

Assistant Dean Mitsui to depart

Brian Schraum
Editor-in-Chief

Assistant Dean of Student Services Mark Mitsui will leave Green River Community College in late April, it was announced this week.

Mitsui, who has been with the college for over two years, has taken a higher position at South Seattle Community College (SSCC).

According to Green River's Executive Dean of Student Services Jorge Ramirez, the college is currently conducting an internal search to find a temporary replacement.

"I'm hoping to have an interim [assistant dean] appointed by the end of the month," Ramirez said.

Mitsui's last day at Green River will be April 28. He starts at SSCC in mid-May.

The new position, Vice President of Student Services, will be closer to home, Mitsui said, noting that he "could walk there."

Mitsui's responsibilities at Green River have included oversight of student life, athletics, and counseling and health services.

"It's a mixed feeling... it's feeling like home here," Mitsui said.

He's also been deeply involved with diversity issues, serving as co-chair of the President's Council on Diversity. Ramirez called him the "conscience of the campus."

The interim assistant dean will serve for about six months, while the search for a permanent replacement is completed.

No specific candidates for the job were known at press time, but Director of Student Life Dani Chang is not throwing her hat in the ring.

"That's the natural progression in my career," Chang said. "But I love my job... I'm not ready to make that leap yet."

Mitsui came to GRCC after eight years at North Seattle Community College. Previously, he was a tenured instructor in Health and Fitness Technology at Renton Technical College.

"He's a very responsible, student-centered professional," Ramirez said. "He will be missed."

Science Center making progress



MARKS DONES/The Current

Construction is underway on the skybridge which will connect the science building to the recently completed Technology Center, and allow for pedestrian traffic.

Construction crews ahead of schedule for December finish

Amber Peterson
Staff Reporter

Construction of the new Science Center is well underway.

The massive structure being developed across from the Technology Center is a new add-on to our school. When completed, it will function as a three-level Science Center, including a skybridge that will connect the two buildings together.

Bailey contractors, led by [name redacted] are there every day making sure the development of the site runs smoothly. At this point only little mistakes have been made. For example, in one of the rooms there is to be a retracting door to divide two rooms, having labs on one side and desks on the other. The frame for the door was put in after the plumbing was set. The door ended up being too high so they had to re-work the pipes around the track of the door. It was a minor problem, when looking at the complexity of the complete project.

The Bailey Construction Company got this job because they were the lowest bidder, promising that they could get the project done more efficiently and for the lowest price. All

together, the finished project is going to cost an estimated \$29 million. The project will be funded through state grants, and taxes. It will be replacing the ST and OEB buildings. There will be an extra 19,161 sq. ft. for science and health science programs.

Also, the company has hired 35 subcontractors to come in and work in their specialized divisions; the plumbing must always be put in first, and then the electrical and ventilation systems will proceed after. Already the shell is almost complete. Steel framing has been completed and set up. They have already brought in drywall to start on the east side of the center.

The Science Center is going to have a bridge linking the structures together. It will be located on the second story. The bridge is already put up. What they are working on right now is, making the bridge individually supportive for seismic activity -- so that in case of an earthquake, the bridge will not "go down with the ship." A new water feature will also be developed. That will correlate to the pond and a bridge that was put in with the Tech Center.

The first floor of the center will house a

physics lab, nursing lecture hall and classroom, geology classroom and study area, as well as a dark room.

The second floor will be home to an environmental science lecture hall, two biology labs, a micro-biology lab, several anatomy/physiology labs and a lecture hall.

On the third floor, students will find four chemistry lecture halls, two chemistry labs, an organic chemistry lab and a greenhouse.

"A new facility will allow the college to accommodate increasing enrollment pressure and provide accredited science programs needed to keep GRCC current with industry and marketplace demand," reads a portion of the project description.

This is only one phase of a complete school transformation. This is a major component in a master plan to refurbish campus facilities. The Science Center is scheduled to be completed in December 2006. It will be open for student use in Spring of 2007.

Inside the Science Center:
A photographic tour - page 5



Gator Fastpitch Drops Opener
page 15



Textbook Prices: The Reasons and the Rhetoric
page 11

New Courses, New Options
Inside

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Security Watch

Up in Smoke
March 10

During a safety inspection at the Campus Corner Apartments, security observed a room smelling of marijuana. The student staying in the apartment consented to a search, during which two pipes, two bongos, other drug paraphernalia and two alcoholic beverages were found. The student staying in the room admitted to using pot the previous day, and that he was using incense to try and cover up the smell. Security also discovered the room's smoke detector had been taped over. Action against the student pending.

Apartment Theft
March 12

A student reported a theft from her room at the Campus Corner Apartments, which apparently took place the night before. She left her apartment around 10:30 p.m., and upon returning discovered her television and some jewelry had been stolen. A report was filed with the King County Sheriff's Office.

Cash Stolen
March 16

A student reported \$400 in cash missing from Campus Corner Apartments. The victim claimed the money had been stolen within the last two days, and suspected that it happened while his roommate had several guests over. His door was locked, but said it could be easily opened.

Painting Gone
March 17

Security responded to the Helen S. Smith Gallery in the Holman Library building, where a student reported one of his paintings was missing. The apparent burglary happened between the evenings of March 15 and March 16. The student said the painting depicted a smiling man shooting himself in the head.

CCA Burglary
March 19

Three students living at the Campus Corner Apartments told security someone had broken into their room and stolen their laptop computers. Officers noticed that each of the room doors had been busted open, the locks destroyed. A fourth roommate also had a laptop missing. The estimated value was \$7,700, according to a security report.

Punching In
March 31

On returning to his Campus Corner Apartment in the early morning hours, a student realized he did not have his keys with him. Finding the door locked, the suspect apparently broke out the front window of the apartment with his fist or forearm. The student's roommates woke up, wrapped his arm and rushed him to Auburn Medical Center. Security was notified, and upon entering the apartment discovered a beer bong and ashes from drugs.



Events

Northwest Trek

April 29
\$15 General
\$10 Students
9:30 a.m.
to 4 p.m.
Meet at Bus Circle

Price includes admission, transportation, and all-you-can-eat lunch buffet

Contact: Jeff x2400

The Putting Zoo

May 21
\$10 per person
10:30 a.m.
to 4:30 p.m.
LSC
(main dining area)

Price includes transportation
1 Go-Kart race,
2 rounds of putt-putt golf,
and lunch

Contact: Jeff x2400

Featured Senators

Pictured, left to right, Michael Hildebrandt, Theo Wan and Ca\$h Chen. Senators chosen, and information provided by Student Government (ASGRCC).



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

Michael Hildebrandt

Finance Committee

"It's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years."

Reason you joined Senate:

- Experience and to be involved
- Birthday:** Jan. 31 – Aquarius Pride
- Favorite Superhero:** French Toast Man, Ren and Stimpy
- Major:** Business
- Superpower:** Power of Persuasion and X-Ray vision
- Food of Choice:** Thai Food!
- Born in:** Madigan Army Hospital Ft. Lewis, Wash.
- Favorite TV show:** The Daily Show

Something you want the student body to know: Michael Hildebrandt for United States President 2024, and Pedro's the man!

Theo Wan

Bylaws Committee

"Eat, learn, live" – Gator Grille

Reason you joined Senate:

- To learn about teamwork and participate in students' organization
- Birthday:** April 24
- Favorite Superhero:** Dr. Zoidberg
- Major:** Business
- Superpower:** Fall asleep in all situations
- Food of Choice:** Noodle, all kinds of noodle
- Born in:** Hsin Chu, Taiwan
- Favorite TV show:** Futurama, South Park

Something you want the student body to know: Being a student doesn't mean you don't have the ability to improve your school

Ca\$h Chen

Public Relations Committee

"I'm lovin' it..." – McDonalds

Reason you joined Senate:

- I have to get involved in the school that I study in. I want the school to get better.
- Birthday:** Feb. 20
- Favorite Superhero:** My Family, especially my big sister and brother from a different mother.
- Major:** Communications
- Superpower:** loud voice, so everyone can hear me
- Food of Choice:** Fried rice and KFC Fried Chicken
- Born in:** Taiwan aka T-Town
- Favorite TV show:** Family Guy, MTV Boiling Point, BET 106& Park. Emeril, Iron Chef, Flavor of love, Wild Boyz.

Something you want the student body to know: I was born in Taiwan, but I was reborn in Houston, Texas. Shout out to hip-hop, yeah.



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

For those of you who are tired of parking in line, waiting for parking, Green River brings you a fleet of brand new buses, three in total, set to travel on a nice schedule from Pacific Raceways to the suddenly sunny Green River campus. The buses seat 25 people, and replace the passenger vans which were costly to operate through an independent company. The new buses are owned by the college and will also be available to groups and clubs during evenings, weekends and the summer season.

BUS SCHEDULE

Raceways to Library



- 7:30 a.m.
- 7:40 a.m.
- 8:25 a.m.
- 8:35 a.m.
- 8:45 a.m.
- 9:25 a.m.
- 9:35 a.m.
- 9:45 a.m.
- 10:25 a.m.
- 10:35 a.m.
- 10:45 a.m.
- 11:00 a.m.
- 11:20 a.m.
- 11:40 a.m.
- 12:00 p.m.
- 12:20 p.m.
- 12:40 p.m.

Library to Raceways



- 8:35 a.m.
- 8:45 a.m.
- 9:00 a.m.
- 9:35 a.m.
- 9:45 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m.
- 10:35 a.m.
- 10:45 a.m.
- 11:00 a.m.
- 11:10 a.m.
- 11:20 a.m.
- 11:40 a.m.
- 12:00 p.m.
- 12:10 p.m.
- 12:20 p.m.
- 12:40 p.m.
- 1:00 p.m.
- 1:20 p.m.
- 1:40 p.m.
- 2:00 p.m.
- 2:20 p.m.
- 2:40 p.m.
- 3:00 p.m.
- 3:20 p.m.
- 3:40 p.m.
- 4:00 p.m.
- 4:20 p.m.
- 4:40 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m.

Spring enrollment down

Marks Dones
Staff Reporter

Enrollment drops have brought a slight decline to Green River Community College's usual growth rate.

There was a 2% drop in Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment compared to the same time last year. FTEs take 12+ credits.

John Ramsey, public informa-

tion officer for GRCC, said the college was unsure of the exact reason for the drops. The various reasons could include students dropping spring quarter because they're not in the best financial situation and/or that the economy is rising and students are going back to work.

A few students talked about why they were dropping college. Most of them didn't get financial aid. Many said classwork con-

flicted with their work schedules, and they didn't want to lose their jobs. Others were just tired of college so they went back to work full-time.

GRCC is not immediately worried about the drop, Ramsey said. Returning students may be down, but the number of new students appears strong.

"We are confident we'll make our target by the end of spring quarter," said Ramsey.

Legislature creates new job-training program

Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

Many times students have obtained their AA degree and venture out into the working world, not with hopes of capturing their dream job; but a job that brings them out of mediocrity. Washington state's legislature has taken up this issue and has crafted a response by bringing together local businesses and community college training.

On March 7 of this year, the state legislature passed a bill that created the Washington Customized Employment Workforce Training program. This program will be used to establish a larger pool of job training at community and technical colleges.

The program will be overseen by the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; their duties will entail

the allocation of grants that total \$3.15 million and will be used to bring local businesses to community and technical colleges offering more job opportunities. Supporters of the new program have said it "will prepare Washingtonians for valuable careers and help out our businesses grow at the same time."

The bill's sponsor, Senator Paull Shin, said the training of valuable workers will increase and he believes that it will "make Washington more attractive to businesses outside the state".

The impact that this program offers to students could be direct and immediate. With a two-year degree that in the past has opened doors to graduates, students can achieve the qualifications needed to improve their lives.

The program has been signed by Governor Gregoire and becomes effective starting June 6 of this year, setting up more busi-

ness training for community and technical colleges starting in the fall quarter.

The opportunity afforded to students in a similar program has resulted in the creation of more than 3,000 jobs in the state of Iowa, since the inception of its program in 1983.

A stipulation within the program is that the businesses that qualify for grants are required to increase their employment within the state by 75 percent of the trainees enrolled in the program. As a result of this training program, Sen. Shin forecasts the capacity for training up to 1,000 workers each year.

The circulation of the funds has not yet taken place, but Green River Community College students can stand to benefit from this program with an assortment of potential small businesses training and hiring students.

Student Government works on commencement committee

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

Student Government passed Article VIII, section IV, which provides the guide lines for a Commencement Speaker Committee, at the first meeting of the quarter.

The main goal of the new article is to allow other students to speak at the Commencement Ceremony, a post traditionally held only by the Student Government president.

The focus of the debate was the wording of item four, which reads "The commencement speaker committee shall chose the selection process of the speaker by the fourth full week of spring quarter

and shall chose a speaker by the eighth full week of spring quarter."

The question of the meaning of "a full week" came up which sparked a lengthy debate about how to word it. The addition of "which will be a standard five day week" and "which will consist of five academic days" came up numerous times. The decision was made to strike out the word full in both line items four and two. An obvious grammatical error was changed as well.

In other business:

- The 522 Student Activities Budget passed through Student Senate. It will be now given to Student Government President Brian Grover for approval.

- A total of \$310,000 from the

college's reserve fund was granted by Student Government so the Technology Department could begin the first phase of Web Portals for the campus website.

- Representative Dave Upthegrove, a Democrat from the 33rd District, will be speaking in the Glacier Room on the first floor of the LSC at noon on April 15.

- There will be a candidate meeting on April 24 at noon in the Rainer Room on the second floor of the LSC for all students interested in running for office for 2006-2007. Election packets are available in the Information Center also on the second floor of the LSC.

- Election packets are due April 21, with voting taking place May 8 - 11.

NEWS BRIEFS

Associate Dean leaves GRCC after eight years

Al Griswold, Associate Dean of Professional Technical Programs and Workforce Development, has left Green River for a better job.

Griswold accepted an Executive Dean position at Seattle Central Community College, where he will begin May 1.

Griswold had been with GRCC for eight years.

Ron Wheadon, Griswold's

immediate superior, made the announcement in a campus-wide e-mail March 28.

"Al has been instrumental in reshaping the professional technical and workforce education areas of the campus," Wheadon said. "While he will be greatly missed, we recognize the wonderful opportunity that awaits him and wish him all the best."

A replacement is pending.

Employment Expo offers job opportunities for students

The quarterly Employment Expo will be held in LSC next Thursday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Over 24 employers will be participating in the event, ranging from Fed Ex Ground, to Safeway, the White River Amphitheater, to the United States

Air Force. A wide range of employment opportunities will be available including part time, full time, summer and permanent jobs, and internships. For more information on this event, contact the Career and Employment Center at 253-833-9111 x2555 or Karen Brasch x2553.

Upgraded security for Assessment and Testing Center

Four security cameras were installed in the Assessment and Testing Center over spring break.

The cameras have been placed in each corner of the test room, with video running 24/7. Moni-

toring equipment for the staff and security has been placed in the Testing Center office. There is now a sticker on the entrance door to the testing room alerting students to the fact that "24 hour video monitoring" is in effect.

Employee Campaign raises over \$55,000 for scholarships

The 2006 Employee Campaign is being called a success.

This year's theme was Rich Rutkowski's Top 40 Musical Challenge. It had events such as the doughnut roll, paper glider, and the pancake breakfast.

All the money raised goes to the GRCC Foundation, to fund scholarships. This year, over 200 employees contributed over \$55,000. Ten employees joined

the President's Club by contributing \$1,000 or more annually. Fourteen employees made their first contribution. Thirty-four increased their contribution or made a one-time additional gift.

Organizer Mathew Swenson from the Foundation Office said the entire event is "all for the students."

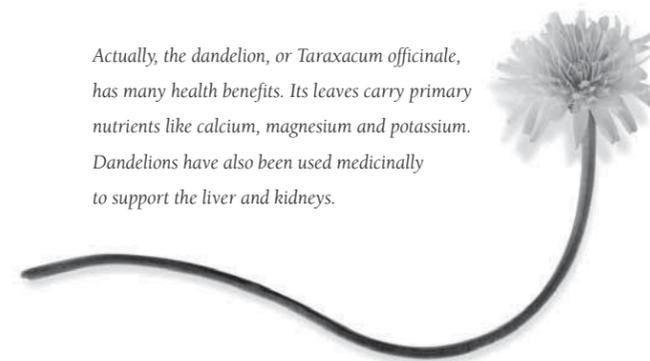
Employees are still free to donate throughout the year.

Compiled by *Current* staff

DANDELIONS

PULL 'EM, THEY'RE JUST WEEDS.

Actually, the dandelion, or Taraxacum officinale, has many health benefits. Its leaves carry primary nutrients like calcium, magnesium and potassium. Dandelions have also been used medicinally to support the liver and kidneys.



Find out about an Herbal Sciences degree. For the best natural health education in the world, visit college8.bastyr.edu.

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UNIVERSITY

An inside tour of the Science Center

All photos by Marks Dones



Green River could get a new look, on the web

A new portal system can help students access materials online and in the classroom

Nicole Swapp
Features Editor

It's no guess that Green River Community College (GRCC) likes to keep up on technology at school. New computers and buildings seem to be going up everywhere; now a next big step for the campus is a portal system for students and staff.

"The purpose of the portal system is to give you a single entry point to the online services offered by the college," said Distance Learning Coordinator Jerry Marshall. "You would connect to things people already know. Among the advantages could be a single sign-on, where users would enter their user name and password at once and have access to all services that require passwords, and the opportunity to add features to their home page."

The point of the portal system is to make Green River more efficient. As of right now, there are many logins when students want to register, view their class schedule, enter Blackboard, or check online grades.

Some of the great features a portal has to offer Green River would be an easy login. Students would login just once and then get to everything. They could see announcements from their classes, check their schedule, customize their home page and surf the Green River website.

There are currently two issues facing the future of the portal system.

"One issue we are facing is



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

A few students in the Technology Center explore the internet. One day, students will be able to explore Green River's website like they do for their email accounts.

what type of portal we want and what we want it to do for us," said Marshall. "There are many types out there; we just have to decide if we want to use a commercial one, or create the portal ourselves and what features we want it to have."

The second issue they face is how to fund the portal. Marshall said that they want to get the best product they can, but GRCC just needs to be able to fund it.

The decisions about the portal will be made in cooperation with the Instructional Technol-

ogy Committee, the Information Technology Department (IT) and Distance Learning. This committee is in charge of getting the best knowledge for the portal system, and advising the IT Department.

On March 16, there was a senate meeting to talk about the new

portal system to take effect. There are no official decisions made on the portal.

Carolyn Hershberger, the Vice President of Technology, said it is a major project and they are hoping to have the framework in place a year from spring quarter.

Green River looks into a new program to help students who struggle with issues on campus

Commencement Achievement Program could be the next best thing for college students

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

Let's face it, college can be downright confusing. From filing for financial aid to attending classes every day, the stress alone can make students just want to pull their hair out, among other things. Fortunately for those students, if all goes as planned, we will have some help navigating through the jungle that is Green River Community College.

Out of personal experience, Diversity Services Director Veronica Garaycoa has proposed the establishment of the Commencement Achievement Program (CAP), to help underrepresented, new, and returning students make their way through the college system and graduate in a timely matter.

Garaycoa attended college as a foreign exchange student from Latin America and didn't know a

single word of English until her freshman year.

The program, which has been slated to debut next academic year, will pair ten new students with about six to eight "veteran" students, or peer navigators, to help them with simple yet confusing tasks, such as taking the COMPASS placement exam and signing up for academic advising sessions.

"[CAP will] prevent students from falling through the cracks and help those who struggle with non-academic issues," said Assistant Dean of Student Services Mark Mitsui, who is a strong supporter of the program.

Although CAP is geared largely toward underrepresented minorities, such as non-traditional

students and displaced homemakers who tend to fall behind due to factors outside the classroom; all students are more than welcome to take advantage of the service.

get the information they need to succeed at the college. Garaycoa is currently working with the ESL Department, Disability Services and the surrounding community.

But next year's debut of the program is contingent on whether the developers of Green River's General Fund, which governs the income and outcome of the college as a whole, agree to fund a coordinator to run the program. Garaycoa doesn't see why they wouldn't grant the necessary funding, since the program offers "excellent customer service." She has requested approximately \$6,000 to \$12,000 for the first year. A final answer will be made by the developers on June 30.

The part of the program that will cover the expenses of the peer navigators, which is a part of the 522 Student Activities Budget, has already been approved by Student Government and Executive Dean of Student Services Jorge Ramirez. It awaits final approval by the Board of Trustees, who will be meeting on April 20 at 4 p.m.

"[CAP will] prevent students from falling through the cracks and help those who struggle with non-academic issues."

Mark Mitsui
Assistant Dean,
Student Services

Programs similar to CAP have already been implemented in several four-year universities as well as many area high schools.

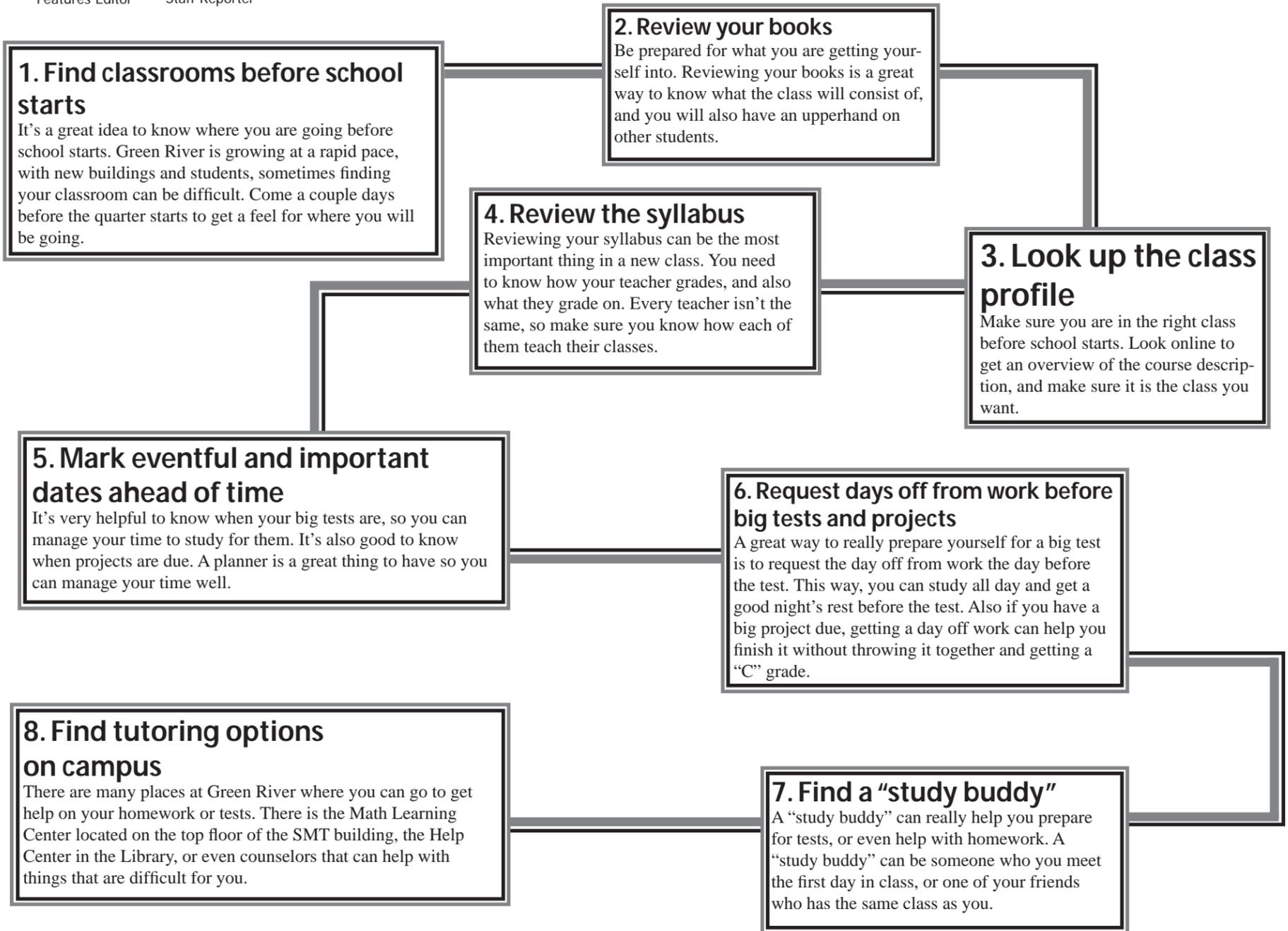
The program won't replace the currently existing student support programs, such as TRIO/Student Support Services, but it will work with them to further help students

"I support it [CAP] because it gives underrepresented, new, and returning students an avenue for circumventing the educational system, which can be discouraging when they're trying to get things done," said student and Diversity Services Coordinator Lorenzo Ortiz.

How to deal with the first two weeks of stress

Some great tips to help students settle into their new classes

Nicole Swapp Caitlin Estep
Features Editor Staff Reporter



Teacher Spotlight: Pam Reising tells of her love for mathematics

Caitlin Estep
Staff Reporter

Pam Reising is a mathematics teacher here at Green River, and has been for a total of eight years; six of those as a full-time teacher. Students look up to her, seeing her as the 'teacher of all teachers.'

Reising graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's in mathematics and a master's in mathematics education. She has been a teacher for 15 years and has taught at the junior high, high school and college levels, moving around from Ohio, Arizona, and now in Washington. Reising is currently teaching Introduction to Education, Mathematics for Elementary Teachers, Math Lab, Intermediate Algebra and online

Basic Arithmetic.

"I like all of my classes for all different reasons but I am having fun with the Math Elementary Teachers because in class we get to play with the toys," Reising said. "It is exciting to teach all of the things I get to share with the students that are going to someday turn around and share it with their students. I can't say that it is my favorite class, but it is up there."

Reising is involved in the Project TEACH program, which is set up so students can get their teaching certificate through Central Washington University. She is also involved in the Steps to Success program, which is a transitions program taking at-risk students who are brand new to Green River, and helping build up their math, reading, writing and study skills before they start taking

classes.

Reising enjoys working with mathematics because she likes working with puzzles and figuring things out. She wasn't very interested in math until her senior year of high school when she took calculus and had a great teacher. She enjoyed the way the teacher asked questions and allowed students to think about things. There, she realized that she could do something with math.

"I am very fortunate that all the math instructors are just wonderful to work with and that is not the case everywhere," she said. "We have an outstanding group of instructors here. They are fun to work with and they always have great ideas. We are all supportive of each other... it is a wonderful campus community and I just love it here."



TIM PERRY/The Current

In with the New

Green River's course offerings change, adapt

As the college prepares to unveil its 2006-2008 catalog, several courses have been added and several others dropped or changed

NEW COURSES

P SCI 207

American Political Participation
5 credits, 32 capacity, \$3 coop fee,
Satisfies social science distribution requirement
for AA degree.

P T 277

Clinical Affiliation 1
1 credit, 32 capacity
Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in P T 251

PHOTO 197

Independent Study-Photography
Class Cap: 1
Credits: 1-5 (22-88 hours of lab, 0-33 hours of
clinical)
Prerequisite: Instructor's permission

EDEC 245

Challenging Behaviors in Young Children
2 credits, 20 cap, 22 lecture

O T 177

Application of Occupational Therapy Co-op
Experience 1
1 credit, 16 capacity, 33 clinical
Prerequisite: Instructor's permission

O T 277

Co-op Fieldwork Experience 1
12 credits, 396 clinical, Instructor's permission,

O T 178

Application of Occupational Therapy Co-op
Experience 2
Prerequisite: Instructor's permission and con-
current enrollment in O T 206

O T 179

Application of Occupational Therapy Co-op
Experience 3
1 credit, 16 capacity, 33 clinical
Prerequisite: Instructor's permission and con-
current enrollment in O T 207

P T 278

Clinical Affiliation 2
1 credit, 32 capacity
Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in P T 252

P T 279

Clinical Affiliation 3
7 credits, 32 capacity
Prerequisite: P T 278 and concurrent enrollment
in or completion of P T 253

P T 280

Clinical Affiliation 4
7 credits, 32 capacity
Prerequisite: P T 279 and concurrent enrollment
in or completion of P T 253

**NEW
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREES**
IT Information Assurance
Computerized Machining & Manufacturing Technology
Natural Resources (Wildland Fire)

NEW CERTIFICATES
Art (Interdisciplinary)
Art (Advanced Studies)
Sales and Supervision
Sales and Customer Service
Computerized Machining & Manufacturing Technology
Forensic & Fingerprint Technology
IT Information Assurance Technician

GRADING SYSTEM

LOWEST PASSING GRADE		PASS / NO CREDIT	
BEFORE 0.7	AFTER 1.0	BEFORE Need 1.0+ to pass	AFTER Need 1.5+

NEW ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREES

Associate in Science-Transfer (Opt 2) Degree – Major-Ready Pathway 1
Engineering: Mechanical/Civil/ Aeronautical/Industrial/ Materials Science/ Pre-Engineering (Other Engineering)
(112 Credits)

Associate in Science-Transfer (Opt 2) Degree – Major-Ready Pathway 2
Engineering: Biological or Chemical pre-Engineering
(102 Credits)

Associate in Science-Transfer (Opt 2) Degree – Major-Ready Pathway 3
Engineering: Computer or Electrical pre-Engineering
(96 Credits)

These new “major-ready pathway” degrees are designed to help engineering students transfer into a four-year university, ready to start their junior year.

“The whole focus is seamless transition from community college to university,” said Jeff McCauley, engineering instructor.

Many engineering students have had problems when they transfer, because they didn't choose appropriate courses with their associate in science degree. Some have been over a year behind, despite earning their degree, because the university required other courses. These new degree options were created to help keep students on track.

Depending on the school, some students may even be able to transfer more than the usual 90 credits.

The requirements for these degrees are based on what will get students into the most schools. However, each university has its own unique requirements, and McCauley urges all engineering students to consult with an advisor to help plan their coursework.

“You just want ‘em to be successful,” he said.



A page from the previous catalog, which is produced by the Publications Office. Publications staff are currently working on proofs of the new catalog, which will be on campus in May. “I pretty much live with a red pen in my hand,” said Darcie Langone, who works in publications.

Out with the Old

CANCELLED COURSES

BUS 107
Business Leadership Activity 1
BUS 108
Business Leadership Activity 2
BUS 109
Business Leadership Activity 3
BUS 178
Supervised Work Experience

BUS E 151
WordPerfect
BUS E 161
Advanced WordPerfect

ESL 059
Grammar for Level Two ESOL Students

P E 104
Bench Aerobics
P E 116
Skiing
P E 126
Bowling
P E 128
Slow Pitch

P E 151
Sport Conditioning
P E 152
In-Sport Conditioning
P E 159
Intermediate Tennis
P E 203
Physical Fitness Lab
P E 235
Tai Chi 3

HL ED 175
Human Sexuality

BUS E 184.E
Introduction to the Internet
BUS E 185.E
Introduction to Access
BUS E 186.E
Advanced Access
BUS E 255.E
Advanced Word for Windows
BUS E 265.E
Computer Systems: Hardware & Software

COMM 145
The Vietnam War and Media
COMM 180
Communication Skills for Teachers and Trainers

CRJ 235
Probation and Parole (Community Corrections)

D T 050
Aircraft Blueprint Reading

ESL 051
ESL Conversation
ESL 054
Preparation for Citizenship
ESL 056
English Pronunciation
ESL 058
ESL Group Discussions
ESL 081
Into the Community
ESL 087
ESL Writing Support

GIS 120
Introduction to ArcView
GIS 130
Introduction to Avenue
GIS 200
GIS Principles and Concepts

H SCI 102L
Applied Anatomy Lab

HIST 236
History of Australia
HIST 297
Independent Study
HIST 298
Independent Study

MGMT 106
Survey of Business Accounting
MGMT 109
Manufacturing Cost Flows

P T 110L
Principles of Physical Therapy Agents 1 Lab
P T 111
Principles of Physical Therapy Agents 2
P T 111L
Principles of Physical Therapy Agents 2 Lab
P T 113L
Posture & Movement Lab
P T 210L
Therapeutic Exercise Lab
P T 211L
Advanced Procedures Lab
P T 212L
Special Topics Lab
P T 213L
Orthopedic Therapy Lab

AA DEGREE

Quantitative Skills Requirement
New Option: Take Philosophy 215
Adv. Studies in Formal Logic

A forgotten identity allows manipulation by trusted officials

Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

College grass root efforts have been the spark to some of the greatest movements in our nation's history. This lost art form has made attempts, though meager on the surface, at a revival to the levels that not only gain a voice but also demand a role within policy making.

The complacency that has overtaken youthful rebellion, that has been a concrete right of passage for your admittance into adulthood, is an attitude that will need to be changed or the auctioning off of your future will go unchecked.

During the civil rights movement and the protest against the war in Vietnam, there were times where temperatures for the blatant abuse of power by officials ran hot; today our temperature runs a mild fever if any change at all toward similar abuses of power. I do not subscribe to the excuse that those were causes worth fighting for.

Currently, we have a war where boys and girls are sent off to a place, which few of them understand, to die. The situation with the Iraq war is analogous to the causes that many people were so adamant in protesting during the Vietnam War. We are half way around the world under a charade orchestrated by our trusted officials yet again and with a limited understanding of the culture and situation we are in. The outcome looks parallel to the outcomes in Vietnam: chaos. As with most conflicts that have an elaborate web of deceit as the sole foundation for justification, the war in Iraq at the beginning was supported but now has become not an action of liberation, but that of attrition.

We were herded into this war through false pretences and the drumming up of our patriotism and fears. The result has been that soldiers, who are barely above the age of 18, are dying everyday after being misled by the very government they are defending. The resemblance between the last three major conflicts is that, to a certain degree, the American public and the armed forces were lied to.

The greatest threat to our way of life is not terrorism or even the shipping off of our youth to a conflict that we have no valid reason to be involved in, but the rapidly developing contentment for the tyrannical rule that has become our government.

Soft spoken outrage has taken the place of accountable questioning of our leaders, allowing the agendas of the few to be implemented over the agendas of the many. With each day an elimination of another portion to the house of cards government, which has been forged by this administration, reveals a lie that is more outrageous than the previous one.

During the Clinton administration our president was censured for lying about a romantic involvement with an intern and during the Nixon administration our president resigned over the breaking in of a building but this administration has gotten away with the outing of a CIA operative for political pay back, led this country to war under false pretenses and has taken away money from student loan programs to fund a windfall for oil companies.

With actions that would seem to be more detrimental to American society than the two "reprehensible" exploitations of the public's trust perpetrated by the two previous administrations, President Bush

has been able to sidestep censure and impeachment.

The forces behind both of the actions taken against President Clinton and Nixon were, for the most, part driven by a grass roots effort on both sides of the political divide. The grass roots effort that resulted in such outrage was a by-product of the passion felt by most Americans over the wrong that was done to them as individuals and as a nation.

The crimes that are being perpetrated by this administration are some of the same and, in most cases more horrific. Not just in their results but also in the blatant disregard with which they are carried out. The resentment for this administration's actions is there; take a look at the latest approval poll. But the actualization of this outrage is almost non-existence.

We need to take up the cause that the administration has labeled us too remedial for, of holding this president to the standards that we have held all of our presidents to. We should no longer allow our leaders to turn on and off their ethics when it suits their purposes. It took the implementation of the draft to garner public outrage during Vietnam, and with the spreading thin of our military over these trivial conflicts the re-implementation of the draft is more of a reality than it has been in the past. The drones that would protest these self-righteous decisions did have the make-up of more than just college kids, but the foundation was made up of college students.

We should demand more from our leaders. That will take all of us confronting those that use petty labeling as a deterrent and do our true patriotic duty and stand up for our country and ourselves. The Ameri-

can attitude has never consisted of a manipulative state of fear, but recently that is what most have fallen into. We have lost our identity, and have allowed others to tell us who we are instead of saying it ourselves. The playing on the fears of another domestic attack is at best in the grey area of the ethical meter, and the place where this administration feels at home. I am tired of listening to "al Qaeda is planning an attack" on such and such day, which coincidentally is around election time.

The appalling behavior that has gone unchecked by this administration has been multiplied by the smug manner in which these "trusted" officials have dismissed any wrong doing. One of the most moving and silent protests of the Vietnam war came through the medium of photography. The pictures of wounded 18 year old boys, that made up our forces, and the blown apart corpses of Vietnamese children were seared into the psyche of all Americans.

This war is a different story, our officials will not allow the photographing of any of the flag draped caskets that return from Iraq. They claim that it is disrespectful or that it will affect morale of the troops. I believe, however depraved, that this shows our president does have a conscience just not respect for the men that he has sent over to fight for his cause. The soldiers in Iraq are granting our president with the same respect with more than 72% of soldiers saying that their service is in vain.

It is the responsibility of our president to bring back these men and women especially if he respects them as much as he has stated. It is more likely that we will have to push the issue ourselves, and take back our forgotten identity.

Decay of education standards results from amoral decisions

Jesse Gauntt
Columnist

Students are under an extreme amount of pressure to meet a higher standard of academic excellence; this has resulted in the pushing of the ethical divide by a rise in cheating and a certain comfort with their exploits. Teachers also have to grapple with the pressure of achievement, the remedial output that students offer and the shifty actions by students that produce cheating.

A solution that teachers try to combat the mediocrity with is the watering down of their material to get the students passing. This manipulation of course material has not helped resolve the epidemic of cheating. A national survey published recently in Education Week claims that, of the students interviewed, half admitted to plagiarizing from the internet. Three-quarters of them admitted that they'd been engaged in serious cheating at least once in the past school year.

This is an alarming trend that does not seem to be slowing. Learning is difficult and strenuous, but like much of the toils of life, it reaps a great benefit with consistency and dedication. The seminars and developed software that is available to teachers to combat cheating is a baby step in the direction of resolving this issue. It's clear that at this moment, cheating runs mostly unchecked and the only logical solution is to change within ourselves.

The consequences of cheating are at their worst when they go unrealized. Colleges with stringent GPA requirements, school boards with standards to set, and

businesses hiring graduate students that don't live up to their credentials are all affected by cheating. The persons we damage the most however, are ourselves. While we can't always see why it's important to derive the Quadratic Formula or discuss the tenets of the Feudal System, it's important to remember that our own integrity dictates the level of knowledge that we acquire.

While each step in the wrong direction can seem trivial and justifiable, a whim that does no harm, remember that we're making these steps more than we realize. The public opinion concerning cheating is now outweighing the concern by administrators and faculty.

Fewer college officials (35%) believe that cheating is a problem in this country, than do members of the public (41%).

Only 35% of college officials believe that cheating is a problem.

It is disconcerting that a larger block of the public feels that cheating is detracting from the scholastic achievement of students. Slowly and steadily we can become something we won't even recognize years from now.

While it is hard and exhausting work, let's remember that we're building the most important thing in this world, ourselves. Cutting corners in our own construction is folly and will only lead to our own downfall.

Self-policing is the last viable option left to combat this "non-existent problem."

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

The Current is a **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.

Unsigned editorials represent a majority vote of the newspaper's editorial board.

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.

Current Editorial

Foreign policy is beholden to special interests, not human rights

Since our country's inception over two hundred and thirty years ago, we have made it our business to set a standard that we hold the world up to. It has become clear to us that over the past couple of decades we have become duplicitous in applying this philosophy to our foreign policy.

Our current president has continually referred to our foreign policy as a vehicle for bringing democracy to the oppressed around the world. We clash adamantly with the assertion that our "nation-building" efforts globally are justified and successful; simply because it seems that the criteria we use for granting our assistance is determined by what our country has to gain from intervening and not from the amorality that is taking place.

A clear and present example would be the current justification for our intervening in Saddam Hussein's dictatorship in Iraq versus the delayed and minuscule response to the situation in Darfur. With the dispelling of the main justification for the war in Iraq, weapons of mass destruction, the administration fell to the rationalization that there was a need for regime change.

Now, argument that this reason is flawed cannot be made because there was a need for regime change; the problem we see is that this decision was not made on the intrinsic worth of the cause, but on the monetary worth.

On the other end of the spectrum of our human rights involvement stands the situation in Darfur, which has finally started to garner hands on attention from the US government; the US intervention has resulted in a cease-fire, capping the death total at an estimated 70,000-200,000 people; the actual number has not been reported due to a lack of information flow. This delayed and limited response to the atrocities that were taking place in the Sudan is emblematic of the slanted ideology used to determine our involvement in human rights conflicts.

The transgressions that took place in Iraq are eerily similar to disturbing accounts of events within Darfur and other areas of the Sudan. Even with the overdue intervention within this conflict there are still reports of the contravention of the human rights of Darfur residents.

This is just another apparent example of the cavalier attitude given toward our compassionless foreign policy.

What is necessary for one country to succeed in quelling their oppression is not always in step with the policy that we currently administer to such causes. It is unfortunate, but our current foreign policy seems to be a grab bag of options that range from, to use a colorful analogy, wagging your finger and sending the dictator to bed without any dessert, to the rushed and unorganized military response that is being applied in the oil states all over the world.

The most protected regions by the US in the world does not reside on our continent, but rather in the Middle Eastern and South American regions. An uprising in Venezuela or Saudi Arabia will warrant a sometimes too hasty response from our government that usually involves the discussion of a brash military intervention to protect the oil fields and processing plants. It is not that we should value one life over another, but rather we should truly intervene in the countries that demand action now and not years down the line.

This blatant favoring of countries, that for the most part possesses watered down concerns about the mistreatment of its inhabitants when compared to issues that other nations are forced to exist with over decades, is not only alarming but also criminal.

The transgressions that took place in Iraq are eerily similar to disturbing accounts of events within Darfur...

Not only are we outsourcing a majority of our manufacturing in this country, we have slowly worked in the direction of outsourcing our morality. The stepping in of the UN after five years of conflict in the Congo came after nearly 4 million casualties and proved to lack in total effectiveness with continued reports of violence. To this day, a forced presence from peace-keeping troops is limited at best, and the involvement by our government is even more lacking.

The use of our military as a mercenary force for countries that are bursting with resources, such as oil, and not for countries that may possess only the export of a body count cannot be construed as a responsible action. A recent report, from the state department, concerning the human rights intervention record for the past year demonstrates the level of ignorance of not only those who can affect change, but also those that are responsible for holding our representatives to some sort of moralistic standards. We include ourselves in this neglecting group.

The audacity of the present administration to feel that we are demonstrating a commitment to addressing countries that murder, rape, torture and suppress rights of its people, is so far out there that we cannot help but laugh.

In this report there are 196 countries that fit into the state department's parameters of violators of the basic human rights of its citizens and all the countries that we look at as retaining some success still practice outright protest against our efforts. The past advancements that have been made toward the stamping out of the dictators hold over these countries is commendable, but over the years that this administration has been in power, the advancements are modest at best.

The benchmark that we use as success is the fact that they are not murdering as many people in a country or that they may allow one or two Non Governmental Organizations in with a limited range of authority. This convoluted description of success passes right over our collective heads and we assume a lot of other heads outside of the administration and its supporters. We understand that change, regrettably, always comes at a slow pace but the pace that we seem to be content with is depraved.

It is time that we take off our blinders, which only allocate concern to that which directly affects our lives, and challenge the lack luster human rights policy that is applied to countries that do not have the capability of garnering lavish reprisals. The accountability that we hold these criminals to is, in more cases than not, a de facto legal impunity. With the exception of a handful of dictators; the years have seen nothing more than feudal attempts, by the world governing body, at distributing the punishment acquired by dictators' actions.

The UN, which many times takes a cue from our leadership in policy making, has given a pass to more dictators in hopes of cleaning up these proclaimed blemishes off of their records. We wonder if the US and the UN have sold not only the tenets of responsibility that we have created, but also the value of a life in efforts to save face.

The new world that we live in has afforded us the opportunity to atone for our sins of the past, but it has to start with the admitting that our involvement and condemning of violent bedlam, which takes up residence in forgotten countries, does not live up to the righteous rhetoric that we apply to this global issue.

The only chance at salvation of our integrity is through the throwing aside of special interests and involving ourselves unselfishly in the advancement of humanity around the world.

Students, administration share in struggle over pricing of textbooks

Kell Fearon
Columnist

If there's one feeling that's universal to all college students, it's that slightly dizzying sensation of incredulity that hits you right in the gut when the book store cashier announces the total cost of this quarter's textbooks.

If you're like me, you've probably stammered something like, "but... that's more than my classes cost!" to the hapless clerk, who, having already heard this a dozen times that morning, simply waits patiently for the sticker shock to fade and you to fork over the cash.

"Well," you say philosophically, "I can always get some money back at buy-back time, right?" The cashier nods and smiles (anything to move the line along), and you go on your merry way, unaware that your book happens to have lightly perforated pages that you will never notice until three months later when you are told, "We can't buy this back; some pages could be missing." And that feeling creeps up on you once again.

Everyone seems to agree that something needs to be done, but no one can really agree on what. Bookstore management, faculty, and publishers all seem to enjoy pointing fingers at each other in a never

ending circle of blame that does little to help ease the financial burden of students.

Publishers have even gone so far as to blame the students themselves, claiming that if students didn't buy used books, publishers wouldn't have to keep coming out with new editions to make money. It kind of makes you feel bad for the poor, struggling publishers doesn't it? Well, don't start crying for them yet.

In the past ten years, textbook prices have nearly tripled. One of the biggest reasons for the increase is the process known as "bundling." Publishers aren't happy just selling you books. You see, they really feel you also need a work book, a CD-ROM and maybe a solutions manual too. Of course, your professor may not agree with this idea, and will only require the \$40 text book. Too bad you have no choice but to purchase the whole package, at three times the cost of the book alone.

Gary Jones, manager of the campus book store The Paper Tree, isn't any happier than the students are about the bundling situation.

"I don't make the bundles, and I can't control the bundles," he said. "I don't even have any control over who picks the books. We do everything we can to keep costs down." He's not kidding. Jones not only does thorough price comparisons be-

fore ordering textbooks, he's been known to stay on the phone with publishers for as long as it takes to get to someone who will finally okay selling that damned work book separate from the text! Sometimes this tactic works and sometimes it doesn't, but Jones wants the students to know that the book store is on their side.

One proposed solution to the high cost of books is a textbook rental program. Students would pay a portion of the price of the book as a rental fee, and would have to re-rent every quarter. Bellevue Community College will be starting a trial rental program this summer. Depending on how well it works, other community colleges may follow suit.

For some students, relief can be obtained through organizations such as the Women's Program and TRIO Student Support Services. Qualifying students may be able to borrow a textbook, generally only one, for a quarter.

Students who have old textbooks lying around at home are strongly encouraged to donate them back to the school. I know I would feel much better donating a book

and saving a fellow student over a hundred dollars, than I would making a measly \$12 off the wholesaler, who is going to turn around and make a \$60 profit. There are more things students can do to help themselves; check the used book board in the Lindbloom Student Center at the begin-

ning of every quarter, do online price comparisons and order from the least expensive site (be sure to calculate shipping into your cost), or try a non-profit book swap-service such as www.bookswap.com.

Faculty can help as well, by researching the books they order and trying their best

to order books that make sense financially. Publishers should be asked how long an edition will be out for, if the book comes bundled with any other materials, and if a less high-end version is available (black and white instead of color, for instance).

The law of supply and demand is in play here. If enough people lean on the publishing houses to offer more, less expensive options, publishers will have no choice but to surrender to the demand of their buyers.

"We do everything we can to keep costs down."

Gary Jones
Manager, The Paper Tree

Mayda del Valle delivers great spoken word performance

REVIEW

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

Mayda del Valle performed a variety of spoken word performances for anyone who happened to be in the Lindbloom Student Center last Monday at noon. Valle is a renowned spoken word artist, the youngest winner of the National Poetry Slam, an annual event featuring the best spoken word performers in the country, and was a regular on Def Poetry Jam.

Valle's performance was amazing as she switched topics with grace and ease talking about such topics as love, growing up in Chicago, hip-hop, what it meant to be a Latino and many more interesting subjects. While one might think the readings might be dry and politically correct because they were being held on campus in the middle of the day, this couldn't be further from the truth.

As I walked into the student center, I heard very loudly over the mic, Valle talking about some "psycho motherfucker" who stalked her while in Gonzaga, followed by her threat to the to the stalker that she would slit the stalkers throat because "shit, [she's] Puerto Rican, [she] really will do it." Everyone in the crowd knew right then this wasn't some boring politically correct old-time poetry reading.

Valle's presence in the cafeteria was immediately known, as she stood on the center of the stage with her newly bald head, basically demanding respect and for the crowd to pay attention. It was obvious the small group of people watching were thrilled and awed by the pieces.

The best reading of the day was about falling in and out of love with hip hoppers, and how she knew she was doomed to fall quick and hard for any sneaker addict in a b-boy stance. Valle spoke quickly, intensely, and rhythmically. Quite simply, it was the best and most interesting



TIM PERRY/The Current

Mayda del Valle shows excitement and animation as she performs in the Lindbloom Student Center on Monday.

spoken word performance I have ever seen.

The one major disappointment with the show had nothing to do with Valle at all, but with the lackluster crowd. There were at most fifty people in the audience actually listening to the great poetry. The rest of the cafeteria, which was quite packed, was only interested in eating lunch and gossiping with their friends.

Instead of turning around and listening to one of the most nationally acclaimed spoken word performers in the country, something they wouldn't easily get another chance to do, they were too busy talking and annoying the few people in the crowd actually trying to listen.

Green River should have done a better job of promoting Valle as her reading was one of the few can't-miss events on campus this

entire year. Many other less interesting and less important performers and events have received much more promotion and attention than Valle. Few people knew of the readings, and because of this, the crowd was lackluster.

She sells a CD and a book of

her work to anyone interested. For more information on Valle, one can visit her Myspace at www.myspace.com/mayda1.

Valle still managed to rock the stage and amaze the few people actually listening. Poetry reading might sound boring to some, but

anyone who came to her show would know otherwise. It was great to have one of the best spoken word performers right here on campus showing why she was the youngest National Poetry Slam champion ever. Too bad nobody knew about it.

Easter egg hunt tons of fun for kids, family

Shannon MacInnes
Staff Reporter

Although it was pouring down rain, the Easter egg hunt at Green River was a success. Children in four different age groups, from infants through twelve-year-olds, played games, enjoyed coloring contests, and of course, ate plenty of candy.

Usually 100 or more people show up for this event each year.

"All families in the community really enjoy it," said Jill Hauge, coordinator of the event.

Saturday's event also provided children an opportunity to take pictures with the Easter Bunny and roam around the different buildings looking for eggs.

"Green River is the only campus that does this event," Hauge said.

Can Green River expect more events like this in the future?

"Definitely, this has been an on going event and it benefits families in our communities."

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Seattle band, Vendetta Red, plays last show

Performance a mixture of pleasure, pain

John Phipps
Staff Reporter

Vendetta Red played their last show before breaking up in their home city of Seattle on Saturday, April 8.

The show took place at El Corazon in the heart of Seattle. Approximately 200 people waited in the rain with anticipation for the doors to be opened. Once they opened everyone flooded to the stage to prepare for the night's event.

Within 15 minutes of the doors opening, the show began. The three bands to see Vendetta Red off were Sameer Shukla, Kane Hodder and The Divorce. The crowd waited patiently as anticipation drew near for when Vendetta Red would come on stage.

Zach Davidson, the lead vocalist, came out followed by the rest of the five-member rock band, and Zach began to tell the story of how the band started up.

Zach said almost poetically, "I moved here in 1998 with a friend, and we started this band because we thought that all the other bands fucking sucked."

The crowd went wild. Zach

continued to tell the story that Vendetta Red has been a band for over seven years and that only two original members remain.

"I feel like something magical is about to happen," he said before a couple came up on stage and a young man proposed marriage to his girlfriend -- she said yes. The crowd cheered along with the newly engaged couple.

So now it was time for Vendetta Red to say goodbye to their adoring fans. By this time the air was thin and everything smelled of sweat with the temperature rising as the show continued on. Vendetta Red played over two hours of nonstop music. After playing the last song they left the stage and the lighting went dark.

The crowd began to chant, "One more song, one more song, one more song," until finally Vendetta Red came out once more. They played another song and then the crowd began to chant, "Don't break up, don't break up" to which Zach grabbed the microphone and said, "I love you guys."

Zach began to hang from the beams of the ceiling with his legs. He was throwing his body all over the stage and into the



AGAINST THE GRAIN PHOTOGRAPHY

Members of the band Vendetta Red played together on last time at El Corazon in Seattle, to a crowd about 200 strong.

crowd as he sang his last song.

The stage crew was hard at work as they kept the crowd from diving onto the stage. The crowd looked like an ocean of waves as they swayed back and forth to the sound of the music. The band members slowly began

to hand their guitars and keyboards into the crowd as the song ended. Then out of nowhere they began to destroy the drum set and amps and there everything ended as the crowd went nuts fighting over who would get the instruments.

The crowd was more than pleased with the sad but enjoyable goodbye.

Pleasure mixed with pain for the fans but everyone knew, "It is better to burn out than to fade away."

Lucky Number Slevin is enjoyable but forgettable

Tyler Foster
Staff Reporter

Lucky Number Slevin is one of those movies that lies on the line between good and bad, including plenty of cool moments but suffering from a predictable story, shaky start and drawn-out ending.

For every reason to see the flick, there's exactly one equally good reason not to, and by the end of the year, it will have slipped be-

neath the radar, lost in the shelves of video rental stores. However, walking into the theater for the first time in a long time knowing nothing about the movie, having not seen a single frame, something average seemed just a little cooler, just a little bit more fun, and Lucky Number Slevin is just worth the eight bucks you'll have to shell out at the theater to check it out.

Josh Hartnett plays Slevin, a guy who's just been dumped, fired and mugged, and has arrived

at his friend's apartment in the city to find it empty. That morning, he's in his bathrobe when a cute neighbor (Lucy Liu) barges in looking for a cup of sugar, and not one but two different sets of thugs follow soon after, looking for the owner of the apartment but finding only Slevin.

Slevin finds himself at the bad end of two deals, with The Boss (Morgan Freeman, as good as ever) and The Rabbi (Ben Kinsley, in a fun flick for once but coming off corny and stiff). Behind the scenes, a tired cop (Stanley Tucci, passable) watches everything, and an assassin named Goodkat (Bruce Willis, also passable) keeps tabs on the goings-on.

This movie, if anything, should

make Josh Hartnett into a true headlining star. He's brilliant as Slevin, with such charisma and charm, he's like a young Brad Pitt (he even resembles him, it's almost creepy). On the other end of the spectrum, the film's big twist ending is as thin as tissue paper and as easy to spot as a neon sign, and yet the film takes what seems like 20 minutes to spit it out.

McGuigan directs with plenty of style, though, and combined with sharp dialogue by writer Jason Smilovic and some cool-as-ice performances, it's easy to forgive the ending. I wonder if the movie's week-long release date push might be to change the ending after test screening audiences reacted badly.

There are movies that are great once, and then you never watch them again, but this isn't one of those. There are movies that just seem great on the surface, too, but turn out, upon inspection, to be lazy and unoriginal, but this isn't one of those either.

This is a movie you watch for fun, when you don't have anything new to see and just want to relax, without the need to pay a lot of attention. Lucky Number Slevin is just so amicable that it's hard not to forgive its flaws and just enjoy the film. It's kind of like Slevin himself -- seemingly interchangeable with whoever it is you're really looking for but actually very good at what he does.

Stars: 3 out of 4 ☆☆☆



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MGM FILMS

Josh Hartnett and Lucy Lui embrace each other in Lucky Number Slevin, a film that doesn't require "a lot of attention."

Golf teams are up to par thus far

Eddie White
Staff Reporter

The Gator golf team had an impressive outing in the first tournament of the year. This tournament happened to be hosted locally, in fact it was the Green River Invitational at Meridian Valley Country Club.

Meridian Valley is a great course in Kent that is housed inside a gated neighborhood community. In the tournament, the men's team finished in fifth place out of eleven teams with a final score of 643.

The team was anchored by Tyler Dost, who posted a score of 79 on the first day, followed by a 76 on day two. Dost captured seventh place out of 64 total competitors.

In their next competition, The Olympic Invitational, there was a breakthrough. In the tournament, which was held at Gold Mountain in Bremerton, Wash., Green River had a medalist in Dost.

Dost took first place overall and the team finished second to showcase a truly talented Gator squad. Dost shot an impressive 145 during the two-day tourney.

While the girls' team doesn't have enough members to compete in the team event, the two girls on the team were able to compete on an individual level. Notably Paige Gifford tied for first place out of 31 total competitors, averaging a score of 90 over the two-day

event.

The girls' team is short three players to be able to participate in the team competition in future tournaments.

If you're interested in playing golf for the girls team, you can contact Athletic Director Bob Kickner in the Lindbloom Student Center, room 204 to get in touch with the appropriate contacts.

Coach Jim VonDoehren is pleased with the teams' performance, however he said that "there is certainly room for improvement."

He is confident that the team will improve enough to be able to compete for the NWAACC (Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges) Championships, which will be held May 21 and 22 in Walla Walla, Washington.

The teams can be seen playing and traveling together before that event. Unfortunately, they are not going to be held locally so it will be tough to see them in live action.

First off, they are competing in the Douglas Invitational on April 15 and 16, the venue however, is still undetermined.

The following weekend, Gators will be traveling way out in Eastern Washington for the Bigfoot Classic. The competition will be held April 22 and 23, in Spokane.

The final tune-up before we head to the final showdown at the NWAACC Championships,



ARCHIVES/The Current

should get interesting. The Skagit Valley Invitational is where they'll get their last chance to refine their game before it really counts. It is held in Avalon, Wash.

Those interested in golf are encouraged to come out and support the team for these events. Get out and enjoy some sunshine or take

a drive.

It is understandable that most people won't want to drive that far to watch a golf tournament, but for updates you can always check The Current or the college's website to keep up with the squads as they march toward what could be a title.

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www.greenriver.edu/athletics

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Tennis teams getting 'aced' by weather

Eric Hanninen
Sports Editor

The tennis season was slated to begin on April 1 against Shoreline Community College, but the rain wouldn't allow the matches to be played, and rained out the entire match-up. Since then the men's team was rained out again against Skagit Valley; the matches were scheduled to be played at Mt. Vernon.

The girls were rained out against Shoreline also, but managed to get all their matches in against archrival Bellevue Community College. Unfortunately, the girls lost 6-3 overall.

The lone shining stars were our end of the line players. 5 Seed, Della Rizzo and 6 Seed, Wortley. The two both won their respective singles matches and then went on to play together and win a doubles match.

The team played hard and came up a bit short, but they are keeping a positive outlook for the future. Both squads are hitting the road for a week and will not play a home match until the girls return on Friday, April 21.

The teams travel together quite a bit this weekend as they migrate all around the Northwest. They start Friday and play against Spokane Community College.

From there, they have to go all the way to Ontario, Ore. to play matches the very next day, April 15 against Treasure Valley Community College. Without hardly even playing thus far it could be tough to beat these teams under the circumstances.

Next Friday, April 21, the girls will face Spokane here for a home match. (Home matches are played at Bally's of Federal Way). The next day, both squads will host Treasure Valley at home. The girls surely will be a bit burned out with all these doubleheaders, and let's not forget the make-up matches that will have to be scheduled due to the weather. Hopefully our teams will pull together and not burn out down the stretch.



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

Fastpitch team stumbles out of the gate

Hannah Ackerman
Staff Reporter

The college softball team may not have gotten off to a great start, losing 17-5 and 15-5 in a double header against Grays Harbor, but there may still be some room for optimism.

According to head coach Gary Jones, the team has great chemistry and is doing its best considering the situation they're in.

"None of the girls who came out this year have any pitching experience," said Jones. "Without a pitcher we won't win many games this season."

Also, with only three players returning and eight new players, it's tough to win in the NCAACC without experience. Having good team sportsmanship and awesome attitudes in all the players is very important.

"These girls have great attitudes and are ready to have a fun sea-

son," Jones said. "Maybe not a winning season but a fun season and having fun is even more important than winning."

With two of their normal starting players injured already, the starting line up has been forced to be altered. Injuries are something that a team typically cannot afford and to a team that is so young and inexperienced, the lack of depth has been devastating to their season.

Melissa Foster, a freshman from

Puyallup High School, broke her finger during practice about a month ago when she attempted to catch a line drive. She needed to have a pin placed through her finger. The pin is supposed to be removed within the next couple of weeks.

Tanna Sangder, a first baseman from Seattle Christian High School, and one of the team's leaders, tore her shoulder and has been having difficulty throwing long distances. She was one of

the returners from last season's solid, hard-playing team.

With all these forces acting against the softball team, their season may look bleak. But the girls are just looking past their bad situation and think that the team still has hope.

If nothing else, the team is building up valuable lessons and experience for the next year. By this time next year they will be a solid group of sophomores ready to go.

GATOR SPORTS SCHEDULE

Baseball

- vs. Pierce
April 15, 1 p.m.
- vs. Tacoma
April 16, 1 p.m.
- vs. Grays Harbor
April 22, 1 p.m.

Fastpitch

- vs. South Puget Sound
April 21, 2:30 p.m.
- vs. Grays Harbor
April 22, 1 p.m.
- vs. Highline
April 25, 2 p.m.

Tennis

- vs. Spokane
April 14, 12 p.m.
- vs. Treasure Valley
April 15, 10 a.m.
- vs. Treasure Valley
April 22, TBA

Golf

- Douglas Invitational
April 16-17
- Bigfoot Classic
April 23-24
- Skagit Valley Invitational
May 14-15



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

Now 21 games into the season, the Gators are starting to mesh together as a team, shown here at a home game at Lea Hill Park is a pitcher warming up for another competitive game of Gator baseball

Baseball season is starting to heat up

Robert Westervelt
Staff Reporter

The 2006 baseball season is underway and the Green River Gators are already letting foes know that they plan on being a force to be reckoned with.

Already 21 games into the season, the Gators are currently standing at (12-9 Overall), and just got two wins against division opponent Centralia. The team had been winless in the previous three tries against the division foes.

The team is not afraid of the competition, as demonstrated against powerhouses Columbia Basin College and Lower Columbia College, taking both nationally ranked teams to the limit. Each of the five times that they played were losses for the Gators, but gaining valuable experience can make the future easier to come away with a win.

The young team took the lessons that they learned in those games and turned it into a (12-4) record against the rest of their competition.

Thus far the highlight of the season has been the exciting weekend of March 17, when the team showed its true resolve. They were down by four runs to Blue Mountain College, but the team was able to rally back to end the game in dramatic fashion, with a 5-4 victory.

That win was followed up two days later by coming back to defeat Walla Walla 4-3. The Gators believe now that they are done with the behemoths of the league, they will play even better and win games more consistently.

This season is undoubtedly a step in the right direction after a challenging 2005 season that was plagued by injuries and inexperience. Ten players were stricken by injury, forcing players from the end of the bench to get thrown

into the fire. This has helped the Gators in the long run as they are starting to come together a year later.

In addition, a majority of the players were able to declare last year as a medical red shirt season allowing them to keep a year of eligibility.

Last year, the baseball team started out hot, winning 15 of its first 20 games before succumbing to injuries and finishing (19-23 Overall). The team is using the hardships from last season to be a more productive team this year with a unique combination of veteran pitching and a youthful infield. The players hope that this year's team can go on a run much similar to the run that the 2005 version started the season with.

A departure from tradition is the team's desire to become more of a well-balanced team that gets strong hitting, pitching and defense as opposed to the slugging teams of the past that the college

grew accustomed to. The emphasis is for the core group of players to put the game in motion while utilizing the teams overall speed and ability to hit for high batting averages.

When on the mound, the Gators look to their veteran staff of pitchers for steady performances and are not disappointed. While at this point nobody has stepped up and taken over the rotation, the squad is eagerly awaiting the return of dominance from Tim Segelke. The six-foot-four lefty just returned after being drafted by the Dodgers in the twenty-eighth round (Number 856 overall) in the 2005 MLB draft.

Coach Matt Acker will admit that this team's biggest fault is its own youth. All of the team's starting infielders are 18 years old, which he believes contributes to the mental mistakes that they suffer from occasionally. The coach also acknowledges that the only way to get around the problem of

youth is to make sure that each player gets enough game time and experience as a result of it.

He sees many positive things in the players and looks forward to seeing them mature into a veteran team that will produce many positive results for years to come.

The Gators are already more than half the way through the season so if you haven't been out to a game it's about time to get out there. The team is really starting to come together and they only have five games before their next showdown with league juggernaut Lower Columbia.

The next home game is April 15 against Pierce in what will be a doubleheader on back-to-back days. The next day against Tacoma another doubleheader is scheduled here. The team encourages all students to attend the games and watch the Gators take bite out of the competition.