sports, and other student news. The

computers are scheduled for use in the spring quarter, although the Student Programs home page is not expected to be fully developed until summer quarter.

### Internet Accounts Available Soon

As of April 1, 1996, students will be able to purchase an Internet access account through Green River Community College for \$10.95 a month. Start-up kits to acquire accounts will be available around the campus in March. Students and staff who open an account will be charged a one-time set-up fee of \$25. The college has contracted with US West Communications for the access. More information will soon be available.

# She Said, He Said

By God's Gift to Men and Every Women's Dream

She Said....

**SEX**

On the off chance there are actually men reading this part of the column, I will say this in a manner you can understand, **SLOW DOWN**. Sex is not something you need to rush though. This is not a race. They don't give out medal for the one who finishes first, and unlike the rodeo, there is no prize for the eight second ride.

If you think you are the winner every time, you are probably the biggest loser in the **HERSTORY** of the game. Women, in general, do not usually want someone whose main goal is to please himself.

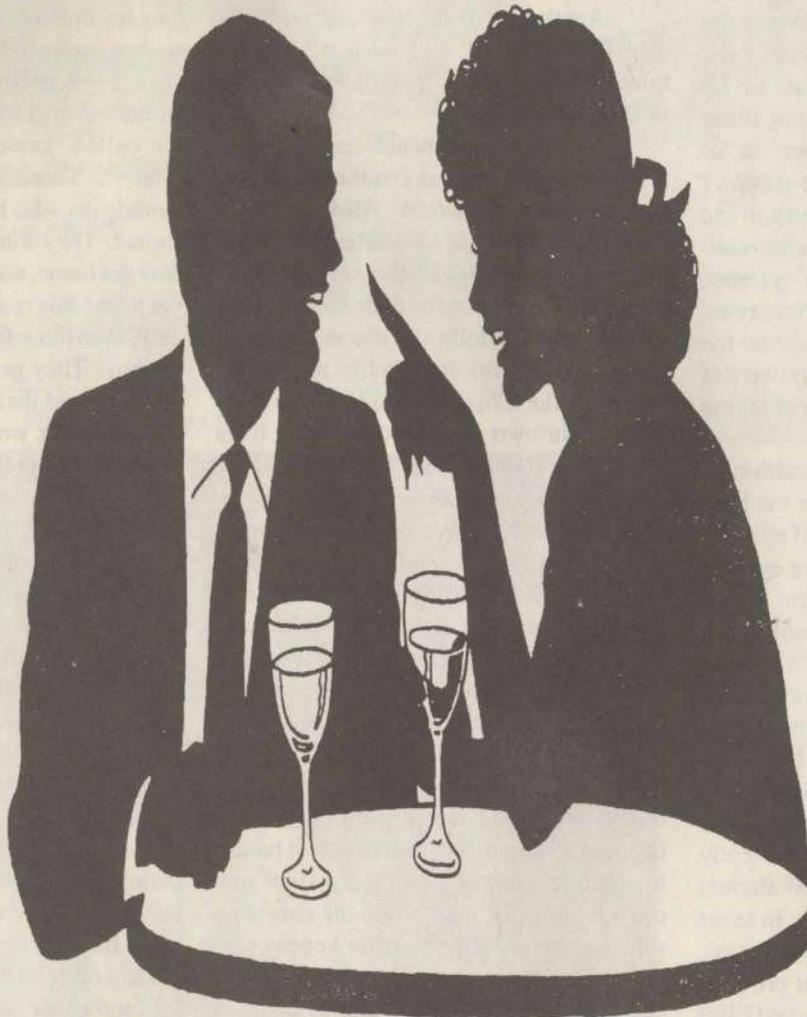
The saddest part about sex is the fact that after the writhing, moaning, and groaning, which usually takes all of about four minutes, endorphins kick in, and then it is the cold shoulder and a "nighty-night Sweetheart." He uses this affectionate term for the simple fact he has forgotten something very important: your name.

He said....

**SEX**

Sex. "Touchy" subject. Now there's nothing wrong with sex, but there are some women out there that feel the need to make sex more than what it is. Sex in the dictionary says, "either of the two divisions, male or female, into which human beings and most other organisms are divided according to their functions in the process of reproduction." To many men and women, sex is an act to cause pleasure or relieve stress. But there are still some woman out there would have you believe that sex is to be performed when to people are in "love" or committed to each other. And they usually are the women who believe in making love. This little title for a basic act has transformed it into a whole new horror. Now what was once the wholesome act of wham bam, back to the party has now been transformed into sex then cuddling which always takes away from the recent fun. What happened to the good old days when a man would come home from work to his darling wife, have dinner that she lovingly prepared, then move to the bedroom where they would have sex, then go to sleep. Why must everything nowadays be

so romantic? Now we have to have a candlelight dinner, romantic study sex, then cuddling afterwards when all we want is the sex ladies. Stop making us jump through hoops of fire to get it. So give up, lighten up, and get a sense of humor.



# Cooperation Is Not a Dirty Word

BY SAM LEVESQUE

STAFF REPORTER

Winston Churchill once said, "One can always count on the Americans to do the right thing, after they have exhausted all the other possibilities." This insight has grown increasingly clear since the 1940's.

One of my biggest peeves about the United States is our near complete inability to admit that maybe we aren't the shining, golden shore, the bastion of the good life that we believe we are. As a rule, this country refuses to accept that other countries are living better than we are, or to learn from their examples. We are not, I repeat not, the most livable country in the world. Most of Europe has a higher standard of living, better education systems, longer life expectancies, lower crime rates, and shorter workweeks. We may be the military and one of the financial powers of the world, but we do a lousy job of taking care of our citizens.

For instance, take the health-care debate. If anyone can remember the hub-bub caused by Clinton's backing of a single-payer, or "socialized" health-care system, they are likely to say that the reforms sought by Clinton were shot down for reasons such as, "It'll cost too much," or, "It's just socialized medicine. It'll lead to more taxes and government red tape." Some reasons.

"It'll cost too much," is an odd complaint coming from the Republican Party, an organization that built up an absurdly over-sized military and consistently passes bills aimed at reducing the amount of money big-business has to pay in taxes or fees. Besides, have you ever asked yourself just how much we spend on preventable diseases that affect the uninsured? Bet you it's a lot.

The label "socialized medicine" served to defeat health-care reform more than any statistic, speech, or political ploy. "Socialized," for most Americans, brings to mind an image of a heartless, totalitarian bureaucracy denying care to the seriously ill. To me, this sounds an awful lot like an Health Maintenance Organization, or

HMO, a system that actually makes money by denying people care, and currently enjoys the favor most of our politicians. Having lived in a country that provides cradle to grave medical care for all the citizens, I can safely say that the boogie man of "socialized medicine" is a myth. Most of our North American Treaty Organization (NATO) allies have single-payer health-care.

Are these nations, our allies since the end of World War Two, Socialists? I hardly think that we need to fear the Red Hordes of Denmark.

Single-payer health care works, as is shown by the fact that it is the most common system in the world. Also, many so-called Third World countries that have single-payer care have been rated better at providing health-care to their citizens than the US. Do we follow a successful strategy proven to work for much of the world? No, just like Churchill said, we have to muddle our own way through, losing lives and dollars all the while.

The same could be said of crime. The American answer seems to be more prisons, more people in them, harsher penalties, and an increasingly totalitarian attitude towards crime-fighting. While overseas, and as near as Canada, they've taken a different approach towards crime-prevention. First, they have alleviated the strain of poverty by providing health-care, job-training, free child care, and other programs that have helped keep people from turning to crime. Second, they have made it harder to commit crimes by enforcing strict gun control laws that have made the streets so safe that many policemen don't even carry guns. This is not to say that crime doesn't exist in these places, but the body count at the end of the year is considerably lower.

There are many examples that prove my point, but I doubt that this country will act on any of them, because they require people to do something almost unheard of in the US: *cooperate*. Cooperation is not a dirty word, but these days it seems that competition and the myth of the lone pioneer have a strangle hold on Ameri-

can politics. Increasingly, we seem to be saying, "If you are poor, it's your own fault. If you are victimized by crime, buy a gun, take care of it yourself. A helping hand leads to open palms." Contrary to right-wing arguments, punishing or abandoning a welfare mother for being poor will not end poverty.

Our nation needs reform, we need to raise our standard of living. This is not only my opinion. Having been an exchange student, as well as having worked with exchange students for several years, I have witnessed an little-known phenomena often called "reverse home-sickness syndrome". Those afflicted tend to be young Americans who have lived a year or more abroad. They don't want to go home. When they get home, they want to go back. I have yet to see this reaction in any other nationality, even those from so-called Third World nations. They generally say that, although they enjoyed their time in the US, they really wouldn't want to live here. I hate to say it, but I agree. Our nation has entered the "nice place to visit, but I'd hate to live there" category.

It is an unwise person who, seeing another consistently doing better, fails to adapt and learn from the other's example. Unless we swallow our misplaced patriotic pride and admit that others have made great strides while we squandered our time fighting for an out-dated vision of 1950's American, we will soon be in the Third World ourselves. It's time we stop wallowing in our own greed, and accept that by caring for our neighbors, we care for ourselves. It's time we had single-payer health care, banned assault weapons and handguns, and reformed our schools to fit the less authoritarian and more effective European system. Our government should not control us, it should serve to make our lives better. People, not the economy, should be our governments focus, because a healthy society leads to a healthy economy. We should fight for that.

# Water Over Roadway

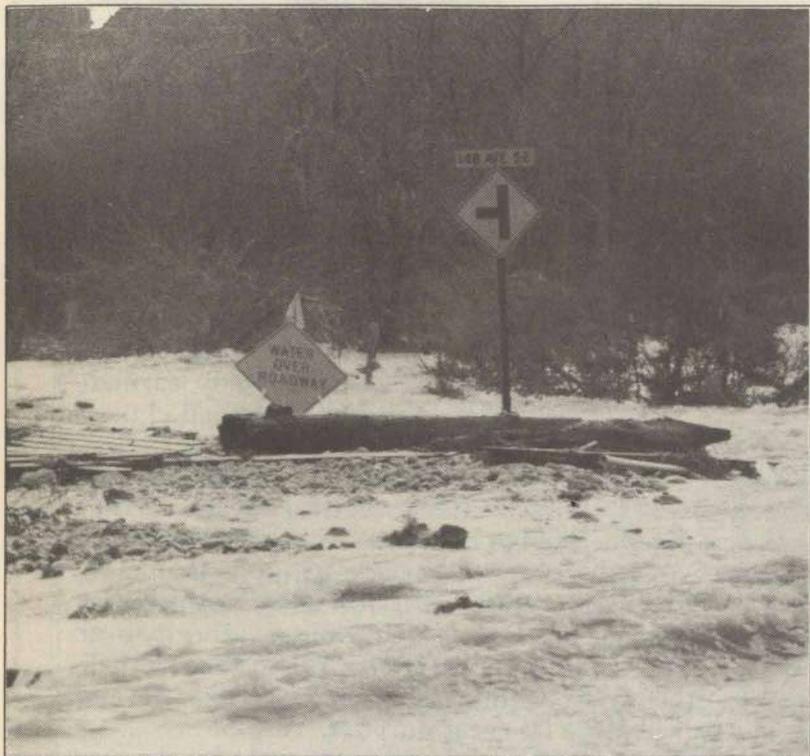


Photo by Travis Cox

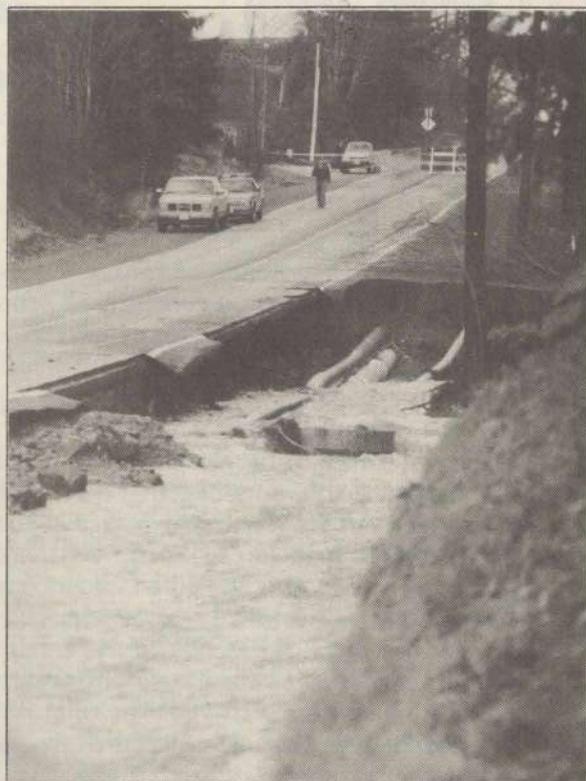


Photo by Travis Cox



*Upper left:  
Water over roadway...really?  
Are you pulling my leg?  
(Picture taken in Kent area)*

*Upper right:  
No shoulder driving, ok?  
(Again, Kent area)*

*Left:  
Blue, 42, set, hut, hut, hike!  
(Near Lea Hill)*

Left, photo by Heather Wallace



## Alternative to What?

*Carrin Hargraves*

Whether you are a computer geek or a performing arts major, a recent high school graduate or a returnee from an extended reality trip in life, there is a common bond which none of us can escape.

Communication is a philosophy, an art, a science and a natural instinct. The birds do it, the bees do it, and nearing the 21st Century, maybe even we can begin to grasp the concept. Words, feelings and motions define communication, yet in this world of technologically advanced societies, we have overlooked the most basic instincts of life. War and destruction have been caused by lack of understanding, and instead of trying to correct the mistakes we have created by miscommunication, we take on defensive attitudes which make the problems worse.

Contrary to popular belief, one does not have to have a doctorate in verbal and written language to successfully communicate with others. In fact, those who have received a formal education in this area and chastise others for their lack of perfection are those who have truly failed their quest for communication and understanding. When one can look past another's imperfections and learn from every level of human intellect, it is then, and only then, that one has reached the pinnacle of his education. What comes before that point is merely one feeding his own insecurities.

Of course we can only be as good as those from which we learn; it takes an extraordinary person to look beyond what is handed to him and find a deeper meaning. In this jaded paradigm of anti-democratic views, 99-cent whoppers and Internet pornography, where everyone has a social security number to replace his given name and the newest twist to the survival of the fittest is the elitists' will to become king

of the mountain and abolish all sense of compassion toward the human soul, what exactly are we striving for? And where along the way did we lose everything we had already learned? That itself, history repeats like a bad church hymn.

If you know too much, you know nothing; and we learn from unsuccessful war heroes that have decided to teach what they could not make a living doing themselves. On a factual basis, they will override the founding instinct that they served; to hold a position of authority over those who have no choice but to take in their ill favored opinions and advice, which in the end will serve no great purpose.

In our never-ending struggle to conquer the most abstract shades of gray, we have indignantly painted our world in red. Finding the weakness in others, we only prolong our own indignity. *"For he both angers men and pleases them, and then they laugh at him and beat him."*

In our obtuse indifference, we have traded in Teddy Roosevelt for Newt Gingrich, Mark Twain for Danielle Steele, Audrey Hepburn for Julia Roberts, rainbows for the pot of gold, love for "safe" sex, a learning experience for an experience in learning, decent conversation for Rush Limbaugh on AM and integrity for cheap beer.

Failure to communicate? *Duh!*..and you know, you just don't get a good *duh* anymore.





# Cash in On The Great Book Tradeoff!



**You got those end-of-the quarter  
"Wanna Sell My Books Back Blues"**

**But the bookstore won't take 'em back**

**So whattaya got to lose?**

**Just fill out the form below**

**Send it on in and whaddya know?**

**We'll help you get over those end of the quarter**

**Wanna Sell My Book Back Blues!**

---

**Here's the deal:** There are some books the campus bookstore won't buy back. But you can look for a buyer with a **FREE** classified ad in the GRCC Current. Bring the form below to the Current office, 200 Lindbloom Center, and we will run your ad in the final winter quarter issue of The Current!

**Yes! Yes! Oh, Yes!**  
**I want to be part of the Great Book Tradeoff!**

On the following lines, write 1) Your name as you want it to appear; 2) contact phone; 3) name of each book you want to sell and its author; 4) name and number of class using this book. You may list up to five books; your ad will appear in the final winter quarter issue of The Current.

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Your signature here→

# GRCC Student Shoots for Chance to Compete in Summer Olympics

BY JASON SHERRILL

STAFF REPORTER

For Mike Lacombe, five years of practice and tournament after tournament has lead up to the ultimate match: the Summer Olympics. What once started out as a hobby for this Green River Community College student, has turned into the chance-of-a-lifetime many athletes strive for.

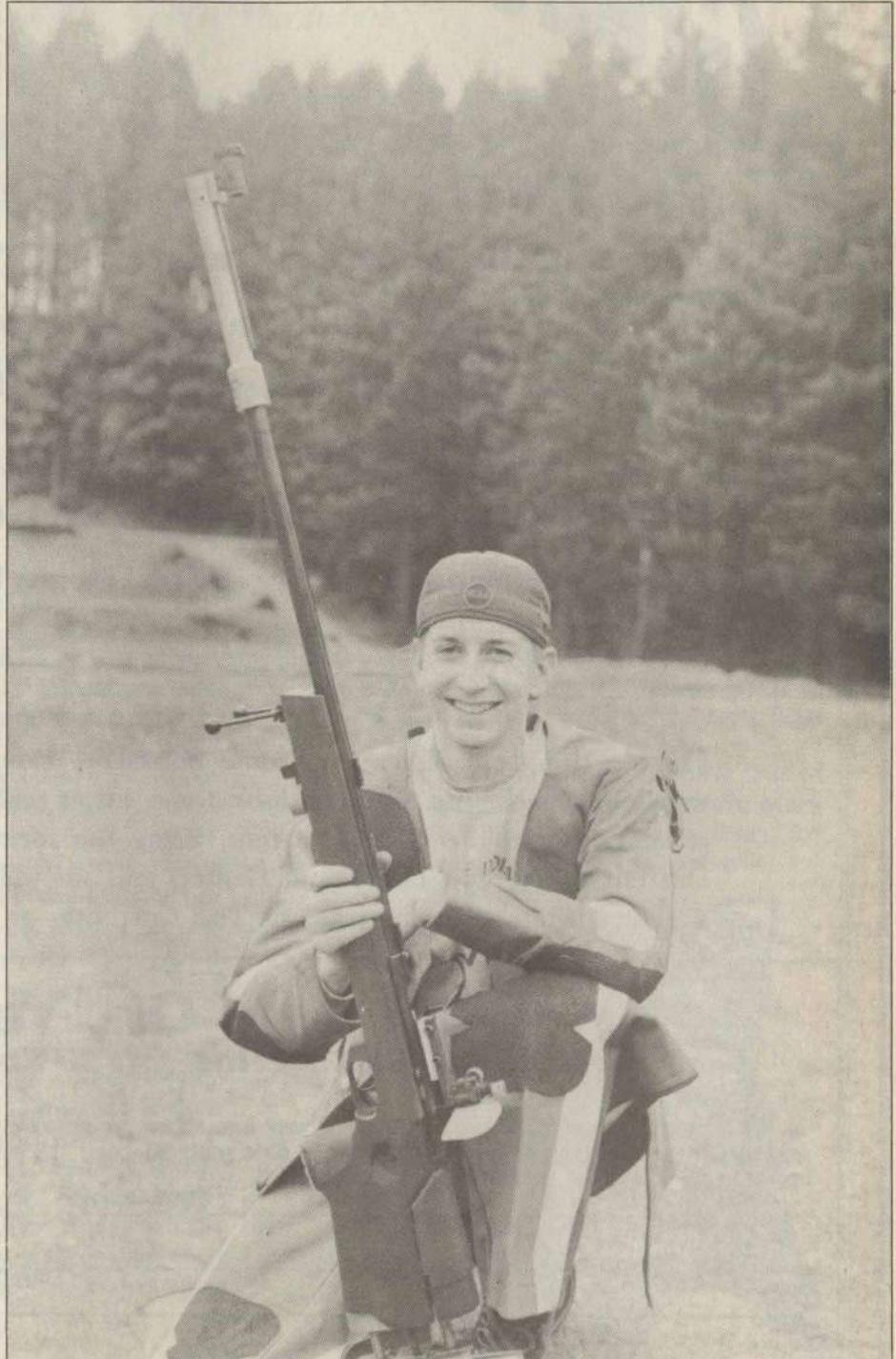
Lacombe will try out in Atlanta, Georgia at the end of March. Lacombe will compete against 11 other sharp shooters. Three of the 12 best shooters will represent the United States in the Summer Olympics.

Introduced to shooting at age 13 by his brother's friend, Lacombe started his marksmanship hobby. His father later encouraged Lacombe to pursue marksmanship shooting and enter tournaments. He won a majority of the matches, including the Nation Junior Prone Championship in Los Angeles in July 1995. Winning the match put him on the National Development Team (NDT). The purpose of NDT is to help train Lacombe for the Summer Olympics. NDT has sent him to training facilities in Los Angeles, Colorado Springs, and will send him to Atlanta in March.

Feb. 17, Lacombe attended a shooting match at the Tri-county Rifle Range in Sherwood, Oregon. In each shooting match, there are three positions marksmen must shoot from: standing, kneeling, and prone. In the prone position (laying down) category, he scored a 399 out of 400, beating Ron Nelson's 398 record, set more than a year ago. Even though he broke the prone position record, he captured sixth place in the close competition.

"I don't think I'll make it into this Olympics, but I think I'll have a good shot at the 2000 Olympics," said Lacombe. The next tournament for Lacombe is in Seattle, Feb. 24.

His future plans are to become a police officer and a member on a SWAT team.



Mike Lacombe and his very, very big rifle. Lacombe started his hobby at age 13.

Photo by Jason Sherill

# Part Time/Full Time Teachers

## Is it for everyone's best interest?

BY AARON ENTRENKIN

STAFF REPORTER

In order to stretch state funding, Washington colleges and universities have resorted to hiring more low-paid part-time instructors, instead of full-time, to teach classes.

With the crisis of higher education funding and the growing number of students seeking post-secondary education, many colleges are lowering the quality of education by decreasing the access to full-time professors. According to the American Association of University Professors, 38 percent of all college and university faculty nationwide are now part-timers. At Green River Community College, part-timers outnumber their full-time counterparts 204 to 120, according to the last survey taken in October of 1995. With 63 percent of the faculty at GRCC being part-time, instructors are virtually impossible to find when classes are not in session.

Many part-time instructors possess master's and doctorate degrees, and the same credentials and teaching experience as their full-time counterparts, yet receive less than half the pay and little or no fringe benefits. Part-time instructors are paid per credit hour and often teach at more than one college or university in order to make a sufficient living. Being forced to rush off to another job leaves less time for one-on-one interaction with students outside of class.

"How do you track down a part-timer? When you get a bad grade at the end of the quarter, where do you find the instructor?" said Robert Brehm, full-time instructor and President of the Teacher's Union. This is a commonly asked question among students and is an important factor in negotiations to reconstruct the part-time faculty's contract.

Starting pay for a part-time in-

structor depends on the kind of degree earned and the number of years of teaching experience. At GRCC for example, a part-time instructor with a bachelor's degree and one year of teaching experience starts out at \$33.61 per teaching hour for a lecture class. The pay for a part-time instructor with a master's degree and one year of experience ranges from \$35.29 to \$37.92 per teaching hour. And with a doctorate degree, the salary for part-timers ranges from \$36.98 to \$39.60 per teaching hour.

The beginning salary of a full-timer with a bachelor's degree, teaching a minimum of 225 credits throughout the year, is \$29,223, and with a maximum of 345 credits the salary starts out at \$35,390 a year. These figures are almost more than double the salary that a part-timer would receive. Additionally full-time instructors receive a contract bonus of \$2011 for a master's degree and \$4022 for a doctoral degree. Although the community colleges pay the part-time faculty only for the hours spent teaching, these instructors are required to spend many more hours outside of class preparing lectures and grading papers. In addition to these low wages and unpaid hours of work, part-timers do not receive the annual raises that their full-time counterparts do, nor are they eligible for state retirement benefits.

According to a 1995 estimate, the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges saves \$57.3 million annually by having half the classes taught by part-time faculty. With these kind of questionable savings, schools are hiring the more affordable part-timers without thinking about the quality of education they are cutting back by doing so.

GRCC is currently under negotiations with the state of Washington to create a new contract which would raise part-

timer's salary as well as give them benefits.

"The Board of Trustees from Green River have been at the bargaining table with the state of Washington since last spring," Brehm said. One question in desperate need of answering is whether or not the colleges should pay the part-time instructors for time spent devoted to students outside the classroom. Many part-time faculty spend most of their weekly hours traveling back and forth from college to college.

"We have like migratory workers," Brehm said, "that travel to and from separate colleges during the week."

"The part-time faculty, who may spend as much as 20 hours a week driving the freeway treadmill from college to college, may actually have less time in their weekly schedules to devote to their students outside of class than the full-time faculty," said Keith Hoeller, Ph.D., a part-time community college professor and a member of the Advisory Committee to the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education.

Although eliminating the pay differential between part-time and full-time faculty may increase the level of student devotion and quality of education, more state funding may not be the answer.

"Even if more money is provided to the community colleges, they will be under no obligation or inclination to reduce or eliminate their increasing reliance on part-time faculty," Hoeller said.

Negotiating through a paid consultant, GRCC and the Board of Trustees is not sure when an agreement might be reached.

"Sometimes you can't measure negotiations in terms of fast or slow. But we're still negotiating, so that's good," said Brehm.

## Women's Center Reopens, Tries to Serve all in Need

BY MELISSA MULLEN

STAFF REPORTER

The recent reopening of the

Women's center on campus has brought forth much confusion from students regarding its purpose. Located in the Help Center, the Women's center opened in December after several months of disuse. Its former director, Maid Adams, retired last August after fifteen years of service and the center was shut down during the hiring period. The current director, M a r y Richardson, has reopened the center and is in the process of rebuilding its structure.

T h e

Women's Center is a multi-purpose program to help both women and men in various problems, mostly those interfering with schoolwork. It functions as a counseling center, information resource, a campus contact for discrimination or harassment complaints, and reference area for support groups, jobs, scholarships, etc. Richardson will refer those who need help to various campus or community resources, as well as offer personal counseling.

Child care issues, domestic violence, life/financial transitions, rape crisis, and gender issues are among the many that are dealt with in the Women's Center. It also serves as a resource for breaking the

gender barriers on campus and in the workplace, focusing on getting women into educational programs that will train them for

the community. In the Spring, courses for women on financial planning, scholarships, professional image-building in the work-

place, and resume writing will be held. Also in Spring, Chris Stone-Ewing, the Director of the consortium for Tech Prep, a state-funded program on campus, will hold a special event for female high school sophomores. The event takes place on campus and is designed for females who wish to join irregular fields of work. On March 18th, Phi Theta Kappa and the Women's Center will hold an open discussion on domestic violence. In the be-



*Women's Center, recently re-opened, strives to meet the needs of GRCC students.*

Photo by Heather Wallace

decent jobs and pay livable wages. Richardson is trying to get more women's issues into the college curriculum in the social sciences.

Richardson, has a background in Human Geography and is working on her Master's Degree at The University of Washington. Her studies focus on how gender figures in refugee migration. She has worked in West Africa teaching school and working with chimpanzees. On the East coast, she worked for several non-profit organizations. In addition to her current duties as director for the Women's Center, she is a sexual crisis counselor. She helps organize various events on campus and in

beginning of Fall, a day-long symposium will be held for the Women's Center, which thereafter will be held quarterly.

The women's center also offers a support group for women in transition, workshops, and a library for use inside the center. Those who need help are encouraged to visit Richardson during her drop-in hours, 10am to noon Mondays through Thursdays, or call extension 402 to make an appointment. "We are continuing to grow... redefining the women's center to best respond to the students' needs," said Richardson.

# Movie Critics Search For Best Lines

BY HEATHER WALLACE, PHOTO EDITOR AND LEIGHA CONNER, COVER EDITOR

Leigha Conner and Heather Wallace are on a mission to find Best Lines from movies. The way these movies are rated are on the Gator Scale: 5 Gators being the best and 1 being the dumbest movie ever made.

## Happy Gilmore - PG 13

If you thought Billy Madison was funny, wait until you see Happy Gilmore. Adam Sandler, who plays Happy Gilmore, tries out for a hockey team and is extremely bad so he gets cut. He goes to his grandma's house which is being repossessed due to back taxes. The movers challenge Gilmore to hit a golf ball so he can go back and watch the hockey game in peace and quiet. He somehow hits the ball 400 yards and pegs some guy in his front yard. The rest of the movie is Happy playing golf to get enough money to pay for his grandmothers house. It may sound boring, but Happy Gilmore makes it entertaining.

Happy Gilmore is a funny movie with lots of exciting antics, which makes the movie good.

**Best Lines:** Happy Gilmore to Bob Barker, "The price is wrong, Bob."

We rate this movie 4 1/2 Gators.

## Bed of Roses - PG

This romantic movie starring Christian Slater and Mary Stuart Masterson is not the sappy love story critics make it out to be.

The movie starts out showing Jane in her daily routine. She is sent flowers by a secret admirer, whom she soon meets: Lewis sends her gray roses, her favorite flower. In numerous other ways, he shows his affection for her. A good friend tells her that her Prince has arrived. She goes back to him, and is cautious about starting this relationship. After ups and downs, they finally go home to his parents house for Christmas. Things are going well, and the two are very much in love. He proposes, and she runs out of the house. She tells him that he pushed too hard. He has no idea what went wrong. They break it off. Will they get back together? Only time will

tell.

**Best Lines:** "Forgive me for being the only one who couldn't see how right this is."

We rate this movie 4 1/2 Gators.

## Toy Story - G

Disney's done it again: another first. This full length computer animated feature's previews give the appearance of a child's movie, but it appealed to audiences of all ages.

This movie stars the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, and John Ratzenberger.

Although the story-line is a little weak, these antics leave the audience wanting more.

### Best Lines:

Woody: "Hey, can you give me a hand up here?"

Mr. Potatoe Head throws his hand onto the bed.

Woody: "That's not funny!"

Slinky Dog: "You want me to rear-range your face?"

Mr. Potatoe Head: "Look, Picasso!"

Mr. Potatoe Head: "Yes, yes, a Mrs. Potatoe Head!"

Rex: "Roar!! Were you scared?"

Buzz: "You're mocking me, aren't you?"

We rate this movie 4 Gators.

## Mr. Holland's Opus - PG 13

Richard Dreyfuss gives a stunning performance in this epic film. Holland is a happily married composer. Because of financial constraints, Holland takes a teaching job at a local high school. Holland soon finds out that students will appreciate music if you show them something they can understand. He begins to teach them with rock and roll, when they don't understand Mozart.

Later, his wife gives birth to a baby boy. After a few months, they discover that

Joel is deaf. This all but crushes his musician father. Holland distances himself from a son he doesn't understand, and this causes a rift in the family relationship. When Joel is 15, he attends a performance his father is conducting. At the end, Holland sings a rousing rendition of "Beautiful Boy" by the Beatles, in honor of his son.

The movie winds down with Holland retiring. Joel asks his dad to come into the auditorium. There, the entire John Fitzgerald Kennedy High School student body is present to say goodbye. Holland gets behind the podium to say thank you, and the curtain behind him opens. Former students are there, and request that he conduct them in the First Symphony, written by Holland himself, that they learned on their own. This movie leaves many in awe.

**Best Line:** "You love music, and you made the students love it, too."

## City Hall - R

Al Pacino gives another stunning performance in this story about Mario Cuomo, Mayor of New York City. John Cusak, who plays the Deputy Mayor, and Brigitte Fonda, who plays an attorney, are superb backup for Pacino.

The story revolves around the murders of a mobster and a police officer, a little boy caught in the crossfire, and a Mayor determined to deter violence. Filming in a big city was interesting, but after the tenth scene of the streets of New York, it gets a little old. Pacino's best performance was at the funeral of the little boy who died. His booming speech rivets the audience. The ending is extremely lame, with Cusak finding out Pacino is involved with the mobsters. The actors performances were outstanding. Their choice of work could have been better, and Fonda needs to give up her "I'm better than everyone" attitude. Overall, it is an enjoyable, although slightly predictable, performance.

**Best Lines:** Pacino at the funeral: "We choose to *fight* back."

We rate this movie 3 1/2 Gators.

# Theater Extempore Performs Irish Play

BY TRAVIS COX

STAFF REPORTER

It's time once again for Theater Extempore to reveal it's latest masterpiece.

This quarter, the Green River Community College drama department is performing Brian Friels "Dancing At Lughnasa", a tragic story of five sisters living in Ireland in the industrial revolution during the mid-thirties.

The story is told through the memories of Michael, (played by newcomer Luke Gonczy and returning player Travis Cox) who, during the play, is a seven year old boy (played by newcomer Quendelin Taylor). Through the memories of Michael, the audience is shown the return of Michael's uncle (rookie Charles Stubbs) who is dying and cursed with malaria. Michael's irresponsible father (new player Dan Speir and veteran Aram Greenmar) returns to marry

Michael's reluctant mother (returnee Thea Lestore and newcomer Shelby Medlang).

The story shows the hardships the sisters face and the slow downfall of what

was once a happy home. The play is full of strong characters, such as the proper Kate (newcomer Jennifer Lurie and returning

The play shows the bond of two sisters, Rose (returning performer Bonnie Olsen and first timer Sara Lennox) and

Agnes, (returning actress Courtney McLaughlin and new player Aerial Eyerly) whose bond is so close, it could destroy the household. Returning actor Steve Barns gives a performance not to be missed. This is definately a show chock-full of talented actors and a magnificent set. It is well worth seeing. "Dancing At Lughnasa" starts Friday, March 1st at 8 p.m. Additional shows are Saturday, March 2nd at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 3d at 7 p.m. The show plays March 8th, 9th, and 10th at the same times. All shows are in the P.A. building, and is a show



*Kiss me, you fool.*

player P.J. Bowen) and cheerful Maggie, (veteran Heather Pastore and lifer Carrin Hargraves) who tries to keep the home together through laughter.

not to be missed.

## Phantom of the Opera Haunts the Paramount

BY HEATHER WALLACE

PHOTO EDITOR

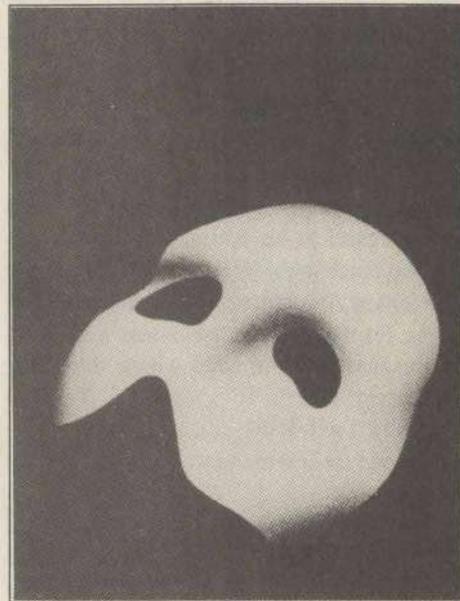
The Phantom of the Opera opened February 4 and will run till March 21 at the Paramount Theatre in Seattle and is captivating audiences of all ages.

The story begins with a girl named Christine, played by Teri Hibb, is a dancer for an opera. She is taught to sing by the Phantom, played by Rick Hilsabeck who lives in the theatre. The lead singer Carlotta, played by Kelly Ellenwood, is scared off by the Phantom and Christine gets to sing Carlotta's lead part. After her performance, she is visited by Raoul, played by Lawrence Anderson, a childhood friend from her past. The Phantom appears and demands her promise that she will always love him and no other. Raoul returns and professes his love to Christine, who loves him. The

Phantom decides that if he can't have her, nobody can, and sets about trying to kill Christine and Raoul. The plot thickens. Will Christine and Raoul live to spend their lives together?

The Phantom of the Opera is an incredible performance. The professional performers make for a night of exciting entertainment. The pyrotechnics are awesome, and leave the audience wondering what was coming next. The singing was unbelievable, and the orchestra is also superb.

This is definitely a must-see, well worth the money and trip to see this outstanding performance. Because this Acting Troupe is only in town for a short time, interested theatre-goers should purchase their tickets soon through TicketMaster, at 292-ARTS.



## Hunchback of Notre Dame Opens at Bellevue Square

BY LEIGHA CONNER AND HEATHER WALLACE, COVER AND PHOTO EDITORS

Opening on June 14, 1996 around the country is the Hunchback of Notre Dame, Disney's 34th full length animated film. Over 600 animators have put thousands of hours into the recreation of this medieval tale. Life-like animation and fantastic music make this film enjoyable for all family members.

At 24 frames per second, these Disney animators have the enormous task of drawing storyboards for the film. Storyboards are rough sketches of what animators imagine the final animated sequence will look like. A complete storyboard resembles a comic book.

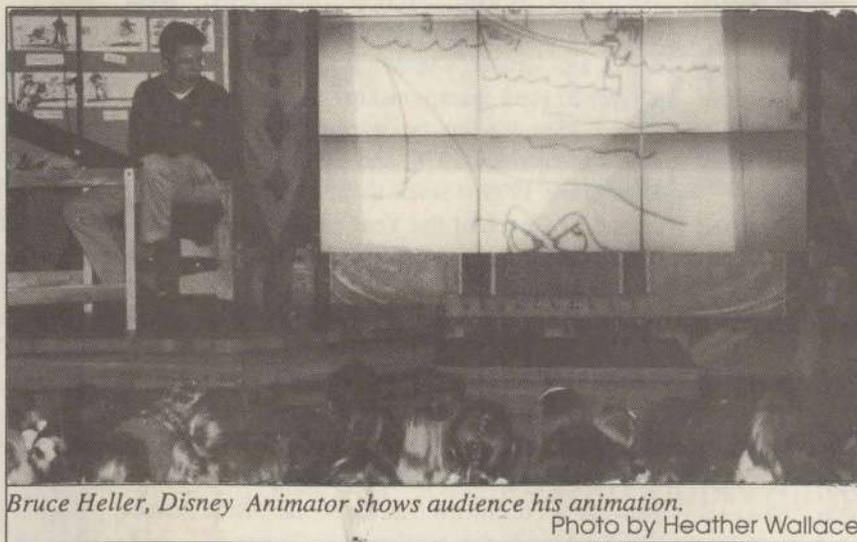
The Hunchback of Notre Dame's creators are on a 21 city tour of the United States. The tour includes a 30 foot tall replica of the Cathedral of Notre Dame. A

Disney animator shows the audience the stages from the storyboard to the final ani-

best part of the job is brining pictures to life and using my imagination." Heller works with many other artists, as well as musicians, writers, and theme developers. Since he is not the only animator to work for Diney, Heller must share his ideas with other animators. Communication is important. "It is important to have a background in areas besides art. English skills are important, as well as imagination."

Children and adults are looking forward to the coming of the movie. "My children are very excited," said a mother of four. "It's

good that there's a movie for the whole family, because my three kids are ages 5 - 13." This movie will definitely be one for all to see. Well worth the time and money, the Hunchback of Notre Dame is another success for Disney.



Bruce Heller, Disney Animator shows audience his animation.

Photo by Heather Wallace

mated production. An interactive musical setup provides young children the chance to conduct their own symphony.

Bruce Heller, a Disney animator who came to Bellevue Square, says the job is a lot of fun. It is also a lot of work. "The

# Baseball Season Begins March 9

BY PATRICK SCHOLES

NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, March 9, the Green River baseball season gets under way when the Gators travel to Centralia, to take on Centralia Community College. The Gators have reason to be optimistic after taking second place in the Western Division of the Northwest Association of Community Colleges. From Centralia the Gators will travel to Susanville, California where they take on Lassen on March 15 and 16. Tournaments in Twin Falls, Idaho; Gresham, Oregon; and Bellevue finish up the exhibition season.

The Gators' goal this season will be to reach the NWAACC Championships on May 23rd through the 27th. They will be led by a talented mix of returning sophomores and freshmen.

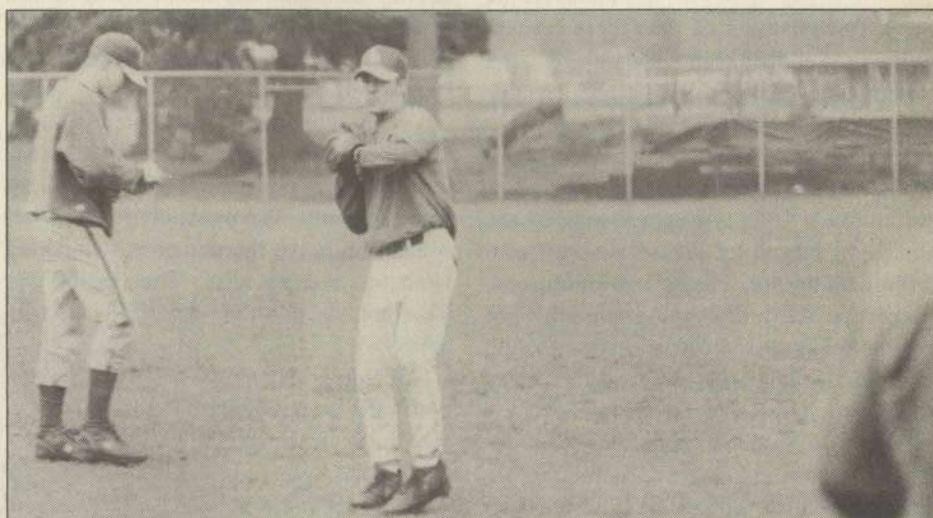
The pitching staff will be led by Brian Hinchy (Right Handed Pitcher [RHP] from Federal Way), Ryan Mebust (RHP from Lake Washington), Jeff Brown (RHP from Decatur), and Chuck Roberson (RHP from Franklin). The Freshmen crop of pitching talent includes three left-handers, D.J. Penick (River Ridge), Scott Kelly (Tahoma), and Tyler Willis (Lindbergh).

Sophomore Josh Godfrey from Kentwood will be the front runner at catcher. Freshmen Scott Shultz, from North Thurston, and Scott Swett, from Woodland, should also make an impact at catcher.

The Gators have a talented and loaded infield led by Sophmores Shane Cronin (Kentrige), Matt Turner (Rainier Beach), and Freshmen Troy Schrader, Brian Kruse, Jack Kernodle, and Chris Zorich.

The outfield is where the Gators are short-handed. They have only five outfielders on the roster. Sophomores Mark Ohlsen (Kentrige), Ryan Harrison (Decatur), and Ian Roberts (Mt. View) anchor the outfield. Freshmen Rob Gabrio (Auburn) and Scott Swett will also have spots in the outfield.

The Gators are led by head coach Dan Spencer and assistant coaches Billy Jones and David Day.



GRCC baseball team warms up at recent practice.

Photo by David Nelson

## Back to Back and Back to Back and Back Again

BY AMANDA KLIENERT

SPORTS EDITOR

Steve Sauers, the tennis coach at Green River, is proud of his many trophies and awards. His office is overflowing with plaques and certificates proclaiming GRCC men's and women's teams as the winners of over 27 state championships since 1970.

Sauers has been coaching the men's team since 1976, and the women's team since 1979. Since then, he has received 12 Coach of the Year awards. His record for the men's team is 431 wins to 70 losses, and 279 wins to 39 losses for the women. He is also the business division chairman for GRCC and teaches Business Education courses.

Sauers played tennis on his high school team, but now he plays only for fun. "I have always hired a strong assistant coach who can get out on the court to do the physical coaching and demonstrations," he said.

Each of the teams have won four NWAACC championships in a row. Sauers believes that this year's teams have the same potential, hence the headline. On the men's

team, Sean Hergert and Tavis Throm are returning sophomores, and were two of the top players last year. Shannon Rottle is the only returning sophomore on the women's team.

"I'm still accepting new members through mid-March," said Sauers. "I'd really like to see some more women turn out for the team."

The team practices and holds their matches in the Boeing Employee Center outside of Kent. "There is an excellent viewing area for the audience. The place has six courts, and the viewing area is raised so the audience can look down at the players."

Sauers uses drills which simulate actual court situations, because he feels this is the most effective. "A combination of fun and hard work is more fun than just hard work, plus winning is even more fun," he said.

The first matches will be at home against Shoreline. The men play on Tuesday, April 2, and the women on Wednesday, April 3.

# Girls Basketball on the Rebound

BY JAVIER SOSA

STAFF REPORTER

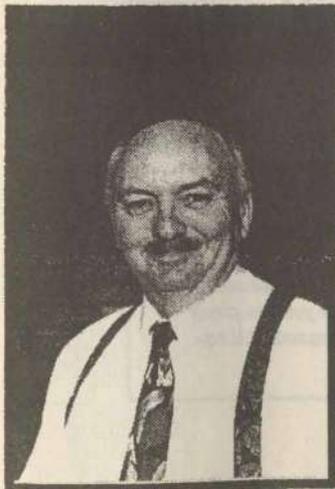
Now that the 1995-96 Women's basketball season is all but a memory, the very young Lady Gators have a lot to shoot for in 1997. After losing two sophomores to graduation, the team will get the core of the 95-96 team back for another full season.

After posting a 10-18 overall record, the Gators fell only one game short of qualifying for the playoffs.

Only after losing the final three games of the season were the Gators fully eliminated from post-season contention. The loss to South Puget Sound on Feb. 14 was the loss that did them in. They could not bounce back and defeat a very tough Centralia team on their home court.

Even though their record might not indicate it, some of the ladies on the team had a very good season. Nicki Spry, this year's co-captain, led the team in scoring 13 points and four steals per game. She also finished her career as Green River's all time single season free throw leader, making 107 of 163 shots from the charity stripe. She also made 208 free throws during her two years on the team.

Cyndi Rainis led this year's team in rebounds with 262, making an average of 9.4. She was second in scoring, at 12.3 points per game. Freshman Tennille Strassburg rounded out the top three, scoring 11.8 points per game.



Gary Nichols Women's Coach

'95 ~ '96 Season

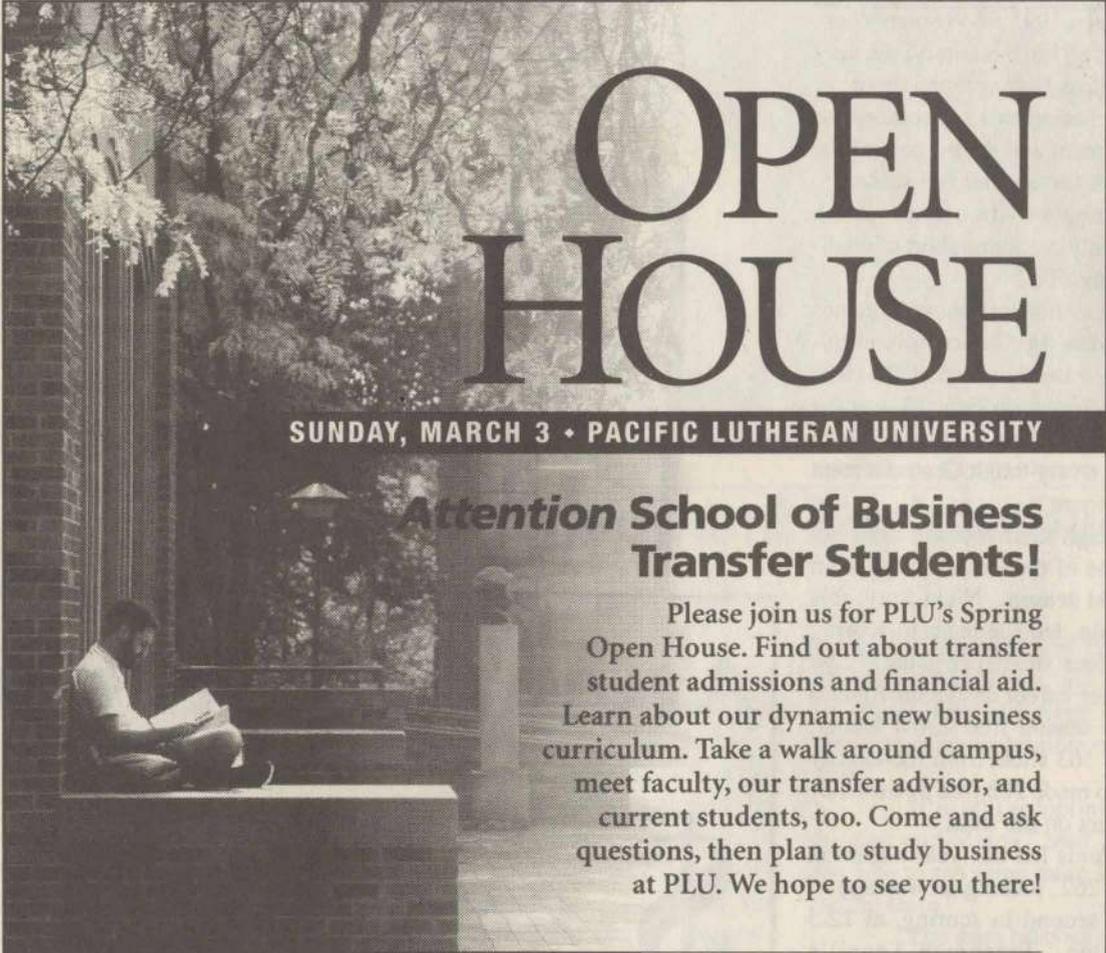


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# OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, MARCH 3 • PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

## Attention School of Business Transfer Students!

Please join us for PLU's Spring Open House. Find out about transfer student admissions and financial aid. Learn about our dynamic new business curriculum. Take a walk around campus, meet faculty, our transfer advisor, and current students, too. Come and ask questions, then plan to study business at PLU. We hope to see you there!

### Schedule of Events

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 10:00am–12:00pm | Registration and Complimentary Brunch<br><i>Olson Auditorium</i>  |
| 12:00pm–12:30pm | Opening Presentation<br>with PLU President Loren Anderson<br><i>Olson Auditorium</i>  |
| 12:30pm–3:30pm  | Campus Tours and Admissions &<br>Financial Aid Information Tables<br>Bookstore and Espresso Cart open<br><i>University Center</i> |
| 2:00–2:30pm     | School of Business Program Session<br>with Dean Joseph E. McCann<br><i>University Center, Room 210</i>                            |



To register for the Spring Open House  
call 1-800-274-6758 or 535-7151.

For information about PLU's School of  
Business call 535-7244 or you can reach  
us on the internet at [myrmoma@PLU.edu](mailto:myrmoma@PLU.edu).