

Green River drama program presents *A Midsummer's Night Dream*



TIM PERRY/The Current

Green River drama students perform a memorable scene for *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. The play has been very successful reinactment of a Shakespeare's classic. More performances of the play will be shown on June 9 and June 10.

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PE building to be renovated in June 2008

Caitlin Estep
Staff Reporter

The Physical Education building will be renovated during the summer of 2008. The design process is now in action for the Physical Education building here on green river. Funding for the process will begin in June 2007 and the building will start renovations right after the commencement of the 2007-2008 school year.

"There is a technical state funding reason why we cant start June 2007 though our design could be ready by then, but since we don't get funds until July 1, we would lose almost a month of construction," said Sam Ball the dean of instruction capital projects.

The PE building was built in 1967. The building will only be remodeled as there will not be any extra square feet added to the new renovated building.

"There are somethings that have to be changed like the air systems and electrical systems that are outdated, the rest room facilities are not up to code," said Ball.

Other priorities include new bleachers and the layout for classes such as Aerobics dance and yoga. The design committee is looking for a new setup to help those classes have a better environment.

The entire project including design permits and construction will run around four million dollars. The newly renovated building will save Green River money by cutting down on maintenance cost from all of the old electrical equipment.

There is no intention to cancel PE classes during the summer of 2008. There may be arrangements made with the new Auburn High School to have some PE classes held there. Some things may be able to be moved to a different building on campus temporarily such as the weight room equipment.

The building will hopefully be ready by fall quarter 2008. Ball said, "During the final design process we will be able to build a real schedule right now it is just speculating, right now we are trying to have most of the activities back in the building by fall quarter, but I cant promise anything at this point"

Students prepare for commencement ceremony

Eddie White
Staff Reporter

The Commencement ceremony is near and grads start to look forward to moving on. As the end of the school year closes in, many of the student that attend our school will be moving on. Some will be going to further their education at a University, or join the work force and start their career. A lot of people haven't applied for graduation yet, and Hank Bottroff says that it's not to late. Those who wish to participate in the ceremony need to contact Enrollment Services or the GRCC website.

This year there is an expected 1300 graduates, however, the ceremony coordinator Bottroff is hopeful that 350 march in the ceremony. School President Rich Rutkowski will deliver the initial speech welcoming the guests. The ceremony will then deliver a

series of awards.

Probably the most prestigious award given out at Commencement is the Scholastic Award. This award is given to students that have maintained a 3.9 grade point average throughout their tenure at Green River. This year 43 of the graduates will be receiving this very honorable award. Christie Gilliland, the Dean of Instruction, will be delivering the speech and recognizing the awardees.

The Division Awards are also a very high honor. These awards are given to the most distinguished student in each individual division. The faculty of each division gets together to select who will receive the award. Susan Davis will be giving the awards out and also speaking in more detail about the magnitude of this award.

The ceremony will then honor a series of student that have shown an exceptional performance in a

variety of fields. The Diversity Award will be given to student that have shown exceptional effort in promoting diversity on campus. Trustee Jim Rottle and Veronica Garaycoa, who is the Director Diversity Services, will give out this award.

The next award will be the International Student Award. This award will be given to the person that has excelled in International programs. This speech and award will be delivered by President Lawton Case, who is a Trustee, and Ross Jemings, the Director of International Programs.

The Leadership and Service Award will be given to the students that have gone above and beyond to show an extremely high level of leadership and service to the school this year. Three people will be handing out this award, Trustees Larry Brown and Arlista Halman as well as Jorge Ramirez, who is the Dean of Stu-

dent Services.

The final award to be given out will be the President's Award, of course presented by President Rutkowski. This award is extremely important due to the fact that the entire faculty, administration and staff vote by ballot to determine the recipient. Whoever wins this award has an outstanding record in all of the above categories. The students have separated themselves from just being student, to creating a better learning environment for us all.

After all the awards are given out, the diplomas will be passed out to those who decide to walk. Then the congratulations will be given out and the ceremony will be concluded. A group of people, some young that are just starting their lives, and some older that haven't given up on their future, will leave GRCC hopefully with fond memories of their experience.

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Security Watch

Student Conduct Violation

May 10

A security officer placed a orange warning sticker on a blue Ford Bronco whose driver had outstanding parking tickets. The student removed the sticker and placed it on another vehicle. The driver of that vehicle then contacted security asking why he had a warning sticker when he did not have any parking citations. He then handed the orange sticker originally placed on the Ford Bronco.

Vandalism

May 14

During the course of three fights on campus, the old ARA building was hit with a large rock causing damage to the building. Also damaged was a men's bathroom paper towel dispenser.

Theft

May 17

A student walked out of the Holman Library tried to walk out with A Green River book without paying for it. The student claimed she had already paid for it, and was now hers. The student history showed no record of any payment for the book and the item was then confiscated and the student left for class.

Vandalism

May 19

Four graffiti tags were discovered in the SMT men's restroom, all the same word, "Stak." One hour later twenty more of the same tags were discovered in the men's restroom in the RLC building. Officers were placed on patrol in order to discover the extent of the tagging. Tags were found in SMT 2nd floor restroom, the SMT stairwell, BI men's restroom, BI fire panel door, HSA men's restroom, and PA men's restroom. All tagging was done with a wide tip black marker. King Country Sheriff's were called and they opened an investigation into the graffiti.

Reckless Driving

May 22

A silver jeep was discovered doing donuts in the parking lot near the C-Booth. The driver then took off well over the ten mile-per-hour speed limit. The driver eventually parked the vehicle in the northeast corner of the Campus Corner Apartments and left the vehicle. A reckless driving citation was issued for \$20.

Student Conduct Violation

May 23

Security recieved a call about a student eating at a computer desk in the technology center. A worker at the tech center informed the student that he could not eat at the computer. The student continued to eat while sitting at the desk. The worker told the student once more that he could not eat at the computer to which the student responded that he only had one bite with an expletive thrown in director towards the worker. Security was contacted and Fred Creek informed him he could not go back into the tech center until he talked to the Dean of Students.

Student Government
ASGRC
Events

Trail walking

June 10

10:30 a.m.

Campus Corner Community Room

Join other students in walking around and experiencing the Green River trails.

Girls and Guys Night In

June 13

7:30 p.m.

Campus Corner Community Room

Play video games, learn yoga from a professional instructor or purchase jewelry.

Juneteenth

June 12

\$4 students

5\$ non-student

12 p.m.

The Black Student Union is educating the college about the freedom of the slaves. Food will be provided.

Contact: rdeep@greenriver.edu



Rumors of questionable election practices fuel skepticism



Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

Time and again we all have been let down by our election process; it has become somewhat of an exercise in comedy rather than democracy. It seems that the trend is continuing here at Green River Community College.

Gossiping is a guilty pleasure of the human condition and since the recent elections for student president this pleasure has been more than indulged by a majority of students; through the soft rumblings of students that had experienced some type of voter intimidation. The reluctantly attitude to go on record with their personal experience by a number of students that

I approached is understandable. Through talking with my fellow students it was suggested to me repeatedly that at the vot-

ing booths there was someone who was stationed made suggestions to potential voters on who the best choice for them would be.

Determining whether this person was stationed at the both as a vol-

unteer or purposefully placed themselves there it is not clear

to me since the call sheets for the stations has been conveniently lost.

Now I see two major issues with these allegations; the first being that it is unethical for any supporter of any of the campaigns to be within shouting distance, let alone right next to the booth, which gives them the ability to manipulate the democratic process. The second issue that I see with this is that for those student that are still on the fence are being courted by just one of the campaigns, and that I feel is not only unethical but also violates the election process.

"Determining whether this person was stationed at the both as a volunteer or purposefully placed themselves there it is not clear to me since the call sheets for the stations has been conveniently lost."

Through careful review of the election codes set forth by the student government the issue of direct involvement by supporters of the campaign is not addressed. This now leaves students of GRCC in a

similar situation as the one that Floridians were left in during the 2000 presidential race and the Ohio residents experienced in the 2004 presidential election, helpless.

The continual cycle of fraud in elections is almost expected in most governmental races, I grant you this ideology is disturbing but unfortunately it has become the norm. I am genuinely shocked that it has reached such a point that it is impacting races on a community college, but it seems to have happened.

The lacking of discontent among a number of students that I broached with this issue I have to say is almost equally shocking to me. Some

students that had or had not experienced the last ditch effort of campaigning prior to casting their ballot have fallen into a mundane attitude toward any actions taken against those that have at the very least violated the ethical divide.

This pool of sub-par outrage is not the majority of opinion, but the amount of people that just would rather not bother has increased to a dangerous level. For any successful democracy, whether it is national or at the local level there is a staunch requirement for involvement by the public.

Having a somewhat limited anger about voter fraud at this point in our history is understandable to a certain sense, but the existence of a free society is coming dangerously close to collapsing into a semi-disillusioned dictatorship. I am calling for the student government to finally address a clear and concise language regarding the guidelines to voting and any potential cases for fraud.

It is time to stop allowing those, which are "supposedly" beholden to us, from steam rolling right over our rights to retain the status quo.

Blow-hard quest for blatant misinformation

Bill O'Reilly continues to attack real journalism with biased show



Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

The mantra of most news channels, especially those that fall into the 24-hour cycle, have expressed repeatedly that the liberal bias in media has diluted the quality of the news being delivered, which has about as much validity as the fact that we invaded Iraq for weapons of mass destruction.

At the forefront of these fabrications of a skewed filter of journalism is the spin master Bill O'Reilly. Mr. O'Reilly has perpetrated blatant falsehoods and categorizations of respectable and responsible journalists in an effort at discrediting these fair and balanced reports.

"These talking points to me look more like a manifesto for the neo-conservatives and not like a concerned journalist who truly has the interests of all Americans in mind while he 'reports.' This exercise in humility serves nothing more than the placating to Mr. O'Reilly's personal vendettas against those that challenge his ideology."

- Bill O'Reilly"

The mantra that this abuser of the public's trust uses is that his program is a "no spin zone". To understand the sheer lunacy behind this claim you must understand the standards to which Mr. O'Reilly holds his show to allowing him to proclaim a "no spin zone". Mr. O'Reilly starts off every program with his talking points memo in which he addresses issues that he feels directly affect Americans the greatest like the plague that is immigration in this country. These talking points to me look more like a manifesto for the neo-conservatives and not like a concerned journalist who truly has the interests of all Americans in mind while he "reports." This exercise in humility serves nothing more than the placating to Mr. O'Reilly's personal vendettas against

those that challenge his ideology. Mr. O'Reilly than sums up his show with a segment called "the most ridiculous thing" where he continues his barrage against all things "liberal" including the slanted media.

Now you usually have to take most cable news programming, regardless what chan-

nel it is on, with a grain of skepticism, but in Mr. O'Reilly's case you I can no longer stand idly by while this "journalist" continues his frontal attack against common sense.

Sure this country is divided on issues of morality and ethics, but somehow Mr. O'Reilly has interpreted this as a license to forego responsible journalism and brand himself as the conscience of the people. Mr. O'Reilly I promise you does not have the interests of the American people at heart; he is solely vested in turning a profit for himself at the expense of who ever or what ever can get him that.

The allowing of his program and the clones that share similar tastes in his brand of pseudo-journalism need to have a mirror held up to what it is that they are doing to the American public. I have fortunately negotiated my way through the mine field that has become news report-

ing in this country and go abroad for my recap of the dealings of the day, but for many people this pitfall is too well disguised for detection and they fall prey to it.

Time and again Americans have been misled by their leadership, and this abuse of the facts has not stopped with those that we expect it from, but has continued to migrate into our mainstream reporting.

Journalism has become more about beating up those that do not agree with you, and looking the other way when those that do fall into line with your beliefs decide to take advantage of your gullibility. Responsibility is a lesson that my parent continuously drilled into me when I was young and it seems that it is time for the American public to become the father figure for media and hold our reporters accountable.

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

Outgoing editor bids fond farewell to campus, staff



Brian Schraum
Editor-in-Chief

We've had the good fortune to share in so much of the college experience over these last months. We've been to baseball games, campus plays, lunches, brunches, events of all flavors and fancies, perhaps too many riveting policy meetings, construction sites, parking lots and apartments alike. For all that time, we've seen and heard quite a bit; in fact, we filled up almost 200 pages of newsprint telling you about it.

And now, like so many other graduates, my time here has come and gone. I've been especially honored to lead a devoted team of journalists from this, the editor desk at Green River's newspaper of record. To recap all that I've learned here in my corner office (it's more of an elaborate closet, real-

ly) would take volumes. Instead, I offer you just a few of my own quirky observations.

First, I'd like to report that, if you haven't been on campus between the hours of 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., fear not: you haven't missed much. Yes, our crafty newspaper crew really is here all hours of the day and night. Because the news never sleeps... and because frankly, we can't find free food anywhere else.

It wasn't all that long ago, after a 36-hour editing marathon (we call them Deadline Nights), that I began to ask myself "what am I doing here?"

I don't know that I'll ever find an answer to that question. I just know that I wouldn't be doing it if I hadn't fallen in love with it.

We do what we do because we believe in it. We believe we're doing a public service every time we pull out that note pad or camera. We believe in the people's inherent right to know. We believe that little lasting harm can come from revealing the truth, and shedding light on the facts—even when they aren't so pretty. My role as a journalist is to report the truth; not merely because it is my job but because it is my duty. It's a badge we all wear with honor.

On that note, some general words of

gratitude to everyone on campus who put up with our unsettling questions and sometimes stubborn attitude. My personal thanks to everyone in Green River student government; I know it wasn't always easy, but it was always professional, and I couldn't have asked for more than that. You're good people.

To John Ramsey in the Public Information Office, who made my job that much easier: thank you, sir. You were always there to help us sort through the red tape. You never tried to throw us off track, and you were always fair, up-front and honest. Thank you for continuing to answer the phone; you really are a friend of the student press.

To Green River faculty and staff, thank you for letting me know when things were going well. And when they weren't. I read every last letter.

Thanks to Rich Rutkowski, the entire cabinet, Jorge Ramirez and so many others. With any luck, I didn't cause you too many undue headaches.

Special kudos to Fred Creek, Ron the Security Guy, and the campus officers to whom I've waved so many times but never actually met. Thank you for doing what you do.

To John Knowlton, our fearless leader,

you are a much better peacekeeper than I. Thank you for being a teacher, a mentor, an adviser in all things, and most importantly thank you for being my friend. It has been my great honor and privilege to work with you each and every day.

To my devoted staff, my editors in particular, you are fine individuals and even finer journalists. Without you, I would have nothing to show for all these man-hours. Good luck to all of you, to Ryan Gaudinier in particular. I know you will take this publication to new heights.

So in the end, what do I have to show for my time here? I get my name added to an elite list of former editors, a list spanning four decades. I'm more than satisfied with that alone... the countless professional and life lessons I've gained were a very special bonus.

Really, what we've done here was fairly simple. We put out a quality newspaper, which with any luck was of some service to students. We were not the first to do it, and we won't be the last. We're carrying on a great tradition, started more than 40 years ago, and to be continued by future generations and future editors far wiser and more trouble-making than I. Carry on.

Foundation of liberty threatened by the placating of our fears



Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

"The government is out to get me" has always been a comical part of the paranoid, but with recent events that have exposed governmental misdeeds I can't help but to think that maybe they have been right all along.

As an aspiring journalist I was shocked to hear about the wiretapping program that was implemented by this administration; I was absolutely floored when I found out about the allegations that this program was being used to monitor governmental employees in an effort to stop leaking. This issue has started to garner a sexier feel to it, and now is starting to grasp the attention of the American public as it should, but there are still skeptics out there that say a trade of some liberties is necessary in securing our safety. Those that believe in supplementing our rights when it is convenient for our safety are not patriotic.

Every time that I hear some spout off how it is in our best interest to allow the wiretapping program free reign I immediately think of a quote by one of our most influential founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin. "They who would give up an essential liberty for temporary security, deserve neither liberty or secu-

urity." This is a philosophy that has seemed to fall to the way side as a result of elevated fears in the American psyche. By giving away the slightest part of any of the liberties that we hold dear we are pandering to the efforts by terrorists and those that would like nothing more than to see this country falter. The clear exploitation of our fears in order to establish somewhat of a Gestapo regime is not only unconscionable, but also violates everything that this country is founded upon.

The monitoring of millions of Americans' phone calls seems to be the tip of the iceberg in how far this administration will go to purge itself of any responsibilities of upholding their constituents' rights. The recent revelation regarding the monitoring of the phone calls placed by employees of ABC news, The New York Times and The Washington Post in an effort to root out their sources within the government is reminiscent of actions taken during the height of communism in Russia. The freedoms that not only Americans enjoy, but journalist use to broach controversial stories are under direct attack with the unbridled monitoring that is taking place at the hands of our government. We have stood idly by partly due to deception, but mainly due to the creative manufacture of a mirage of safety put forth by manipulative henchmen within our government.

The concept of safety is a moving issue among a lot of Americans, but at what cost this safety comes is as pressing of an issue even more so than the securing of our country. The time that we currently reside in

is as imperative and historical as the time when this country took its first steps toward delivering a system of democracy to its people. Through this issue we have kicked off another revolution against tyranny. The enemy that we are fighting is not from some far off land, but rather it resides in our own insecurities about our future. We have had diffi-

"The crossroad that is currently presented to us should be navigated with soft tread, and not indignation masked in concern."

cult choices put to us that bring into question the validity of some of our liberties when confronted by problematical situations, but somehow we have always managed to protect these rights even when it may be an easier option to compromise them.

The crossroad that is currently presented to us should be navigated with soft tread, and not indignation masked in concern. It is time to stop lying down when beaten over the head by the war hawks that have taken up residence within the leadership of this country, and start demanding protection of the rights that have been afforded to us through the falling of our past generations. By upholding our complacency we are spitting in the faces of those that, as Abraham Lincoln stated, "Gave the last full measure of devotion". I am appalled at how easily not only our leaders, but also a majority of citizens, can just throw aside the ultimate sacri-

fices that people have made to uphold our liberties without question.

This country has seen more days of division over the past half century than that of unity, but through this issue I feel we all can come together under a common goal. Whether you are a conservative, a liberal or somewhere in between the outrage over the arrogance and smug-

ness that has been a hallmark of this administration's response to the public outcry for reform can be used as a rally cry. Time and again we have allowed staunch division through the actualization of wedge issues, which have been manipulate successful as a beard over the shady dealings that have been main streamed into law. Supporters of this illegal program would have you believe it to be overwhelming necessary, and those that oppose the "securing" of our borders are aligned with terrorist. Those that give in to this ideology only deserve to be ostracized for their fascist rhetoric and philosophy. The spirit that this country was born from is slowly slipping away in the stead of a spirit of hypocrisy. The battle lines have been outlined slowly through the eroding of our constitutional rights under the efforts of national security.

I will close with another quote that I deem appropriate to this issue by one of the idols of real journalism Mr. Edward R. Murrow. "We cannot defend freedom abroad by deserting it at home." The greatest trait of this country is the simple idea of it, and by giving into tyrannical measures we are selling off that idea for a security that is as pseudo as a placebo.

Academic Freedom is a quickly diminishing necessity

Ryan Gaudinier
Editor-in-chief

Academic freedom is under attack from all levels. Many conservatives are pushing for less faculty control of what is being taught in their classrooms and teachers at all levels of education are being threatened by an increasingly popular attitude that students and parents should have control over what they are taught.

The problem with that attitude is that students are not always aware of what truly needs to be taught in the classroom. It is the teacher's job to plan out curriculum based on what the students need to learn, not simply what the students want to or are comfortable learning.

David Horowitz, a nationally known figure, has introduced the Academic Bill of Rights for Students into the national school of thought. While the bill seems to champion free speech and equality in the classroom, its true intentions are much more sinister.

The Academic Bill of Rights true goal is to force teachers into Horowitz's own curriculum. The

bill would force teachers into teaching multiple sides of every issue or face punishment from administration. In plain, if a teacher fails to teach creationism in an evolution class, that teacher would face punishment up to the termination of his or her job.

Horowitz is a traditional conservative trying to phase out what he considers a liberal bias in school. He hopes to rid classrooms of liberal rhetoric and more controversial subjects. And while, a good teacher will present many sides to an issue, it is not always possible to present every viewpoint shared by members of the community.

The plan could possibly backfire on Horowitz as traditionally conservative universities would be forced into a more moderate plan of teaching hence destroying what makes these schools attractive to more conservative students.

Horowitz has gone as far as creating a website in which students can complain about teachers who teach in a manner that the student deems overly biased. This system leaves no room for the teacher to respond to any such claim and circumvents any system a school might have to

research the quality of their teachers.

The Academic Bill of Rights is not the only way academic freedom is under attack. More and more college students feel that since they pay money to the schools to go to class they have some sort of consumer rights. The argument is that since students pay for class, they should be able to control what they purchased.

This argument is flawed as students pay for college in order to obtain the necessary information that they will need later in their careers. That information can only be decided by faculty that is trained to know what needs to be taught for students to be successful later in life.

While many administrations are supporting their faculty in these troubled times, some are only contributing to the degradation of academic freedom. An instructor at Bellevue Community College was recently disciplined for a math question which referenced a woman named Condoleezza throwing a watermelon.

While the question was racially insensitive and a mistake on the instructor's part, he apologized and

said that the racial reference was not done on purpose as Condoleezza's name was thrown in there in the last minute replacing the name Gallagher, a popular comedian known for smashing watermelons.

Yet, the administration has not once stood behind its faculty member as it was quick to blame the teacher and issue a quick insincere apology meant to appease the masses. Never was the teacher given a chance to explain or state his side.

More and more administrations are pushing for alternative assignments for controversial subject matters, even for classes in which that material is necessary for the student. Not all teachings are going to be light-hearted and students need to learn some controversial material if they hope to be able to attack such issues later in their career. Administrations should not be backing down from teaching this material just for the public approval.

Hopefully, more people will realize that teachers really do know what is best for students, whether said students or the public like it or not.

Forgotten mission of liberating results in innocents being killed



Matt Jonas
Opinions editor

The degradation that has been plaguing the integrity of our military over the past couple of years continues with an overdue investigation into the shooting in the city of Haditha in Iraq.

This story was first semi-reported upon in the fall of last year and did not receive too much attention as apparent through the eagerness to report on the incident in recent days.

The incident had evolved from an engineered lie that included a road side bomb as the culprit in the deaths of some two dozen unarmed Iraqi civilians. It has taken more than four months for officials to report the incident to the NCIS (Naval Criminal Investigation Service), which is an independent investigation agency within the military.

Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment is the company that is now under scrutiny by military officials, thanks partly to the conscio-

nable reporting by Time magazine on the issue back in March. The initial report states that improprieties may have been carried out under the guise of retribution for a roadside bombing that took the life of a popular soldier within the company.

The condemnation of the actions cannot yet be assigned to the company, as the investigation is still ongoing, but another soldier that was also injured in the blast has spoken out against the attacks.

Lance Cpl. James Crossan told a local news station that he believed that the actions taken were a reaction to the loss that the unit had just experienced. Lance Corporal Crossan does not condone the actions taken, but at the same time he is somewhat sympathetic to what had occurred. This type of attitude has led to a black eye on the morality of this country in the past and seems to be taking a similar effect with this incident.

It is hard to criticize the men and women that place themselves in harms way to secure our freedoms, but in this incident the lacking in the acceptance of responsibility from our commander and chief down to the privates within the company is

not only appalling but deserving of the same punishment that we delve out to the same exploitations perpetrated by those we deem our enemies.

I can see this issue quickly becoming a test of your so called patriotism, but like it was in Vietnam this is not a patriotic test but instead a test of everyone's humanity. By

"By attempting to initially covering up his incident as a result of an insurgent attack we have lowered ourselves to the same ideology as those that we are attempting to quell."

attempting to initially covering up his incident as a result of an insurgent attack we have lowered ourselves to the same ideology as those that we are attempting to quell.

It is a steadfast fact that those who forget history are doomed to repeat it; it does not seem that we have forgotten history I am sure that Vietnam is still fresh in the minds of a lot of Americans, but it does seem that we have chosen to ignore our past and continue with a smug righteousness about our own morality. The new button word for our efforts in Iraq has switched to liberator, I do

not know if I can even get behind that any more. Through incidents in Abu Ghraib and scattering reports of incidents such as the most recent atrocity that took place in Haditha, I do not see us as liberators instead more of an occupying force that has more than once stepped over the ethical divide for retribution.

The assigning of the blame should be rendered to those that committed these acts of murder, but the accountability cannot stop there. We made a mistake during our illegal war with Cambodia and our exploitations in Vietnam by not punishing those that not only knew of the actions and took no recourse but, in some

instances covered up misdeeds.

It is time that we start living up to the self proclamation of being the trend setter in morality for the world. I consider every person that brings these types of actions to the forefront true patriots and those that ridicule and stand behind these actions as soulless robots that only serve their own interests even at the harshest abuses of others.

We want to hold those that commit crimes against fellow human beings responsible for their actions so why are we stopping at the water's edge with our own misdeeds.

Multi-language keyboards now available in Technology Center and Library

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

Librarian Marji Mackenzie has effectively solved a persistent problem for those students whose native language is not English. Green River now offers keyboards in a variety of languages.

"We wanted to type up some signs in several common languages of our basic skills collection in the library", Mackenzie recalls, "one of the student workers, who is Russian, was asked to create a sign in her native language. She said that she could, but she had to figure out where to place her fingers on the keyboard. She had to map out a Russian-equivalent keyboard on her own."

Seeing a problem, Mackenzie brought the issue to the dean of the Holman Library, Kim Na-

kano, and asked for the proper funding for the multi-language keyboards. Nakano approved the funds and the keyboards arrived in the middle of spring quarter for both the Holman Library and the Technology Center.

They are available for check-out in both buildings with a student ID card. The languages include; Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

Workers at the Technology Center say that the keyboards have been an excellent help. One fluent speaker of Arabic explained his troubles with the English-only system with "although Microsoft Word has the program capacity to write in Arabic, the keyboard was still in English. I didn't know what the Arabic equivalent was."

The student resorted to the same method as the Russian student worker mentioned above, drawing a map for reference. But the Arabic-equivalent keyboard has changed that.

One employee of the Technology Center stated that the keyboards are just another expression of the mission of the Technology Center and Green River as a whole. "[We're] trying to serve students as best as possible; to help those whose native language isn't English and for those learning a second language."

While it's still too early to gauge the success of the program, workers at the Technology Center have personally seen how all students, domestic and international, have benefited from the keyboards.

Finance Committee proposes sophomore gift

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

Debate over a possible sophomore gift dominated the June 1 meeting of Student Government.

Each year the graduating class purchases a gift for the school with the money left over in the Legislative fund of the 522 Budget. The members of the Finance Committee, who review all of the requests for funds by members of the student body, suggested that this year's graduates purchase a snow cone and cotton candy machine.

Jolyn Chew of the Finance Committee cited that a one-time purchase, as opposed to continually renting the machines, would both save money and allow more

events by Student Programs to be planned with the machines in mind. In addition, they could be loaned to the various clubs on campus for their events.

Naturally the question of proper storage came up as well. Several Student Government members suggested that the machines could be stored in a wooden crate for protection, and then be placed in a convenient storage area. Many of those present at the meeting, the Executive staff included, were in approval of this idea.

After much debate on the practicality of the items, Student Government approved of its purchase. Currently, there is approximately \$2000 available for use. Any money left over after the purchase will be automatically placed in the

Student Government Scholarship fund, which awards \$500 each to one returning domestic and international student.

Some gifts given by past graduating classes include new speakers for the LSC, and a flower bed in the Kennelly Commons.

In other business:

- An Asian Student Union request of \$1,000 to fund last week's South Asian Culture night was approved at the May 25 meeting.

- A total of \$500 was granted to Campus Corner Apartments (CCA) to cover extra expenses of an ice cream social at the May 25 meeting.

- \$200 was given to fund an event put on by the Poetics of Hip Hop class at the June 1 meeting.

NEWS BRIEFS

Campus-wide evacuation drill to be rescheduled

Shannon MacInnes
Staff Writer

The evacuation test planned for May 26 was cancelled due to conflict and communication problems. "There were two classes that were testing that day and could not be disturbed," said

Fred Creek head of security. The purpose of the test was to test our emergency efficiency on campus. The test was going to check all buildings and rallying points. The test will be post-phoned until Fall quarter 2006, while further upgrading is done to the system.

New Trail open for public use

Brian Schraum
Editor-in-Chief

The Nixon Family trail, west of the Holman Library, is now open for use.

The trail honors John and Nancy Nixon for their support of the college over the years. The two donated property behind their home in Auburn, in memory of their son, who passed away at sea. When John died in May 2005, Nancy and the college agreed that the property could be sold. However, the fam-

ily wanted to keep some kind of memorial space on campus.

Last winter and into this spring, Tom Trindl and Ray Bell of the facilities crew, along with natural resources students Scott Chambers and Melissa Morrison, created the Nixon Family Memorial. The area includes a memorial stone and a trail open to the public.

Members of the Nixon family visited the site in May, and were said to be very touched by the memorial. Two of Nancy's grandchildren, who came along for the visit, are Green River graduates.

Revision of diploma program

Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

As the scholastic year winds down for colleges statewide the state legislature is debating legislation that directly impacts community colleges and will be instituting.

One of such legislation is the expansion of diploma earning program in high schools and colleges. This bill will allocate funds to both high schools as well as community and technical colleges; giving the schools the ability to allocate the required fee for the assigning of diplomas.

Green River Community College already has in place a continuing education program there will be no direct changes to this existing program with the passing of this legislation.

This program will be its own conduit within continuing education programs the measures within the bill affirm any funding that is currently received to establish the continuing education program. The testimony for the support of this bill touches on the importance of the completion of education by our youth and through this bill lawmakers hope to allot more time for those students that may have come into the scholastic setting late and those that require more time.

This bill will also be used as a crutch for those students that are having difficulty receiving their diploma due to the new WASL requirement. This response to the continual increase of dropout rates could save an estimated 5,000 students from the fate of a high school dropout.

Phi Theta Kappa spring inductees

Phi Theta Kappa would like to congratulate the following students who were inducted into Green River Community College's chapter of the honor society, Alpha Chi Beta, on May 24.

AGA JENNIFER L
ALAMSYAH CITRA DEWI
ASABA MOREEN LILIAN
BARTHOLOMEW BRIAN
BRONS KELLY M
BROOKS TODD D
CAI MENG
CANDRA FEBRIAN
CHEUNG TSZ PANG
CHOI SARANG D
CLEMENT JORDAN D
CLIFFORD TIMOTHY P
CONRAD JANET L
CORNWALL MATTHEW T
CRAFT DAVID
CROUSE NICHOLE A
DUNCAN SHAUN J
EDWARDS KELLEY A
ENEBOE DAVETTE L
FEARON KELLI
FREEMAN TODD M
GUNDERSON AUSTIN L
GURUNG BIRGA RAJ
HALONE AMY A
HART DANIEL
HUTSON ERIKA L

JOHNSON THOMAS O
KO SU JI
KOH YOUN KYONG
LOPEZ CHELSEA M
MAIB CIERRA S
MCDANIEL ADAM K
MOBERG BRUCE A
MURPHY THOMAS P
NELSON BENJAMIN N
NELSON LAURA E
NEUHAUS ZACHARY F
PHILLIPS CARRIE
PITTELKO DAVID J
RIDGE AMANDA M
ROBBINS ELANOR K
SANGABRIEL ANTHONY N
SHER YAN TUEN
SLATER JARRON B
TAFOYA KEELY A
TAN RUBY C
TIGER KELCY N
TSENG HSIU-YANG
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Puget Sound Blood Center visits Green River for blood drive

Amber Peterson
Staff Reporter

The Puget Sound Blood Center was here at the campus to take blood from anyone willing to donate. There are certain qualifications a blood donor must meet before they are allowed to donate. First, all donors must first go through a medical interview. The first step of the procedure involves going through a screening process in which the eligibility of the donor is determined.

If a donor fits any of the following descriptions, they may not donate blood: are infected with the HIV virus, are male and had sexual contact with another male any time before 1977, have ever used a needle to shoot up a non prescription drug, have ever taken money for sex in any circumstance, have received a positive test for syphilis, were born in or lived in the following countries, Cameroon Central, African Republic, Chad, Congo Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Niger, or Nigeria, have had sex with any individual that these rules apply to.

The majority of the preliminary questions are asked to inquire on the donor's past exposure to The HIV virus. There is also a point in which the Acquired

Immune Deficiency Syndrome, a viral infection, cannot not be detected and the test may turn out negative. The infection may then be transmitted to the patient receiving blood. There are also strands of rare HIV that won't show up at all.

Afterwards, your medical history is thoroughly reviewed. Each individual's blood pressure and temperature is taken to make sure that the body is functioning well enough to donate that day. Next, a needle is used to take a few drops of blood from the finger. The blood is dropped into a clear blue solution; if the fluid sinks, your iron count is at the right level for the rest of the procedure. If it is not, it will float, and then a more extensive procedure is preformed. You must have a 38% or higher. If blood is taken when your iron count is lower, then you will be at risk for anemia.

The next part of the process is to literally donate the blood. This portion of the procedure usually takes an average of 12-15 minutes, depending on your heart rate, as well as how fast your blood pumps. Every needle is clean and safe. Fresh new disposable needles are used with every donor. The area over the vein is thoroughly cleaned before the I.V. is inserted. A pint of blood is then withdrawn.



TIM PERRY/ THE CURRENT

Green River student and good samaritan, Cailyn Fisher, donates blood in the Glacier Room for those in need.

Occasionally there may be side affects such as weakness dizziness, and fainting. It is suggested waiting 15 minutes before you leave, to recover from the procedure. While you wait, there are cookies available, as well as bottles of water and juice available. If you have any questions or want to be a donor you can reach the Puget Sound Blood Center at www.pscb.org.



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President Rutkowski's *State of the College '06*

President Rich Rutkowski pointed to new campus construction as important progress during the past year at Green River Community College. Rutkowski was scheduled to deliver his annual State of the College address June 9.

"I think overall this institution has had a good year, a great year maybe, at serving the people of our area," he said.

In the capital arena, construction on the new Science Center began last fall. The 75,000-square-foot building will take the place of the ST complex and OEB, with classes scheduled to begin in June 2007. The old buildings will eventually be demolished.

Rutkowski said progress has also been made in the plan to consolidate the HS, SS and BI buildings. A new building, on the site of the old ST complex, is currently in the pre-design phase. If state funding is approved, construction could start in 2009.

The college is also hoping to replace its four TI buildings; Rutkowski has spent time over the last year building support for the project. He said he does not expect any state opposition to a new trades building; if approved, construction could begin in 2011.

A 5,000-square-foot addition to OEA is also being designed, which will house a larger Testing Center and a new Welcome Center for students. Construction is slated to begin next year.

The replacements would open up the northern

part of campus, allowing for the possibility of expanded parking or future construction.

"How many times do you get a chance to redevelop the front of your campus?" Rutkowski asked.

Addressing other issues impacting the college, Rutkowski said it needs to be prepared to take on more students. He cited a growing population in the area, and changing demographics as important enrollment issues.

Despite concern earlier in the year that the college would not meet its enrollment goals, Rutkowski believes Green River will be right on target. Colleges receive state funding based on their Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment numbers.

That funding, however, has decreased in recent years. Students will be facing another tuition increase next year. The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) has recommended a 5-percent increase; Green River's Board of Trustees will decide whether or not to follow that recommendation during its meeting later this month.

Over the last ten years, Green River tuition and fees have more than doubled. The 104-percent increase is the largest of any public institution in the state, according to data from the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.

Rutkowski is concerned about a trend in the legislature which has students paying more, and the

state paying less.

"The state of Washington is systematically changing the ratio... the state is supporting less," Rutkowski said.

He believes Gov. Christine Gregoire will take that into consideration as she examines the issue of college accessibility. Are students being denied access to higher education because of costs?

Rutkowski said he would like to see more financial aid available. Green River officials have been lobbying Congress for more support for the federal Pell Grant. Since 2002, college costs have increased more than 20 percent, according to National Center for Education Statistics. In that time, the maximum Pell Grant a student can receive has increased by only \$50.

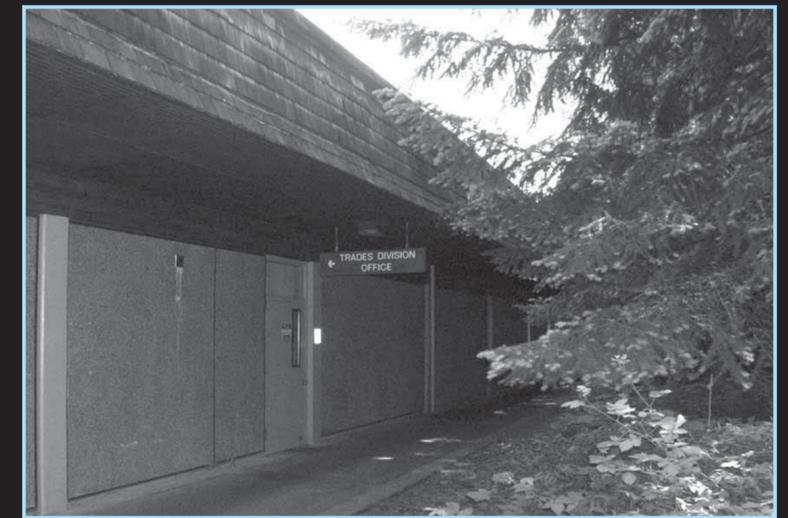
"It is a problem," Rutkowski acknowledged.

He added that Green River probably is doing as much as it can to lower costs for students. In the bookstore, for example, other "items of convenience" such as candy bars are being sold to help keep prices down. The Paper Tree is not state-funded, and Rutkowski said it could not survive selling books alone. The actual prices of textbooks, he said, are out of the college's control.

The president also addressed faculty issues. Green River faculty recently voted to approve a new three-year contract with the college; Rutkowski called it an "excellent process" which took time, dedication and patience, and resulted in trust.



TIM PERRY/The Current
A look at one of the ways the college is attempting to make extra money



TIM PERRY/The Current
The TI building which will eventually undergo a major overhaul as part of the renovation of Green River's campus.

One provision of the contract changes the name of "part-time" faculty to "adjunct." He believes the change gives more recognition to those instructors who do not happen to teach full time. The contract also calls for an increase in full-time faculty, by converting several adjuncts to full-time instructors.

"Our adjunct faculty are dedicated, but they've got to earn a living," Rutkowski said. "Green River needs more full-time faculty."

As of fall 2005, more than two-thirds of the college's instructors were part time. According to SBCTC, the number of part-time

faculty has increased roughly 15 percent in the last eight years.

Rutkowski also took time to predict what Green River will be like ten years from now. He hopes the quality of the education and experience will be the same, but would like to see a better use of facilities. Specifically, he wants the Lindbloom Student Center to be more accommodating.

Rutkowski also wants the college to be more "student-friendly." He'd like to make an easier pathway for students to move through their education, and find their particular area of interest or expertise.

He also said it's possible that Green

River would offer four-year degrees sometime in the future. For now, the college has decided not to participate in a state pilot project which allows students to earn specialized bachelor's degrees at two-year schools. Officials felt the process would be too difficult and require too many resources to begin now.

Will Rutkowski himself be here in ten years? He said it's unlikely, but noted he has no immediate plans for retirement. Rutkowski has been at Green River for 32 years.

Brian Schraum



TIM PERRY/The Current
The new science center has seen major progress in level of construction during the 2005-2006 school year. The new center should be completed and ready to go next year, giving a new home to many different classes.

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How to avoid stressing out about finals week

Caitlin Estep
Staff Reporter

Finals week, the one week most anticipated for, it symbolizes the ending of the quarter and gives hope to the up coming freedom of summer vacation. Yet to many others, finals week means endless stress, full of late night cramming and the dream of bottomless Starbucks coffee cup.

Taking a final is the most stressful test of the entire quarter, normally finals are a large percentage of your grade. This means that all the hard work and time one has put into a grade, has come down to one test, make it or break it. "I am always afraid that I will miss my scheduled final time and get an f," said Rachel Jones

So how can one make sure that they will be successful and do well on a final? The most important thing of is to study. Schedule a time and set it aside only for studying. Don't try to

cram everything in one night. Instead try studying for a couple hours each day. "My girlfriend is always on my case making sure that I study, it's nice having somebody that pushes me to do well" said Reece Spears.

Know what is going to be on the final. Pay attention to key points, teachers are hinting at what to expect on their final. Still not sure what you should be studying? Make an appointment with a teacher or find them during their office hours to ask them.

Look back at other tests and quizzes to refresh what one is already expected to know and understand. Use the book, look up chapter reviews and use that as a guide.

Make flash card to help with memorization. Feel prepared yet? Have someone else quiz you. Form a study group with some classmates, meet a few times to share notes and discuss things that might be hard or confusing.

Teacher Spotlight: Bruce Haulman tells about his experience all over the world

Caitlin Estep
Staff Reporter

Bruce Haulman has been working at Green River Community College since 1981. This quarter his classes load includes history of the movies, history of Vietnam War and Pacific Northwest history.

This summer he will be teaching two online classes: history of the movies and Pacific Northwest history. Haulman is involved in a study intensive fuel course, which includes a couple meetings before they go to a week long class where you get 5 credits in biology and 5 credits in social science. This course will allow the student to receive credit for two classes through the attendance of one course.

"It studies the issues of the natural environment and Eco system on the west coast of Vancouver Island and the native Canadian population" said Haulman.

Haulman went to Stetson University for his undergraduate and his Bachelors degree. He also attended University of Florida for his masters, and started his PHD program in the state of Texas and finished up at the University of Washington.

His most enjoyable course is the history of the movies. "It's a great class and lots of fun, we get to watch really great movies and I have the chance to introduce movies that most students wouldn't get to see otherwise" Said Haulman.

Domestic life for Haulman,

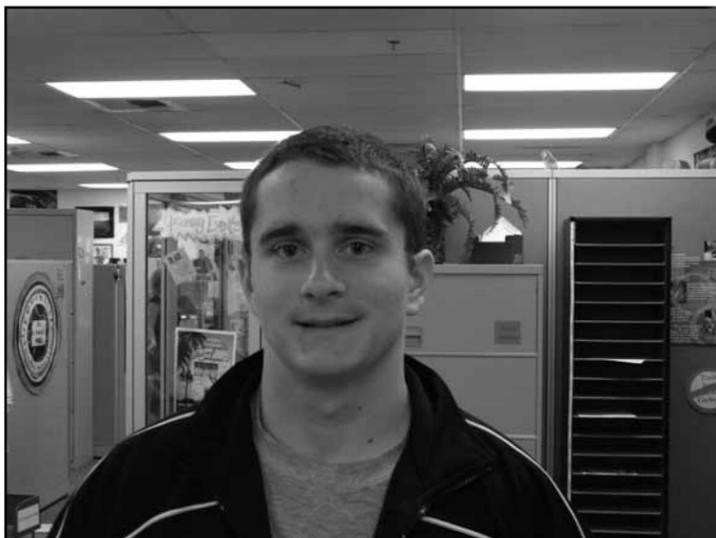
being married for 10 years has resulted in four children, has been a driving force for his move back to the area. "I moved up here because my wife was born in Burien and always wanted to move back to this area" said Haulman.

"I started teaching in graduate school and I loved it, I always have" said Haulman. The first classes Haulman taught, part time, were a history survey and a US history course at a community college in Florida. He has also instructed in Texas and in Oklahoma bringing the total amount of states that he has taught in to four.

Haulman held the position of Dean of instruction for eight years, which required him to take responsibility for the college transcripts of Green River students. In addition to his stateside tour of high learning institutions Haulman has also taught internationally in London in Canada. Haulman is also involved in a study abroad program for winter quarter here at Green River.

The study abroad program is allots fifteen credits to participants, but the real reward is in the experience of traveling to such places as New Zealand and Australia. The program entails the study of the history of Australia social science and biology. Haulman has been involved in this program for the past seven years. The program costs to the student totals more than six thousand dollars, which includes your 10 week stay in country, your plane ticket and room and board.

Senators of the month



Scott Wilson

Judicial Board

“...the man who really counts in the world is the doer, not the mere critic-the man who actually does the work, even if roughly and imperfectly, not the man who only talks or writes about how it ought to be done”.

Scott joined Senate to be an active voice on campus

Birthday: November 8, 1987

Favorite Superhero: Captain America

Major: Political Science

Scott's Superpower: Invincibility

Food of Choice: Steak and Potatoes

Born in: Auburn, Wa

Favorite TV show: Saved by the Bell

Scott wants the student body to know that he is the Marine Core this summer, OOrah!



Khoi Pham

Judicial Board Ex-Officio

“There are no steps of the lazy on the way to success”.

Khoi joined Senate to learn managerial skills and to help improve the college

Birthday: June 24, 1987

Favorite Superhero: His mom, dad, cousin, and uncle.

Major: Civil Engineering

Khoi's Superpower: Being optimistic and willing to help other people.

Food of Choice: Vietnamese Food

Born in: Vietnam

Favorite TV show: Adult Swim and Looney Tunes

Khoi wants the student body to try your best and you won't feel sorry for anything you did.



Amanda Brown

Finance Committee

“Live Life to the Fullest”

Amanda joined Senate to get more involved.

Birthday: September 6, 1983

Favorite Superhero: Dorthy

Major: Elementary Education

Amanda's Superpower: Telekinesis

Food of Choice: Corn on the Cob

Born in: Seattle, Wa

Favorite TV show: Full House

Amanda wants to Student Body to know that she will be the ASGRCC Student Body

Walking for Breast Cancer Research

Shannon MacInnes
Staff Reporter

Strength, confidence, and weeks of preparation are what GRCC teacher, Dan McIalwain will need to complete his walk for Breast Cancer Research.

The walk starts August 25 and will last for three days. Participants will be walking a total of 60 miles, approximately 20 miles per day.

In the past, participants have walked as far as Enumclaw to Seattle.

McIalwain has been preparing for this walk since he signed up in late February. Although he has

not closely known anyone with breast cancer, he plans on walking in remembrance of his mother who died from heart disease.

On weekends, McIalwain has been walking 14 miles in Leavenworth. He has been walking up Mountain Home Road, which has a 13% up grade.

McIalwain plans on continuing his training by hiking during the weekend to gain more strength in his calves and thighs.

“Finding the time is probably the biggest issue since it is time consuming to walk long distances. However, I have found it very rewarding,” said McIalwain of the experience.

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A *Midsummer's Night Dream* is a well-executed romp

Kell Fearon
Staff Reporter

Green River Community College's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was a well-executed romp with several stand-out performances. The actors kept the crowd amused for the entire ninety minute show as they frolicked, fought, and fell in love in Shakespeare's classic tale of mischief and mayhem.

Colleen Abbott, who played Hermia, gave a brilliant performance, despite this being her first Shakespearean play. She brought a Reese Witherspoon-like competence and confidence to the role, and the Bard's notoriously difficult language rolled off her tongue perfectly nuanced and clear. Playing the part of Hermia's lover, Lysander, Darren Adams held his own, but was really at his best when involved in an action, rather than a romantic scene.

The same was true of Adam Norwest, playing Demetrius. Looking a bit out-of-place when delivering solitary lines or involved in romantic chatter, Norwest was brilliant when playing off either Adam's Lysander or Bethany Piggott's Helena. Piggott herself grew more and more enjoyable to watch as the play went on. Her frazzled and exasperated

Helena, desperately trying to fight off two suddenly over-amorous suitors (Lysander and Demetrius) was the highlight of the play. All four actors were impressive in bringing everything they had to their performances. With all of the pratfalls, fighting, and running about, (all while spouting poetic prose, of course) the cast members seemed to be genuinely enjoying themselves, and the audience picked up on that and laughed all the harder.

Some of the most side-splitting moments were brought about by Nick Bottom, played with jovial arrogance by Robert Baltazor. Whether intentionally over-acting in Dream's play within a play, or remaining blithely oblivious to that fact that Puck had given him the head of an ass, Baltazor was surely everything Shakespeare had intended when he wrote the character.

Unfortunately, some the scenes in fairy-land lacked clarity. Oberon's argument with Titania and subsequent actions seemed unclear, again reminding one of the importance of nuance in Shakespeare, and the ability to relate the language to a modern audience. Puck, Oberon's merry sidekick, and arguably the play's most important character, could have been played with more overt



TIM PERRY/The Current

A scene from Green River's drama program production of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

and gleeful mischievousness. Chemistry seemed to be lacking between both Oberon and Titania, and Oberon and Puck.

The fairies of the forest were beautifully costumed and made up, and their deliberate movements helped create a sense of place on the sparse set. Yiu Lam was refreshing as Mustardseed;

her accented English, rather than seeming out-of-place, seemed instead to simply be part of her mystical fairy nature.

Despite being sparse, the set was well designed and attractive, and the few set changes were instituted smoothly and even humorously. Costumes, make-up, choreography and sound were all

obviously well-thought out and beautifully executed.

There were two separate casts for this play. The second cast takes the stage of the Green River Performing Arts Center on June 9 and 10 at 8PM. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$6 for seniors.

A photographic look at South Asian Culture Night



MARKS DONES/The Current

Amazing performers light up the stage during South Asian Culture Night

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AUDIOHOLICS

A view of the Seattle Cinerama, the largest cinema in Seattle, and one of the sites of the Seattle International Film Festival, the largest film festival in the country.

A look at the Seattle International Film Festival

Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

The Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) has been a colorful part of the artistic community not just in the Northwest but across the nation. This year's festival is celebrating the 32nd anniversary of its founding.

The popularity of such film festivals as Cannes and Sundance have somewhat eclipsed this festival, but the volume of films and the integrity of the festival have made it somewhat renowned in

the independent film circles.

The festival takes up residence in a peppering of theatres throughout the Seattle metropolitan area; with of course taking up residence in the Egyptian. Organizers have expanded the location of screenings this year to the neighboring city of Bellevue in hopes to draw an even larger crowd.

This year the festival will screen more than 300 films starting May 25th and running till June 18th. Some of the films that have received hype prior to their screening include: Life with my

father, which takes a comical look at two feuding brothers that forced to share the same habitation. In addition there is also inspiration movie that brings to mind such films as Stand and Deliver and Dangerous Minds; the film is called Half Nelson and delves into the story of an inner-city teacher that is attempting to reach out and help his students while confronting his own demons. The wealth of creativity that comes through the independent realm of this festival does seem to be able to quench the thirst that movie goes

have acquired for new stories and unique filming; this is something that has apparently forsaken most mainstream productions, but is a delightful characteristic of every year at the SIFF.

The festival gives out the Golden Space Needle award to the most popular movie of the festival. Past recipients of this award have included such critically acclaimed masterpieces as Whale Rider, Trainspotting and Kiss of the Spider Woman.

The value of this festival is both obvious and vague in that it

brings a larger pool of film to the Northwest, but I also feel that the continuation of this festival has also helped to produce the great diversity that the Seattle area is known for.

For those that find themselves lounging around their home with nothing to hold your attention span I would suggest going online to the Seattle International Film Festival website and purchasing a ticket to one of the various imaginative films that are being displayed throughout the next week.

Total Annihilation strikes back

Jesse Gauntt
Staff Reporter

For those of you who loved Total Annihilation, I have some great news. The game has been revived by a loyal group of coders, who are developing a highly interactive real-time strategy game (RTS). The goal of the project is to create a three-dimensional world in which you can zoom out and construct your base, and then have an option to zoom in and see the world of Total Annihilation in first-person. In addition, you'd be able to control individual units through the first-person perspective.

The project is named Total Annihilation Spring, as it's built on the Spring engine, which hopes to convert and develop other RTS games along the same guidelines. As far as Total Annihilation is concerned, the engine gives the

game an amazing depth of graphics. The engine makes the terrain highly interactive, things like forest fires and shell holes occur as you fight your opponent. The water has reflections and the sky is much more detailed. Compared to the original Total Annihilation, which was released in 1997, TA Spring has had a drastic graphical overhaul.

The game also provides its own community server for users to log on to and start playing games against real people. Moreover, it's free to download, though technically you're supposed to own a copy of the game, but Cavedog Entertainment, which hasn't done much since Total Annihilation, shouldn't mind.

For those of you interested in obtaining a copy or learning more, visit the official website at <http://taspring.clan-sy.com/>.



IGN

A screenshot from the Total Annihilation Spring, the remake from the 1997 favorite Total Annihilation.



UNIVERSAL FILMS

Vince Vaughn playing Gary Grobowski, and Jennifer Aniston playing Brooke Meyers sit tensely on a couch.

The Break-Up mixes laughter with drama

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

The director of Bring it On takes on the nuts and bolts of a typical long-term relationship in the romantic comedy/drama in the *The Break-Up*.

Vince Vaughn and Jennifer Aniston star as Gary Grobowski and Brooke Meyers, two polar opposites who have the perfect, modern relationship, until Grobowski's inconsiderate nature gets the best of him. After numerous incidents, a fed up Meyers calls the whole thing off after two years.

Although *The Break-Up* is being marketed as a romantic comedy, the movie reveals a more

serious plot about a long-term relationship that's been worn down. The fights, tension, and animosity between Grobowski and Meyers is surprisingly realistic for Hollywood.

There are highlights in various spots to lighten up the situation; Grobowski's first annual strip poker night and Meyers' disaster date with a self-absorbed, nerdy tax attorney to name a few.

In spite of the overall seriousness of the plot, *The Break-Up* was a surprisingly fun movie. Although the ending wasn't what I expected or wanted, I didn't come out of the movie disappointed, instead hopeful that things were going to get better between Grobowski and Meyers.

Vaughn and Aniston make a

cute couple throughout the movie, and work very well together. While it's not as charged up as the chemistry between Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie in *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*, it works very well.

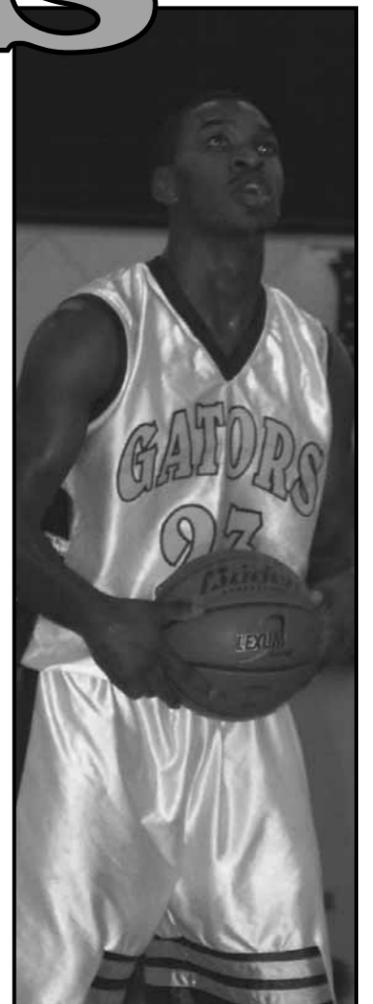
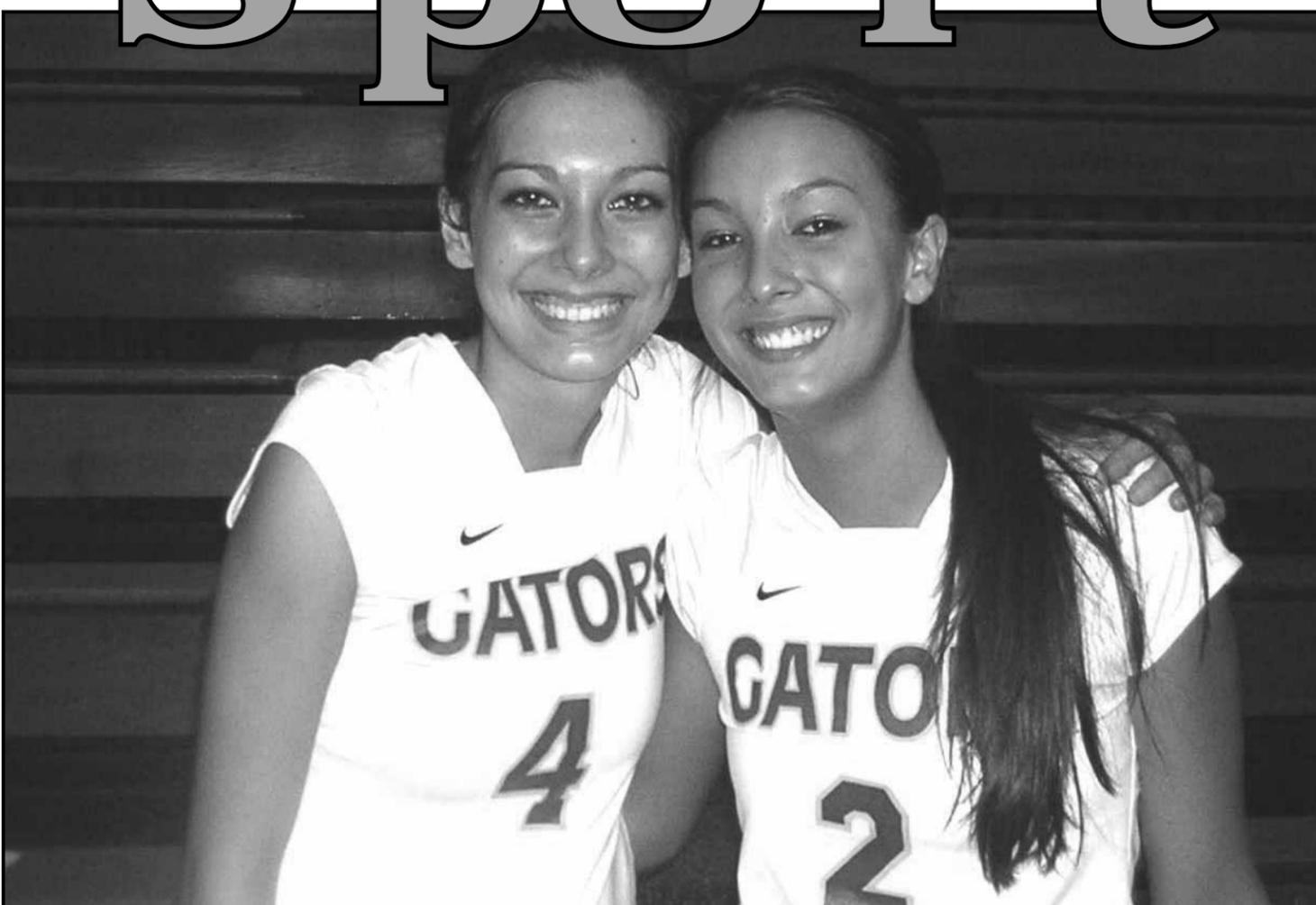
The movie also explored a subject that I think needs to be explored more often; personal responsibility in any long-term relationship. Meyers' plea to Grobowski toward the end, "I just want you to show me that you care," is something we all can take to heart.

If your into some laughs without all the fluff Hollywood has produced in years past, and can stand some more serious issues thrown in the mix, give *The Break-Up* a chance.



G a t o r

S p o r t s



A year in review

By Eric Hanninen and Kyle Riger



The 2005-2006 Green River Gator sports programs came to an end on May 23rd as the men's and women's golf teams capped off a roller coaster of a year for Gator sports. This season saw many ups and downs ranging from multiple regional playoff berths to a cancellation of the world's most popular sport.

Beginning in the fall GRCC watched as the women's volleyball team took home the NWAACC western division title and went home just shy of the NWAACC title placing 3rd overall. Volleyball started the road to what would be a very memorable and exciting overall Gator Sports year.

The fall quarter also showed us an above average season as women's soccer, at a record of (6-3-7), earned themselves a NWAACC playoff birth. Unfortunately they went on to get knocked out in the first round with a close 1-2 loss against Lower Columbia.

The Men's soccer team however didn't fare so well with a disappointing (2-15-3) record, in fact, it became a season that ended up being it's last. The struggling program that has seen five different head coaches over the course of the past 5 years was axed. The program itself was deemed "suspended indefinitely" by Green River's Athletic Director Bob Kickner.

However Kickner did not rule out a return of the program in the future when it was financially feasible. Kickner assures that the program wasn't cut just due to it's worst record in school history, but purely on a financial level. The decision had been reached

before the season was completed.

In the past five years it has suffered financial loss, poor outings from the teams and has had 5 different coaches. The program had lost interest and the team this season was forfeiting games due to lack of participation so the next logical step was to suspend the soccer team indefinitely and transfer funds to a program that is deserving and would put them to good usage.

Gator Basketball programs both ended with disappointing finishes this year falling short of goals and expectations, but didn't end without their share of highs along the way. Gator women just couldn't play consistent enough and were also getting out rebounded in nearly every game. However the team was lead by Shawn Segerman who contributed over 15 points per game and led the team in FG% at 43%. The teams 6 freshman also leave room for building next year and hopefully took some valuable notes from this season.

Men's team struggled a little bit with adversity this past season as the team lost some key contributors due to GPA's. The team's brightest spot though, Freshman guard Marc Williams who put up a solid 15 points per game while shooting the ball very consistently at 48% from the field.

The outlook on GRCC men's basketball looks like a solid foundation for the future too as about half the team looks to be returning to play next season under head coach Tim Malroy and assistant Roderick Mabry who are still searching for that one leader to step up and take the program to

the next level.

The spring quarter was no slouch for the Gators either as the men's and women's golf teams advanced to the NWAACC championships where they placed 4th and 7th place respectively.

Men's tennis also saw an amazing 9-1 season that marks the continuation of the most prestigious program our school has, that has now seen 20 NWAACC team championships since 1978.

Team captain Adam Blackner saw his first singles title and the first singles title for the school since the 1995 season. Women's tennis also finished an even (5-5) before finishing 4th place in the NWAACC championship.

Baseball saw a drastic improvement from 2005's disappointing 19-23-2 season, bouncing back to 24-19 finish in the NWAACC Western division. The team put in a good run towards the western division championship but fell short when facing #2 Tacoma CC in the West Region Playoffs on May 20-21st.

Women's fast pitch put an end to a very disheartening 0-38 finish with a team that in the end couldn't quite get that one win; the team did however manage to keep their spirits up still in spite of the losses.

All in all this has been one of the most memorable years of Gator sports in recent memory. We got a few banners to hang up in our gym as champions and left our mark on the NWAACC no doubt about that. Hopefully, next year Gator sports will continue the upward trend set in motion from the successful 2005-2006 campaign.



NBA draft: Who will the Seattle Supersonics take?

Barak Zozosky
Staff Reporter

The 2005-06 campaign for the Seattle Supersonics was definitely one of major disappointment.

Coming off a great 2004-05 campaign which saw Seattle win a playoff series against the Sacramento Kings, then give eventual champ San Antonio all they could handle gave fans reason to hope that they could do similar things this season.

That wasn't the case, however, and the season was filled with frustration and potential lost. So what can bring Seattle back to being a playoff contender? That is the question to be answered this June when the Sonics pick 10th overall in the NBA draft.

There are a number of different directions in which the Sonics could go, but which is the best bet? Point guard Luke Ridnour was a bit of a disappointment this year, and there was talk inside the organization that they could look to go in a different direction this year. Seattle made a late season trade to acquire another point guard in Earl Watson.

Connecticut underclassman Marcus Williams could be a great fit to take the reigns at point guard, and Williams would most certainly be there at the ten pick that the Sonics hold.

There has also been talk that Seattle may try to move the pick in an effort to move up the draft

board. Just last week, star shooting guard Ray Allen's agent was in talks with the Chicago Bulls. Is this a sign that a trade could be in the works?

One scenario has Allen going to the Bulls along with the number ten pick. Seattle would then receive Chicago's number two overall pick, along with guard Kirk Hinrich. Seattle would then be opted to pick the hometown superstar, Gonzaga standout Adam Morrison. Morrison would be an excellent spark to this team, and would be an immediate draw for a Sonics team struggling to find an identity. Another route could be to bring in University of Washington standout Brandon Roy. He's rated as the most complete player in the draft.

However, trades are never a sure thing come draft day, as so many things can detour a team from making a big trade. The most likely of all scenarios has the Sonics staying at the ten slot and picking up Duke big man Sheldon Williams.

Williams would give the Sonics a desperately needed upgrade up front, and would be a big upgrade defensively over current big men Johan Petro, Robert Swift, and Danny Fortson. Williams is a gritty shot blocker with a knack to clean up on the boards as well. All present solid options and the Sonics are likely a puzzle piece away from being contenders.

A LOOK AT POSSIBLE DRAFT PICKS



Adam Morrison
SF, 6-8, 220
Gonzaga

THE SKINNY: The Seattle Sonics would love to trade up to draft Morrison, whom some are calling the top pick of the draft. But that situation seems unlikely as Seattle most likely would not be able to put together a package to move up to the top pick.



Brandon Roy
SG, 6-5, 195
Washington

THE SKINNY: Another player the Sonics would love to add their roster. Again, the likelihood of acquiring this hometown player seems slim as Roy is projected to go around the fifth pick of the draft. If the most well rounded player in the draft slips to the Sonics at ten they will take him.



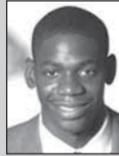
Marcus Williams
PG, 6-2, 200
Connecticut

THE SKINNY: The Sonics might be looking to give another point guard a chance after a disappointing year from here could definitely be room for improvement. Williams would be drafted only if the Sonics conclude Ridnour is not the correct man for the job.



Sheldon Williams
PF/C, 6-9, 250
Duke

THE SKINNY: Good big men are always hard to find in the NBA draft and Sheldon Williams could fit that mold. While Williams probably won't be a superstar in the NBA, he should be a solid big man for years to come and an improvement the always struggling front line of the Sonics.



Ronnie Brewer
SG, 6-7, 217
Arkansas

THE SKINNY: An athletic swingman who could create energy off the bench which is currently lackluster for the Sonics at bad. More of a driver than a shooter, but will hopefully continue to develop his shot at the NBA level. One of the most likely picks for the Sonics along with Sheldon Williams.

Golf teams improve towards end of the year

Eddie White
Staff Reporter

The GRCC golf team finished up very strong in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) Championships in Walla Walla. We showed marked improvement in both the team and individual events.

The teams certainly seemed to peak at just the right time of the season to be a contending force in this final tournament of the season. With such a promising finish to a couple of very much improved teams, both the men's and women's are extremely optimistic about their chances of being legitimate contenders for next year's NWAACC Northern Region champions.

The men's team improved from finishing ninth last year, to fourth this year. Continued improvement such as this surely is nice to see.

The team shot an overall 604 for the tourney, behind solid performances of both Dustin Jones and Tyler Dost. Jones shot an impressive 147 putting him in sixth place, while Dost shot a one shot higher 148 landing him a four way tie for tenth. More solid scores were put in with Todd Swendall's 153, and Randy Wohlheuter's 156. Congratulations to the men's team for their drastic improvement this year.

The woman's team had a hard time all year finding that third member needed so that they could compete in the team events rather than just individually. They found that third member in Kari Wik, who managed to get time off work so the team could go for the championship. Paige Gifford

once again had a stellar performance tying for second overall with a 151.

Gifford has consistently performed at a high level all year. The other member of the team, Angela Ferguson, also had a strong finish shooting a 177 to end the season. Finishing in seventh, the girl's team is looking forward for next year to establish themselves as one of the elite teams in the NWAACC.

Two players earned spots on the All Northern Region 1st team. Paige Gifford completed her dominant season making it on the woman's first team and Tyler Dost on the men's.

Gifford is a freshman who will return next year to once again to be the anchor for the woman's team. Dost shot a score of 70 on the Olympic Course at Gold Mountain, earning him an invite to the elite team of golfers.

Our Athletic Director, Bob Kickner, is very excited for the teams to return next year. With several returning players from the men's team, they will certainly be more experienced and poised next season. As we often do, we find ourselves looking forward to next season.

Hopefully we'll be able to capitalize on some of these optimistic views and put together an all-around good performance instead of banking on individuals to carry the team all season. After struggling to fill a team, the woman's team already has five commitments for next year, so the lack of interest from girls on campus is a thing of the past. Kickner summed it up with one phrase, "golf is looking up."

Former Gator, Joe Prince, wins NAIA Title

Bob Kickner
Athletic Director

OLATHE, Kan. - As a Freshman Joe Prince (Liberty HS / Renton) played for the 2002 GRCC Men's golf program. Last weekend, Prince won the NAIA National Championship for Point Loma Nazarene College with a score of four under par, leading his team to a fifth place finish in Olathe, KS.

The University of Victoria's (B.C.) Todd Halpen finished one shot behind Prince with a four-day total of 285 (-3). He trailed by three strokes coming into the final round and took the lead halfway through the day, but Prince finished his back nine at even par for the individual title.

Oklahoma City University won its fifth national title in six years after a 72-hole score of 1154 (+2) at the 2006 NAIA Men's Golf National Championships. Joe Prince from Point Loma Nazarene University (Ca-

lif.) earned medalist honors with his four-under total of 284. The 55th annual event is hosted by the Olathe Chamber of Commerce and is held at Prairie Highlands Golf Course.

Top 5 NAIA Finishers:

1. Joe Prince, Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.), 69, 70, 70, 75 - 284, (-4)
2. Todd Halpen, Victoria (BC), 66, 76, 70, 73 - 285, (-3)
3. Colin Nel, Oklahoma City, 73, 72, 71, 71 - 287 (-1)
4. Drew Chuipek, Saint Ambrose (Iowa), 74, 72, 69, 73 - 288 (E)
4. Rhein Gibson, Oklahoma Christian, 72, 71, 72, 73 - 288, (E)
4. J.J. Brumley, Wayland Baptist (Texas), 74, 75, 72, 67 - 288, (E)

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