

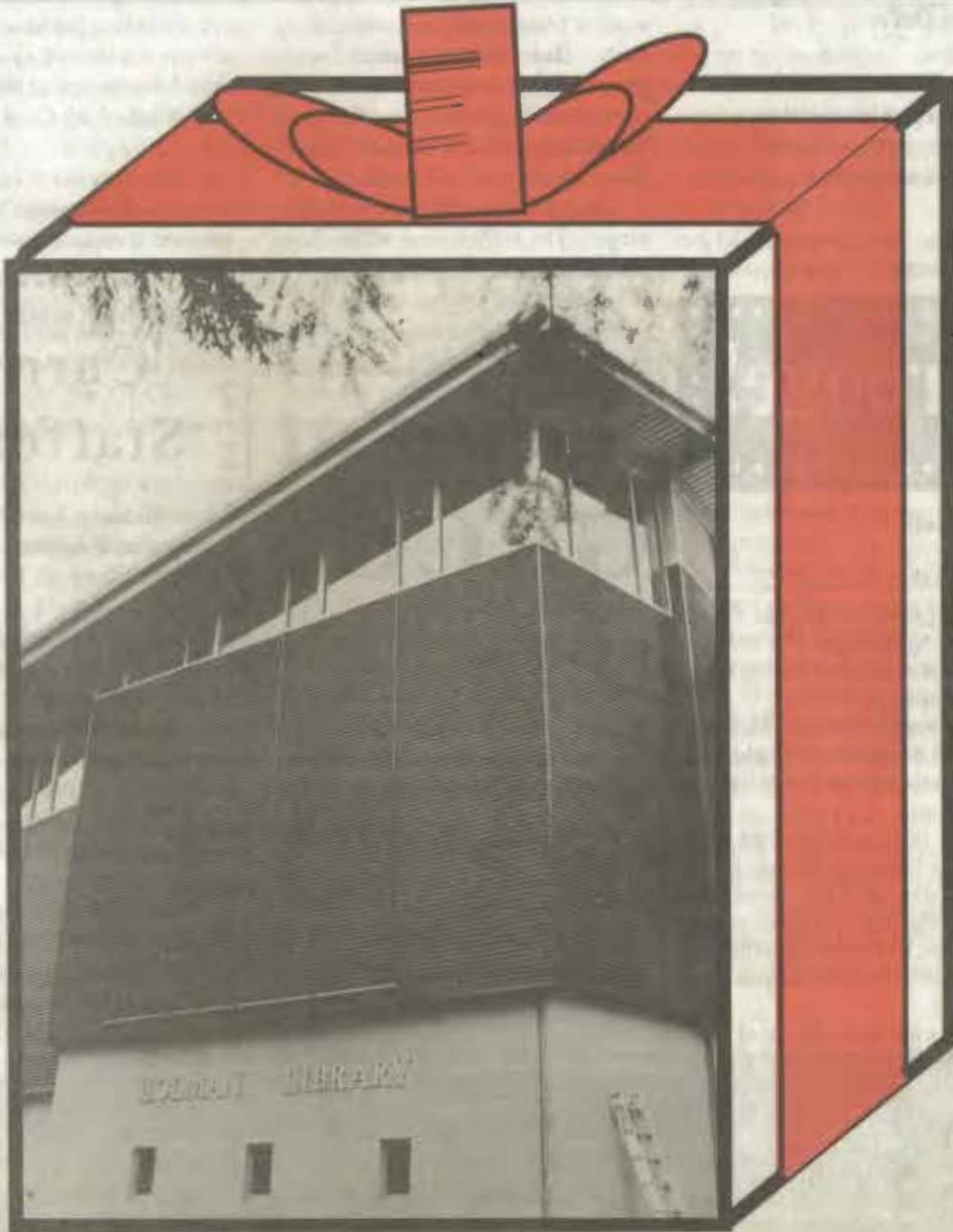
Tech Fee Indepth
Page 3

Continuing Ed.
Page 7

Rotkowski Learning Center
page 8

The Current

Green River Community College Vol. 32 Issue 6 December 2, 1996



New Holman Library Page 4-5

CURRENT EVENTS...

Athletes will be recognized

By Leanna Defoe
Reporter

Fall sports athletes will be recognized at a banquet Dec. 3 in the Glacier Room in the Lindbloom Student Center.

Attending this banquet will be women's soccer, men's soccer,

women's volleyball, parents and students. There will be a dinner, awards given and the coaches will speak. Some of the awards given to the athletes are "most improved," "most valuable player" and "most inspirational."

Before the awards will be a yummy dinner. The main course of the dinner will be lasagna.

"It'll be a good banquet, and a good closure for the fall sport season, that's why I like to spend the money on it," said Michael McGraw, athletic director.

The coaches then will give out awards and talk about their teams' season and accomplishments.

Scrooge!

By Karly Bell
Reporter

You can't have a Christmas Season without watching Scrooge. The story has been told year after year, but it never seems to lose its magic.

From Disney's "Scrooge McDuck" version to Bill Murray's "Scrooged," the story is told to the youngest of children to the oldest of men.

This year, don't just sit in front of the tube to witness Ebenezer Scrooge get the spirit of Christmas- see it live. Green River Community College's theater group, Heavier than Air, will be putting on the play "Scrooge" again this season (last year it was a hit).

The group has spent many long hours perfecting the play for all students to enjoy. If you want to attend the play, buy your tickets quick, it's sure to be a sellout.

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Santa at GRCC

By Tim Medan
Reporter

Green River Community College students can get their pictures taken with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus on Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Lindbloom Student Center. The event, the 18th Annual Holiday Boutique, is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa.

There will be live entertainment and lots of activities for kids. The cost of this event will be just \$1.

The purpose of this event is to get into the Christmas spirit and to get students to have fun.

The Green River

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The staff of the Current would like to thank all individuals who made it possible to accomplish this sixth edition of the '96-'97 school year.

Technical fee leaves its mark

By Terry Clapp
Editor

There was a new fee on most students' receipts recently when they paid for winter quarter classes.

The fee, titled "information" on receipts, previously known as the technology fee, pays for something being offered for the first time at Green River Community College — services in and access to the Information Commons in the new Holman Library.

"The fee pays for things not currently funded by the operating budget," said Jim Grossman, director of learning and resources for GRCC. "It is geared towards general enhancement of services."

The \$2 per credit (to a maximum of \$20) fee showed up on all students' tuition receipts, except those enrolled in Adult Basic Education (ABE), General Education Diploma (GED), English as a Second Language (ESL), Parent Education, Education Training Center (ETC) or other continuing education courses.

The fee is covered by financial aid for those who receive financial aid. Students enrolled at the Enumclaw Center will not pay the fee for now.

"But at some point if we put terminals out there (in Enumclaw), they could access these information databases (from the Information Commons), then they could have to pay for it," said Grossman.

All students registered for winter quarter classes — credit or noncredit — will have access to the dedicated, open computer lab in the Information Commons, said Grossman.

The assumption is that a continuing education student, for example, won't have a need to use the Information Commons as would a student who is registered for a credit class like a business class or a computer class, said Grossman.

Even if that continuing education student does use the Information Commons, the structured Internet for example, that student won't have access to some parts of the electronic information that a credited student might have, said Grossman.

Students in computer classes will be given an ID number for each class they are enrolled in — if a student takes three computer classes, he or she will have three IDs. Then they can go to the Information Commons, log on to the network as a student in that class and they'll see the same desktop that they saw in the classroom when their instructor was giving instruction, said Vickie Booth, student information services for GRCC.

"Students will have access to 2000 plus magazines — full text — in addition to other reference databases," said Grossman.

Seminars will be held in the instruction rooms of the new library so students and staff can learn how to use

the new technologies, Grossman said.

The fee revenues will help pay for 72 IBM computers, according to Grossman.

"We try to provide the most current software that is being used in the business world," said Donn Adams, vice president for instruction at GRCC.

The computers in the Information Commons will be "state of the art," according to Adams.

"We will purchase new computers every three years or so, depending on how quickly technology changes," said Grossman.

The fee revenues will also help pay for enhanced and curriculum-based Internet access, commercial information databases, a dedicated open computer lab, increased library hours, books and staff, according to Grossman.

It will also pay for staff to help students access and use electronic information at the Information Commons, according to Adams.

The fee will help pay for weekend library hours as well. Currently, the library is open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 a.m. Grossman hopes to extend hours into the weekend, depending on students' needs.

Students will eventually be able to access the GRCC network from home on their home computers.

Letters Policy

The Current accepts articles and opinions up to 350 words on any topic. We reserve the right to edit articles and letters to the editor for style, grammar, punctuation, spelling, length and libel.

Letters must be typed and signed with a phone number for verification purposes.

Please send all materials to: The Current, mail stop SP, or stop in at our office in the Lindbloom Student Center.

The new Holman Library, a sneak preview



Information Commons, where students can ask for help

By Fred Dimaano
Photo and graphics editor
Photos by Fred Dimaano

When winter quarter begins at Green River Community College Jan. 2, the new Holman Library will open its doors.

The new Holman Library isn't just your regular library. The library was constructed with the future in mind. Technology will play a big part in the new two-story building.

The first floor of the new library holds five computer classrooms, a new art gallery, a video viewing section, the Media Productions Department

World Almanac 1997

ment and a video conference room.

The Media Productions Department allows students to create multimedia presentations. Students could bring such materials as slides, still photographs, video and text to edit into a presentation piece for class.

The video conference room is a computer-operated system that enables students to take a class long distance through video conferences.

The second floor holds the main library, where students will spend most of their time. On this floor, you will find books, magazines, a tutoring Help Center, group study rooms



Entrance of the new Holman Library

Welcome

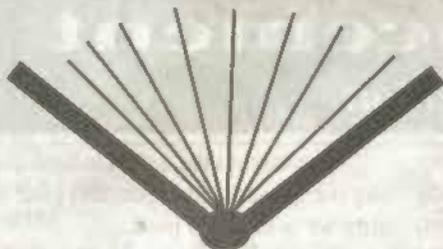
and areas and the Information Commons area.

The Information Commons located at the north end of the building consists of 72 computers for student use. The computers are set up for optional uses, such as going on the Internet, or accessing the CD databases, the index automated catalog system and the Microsoft Office application.

Throughout the library, there are special hookup points allowing students to plug in their laptops for power or access to data. Laptop owners must go to Information Services' help desk to download cer-

Diary of Anne Frank

Mathematics 101



tain applications and have their ID address entered to access the data. This is only useful for Windows laptops, not Macintosh.

"What I'm looking at is a book collection of 40,000 titles," said Jim Grossman, director of the library and Learning Resource Center. The library will also keep the book collection current, by replacing 1,000 to 2,000 books a year.

"One of things I'm looking into



Astronomy 101

Second floor, where students will be able to study and access the Information Commons

--and they did this in a new community college in the Phoenix area is they don't own any books, they rent them all," Grossman said.

By renting books, the library could replace older editions as newer editions come out. The library could stop renting books that are hardly being used. Grossman would like to see 10,000 rental books in the

new library.

"The main thing is to give the students an opportunity to come in and access the information databases and resources that they are going to need in real life," said Grossman.

The new Holman Library will be open Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekend hours will be announced, but have not yet been set.

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Moby Dick



Stairs leading up to the second floor of the library

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Memory enhancement

Helpful tips for retaining course information

By Jillene Grover Seiver
Special to The Current

Finals are right around the corner, and you may be wondering how you can cram all the information you have learned this quarter into your head, and then get it back out during your tests.

What if your vocabulary words from your Spanish class prevent you from remembering the glossary terms from your anthropology class? What if you can't remember anything because you are so exhausted from staying up all night cramming?

As a researcher on memory, and an instructor in psychology, I have some practical tips that may make your finals a little more manageable, if not easier!

My first tip may arrive too late for this quarter, but it is a piece of advice you should follow always: Distribute your study throughout the quarter, rather than waiting until the last minute.

If you spend one hour a day reading for each of your classes and memorizing the items that must be memorized, you will find that your long-term retention of that material is better than if you cram just for the final.

Of course, time constraints can prevent you from devoting a great deal of time to each of your classes, but if you consistently spend even a few minutes reviewing your class notes each evening, you will see a dramatic improvement in your grades.

You should do everything possible to focus your study efforts. If your instructor does not provide a study guide, ask what sorts of questions you can expect on the test, and whether the instructor might be willing to give some hints as to what topics might be most heavily represented.

If your instructor does give a study guide, don't be afraid to ask whether the exam is completely covered by the

guide. Spend your study time studying those things that are likely to appear on the test. Review them in your notes, look them up in your book and read the relevant passages in your text that will enhance your understanding of the topics.

You might take a shot at anticipating the questions that you feel your instructor is likely to pose.

Now, what do I mean by study? One of the skills that we are never overtly taught, yet we are expected to master, is how to study. The best stu-

Continue to page 12

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Advance skills through Continuing Education

By John Carlile
Reporter

Continuing Education at Green River Community College helps people learn new skills, update career skills and check out different fields.

Continuing Education classes are set up for working adults; the classes are held either in the evenings or on weekends. Some classes meet off-campus in outlying areas.

"These classes are non-credit, so there isn't any pressure on the students," said Leslie Moore, director of Continuing Education.

The program is self-supporting (not state supported), and the classes are coordinated by Moore. Being self-supporting and non-credit, the students pay a set amount for each class, but do not pay tuition.

"The average age of the students is 35 to 55 years old," said Moore, but the program is open to persons 18 years old and older. Younger students can attend some classes as some of the classes are for the whole family.

There are three types of classes offered in Continuing Education: Continuing Professional Education, Lifelong Education and Training Programs.

The Continuing Professional Education "helps people to update existing skills," said Moore. The classes are designed to help students fulfill requirements needed for licensing or certifica-

tion.

Lifelong Education classes are open to people at all skill levels. These classes can cover a large range of topics, from foreign language to home and garden.

Moore said "subjects for enrichment" is what Lifelong Education is all about. Students have taken foreign languages to improve language skills, others in preparation for business opportunities or vacations to other countries.

Training Programs are "short term programs designed to get people to work," said Moore. Most of these classes are one quarter or less. These include classes on Travel Career Training, which is a 10-week course, to prepare students to take the ITCA exam and receive certification through the Institute of Certified Travel Agents.

Other classes include music, language and culture, outdoors, personal exploration and many more. Many classes are offered in each of these areas. Emergency Services Dispatch (911) and Private Investigation are just a few. There are also one-day classes such as CPR.

There was a class offered during fall quarter, Home-based Business Symposium, which had more than 200 people in attendance.

Moore said, "The most popular class is How To Start A Small Business." This is a four-class se-

ries: Small Business Management, Small Business Marketing, Cash Flow Management and Developing a Business Plan.

"The instructors are mostly part-timers and are professionals in their field," said Moore.

Each quarter there are "Core Programs," said Moore, these classes are offered each quarter.

"Also there are new classes added," Moore said. Some of the new classes are seasonal, such as gardening and landscaping.

"There have been many students start with Continuing Education and go full-time with credited classes," said Moore. After getting used to the campus and realizing that they can work schooling into their schedule, they decide to pursue a degree or certificate in college-level classes.

"New and fun things will be offered spring quarter," said Moore. There will be a model rocketry class for the entire family. This will include building the rocket and launching it.

There will also be a lecture, The Galileo Mission To Jupiter, which will include a slide show.

There will also be a presentation on gardening by Ed Hume.

"Europe Through The Back Door will also be presented spring quarter," said Moore.

For more information regarding the Continuing Education Program, call the office at (206) 833-9111, ext. 2535.

Attention all bands: Are ya any good?

By Erica Torheim
Reporter

Musician Magazine of New York is launching the 1997 Best Unsigned Band Competition. Musician Magazine is currently accepting entries. The competition is open to all unsigned bands and artists of every genre.

This is a great opportunity for local and regional acts to secure national recognition. Your music could be heard by top music critics, editors and established artists, all the important people in the music industry!

The competition accepts entries from around the world. Each band is judged on a two-song cassette of its best material. There is then a preliminary round of judging by editors and writers from major music publications.

Twelve winners will be chosen by a panel of artist-judges including Joe Satriani, Bob Mould, Vince Gill, Buddy Guy and Tori Amos.

Winning bands will be featured in Musician Magazine and will appear on Musician's "Best of the BUB's" CD. The CD is manufactured by Atlantic Records and sent to all of Musician Magazine's major and independent label A&R contacts.

The top winner will also receive musical equipment from JBL Professional and Lexicon. Bands and artists interested in receiving information, rules and an entry form can call Musician Magazine's toll-free hotline at 1-800-BUB-2WIN.

Old Holman Library becomes Rutkowski Learning Center

By Stephanie Jacobson
Editor

The current Holman Library used to be Green River Community College's only building, housing all classrooms, offices and even the student center.

This was back in the 60s when GRCC was founded.

By fall of 1997, Holman Library will be transformed into the Rutkowski Learning Center and be available to students.

"It is a good place to sleep during breaks and class," said a student, who wished to remain anonymous.

"I am afraid with the new library being so hip, too many people will be in there and it will not be very quiet."

It will be named after Richard Rutkowski, president of GRCC, in recognition of his efforts in opening the new Holman Library. Rutkowski has been president for 13 years.

"I was taken by surprise by the board's action," said Rutkowski. "I feel greatly

honored."

A lot of people put a lot of effort into what now is the new Holman Library.

"If it wasn't for Rich pushing for the funding, it might have not happened," said Jim Grossman, director of the Learning Resource Center.

This will be the first time a campus building will be named after an employee before retirement or death.

The new building will be used for Developmental Education courses and as added office space for faculty.

Student Amanda Quitaqua said, "I am kinda sad to see the old library go. It has a lot of historic character."

The Holman Library was named after Hayes Holman who was a founding father of GRCC. You can read about him underneath his bronze bust currently located in the current Holman Library.

This author's life

Tobias Wolff, on his life and his books

By Bruce Wellington
Special to The Current

"You shouldn't too greatly overestimate the pain a writer feels at having his book made into a movie," confides critically acclaimed author Tobias Wolff.

Wolff, 51, was referring to the motion picture "This Boy's Life," adapted from his autobiographical novel of the same name.

At a reading Nov. 8 in the cozy confines of the Elliott Bay Book Co. basement, Wolff read the story "Firelight" from his latest collection, "The Night in Question."

After the reading, he answered questions about the making of "This Boy's Life" and his other works.

While rain fell outside on the cobblestones of Pioneer Square, Wolff took his audience with him to the warm, stone fireplace in the story "Firelight."

"The Night in Question" is short fiction," insists Wolff. "The stories are not autobiographical, but several are spurred by memories."

"Firelight" is the story of a young boy and his mother, set in Seattle, and leans eerily close to Wolff's own past, growing up in Concrete, a small town in the Cascades east of Seattle, as

described in "This Boy's Life."

In a conversational tone, Wolff told the crowd of about 200 he was generally pleased with the movie, but did

have some "quibbles." There were scenes added that were not in the book and the movie was "vastly fictionalized."

Continued on page 11

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This author's life

Continued from page 9

Wolff spoke with fondness of the movie-making experience, saying he was invited to the filming and often asked for advice.

"They didn't take any of my advice," he said. "But they asked it."

He says that the very condition of a writer's work is solitude. "You have to be alone to write," he said. "That's why the collaboration, or in my particular case, apparent collaboration (on the movie) was such a pleasure."

It's not hard to visualize this slender, 6-foot man as the boy in "This Boy's Life," despite his white hair.

The capacity crowd jammed into the brick- and book-lined basement erupted in laughter as Wolff recounted the story of taking his mother to the premier of the movie.

In the movie the mother's name was changed because of a brutish sex scene between the stepfather (played by Robert DeNiro) and the mother (Ellen Barkin).

According to Wolff, his mother, Rosemary, complained and asked why

"You can't always tell what's memory and what you've invented."

they had changed her name. Wolff explained that he was afraid she would find the scene objectionable.

She replied that she had, but "that was Robert DeNiro."

Wolff, a former army lieutenant, is the author of six books, including his highly praised memoirs on the Vietnam War, "In Pharaoh's Army: Memories of

a Lost War."

He cited influences ranging from Jack London to Ernest Hemingway and inspiration from everything and everyone.

Many of his stories, he says, start with one idea, but evolve into an entirely different thing while the story is being written.

"A story that starts out with a memory changes the relationship with that memory," he said. "You can't always tell what's memory and what you've invented."

Not all of Wolff's stories work. He says the fault with those stories that don't work is usually that they turn out just the way he expected they would.

"I have to be surprised while I'm writing, in ways I can't anticipate," he said. "You almost have to feel that the story is hijacked; somebody boards the story in a ski-mask and takes it away from you."

As Wolff made his way to the book signing table at the end of the evening, no one left. The audience merely gravitated toward the table to have their new books signed.

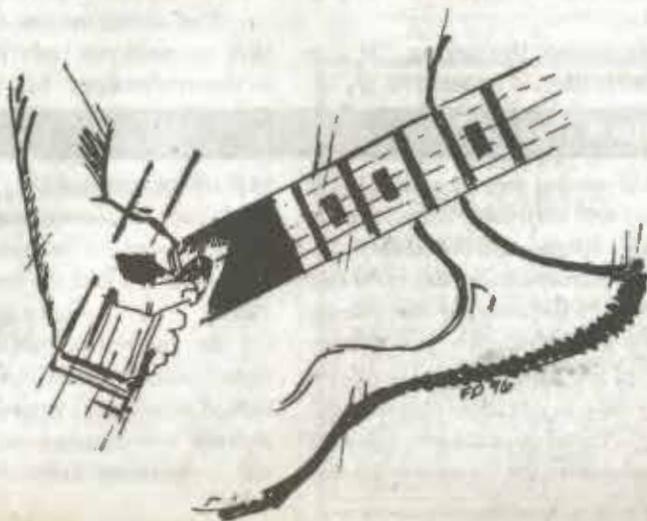
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Information fee, is it worth it?

By Terry Clapp
Editor

Over the last year, I have heard from one student or another that the tech fee — aka the “information” fee — is 1) not affordable and 2) unnecessary.

In fact, last spring quarter, over 600 GRCC students signed a petition asking for a re-vote on the tech fee. However, the petition hasn't been pursued.

All colleges and universities impose some kind of fee for computer use, whether it is called a computer lab fee, technology fee or information fee. Some are optional, and some are self-imposed like the University of Washington's \$40 tech fee and like our \$20 “information” fee.

Why is this the trend? Last year, there was a \$1.3 million cut in state education funding. State grants to colleges and universities pay for new technology, but don't consider the fact that staff is needed to teach students how to use it. Part of the information fee will help pay for this.

Remember the saying, “If you think education is expensive, try ig-

norance”? At \$2 a credit, we're getting a lot of bang for the buck.

Students who think the information fee is unnecessary need to understand that technology grows exponentially, and so goes the need to pay for that technology. For example, 20 years ago there were no personal computers. Today they are advertised in every other Christmas flyer that comes in the mail.

Because of the advances in technology, students need to “learn how to learn” in a different dimension. Until recently, we only needed to know how to take notes, outline a chapter and use the Dewey decimal system. Basic stuff.

Now, students who will be competing in the business world will need to “learn how to learn” by developing computer skills to access electronic information and analyze information -- and the source of that information (is the information valid, pertinent, relevant, and so forth).

“People with these skills will flourish. It's the nature of the information age,” said Grossman.

The information fee ensures that we will not only have access to the technology, but to seminars

and staff who can teach us how to use it.

“You can't have a good college without a good library and information base,” said Donn Adams, Vice President for Instruction at GRCC.

This is more true now than ever. Some courses are being taught entirely over the Internet by colleges across the state, and even across the country. Geographical location of the college is no longer an issue for people who can access the Internet and who want to get a degree.

Compared to other states, colleges and universities in Washington are not very good, GRCC in particular, according to Adams.

“In the last three years we've made quite a big commitment to improving that. We've made changes in personnel,” said Adams. “We've made acquisitions of books, and we've done a lot of things electronically already.”

If GRCC is to continue its path of improvement, GRCC students must be willing to make a small contribution towards this kind of educational growth. With the opening of the new Holman Library, this will happen.

Memory *Continued from page 6*

dents tell me that they have little tricks that they rely on to help them to retain and recall information for classes.

My best recommendation is to find a way to link the material that you are learning to information you already know. In my psychology classes, this is fairly easy, as just about everyone can think of a friend or relative or celebrity who personifies the issues we are discussing.

For example, when studying adolescent development, I urge my students

to think of teenager they know, or to think back on their own adolescence, and to relabel the behaviors that they have observed with the terms I am providing.

So, instead of thinking of your sister's smoking as an illustration of the typical adolescent's tendency to believe that she will live forever, realize that she is operating under the “personal fable.”

The challenge with this memory strategy is to apply it to more abstract

topics, like math or anatomy. Perhaps you could turn your math problems into word problems that have some relevance to you.

Instead of simply trying to compute $1-(1/4+2/7)$, you could say, “How much of my income (1) am I spending each year on sales tax (1/4) and property tax (2/7)?” This strategy would have long-term benefits; not only will you remember the formulas for your test, but you will learn how to apply the formulas to real-world problems. And isn't that the

Continue to page 14

Astrological Forecast

Warning: these horoscopes were not written by a professional.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

This Christmas, remember that the best things come in small packages. An old acquaintance comes into the picture with surprising news. Beware of whom you tell your secrets to.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Secure all possessions. Make a "to-do" list: it's the only way things will get done. Flirtation looms large in your future, but the time has come to decide on your partner.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

A situation you were not comfortable with proves very beneficial. Friends show lots of affection and do many favors, but don't feel obligated. Your help on projects is appreciated tremendously.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

The time has come (the Walrus said) to talk of many things. Chatting with friends is the most

comfortable time you will spend in the next couple of weeks. When purchasing gifts, choose with much care.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Travel plans are in your future, even if it is not yours. Surrender the remote to your loved one. Make plenty of plans for the holidays.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Complete projects in an organized manner, and the end result will show your effectiveness. Try to cut down on the sweets in the next couple weeks, sugar is not what you need. Research any unknown subjects thoroughly.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This week your sexual aura is in overdrive--heed previous horoscope. Take comfort in pets, material items. Technology can become a good friend, if you treat it right.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Many people look up to you, ask for advice. Be careful when being sarcastic, some people are over-sensitive. Visit with rela-

tives is surprisingly relaxing.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Although you may not be treated with respect, treat others with respect: it will show maturity. Act on your desires, impulses. Fall color brings out your "wild side."

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Family member causes worry, but for no need. Focus on education, schoolmates. Give gifts of time and caring instead of material things.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Travel and possibly relocation plans are in your future. New location proves satisfying. Don't neglect finances. Open communication lines.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Spend time with relatives this Christmas, all parties will look upon the occasion with fond memories. Don't put too much trust in your friends.

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Holman Library-- how does it compare to other libraries?

By Amanda Kleinert
Ad manager and reporter

When it opens, the new Holman Library will be one of the most advanced in the Puget Sound area.

Compared to other universities and community colleges such as Highline Community College and the University of Puget Sound, Green River Community College's library has more computers for students use, more Internet access and is the newest structure of several surveyed.

Highline Community College in Des Moines has no computers for student use except the strictly-database computers used as modern card catalogs. It was built in 1978, and has had no major remodels since. The budget for new materials including periodicals, videos and other media besides books is \$80,000 per year.

Collins Memorial Library at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma also has no student-use computers, but has a budget of \$300,000 for new materials each year.

Edmonds Community College's library also has several database computers, and five computers for student use with access to the Internet. Computers with word-processing or spreadsheet software are available in the Academic Computing Center located next door to the library. Their next major remodel is scheduled for the summer of 1997.

South Seattle Community College's library has no student-use computers, and no remodeling has been done recently.

The library at City University in Renton was last remodeled two years ago, and all computers for student use are located in the drop-in computer labs

on campus.

Each of these libraries is open on average from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and about five hours on Saturdays. An exception is Collins Memorial Library at UPS, which is open until 2 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

GRCC's current Holman Library fits right in with these statistics.

The new Holman Library, which will open next quarter, will have extensive access to computers for students, as well as Internet access. Although there are several computers in the current library with access to the Internet, it seems there is always a line of students waiting to get on.

The Information Commons in the new library will have staff available to help students learn their way around the Internet or software programs.

Memory *Continued from page 12*

point of learning the formulas in the first place?

With items, you might be able to rely on some kind of mnemonic device. There is a great deal of evidence which suggests that the more different ways that you interact with the material you are trying to learn, the more likely you are to remember it.

So, you could make up a song with the names of the body parts for your anatomy class. Not only will the effort of inventing the song make it memorable, but if you use a simple, catchy tune like "Twinkle, twinkle, little star," you can rely on the melody to jog your memory.

Or, you might start singing your ABCs; you have to be careful which tunes you use! Another mnemonic device would be to come up with a word created from the first letters of each of the terms you are trying to remember.

That's how the word scuba (self-contained, under-water breathing appa-

ratus) came into being. So, if you have to memorize the structures of the eye, you might use the word RIPUL (pronounced "ripple") to remember Retina, Iris, Pupil and Lens.

Or, you could make up a story using the items: "I was walking down the street, when I saw my teacher, Mrs. Retina. She said, 'Aren't you my pupil, Jill?' and I said, 'Yes, Mrs. Retina!' Mrs. Retina said, 'Please, call me Iris. Have you seen my contact lens? I think it fell out somewhere around here.'"

The more outlandish and absurd the story is, the more likely you will be to remember it, and to be able to pick out the relevant items within it.

Another mnemonic device which can be very useful is chunking. If you can find some way to divide up the items into meaningful units, then you will only need to remember the units, which will trigger your memory of the individual items.

For example, if you need to remem-

ber a list of wars for history class, you could divide them into categories such as Wars Fought on American Soil, Wars Fought During 1800s, Wars Backed by Congress, Undeclared Wars and so on. When I think of undeclared wars, I think of Vietnam, Korea, the Cold War and so forth. Thinking of the category title can cue your memory.

No study tip can compensate for reading the assigned material and attending class; you must spend some time interacting with the material in order to remember it. But, when faced with material which seems difficult to retain, you might want to try one of these strategies I have described.

You will find that not only will you be more likely to remember the material for the test, but you will be able to remember it outside of a school setting. And that's why we take these classes, isn't it?

Jillene Grover Seiver, Ph. D., is a psychology teacher at GRCC.

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By Ed Eaton Special to The Current

Seattle Mariner sportscaster Rick Rizzs is among the nine media professionals talking to Green River Community College students Dec. 13-19.

The 23rd journalism Winterim class, *Communications Today*, meets every year at Green River all day long for a week during Christmas vacation. The moderator of the series is Ed Eaton, long-time GRCC instructor.

The series opens at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, with Gary Taylor, veteran Seattle radio executive who worked at KJR when it was introducing rock and roll to Seattle. That afternoon former KXXR radio personality Marty Reimer will take over. Reimer got his start in radio while still a high school student

when he was allowed to do a show on Green River station KGRG.

On Monday at 8:30 a.m. author Leslie Rule, the daughter of best-selling author Ann Rule who has participated in more Winterims than any other media professional, will discuss the challenges of getting her novels published and following in those famous footsteps.

That afternoon prize-winning professional photographer Nancy Clendaniel, a former GRCC student, returns as a Winterim speaker.

On Tuesday the class heads for Seattle to visit IMAX Theater in the morning and will spend the afternoon at KING-TV where another former Green River student, Bob Nelson of *Almost Live*, will host the students. He has spoken at several Winterims and

GRCC Mass Media classes.

Rick Rizzs will speak at his first Winterim on Wednesday morning, talking about preparation to be a sportscaster. He also will tell behind-the-scenes stories about the Mariners rise to championship caliber baseball.

That afternoon Jeanne Sather, former foreign correspondent in Japan who now teaches Newswriting and advises the college newspaper at Green River, will talk with students.

On the final day, Dan-Haynes of TCI Cable in Auburn, will talk about the future cable television. Students will take a test that afternoon and get final instructions for projects due March 1.

All except Tuesdays, students may join the speakers at Trotter's Restaurant in Auburn for lunch.

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