

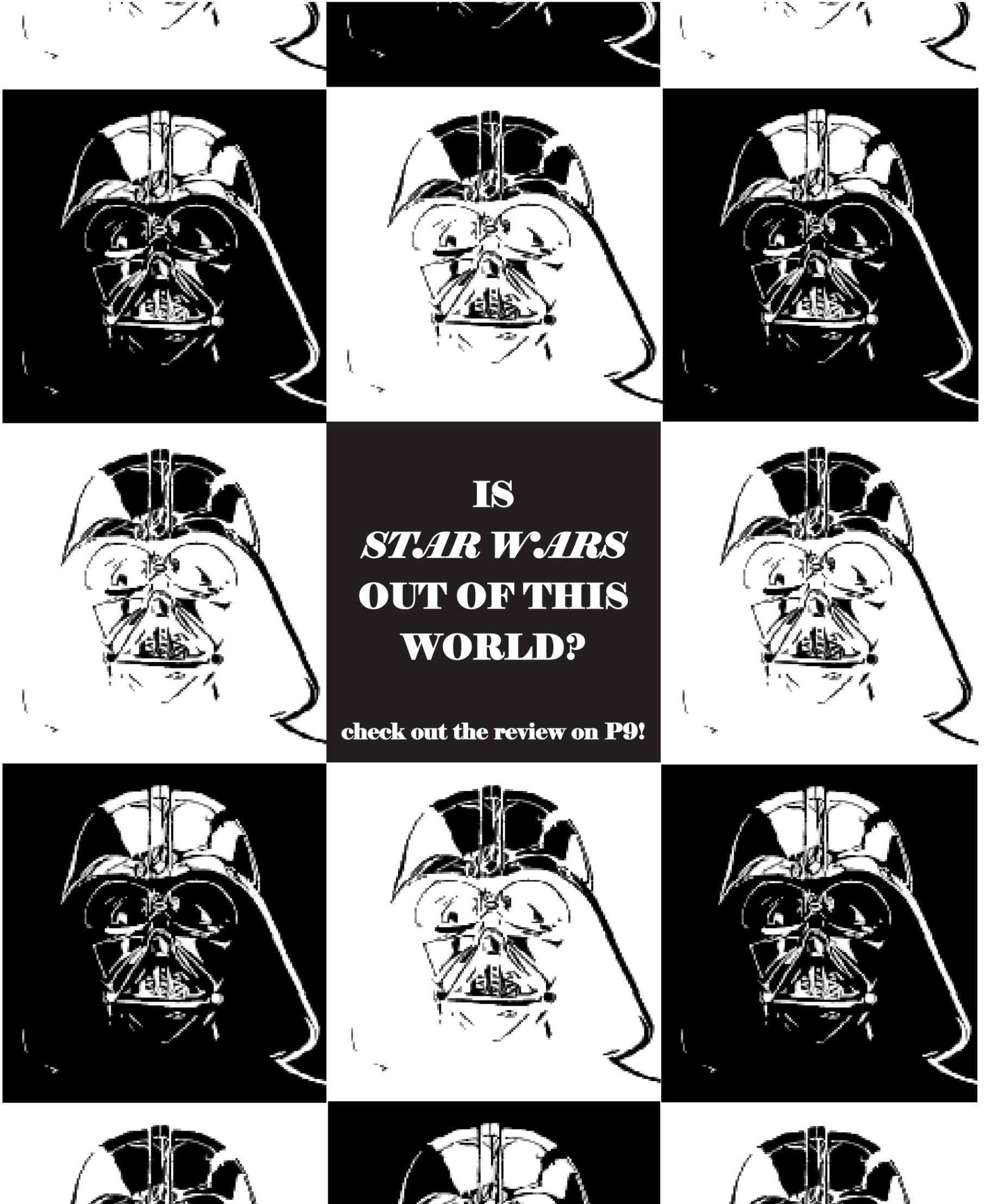
SCANDAL! GRCC Candidate discovered influencing vote...P3!

Green River students go around the world in 11 booths; celebrates cultural week...P8!

THE CURRENT

FRIDAY | MAY 27, 2005

| GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER



IS
STAR WARS
OUT OF THIS
WORLD?

check out the review on P9!

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Meet your new Student Government President and Vice-President on P6!

Current on Campus

P2

FRIDAY | MAY 3, 2005

EVENTS CALENDAR

compiled by Nichole Levens

May 27
Food Drive

This is the last day of the food drive held by Green River's Business 109 Leadership class. Donate today to help the Auburn food bank. Drop off sites are located throughout the library, student center, learning center, PE building, and BI buildings.

June 4-5
Campfires and River Fun
Wenatchee

Sign up in student programs today to have fun on this weekend trip. There will be white water rafting, camping outdoors, and campfires. The cost is \$60 per student and \$70 for non-students. The bus will leave at 7:30a.m. and will return the following day at 5p.m.

June 6-10
Dodge ball Tournament
Main Gym

The tournament will run all week from 12-1p.m. with an extra hour on Friday. Space is limited and sign ups must be done by June 3. There will only be six teams maximum. Have some fun with friends, earn prizes and get a free sweat-band.

June 3, 4, 10, 11
"Fools!" by Neil Simon, comedy
\$8 general admission, \$6 seniors

Come watch the comedy play put on by students here at the college and Dr. Hartwell, the guest director.

THUMBS UP & THUMBS DOWN



Thumbs up to the Seattle International Film Festival. Go online to check the times for some of the world's most critically acclaimed films!

Thumbs down to the gubernatorial race still in debate. We need to learn how to move on.



Thumbs up to summer! Is it warm enough for us to go swimming yet?

Thumbs down to season finales. What am I supposed to watch all summer now that my favorite shows won't be back until fall?



Thumbs up to gas prices finally going down. We can almost afford to buy food now.

Thumbs down to lack of energy on Mondays. Why can't it be Friday all the time?



SECURITY BLOTTER

compiled by Kirsten Esvelt

On 5/3/05, a personal property vandalism occurred. A student was returning to their car in parking lot C when they noticed that their passenger side vinyl window had been slashed open. The glove box had been rifled through, but they couldn't be sure if anything was missing. The car, a Jeep CJ5, was parked about 50 yards west of a parking lot guard shack.

On 4/21/05, school property vandalism happened in the Lindbloom Student Center. In the second floor men's restroom, on the tile in the first stall, someone with either a sick mind or playing a cruel joke had written "White Aryan Nations, K.K.K." The student who found it removed as much as they could with paper and water, and security was given a heads up to remove the rest.

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

Current on Campus

P3

Student Success

Thinking about getting ahead? Dates for Summer and Fall quarters have been released.

Mark Mitsui
Asst. Dean of Student Services

Its never too early to begin thinking about summer and fall quarters. Take a look at the dates below to prepare for these upcoming quarters.

Remember, registration for Summer quarter has already started. If you haven't registered yet, now is the time. Registration packets are available all over campus and online at www.greenriver.edu.

June 6
Summer tuition due in full

June 16
Commencement

June 27
SUMMER QUARTER 2005 (A561) BEGINS

June 27
Last day for 100% refund

July 4
HOLIDAY - Independence Day

July 8
Instructor and Dean signatures required to add classes. \$35.00 fee to add each class.

August 5
Last day to request Pass/Noncredit on grades.

August 5
Last day to complete official withdrawal

August 17-19
Finals

August 19
LAST DAY OF SUMMER QUARTER

August 22
Grades due by 5 p.m. to Enrollment Services

August 23
Web grades due by 5:00 p.m.

August 25
Grades (Summer Quarter) available online

September 09
Last day of instruction (11 week session)

September 05
HOLIDAY -Labor Day (Campus closed)

September 26
Fall Quarter 2005 begins

In our last issue, we at The Current had discovered Trout McCodfish's disappearance. Having narrowly escaped the clutches of Barbara Vincent-Price and her henchman, Mildred Van Trump, Trout was on the run. We are proud to say however, Trout has since been found. The following is an account of his past month's adventures:

When Mildred Van Trump noticed Trout had fled her compound of enlarged kitchen appliances, she became enraged. Knowing full well Vincent-Price could never stop Trout herself, Mildred sold her employer on the black market...where she has not been heard from since. Mildred, however, was on the hunt for Trout.

Racing against time to find Trout before Van Trump, we discovered him, now disguised as a man in a panda suit, and working in Seattle as a used car dealer. Fearing that his work as The Current's mascot would forever endanger both himself and his editors, Trout began a new life for himself. That was until we found him and persuaded his return.

However, the story does not end. Upon his return to the trailer, we received a voice message from Mildred Van Trump outlining her plan of attack. If we fail to turn Trout over, we will suffer the consequences. We however, are devoted to professional journalism and shape-shifting mutant mascots and don't plan to surrender our beloved Trout without a fight.

Stay tuned next month for the THRILLING CONCLUSION!



The Richards Wrap-Up

Campaign violations lead to the disqualification of one presidential candidate.

by Tiffany Richards
Student Gov't Correspondent

Campaign violations in last week's Student Government president and vice-president were the main topic at the May 12 meeting of Student Government.

Presidential candidate Aaron Key is accused of leading a student voter to a voting booth, pointing out his name, and telling the person to vote for him. Because his alleged actions were in direct violation of the campaign rules in the election packet, the candidate was disqualified from the race altogether.

In his defense at the meeting, Key said that "I did talk to someone, but not about the elections. When the person I was talking to went to a computer, I simply pointed my name out. This is not campaigning in any way, my disqualification is unfair." Key is appealing the Judicial Board decision.

The other parties, the Wilson/Johnson and Grover/Gannaw campaigns were partially suspended on lesser charges of indirect campaign violations in which

either the candidates themselves or members of their campaigns wore campaign t-shirts in a building that housed a voting computer.

Along with post-election issues the Student Government discussed more about the class of 2005's as of yet undecided Sophomore Gift.

The annual Sophomore Gift from this year's graduating class is still unclear. Possibilities that were brought up included better lighting around campus for students taking night classes and adding more security alert booths.

If students have any ideas or concerns about the Gift, please feel free to let Student Government know by bringing all suggestions to the Information Center, located near the video game area on the second floor of the LSC.

The Vietnamese Inspirational Student Association's constitution was approved.

A request for \$5,000 to purchase new sound equipment for the LSC was introduced, but no decision has yet been made.



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YOU GET MORE WHEN YOU GET TOGETHER

Opinions & Editorials

P4

FRIDAY | MAY 27, 2005

Dead pets were never worth so much

Jason Wells
Staff writer

If you want \$45,000 dollars, look no further than the natural "hatred" between dogs and cats. Paula Roemer, a Seattle resident, sued over the death of her cat, which was killed by her neighbor Wallace Gray's dog. The final figures of the lawsuit amounted to \$45,480.

The dog escaped from its yard and proceeded to maul and finally kill the cat. Gray pleaded guilty to an animal control violation and served three months in jail for it. That, apparently, was not enough though.

The judge overseeing the case ruled the cat, a stray picked up during a trip to Israel, was worth \$30,000. The emotional damages Roemer endured were worth another \$15,000, with the last \$480 being various other expenses. Basically, Gray went to jail and then was ordered to pay a \$45,000 fine over a fight between his dog and his neighbor's precious cat.

Don't get me wrong, I love animals as much as the next person, and greatly prefer cats over dogs. However, I just do not see how a stray animal can be ruled to be so valuable. The \$15,000 in emotional damages is one thing, and, while excessive, can be debated as personal preference. However, the cat would never have sold for over \$100 commercially, and yet was given a value of \$30,000. That figure is utterly ridiculous.

Cats wander, it's a known fact that any cat owner has to deal with. If someone doesn't want their cat getting hurt in the outdoors, that person should keep the cat indoors. Cats get attacked by dogs and hit by cars every day, but luckily most people don't pursue lawsuits over the issue.

Unfortunately, this isn't a fluke occurrence in a sea of sanity. Our state is one of the most sue-happy in the country, especially



Picture: www.swapmeetdave.com

Sue happy pet owners are receiving record payouts from lawsuits over their pet's deaths, with much of the money coming from emotional damages.

when it comes to emotional and medical things. To top it off, we also have one of the highest payouts per lawsuit, leading to more people suing over trivial matters and getting paid more than the issue is worth.

Two years ago a couple was awarded \$25,000 in emotional damages in the Snohomish County courts. They sued over the deaths of various livestock, which the caretaker had sold to slaughter instead of actually caring for them. Now, I could see a reason behind the money in that particular case, although I have yet to actually understand how emotional damages can be solved with a monetary payout. \$25,000 for the value of the livestock maybe, but not for emotional damages.

Washington isn't the only state guilty of such frivolous payouts. A Texas man recently won \$10,000 when his dog was hit by a car after escaping from a

grooming parlor. Once again, I'm not sure where these emotional damages come from, and I have yet to see a guide defining just what emotional damages are worth any particular dollar amount.

There are times when someone should sue, such as medical malpractice, true workplace discrimination, true sexual harassment, etc. These, however, are not the only things sued for, as seen by the Roemer case. However, frivolous lawsuits occur in more areas than just pet-related deaths, and it is becoming a bit much for me to tolerate.

Too many people are out for only themselves anymore, and any slip of the tongue can result in losing everything you own if the right lawyer takes the case. This attitude both sickens me and scares me.

It sickens me because people seem to have lost the "love thy neighbor" mentality and

replaced it with "screw thy neighbor over." Few pay attention to the everyday good deeds people do, simply because the random slip-ups pay so much more.

That scares me more than it rightfully should. People must be hyper-vigilant in controlling what they say or do out of fear of being sued. This has led to a society afraid to express its true opinions but more than happy to ostracize (and sue) those who aren't as 'controlled.'

Obviously that has little to do with suing someone over the death of a cat, or does it? This lawsuit demonstrates that no longer do people have to rely on the classic mistakes to get rich quick. Instead they can look for those instances when a neighbors pet kills their own (it happens more often than one might think).

I'm curious, if one of Roemer's precious cats snuck into a neigh-

bor's house (which cats do from time to time) and killed a neighbor's pet bird, would the same result happen? I anticipate she would be singing a different tune then, but of course most people do when the tables are turned and they are put on trial.

So what is next? Are people going to be sued if they happen to hit a pet that runs in front of their car (it already happened in Texas)? What if someone really loves the natural wildlife and decides to sue drivers who hit crows, squirrels, and possums, because they are emotionally distressed that their local flora and fauna (eye candy) is being 'slaughtered'?

Thankfully I think that is a little far-fetched and excessive. Then again, I thought \$45,000 over the death of a cat was excessive. Maybe I should go find a good lawyer and purchase some lawsuit insurance.

Motorcyclists need to utilize the spaces given to them

Melanie Wittman
Staff writer

We've all had those days when we're running late for school and have to deal with fighting for a parking space that isn't half a mile away from any sort of man-made structure. The parking situation at Green River is bad. There's no other way to describe it. We all have to battle for a spot and there are some great injustices from this school's parking plan.

Maybe others haven't noticed, but I see it almost everyday.

While trying to find a parking spot I always see at least one motorcycle parked in a parking spot made for a car. What's the problem with this? Along with the school's carpool advantage, we have 27 specially designated spots for motorcycles on campus. And these spots aren't far away from the school or hard to find. There are seven by the main entrance to the school and three next to the SMT building and The Current's trailer and 17 more scattered around the parking lots. But no motorcycles are ever



Photo: Randy Zweigle

occupying these spaces which were made specifically for their convenience, and ours.

So why are our biking commuters never coerced into parking there? To me it's just as offensive to see a motorcycle parked in a student space then it

is to see a student's car parked in a teacher's spot or a carpool advantage. Yet there is no punishment for bikes taking up a full-sized spot. Why aren't these bikes ticketed? If a student's car is ticketed for taking up a vacant teacher or carpool space, then so should a motorcycle when it takes a student's. We need to create a system that informs our biking friends that we have these spots and they need to start working there.

It's not like the motorcycle spaces are always filled. I've

never seen, throughout the entire time I've been at this school, a motorcycle parked in its designated area. Those spots were made because if they tried to put car spaces there instead, it would be dangerous, and stupid.

In the end I feel there needs to be a change in parking. It feels that regular commuting students get the short end of the stick with everything. We already have to fight with every other car on this campus; we shouldn't have to fight with a motorcycle.

Higher education to reach new heights in Kent *Green River's Kent center hopes to boost student interest*

by Eric Hanninen
Staff writer

The city of Kent is attempting to take a healthy step forward in the development of its character.

It has made a large step forward by being named to the Sports Illustrated Top 50 sports cities in the nation rankings. This has led to the improvement of many sports fields or parks as well as the areas that surround them.

They have installed a train station and have cleaned up the streets quite a bit.

They also have plans to build a large shopping and living plaza.

Now, they are ready to take the next step, making Green River way more prominent in the city.

No longer will the satellite center in Kent be forgotten and have nothing appealing or interesting to offer. The college is opening up credit classes in Kent.

Previously all that was offered there was business or computer related. The computer courses were usually short and were only designed to teach you a program such as Microsoft Access. Also

offered was a life skills course. There was nothing that could be used toward a degree, and interest was very low.

Stepping up the usage of this outlet will be good for the college and overall for the city of Kent. A positive influence is just what the community needs and should benefit all sorts of people.

This spring there was a more fruitful line-up of classes that included many more options. Included in these were an expanded business section, communications, English, history, math and psychology.

It's all the same as you would find in Auburn. You have to take a compass to be placed in certain classes, some have prerequisites, and we all know the drill here.

The classes are offered at many different hours just as they are at



Photo: greenriver.edu

Green River's Kent campus has recently added more classes to its schedule

the main campus. They have morning and evening classes available to us. If you are from the north end of town, this may be very convenient for you.

The center is conveniently located and very easy to find. The address is 840 N. Central Avenue (Suite 106).

If you are on highway 167, you

just get off at the 84th Ave/North Central Ave exit. It is approximately half a mile from the off-ramp.

Unlike the zoo we experience in the main campus lots on a daily basis, the Kent Center has ample parking. It's easily accessible and has plenty of parking for all that are attending. That is

a luxury only the night school students enjoy in Auburn.

If you are into a small, friendly atmosphere, or perhaps a little convenience, then maybe this is a fit for you. Class sizes are smaller and allow more personal contact with your professors. This only adds to the already appealing experience.

Campus may soon go wireless

Studies are being conducted to gather more information about 'dead zones' and other potential problem issues

by Eric Perkins
Staff writer

Wouldn't it be great to have a wireless internet connection anywhere on campus? In a few years, that may just be a reality.

At this very minute, there is a campus-wide study on this very subject. This \$18,000 study, funded by the school from the master planning for capital projects budget, started on April 25 and is to be finished by June 30.

Right now wireless internet is only available in the Holman library and even then only in the areas used by students (after all, it was paid for by that tech fee that some classes charge).

But during the day you may notice people walking around with open laptops, or setting up

strange-looking equipment. These are the hired consultants, testing for things like the power/data distance, and optimal locations for potential access points.

the Cad drawings furnished by the school on the interior buildings, exterior buildings and parking lot. The survey is even looking into adding the nearby child-care center to the network.

Student reaction has been very enthusiastic, although one student was disappointed that this was all started during his last year at Green River. Regardless, the general consensus among the students I questioned about it is that you could get a lot more done between classes if the entire campus had wireless capability.

But that may be difficult. Portions of campus are known for being cell "dead zones" where it is impossible to get a signal. It was also discovered that portions of the

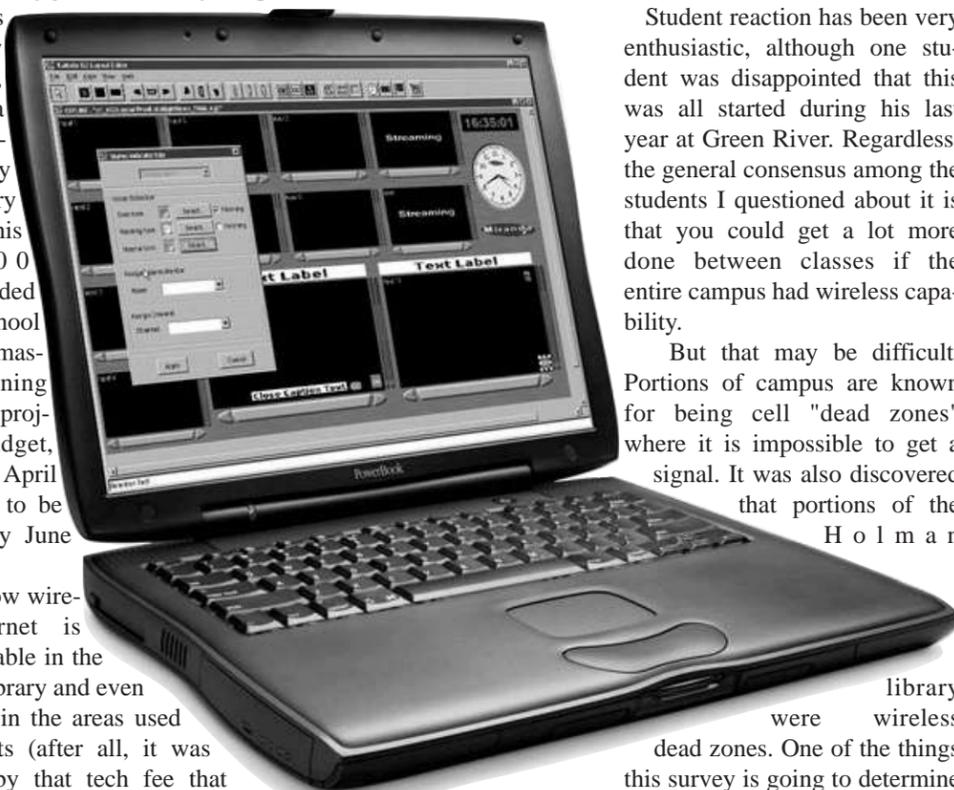
H o l m a n

library were wireless dead zones. One of the things this survey is going to determine is why these dead zones are there, and where all of them are.

Of course, if it happens it might not be soon. If the findings of the

survey are positive, it will be worked into Green River's "master plan" -the things the school wants to accomplish within the next 10 years.

The Holman library served as a pilot, and the new Tech center will be wireless-capable as well. But when the wireless equipment is installed over the rest of the college, it won't be gradual. It's going to be done in one sweep.



These consultants then take that information, and place the optimal access point and equipment locations on

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Grover and Gannaw have big plans for next year

by Darius Parker
Staff writer

After weeks of preparation, campaigning and hard work, the candidates for student government got the election results last Friday. Although the elections are not officially over (there is currently an appeal in progress) it is safe to say that Brian Grover and Johnny Gannaw will be next year's president and vice president.

Neither won by a landslide but both of them got much more votes than they needed to win.

Gannaw (next year's vice president) was only three votes away from doubling the amount of votes of his closest competition Micheal Johnson; and Grover received more votes than both Aaron Key and Amanda Wilson combined.

There was one landslide in this year's elections though. 877 of the 957 students who participated in the elections voted "yes" to change the school's constitution.

Evidently the current constitution is not making students happy; and we've not only voiced our opinion this year, we've screamed it.

If there is anything new that next year's president and vice president will bring to the school it is their high energy and intensity.

Even though Grover and Gannaw are only two of thousands of students here at Green River it seems like they've been everywhere these last few weeks. It's not that they put forth more hard work or effort into their campaign than their competitors; it was their demeanor and the

way they delivered their message that made them so popular.

Both of them showed excitement for what they were doing; but at the same time they didn't take themselves too seriously (some of us may recall their poster with wacky-looking facial expressions).

Now that they've been elected, both will have a lot of issues to deal with; but they've both made their number one priority crystal clear.

"We want to ensure that the voices of the students are heard, and we want to make sure they have more than one opportunity to do so," said both men.

When asked how they would go about accomplishing their goal of getting more students involved, they explained how they would have open forums for students. Not just for students who are aware and get involved with such things but for all students.

They will be putting forums in places where students will actually see them (for example at the tables in the Limbloom Student Center where many students spend their off hours).

They will also be creating online forums for students who attend night and online classes.

"During our campaign our motto was 'the choice for your voice.' We plan on living up to that," said Grover.

Both stressed that they will maintain the energy and intensity that got them elected in the first place.

"We're going to try to make students more aware of the student government. Next year a lot more students will actually know who the presidents and senators are," said Gannaw.

Although they have not begun their duties as president and vice president yet, they've already seemed to make somewhat of a difference here at Green River. Last year 444 students voted for student government. That number has more than doubled this year. 957 students participated in the voting process this year.

Many students claimed to be very interested in this year's elections. Not only were students aware of the elections but they actually cared about them. Almost all of them said that they felt it was important to vote - something that was not really in the school's atmosphere last year.

Maybe it is just a coincidence, but it seems like Grover's and Gannaw's excitement and enthusiasm is beginning to rub off on the students.

Answers for transfers A transfer student tells about her experience meeting with an advisor

by Tiffany Richards
Staff writer

As a transfer student on the verge of graduation, I wanted to make sure I was on the right track when it came to my intended course of study. I plan to continue on to the University of Washington in Tacoma and earn my BA in communication. To help me with this process, I attended an advising appointment with Mandy Meinhardt, an admissions advisor from the university, in the educational planning office on May 19. This week's column is devoted to describing this experience.

The first thing Meinhardt and I covered was the nitty-gritty details of my intended program of study, the communication concentration of the interdisciplinary arts and sciences major.

This concentration offers two branches of emphasis within the program itself - one covers the basics of the real world media such as newspaper and radio, while the other focuses on how modern culture and public opinion are shaped by media influence.

While I intend to focus on the first part of the communication concentration, I can see that taking courses in the other

area couldn't hurt either. Meinhardt continued her overview by describing some of the out-of-class requirements I'd need once I began the program, such as a media internship.

She also encouraged me to possibly pursue a minor that is offered within Interdisciplinary studies. The non-traditional minor possibilities range from human rights to environmental studies.

The next thing we went over was the admissions requirements necessary for me to enter the university as a junior. I had already fulfilled some of the basic requirements while in high school, such as my foreign language and some of my quantitative/symbolic reasoning classes. A copy of my official high school transcript will be needed when I apply to prove that I completed the credits.

The most helpful part that Meinhardt and I covered was my college level work I have completed here at Green River and

what I still need to take. She went through a copy of my unofficial transcript and wrote down the classes I've already taken on a worksheet so we could determine what I still need to take in order to transfer at the end of winter quarter next year.

Since I've been pursuing my Associate's in arts degree from the beginning, I have most of the requirements completed. But even with a relaxed program like interdisciplinary studies, there is a difference between what category my classes go toward my associate's degree and the basic transfer requirements.

My two political science classes, both the 100 and 204 level's, count as only five transfer credits while they fulfill ten Social Science credits of the associate program here at Green River. And while my math 107 class counts toward my associate's degree quantitative skills fulfillment, it transfers as another science and natural resources class.

I also learned that I need to focus on taking more communications and English classes for the remainder of my time at Green River in order to better my chances of being accepted.

All in all, I'd have to say that the advising appointment helped me further simplify the complicated transfer process.

A couple more college advisors will be on campus to talk with potential students in the educational planning office. I encourage you to stop by room 126 on the first floor of the LSC or contact them at 253-833-9111 ext. 2641 for exact times and dates.

I would also encourage all transfer students to take the extra time to make the phone call, write the e-mail, and schedule your own individual appointment with one of your college's admissions advisors, whether on or off the Green River campus. It's the only way to make certain you're on the right path when it comes to pursuing a higher education degree.

Answers for transfers is a regular column written by Tiffany Richards about the issues facing Green River's transfer students. Please send ideas to thecurrent@greenriver.edu



Grover (left) will take over next year as ASGRCC president and Gannaw (right) will be vice-president



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Voices of Green River

In lieu of the recent Green River presidential elections, reporter Darius Parker asked students if they voted.

"I actually was interested. We needed to see more stuff done around the school, and I just wanted to do something about it."
-- Ebie Omoruan



"Nope. Not at all."
-- Ryan Meisenheimer



"What elections?"
-- Mark Campbell



"Yes, I voted. It's the student government... You gotta be interested."
-- Martin Wick

"I did vote because it's what people should do. People can't say that something needs to be done if they don't do anything about it themselves."
-- Jordan Fezell



"Yes, I voted. I felt that Johnny and Brian cared the most. I don't even know the other candidates."
-- Anne Hadjimalis



Green River BBQ promoting carpooling, shuttles and alternate transportation attracts many students

Free food and prizes grabs students' attention and creates successful event

by Liane Behrens
Features editor

In order to teach more students about the alternative transportation offered and encouraged on campus, the college hosted a free barbeque event on May 18.

The two hour barbeque had a large turn-out, unsurprisingly, as college students are more than likely to take any free food.

Two raffles were held and prizes given to students. Among the prizes available were tickets

to the Spirit of Washington Dinner Train, Mariners tickets and other Seattle events.

While the raceway was quite muddy, the event was well-planned and provided a lot of fun for those involved.



Photos: Liane Behrens

Above: One of the shuttles bringing students from campus to the raceway and back.

Above right: Green River students and staff wait in line for the food, which ranged from vegetarian macaroni to ribs to freshly baked cookies.

Right: Students and staff sat under tents, enjoying the catered food, good company and constant mud.



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Features

Cultural sensations in form of booths in LSC

Green River students able to experience many different cultures' food, clothing and entertainment

by Nicole Levens
Staff writer

During Cultural Week, many booths were set up in the Lindbloom Student Center to show Green River's students different cultures.

The culture booths were impressive to many. There were about 11 different cultures that filled up the main dining area. Some booths were more elaborate than others.

Southeast Asia had a nice display

of many types of their tropical fruits, including some that are rare. Many of them were very bright and beautiful, while some were slimy and hairy. Most were said to be sweet and very delicious.

Sarah Holloway, a current student, commented "I thought the star fruit was really cool. Its natural star shape when cut is very unique."

Norway's booth was also very interesting. It displayed language, dress and literature.

Taiwan's presentation was very well done. They displayed a wide variety of their culture with videos, clothing, music, magazines, and fashion. They were also giving out fortune cookies.

Another nice display was India's. They offered Henna tattoos and showed off some dancing. The dancing by some of those participating was one of the highlights of the festival.

Information about Green River's Study Abroad program was also available for interest-

ed students. With this program, students can experience different cultures first hand, as opposed to through booths.

As a whole the culture booths were very interesting offering a lot of information into the cultures of many.

One of the Indian dancers involves a fellow student in her fun.



Photo: Nicole Levens

A group of students crowd around a booth, interested.



Photo: Nicole Levens

Indian dancers showcase their skills, dressed in traditional garb.



Photo: Nicole Levens

Psych Club delve into issues of not just the mind, but also of life

Revamped club offers both discussion and psychology help from students and teachers

by Jason Wells
Staff writer

Does the mind fascinate you? Does seeking knowledge of the inner workings of the human psyche drive your everyday existence? If so, check out Psych Club every Tuesday at noon in SS 2. If not, come check it out anyway; a little psychology never hurt anyone.

Psych Club is currently a small group of people with similar interests in the field of psychology. The club has been around for three years, but has remained relatively small and unknown for a number of reasons, the biggest of which was lack of consistent and stable meetings.

This year things were a little different, however. Paul Meng, vice president, and Genie Lau, secretary, worked hard this year to create a stable environment where like-minded people could come to discuss issues concerning them.

These issues broached subjects such as career plans, educational goals, information about the variety of fields of psychology, how to get into grad school, and even how to best transfer to finish the undergrad degree.

During the meetings there are

often guest speakers to discuss the above issues from their own experiences. These speakers have included Dr. Jerry Marshall, who also happens to be the club's advisor, and Dr. Carsh Wiltturner, the Seattle Mariner's sports psychologist.

One of the biggest goals of Psych Club is to build connections with peers and people in the field.

"When practicing you are really relying on the people you know," said Lau.

As such, they have striven hard to allow as many connections as possible to be forged over the course of the year.

Green River psychology students can also find help from Psych Club members, many of whom have taken every known psychology class offered on campus. If someone has a question about a test, project, assignment, or just a topic in the class, Psych Club is the place to go to find assistance.

There are even bigger goals for next year's club. Unfortunately, this year's officers will be graduating in the spring (fortunate for them, unfortunate for the club), and no replacements have been found as of yet.

What Psych Club ISN'T

you need to control your Id more I predict you are clinically depressed
Your kinesthetic sense is off rational-emotive therapy
with a slight Oedipal complex never mind the fact that you're a girl
This is all very your echoic memory seems to be twisted and inverted,
valid, you know rationalizing your actions and I suspect you're slightly narcoleptic
I wouldn't be surprised to You have an undiagnosed phobia but I can't tell of what
learn you're lacking a Y and you're anal retentive
chromosome.. Metacognition?



Photo: Liane Behrens

If you are interested in finding out more about Psych Club for next year, attend one of the

remaining meetings on Tuesdays in SS 2 at noon. If there is the slightest inkling of interest in the

field of psychology trapped inside your mind, you won't regret attending.

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

The third and final *Star Wars* prequel proves itself as a brilliant conclusion to George Lucas' intergalactic saga

by Cody Peeler
Editor-in-chief

From the *Episode III* novelization by Matthew Stover:

"The dark is generous, and it is patient. It is the dark that seeds cruelty into justice, that drips contempt into compassion, that poisons love with grains of doubt. The dark can be patient, because the slightest drop of rain will cause those seeds to sprout. The rain will come and the seeds will sprout, for the dark is the soil in which they grow, and it is the clouds above them, and it waits behind the star that gives them light. The dark's patience is infinite. Eventually, even stars burn out."

Revenge of the Sith, George Lucas' final installment in the *Star Wars* Saga, is easily the most important to the prequel trilogy's puzzle, and while fans of the galaxy far, far away will likely revel in Anakin Skywalker's fall from grace, casual viewers may be too confused to put the pieces together.

However, since its debut 28 years ago, *Star Wars* has become more than a mere movie. It's an experience, not to mention a cultural icon. Thus, it can not be compared in the same light as another. While the mythology is drawn from legends of the past, it is both complex and unique. For that reason, "casual viewers" are far from this prequel trilogies target audience. The latest *Star Wars* films require an investment of time and imagination, something the average viewer will fail to comprehend, hence the reason that reviews of the most recent two chapters have been so scathing.

Watching *Star Wars* is in many respects, much like reading a book. Should you skim through it, you'll never grasp the subtle aspects of its genius. In addition, you're likely to have missed something of great importance when every aspect requires your undivided attention.

When dealing with human drama (even when surrounded by thousands of alien species), psychology is key. In that regard, should you fail to understand the character, you'll fail to understand their motivations. For example, reviews are already surfacing that Skywalker's fateful turn to the dark side feels rushed and unbelievable, though true loyalists will disregard such nonsense. Hayden Christensen, who portrays the conflicted Jedi Knight, has also been attacked for his "wooden-performance."

Characterized as "whiny" and "immature," the teenage angst of the future Darth Vader remains a lingering complaint amongst those who've seen *Attack of the Clones*. However, they've forgotten that's who Anakin is. And why wouldn't he be?

Nervously accepted into the Jedi Order while being hailed as the prophesized "Chosen One," only to be told by the aging and dogmatic religious gurus that he's forbidden from forming any emotional attachments to those closest to him? Having experienced an actual childhood, then having it uprooted to serve a flailing government might give anyone the need for emotional outbursts. In truth, the talented Christensen has given this character something even James Earl Jones never

did: an explanation. Figuratively speaking, Skywalker's star simply burnt out.

For the past six years, criticism has become a staple of the *Star Wars* prequels. Roger Ebert proclaimed of *Episode II*, "so bogged down in politics that it played like the Republic covered by C-Span." A minor quibble, for without it's exposition you have nothing to form an understanding, which is why the original trilogy (as it was much simpler to follow) is set upon a pedestal.

The prequel trilogy serves its predecessor much like *The Silmarillion* did for *The Lord of the Rings*. You have the primary story in place and for a complete comprehension, a vast history is created to serve as reference. So, while the prequels are entertaining in their own right, they are

Sith concludes the Skywalker saga in grand, no-holds-barred fashion. Though we're already aware of its tragic conclusion, literally every scene has increased relevance. The suspense still remains as we're curious to learn exactly how things fall apart.

With the puzzle finally complete, *Episodes I* and *II* now hold more emotional resonance. They provide a new perspective and are able to truly connect with the themes which were to set it apart in the first place. What turns a good man evil? How are our points of view distorted? What means will we go to protect our loved ones? All are answered and prove that *Star Wars* is a timeless epic for people around the world.

Such complex issues, however, do have

thus leaving room for enough detailed action to keep it fast-paced and exciting.

The only flaws with *Sith* are entirely minor. There are countless variations of the clone trooper (now available in every color of the rainbow), and while the special effects are awe inspiring in their scope, they often overwhelm the plot itself. The technology is certainly there, but it doesn't actually necessitate the need for it. Less is definitely more, and Lucas seems to have unfortunately forgotten that. The screen is often so frantic with images that the audience has trouble focusing on what they're meant to.

That aside, the plot is certainly well developed and Lucas deserves credit where it's due. For those who've seen the first two episodes, it is easy to understand Skywalker's struggle and the natural progression of events which prompt it. Fear, anger, aggression are all signs of the dark side and Skywalker's arrogance in ignoring these warnings are his undoing. His immaturity has waned in his heroic efforts during the Clone Wars, but when tormented by the fear of loss and his growing questions regarding the Force itself, the good man we've come to know begins to make all the wrong choices.

While Natalie Portman's role as Padmé is reduced to an intergalactic desperate housewife, it is executed with a mix of both contemplation and heartache. As her daughter Leia later says in *Return of the Jedi*, "She was very beautiful, kind...but, sad." Portman seems to have taken the quote to heart as she brings this description to life.

The standout performance however, belongs to Ian McDiarmid as Chancellor Palpatine. Like the snake, luring Eve to taste the forbidden fruit, so Palpatine influences Skywalker. With promises of peace and immortality as his guide, Skywalker succumbs to the dark side and takes his place as a Sith Lord (the Sith being the anti-Jedi). Palpatine's treachery draws comparisons to the devil himself, using deception as a means to his evil ends. "Lies, deceit. Creating mistrust are his ways now," as Yoda so eloquently said of the Sith in *Attack of the Clones*.

When said and done, the pieces fit seamlessly together. *Revenge of the Sith* brings not only edge of your seat thrills, but closure to a chapter in movie history. While it is definitely the darkest of the sextet, both in its tone and John William's musical score, it is uplifting having the advance knowledge that everything will be resolved in time: redemption through the love of a son, and the fulfillment of an ancient Jedi prophecy bringing balance to the Force.

No other films in history have captured the world's attention like *Star Wars*, and while the trivial criticisms will undoubtedly ensue, the pros have easily outweighed the cons. The franchise ultimately retains its popularity for its spirit, and the universal themes which spring eternal:

"The dark is generous, and it is patient, and it always wins - but in the heart of its strength lies weakness: one lone candle is enough to hold it back. Love is more than a candle. Love can ignite the stars."

Grade: A



Revenge of the Sith grossed over \$303 million worldwide in its first four days, shattering the previous record set by *Lord of the Rings: Return of the King* in 2003.

vastly different from what you'd expect due to the amount of detail involved.

Watching the series now in full, chronological order adds depth and new perception, but isn't as essential as watching *Episodes IV, V* and *VI* alone. This, however, is not meant to discredit Lucas' recent works, but to elaborate on his talent in weaving a mythological tapestry. With a canvas comprised of galaxy so limitless, your interest in the character's personal pasts becomes so passionate, you're willing to spend the additional six hours to understand them. And while its exterior may feel mundane in comparison, its heart and soul remains.

As for *Episode III* specifically, true fans will find the force strong with this one.

their downside (most notably in *Revenge of the Sith*). Rated PG-13 for its intense imagery (understandable, but nothing overly traumatic), parents of small children may find this other reason a need to wait for video. Missing any scene will likely lead to confusion concerning its plot and talkative youngsters or excessive drinking will likely become a detriment to the movie-going experience.

As for the film's narrative, Lucas has constructed it with skill and determination, with enough philosophy, political intrigue, and sentimental value to make the likes of Shakespeare appreciative. The dialogue may not reach his proficiency, but Lucas manages to say everything without revealing more than he needs to,

Local band balances the duties of rock music and college life

By Kirsten Esvelt
Staff writer

De'esis: "a petition, a desperate plea, a pouring out of the heart." Taken from an ancient Greek term used in the New Testament of the Bible, the band's name describes their music and the message they portray.

Matt Johnson, guitarist and lead vocalist, Jairis Laurie, bass guitarist, and Nathan Laurie, drummer, make up De'esis. The band has been together officially for about a year and a half, although they have been playing together much longer.

Matt and Jairis are both students at Green River and Nathan is a former student. Growing up together as brothers and best friend, the band members work well with each other. They have fun and

jam every chance they get. Jairis summed it up when he said, "We just want to have a good time and play rock music."

De'esis has been around a while but because these guys are students with real jobs, they don't always have as much time as they'd like to play shows. They perform about one to two shows a month and every Friday night they lead a worship service at Ardent church in Kent. If you're interested in good music and good food, it starts at six.

De'esis also played a show for Green River in the student center several months back and will be playing on KGRG soon.

Last September they won Maple Valley's Battle of the Bands contest and got free studio time. The last three months have been spent hammering out a

five song demo called *Out of Desperation*, recently released. Be sure to look them up and check it out - it rocks!

Jairis was interviewed about the band to discover what he felt about it. "I like how we all feed off each other," he said. "We just know each other so well, you know? We each bring various aspects to the music."

When questioned about the songs being released he instantly jumped up and offered to play them on his little hatchback's stereo. We rushed across the parking lot through the rain and climbed in. The music he played was fantastic - kind of a melodic metal that leaves the listener waiting expectantly for the next note. We sat and rocked out, Jairis playing the "air guitar" with eyes scrunched shut as he pounded out the bass parts in his head.

This band is definitely worth checking out, especially since the boys attend or

have attended our college. To sum up their style is a paragraph from their website:

"The music of De'esis is not light, nor is it meant to be taken lightly. Some may find the lyrics dark, or perhaps negative, but never is the listener left without the idea that in the midst of our suffering, we have a High Priest who can sympathize with our weakness.

"With lyrics built on firm foundations of faith, hope and love and a music that relates directly to frustrations and shortcomings of the human experience, De'esis is sure to draw attention. Wake up and listen, Seattle."

For more information, go to www.deesisband.com or come see them play at Ardent church in Kent on 240th.



photo from purevolume.com



Ship sails for northwest rock band

by Kevin Diers
Guest writer

Three years ago, if you were to tell Danny Hesketh that he was going to be in one of the most popular up and coming bands in Seattle underground music scene, he would probably have told you to get out of town.

Hesketh, a former student at the college, along with band mates Paul Bettinson, Ryan Baker, Collin Horn, and Andy Rice comprise the band known as Sinking Ships, who on May 6 played a sold out concert at the American Legion Hall in West Seattle to celebrate the release of their new record.

For months, the band and the record label owner, Jeff Cazessa, of Boston's own Run for Cover Records had been sweating every minor detail in the production of their debut album. From the title; *Meridian* (inspired by their hometown's Lake Meridian), to the artwork, and all the way down to the people mentioned in the liner notes, nothing went unprobed or unaltered to perfection.

The two weeks leading up to the record release show were the most hectic though. With everything recorded, the artwork finished, and all the minor details sent out, both parties waited on pins and needles for the finished product. The manufacturers of the album seemed to have every excuse for delaying to send it out, as the release show came closer and closer.

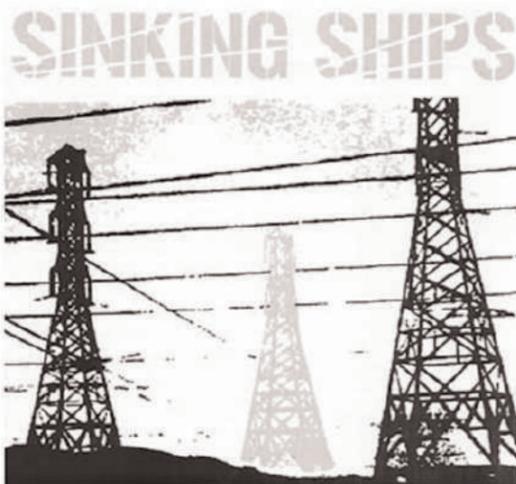
Finally on May 4, two days before the show, Cazessa was in possession of the finished products.

"Jeff had to chase down a UPS truck that had just driven off with the cds because he didn't wake up

when the guy knocked on the door. He was running down the street for close to five minutes yelling at the driver to stop!" said Horn, bassist for Sinking Ships.

Cazessa's diligence paid off, though, for he was now able to fly to Seattle and deliver the band their records in person.

When Cazessa's flight arrived at the Sea Tac airport on May 5, he embraced the band and gave them the news that the boxes had arrived. Needless to say, the band



was quite relieved that they would actually have records to sell at their own record release party.

"When Jeff brought those CD's off the plane, we were in shock, we thought we would have to disappoint all the kids who came to by it at the show," said Horn.

With everything in place for the show, the band was a lot more excited and ready for the show. The line at the American Legion Hall wrapped around the corner with people eager to get their hands on a copy of the new album as well as getting a chance to see who RevHq.com (a viable source in the underground hardcore scene) described as "One of best new hardcore bands around

today."

The anticipation mounted by the minute, as Sinking Ships strapped on their equipment and tuned up their instruments. As they blazed through the first couple songs the fans went ballistic; singing every word and jumping around in a frenzy. The set included some new songs off of *Meridian*, and some older ones which seemed to be the crowd favorites.

As the last song was about to end, vocalist Hesketh called out to the crowd that it was their last chance to have fun. This sent the crowd into a frenzy, who were swinging their fists every which way and moshing with every ounce of energy they could muster up.

In the end, the show was a complete success, and the audience seemed to love the new album, artwork and all. When the first positive reviews were posted on local underground music online message boards the band knew that all their effort was worth it.

"I love seeing that people really appreciate all the hard work we put into this album," said Horn after reading these reviews. "It really paid off."

Sinking Ships will be touring this entire summer and most of next year in support of *Meridian*. Unlike many bands, they do not have aspirations to be the next big thing or have a video on MTV, though.

"We just want to make a few records and tour a little bit. This band is just a chance for us to have a little fun," explained Hesketh. Time will only tell just how much fun they will have and how far the underground music scene will take Sinking Ships in the future.

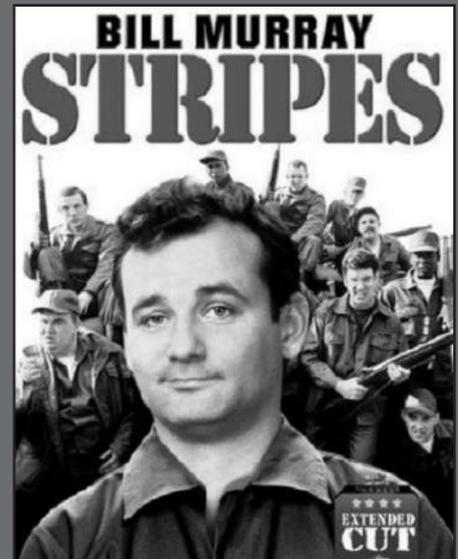
New and upcoming movie release highlights

Crash (Now Playing)

All of you who were out seeing *Star Wars* probably missed this scathingly sharp and deeply affecting drama about life at the point of impact. Starring an ensemble cast that includes Don Cheadle, Brendan Fraser, Sandra Bullock, Terrence Howard, Matt Dillon, Ryan Phillippe and Thandie Newton, *Crash* is a masterpiece of performance and writing. Directed by Paul Haggis (writer of *Million Dollar Baby*) from his own screenplay, *Crash* is a must-see.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith (Opens June 10th)

In the vein of *True Lies* and based on not just a television show but also a Hitchcock movie and some other unlikely sources, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are right on the mark as a spy couple whose identities are even secret from each other. Directed with action-packed, big-budget flair by Doug Liman of *The Bourne Identity* and *Swingers* and topped off with a cast including "The O.C."s Adam Brody and Vince Vaughn, *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* looks to be the first big summer movie after *Star Wars*.



Stripes - Extended Edition (On DVD June 7th)

Bill Murray's 1981 military comedy arrives in a new DVD edition that improves over the original featureless disc. Complete with 18 minutes of extended footage and an hour-long documentary containing a new interview with Bill Murray, and an audio commentary with director Ivan Reitman and writer Harold Ramis. Remastered to look better than ever, this hilarious comedy classic is definitely one to own.

Ferrell fans won't leave the theater kicking and screaming

by Nicole Frieszell
Staff writer

Kicking and Screaming, directed by Jesse Dylan, is simply a comedy. There is not much else to it.

The film is filled with Will Ferrell's naïve enthusiasm and honest humor, which promises chuckles throughout. The humor is often physical and silly but some is at a level that any age would enjoy.

"I want you to play dirty if you have to, but don't get caught," Ferrell instructs his kid's soccer team in one scene.

The storyline is basically a typical sports one. Average family man Phil Weston (Ferrell) has been belittled by his obsessively competitive father (Robert Duvall) all his life. Always having to outdo Weston, his dad even engaged and has a son born on the same

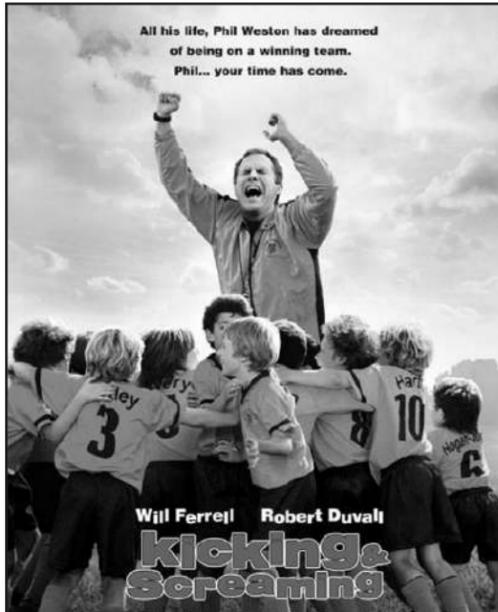
days Weston does.

When his son's last-place soccer team, the Tigers, needs a coach the athletically-challenged Weston volunteers. With his oddball group of boys and Weston's own lack of skill, the team doesn't get any better.

Then, Weston convinces football coach Mike Ditka (played by himself), who appears to be mortal enemies and the next door neighbor of Weston's father, to be his assistant coach.

Although this new coach doesn't improve the team's playing, he brings on two Italian boys who are expert soccer players. By always

allowing any of the other kids a chance, the team climbs up the



winning ladder towards the coveted championship.

For Weston, who has probably never won anything in his life, this new winning streak turns him into a maniac, becoming as emulous as his father. The competition continues to elevate as it all builds up to the championship game, against his father's top-ranked soccer team.

Unlike most sports films that focus on the team, *Kicking and Screaming* ends up being mostly about Weston and the competition between him and his father, rather than the kids' soccer team. The story never gives the audience a chance to really get to know Weston's son Sam

(Dylan McLaughlin) or any of the other kids on the team. This

results in a lack of marrow, which leaves you not even caring whether the team wins or loses.

Ferrell's acting in the film is the same as always, where even the crying is spurious and almost comic. Robert Duvall once again shows his versatility as an actor, taking on a film that is outside of his usual choices.

The cinematography in this film is brightly lit, with blurry, slow-motion and sped-up, subjective action shots mixed together during the soccer game scenes. At times, the camera work gets jerky and moves as though it were a home movie shot on expensive film.

Kicking and Screaming consists of a thin story sprinkled with handfuls of humor. If you're a Ferrell fan, see it for some good laughs, otherwise you may want to skip this one.

Weezer fails to rekindle the magic with latest album

by Tom Callis
Staff writer

If you happened to not notice Weezer's 2002 release of *Maladroit*, then there latest release of *Make Believe* (released on May 10) is probably the first you have heard from the pioneers of "nerd rock" since you saw "Hash Pipe" on MTV.

While their first single, "Beverly Hills" from their new release which pokes fun at celebrity life is hardly recommendable it serves its purpose to get them some play on MTV. For their sake hopefully they are quick to release another single to save the album from being soured by an overrated track that

you will most likely be sick of by the time summer comes.

None the less the album does show some promise. Songs like "This is Such a Pity" and "We Are All on Drugs" have that refreshing power pop sound which made them stand out in the early 90's grunge obsessed era. They certainly help get the bad taste from your mouth that is left after the first track. It's left to be decided whether they can get enough momentum going for the



next coming years.

While it seems that Rivers Cuomo never stops finding ways to apologize to that anonymous somebody in his lyrics he does manage to perfect it in a few tracks. "This is such a pity," "We are all on drugs" and "Pardon me" are all recommendable songs. While this doesn't leave much hope for the rest of the album, which is somewhat mediocre in comparison.

There is one certainty and that's any listener will easily find a handful of

tracks that they will love which makes it worthy to add to your collection. At the same time you will probably find yourself using those left over tracks simply as background noise while studying or driving in your car.

Make Believe track listing

1. Beverly Hills
2. Perfect Situation
3. This is Such a Pity
4. Hold Me
5. Peace
6. We Are All on Drugs
7. The Damage in Your Heart
8. Pardon Me
9. My Best Friend
10. The Other Way
11. Freak Me Out
12. Haunt You Everyday

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The Gators of spring: game over



The Gators shake off a home turf win against Shoreline earlier this season.

Photo: Andy Gardner



Katie Gronowick on her way home.

Photo: Andy Gardner

Luck runs out for Green River fastpitch

Current staff

Ending the season with a record of 21-17, Green River's own softball team headed for the NWAACC tournaments at Delta Park, Portland, Oregon.

The team clinched their spot in the tournament with a 3-1 win against second place Olympic (23-15) on the 14th at Green River. While losing the second game of the day 2-5, the girls still managed to place 4th in the North division of NWAACC. The team also split a double-header with Olympic on April 22.

Their first game was against Walla Walla (21-17). Coach Gary Jones expected it to be a very competitive tournament, citing Walla Walla's excellent hitting.

Powerhouse pitcher, Rachel Mathews, surrender 4 home runs. Walla Walla wooped on the Gators in the first game, 10-0.

"We were solid all the way through," says Mathews of the season. Racheal won most valuable pitcher in the league.

"Hitting came through big time, we had a lot of ups and downs but always came through in the end," states second basemen Erica Kuchiak. They both urge those who are interested in playing next season to speak with Coach Gary Jones.

Looking back on the season Coach Gary Jones had nothing but praise for all the players. "We've managed to fight through the injuries and still qualify for NWAACC," Jones was quoted.

In Portland, the Gator Girls were hobbled, crippled by Renee' Kilgore's sprained ankle. Kilgore was handcapped at first base on the defensive and couldn't run, but she was ninth player, she had to play. Tanna Sangder also fell ill recently, suicidal to her spot on the roster, placing firmly on the bench.

In the second game, fighting the bottom feeders of the loser's bracket, Green River, simply imploded. Losing to Everett, 8-3.

All things aside the one thing this team brings to each game is a refusal to give up the ship.

"We come from behind and won nine games out of twenty league wins," Jones stated, thanking everyone for the support received this season.

This was the first season in the three years Jones has been Green river's fastpitch Coach, that the Gator girls even qualified. As the team continues to develop, there is strong potential that Green River will continue to improve their performance and the take the win next year.

Gator baseball out for the season

By Eric Hanninen

Staff writer

The Gators have wrapped up their season, playing hard throughout the duration of the year. They opened up the season scrapping for every victory and finished the same way, battling and hovering around the .500 mark.

Now the Gators have officially completed their campaign, and they posted a respectable 19-23-2 overall mark while they went 9-15 in league. There were ups and downs and many bumps in the road along the way to a fourth place finish in the West Division. We stayed competitive down to the last game, losing by only two runs against Lower Columbia.

Although the season is done there is no need to feel down. There were many highlights throughout the year that are memorable. Tying the best team (Lower Columbia) in extra innings before the rain finally shut down the game, Green River obviously has talent on the grass.

In fact, although the Gators never defeated Lower Columbia, they were in three games that with a gap of two runs or less.

Four players posted an average of .310 or better, three of them are freshmen. One pitcher has signed a letter of intent to attend Western Kentucky University to

continue playing in the fall.

Sophomore Kiko Castro racked up a .366 batting average with 15 RBI's. The terrific trio of freshmen also put up numbers.

Adam Ausen hit .365 with 10 RBI's and Russell McGinnis posted a .311 average with 12 RBI's respectively.

Matt Fields hit an amazing .380, with three home runs, and a team leading 16 RBI's. Optimism will not be needed heading into next year when you have three proven freshmen waiting hungrily to get back out on the field to create havoc for pitchers around the state.

Bottom line the player that will most be missed is stand out sophomore pitcher, Adam Balcom. Balcom posted a respectable 5-2 record but his other numbers are truly remarkable.

Over a whopping 54.2 innings pitched, he had an unreal ERA of 0.66! He gave up only 10 runs over the entire season, and only four of those were earned runs, parallel that with a 43 to 17 strikeout-to-walk ratio, and you have yourself a very dangerous and effective pitcher.

We'll have others to carry the torch next year but clearly we have a void at pitcher with the departure of him. All in all the year was enjoyed by all as our Gators were impressive and competitive every step of the way this season.



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