

Trailblazing Scenic Green River Trails

TRIO Day:
Mayor
Speaks

Page 4

Muslim Cartoon
Fallout

Page 5

Opinion:
Temp Work
for Students

Page 9

Drama On Campus



Experience
Camelot Pg 11

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Printed by
King County Journal Newspapers



Security Watch

Fleeing Suspect

Feb. 6

Security was informed that a suspect in a previous incident was known to be staying in one of the Campus Corner apartments. Officers arrived and confronted the owner of the apartment. The suspect soon came to the door and agreed to leave with the officers. As they were leaving the complex, the suspect took off running down 320th Street into a housing community. The officers returned to the apartment and informed the owner this was the third time he had harbored a suspect. Administrators later met with the man to discuss whether or not he could continue living at CCA.

Weighted Disagreement

Feb. 8

An employee in the campus weight room reported a female student was refusing to leave. The student was said to be sitting on one of the machines but not using it, and wouldn't move. The weight room attendant told the girl to get off the machine, after which she started cursing at him and another student. When asked to leave the weight room, she refused. The girl claimed she was using the machine to exercise; she left after talking with security. It was unclear whether she would be allowed back in the weight room.

Kent Campus Theft

Feb. 10

The Kent Campus informed security that one of their computers was stolen. Kent Police were notified. Additional information about the stolen property was not disclosed.

Shattered Window

Feb. 13

An officer driving one of the shuttle vans reported that a Chevy pickup at the raceways had kicked up a rock, shattering one of the van's rear windows. The driver was stopped, and King County Sheriff's deputies arrived to take a report. They learned that the driver of the Chevy did not have insurance.

Weather Damage

Feb. 17

Two cars were damaged by trees because of windy conditions. In Parking Lot F, a branch fell onto a Nissan Altima. The passenger side mirror was hanging by its cords, and there were scratches and dents on the frame. Several hours later, a Honda Civic parked at the Wastewater Management Building was found with a branch embedded in the windshield. There were also multiple dents on the trunk, roof and hood.

Hit and Run

Feb. 21

A witness told security of a hit and run accident in Lot I around 10:30 a.m. A Crown Victoria had damage to the driver's side taillight. The witness gave the license plate number of a Voyager that caused the damage; officers then located the driver, pulled him out of class, and escorted him back to his vehicle. The student's insurance information was collected.

CORRECTION

An article in the Feb. 17 edition of The Current incorrectly reported the growth of Green River's 522 Budget. The correct amount is \$70,000, for a total of \$920,000 next year.



Events

Asra Nomani
March 8
\$10 Reserved
\$8 General
\$5 Students
7:30 p.m.
LSC
(main dining hall)

Asra Nomani speaks about being one of the first female Muslim activists.

Contact: Brian x2400

Uncensored Comedy Night
March 9
Price T.B.A.
6-9 p.m.
LSC
(main dining hall)

Megan Mooney and Josh Blue performing with a special guest M.C. Pizza and laughs included
Sign-up in Student Programs.

Contact: Jill x2400

Camelot
March 12
\$10 per person
7 p.m.
Performing Arts Building

An award winning Broadway musical version of the legendary King Arthur's love for Guinevere and friendship with Lancelot.

Contact: Brian x2400

Louder than words campus life through photojournalism



Andy Gardner/TheCurrent

Got Photo?

Are you a photographer? want to be a campus photojournalist? Submit your campus photography or sign-up for Journ 100.1 (#4631)

Questions or comments? Contact us! see Staff Pg. 2



Senators of the month



Tami Zeitler Public Relations

Birthday: October 27, 1977 Favorite Superhero: Wolverine (X-Men) Major: Elementary Education Superpower: Love of people Food of Choice: Anything Mexican Born in: Seattle, WA Favorite TV Show: Myth Busters

Quote:

"Everyone can make a difference in this world by simply getting involved, don't wait for someone else to do it!"



Rubai Deep Judicial Board & Parliamentarian

Birthday: February 9th 1988 Favorite Superhero: Spaceman Spiff and Professor Chaos Major: International Affairs/Relations Superpower: Tenaciousness Food of Choice: Blueberry Yogurt Born in: New Delhi, India Favorite TV Show: South Park and the Daily Show.

Quote:

"No matter what your dreams are, they are important."



Jeff Hebner Judicial Board

Birthday: December 6th, 1982 Favorite Superhero: Luke Skywalker Superpower: Unlimited Follow-up Questions Food of Choice: White Rice Born in: Tacoma Favorite TV Show: Price Is Right

Quote:

"I will be here next year to continue the progress that the senate and student programs are achieving this year. If you see me, feel free to say hi!"



Andy Gardner / The Current

Pete Lewis, mayor of Auburn, gives remarks at a campus event recognizing the success of the TRIO support program.

Celebrating success, support Auburn mayor on hand to mark National TRIO Day

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

Green River Community College celebrated National Trio Day on Feb. 23 in the Glacier Room in the Lindbloom Student Center. The mayor of Auburn, Pete Lewis, was on hand to congratulate the program on another successful year.

The president of Green River Community College, Rich Rutkowski greeted the crowd before allowing Lewis made a brief speech recognizing the importance of groups such as TRIO and thanking everyone in the room for supporting the program. He then handed the microphone off to a group of three students, Jeremiah Parham, Sabrina Pope and Grant Reynolds to discuss the importance of TRIO in their lives.

The students talked about how TRIO had allowed them to

succeed in school and about just how important TRIO is to Green River and other colleges around the nation. They mentioned specific life stories and how TRIO helped them to overcome their difficulties entering school. After they were done speaking there was a short question and answer period followed by an opportunity for guests to speak with all the TRIO participants and staff.

The program earned a new grant this year to fund the program for the next four years. The funding will support 200 students each year. At the end of the four years, the program will be judged, and awarded a new grant based on the success of the program in the last four years.

TRIO helps first generation college students and other students who fall into the low-income category help make their way through college. The group helps needy students find financial aid money; apply for scholar-

ships, and other forms of money for school. The students in TRIO volunteer their time by making fliers, and by passing the program on through word of mouth to other potential students who could benefit from TRIO's services.

TRIO also help students decide what classes to take, decide on a major, transfer to a four-year university and other important everyday tasks at school. They simply help students find a path in life, as Jeremiah Parham said, "TRIO is a flashlight in a dark tunnel." The group strives to be the first place students turn to when they need help at school, no matter what the situation is.

Parham said that the program is not hard to qualify for and that any student who thinks they might qualify should rush into applying as the program levels the playing field between the students from different social and economic backgrounds.

Students donate at second blood drive

Blood Center set goal of 65 pints

Amanda McVey
Reporter

Peeking into the Glacier Room in the Lindbloom Student Center on Feb. 22, you might have seen a strange sight: students, on beds, with tubes running from their arms. It is only strange if you do not understand what is going on; that was the day of the quarterly blood drive.

The Puget Sound Blood Center staff comes to the community college to receive the blood donations from students and faculty. The donation is a pint, a small amount which can save three lives. The pint of blood and one hour of your time is an easy yet large contribution, a view Lindell Bruce, an ambassador for TRIO shares.

"It is a way I can share what I have," she said before donating. "I'm healthy. I feel it is a way to give back."

She became aware of the need for blood, and donated, when her husband fought in the Gulf War.

There are numerous reasons why people donate. Most people know or will know somebody who has received a transfusion – you may even need one yourself someday. Some recipients of a blood transfusion are premature victims, cancer, hemophilia, leukemia, surgery, sickle cell patients, accident, burn and trauma victims. Blood transfusions help these unfortunate people.

Julie French, who works for Green River's Health Services, set the goal for the winter blood drive at 65 donors. The time of year affects the success of blood drives, because the fall blood drive usually receives the most. The fall of 2005 blood drive had a goal of 95 donors.

Giving blood is a simple process with only three steps. Before you donate, a trained volunteer interviews you. They do this to ensure they are receiving blood that is safe to use in transfusions. You fill out a form with your name, address and age, and show photo identification to the volunteer. Then you are sent to one of the blood collection technicians who checks your pulse, temperature and blood pressure. The technician also checks for sufficient iron in your blood. You are questioned about many different areas of your health, including your sexual

behavior. The purpose of these questions is to prevent blood that could possibly have infectious diseases from being donated.

For the actual donation, you lay down on a padded table, where they clean your arm. The technician inserts a sterile needle into a vein, and the blood from the vein flows into a tube which is attached to the needle. Then it goes to a plastic bag where the blood is collected. Technicians constantly check on you to make sure everything is okay, and that the blood is being collected successfully. When they have a pint, they remove the needle. A bandage of the color of your choice is wrapped around your arm, and you have donated.

The last part is easy. You are sent to relax at a table with other blood donors to eat cookies, and have some juice or water. You spend ten or fifteen minutes there to make sure you are feeling well. It is also important that you read the "Post Donation Instructions," which tell you to drink extra fluids for the next three days. The instructions also say to leave your bandage on for at least four hours, and to avoid heavy lifting and strenuous exercise for 12 hours.

There are rarely negative effects of donating blood.

"It all depends on how the person takes care of themselves before and afterwards," French said.

Four million Americans will need a transfusion this year to survive, and demand is always growing. It is difficult to maintain an adequate blood supply; donated blood can only be used for 42 days because after that it is not safe. Only five percent of possible donors are giving blood. Most people have blood to spare, because you can have as many as twelve pints of blood in your body. After you donate blood, your body quickly replaces it, with the help of the juice and cookies of course.

You can donate blood if you are healthy, between the ages of 16 and 76, and weigh at least 110 pounds. Young possible donors, like most of Green River's students, are in particular demand because they are the healthiest of the age groups. Green River's next blood drive will be held in the spring, or you can find a Donation Center by going to Puget Sound Blood Center's website, www.psbcc.org.

Funding for radio upgrades approved

Tiffany Richards
Reporter

Student government granted a total of \$6,150.14 to Green River's radio stations, KGRG and KENU, to pay for necessary equipment upgrades at their Feb 23 meeting.

KGRG requested for \$1,931.82 to purchase a mixing board, microphones, microphone cables, and microphone stands so they can have live bands come into the studio and give live performances. According to Program Director Ryan Morden, this new equipment will give students in the radio program hands-on experience as well as promote the

college to the community.

KENU, also known as Pulse 1330, requested \$2,384.82 in necessary individual equipment upgrades, which include a new set of turn tables, hard drive, and DVD burner. The newer equipment will allow both resident and guest DJs to spin as a part of regular radio programming. The new turn-tables will also replace those currently being loaned to the station by a student who will be leaving the program at the end of Spring Quarter.

The new hard drive and DVD burner will allow the station to store their music in a backup system. As of now, KENU is storing all its music on one computer system and have no backup storage

unit. If there was a system under the current storage system, all the station's music would be lost irreversibly. A total of \$916.79 was also given to both radio stations to pay to cover the costs of promotions stickers for the next three years.

Diversity Services also received \$250 from student government. Diversity Services is a student service committed to providing programs and services to recruit, retain, and graduate under-represented student populations, to pay for an African drummer and dancer for an event during Diversity Week. The event has been scheduled to take place on April 13 from 12 to 1 p.m., with the location to be revealed later.

Present:




March 18—26

Highline Performing Arts Center—Burien
401 S. 152nd Street

Reserved Seating For tickets visit:

www.hi-liners.org
or call 206-617-2152



Andy Gardner / The Current

Shallaw Mohamadamin, 19, of Iraq, is among those upset over the publication of cartoons of Prophet Muhammad.

Muslim students react to religious cartoons, fallout

Tiffany Richards
Reporter

The publication of political cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad in several newspapers throughout Europe last month have led to violent protests by enraged Muslims throughout the world.

While Muslim students here at Green River are strongly opposed to the cartoons, holding them to be blasphemous in nature, they're equally opposed to the widespread violence that has occurred around the world.

"The Prophet told us through narrations that he didn't want any image of him to be produced whatsoever," said Mahommad Sahal, president of the Muslim Student Union. "He didn't want those who are ignorant of the faith to worship his image rather than God. The Prophet was sent by Gabriel to bring people to knowledge of their dependence on God, not to bring honor to himself alone."

So why haven't the violent protests plagued the Americas as they have largely in Europe and the Middle East?

"True followers of Islam are taught to be patient," Sahal said. "We must oppose this blasphemous publication through peaceful protests and educating non-Muslims how we view the Prophet and his direction about images in general. The right to take innocent life without reason is reserved for God alone, not his creation [humans]."

This opinion has been reflected by a majority of Green River's student body, even though they don't hold the same level of reverence for the Prophet Muhammad.

"I think it's a little bit ridiculous that people would be so outraged over a cartoon," said atheist student Chris Willey. "I understand why they're [Muslims] offended over it, but I don't understand why they're hurting innocent people over it."

One Christian refugee student from Africa said "I can see both the positive and negative qualities of the cartoon. The positive thing is that young people have an opportunity to learn more about the world around them. It's negative because of all the violence it's caused."

Political science instructor Lloyd Jansen was able to present an understandable background on both the religious and political aspects of the issue as a whole.

"The cartoons are a symptom of a problem involving a complex set of a power relationship between Islam and the West," he said, citing the fact that Egyptian newspaper Al-Fagr independently published the same cartoon with little reaction.

Jansen briefly explained that the once powerful and influential Islamic empire has been subjected to Western domination in the past 200 years. The Middle East has suffered the brutal end of Western-dominated colonization, economic influence, and military presence. This humiliation was furthered with the creation of the

state of Israel in 1948.

"Recent events, such as the occupation of Iraq by largely Western nations and the ongoing conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians, have opened past wounds and made them fresh," Jansen said.

He explained that the cartoons, when shown in this context, are just another blow to the Islamic culture from the dominating West.

On the issues of free speech and press in light of the cartoons, Jansen said that, "many in the West see it as an expression of free speech without understanding the conflict. It would be like if a credible publication, such as The New York Times, published a cartoon attacking African Americans. It would likely result in widespread outrage and protest. If that same cartoon was re-published by major newspapers across the country, it would likely be seen as white elitists in America asserting their racial dominance. One could argue they have the right to, given the provisions of the First Amendment, but the objects of the cartoon would be in rage."

Another Muslim student, who's originally from Somalia, held the same position as Jansen.

"I think it [the cartoon] is hate speech. Basically, there should be a goal in journalism. That goal shouldn't be to spread violence. If a writer [or reporter] was trying to scholastically prove that Muhammad was a bad man without simply insulting him, that would be fine."

NEWS BRIEFS

Assistant Dean Mitsui receives international award

An assistant dean at Green River has received the International Exemplary Leader Award.

The Chair Academy, which provides leadership training for college administrators, will recognize Mark Mitsui at its international conference in April.

Recipients are nominated for the award by their colleagues, and winners are selected by the academy.

Mitsui was recognized for

developing programs that enhanced learning and diversity on campus, and for modeling "loyalty, commitment, integrity, acceptance, and open communication."

Mitsui started at Green River in September 2004, with eight years experience at North Seattle Community College.

Mitsui is an Assistant Dean of Student Services, supervising a variety of student programs including Student Life and Athletics.

Campus competes for \$200K in Technology Fee funding

The Technology Fee Committee will make its recommendation in April on how to spend upwards of \$200 thousand in funds for next year.

Students pay a mandatory \$5 fee for every credit they take at Green River. That money is distributed annually to groups and departments on campus that request it.

The committee is made up of five voting students, and two voting staff members, who will review proposals and make a recommendation to the college's executive vice president.

The funds can be used on technology equipment and related expenses.

Supreme Court won't hear college censorship case

The United States Supreme Court has decided not to hear a controversial case involving censorship of a college newspaper.

The case, *Hosty v. Carter*, pitted student editors at the Governors State University *Innovator* against administrators. The dean had demanded to review each copy of the paper prior to publication. Students refused; the newspaper has not been published since.

Margaret Hosty, along with fellow student journalists at Governors State, sued the dean for violating First Amendment rights to freedom of the press.

A federal court sided with the students, declaring that the dean was not within her

boundaries to censor the publication. However, that decision was reversed on appeal.

Last year, almost five years since the original incident, the student editors appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court to rehear the case. On Feb. 21, 2006, the court declined.

That decision lets stand a ruling that could open the door for greater censorship of college media.

Only public colleges in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin are directly affected.

The Student Press Law Center, which provides legal support to student journalists, is encouraging colleges across the country to declare the editorial independence of their student publications.

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

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

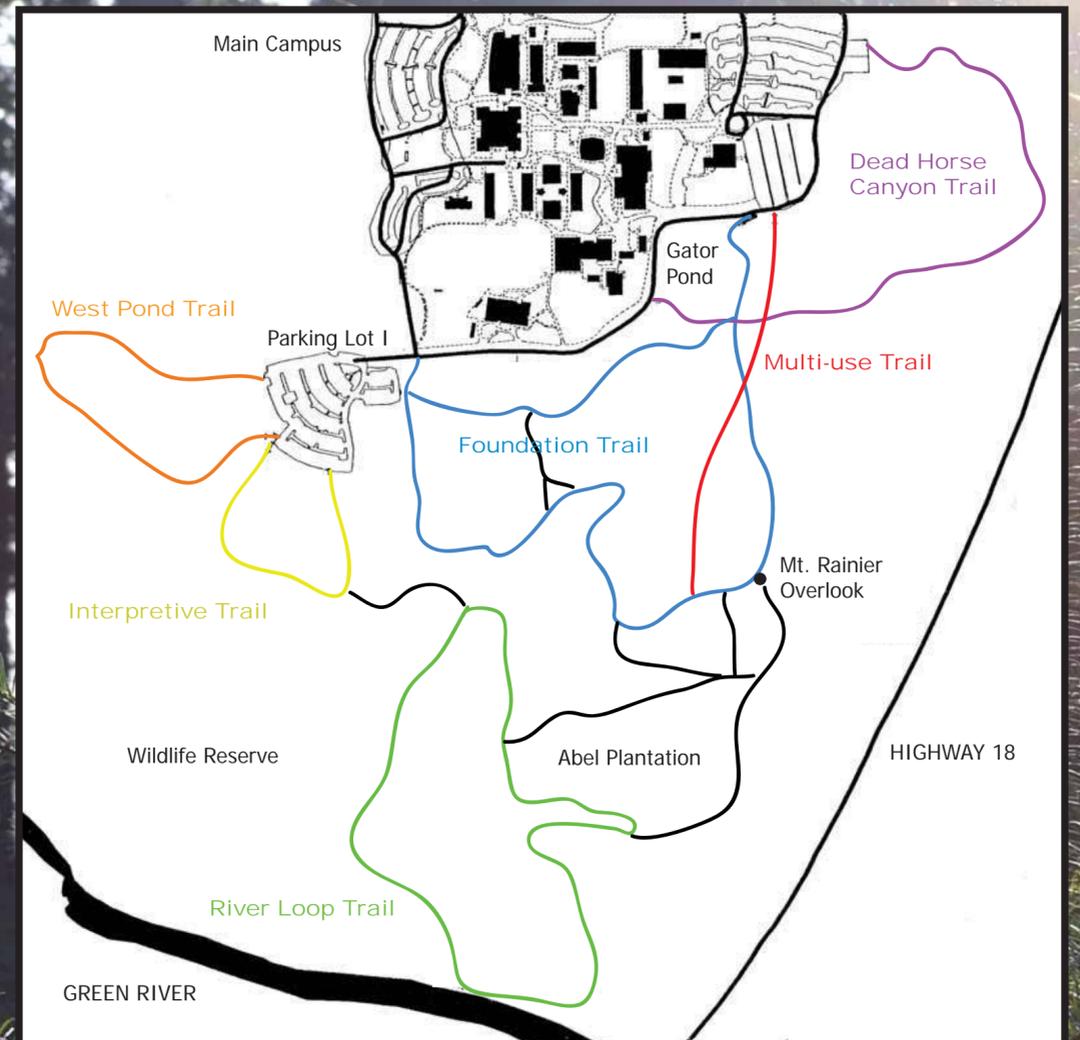
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BACK TO THE WOODS

A staple of college heritage, the intricate trail system winding through the campus woods provides a natural escape from the stresses of daily life.



With spring just around the corner, Green River's extensive trail system provides a scenic break from busy campus life. Among the sights, a guided Nature Trail highlighting the wide range of plant life on campus. The trails in the Green River Forest are maintained by natural resources students throughout the year, clearing spectacular views of Mount Rainier and the Green River. The variety in elevation and length provides options for joggers, serious hikers, and casual sightseers. Forestry students have also been involved in other campus beautification projects, such as the the bridges, benches and wood structures seen along the trail routes. The entrances to the trail system can be found near the parking lots, for the convenience of visitors. Many are dirt trails, however some gravel has been spread nearer to campus, and part of the Foundation Trail provides a paved path to the Mount Rainier Outlook. Hikers can then continue on to loop around the Green River.

How to start a club at Green River

Steps that students can use to create their own club on campus

Matt Orme
Reporter

There are a wide variety of clubs on campus, to be sure, but what about those Green River students who do not have a recognized social institution to represent their enthusiasm for 17th century farming techniques? Luckily the college does not have a set pantheon of clubs and allows for new organizations to be added, provided certain criteria are met.

According to the Club Manual (available through the Student Programs office), the first step necessary to form a club is to read the Club Manual.

The first real step is to find ten other 17th century farming enthusiasts who also want to be represented by a student organization. They must be currently enrolled students at the college and must provide you with their names and student numbers.

The Club Manual also recommends you get their e-mail addresses and phone numbers so you can schedule an informal meeting. Once this "ten-member list" is completed, you have found your charter members.

The second phase of the process is finding a full or part time staff member to act as the advisor to the club. The trick here, again according to the omniscient manual, is to find an advisor who shares an interest in the focus of the club. Because 17th century farming is currently in style, this should not be a problem.

Once the eleven members have signed on, they must be assembled to complete the paperwork demanded by the administration. This includes filling out a club completion form and creating a constitution.

The necessary forms and instructions can be found in the Club Manual. It is also recommended that this meeting be used to plan the events for the upcoming year, such as which crude farming implements will be constructed and where the years harvest will be sold.

Finally, once all the paperwork has been filled out, the forms must be submitted to the Clubs and Organizations Coordinator in the Student Programs office. Later an ASGRCC (Student Government) meeting must be attended to address any issues raised by the student senators.

In all seriousness, the process does require just a few forms and a little bit of work. The Club Manual details all of the vital information necessary for forming, running, and maintaining a club. Some clubs can even become campus institutions, insuring that those charter members leave a permanent mark on the campus. Let the 17th Century Farming-fest begin.

Kent and Enumclaw campuses have much to offer new students

Nicole Swapp
Features Editor

The Green River Kent and Enumclaw campuses have many things to offer new and returning students. Each campus has its own benefits to students.

The Kent campus, which is newly built, is located in the new Kent Station area in Downtown Kent. The Green River Community College (GRCC) Kent Campus is not isolated like the main campus, but is above some major retail shops, next to the AMC Movie Theater, surrounded by dining restaurants, and conveniently located by the Kent Train Station.

More information about the Kent Campus can be found at:

www.greenriver.edu/kentcampus/

The GRCC Enumclaw Campus, located in Downtown Enumclaw, has many offerings to students. They have a variety of programs to choose from that are not just for college students, but also for high school students, and members in the community. According to GRCC's Enumclaw home web pages, their programs included are, credit core classes, adult basic education, GED, "Running Start" for high school students, ESL, business and career education, self-paced lab classes, distance learning, and non-credit community education classes.

More information about enrollment and classes can be found at

www.greenriver.edu/enumclaw/



GRCC Kent Campus

Andy Gardner / The Current



GRCC Enumclaw Campus

Nicole Swapp / The Current

Classes and credits offered at the satellite campuses

- Advanced Word For Windows (5 credits)
- Basic Speech Communication (5 credits)
- Beginning Keyboarding (1 credit)
- Beginning Word for Windows (5 credits)
- Business Law (5 credits)
- College Writing (5 credits)
- Custom/Integr PowerPoint (1 credit)
- Elementary Algebra (5 credits)
- Enhance & Automate PowerPoint (1 credit)
- Excel As A Database (1 credit)
- Excel Basics (1 credit)
- Excel Formulas/Functions (1 credit)
- Excel: Charting/Macros (1 credit)
- Fundamentals of Microcomputers (5 credits)
- General Psychology (5 credits)
- Intermediate Algebra (5 credits)
- Interpersonal Communication (5 credits)
- Intro To Criminal Justice (5 credits)
- Intro To Law (5 credits)
- Intro to Law And Commerce (5 credits)
- Intro to Short Fiction (5 Credits)
- Intro To Western Philosophy (5 credits)
- Mastering 10 Key and Symbols (1 credit)
- PowerPoint Basics (1 credit)
- Pre-Algebra (5 credits)
- Qi Gong (1 credit)
- Review of Arithmetic (5 credits)
- Speed/Accuracy - Skill Building (1 credit)
- Tai Chi 1 (1 credit)
- United States 1877 To Present (5 credits)
- Word: Create, Edit, Format (1 credit)
- Word: Format Publications (1 credit)
- Word: Formatting Reports (1 credit)
- Word: Forms/Macros/Styles (1 credit)
- Word: Mail Merge (1 credit)
- Writing: Humanities (5 credits)
- Writing: Social Sciences (5 credits)

VOLUNTEER AT

Vegfest 2006

A Healthy Vegetarian Food Festival

Volunteers needed: Friday March 10th thru' Sunday March 12th at the **Seattle Center Exhibition Hall** (on Mercer Street)

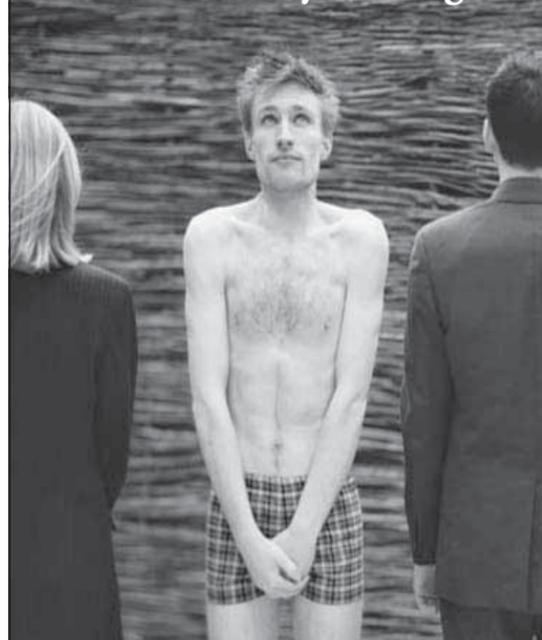
You don't need to be a vegetarian to volunteer! Volunteering at Vegfest is a great way to help others while learning more yourself.

To show our appreciation, all volunteers who help for 4 hrs or more will receive:

- A free Vegfest t-shirt, designed by a local artist
- Free admission to the event on Saturday or Sunday
- Satisfaction in helping people experience vegetarian food and its benefits
- A lot of fun

To volunteer, just visit www.Vegfest2006.org/volunteer.html where you can learn about all the jobs and shifts available, find answers to your questions, and complete our online application form.

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Working for temp agencies excellent choice for students

Ian Fisme
Guest Writer

One thing certain about college life is that it sure is expensive! Books, tuition, meals, your car expenses, rent, and the like, can spell disaster for your bank account. You've tried all the normal options to get more greenbacks, like hitting up your friends for cash and pleading with your parents, but none of these worked. It's come down to the inevitable – you'll have to get a job!

When most people think of getting a job, they think "Oh, no!" However, I found a different kind of employment that's worked well for me and may work well for you too. Last July I was unemployed and searching for a job. From an advertisement on nwjobs.com I found a temporary agency in Renton called SmartTalent. A temp agency, for those of you unfamiliar with the business, is a company that finds work for its employees. Many temp agencies exist in Washington, including SmartTalent. I've learned some of the advantages to working for a temp agency as opposed to a "normal" employee and would like to discuss them with you.

The first advantage of working as a temp is the freedom to choose what job you'd like to take. Typically the agency will call

or e-mail you about a job opportunity in the near future, which could be the next day, three days later, or an hour from now. However, you are not required to accept a job offer.

Advantage number two is flexibility. It's easier to get time off working as a temp than as a conventional employee because the agency can easily get someone to fill in for you. This also means that vacation time isn't too difficult to get. If you want to just work weekends, swing shift, or even a Monday through Friday job, these shifts are all available. This flexibility allows you to attend classes, get your errands done without feeling rushed, spend time with your family, and most importantly, have a life. Additionally, if your availability changes, the agency will accommodate your needs and find jobs for you that fit your schedule. With some conventional jobs, if your availability changes, and there isn't a different shift available, you may get discharged by no fault of your own.

Advantage number three is the length of assignments. Jobs can vary from as little as three hours for just one day, to some lasting several weeks. If you're lucky, you can find one that lasts a full quarter or longer. In addition, some full-time jobs offered by a temp agency are called "temp-to-



Andy Gardner / The Current

hire". This means that the company you're working for can ask you if you want to become a regular employee for them after about 90 days. This usually results in a pay raise and benefits. "Temp-to-hire" is a good option if you're not going to return to school for at least six months.

The last advantage I'm going to mention is the job-hunting process. When you sign up through a temp agency, they find jobs for you! No more resumes, interviews, dressing in a long-sleeve shirt and slacks in July, calling back the next day to check on

your applications, and filling out job applications until you get writer's cramp. The agency will find you a job, fitting your availability, that they believe you're qualified for and contact you. If your assignment ends suddenly, your temp agency will find you another job. With conventional jobs, if you're laid off you're on your own.

I've given you a realistic view of the advantages of working for a temp agency. It's a good option for people who need, or want, flexible schedules. Plus, it gives you an opportunity to try out lots

of different jobs to see what you like. However, working as a temp isn't completely without its disadvantages as well. SmartTalent's website is smarttalent.net. It has contact information for each of their branches, as well as current job listings. I encourage you to check it out and recommend it to your friends. It may be the way to go. You can contact a temp agency if you have any other questions about working as a temporary employee or feel free to ask me: nwdude@hotmail.com. Whatever you do job-wise, I wish you the best of luck.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

iPods more useful than *Current* writer thinks

Alex Farnham

There is a reason why so many people have iPods. Like the internet and e-mail it is becoming a necessity. Today's iPods can hold up to 60 gigabytes of music and videos, storing more minutes and music as well as videos, including full movies, than any other mp3 player out there.

It's not surprising that the iPod craze is incomprehensible to *The Current*. The slick and pretty covers to the iPod are no extra charge to the same model from Apple's generic white and silver. As said by Satoyo Uchiyama about iPod users, "They are in their own world." The user is a little more to themselves than to the envy of others. After all, they are listening to their

favorite music. Not someone else praising their popular status for it.

Owning an iPod is not as much a hassle as you make it out to be. For starters, iTunes are free and so is Quicktime. Not to mention useful and vital tools in internet media these days. The options are wide open for new iPod users, especially those who are not using a Macintosh. Songs never heard on the radio before are now available.

What you are complaining about is the marketing scheme by Apple. But it is ingenious as well as something to envy for this successful corporation against Microsoft.

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

The Current is a **designated public forum** for student expression.

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

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

We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard.

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

Islamic newspaper cartoons not worth all the violence

Josh Klopfenstein
Reporter

Muslims around the world are up in arms, quite literally, about a sketch published six months ago in Denmark. The picture showed what was supposedly Mohammed wearing a hat that was a turban on the bottom half and a bomb on the top. The paper actually asked people to submit drawings of Mohammed, and published twelve of them. Many Muslims got pissed off at the paper and not the illustrators. This doesn't really make any sense, but people aren't their brightest when they're running on anger.

The issue apparently isn't that someone drew a bomb on Mohammed's head, but that someone drew a picture of Mohammed.

If this really is the problem, I don't understand why people are just now getting all mad about it. It took me one try with "Mohammed images" to find hundreds of depictions of him; dozens of which are Islamic in origin. Obviously this is not the issue since I also found depictions from the medieval period as early as the middle of the 1100s. Images of Mohammed have been around for hundreds and hundreds of years. This is not the issue.

There were also some pictures added to a "republication" of the original printing that never actually appeared in the Danish paper. They are much worse than the cartoons; the worst is a doctored photograph of a dog that has mounted "Mohammed" from behind while he is bent down in prayer. It makes more sense that perhaps Muslims are upset about this, but they still won't admit that's what they're mad about.

It seems the only logical reason (not

that humanity is usually logical) the Islamic community is upset about the situation at hand is the content of the images, not their existence. This still doesn't make sense to me.

People that are upset about these pictures need to chill out. Don't they realize that virtually everybody else has gotten worse, or at least as bad? Let's talk about things like the "Mormonism" episode of *South Park* which, while extremely historically accurate, referred to the founder of Mormonism as "dumb" a couple hundred times. Or how about Andre Serrano's "Piss Christ", which was a crucifix in a jar of his urine. What about Sinead O'Conner ripping up a picture of the pope on live TV and saying "fight the real enemy." Catholics weren't too happy about that.

Whatever you believe, somebody, somewhere is going to disagree with you enough to make fun of what you believe. People really need to relax and not take themselves too seriously. Okay, someone thinks your prophet or savior or leader is a dork. What good is getting violent going to do? Do you really think you're going to change their mind by blowing them up? Do you honestly believe that you should kill people that don't believe the same thing as you? Whatever happened to teaching them what you believe so they, too, could be saved?

Islam, Christianity, Mormonism, Buddhism, Catholicism, Hinduism, and Judaism all preach love. Love is the center of every religion. If someone called Buddha an idiot, he didn't try to kill them. When people called Jesus an idiot, he didn't try to kill them. If someone calls Mohammed an idiot, he's not going to kill them. Chill out and stop giving the sane people in your religion a bad name.

Glimpse thrives in Tacoma scene

Local band loves music and small town feeling

Josh Klopfenstein
Reporter

When one first meets Josh Ott, he doesn't seem like the singer in a rock-n-roll band. He dresses normal enough, listens to Radiohead and Air, and he doesn't have any piercings or tattoos. But don't let first impressions fool you -- this guy can rock.

Tacoma-based band Glimpse was founded by Josh and his brother Jason, who now produces and records all of the band's music, while growing up in Auburn. Starting as a worship band for a local Christian gathering called-Zoe, they have now become the unofficial official KISW band. One can hear them several times a day on the station and headlining at pretty much any station concert.

Since the early days, Zoe has moved to Tacoma and so has Glimpse. Josh and his brother still regularly lead music at the meetings, and are very involved in the downtown Tacoma community.

"We love Tacoma," said Ott. "Whenever people ask where we're from, we always say Tacoma, never Seattle."

Another good bet for running into Glimpse is at any downtown Tacoma art event. All of the band lives in Tacoma and are excited about the art scene that's sprouting from Tacoma. More than the art, Glimpse is enchanted by the sense of community there. As Josh put it, "When you walk around downtown, it has a definite small town feel."

While they are passionate about Tacoma, they are more passionate about music. Not just



Glimpse/Promotional

The local band Glimpse goofing off while posing for a promotional picture. They are popular on the mainstream station 99.9 KISW and are growing in popularity.

the music they make, but also the music they love to listen to. If one brings up U2 or Queens of the Stone Age around them, one are sure to hear stories about when they first heard the band, or when they saw them play live, or how the music has evolved over the course of their careers.

If someone really wants to get them talking, ask them about their music. They love making it and they love thinking about making more. Listening through songs with the band, Jason will tell you about the effect he used on the vocals on a certain part, Nick will point out his favorite fill

of the song, and Josh will tell you about where he came up with the idea for a certain line.

It's an incredible experience to listen to their recorded music with them there, but it doesn't begin to compare to hearing them play it live. Glimpse has one of the most refreshing live shows this reporter has seen in a long time. No theatrics or black eyeliner here, just plain rocking out. Exploding drums, screaming guitar, thundering bass, and intense vocalization make for a true "rock

your face off" show.

While all of their music is straight rock-n-roll, it has great pop sensibility. Every song is catchy, but not too catchy, easy to listen to, and easy to sing along with. If you have a chance to see Glimpse live, take it. You will not be disappointed in the least. And when you go to the show, make sure you meet them.

Glimpse is the next local band to watch out for. These guys will be snatched by a major label any day.

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Country artist, uncountrry show

Josh Klopfenstein
Reporter

Beth Wood played the Monday Mix at the Lindbloom Student Center on Monday, Feb. 6. It was an odd atmosphere in the cafeteria that day; people were actually paying attention to the performer on stage, getting into the music, and applauding after songs. It was, to say the least, unexpected.

When I heard that Wood was going to be playing the Mix, I did a little MyStalking (MySpace stalking) and found her website and some samples of her music. I wasn't very impressed. It seemed like she was trying way too hard to fit into the mold of the current mainstream country sound. I did notice, however, that it was mostly her backup band that gave this vibe. Still, it was hard to get past it just to try and listen for talent.

It seemed that if she were to bring her band it would probably be a mildly annoying show at best, and if she decided to go solo the show might have some potential. I was in for a surprise.

The curtain opened to reveal Wood holding an acoustic guitar standing at a microphone, no band. Although the sound was run horribly by the whoever was in charge, with her guitar being off for the entire first two songs and half of the third, she was incredible. Using alternate tunings, multiple capos, and good, old fashioned great song writing she blew everyone in the room out of the water.

Her melodies were provocative and her chords were intriguing, but best of all was her humble confidence. She had the crowd in the palm of her hand, and she knew it, but she still made it an intimate and personal show.

Camelot hits Green River Theatre

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

Green River Community College Theatre is putting on the Broadway *Camelot* on March 3, 4, 10, 11 and 12. There will be three different casts used in the play with the first cast performing the first two dates, the second cast being used the next two dates, and the final cast consisting mostly of GRCC alumni being cast on Feb. 12 for the special 40th Anniversary Alumni Production of *Camelot*.

Camelot is directed by Gary Taylor, with technical direction by Joe Baker, and musical direction by Holly Steckman. Ben Stahl plays the main role of King Arthur in the first four showings of the play.

The story is a very well-known epic tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. The play gives this traditional tale a twist by turning it into a creative musical.

Andrew Forderer, assistant director of *Camelot*, has high hopes for this production. He believes the set design is better than any production in the past. He said great quantities of time were spent on the sets and it shows by the improved quality and the multiple sets.

Forderer said the acting is also improved from last production, specifically pointing out the brilliant job lead actor Stahl is doing. Forderer said the whole cast really stepped up this quarter and came through.

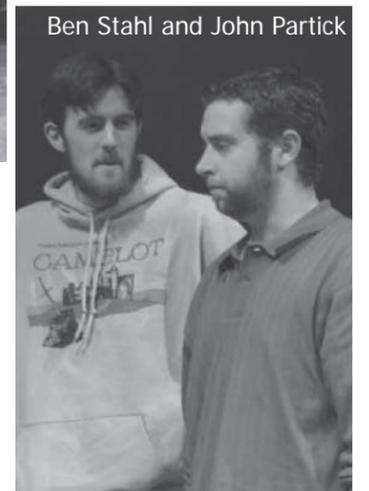
There were some difficulties though in this play just like every other play out there. Not everything went smoothly. Forderer said it was harder to get some of the actors and ac-



Shauna Hagreen and supporting performers rehearsing for *Camelot*, opening March 3

Andy Gardner/The Current

Ben Stahl and John Partick



tresses playing smaller roles to commit to the play.

Another difficulty was the multiple casts. Instead of having one cast to work with, there were three separate casts all with different people playing the main roles. In order to get

more students parts, multiple casts were used, which benefitted some students, but did complicate matters in production.

The alumni production of the show includes professional actor Eric Englund, and features actors who graduated in each decade the drama program has been in existence. There

will be a pre-show concert at 6:30 on this alumni night featuring professional musician George Turner.

The drama department as a whole is very excited about this play and hopes for a big turnout, as they feel they continue to improve. Next quarter they will attempt another play, *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.



Gary Taylor/ Director

REGISTER NOW for Spring Quarter Classes

More information is available in the Spring Quarter Schedule

CRJ 100 Intro to Criminal Justice

This class is offered three times daily at 9, 10, or 11 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. in Kent.

ENGL 110 and COMM 101 Language and Power

This 10-credit coordinated studies class examines how language defines, generates, and limits power.

ANTHR 210 Indians of North America

Explore the diversity of Native American cultures with greater emphasis on the Northwest coast.

ECON 200 and B A 200 Law and Economics

Learn how law and economics can work together in this 10-credit coordinated studies class.

PHIL 215 Advanced Logic

Satisfies natural science or quantitative skills requirement of AA degree. This class is offered spring quarter only.

HUMAN 160 Intro to Gender Studies

Explore how questions of gender and sexuality are engaged through literature, philosophy, language, and communications studies.

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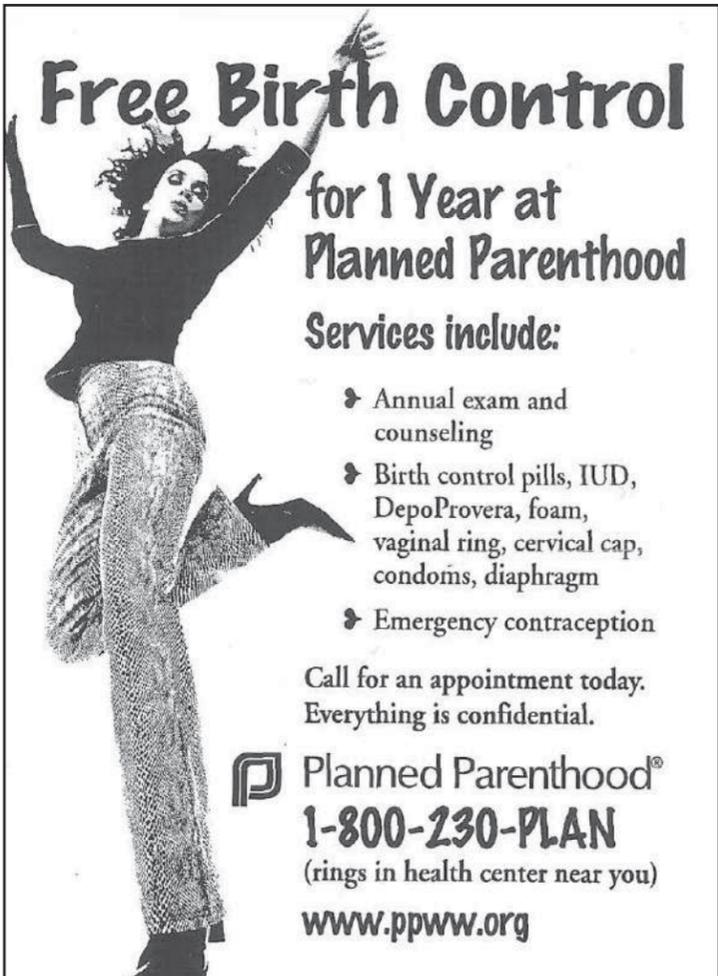
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Gator baseball back in full swing



Andy Gardner / The Current

In a 2005 spring game, the Gator baseball team bats against nemesis Lower Columbia Red Devils. Though Green River lost the game (2-4), the team is hoping to start strong this season, beginning this week.

Eric Hanninen
Sports Editor

As winter turns to spring, you know baseball season is firing up again. It comes at a much needed time as we struggled a bit through the winter sports.

We had a great fall sports season capped off by the outstanding play of the first place volleyball squad. Now we turn to the

college's most popular sport, (at least in terms of fan support), baseball.

We have plenty of room for optimism heading into this year as we returned some great players and recruited some very solid freshmen. Most missed will clearly be standout pitcher Adam Balcom who graduated and is playing at the next level now.

2006 marks Coach Matt Acker's fifth season as the head of Green

River baseball. In Coach Acker's first four seasons at Green River he has had six players drafted, with three signing professional contracts.

Over the past two years he has also successfully moved every sophomore on his team to a four-year school or the draft. This year should be no different as he has some great talent to work with on the field.

Prior to coming to GRCC, Coach

Acker spent two years as an assistant coach at St. Martin's University, where he had the responsibilities of pitching/outfield coach, and recruiting coordinator.

He was a good player in his own right, having played three years at Central Washington University and summer ball for the West Seattle Cruisers of the Pacific International League. Matt was awarded the "Most Inspirational Player Award" during his senior season.

Since becoming the Head Coach here at Green River, he has compiled a solid overall record of (64-96) and (41-68) in the tough NWAACC league.

The season kicked off this week against Olympic College in Bremerton. After a two-day tournament in Onatario, Ore. this weekend, the Gators will face Shoreline at home on March 7. First pitch is set for 3 p.m. at Lea Hill Park.

Former players 'disappointed' by soccer cancellation

Men's soccer speaks out

Last month, GRCC Athletics decided to cancel the college's men's soccer program due to low participation and funding issues.

"The outcome for the short-term will provide a long-term benefit for the entire athletic department," said Athletic Director Bob Kickner.

Here, two former Gator soccer players offer their take on the cancellation, and what the future holds:

Jeremy Hedrick
Captain of Men's Soccer Team

I was extremely disappointed when I recently learned that Green River had decided to do away with the soccer program. I am a first year student here and I was the captain of the soccer team this past season.

Not only has the school decided to throw out over thirty years of tradition but they have now discouraged future student-athletes from coming to this school, instead choosing to go to schools with soccer programs.

This is a move that will cost Green River Community College money in the long run, as soccer is the fastest growing youth team sport in the country.

I felt that the soccer program here received little to no support from the school, with the exception of Bob Kickner, the athletic director.

Over the past seven years, there have been six different head coaches for the men's soccer team. This was due, in large part, to coaches feeling that they could

not start a successful program here due to lack of support from the front office of this institution. They let the previous coach slip away, and he went on to win the division with Whatcom Community College and took them to the State semi-finals.

Bob Kickner made a phenomenal find for coaching this season when he hired on Joe Watson, a former national champion, and Karl Shultz, a former professional player in Russia.

I was honored to play for these two experienced coaches, but they were not put in charge until literally two months before the season started, making recruiting nearly impossible. With the limited recruiting, we had to make do with what we could get. This resulted in a portion of sub-par student athletes, one of the reasons that the school is giving for ending the program.

Another problem is that Green River doesn't have its own soccer fields, so they must constantly be renting out fields for use. It is amazing to me that this school has had a soccer program since 1974 and never found it neces-

sary to build a soccer field.

Even with the obvious handicap that we had going into the season, we pulled ourselves together and began our season, going undefeated for our first four games. Unfortunately, the season went downhill, giving the school more ammo for ending the program, as we picked up injuries and academic suspensions.

I was disgusted to see some of our more weak-willed players give up and quit the team, leaving us even more short handed. Once these cowards had left though, the remaining players showed an incredible amount of fortitude and finished off the season, often times playing the full ninety minutes with no substitutes.

Hearing the news about the program was even more disappointing because, with an entire off-season to recruit, we already had commitments from a number of top high school players that they would, in fact, come to Green River for the chance to play on the team.

Those players have since found alternative community colleges to attend.

Jeffrey Jewett
Scholarship Soccer Player

Personally, I was given no information as to why they took away the only reason I came back to school. Soccer was what brought me here and it seems unfair to take that away so abruptly.

This year's program was set up for failure from the beginning of the season, all the way until the end.

I don't believe it was fair to cancel the program especially to the players that stuck out the troublesome season and never quit.

And it definitely was not right to do this to Coach Watson, who was given no time to recruit a team to his liking.

We did all we could this season and I don't want to have to change schools because of a cancelled program, but it's something I'd be willing to do so I can continue playing soccer.