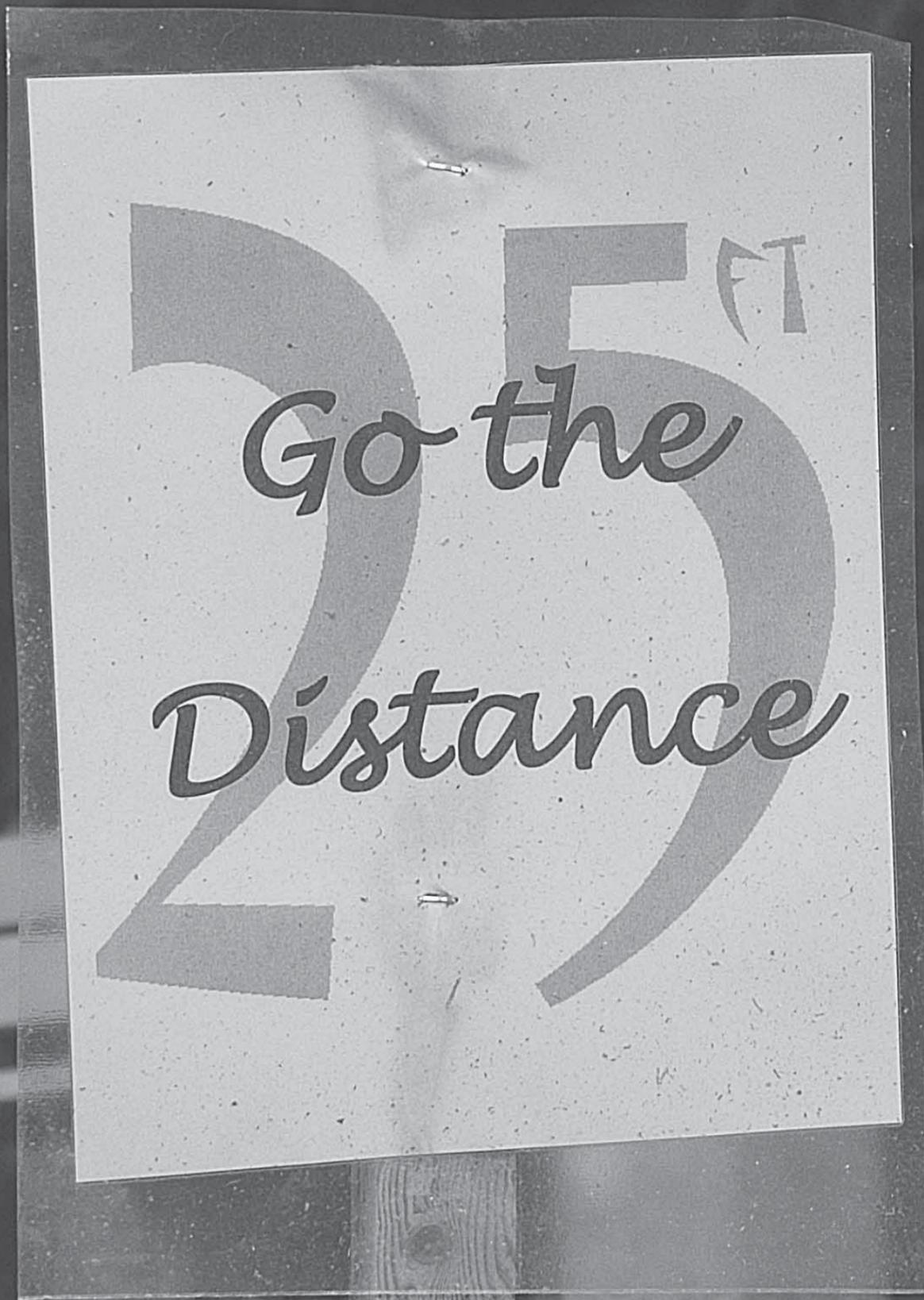


Campus adjusts to new **smoking** rules



Movie Review:
The Pink Panther

2006/2007
Budget
Inside

New Club:
Production
Page 5

Winter Quarter
Transfer Fair
Page 4

Down Time:
Campus Life in Pictures



Page 3

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Security Watch

Auto Theft

Three car thefts were reported in less than a week last month.

Jan. 30

A female student told evening security that she could not locate her vehicle. The student said she parked her car in Lot G around 8 a.m., but when she returned that night it was gone. A stolen vehicle report was filed.

Jan. 26

A male student reported his car missing from D Lot. He said he parked his vehicle around 7:30 a.m., and found it missing that evening. A stolen vehicle report was filed.

Jan. 25

A female student filed a stolen vehicle report. She told a security officer that she parked her car in lot A around 9 a.m.; when she returned from class at 3 p.m. it was missing. A stolen vehicle report was filed.

Drugs

Feb. 3

A report of a "drug violation" was taken. The incident occurred in Parking Lot J around 10:30 a.m. Security declined to comment further, citing an ongoing investigation.

Jan. 20

During an interview at the Campus Corner Apartments on, security observed a male suspect appeared to be high or intoxicated. When confronted, the man admitted to smoking pot in Kent before the interview, but offered to let security search his apartment. Several items were confiscated from a room in Building M, which later tested positive for cocaine.

Jan. 19

Security responded to reports that a man was smoking marijuana at the Campus Corner Apartments. The officer went to the man's room in Building L. A marijuana pipe and scale were discovered in the man's backpack. The officer destroyed the pipe.

Medical Emergency

Feb. 1

A student was found unconscious near the Technology Center fountain on. The girl was shivering severely and was unresponsive. A security officer used jackets to warm up the student, and called for medics. The girl was beginning to respond when medical teams arrived; she was transported to Auburn General Hospital.

Vandalism

Jan. 27

Security was dispatched to the Lea Hill Community Center in response to a reported student seen spraying graffiti on a wall. Officers caught up with the suspect and escorted him back to campus. He later admitted to tagging not only the community center, but also the Campus Corner Apartment shed, baseball field shed, backstop, trailer, RLC building, PA building and Lindbloom Student Center. The King County Sheriff's Office was notified.

Adult Material

Jan. 19

Technology Center employees reported that they discovered a student playing a video game on one of the lab computers. They advised the man that he was not allowed to play the game. Several minutes later, the same student was seen viewing an animated porn website. Employees photocopied the man's ID card, after which he left the Tech Center.



Events

GRCC Superstar

Feb. 17

\$2

6 p.m.

Lindbloom Student Center

(main dining area)

Students compete in this singing

and dancing contest.

Sign up in student programs.

Contact: Derek or Ting-Ting x2400

Run with Laser Survival Game

Feb. 25

\$10 students

\$15 non-students

11 a.m.

Laser Quest

(Federal Way)

Laser Tagging at

Laser Quest; Pizza

included.

Sign up in Student

Programs.

Contact: Jolyn x2400

Club Fair 2006

Feb. 27

Free

11 a.m.

Lindbloom Student Center

(main dining area)

Students can get

information and talk

directly to club members.

Contact: Nana x2400

Dodgeball Tournament

March 1 – 3

Free

12 p.m.

Main Gym

Intramural Dodgeball

tournament for status

and prizes. Spectators

welcome.

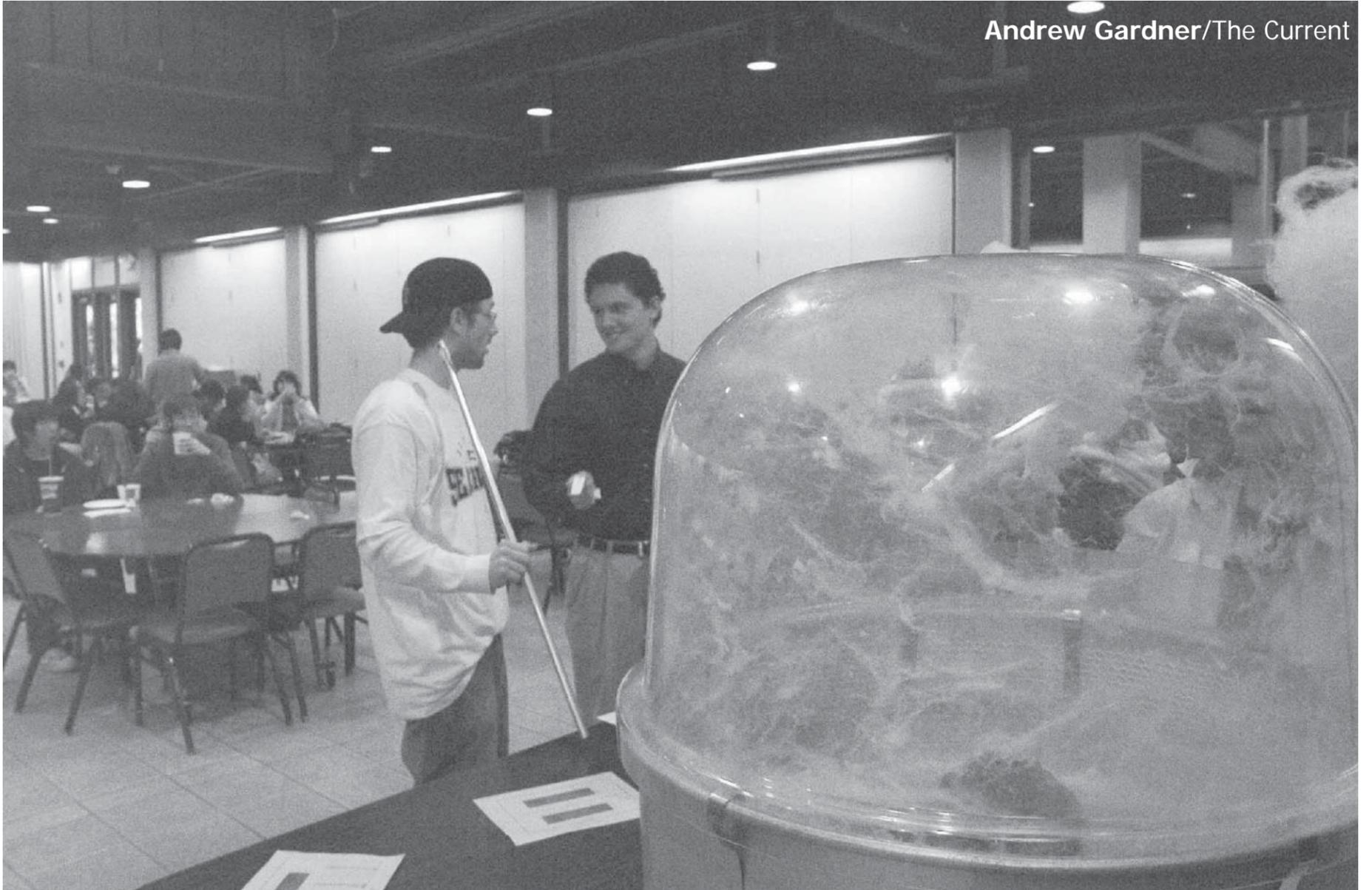
Sign up in Student

Programs.

Contact: Keefe x2400

Louder than words|campus life through the eye of a camera

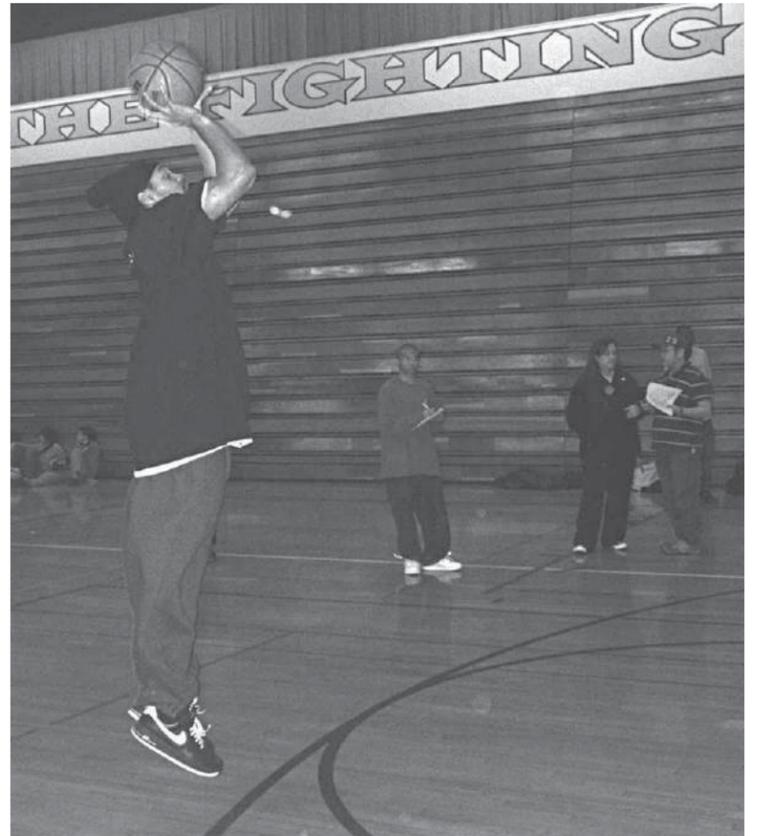
Andrew Gardner/The Current



The game is simple; confess your sins and write down a childhood memory on a massive sheet of construction paper and initial it, fish for a bracelet with a string'n'paperclip fishing pole, take some eco-friendly advice from Student Body President Brian Grover, smell the aromatics of cafeteria food during lunch rush, while you wait in line for some free cotton candy and you have officially participated in an ASGRCC activity. Do all of this with a mild smile and you just might have a closet case of Gator pride.



Life in the forestry department is practically a daisy chain of one community service project after another. Seen here, Green River forestry craftsmen renovate the woody gazebo tucked behind the Science Center.



Sophomore Avance T. Byrd III, 20, takes flight as he shoots from the three-point line during the intramural hoops competition which took place Feb. 13 and 14. Student Life Director Dani Chang watches from the background while judges keep score. This is but one of many events hosted by ASGRCC.

Get involved
Become a Gator-aide

Contact Student Body Chief Justice Cameron McKee

CMCKEE@greenriver.edu



Got Photo?

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

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

GOING THE DISTANCE

► Students make policy, lifestyle changes with new smoking law

Tiffany Richards
Reporter

Green's River's Student Government executive staff and members of the Smoking Committee hosted "Go the Distance" on Jan. 25 to educate both students and staff about Washington's new smoking law.

Since Initiative 901 was approved by voters last November, many businesses and residents throughout the state have been trying to enforce the new law while not violating a smoker's still-existing right to light up in a public place. Green River, however, is already one step ahead.

At the beginning of the 2004-2005 school year, Student Government's executive staff made rewriting the existing smoking policy a top priority. Their efforts have resulted in the Smoking Committee, a body of staff and students who are responsible for creating smoking policy.

While this year's executive staff isn't as directly involved with the policy-making process as those before them, they've been working closely with the committee's members to develop a policy which will work for both smokers and non-smokers, while enforcing the new regulation.

With the passage of I-901, the Smoking Committee and executive staff's main focus is educating both students and staff about the 25-foot limit and where they can and can't smoke.

"[We're] trying to educate the campus properly," said Lorenzo Ortiz, a second year Smoking Committee member and this year's diversity services student coordinator. "[We're] trying to help them understand what the committee is trying to do to help them while enforcing the law at



Andrew Gardner / The Current
A sign between BI and HS reminds smokers of the state's new distance rules

the same time."

While Green River's smokers have been willingly complying to the new distance, the tighter regulations have received mixed reactions from smokers and non-smokers alike.

"I don't understand why they banned it in bars, bowling alleys, and restaurants," said Green River student and smoker Bryan Hudson. "To my understanding, it was mostly employees complaining about working in a smoke-filled environment. They can change jobs if they don't like working there."

Non-smoking student Marri Clements holds that the state government is reaching too far into

the personal lives and choices of Washingtonians.

The campus committee is also in the beginning stages of solving some of the small problems the law brought to light, such as antiquated smoking areas and the definition of "25 feet from entrances, exits, windows that open, and ventilation intakes that serve an enclosed area."

The only problems that have surfaced with the distance are in the areas between the HS, SS, BI, RLC, and Holman Library near the bus loop. And a temporary shelter has been set up to accommodate those who can no longer smoke between the RLC and Holman Library.

Students look to future at Transfer Fair

More than 25 colleges attend event, designed to help students choose a senior institution

Michelle Mathews
Reporter

The 2006 Winter Quarter Transfer Fair was held Feb. 7 in the Lindbloom Student Center's main dining room. Tables lined the walls of the cafeteria with representatives from over 25 colleges.

Many local schools were in attendance, including the University of Puget Sound, Washington State University and Pacific Lutheran University. Representatives also came from as far as Canada's University of British Columbia and Hawaii Pacific University.

It was set up like an open house; students could pass through at anytime to talk to spokespeople and look at the brochures. Frequently asked questions by Green River Community College students were about cost of tuition, scholarships available for entering juniors and simply where the school is located.

If you don't plan of transferring this fall, it is still recom-

Questions to ask your college rep

How will my AA transfer?

Some schools take it as a two-year chunk, meaning you are guaranteed to enter as a junior, while others do it on a credit by credit basis. They may throw out classes that aren't offered at their institution or don't meet their criteria.

What is the application deadline for transferring?

If you plan to transfer starting in the fall, most schools require that applications be submitted by sometime in the next two months. The cut-off for Running Start students is usually earlier and in the case of some universities it has already passed.

Is the school I'm applying for specifically a transfer school?

Some schools are two year schools with only junior and senior classes, specifically for transfer students. University of Washington - Tacoma was this way but will be switching to a four-year school in the fall. Whether a school is designed only for the last two years may or may not matter based on your plan.

What should I submit along with my standard application?

Some schools stress a well-rounded student, meaning it may put you higher on the list if you show proof of volunteer work, sports team participation, club membership, etc. Each school is different about what they are looking for from a student, so ask schools what they would like to see from you. Sarah Fisher from the University of Washington suggests: "Turn in a resume with your application. It gives you the advantage of a human face behind the numbers."

As a Running Start student, how do I fit into the transfer system?

Most schools treat applying Running Start students as freshmen with junior credits. This means they qualify for scholarships like any freshman student would, but they still get the credits they earned while in high school. They are competing with other freshmen for acceptance, not other transfer students, so it is often a more competitive process.

mended that you look into your possibilities now. If you take classes that fit within your major, some colleges put you higher on the list for acceptance.

Dan Hammes, a representative

of City University said, "There are great advisors here at Green River so talk to them about specific schools and programs. Schools are competitive so plan your future."

NEWS BRIEFS

College names Hogan as new VP for Human Resources

Green River Community College (GRCC) named a new Vice President for Human Resources last month.

Lesley Hogan will manage GRCC's Department of Human Resources, which works on job and faculty openings throughout the college. She will also serve in the college president's Cabinet.

Hogan has been involved in the human resources profession since 1988. She has worked for a variety of organi-

zations and companies, mostly recently the Federal Home Loan Bank in Seattle. Prior to her position there, Hogan was an Employee and Labor Relations Specialist for Hexcel Corporation, a manufacturer of aerospace components in Kent.

Hogan double-majored at the University of Washington in Political Science and German Area Studies.

Her first day on the job at GRCC was Jan. 31.

Islamic journalist Nomani to speak next month

Asra Nomani, a former Wall Street Journal correspondent, will speak in the Lindbloom Student Center on March 8.

Nomani was born in India, and has written many stories on Islam for publications including the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times* and *Time* magazine.

She is the founder of the Muslim Women's Freedom Tour, and organized one of the first woman-led prayer movements in New York City.

She is also the author of *Standing Alone in Mecca*, a narrative of her pilgrimage to Mecca.

Nomani's presentation at Green River is sponsored by Women's Programs and Soroptimist International in Kent.

The event begins at 7:30 p.m. in LSC. Admission is free for students, but a ticket is required. Tickets are available in the Student Programs office on the second floor of the Lindbloom Student center.

Auburn mayor to help mark National TRIO Day

Green River's TRIO office is hosting a celebration of National TRIO Day on Feb. 24.

The day is designed to "honor [TRIO's] commitment to reducing barriers in education."

Auburn Mayor Pete Lewis will speak at the event, to reflect on his own experiences and comment on the role of accessible education.

Past and present TRIO participants will also participate in a panel to share their stories.

The program runs from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the LSC Glacier Room. The formal presentation will end at approximately 12:50 p.m., but a question, answer and discussion time will follow. Light refreshments will be provided.

Anyone interested in attending is asked to RSVP with Lindell Bruce in the TRIO office, which is located behind Enrollment Services on the second floor of the Lindbloom Student Center.

International Programs sponsoring campus photography contest

International Programs is hosting a photography contest for Green River students. The theme is "Green River: A Day in the Life".

Any photos of daily life at the college can be submitted for the contest. There is a limit of ten entries per student.

Photos should be sent via e-mail in .JPG format to student-photocontest@greenriver.edu.

Submissions may be no larger than eight inches by 11 inches at 300 dpi. The deadline for entries is Feb. 27 at 5 p.m.

Six winners will be selected by a panel of judges. Top prize is a \$50 Best Buy gift certificate. The remaining winners will receive a \$20 movie theater gift certificate.

Entries may be published.

Metro to provide bigger bus on Kent route to GRCC

Beginning Feb. 27, a 40-foot bus will make the Metro Transit route from Kent to Green River. The bus will arrive on campus at approximately 7:25 a.m. and depart 20 minutes later.

Smaller buses will be used for the remainder of the day.

The change was apparently sparked by feedback from riders and Green River Community College students.

CCA throws Root Beer Kegger to help promote alcohol awareness

Students gather at Campus Corner Apartments to have some fun and learn about being under the influence

Michelle Mathews
Reporter

The root beer kegger run by the Campus Corner Apartment (CCA) resident assistants was held Jan. 31 in the CCA community room. The event was headed up by Jason Ankerfelt who decided that with the Super Bowl coming up, last month's CCA event should raise awareness about safe partying.

Forty-three students, most residents of CCA, came for free Thomas Kemper root beer between 7 and 10 p.m. that Tuesday night.

Activities were planned for throughout the evening. There was a six-pack chugging contest (with A & W root beer of course), card and board games and a raffle for economy-size Super Bowl snacks.

"I'm here to compete against my roommate in the chugging contest," said guest and CCA resident Joe Maphis.

Each resident assistant had their own job for the event. They held typical party roles like the Drunk Annoying Person; Drunk Guy Hittin' on Gals; Annoying Drunk Girl; Bouncer; Sober Designated Driver; and The Guy Slippin' Ruffees (date-rape drugs).

It was like an interactive play between

these characters and the unknowing guests. The Annoying Drunk Girl knocked over the Jenga game, twice, and The Guy Slippin' Ruffees added his drug to over half the drinker's cups. Although the pills were just Skittles, people were surprised to see it in the bottom of their cups when they finished their drinks. The idea was to prove how easily someone you don't know can drug and further intoxicate you when you aren't paying attention.

The community room walls were covered in posters titled Fun Alcohol Facts. Did you know that the "Star-Spangled Banner" was written to the tune of a drinking song or that the Marines' first recruiting took place in a bar?

Among the more serious topics though was the fact that on Super Bowl night last year, 91 people died in traffic accidents and 64% of those were alcohol related.

Ankerfelt delivered this message to the guests, "Don't be naive – people party. It's about being smart and knowing your limit. Don't be a part of the statistics this year," he said.

"I thought it was really informational," said Emily Wheeler. "Someone put a ruffee in my drink without me even noticing and it raised my awareness about what can really happen."



Michelle Mathews/The Current

Partier Emily Wheeler fills up her red party cup with foamy Thomas Kemper root beer, kept on ice in the kitchen. The kegger was thrown to promote alcohol awareness.

Want your voice to be heard?
Class registration
begins now!
Sign up to write for

THE **CURRENT**

Journ 1001 is a 3 or 5 credit class!
5 credit Item # 4627
3 credit Item # 4631

GRCC gets
a new club

Matt Orme
Reporter

The new Production Club on the Green River campus is seeking inaugural members. The club, which meets once a week, focuses on the production of film. Everything involved in the construction of a movie, from screenplay to editing, is needed.

The club is currently beginning production of its first short film. Currently, teams of people have been assigned the task of scouting locations. Soon, though, the production will need a full array of talented people, including a sound and lighting crew, editors, actors, extras, and even special

effects artists. There is even a need for people to solicit support for the films from the community. Experience in any of these areas is not required for club membership and all who have an interest are encouraged to join.

The estimated length of this first film, according to club advisor Marcie Sims, will be around five minutes. Despite that short running time, however, there is still an estimated 18 hours of production needed to make the film polished and ready for a campus screening. Later in the year the Production Club hopes to make a longer film, approximately 15 minutes, which will also be screened for Green River students.

The Production Club meets Wednesday afternoons at 2 p.m. in SS8. Those interested in joining the club should contact club president and director Andrew Forderer at ermanamerijaz@msn.com.

More than **25** million
Americans are affected
by severe, chronic **pain**.

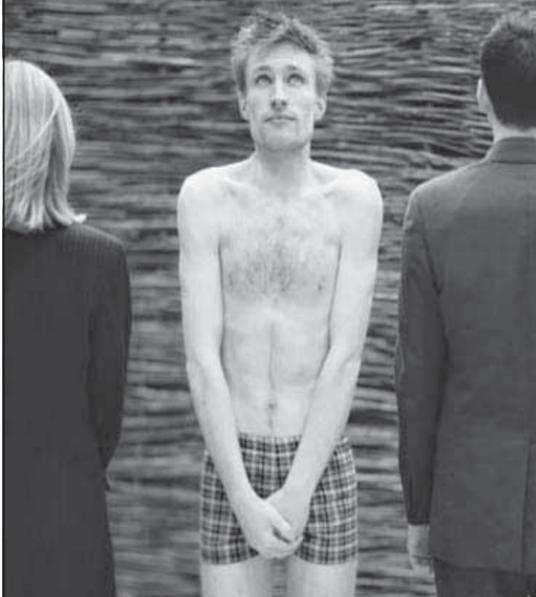
- National Chronic Pain Outreach Association

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In the Money

Student Programs budget up for vote

Tiffany Richards
Reporter

Student Programs has released its proposed budget, known as the 522 Student Activities Budget, for the 2006-2007 school year.

The 522 Budget is the main source of funding for many of Green River's well known student programs, such as KGRG and the college's athletic division. Even The Current is run largely on money from the budget.

The only source of revenue for the budget comes from students who enroll for classes at Green River every quarter; an extra \$60-70 is charged as part of individual students' tuition. International students, those in the Running Start program, and veterans are exempt.

To make sure 522 Budget money is distributed fairly among all recipients, revisions and requests are considered and implemented each year. Most of the requests for increases are due to the increase of prices on common things such as updated equipment, transportation, and speaker's fees.

Within the first week of January, the college's Chief Accountant presents the revenue forecast to Student Programs. Student Programs then sends out Budget Development Forms to each program currently receiving funding under the budget first, and next to any other organization that might need some extra money. The clubs and organizations have about three weeks to complete their total requests, and reasons why they need any extra funding, to Student Programs Secretary Susan Evans.

Both Student Programs and Student Government review the requests and balance the budget based on the availability of money and how well the individual program or organization benefits students. This is done through the first half of February.

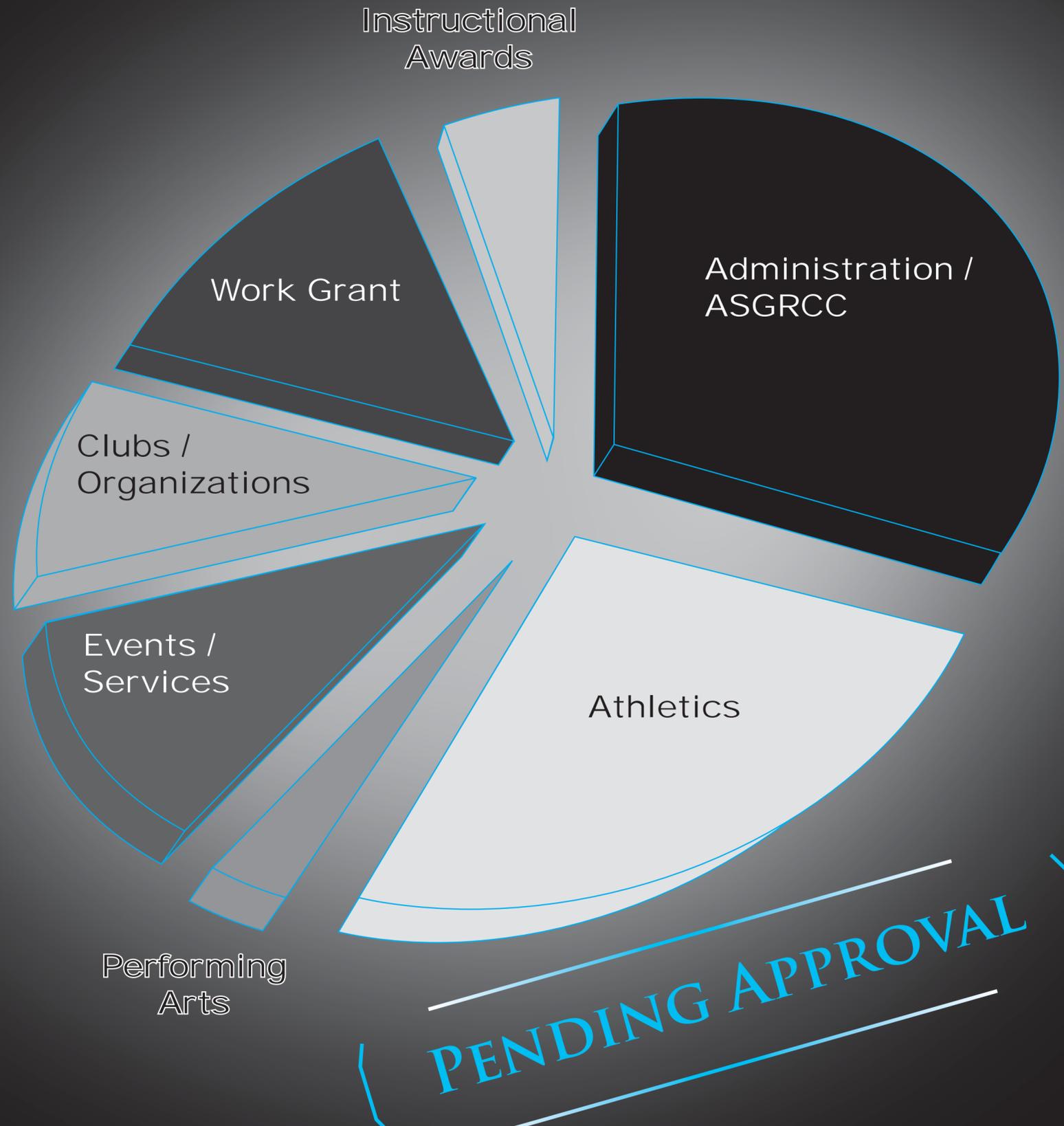
The second half of February is devoted to student voice. Meetings are set aside in the evening for debate and discussion between Student Government and those affected by the proposed changes. The budget, which must be passed by Student Government, is balanced with direct student input. The revised 522 Budget will then be passed on to the Dean of Student Services and then to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Next year, the budget has an extra \$920,000 to work with. This new surplus in funding is due to increased enrollment of domestic students at the college.

As the 522 Budget stands, the men's soccer program, Green River Business Leaders (DEX), and Graphics work grant have been eliminated. All of the new additions, which include Outreach work grant, Student Housing, Kent Center, and Commencement Achievement Program (CAP) have been placed on to receive funding.

The programs that have received less than what they originally requested are Child Care, The Current, KGRG, KENU, Recreation, Academic Lecture, Diversity Services, Music Programs, Special Events, ASME engineering club, and CAP.

Keep in mind that these changes have yet to be presented to Student Government or college administrators. The budget won't be complete until then. The final opportunity to voice any opinion or concern about the 522 Budget as it now stands will be on March 1 at 6 p.m. in the Olympus/Baker Rooms on the first floor of the LSC directly behind the cafeteria.



Clubs

KGRG / KENU	\$39,000
The Current	\$12,500
Teachers of Tomorrow	\$2,084
Forestry	\$740
Phi Theta Kappa	\$2,000

Sports

Baseball	\$20,000
Fastpitch	\$15,972
Men's Basketball	\$15,869
Women's Basketball	\$15,869
Men's Tennis	\$6,800
Women's Tennis	\$6,800
Volleyball	\$13,462

Administration

Athletics Admin	\$7,900
Gymnasium	\$7,000
Student Programs	\$3,250
Leadership Training	\$8,000
Mail Services	\$9,000
Insurance	\$27,000
Equipment	\$11,537

New Items

Outreach (Work Grant)	\$4,488
Student Housing CLEO	\$1,500
Kent Center Programs	\$2,000
Commencement Achievement	\$12,660

A&E Events Calendar

GRCC Superstar

Date: Feb. 17

Time: 6 - 9 p.m.

Price: \$2

Where: Lindbloom Student Center
Main Dining Room

Details: Green River students compete in a singing and dance competition for the title of Green River Community College Superstar. Sign up in Student Programs if interested in attending.

Camelot

Date: March 3

Time: 8 p.m.

Price: \$8 general admission, \$6 seniors

Where: Performing Arts Building

Details: King Arthur's medieval story is transformed for the theatre. Theatre Extemporé puts on this Broadway musical right here at Green River detailing the life of King Arthur and his well-known adventures.



Andrew Gardner / The Current

Students solve crime in Langley murder mystery

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

Student Programs is inviting all students to an exciting murder mystery on Whidbey Island on Feb. 26.

Students will ride the Victoria Clipper over to Langley and interact with the local townspeople in the murder mystery.

The adventure is scheduled to last from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the cost is \$30 for students and \$40 for non-students. Price includes morning snacks and a round-trip cruise on the Clipper.

The guests will interact with the townspeople of Langley, who are recreating the events of a murder for all the guests. Student Programs chose the beautiful Langley as the destination over the more common murder mystery sites such as mystery trains and popular Northwest destinations.

The townspeople will dress up in elaborate costumes and each will have a separate role in the mystery. They start out the trip by narrating the basics of the story and giving the guests the hard facts of the case. It is then up to the guests to walk

around the town and ask questions of the townspeople doing their best detective work. Guests have the freedom to walk in any store they like and ask any question they see fit as they are the detective on the case trying to solve the crime.

The townspeople will recreate the events of the murder just as if it were the real life story, giving answers from their point of view and describing what they know to be true about the mystery at that time.

Guests will gather all the testimonies and evidence they possibly can and hopefully sort it out into a manageable bank of clues that will lead them to both the killer and the method in which he or she committed the crime.

Anyone who is skilled enough to solve the murder mystery is entered to win mysterious prizes as an end-of-the-trip reward. After the trip is completed, guests will board the Victoria Clipper for the journey back home.

Anyone who is interested in the murder mystery can contact Jeff, the Outdoor Programs Coordinator at (253) 833-9111 ext. 2400.

CCA Treasure Hunt

Date: Feb. 28

Time: 5 - 7 p.m.

Price: \$2 students, 4\$ non-students

Where: Campus Corner Apartments, Community Room

Details: Students will participate in a Green River ran treasure hunt where everyone will search for clues and try to find the treasure. Clues will be hidden all around the campus so students will have a large area to cover as they try to find the prize. Pizza will be provided after the treasure hunt is completed.

Uncensored Comedy Night

Date: March 9

Time: 6 - 9 p.m.

Price: \$10 students, \$20 non-students

Where: Lindbloom Student Center, Main Dining Room

Details: Megan Mooney and Josh Blue will be performing their uncensored comedy sketch routines for all those interested in stand up comedy. A special unknown guest MC will be performing with the two stand up comics as well. Prize includes pizza and drinks which will be ordered for all guests in attendance.



FOOD DRIVE

February 20, 2006 – March 6, 2006

Please drop off non-perishable food items at the bins at the following designated locations:



-Library

-Lindbloom Student Center, by the bookstore

-SMT building, Second Floor

The Holidays are over, but the food bank still needs donations. Help ADDA and Green River support the local food bank and thank you for helping us give back to our local community.

NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY PLEASE

Pink Panther enjoyable, but falls short of originals

Tyler Foster
Reporter

Prior to seeing Steve Martin's remake/prequel to *The Pink Panther*, I watched all of the originals on DVD. Well, alright, I didn't make it all the way through *Son*, but the point is simple -- Peter Sellers is a genius.

Sellers' comedic timing, mastery of the character, accent and physical comedy manage to make the most out of the diminishing wit of Blake Edwards over the course of the franchise, and *Trail of the Pink Panther*, which was comprised of outtakes and deleted scenes from the previous entry is, as Sellers' late wife claimed in a lawsuit against MGM, an "insult" to his memory.

The new *Pink Panther*, however, is not -- it's far from perfect and not always accurate (minor spoiler: Clouseau solves the case himself. Blasphemy!) but better than you'd expect, with many of Martin's physical comedy and a better tribute to Sellers than Edwards ever managed.

The movie opens, shakily, with narration from Kevin Kline's Chief Inspector Dreyfus. It's both unnecessary and bad, and thankfully by the time a soccer coach named Yves Gluant (Jason Statham) is shot and killed at a game -- and the *Pink Panther* diamond on his ring earlier stolen -- the movie has dispensed with it.

Dreyfus wants an imbecile to distract the press, the exact reason why varies throughout the film, and so he gets Jacques Clouseau (Martin), a seeming

shoo-in for his task. Clouseau pairs up with Ponton (Jean Reno) as his partner, and Nicole (Emily Mortimer) as his secretary, and sets off on the trail of pop star Xania (Beyoncé Knowles), the late Gluant's girlfriend of the moment. Along the way, Clouseau encounters fake vases, American accents, and most notably, Agent 006.

If you've seen Martin's greater comedies (*The Jerk*, *L.A. Story*), you know that he's certainly not a bad choice for the iconic Clouseau character, but as of late Martin's work is becoming cheaper by the dozen. Here, he shows that he still has some wit, and while not all of his jokes hit the target, Martin is no idiot. The aforementioned scene with vases ends with one of the best jokes in the movie, and watching Martin struggle with the accent is quite amusing.

Meanwhile, Jean Reno is quite entertaining as Clouseau's partner (I would have picked Reno for Clouseau) while Kline is left mugging and Beyoncé Knowles feels more like a product than a person as I could have really done without her singing a song in the middle of the third act.

Levy's direction is fine, but the biggest problem is the script and editing -- it's too long and too many dim jokes make the cut. The movie doesn't give Martin a giant setpiece to really let loose (as in the *Steinway* destruction/knight's glove scene in *The Pink Panther Strikes Again*).

Even my mom was annoyed. "Why would they do that to a Peter Sellers movie?" she de-



Pink Panther Movie Shot / Sony Pictures

Steve Martin as the bumbling Jacques Clouseau aimlessly looking up at the sky with a crumbled bicycle lying next to him

manded over dinner. I want to agree with her as remakes are getting tiresome, but this one's above the surface -- it's not the outright rape of the earlier films that *Curse of the Pink Panther* and especially *Trail* are to the original series, and -- while this one masquerades as a prequel despite obviously being set in 2005, the original, quite frankly, isn't all that fantastic.

If only the DVD singles contained a ticket and not just the

box set. A purchase of *A Shot in the Dark* and a free pass to this film would be a nice little combo. It's just too bad that watching Martin, you never forget who he is, and you think to yourself that the real Clouseau is out there, somewhere, and if you find him, you could stop watching this impostor. The real Clouseau is out there, and he's quite accessible, just try your local video store.

Stars: 2 out of 4 ☆☆☆

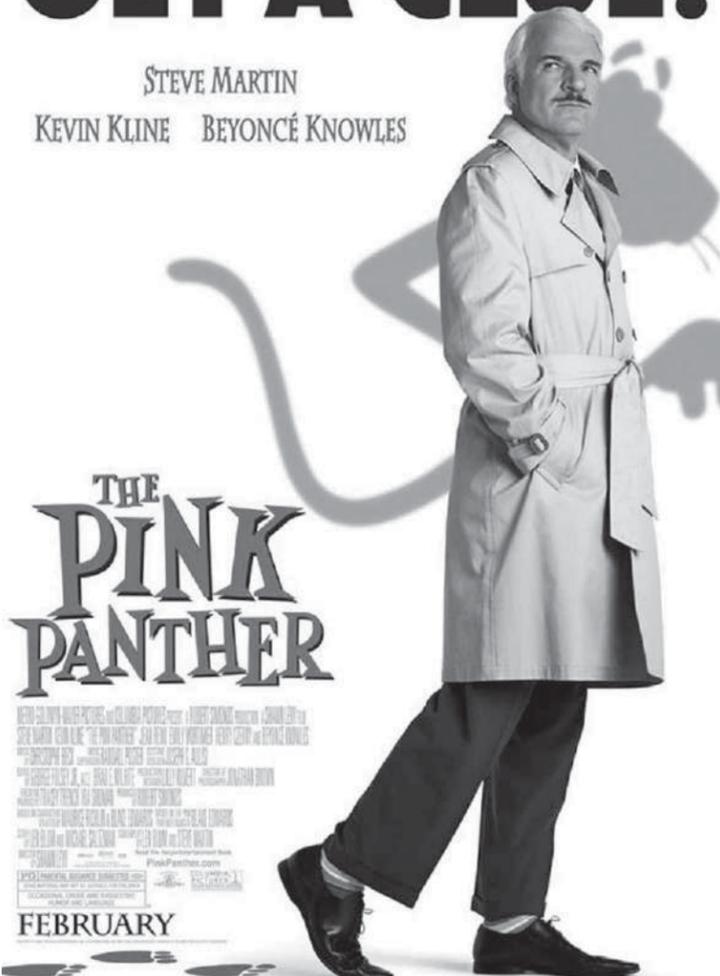
Starring Steve Martin, Kevin Kline, Beyoncé Knowles, Emily Mortimer, Jason Statham and Jean Reno

Written by Len Blum and Steve Martin | Directed by Shawn Levy
MGM Pictures/United Artists (2006) | 93 Minutes

Rated PG
For occasional crude and suggestive humor and language

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STEVE MARTIN
KEVIN KLINE BEYONCÉ KNOWLES



Pink Panther Promotional Poster/Sony Pictures

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WASL not worth the trouble State needs alternative solutions

Fred A. Strine
North Bend, Wash.

A few months ago, I was elated to read in a Seattle paper an article entitled, "Remember the Origins of WASL." In it the author traced the origin and history of the controversial WASL, Washington Assessment of Student Learning. The very need for such an article suggests his side is losing the WASL War. When a new vaccine doesn't cure the disease, who cares how much effort went into its development? Dump it and start over.

Buried in the pro-WASL article is progressive doggerel blithely touted as fact. The author declares, "Learning is best assessed when students demonstrate what they know rather than simply answer multiple-choice questions." Sounds great until one asks who will evaluate the demonstration, and how will that assessment constitute anything but one person's opinion? Therein lies WASL's major flaws. The grading is unreliable because the test is too subjective.

Furthermore the quote in question irrationally denigrates the objectivity inherent in multiple-choice testing. No shades of gray exist when selecting answer A demonstrates the student found the correct solution to a math problem. Even non-English speaking students get full credit for their math competence. Not so on the WASL where the ability to explain the process in written English is worth more than the correct answer. How can reasonable parents who simply want proof their sons and daughters can compute tolerate such elitist nonsense?

Explaining the process is what textbooks are for. Explaining the process is what teachers with college degrees do. Still WASL experts and their test expect our sons and daughters to function as both textbook and teacher before they can graduate in 2008. If the public truly accepts these WASL goals, why not include a teaching certificate with every high school diploma?

Five months from now the soundbite sloganeering will be over. Political posturing will take a back seat to emergency damage control. In just five months no one will use the phrase "high standards" in the same sentence with our state-mandated graduation requirement. In five short months the futures of Washington's children will be seriously challenged. By the end of June 2006, WASL scores that finally count will hit the fan. Get ready to duck, Olympia.

High school curricula statewide will shift into remedial mode. Summer schools will fill overnight and families will cancel vacation plans. Graduation dates, college dreams, and job opportunities will be in doubt. Families will panic; parents will be furious.

To continue the WASL War much longer would be an unconscionable waste of time, effort and money. Students and taxpayers have suffered enough. It's time to rise up and demand the state dump the WASL now.

Fred A. Strine is a teacher at Auburn Riverside High School in Auburn, Wash.

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

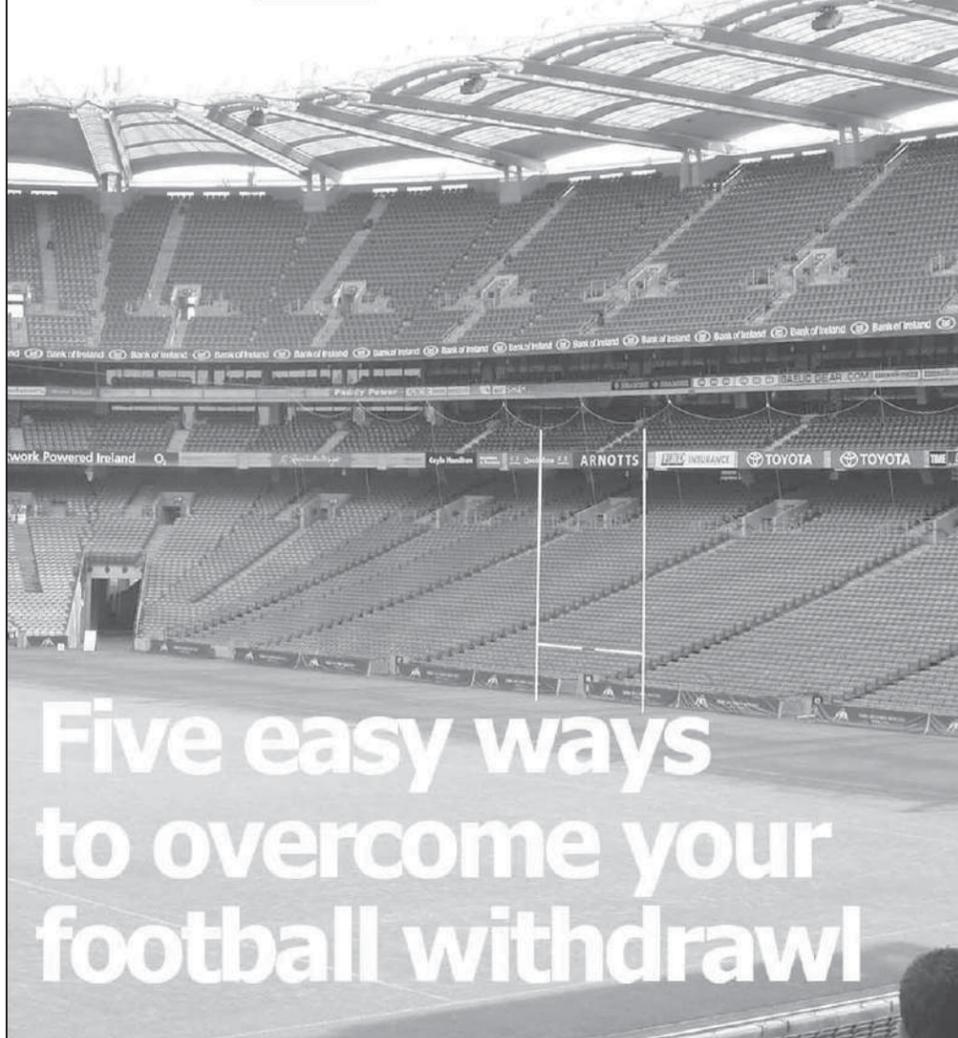
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LIFE WITHOUT FOOTBALL



Five easy ways
to overcome your
football withdrawal

Ryan Comer Opinions Editor

When Ben Roethlisberger took a knee to finish off the Seattle Seahawks in Super Bowl XL, a surge of emotions raced through my mind. **How** could the Seahawks outplay the Steelers in almost every aspect of the game and still lose? Did the **referees** have it out for Seattle? But most importantly, **what** am I going to do for the next seven months while I wait in agony and torment for the next NFL season to kickoff?

Here are some ideas for the Seahawks-starved fan:

1) The Sonics are still playing. If you were tired of watching the officials decide the outcome of the Super Bowl you could sit and watch the Sonics lose every day all by themselves by giving up eight million points a game. You know you have hit a low when the Charlotte Bobcats and the Toronto Raptors of the NBA can light you up for 120.

2) The Seahawks set many wonderful records this past season. And beginning in April the Mariners will set out on their own quest for amazing records. Last season they became the first team in MLB history to follow two consecutive ninety win seasons with two consecutive ninety loss seasons. You think there's any shot they could become the first team to follow THREE consecutive winning seasons with THREE consecutive losing seasons? If three isn't enough maybe in 2007 they can go for the four-peat. Now there's something to cheer about.

3) Just because the NFL season is over doesn't mean you can't still enjoy football on your X-Box or Playstation. If you're still bitter about the Super Bowl you can tune your Mad-

den game to the easiest setting and throttle Pittsburgh 865-0 every day.

4) The NFL said they were satisfied with the officiating in the Super Bowl. This made me so angry I wanted to immediately write a letter to the NFL head of officials as well as Paul Tagliabue, the commissioner. If you're the writing type you can do the same. Oh wait, Tagliabue's e-mail address was conspicuously removed from the NFL website. Coincidence? I think not.

5) I have a non-sports idea sure to blow your minds away. Try actually doing your weekend homework. Because the Seahawks have done so well this season, every Sunday for the last four and a half months has been devoted to them. Homework has kind of taken a back seat.

No doubt the end of the most amazing season in Seahawks history is going to leave many diehard fans struggling to find ways to pass their time. But there are more ideas than what I have listed above and I'm sure you can think of them.

You just have to be a little creative.

Spotlight: Green River Basketball Coaches

The college's hoops leaders have experience on the court and the sidelines

Men's



Tim Malroy

Age: 38
From: Olympia
Born in Long Beach, California

- Three years as the South Puget Sound Community College women's coach, four years as assistant men's coach at Western Washington University.

- Master's Degree in Sport Psychology.

- Second year as coach at Green River. First year as Assistant Athletic Director.

- Played basketball at Olympia High School and Western Washington University.

- He says Green River has the potential to be a perennial championship contender due to its location, academic programs, campus housing facilities, and athletic department mission, vision, and goals.

Women's



Rochelle Mitchell

Age: 33
From: Poulsbo

- Graduated from North Kitsap High School, attended Lower Columbia Community College and played basketball on athletic and academic scholarships (earned AA in 1992)

- Attended & played basketball at St Martin's College in Olympia on a partial basketball scholarship (earned BA in mathematics in 1994), attended Western Washington University on a full scholarship (earned MS in mathematics in 1996).

- Hired in 1996 as a one-year replacement in the mathematics division as an instructor. Hired in 1997 in a tenure track position as a math instructor. This is her tenth year.

- She became the women's assistant basketball coach in 2003, and became women's head basketball coach this year (in 2005).

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Something different or new?

Check out these Spring Quarter classes and programs!

Design Drafting Technology

Develop proficiency in board and computer-aided drafting for a variety of careers. There is an excellent employment outlook for drafters.

Law and Economics

Learn how law and economics can work together in the Intro to Law and Macroeconomics coordinated studies. Satisfies social science requirements for AA degree.

Information Technology

The program prepares students for entry-level employment in a variety of IT positions including: PC repair technician, help-desk support, network technician, and computer security specialist.

Anthropology 210: Indians of North America

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

Auto Body Technology

Do you have an interest in working on cars? This program teaches students how to repair, refinish, paint and restore vehicles.

Manufacturing Technology

The program includes computerized numeric control (CNC) training and introduction to learn manufacturing. Students may enroll in this program through the eighth week.

English 110 and Comm 101: Language and Power

In this 10-credit coordinated studies class, you will examine how language defines, generates, and limits power.

Advance Studies in Logic

A continuation of quantitative and symbolic (formal logic) studied in Philosophy 120.

Criminal Justice 100

Learn current events in crime, criminal justice agencies and how correctional institutions respond to criminal offenders. This class is offered Mon-Fri at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. in Kent.

Intro to Gender Studies in the Humanities

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

More information is available in the Spring Quarter Schedule or by contacting Educational Planning at ext. 2641



Kyle Riger
Reporter

Green River is minus one sports program next season, as reports of the GRCC men's soccer program cancellation were found true last week.

According to Athletic Director Bob Kickner, there were multiple reasons to justify the suspension of the program. He stressed that it was a very long and hard process that didn't take just one day and wanted to be clear that it didn't just involve himself, but the college president, the board of trustees, and many student government executives.

Beginning in fall 2004, it was Kickner's job to do a formal assessment and evaluate every program at GRCC. When looking at the men's soccer program, he pointed out that the team had been producing very average results, with no teams having a winning record in the last six seasons and only one team making the playoffs.

Kickner said they were not meeting the needs of the program with the funding provided.

"A decision needs to be made with what direction GRCC sports needs to go in," he said.

According to Kickner, that direction is to be good in a few areas and average in others, further justifying the program suspension.

At decision time in spring 2005, there were two options. The first being to ask for more funding to improve the program, or reprioritize spending. Taking into account that the team had forfeited two games last year for lack of partici-

pation, and the fact that students were not coming to GRCC to play soccer, it was the right time for a deletion according to Kickner.

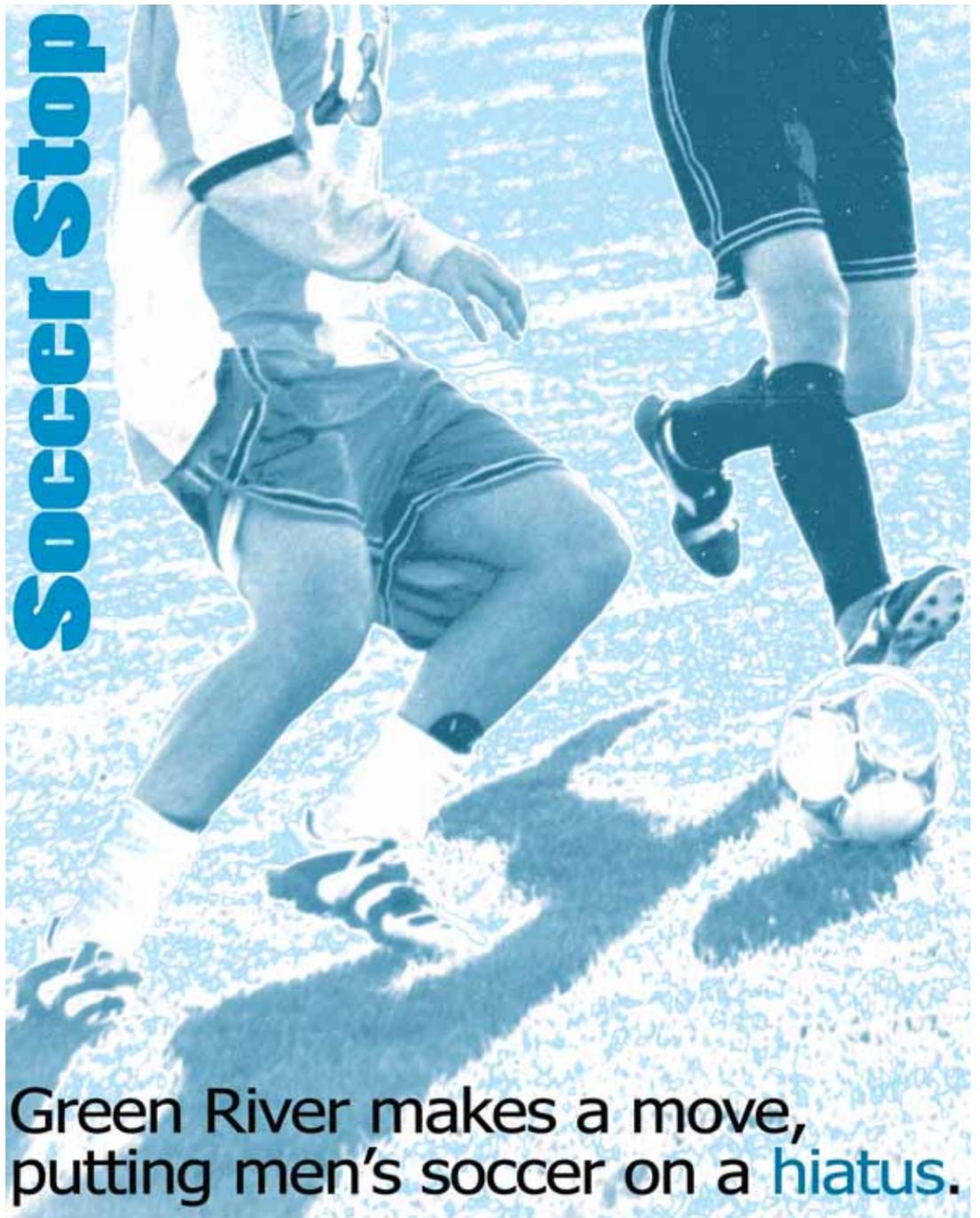
All the students playing soccer are returning students to Green River. Coupled with the difficulty of not having an on-campus practice or game facility (home field was in Tukwilla, 20 miles away) Kickner said he believes the timing is definitely right for the deletion.

As for the funds previously dedicated to the soccer program, they will now be used to improve other athletic programs at GRCC. Specifically, Kickner pointed to the basketball program; with money going towards more scholarship opportunities to compete with league counterparts and funding towards the rising costs of travel and game officials. He said this would result in a better team schedule and a better program in the long run.

The soccer team isn't the only program under evaluation. All programs are under evaluation by the athletic department and they are always looking for ways to improve the structure of Green River athletics.

And what of a possible revival of GRCC men's soccer in the future? Kickner said he would love to under the right circumstances, repeating the need for proper facilities closer to campus and funding.

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



Gator basketball drops pair in 'The Swamp'

Eric Hanninen
Sports Editor

At this point in the season, our mens basketball team stands at 8-13 overall, and 4-6 in league play.

The women are now 5-16 overall, and 3-7 in league play. Saturday night both squads dropped a pair here in "The Swamp", our home gym.

Lower Columbia is a very

tough opponent and last time we played they took us to the barn and handed us a 59-108 loss. This time the men took it down to the closing minutes before burning out a bit and losing 80-91.

Freshman Pace Pendleton (out of Auburn High School) continued his hot streak and dropped 22 points during the game. He has led the way in back-to-back games, the last one by way of 26 points

during the romping we gave Clark County in their own gym nonetheless.

We have three home games remaining on the schedule and we have been tough to beat all season long in The Swamp.

With six games remaining we'd like to finish the season strong and get back to .500 or better for the year.

Our next home game is Wednesday, Feb. 22, against

a tough Grays Harbor team.

As for the ladies, the last five games remaining are very winnable.

Unfortunately they are mathematically not going to have a winning season even with a clean sweep. They have played hard but just have come up short a few too many times.

This will be a good time to make some positive steps towards next season.

SPRING PREVIEW

Baseball

- March 1

Fastpitch

- March 10

Golf

- April 2

Tennis

- April 2

GATOR HOOPS SCHEDULE

Men

vs. Tacoma

Feb. 18, 5 p.m.

vs. Grays Harbor

Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

@ Centralia

Feb. 25, 7 p.m.

Women

vs. Tacoma

Feb. 18, 3 p.m.

vs. Grays Harbor

Feb. 22, 6 p.m.

@ Centralia

Feb. 25, 5 p.m.

