

FREE | 25¢

THE CURRENT

Budget cuts and how they will affect Green River >> Page 9

March 5, 2010 | Issue 8 | Volume 44 | Green River Community College | thecurrentonline.net

**Five years passed since Hunter
S. Thompson's final words**
Page 17

**Living my life at Campus
Corner Apts.- a personal
experience**
Page 6

**CCA cafe night featuring
Andrew Belle**
Page 3

Trips not on a bus
Page 13

Looking for the perfect campus > Page 10



The Current Staff



Nicole Swapp
Editor-in-Chief



Lindsey Williams
Managing Editor
Ad Manager



Ted Hanrahan
Campus Life Editor



Remco Zwetsloot
News Editor



Stirling Radliff
OpEd Editor



Samantha Shockley
Features Editor



Kelli Wyatt
Satire Editor
Comics Editor



Jean-Pierre Garcia
A&E Editor



Andrew Honea
Sports Editor



Jeremy Boyungs
Webmaster

John Knowlton: Adviser

Reporters: Josie Beedle, Soo Hyun Cha, Evan Hicks, Alexander Beiver, Avery Hopkins, Bailey Josie, Ethan Seo, Jun Seung, Sung Wook Kang, Curtis Rogers, Jacqueline Lambert, Amanda Lockhart, Randall Miller, Luke Gwodgion, Heather Coit, Ashley Templeton, Mandy Wong, Seo Hee Kim, Guido Bakkes, Alex Heikee, Eric Chan, Kelsie Doughty, Jace Godfrey, Mary Dusek, Mary Peterson, Kylee Spiry

The Current is located in SMT-134. The Current can be reached at (253)833-9111 ext. 2375. For ad information please call ext. 2376. Email us: thecurrent@greenriver.edu

Black History Month at Green River

By: *Ethan Seo*

The United States have recognized Black History Month annually since 1926. First known as "Negro History Week" which later became "Black History Month" to what we now call it today.

When the first celebrations started, black history was hardly studied. Even though black people have been in the United States since early colonial times, it wasn't until the 20th century when they gained a respectable place in society.

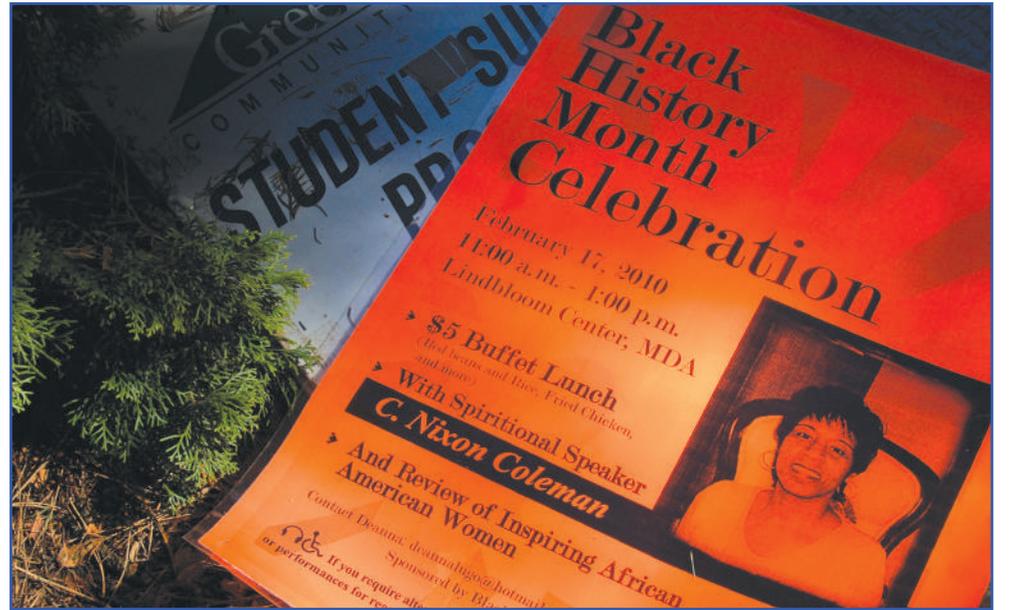
In order to remember and cherish the struggles blacks have gone through, people celebrate Black History Month throughout the United States every February.

Fanisha Pollard, Black Student Union (BSU) president at Green River Community College (GRCC), said that every year during Black History Month there are several events held at Green River to introduce and explain Black History Month and what the African American community has done over the years.

The purpose of Black History Month is to celebrate African American heritage, history, and to recognize achievements over the years.

GRCC students were given the opportunity to see slide shows containing pictures, as well as explanations providing information on the influential African American's displayed on the screen in Lindbloom Center (LC). There were famous African American actors and actresses, athletes, musicians, politicians, as well as other notable members of the community.

According to Pollard, the BSU club had a table promoting their events for the first two



Black Student Union (BSU) flyer for Black History Month.

Ethan Seo/The Current

weeks. On Wednesday February 17, BSU had a Black History Month lunch with a speaker as well as 'traditional' African American food: fried chicken. On Friday February 19, they had a Hip Hop Nation Dance event. From February 22 to 26 it was poetry week in the Olympus Baker room with a daily speaker and pizza provided by the BSU.

If there are students who regret missing the chance to learn about Black History Month, they don't have to feel bad. "Every year this celebration exists to show the community what we

have done in present and in the past. We chose poetry and power points and a dance this year, but next year we may choose something different," explains Pollard.

Black History Month is great opportunity to learn about African Americans, their culture, and their achievements. Do not miss this great chance next time and do not worry - even if you are not African American, BSU said that they do not expect anything and they just want everyone to enjoy their events and have a good time. "Everyone is welcome!"

Getting to know you: Ashante Garrett



Ethan Seo/The Current
Ashante Garrett working on a car.

By: *Ethan Seo*

Ashante Garrett is one of the students who is learning how to fix cars in the Auto Body Tech class at Green River Community College (GRCC). Garrett has a passion for cars and money. According to him said, his hobby is making money from part his time job.

He is really good at nonstructural car body work as well as money management. Garrett is planning to have his own shop and become a rich man.

Garrett said, "I like the Auto Body Tech Class; my favorite part of this class is learning how to work on cars to make the car looks better." Garrett's major is Auto Body Tech. he does not really remember why he chose this major, but now he could say he chose this major because he loves to work on cars.

According to Garrett, in Auto body Tech class, they divide the class into four different



Ethan Seo/The Current
Ashante Garrett checking facts on the computer.

sections: frame, body, paint, and mechanical to learning to fix car. He said this class is really good. Auto Body Tech class has a great instructor Mark Millbauer and they learn a lot of things, not just the four sections, but anything that students want to know or learn.

"Being an Auto Body Tech engineer is same as a doctor or psychologist. If car is not feeling well or not looking good as the doctor does the surgery, we does fixing the problem that the car has or tuning the car to looks better. Also as a psychologist take care people by their position, we do care autos up to their position" says Garrett

Although Garrett is attending Green River's Auto Body Tech programs, he does not feel he is really involved at GRCC, because he does not really hang around the campus, that makes him does not have any special thoughts of Green River Community College. However, Garrett really encouraged people to sign up for Auto



Ethan Seo/The Current
Fixing cars is a great hobby.

body Tech class, he said it will be really helpful when people want to know more about cars and if someone who loves car he is for sure that they will love Auto body class.

No matter how much he likes money and what he likes to do, for Garrett family is the most important than any other things. He spends a lot of time with his family, and takes care of them a lot.

Mark Millbauer, the Auto body Tech class instructor at Green River said that Ashante Garrett is really trying hard at class and he is quite good at measuring vehicle frame.

Every Monday to Friday, 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM the clever and rather audible sounds from machines and people who have a passion for cars are attending the Auto Body Tech class, including Ashante Garrett. Ashante Garrett has a passion for cars, loves his family, has good future plan, and strong will to achieve his dream.

GRCC's new Multi-Cultural Business Student Association

By: Seohee Kim

The Multi-Cultural Business Student Association (MBSA) is a brand new club at Green River which is related to the business major. More than a hundred Green River students have already joined the MBSA.

"When the MBSA first started, there were around ten people who had joined the club," Alex Chan, a student from Hong Kong who is a MBSA member said, "The MBSA's members and MBSA's instructor work on positive lines to promote the new club to students. That's why this club has had a lot of students join."

Every Friday at 12 p.m. in the Rutkowski Learning Center (RLC), room 133 fills up with students. When the MBSA met on Feb 12th, the entire room was packed, even though the room is pretty huge. Some students even had a hard time just getting into the classroom.

The MBSA always welcomes GRCC students who are interested in business. Students who do not major in business can also join, MBSA is open to anyone and there are no fees for being a member.

There are a lot of difficult subjects, like accounting, mathematics, business, and economics, that are required for a business major. As an MBSA member, you get the chance to discuss those hard subjects with fellow students and the instructor, Pet Carter.

Joining the MBSA not only helps people



Courtesy Photo/Facebook.com

The Multi-Cultural Business Student Association meeting was on February 12, 2010.

to learn about these subjects, but it also has other advantages;

When students transfer to a university, the MBSA students can add the club their application, especially students who major in business. You can use your membership to point out to the college you want to go to that you have experience and know the works of business.

Another perk is that the club provides students an opportunity to get a scholarship from outside the school. The MBSA help with finding and providing scholarship opportunities to willing students. One of the model associations is The America Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

In addition to this, there are various kinds of activities and fun events hosted by the MBSA, the boiling competition on February 12th for example.

The vice president of the MBSA, Alex Hoang, said to students, "GRCC MBSA is a club of opportunity for any and all aspiring business students. Even if a student is not sure they want to be a business major, we offer an outlook of assurance into a students' potential future."

Although the MBSA is the new club, it is really useful for students. Hoang concludes, "There is no doubt in my mind MBSA can be a valuable experience and a step in the right direction for all business students."

CCA Cafe Night featuring Andrew Belle

Music and entertainment in the campus housing community room

By: Soo Hyun Cha

If you were not there on the night of Friday, February 19, you should regret that you missed the great time with Andrew Belle and Allen Stone.

Maybe their names don't sound familiar because Soo Hyun Cha is a new artist and pop singer. In February 2010, he just released his debut full-length album, *The Ladder*. Compared to Andrew Belle, there is much less information on Allen Stone. The unique thing about him is he grew up in the church so his religion affects him and his music style so much.

On Friday night, their voices spread out and filled the CCA community room. There were about 40 people and they look so comfortable. In the corner of the room, delicious food and snacks were prepared for audiences and dim light shines over singer's head.

Belle and Stone brought their guitars and kept singing their songs one after the other. During Stone singing, Belle kept the beat by tapping his hand. And while Belle sang, Stone chimed in by singing the harmony to his songs. Even though their voice is quite different, their music is harmonious and pleasant to listen to.

Not only their beautiful music but also their great sense of humor between songs makes audience enjoy their small concerts

They give information about their music to their audience. Stone said "This song is a bit of scary because it's lyric are about a Halloween ghost" about one creepy song in his repertoire. Most of their songs are unfamiliar but seem to have a power that makes the audience involve themselves in their music. Just listening to their



Soo Hyun Cha/The Current

A group of students at the CCA Cafe Night, having a good time.

music, people seem to agree their beautiful lyrics and melodies have a strong impact on anyone who hears them.

Amongst the audience there, were some couples holding hands and leaning on each other's shoulders. It's also the best setting for couples who need a fresh dating place.

Then, how was the event for the audience? Inez Sumadi who attended the special event said "Wow! Awesome event, I love their music and jokes! Love the cover version I follow you to the dark. It's one of the best I've ever heard. Good job Jamie(host of the event)". Phoebe Chou exclaimed "The singers are great and they have a great sense of humor. Songs are soothing my soul. It's just fantastic!"

Jamie Chou, the host of the event, told reporters "This event is good for not only audience but the brand-new singers like them. They need an opportunity to promote their music to the people. Actually, many people who attend at the event buy their CDs and T-shirt put their name on it. And I also like to get a chance to experience a different kind of music."

And after this event, Belle and Stone are left in the room not leaving the event. They also seemed like they were enjoying the mood. Lastly, Belle and Stone give a great gift; attendees could get their music for free by writing down their e-mail addresses on a passing sheet. This great opportunity remains a good memory to audience and singers both.

Club spotlight: Veritas



Courtesy Photo/veritasphilosophy.ning.com

By: Sung Wook Kang

If you are a person who is interested in the world of philosophy, curious and open to other people's ideas and if you have strong opinions about things going on in the world, then you should consider joining Veritas: Green River's philosophy club.

Veritas, the name of the club, is a Latin word meaning "truth." The club started in the fall of 2008 when five students wanted a place to discuss issues and topics about philosophy. Now, 20 to 25 people show up every Wednesday and discuss philosophical topics that change weekly, ranging from subjects like the existence of God and the application of ethics.

The advisor for the club, Ty Barnes, a philosophy instructor at Green River, who helped the club start up and organize, believes that there are important things we learn from studying philosophy: "If we study philosophy, or at least try to understand it, it helps us engage in an adventure of self-discovery, and to examine our beliefs."

On whether people need to be prepared for studying philosophy, Ty explained, "As we know, philosophy is considered a difficult and boring study; but that doesn't mean it's difficult or not understandable. Most people who get those feelings either didn't have adequate guidelines to go by, or they didn't study enough."

He adds, "...the ordinary ways of speaking and common sense should be prepared in advance to get into the field of the philosophy."

As a way of participating in the club, instead of going to the weekly meetings, students can visit the websites and discuss any philosophical issue online with philosophy students, faculty and even just hobbyists.

When Ty was asked whether he has anything that he wanted to add at the end of the interview, he said, smiling happily, "I love philosophy. I always have such a great time... Don't hesitate to join our club or go to the websites."

Participate in online discussion:
<http://sites.google.com/site/grphilosophyclub>
<http://veritasphilosophy.ning.com>

Pizza from

Paradize

Located in New Season's
Shopping Center
just off 124th, past the fire station

Menu boasts:
New York style pizza
Homemade pasta
Calzones
Homemade soup
Buffalo wings
Daily lunch specials
NEW! Chicken Pannini Paradize

FREE DELIVERY!

To campus & CCA

with purchase of \$10

12722 SE 312th St.
Auburn, WA 98092
(253) 929-8783

Show your ID and get:
**cheese or pepperoni pizza
with a small drink for only**

\$2.00!

Letter from the Editor-In-Chief

(Previously "Letter from the Editor")

Well, it's finally here; our last issue this quarter. And honestly, I am happy that we are done and have almost a month of no newspaper drama. We all know it comes with the territory; but honestly I know that myself and my staff is stressed out and will really enjoy a break.

We have decided to, once again, make changes to how we run the newspaper class. I have decided to introduce "beats" to my staff. For those that do not know about journalism beats I will give you the run down. Basically, every reporter will be assigned a topic. They will then only write about that topic and nothing else. Now, we don't do it to punish them or anything but rather make this newspaper for like a job; for which it really is.

See, working on a school newspaper may have its draw backs at times (with all the gray lines and all) but somehow we will make it work. Big changes are coming to the world of journalism; and I am ready to face them head on.

Other changes in our world might be a move to the Lindbloom Student Center, which in all honesty would be really exciting but also aggravating. Don't get me wrong, I would love to be closer to Student Government and the Gator Grille; but the one nice thing about being out in the woods is that people don't stop by our door 24/7 asking us to write a story about them. But all in all, I think it would be a good move; if it does happen.

We also have Chris Kruis; ASGRCC Sophomore class liaison, who will be our spokesperson to represent The Current at senate. I wish Chris the best of luck with the crazy crew I have down here; but I know that he will enjoy it!

The Current does not have anything to hide from Green River or the community. We are clear as glass down here and always encourage people to pay us a visit to see what's going on! We are hosting an open house today and encourage all staff and students to stop in and visit our office. We have food and newspapers (which couldn't get any better, really!) for everyone. So please, pay us a visit, we would love to meet you!

-- Nicole Swapp

Letter from the OpEd Editor

I've noticed some problems about the perception of the media, how it's used, and how the media covers certain topics over others.

One of the main concerns by a good portion of the public is that the media is biased, and to such an extent that certain important topics are ignored and others utterly beaten to death. This claim has some validity to it.

One questions why the media didn't cover how there was over one million Iraqi deaths in 2009 due to our occupation, but the death of Michael Jackson took the air for months. Or how its been found that corporate lobbyists paid congressmen \$1.7 billion from 1998 to 2008 while the more or less insignificant swine flu was covered for weeks on end with a relentless amount of updates (Project Censored).

The information is out there, it's just not covered as it should be. Given the amount of significant things that the media fails to report on, it seems a justified thought to think, "Are they doing what they're supposed to be doing?" (As a personal note, I think the BBC news is one of the best news organizations.)

Another worrying point is about how the general populace responds to the media. Many news-interested people find the news they watch - especially political news - to be frustrating, if not for the reasons above... Viewers become dissatisfied and stop watching; they take their dissatisfaction with flair and throw themselves in the dark to anything political or world-oriented.

These types of people are somewhat of a problem in many respects. In order to stay within a bubble by which democratic choices can be made appropriately, one needs to be informed well enough to make proper, intelligible decisions.

In order to do that in a country as complicated as ours, there must be a constant attentiveness to information and events, historical and current. Given the often regrettable poverty of our nation's media, there must be an extra effort to gather as much information, and the truth behind that information; the events and decisions which are made by our own government needs to be looked at most importantly.

-- Stirling Radliff

The Current: Editorial Policy

The Current is a limited public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. Green River Community College delegates editorial responsibility for the content of the publications. The college acknowledges the dual free purpose of student publications as instructional tools and as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the academic community. The views and opinions expressed in The Current do not necessarily reflect those of the college or student body.

Letters to the editor: We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard. The Current will publish **letters to the editor**, provided they are signed, include the author's name, and submitted in a timely manner. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Letters should be sent to thecurrent@greenriver.edu. The editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become the property of The Current.

Theft policy: A person commits the offense of publication theft when he or she willfully or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over more than three copies of The Current that is distributed on campus [with the intent to prevent other individuals from reading that edition of the publication]. A "publication" includes any periodical that is distributed on a complimentary or compensatory basis. In addition to the imposition of other campus disciplinary penalties, a person who violates this provision is responsible for compensating the publication for all reasonable costs incurred, including, where appropriate, the refund of advertising fees.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I found the Fairy Epidemic "Satire" article written in The Current to be a form of Malicious harassment. Not following the proper Satire guidelines in which you disclose. Honestly, according to the RCW codes of Washington, the article is a form of Hate Crime. After investigation from my peers and online research, it leads me to believe that the author of this piece is homophobic/sexist which in turn suggests negative actions should be taken by our peers.

The article, of course has a disclosure form, but the problem I am having is that, it IS meant to offend and in no way, shape, or form a type of entertainment. Surely you can see that people reading into this article, compare this author to Hitler. Than, you have his snide remarks written on The Current Facebook "wall".

If each of us, were allowed to voice degrading remarks, and throw around racial slang we would still be stuck in the time of segregation which this article suggests.

Because of this issue there should be action taken in order to prevent other forms of harm in the future. And action taken against those who abuse our funded school programs. I am most certainly not going to encourage this type of activity when I spend my hard earned dollars to attend this equal opportunity learning facility.

Can you please tell me, how this problem is going to be resolved and what type of punishment should be appropriate for the student in charge of this hateful message and the teacher allowing the printing of this article? ... If proper action is not taken, I will be forced to contact the media about this issue, as well as the Human Right Commission, American Civil Liberties, and take this issue to a whole new level and receive the justice that should be given to the members of LGBT community!

By: Christopher McFarland

Dear Editor,

I found the article in your Satire section "Fairy epidemic engrosses and corrupts the innocence of Americans" very rude and hurtful. What if you had a family member who was gay or a lesbian, how would they feel if you put something out like this! You should atleast write an apology in your next paper saying that it was not meant to hurt anyone in anyway, cause this is giving a bad look to the school. Thank you for your time.

By: Nicole McDonald



When news breaks,
be the first to know

thecurrentonline.net

Living my life at Campus Corner Apts.- a personal experience

Editor's Note: The following stories are written by Jacqueline Lambert, a resident at CCA. These are her experiences living at CCA. The article on the left was previously ran online at thecurrentonline.net. After an overwhelming response to the article, Jacqueline decided to respond to it by writing a follow-up with more information about CCA that she later discovered. The new opinion is on the right side.

Commentary by: Jacqueline Lambert

For \$24.57 a day you can live at Campus Corner Apartments and be within walking distance of the college and live in a university like atmosphere, partying and all. Not only do you pay \$2040 a quarter to live in a 9 x 9 bedroom, but you also get up to 3 roommates that you will either hate or become best friends with.

If this seems like a good living situation for you, then I suggest you call the leasing office and reserve your room today! CCA may have its advantages but there are some things that make living here quite simply put, ridiculous. Resident Council sponsors movie nights, with the intention of a good time, but the movie selection is just atrocious. Ping pong tables are available for rent, but who wants to play outside in thirty degree weather?

On the positive side, the management provides a cleaning service once a month, but doesn't tell you when they are coming so you cannot clean up your clutter before they arrive. If you're trying to go to bed before midnight on a school night, think twice. Although quiet hours are 10pm on school days and midnight on the weekends, most students aren't exactly thrilled about the rules.

Many residents feel that these restrictions are too strict and they should be midnight on school days and 2 on the weekends. The

general consensus is that if we pay so much for rent then we should be able to stay up later and make a little extra noise.

College students and partying go hand in hand. Every weekend and even on school nights there is always something going on. We jump house to house, but mostly there are designated party houses where all the regulars go.

If the tequila Tuesdays, wine Wednesdays, Thirsty Thursdays and the regular Saturday parties aren't enough for you, then we've still got you covered. A main reason why many students want to live on campus is because of the atmosphere and myriads of different cultures that are represented.

The diversity of people, ages and races is truly the best thing about living at the apartments.

You get to see different cultures interact, smell different foods wafting out of peoples' open kitchen windows and hear all the languages from around the world be spoken while walking from the laundry room back to your apartment.

Whether it's the negatives you focus on or the positive, CCA genuinely is here for the students and is proactive in changing small details for the betterment of the community of students. Now, if they could add a hot tub or a pool table, maybe the rent wouldn't seem so ridiculous compared to the square footage.

Commentary by: Jacqueline Lambert

The most convenient place to live while going to Green River is the Campus Corner Apartments (CCA), which are located only a short walk from classes.

Included in the rent the utilities, internet, cable, cleaning services, and all necessary furniture such as a couch, bed, desk, and a dining room set.

There are also different leasing packages, so whoever is interested in being stuck at Green River for a quarter, or an academic year, can sign a lease of their choice.

When picking up clothes off the floor that has been there for several days and wearing it out of necessity becomes annoying, there is a convenient laundry room in the Townsend Center, welcome to any resident.

Also in the Townsend Center is a small kitchen, two computers with internet access, and wireless internet, comfy couches and chairs, and a large T.V. with multiple media inputs. If piano is your forte, there is a keyboard in case you didn't have your own.

If a resident lacks transportation they can take a leisurely walk to the bus stop, or take one of Green River's safety rides Thursday through Sunday from dusk till 11 PM, and extended hours Friday and Saturday to two AM within a 3 mile radius.

Another huge benefit to living at CCA is their

awesome maintenance staff.

Need a light bulb changed? No need to call a repair man and pay a fee; maintenance is there as soon as possible to fix your problems.

CCA boasts about the six or more free events which take place per month that Resident Assistant staff host.

Events that were held in the month of February included: chocolate candy making; Bunco; Henna tattoos; Café Night with Andrew Belle; CCA anniversary lunch; World of Warcraft online gaming; Michael Jackson dance party; documentary film screening; and a Lunar New Year celebration.

Another advantage to living at CCA is the astonishing, but not surprising, 70 percent international student population that lives there. Domestic students can learn from the diverse cultures represented at CCA, and on campus.

A couple of the things that residents feel should be changed is the smoking areas and quiet hours.

Up till February 15, 2010, there were two smoking areas at CCA. Now, with the help of the Resident Council, there are four designated spots to smoke at.

Residents are invited to attend the Resident Council open meetings to express their concerns or get in touch with their Building's Representative.

The convenience, the events, and no hidden fees make living at CCA a one-of-a-kind deal.

Problems with education and prostitution

Commentary by: Robert Barger

With the price of college going up every year, what would you do to insure that you're able to earn an education?

Some students choose to work, some accept scholarships and grants, and some pay it off with money they or their family have saved up. What happens if none of these options sound appealing to you?

Then sell your virginity of course.

Every once in a while news pops up about teens offering to sell their virginity to pay for their schooling. It isn't the rarest thing to see and seems to be popping up more and more.

Recently, a teenager in New Zealand sold her

virginity for \$45,000. Last year, a 22-year-old sold hers for 3.7 million dollars.

Unfortunately for you males out there, this may not be the best option for you. Most, if not all recorded cases of people selling their virginity have been females offering their virginity to men, or women for that matter.

This advertising is considered prostitution and is not only illegal but looked down upon by many.

One journalist even went through the trouble of setting up a deal with one of the students to get more information about what these people are trying to do.

After showing interest in the deal and offering to pay, the journalist found out that the girl

wasn't even 17 years old yet and she was giving the buyer all the control in the situation and letting him know that she would do whatever he'd like.

It's understandable that education has its price and that the final benefits of it tend to outweigh the costs of going through the motions. And getting that certain degree or staying in school can be the difference between living the life you want to live or the life you can afford to live. But there are some things in life that are more important than getting an education like, obeying the law.

Posting an advertisement online regarding the sale of your virginity, or any sexual services, is just as bad as standing out on the corner with a sign. The only difference is that posting it on the internet may yield more customers and a larger stack of cash. Why do these people think it makes it any different?

Fortunately, not all the advertisements that people find online are followed through with. In fact, a lot of them are shut down or removed before any deals can be made. And in some cases, even after suitors have offered to pay a specific amount, the seller backs off.

Education has its price, but respect for ourselves is priceless. There are reasons why there are laws protecting people from prostitution and underage sex.

There are no situations where selling yourself on the internet could be warranted.

It is very rare for people to receive more than a couple thousand dollars for these deals on top of the rare chance that they actually follow through.

Plus, wouldn't you like to think your virginity is worth more than a couple thousand dollars and one awkward night?

Government should have no part in health care

Commentary by: Jacqueline Lambert

Since President Barack Obama has been in office one of his promises to the American public was, and still is, the implementation of universal health care.

A poll conducted from January 1, 2010 to February 28, 2010 by Pollster.com on whether Americans favored or opposed Obama's health care option, came with a small majority with 51.4%. One reason why many people might not favor a universal health care plan is because the Obama Administration has not, and doesn't seem to want to, lay out a specific plan that the public can look at.

Furthermore, we can infer from other countries, like Canada, what difficulties there may be in implementing a universal option. The universal option can cover everyone and gives everyone an equal shot at healthcare; on the down side it creates enormous backlogs in the

system. People from Canada often have to wait months or years for essential procedures and often pay to fly to the United States to be taken care of.

If America utilizes a public option, we would have problems. If the government runs healthcare we lose accountability because people would have to sue the government for malpractice and other issues.

The public option allows people to stick with the plan they have if they like it and it covers the uninsured; the problem here is how to implement such a system - it would be complicated.

Do we just expand Medicare to everyone, and who pays for it? Why should those already paying for their own families also be taxed and forced to subsidize the health of the poor or lazy without insurance?

The current system works because it allows everyone to receive the best care they can afford, accompanied by corporate insurance

plans that offer better healthcare than many other families or individuals can afford by themselves.

It also allows for individual accountability of insurance providers and doctors when mistakes are made; and it allows them to work in a free market that also rewards them with more patients and money for doing well. The downside is that it doesn't cover everybody and some would argue that the insurance companies have a stranglehold or monopoly on healthcare.

Also, every American would be required to buy an insurance policy that meets certain government requirements. This would include individuals that are currently satisfied with their plans; they too will have to switch over to a plan that is acceptable in the government's eyes.

In 2003, 113.9 million people visited emergency rooms; that's up 26% from the decade earlier.

Just because someone isn't insured doesn't mean they can't get health care. Emergency rooms, non profit organizations and govern-

ment-run hospitals provide services to those who do not have insurance. It's illegal to refuse emergency care based on the fact that someone doesn't have insurance.

Granted, everyone should have an equal opportunity to get the necessary help they need in order to stay healthy - but is this the right time for America to be investing in a public option? With a national unemployment rate of 9.7 percent, can America afford to bring free health care to all of its citizens? And does "free" really mean free? Where will the money come from? Who will pay for these services?

The answers to these questions are clear: America can afford, at this point in time, to bring a public option to its people; the people would have to pay for these "free" services with higher taxes and further budget reductions in areas like education, defense, and public services.

If Obama would like to pass his plan, then he should make his plan available to all to read - and a plan on how America is going to pay for this public option.

Editor's note: All events and people depicted on this page - unless given consent - are fictional. The opinions, descriptions, and stories are not meant to offend, but rather, to entertain and occasionally exaggerate controversial issues. In addition, all opinions are those of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect those of The Current and its staff. If you are still offended, we encourage you to send a letter to the editor at thecurrent@greenriver.edu.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of satire:

1 : a literary work holding up human vices and follies to ridicule or scorn

2 : trenchant wit, irony, or sarcasm used to expose and discredit vice or folly

Local program attempts to promote responsibility

VIP Cards give youth advantage when it comes to social outings by enticing stores to give benefits to card holders

By: Michael Espinosa

A local program's attempt at boosting Auburn's economy has achieved a bit of success and has even gathered quite the following in the community.

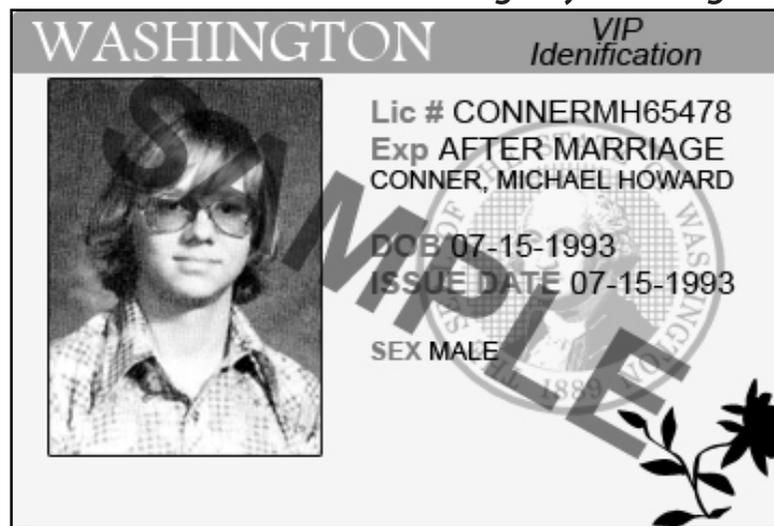
"Basically, we wanted a way of getting our youth more interested in going out and spending money," founder of the VIP program, Tyler Hester explained. "We went to as many local business and stores as we could and tried to see if they would offer deals for those with VIP cards. Many agreed, and we got the cards out to as many people as possible."

The program's target is primarily youth, so they were given out mostly to those unmarried and of younger ages - below 20.

Local churches were one of the first groups to get behind this program, giving out the cards to all the students in their religious education programs. "It sounded like a good way to promote the community, so of course we joined in," Pastor Fred Davis said.

In the expedience of modern youth communication, the phrase 'VIP card' has been shorted to 'V-card.' This originally started as a text messaging abbreviation, but has grown to be in the children's every day speech, much like lol, omg, and imhoityaarjmf.

"I'm proud that I have my V-card. I don't think I could go anywhere without it. I don't know



Kelli Wyatt/The Current

A sample of a "VIP Card," or "V Cards," that local churches and businesses are promoting for the youth to carry.

what I'd do if I ever lost it," 16-year-old Kathy Harris explained.

While some have stayed with their V-cards, there has been a rising amount of people who lose their V-card.

"I don't really know what happened. I was at a club with my friends, and suddenly everything got fuzzy. I woke up the next morning and went to Jamba Juice for my normal morning smoothie and I couldn't find my V-card. I think I lost it at

the club," said 19-year-old Janice Koplin.

People have been losing their V-cards in the oddest of places. Many report losing their V-cards in public bathrooms, movie theaters, the woods, and 1992 Ford Tauruses (looking at you, Coco).

Local churches have been holding rallies and protests trying to urge the youth to keep their V-cards. Some have gone as far as to give the kids cards pledging to keep their V-card until they

are married.

Not only have cards been lost, but many people who lose them take pride in losing their V-cards and brag about it to everyone unlucky enough to be within earshot.

"I lost my V-card when I was 17 in the kitchen of the Subway down the street. It was so liberating. I felt like I was sticking it to the man, saying, 'I don't care about your rules! I do what I want,'" 18-year-old Maria Sanchert boasted.

"I lost my V-card with my first girlfriend, Laura. We went to the drive-in, and we lost our V-cards together. A year later I lost my other V-card with my friend Eric at summer camp," said 17-year-old Miles Williams.

There has also been a spawn of people who try to take other people's V-cards. Their game is to try and build a vast collection of V-cards. They call the V-cards 'notches,' and the collections, 'belts.'

"I got another notch just the other day. I took this 17-year-old's V-card, it was the best feeling I've ever had," said 47-year-old Hank Dustins. So far, Dustins is the local record holder with 30 notches on his belt.

Even with these people - who are devastating the system of V-cards - many people still think they can save our community. As Shaun White once said, "Look, I don't know who you are. Stop calling this number. This isn't funny anymore. One more call and I will get the police."

Numbers rise of youth receiving Social Security benefits

By: Kelli Wyatt

Last Thursday, 19-year-old Mervel Abraham received early Social Security benefits. Nearly 50 years early.

Mistakes of this sort have been made constantly throughout the history of the Social Security program, reported Jessica Laurens, one Social Security worker. "It's only because of this economic down-turn that people have started to complain."

"I'm not complaining," commented Abraham.

The numbers of such mistakes have risen exponentially in the past year, experts say.

"I think it's just the Social Security workers getting lazy," claimed 67-year-old Vanessa Harper. "I haven't gotten my benefits yet."

Abraham isn't alone. Also on Thursday, his 19-year-old girlfriend, Margaret Barber, received early Social Security benefits - along with approximately 22 other surprisingly youthful citizens between ages 15 and 26.

"We can't really say how this is happening," said Stacy Gath, the manager of a local Social Security office. "Our databases can only comprehend old-sounding names. Things like Claudia, Phyllis, Octavia [. . .] Edvin, Walker, Ether [. . .]" Her list went on. And on. And on. And on. And then our 19-year-old reporter turned 70.

"But people who are retiring... They don't have modern names like 'Shaniqua,' or 'DeAndre,' or 'LaShawanda...' Naw. Our databases can't comprehend modern names."

"They don't need to," agreed another Social Security office manager, Ethan Lucas, who asked us to not disclose that he was placing

bets on who would be "Laziest Employee of the Month" for March.

Citizens under the age of 62 are not qualified for Social Security benefits, by general rule.

"The controversy obviously arises because all of these capable, youthful citizens that are able to retire early now," commented capable, youthful citizen, Jareth Erikson. "I [received] my benefits back when I was 16. No more walking two miles to school uphill in the hot Washington sun both ways... It's wonderful!"

"Why do these 19-year-olds get to kick it with their homies?" questioned Josh Jordan, 72. "I wanna kick it with my homeslices, G-dawg, holla too, knowwhaasayin'?"

With the baby boomer generation encroaching on their Social Security benefits, of course everyone's skittish, officials say.

"The idea that these so-called '60-year-olds' have modern names is completely absurd and, quite frankly, obliterates any potential eligibility," explained local critic, Jason Veeres. "The figures have just gotten so distorted that there's simply nothing we can do."

In the clause of Social Security benefits, it is stated, "Any individual wishing to obtain Social Security benefits must show proof of eligibility and legal documentation of a rather uncommon, old-fashioned, and certainly not modern first and middle name. Must be 62 years of age or older to apply, individual experience may vary. To order, call 1-800-IAMVERY-OLDDARN-TOOTIN."

"I called the number last week," complained 63-year-old Laura Ruffs. "I am still on hold. I don't have [my benefits] yet. I need my Medicare!!!"

Meanwhile, 19-year-old Cathedrae Hart, a



Courtesy Photo/www.hcps.org

The numbers of youthful, capable citizens receiving has been increasing for the past few years. Pictured above is a crowd of such youthful, capable citizens, awaiting their Social Security benefits.

Green River student, received a notice stating that her benefits were ready to be collected.

"I can retire early! I can finally move out of my parents' house!" Like many excited recipients, Hart exclaimed.

Of the social security program, "President" Barack Obama said it was "a good compromise, a good piece of legislation... a good piece of music... [and] it makes sense."

Probably having a senior moment.

Colleges setting their own tuition

It might happen in the near future - but with what result?

By: Jun Seung & Remco Zwetsloot

A bill was recently proposed to the state Senate that would allow the state's three biggest public colleges, University of Washington (UW), Washington State University (WSU) and Western Washington University (WWU) to set their own tuition rates within government determined limits.

Despite the bill having bipartisan support in the Senate, passing with a 29-19 majority, it was shut down before the State House of Representatives Higher Educational Committee, because, as chairwoman Deb Wallace puts it, "We are not stepping up to our responsibility in a way that I think we should. But it's important that we keep ownership and accountability."

Right now, tuition for residents is the only tuition set by the state, but residents make up the biggest portion of every school's student body in the state. International and out-of-state tuition is already determined by the college.

The proposed bill, SB 6562 in the Senate, would allow for the three universities to raise their resident undergraduate tuition with a maximum of 14 percent a year from 2011-2012 to 2017-2018. The average raise a year over 15 years would not be allowed to surpass 9 percent points.

For example, WWU students could be looking at more than \$6,300 as tuition for the 2011-2012 school year, and potentially more than \$12,000 by the end of the bill's cycle in 2017-2018.

In return, colleges will have to meet certain standards. Those standards include meeting certain performance objectives, plenty financial aid opportunities at the school and a high quality level of resources such as faculty and technology.

In the Senate, the bill attracted bipartisan support, but not everyone agrees with the Legislature.

WWU junior Morgan Holmgren, Associated Students vice president for Governmental Affairs, said the loss of control to students by

shifting tuition power to the board is too much, therein agreeing with Wallace.

"If legislatures make decisions about higher education that the students don't agree with, students have the power to potentially vote them out of office," Holmgren said. "You don't have that option with the board."

Supporters of the proposal think it will help colleges and the state through a hard economic time while maintaining quality. As Senator Derek Kimler, sponsor of the bill, put it, "My focus is adhering to those basic principles: protecting affordability, fostering accountability and ensuring quality."

The same tuition hike of 14 percent for 4-year universities and 7 percent for community and technical colleges has already been approved for the academic year of 2010-2011, so in essence there is no rush behind the bill, if it would be implemented next year the effects would be exactly the same.

Because of this, supporters are not discouraged by the House Higher Education Committee's unofficial denial of the bill, and if not this year, the proposal might very well become reality in the next.

The UW has already announced they will increase tuition this year. "The tuition of the UW will go up for the coming year. Probably by 14 percent," said Bob Roseth, director of the Office of News and Information at the UW.

It is clear that, when given the opportunity, colleges are likely to increase tuition, making it harder for poor students to even afford getting a degree. There were several amendments made to the bill to try and ensure that college is affordable for as many as possible, but there will always be people suffering.

If you are a transfer student, keep an eye on your college of choice's tuition plans. Not every college will want to raise tuition; Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University and Evergreen State College have all been excluded from the bill at their own request.

"We are not stepping up our responsibility in a way that I think we should."
-Deb Wallace

Got a traffic ticket?

Dismiss it with Convenient Online Traffic School @ www.madriving.com

24/7 customer service

Click on "Got a Traffic Ticket?" or M.A. NewsFlash to view a demo of the course

Level 1 WA 4 hr defensive driving course: \$49.95
Level 2 WA 8 hr defensive driving course: \$49.95

Courses are approved by individual courts in the State of WA

Want to become a certified nursing assistant (CNA)?

Registration: \$50 upfront

\$550 on first day

Take courses for:

- Fundamentals of Care-Givers
- Modified Fundamentals of Care-Givers
- CPR For Health Care Professionals
- CPR & First Aid
- Nurse Delegation Self Study (Call to schedule test)

Morning classes M W F 8:30am-1:30pm
Evening classes M W F 5:00pm-10:00pm
New classes monthly

HIV/CPR training in 7 hours

625 Strander Blvd Suite B
Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 575-2010

WWW.NATSCHOOL.ORG

You may qualify for FREE BIRTH CONTROL

for one full year through Take Charge

Take Charge is a Washington State Medicaid program for patients without insurance and subject to strict Federal guidelines. Learn if you qualify at www.ppgnw.org/takecharge

Services covered include:

- All birth control methods including: birth control pill, patch, implant, vaginal ring, shot, IUD, condoms and sterilization (vasectomy or tubal ligation)
- Annual exam and birth control methods education
- Testing for Chlamydia and Gonorrhea during the annual exam (for women 25 and younger)
- Emergency contraception

(Fees will apply for services that are not related to family planning.)

Talk to us in confidence, with confidence.

Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest
800.230.PLAN (7526) www.ppgnw.org

Planned Parenthood® is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. We rely heavily on support from donors who help sustain responsible reproduction. Planned Parenthood® is a registered trademark of Planned Parenthood® Federation of America, Inc. © 2009 Planned Parenthood® of the Great Northwest.

Budget cuts and how they will affect Green River

Answers to the big question: Will you still be able to afford going to school next year?

By: *Evan Hicks*

Students around Washington state are in frenzy after the state legislature announced the proposal of a new bill that would increase taxes and tighten budgets. The proposed bill could help the state of Washington out of its budget deficit of \$2.8 billion, but it includes a cut of approximately \$840 million on state spending such as prisons and, most importantly for students, colleges.

The purpose of the bill is to restore Washington to a point in which it is no longer suffering from today's economic woes. The proposal, however, might very well have a negative impact on students that are struggling to simply pay for tuition.

Right now, the State legislature provides \$146 million for the State Need Grant to universities and community colleges. Green River Community College receives about \$2.2 million from this grant. Mary Edington, director of financial aid, stated "If passed, this new bill would require two thirds of the grants to be cut."

Right now, approximately 1,313 students get grants to help pay for their college education, and an additional 475 are waitlisted for the financial help. Grants are offered mostly to students of families who have recently been laid off as a form of workers income to help with their educational needs.

Last year, tuition increased by 7 percent and it is predicted to raise another 7 this year. Tuition for in-state students is currently decided by the state legislature, while universities have the authority to set tuition for out-of-state and but there is increasing support in Olympia to hand over general authority to colleges (read more on page 8).

GRCC has also seen an outstanding increase in students. Edington was surprised to see the Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) for 2010 winter quarter at an all time high. "Usually fall quarter has more students, but with the economy the way it is we can expect spring quarter to surpass the

record amount of students enrolled."

A majority of the students attending GRCC are enrolled in the Work Study program. Work Study includes programs such as Worker Retraining, Work First, BFET, Low Income Working Parents, and Opportunity Grants. If the budget cuts go through, the Work Study program may have to be shut down, making it near impossible for some students currently enrolled to continue paying for tuition.

According to John Ramsey, director of public information, the amount of enrolled students compared to last year at the same time has increased by 18 percent. A big part of the increase in students is caused by people who have recently been laid off and as a result enrolled in the Work Study program.

If a four year university becomes over-enrolled they close their doors on students, where as community colleges allow for over enrollment. As a result of this, when overall college enrollment increases, the pressure is on community colleges, as all the people that don't get accepted into a 4-year school will look for the next best and easier alternative.

"We actually anticipate for a fall back from previous years when other universities don't have the space for students," said Edington.

As a result of the economic situation and the increased enrollment, the GRCC financial aid office has seen the highest amount of financial aid applications in its history. Over 8,800 applications have been accepted so far this year, compared to last year's 6,896 (see graph).

This all amounts to a very nasty situation: while Financial Aid might see itself forced to cut programs due to lack of funding, the demand is dramatically increasing.

The new bill not only has an effect on students at GRCC, employees also suffer. Last year, GRCC saw a sizable portion of its staff either leave or being laid off due to cuts. Expenses such as trips and supplies that don't serve the educational purposes partially have been cut and will continue to be cut as much as possible



Kelli Kyatt/The Current

Students, faculty and other concerned people rallying against cuts in higher education in Olympia. to save money for essentials.

The proposal is not final and, due to pressure from all sides on state politicians, especially Governor Gregoire, continues to change slightly almost every day. Due to this, the information in this article might not be completely up-to-date

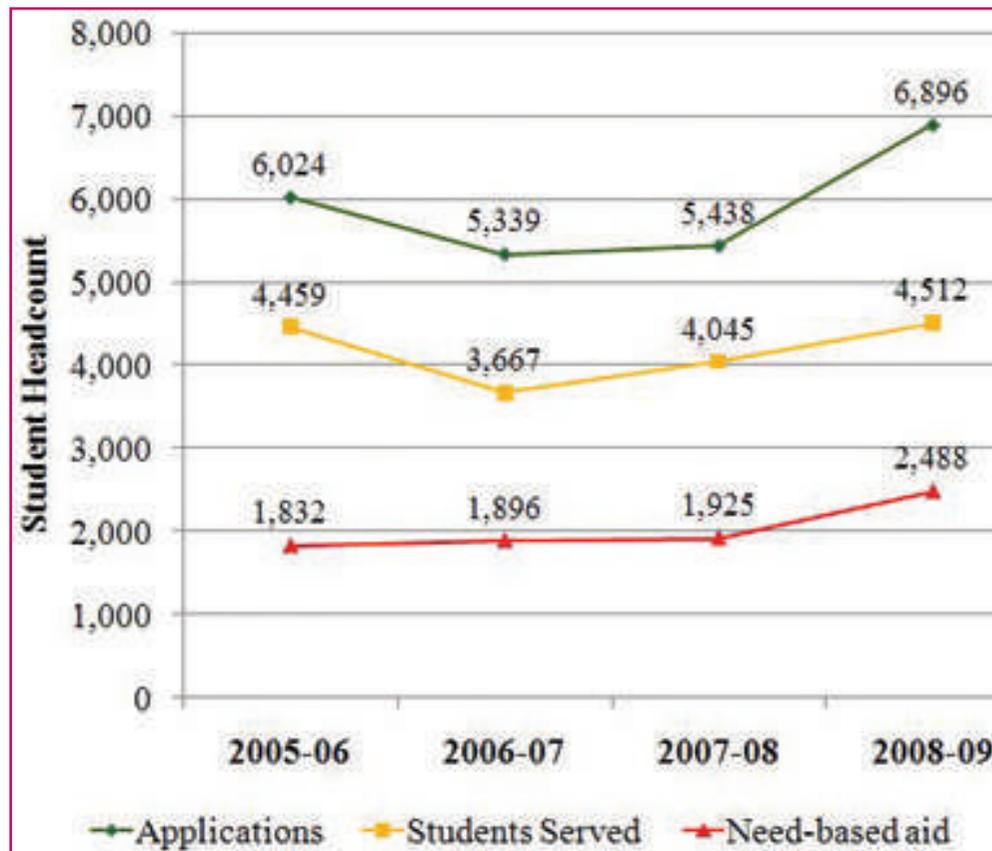
or accurate so we encourage you to investigate further if you are having financial problems.

Follow the budget story on our website: thecurrentonline.net

BOX FOR TUITION % INCREASE NUMBERS
15 credits a quarter for 2009-2010

WA residents: \$1107.5 a quarter, total annually \$3322.5
Non-residents: \$1247.5 a quarter, total annually \$3742.5
International: \$2,884 a quarter, total annually \$8652

With a 7% increase
15 credits for 3 quarters (total for annual)
WA residents: \$3555.01
Non-residents: \$4004.48
International: \$9257.64



Courtesy Information from Bill Belden, Dean of Enrollment Management.

Photo By: Julie Spiers



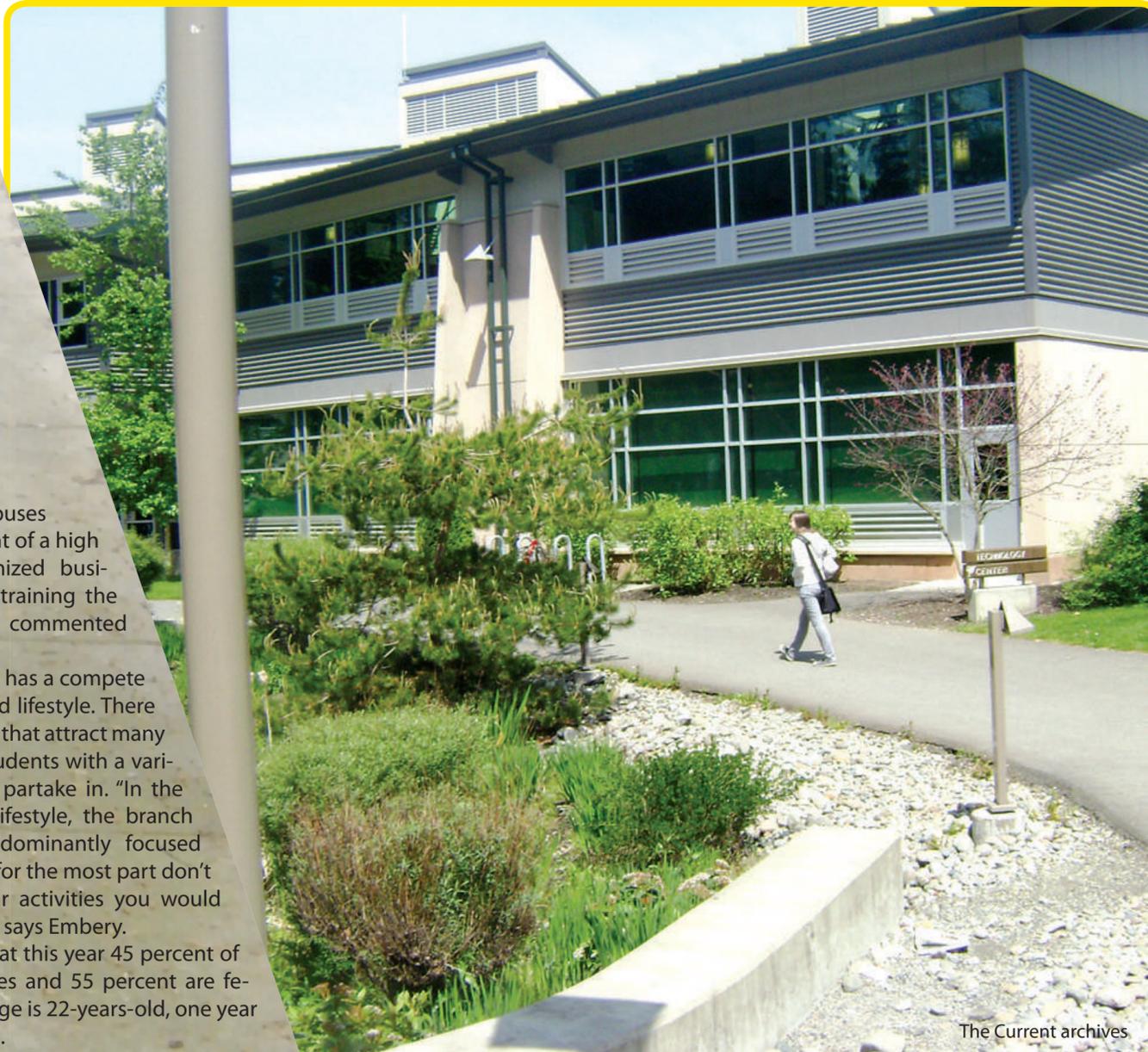
Enumclaw is known for its green pastures and the smell of manure, but this campus is far from the "farm" feel.

It's the third largest in size and the amount of students who attend is around 340, according to Embery. The Enumclaw Campus offers a variety of credit and non-credit classes, serving the needs of the Enumclaw community and surrounding area.

The campus also hosts a variety of events throughout Student Programs from student orientations, registration, and advising to placement testing, and women's programs. The campus also houses many running start students from Enumclaw High School.

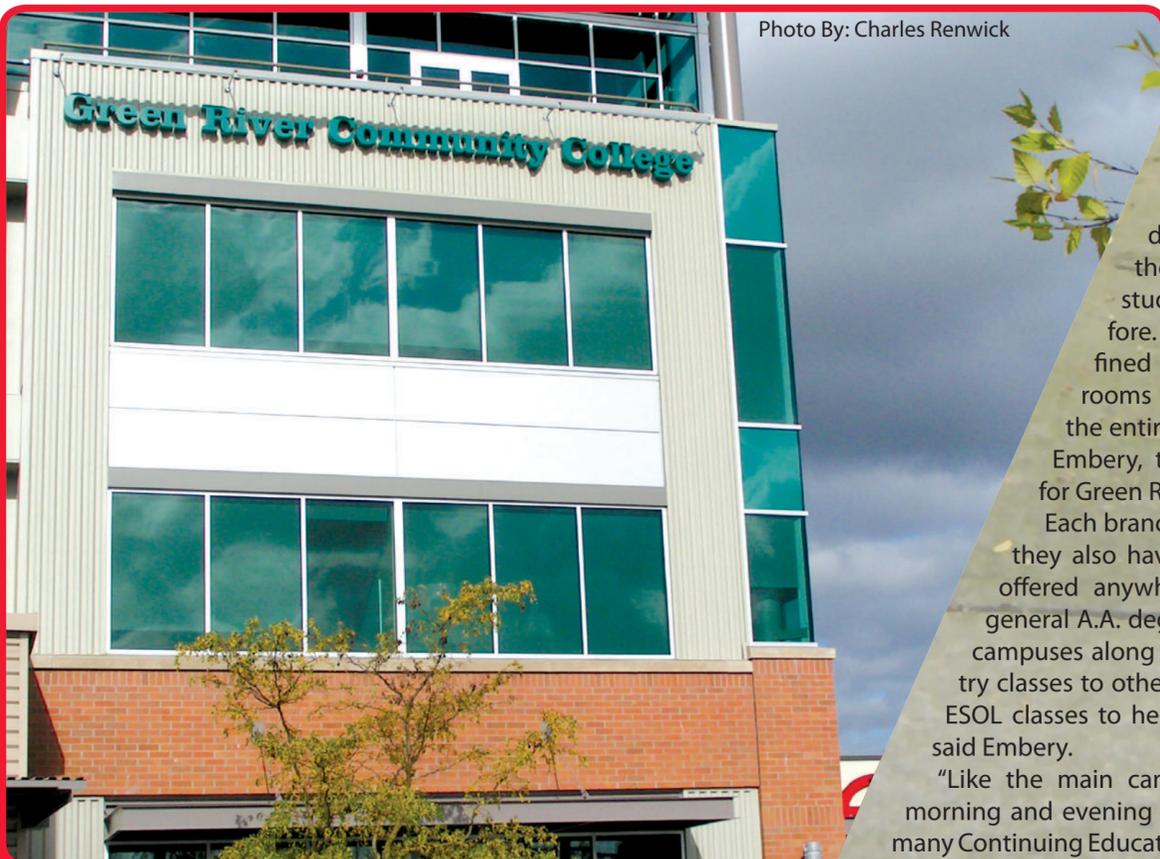
"The Enumclaw Campus is an extension of Green River, located in downtown Enumclaw about 15 miles southeast of Auburn," says Embery. "It may be small but it still holds a vital value to the Green River community."

This campus has convenience for a different traffic of students. Located at 1414 Griffin Ave, the building is small but gives a focused and silent study feel for students. The Enumclaw Campus is a great way to be a part of the Green River Community College community without traveling to the main campus.



The Current archives

Photo By: Charles Renwick



By: Josie Beedle

When Green River Community College is mentioned, people automatically connect the title to the main campus. Most people don't know about the four locations that are a vital makeup of the college.

According to the 2009 Fall data on the Green River website, the main campus houses more students than they have ever before. "The branch campuses are confined to a limited number of classrooms and aren't designed to serve the entire college population," says Bob Embery, the Business Training Director for Green River.

Each branch holds a special flow and feel; they also have unique classes that are not offered anywhere else. "Classes leading to general A.A. degrees are offered at the branch campuses along with high demand classes, entry classes to other degree programs, G.E.D., and ESOL classes to help serve the local community," said Embery.

"Like the main campus, branch campuses offer morning and evening class times, as well as offering many Continuing Education short-term job skills update classes. There is also the demand for non-credit personal enrichment classes," she added.

"The branch campuses are also a focal point of a high volume of customized business and industry training the college provides," commented Embery.

The main campus has a completely different feeling and lifestyle. There are many programs that attract many different types of students with a variety of activities to partake in. "In the sense of campus lifestyle, the branch campuses are predominantly focused on instruction and for the most part don't have extracurricular activities you would find on the campus," says Embery.

The stats show that this year 45 percent of the campus is males and 55 percent are female. The median age is 22-years-old, one year higher than in 2008.

"Classroom size and class sizes are roughly equal between the main campus and the branch campuses," said Embery. Each of the four locations are convenient for those who don't want to travel far. With one campus in Enumclaw that comes in at 11,518 gross square feet, Kent at 60,000 gross square feet, and the smallest one in downtown Auburn at 7,280 gross square feet it makes it easy for students to choose their perfect campus. Overall, the main campus makes up the biggest portion of the school's lifestyle, students, and classes; though each branch campus has its specific qualities as well.

Every tree has a trunk and the main campus is the trunk of Green River Community College. With the biggest amount of students attending and the biggest square size, it's easy to say that the main campus is the stronghold of the Green River family.

It's the most versatile for credits, giving an arrange of programs and degrees offered. "The main campus offers the full spectrum of education and training the college has to available," says Bob Embery, the Business Training Director for Green River.

The main campus just feels more like a "real" college than any other satellite one. More people, more after school activities, and more range of credits makes this campus the hub for the Green River community. "It feels like I'm surrounded by an educational as well as a social scene," comments Justin Lee, a student at the main campus.

"I get a sense of being apart of something bigger here."

The campus holds a huge library, a welcome center, and many other educational buildings. "The whole campus just feels like an ever-growing community," adds Lee. "And I love being apart of it!"

Follow the path to the perfect campus.

Explore all of what Green River has to offer at the three major campuses.

An urban jewel in the middle of Kent that houses the second most students of all the campuses. "I figured out that there are approximately 3,000 people through the front doors each week," said head of the Kent Campus Mari Ragland.

Located in the heart of Kent Station the hustle and bustle of the city has made the Kent Campus the spot to be.

It proves to be a great alternate choice compared to the main campus because of the whole new feel to the learning environment. "The Kent Campus tends to provide students with a more intimate environment in which to attend classes. When a student is returning to school after having been away from the educational environment, the idea of a large campus sometimes intimidates them," stated Ragland.

The convenience of being downtown has helped many people become more apt to get a jump-start in their education. "The other opportunity Kent Campus provides is an option for students who are working. To be able to come to a location that is close to their transit needs or where they are able to park quickly. Also, with a two-day a week schedule, students who are attempting to work and go to school have a little more flexibility and less commuting to their classes and work," added Ragland.

On top of credit classes Kent offers, there are also a whole arrange of different courses including: Professional Education, Job Skills Training, Contract Training, No-Cost Small Business Counseling, and Continuing Education in Business, Computers, and Technology.

Teacher Spotlight: Douglas Johnson

By: Nicole Swapp & Ethan Seo

Douglas Johnson, originally from Joplin Missouri, has now found new roots here at Green River Community College (GRCC) teaching English.

Currently Johnson is teaching two writing 101 classes along with writing for the humanities.

During his youth, Johnson described his life to be very normal. He had a great childhood and went off to college at Pittsburg State University. He admitted that college was hard to handle, but he had masses of fun attending there.

Not only did Johnson major in English at Pittsburg State University, he also minored in philosophy. Johnson's methods for teaching include using philosophy on his students to help them understand the material better.

Originally Johnson wasn't very interested in teaching. "I started teaching by accident, actually," he added.

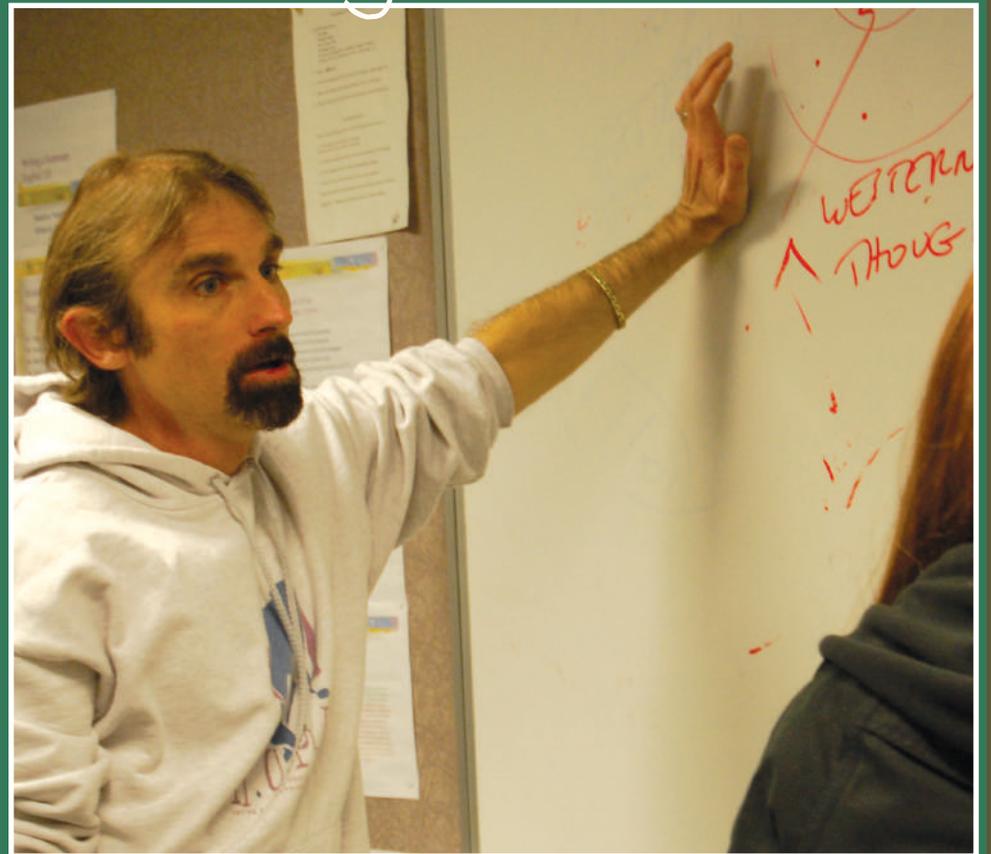
While he was attending Pittsburg State University he received a teaching fellowship and decided to see what it would be like. Once his fellowship and college life were over, he decided to dive in as an oc-

cupational therapist for autistic children. He was also a German teacher at a Montessori school.

Johnson decided to get back into teaching after his college life and found Green River Community College. "I think Green River is a very high quality school," he adds. One main reason he wanted to teach at Green River was to have the small student teacher ratio. He also added that he loves Green River's friendly atmosphere and would love to spend his life teaching here.

However, Johnson is not just a teacher; he is also a horse lover and wonderful father to his children. He loves to watch horse racing and he is a member of the horse rescue program. The program raises money to buy old racing horses so they can have a "retirement".

His other hobby is playing chess and reading. Usually he plays chess with his son. He says, it is his pleasure to watch his son improving on his chess skills. "My life goal is to give my children more advantages than I had by sharing as much of what I have learned with them as possible," says Johnson.



Douglas Johnson helping out one of his students in class.

Ethan Seo/The Current

OPTIONS LIMITED?
CREATE A FUTURE WITH
no limits.

Complete Your Bachelor's Degree

DeVry University has the resources to help you transfer your qualifying credits and reach your educational and career goals. We have five specialized colleges of study with programs that have been designed to prepare you for the in-demand careers of today and tomorrow.

90 locations nationwide, plus online.

For more information, visit: DeVry.edu/college-transfer



A 79-year-old Green River Student gets G.E.D.

Going back to school can seem frightening, but 79-year-old Daryl Rothfus is doing just that

By: Bailey Josie

With somewhat of a soft spot for the elderly, when the task of interviewing an army veteran who earned his high school diploma at the age of 79 was brought to the table, I immediately took it.

I love the stories of past generations and I must say that when I spoke to Master Sergeant Daryl Rothfus, he did not leave me disappointed at all. He seems a very charming man, a boisterous laugh along with a knowledge that age does not hinder him in any way. And if one were to listen to our conversation, one would know that this man has nothing but aspirations and a love for experiences.

After serving 22 years in the U.S. Army and making it to the rank of Master Sergeant (a rank I came to find is very prestigious and important; well above a private and not too far away from a Sergeant Major of the Army), Rothfus returned to Vancouver, WA to become a U.S. Postal Man, most of which he worked on foot, going door-to-door.

Rothfus muses that this part of the job helped him open up to people and become more of a candid person. He says that before then, he was much more of an introvert and didn't really go out of his way to let people know about himself. And as far as reporting goes, I would never have guessed; not once did he hold back from any questions and spoke to me as if I were an old friend just catching up.

Even so, a hint of Daryl's past reclusiveness transferred through when I asked if he was mar-

ried. Sadly, he is a recent widower, his wife, Ar-dith, having passed away in late 2008. He told me that it has been hard since her death but he inquires that it helps to keep busy and to be positive.

He says that he likes to go on trips that he and his wife never had a chance of taking. First was a 2 week cruise around the Baltic Sea near Scandinavia with his daughter, Darla (a Green River employee) and her husband. I was surprised considering how cold it must have been but he reassured me that

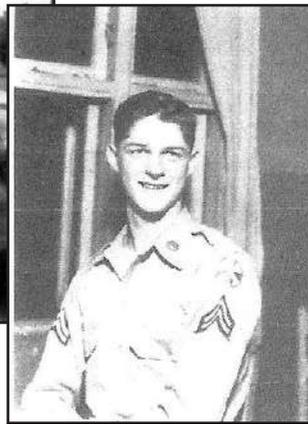
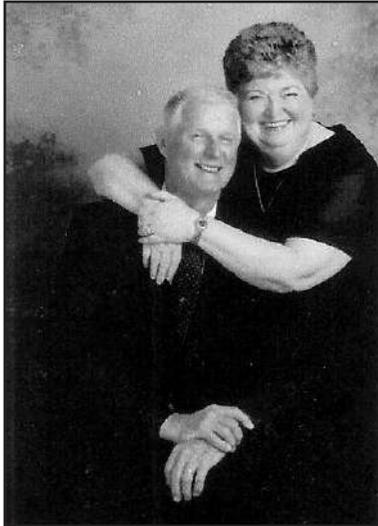
when he told me I was just green with jealous rage. Not literally, but almost. I have always wanted to travel to Alaska and here he is, only 7 months away from it.

Still, it is nice to see that the man has goals and the fact that he intends on reaching them shows the dedicated student he became once again when he enrolled at Green River to earn his high school diploma and sure enough received it, last quarter.

At first I was confused as to how Rothfus pulled off going to classes and all of the things the rest of us have to do, what with him living in Vancouver but when he explained that he only needed to write a 12 page essay on his military life and its relevancy to what was going on in the world, historically.

His instructor, Bruce Haulman stated, "Daryl did a great paper with photos included. It more than meets the requirements."

So, at the age of 79 years



they only went as far north as Oslo, Norway and that the weather was fair.

The most recent adventure was a trip to Hawaii with his son, Richard. Rothfus says that it was a nice vacation and that his son had never been there so he was excited to go as well.

Rothfus next planned vacation is a four day fishing trip to Alaska this coming August and

old, Rothfus earned his diploma and the months following he will fish up in Alaska, enjoying life and showing us all that really, truly, it is never to late for anything worth while.

Green River teachers off the clock

What teachers do after hours may seems surprising to students

By: Samantha Shockley & SungWook Kang

Teachers off the clock is an interesting concept. Even though it's hard to imagine your business teacher going to salsa lessons or your English teacher heading to the slopes every weekend, these things do happen. Caution: teachers are normal citizens and do shop at local stores like everyone else.

At the end of the day students go home, excited that another day of school is over. The thoughts usually are something to the effect of "yesss!" Many student may think that a teacher's day ends in something like grading assignments, putting together lesson plans for the next day and squeezing in a favorite T.V. show, Jeopardy.

Sorry everyone, that's a lie. Teachers actually do have a life outside of school.

"I enjoy spending time with my family and outdoor recreation like skiing," Annette Tower, an economics teacher explains. "I also like to read professional publications like The Economist and Fortune."

Chemistry teacher, Jay Mueller, and mathe-

matics teacher David Nelson prefer recreational activities as well. While Mueller "[Likes] to go backpacking," spending time hiking and being outdoors whenever possible, Nelson commented "I play a card game named Pokémon," he smiled as he showed off a colorful creature on one of his cards.

A common theme among teachers seems to be playing sports or some recreational activity. "I like many kinds of sports," Susan Batchelor, IESL teacher, explains. "I like going whitewater kayaking, going skiing, rock climbing, and doing yoga." Batchelor emphasized four points as to why she loves being active: it helps her maintain her health, she stays happy, it gives her good balance, and helps her relax.

Some things students might want to take into consideration that teachers do have more to offer than just the curriculum in the classroom.

"I usually study because I'm going to the graduate school," Neesha Patel, a Mathematics teacher here at GRCC, explains. "But, I also do several things in my free time such as cooking, gardening, reading, and cycling." Patel added joyfully that she loves cooking foods from dif-

ferent countries and trying different cultural foods.

Lisa Trujillo, who teaches reading classes on campus, enjoys a different more strenuous activity than many others in her profession. "I have two thoroughbreds who are retired race-horses. They take a lot of my time because I'm responsible for making sure they get a lot of exercise, along with my own exercise."

Along with her life as a teacher and caretaker, Trujillo also is advanced in martial arts. "One thing that I have participated in for the past 21 years is martial arts. First I started with Tae Kwon Do, and later I started to learn Vovinam, which is a Vietnamese style. Also, as a martial arts instructor, I have loved to watch my kids grow up and see how beneficial the martial arts family is for kids growing up on a culture like this one."

Teacher's lives expand to much more than just the average one many think. So, don't panic next time they are spotted in public, remember that they have errands to do as well. Heck, most of them like to just have fun and enjoy life, like everyone else.

Trips not on a bus

By: Remco Zwetsloot

A search for adventure and... anything interesting, really. But not on buses. Take 3.

First of all I would like to profoundly apologize for the missing column in the last issue - I'm sure you all have suffered greatly without your biweekly doses of unguided cynicism and my amazing wit.

Don't go and smile now though, the message I will now relay onto you shan't be pleasant; this will be the last 'trips' I'm writing. It has been a fun half year of doing absolutely nothing and then writing about it as if it was the most thrilling experience of my life, but it is time for me to move onto bigger things.

Not really, my girlfriend has got me on a tight leash and doesn't allow me more than 30 minutes of fresh air a day. And since I stupidly spend those 30 minutes walking to and fro class, I don't have any actual free time.

Consequentially, I am also unable to ride a bus or a car to have a jolly fun time creeping on strangers and studying their habits. Really, some people are quite fascinating to observe, and I will definitely miss the intimate moments shared with the many individuals I have briefly laid eyes upon.

It is quite capturing to try and imagine what another person's life is like based on 5 minutes of eavesdropping. Ever since I can remember I have been curious about other people's lives - as a kid, sitting on the back of my mothers' bike (because that's how we Dutch people roll), I always zoned out thinking about what the favorite TV shows of that person behind the window over there was.

That kind of curiosity has remained with me all my life and it was one of the reasons I wanted to do this column - to find some random person or group of people and get to know them for no apparent reason.

But, as it turns out, most people are rather dull, and I gave up on trying to talk to people after several failed attempts at making conversation in the first 2 trips and instead just watched and enjoyed other people making fools out of themselves.

The interest in other people's lives remains though, and at random points during the day when I have nothing on my mind I find myself wondering;

What happened to the nipple-scoopers' girlfriend he talked so condescendingly about when attempting to flirt with an uninterested girl who had her iPod in? Did the woman on the commuter in Washington D.C. ever return that bread basket she stole from McDonalds? Is continuously-brush-my-hair-even-though-it's-0.1-inches-long guy still happy with his life and combing as vigorously as ever?

These are all very random things but I'm interested nonetheless and, when I am not in an awfully cynical mood, I feel like it would be interesting to trade lives with these people for a day - even if only to find out why on earth you would want to shake your behind and sing on a public bus, live in a hole like Sumner or why you are inflicting both physical and psychological harm to mankind wearing sunglasses the size of Glenn Beck's head that are just beyond unfashionable.

The reality is though, that despite my seemingly limitless intellectual capabilities and borderline-impossible charming looks, I am only a simple teenager, and I often find myself busy procrastinating and hanging out doing nothing - spending my time on useful stuff is out of the question.

I had a lot of fun writing this column but in the future you shall have to do without it, as awful as that is for you. It would be impossible to give personal shout-outs to all my countless groupies and fans, so every loyal follower may hereby consider themselves appreciated and thanked, for what is a comedian without his audience?

Getting to know diversity GRCC accepting diversity from day one

By: *SungWook Kang*

As the world progresses and technology advances, the boundary of the distance between each country is collapsing. There is no longer a barrier of thousands of miles of water that once was the greatest barricade of all. Through all the advances, diversity has become more known and more accepted and welcomed to many schools and universities.

Kelly Blackwood, advisor of the Queer and Allies group (Q&A), talks about how important the various peoples are on campus, "Diversity has always been important to GRCC. I think our changing student population, along with our changing world has prompted a more focused effort on diversity initiatives."

Here, at Green River Community College, there are the same experiences and advances in diversity. Our students and faculty can see many people from different countries and cultures on campus after just one glance into our community.

Getting to know diversity here at GRCC can be a very complex conversation. To understand the basic history and development of diversity in GRCC: how GRCC started its international program and various culture clubs to develop, and why the diversity of GRCC school should be respected, are questions that don't seem to be raised very often.

"Diversity is a central value in GRCC's mission," Cyndi Rapier, a staff of GRCC, explains. "The President's Commission on diversity was established in recognition of its significance and of the urgent need to develop and execute strategic plans and coordinate activities to promote diversity on campus at all levels in order to ensure student success."

"The State Board for Community and Technical Colleges in collaboration with the

Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education developed a diversity framework." Rapier explains.

She added that President Rich Rutkowski asked the commission to assess GRCC's current status and then make strategic recommendations and report back to him and the Board of Trustees.

According to Blackwood, GRCC added a diversity requirement to the AA degree, reinvigorated the Multicultural and Equity Council, formed Safe Zone orientation, and started a Veteran's Coordinating Council.

From the past to the present, an awareness of some points has been intensified on diversity, and "the Commission has identified and worked with several action outcomes," Rapier said.

"The framework is a way to measure actions and outcomes so we know if we are serving our students and helping them [become] successful," said Rapier, to explain what significances those actions have.

GRCC has formed clubs such as the Black Student Union, the Asian Student Club, Queer & Allies, and many more diverse culture clubs that students have brought to life which contribute to the varied peoples on campus. It provides opportunities for students to feel comfortable with each other and increases involvement around campus.

Respecting the diversity at GRCC means respecting the students and faculty that attend as well. "I think our students are coming from a more diverse background, and we should be providing services and education necessary for our staff to serve our students," Blackwood explains.

We are a very intricate group of people at GRCC. Students with different backgrounds, cultures, ethnicities, sexual orientations, philosophical beliefs all attend GRCC and without understanding diversity, there can be no social prosperity.

Introducing the G.R.A.C.E. club GRCC prayer club on campus still going strong

By: *Lindsey Williams & Avery Hopkins*

While the majority of people think of public schools as anti-religious, G.R.A.C.E. proves that when it comes to religion, Green River is as diverse as its students. G.R.A.C.E. stands for Green River Active Christian Encounters; intended as a bible study group for students, the club is one of the longest standing groups on campus—they've been meeting for 35 years!

Club President, Andrew Dunford, works very hard with his fellow Christian leaders to share his love of Christ; the leaders of the group all agreed that the best part of G.R.A.C.E. is, "Seeing how God influences changes in people's lives."

G.R.A.C.E. has been a success so far this year; on average about 25 students attend their weekly meetings. Students who have attended G.R.A.C.E. meetings include Kayla who felt, "very welcomed, everyone was friendly and accepting... The message was great and uplifting, and I felt challenged and excited to come back."

The first step of a G.R.A.C.E. meeting is a prayer session, followed by club announcements regarding the upcoming week. Worship songs follow, led by Vice President Mer-

issa Ford and Worship Leader Haydon Truitt. A short lesson, usually about 10-15 minutes long, precedes group discussions about the lesson, after which the meeting is adjourned.

G.R.A.C.E. meets multiple times each week, though the regular sessions are scheduled for noon on Fridays in SC 322. There are also prayers at 7:45 a.m. In the commons every Friday, anyone on campus is welcome to join in; starting next week, there will be hot cocoa to help warm the hands while the prayers warm the spirit. Students interested in G.R.A.C.E. should feel free to stop by the regular meetings, Friday prayers, or contact Andrew Dunford for more information.

On top of the regular meeting at noon and the Commons prayers at 7:45, for those with some free time on March 5, G.R.A.C.E. is hosting a game night at Campus Corner Apartments (CCA) and any student interested in attending is welcome to join in the fun. More information on G.R.A.C.E. game night is available in student programs.

Want to join GRACE?
Stop by SC 322 at noon on Fridays
PURPOSE: loving God and loving people.



Diversity students show their spirit in the Student Center.

Nicole Swapp/The Current

Your outstanding academic achievement at Green River can make **PLU's** private university education cost the same as a public university.

FALL 2010 PROVOST TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP

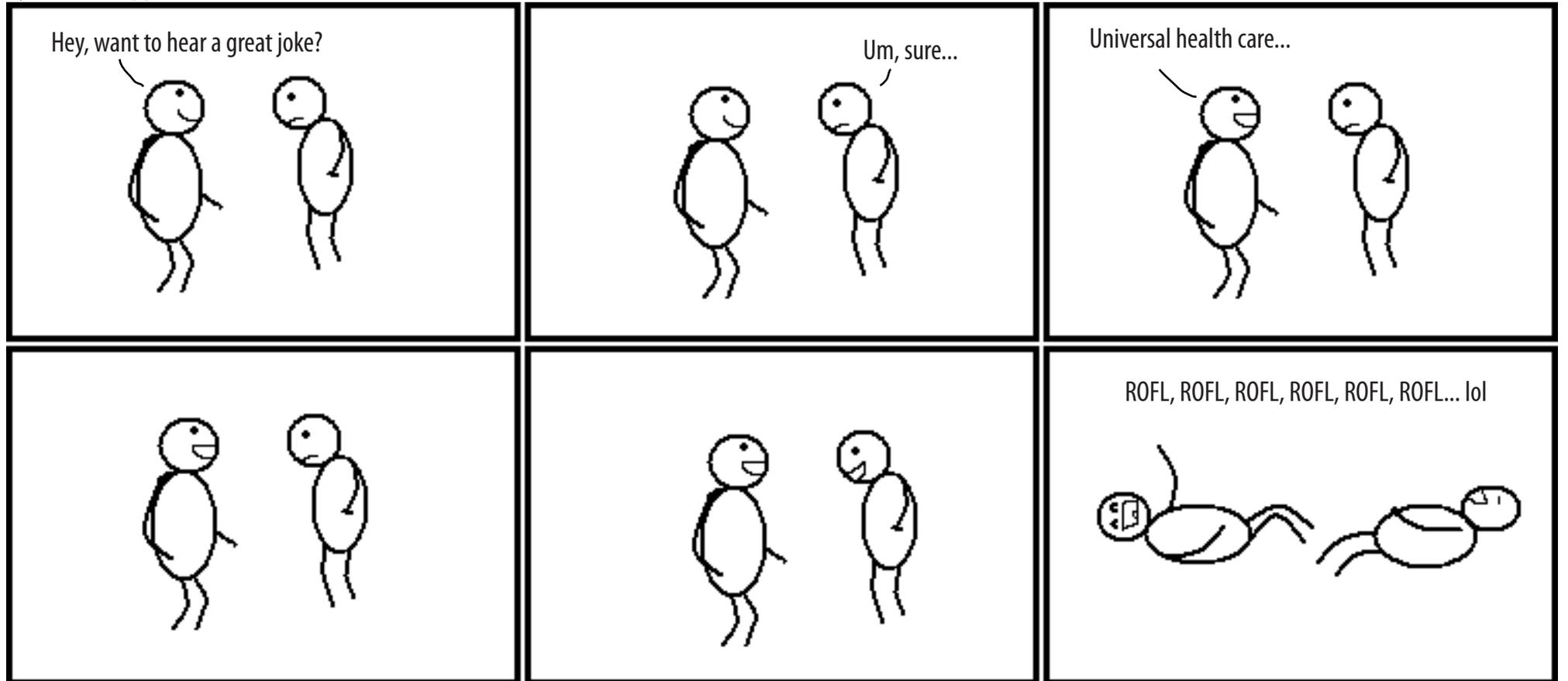
- \$14,000 per year
- 3.5 GPA to qualify
- March 15 deadline
- Free application:

www.choose.plu.edu

To learn more, contact
Director of Transfer Recruitment
Sean Lacy lacy@plu.edu

PLU Your private college option.

By: Nicole Swapp

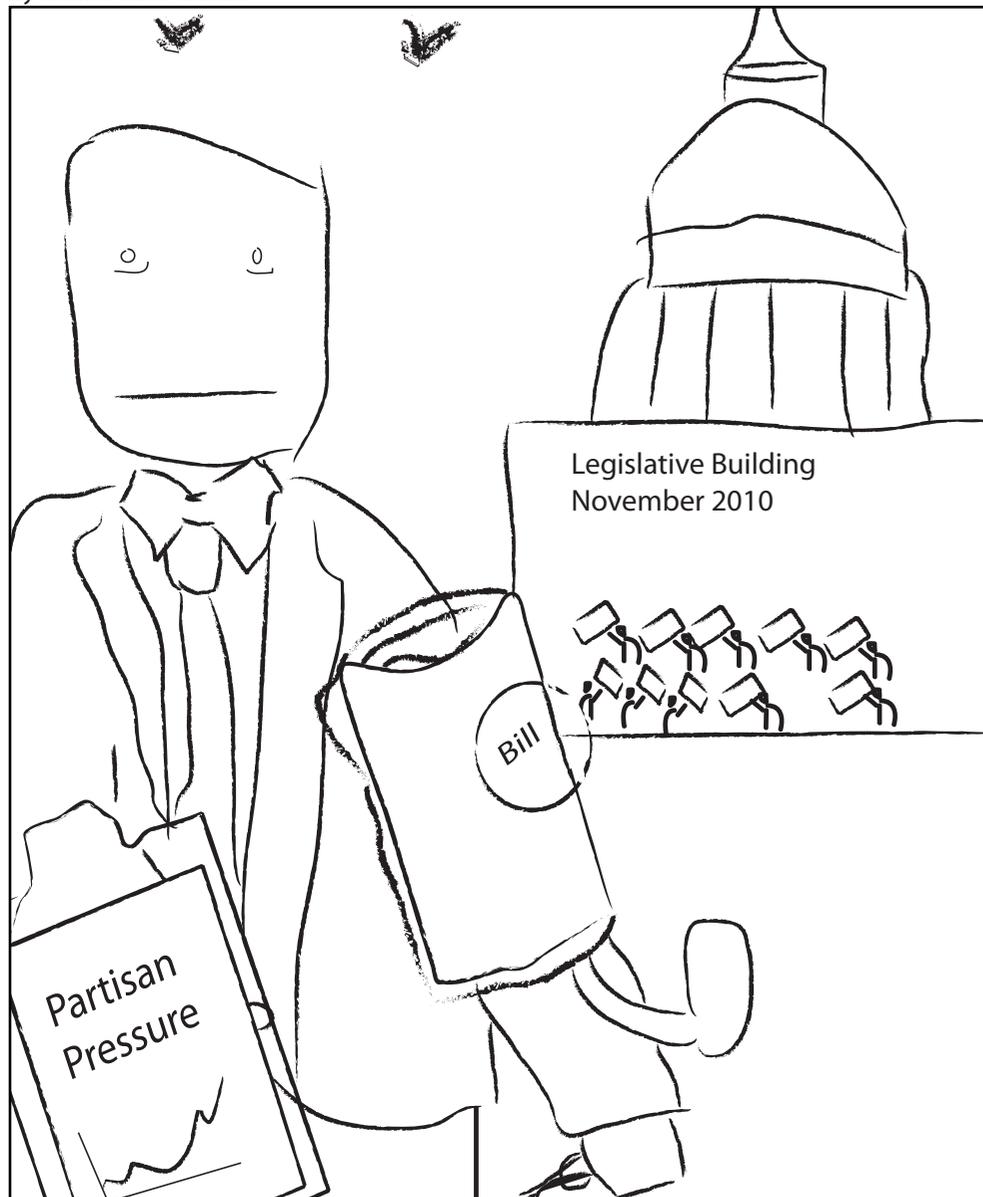


DRAW FOR THE CURRENT!

email us at thecurrent@greenriver.edu!

By: Jean-Pierre Garcia

Difficulty: VERY HARD



1	2			6		3	7	
								1
3	8		9			6	4	
				7				3
		6	8		1	7		
8				4				
	1	3			7		6	4
7								
	6	8		9			2	7

Immersive plot and experience is a heavy rain for PS3 players with no game-over option



Courtesy Photo/gamepress.com
Playstations *Heavy Rain* gives new breath in storytelling and gameplay with four different playabe characters.

By: Alexander Bevier

Video games have been striving to achieve a narrative voice against a world of well-developed novels and films. Many game developers have struggled to find ways to blend interaction with narration.

How can a director move a story if the player has total control over an experience? Quantic Dream's latest Playstation 3 game, *Heavy Rain*, is another strong attempt in merging a video game with a strong story.

The concept for *Heavy Rain* came about when Quantic Dream's CEO, David Cage, lost his son in a mall. He thought his wife was watching their son and his wife thought he was watching him. Every negative outcome quickly rushed through Cages mind. After several minutes, Cage found his son and a potential crisis was averted. The goal of *Heavy Rain* is to make the player feel that sudden sense of panic. After playing through the demo, the game succeeds in this.

Heavy Rain is played through the eyes of four different playable characters: Ethan Mars, an architect and single father; Madison Page, a twenty-seven year old photographer; Norman Jayden, an FBI agent; and Scott Shelby, a private investigator with asthma.

The main story about these characters revolves around the Origami Killer: a serial killer at large and the game's general McGuffin.

What creates the sudden sense of panic in *Heavy Rain* is its control scheme. Everything your character does with their hands is controlled with the right analog stick on the Playstation controller.

Every other action in the game is related to a similar motion on the controller.

For example, you move the analog stick down, then rotate it ninety degrees to reach into your pocket. The character, Scott Shelby, reaches into his pocket for his inhaler.

The player then shakes the controller in order to activate the inhaler, Shelby shakes the inhaler. As the player presses the controller's R1 button, Shelby breathes in deeps with the inhaler in his mouth to control his asthma attack.

When written out, the entire concept seems complex. But, when playing *Heavy Rain*, the game provides one of the most immersion experiences this reporter has ever had.

As players talk to other characters in the game dialog options float over the character's head.

In the demo, Scott Shelby is trying to persuade a prostitute -who recently lost her son to the Origami Killer- to talk about the event. Over Shelby's head, the player can choose to either persuade, sympathize, or demand the prostitute to talk to him.

This creates a feel similar to Create-An-Adventure novels. According to Cage, options like these allow playable characters to die, and the game will continue with other characters.

There is no game over option.

Heavy Rain is a step to blend narration with player control. Each of the player's action will influence the game as a whole.

If anybody has any interest in the narrative qualities of games, *Heavy Rain* is definitely worth checking out.

The game is out right now, and the demo is available on Playstation Network.

Best Picture Oscar is a toss up this weekend

Critically acclaimed flicks and summer blockbusters go head to head in expanded category

By: Alexander Bevier

When Chris Rock hosted the Academy Award ceremonies in 2005, there was a sketch where he asked movie-goers about what movies they saw that year.

He asked random people if they had seen *Million Dollar Baby* -which was a large-profile Best Picture nominee that year. The interviewees universally had never seen it.

Few had even heard of it. Chris Rock then asked if the same people had seen the movie *White Chicks* -A film by the Wayans Brothers and a critical flop- and he was answered with excited praise about how good it was.

Chris Rock's sketch shows both the greatness of cinema, and the critic's struggle to award a product. *Million Dollar Baby* was made for an audience that wouldn't give "White Chicks" the time of day. But, more people went to movie theaters to see *White Chicks*.

What film was more successful: The critical smash or the financial juggernaut? Which film should be awarded?

In 2009, The Academy in charge of the Oscars decided to double the amount of nominees in their Best Picture category.

This was done to account for both critically and commercially successful films.

The double-stuffed list features the best of both worlds: *The Hurt Locker* directed by Kathryn Bigelow, and James Cameron's *Avatar*, each topping the list with nine nominations.

The Hurt Locker is a film about a United States Army Explosive Ordinance Disposal team during the Iraq War.

It's on more Top 10 lists than any other film. A.O. Scott of the New York Times wrote that "You may emerge from *The Hurt Locker* shaken, exhilarated and drained, but you will also be thinking... The movie is a viscerally exciting, adrenaline-soaked tour de force of suspense and surprise, ... it blows a hole in the condescending assumption that such effects are just empty spectacle or mindless noise."

Avatar on the other hand, made nearly \$2.5 billion in profits. Metacritic.com, a website that gives out a composite average of all major critics' scores, has *Avatar* hold a score of 84/100.

Roger Ebert said in his review that the film "employs a new generation of special effects". The story of *Avatar* boils down to *Ferngully: The Last Rainforest* in 3D.

Avatar and *The Hurt Locker* show the polar dichotomy of film. Films are able to move people as well as entertain.

As both films compete for the Oscar for Best Picture, the question is asked about what makes a better film: a financially poor, yet tender story with few special effects or a profitable and cinematic 3D experience with a middling story?

The "Money vs. Merit" debate is why the Academy has decided to double the nominees for best picture. Yet, only one film can win the coveted statue.

And lets not forget the films that were both critically well received and profitable? Disney/Pixar's *Up* may surprise the world and be the first animated picture to win Best Picture.

As this will be the 82nd Academy Award show, the debate will unlikely end any time soon.

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | BOTHELL



Campus Tours Now Available

Choosing a college or university is all about finding the best fit for you. Learn firsthand about our academics, campus life, student programs and more.

Come enjoy an hour long walking tour of campus led by current students providing you with an "insider's" point of view. Listen to their perspective of life at UW Bothell while you stroll through the beautifully landscaped grounds and the state of the art buildings of our university.

Daily Tours are available, visit www.uwb.edu/tours to learn more.

425.352.5000 | www.uwb.edu



Five years passed since Thompson's final words

Cynic, founder of Gonzo Journalism, and political wit leaves printed wisdom behind

By: Bailey Josie

It has been five years, February 20th, since Hunter S. Thompson, the journalist and writer most famous for his book "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas", passed away.

The man was 67 years old and his motto in life was "buy the ticket, take the ride," which urged those around him to experience the tsunami wave which was his day-to-day life.

He was a man of personal freedom, a man who consumed himself with any variety of drugs, even admitting in his "Las Vegas" book to chewing on raw human adrenaline, the kind one can only find in the brain of another homosapien.

Thompson was also a man with many more attributes that far surpassed his abilities of consuming vast amounts of drugs.

He was a man whose life was dictated by the need and wants to write, and he was pretty good at it too.

As famous journalist and author of "The Kool-Aid Acid Test", Tom Wolfe put it, "Hunter was the only twentieth-century equivalent of Mark Twain or Josh Billings or Petroleum V. Nasby."

Born in 1937, in Kentucky, the first true example of his abilities came when he wrote a bronze-winning essay for the Athenaeum Society's magazine Spectator.

It was called, "Open Letter to the Youth of our Nation."

"Young people of America, awake from your slumber of indolence and harken to the call of the future! Do you realize that you are rapidly becoming a doomed generation? ...O ignorant youth, the world is not a joyous place. The time has come for you to dispense with the frivolous pleasures of childhood and get down to honest toil until you are sixty-five. Then and only then can you relax and collect your Social Security and live happily until the time of your deaths."

Before his graduation of high school, Thompson was put in jail to be released ninety days later where he then joined the U.S. Air Force.

It was here that he became a journalist, which was a way of making a living while he was working on becoming a writer.

After his honorable discharge, Thompson moved to Puerto Rico where he drew inspiration for his long lost novel "The Rum Diary", which is right now in production as a movie which will be released later this year. It will star Johnny Depp as Paul Kemp, the story's protagonist and the alias of Hunter Thompson himself.

Thompson wrote his first book, "Hell's Angels: A Strange and Terrible Saga" in 1966 and became one of the dominant sports and political reporters for the then-up and coming Rolling Stone Magazine.

After he had written the "Las Vegas" book, he became the magazine's top political reporter, especially during the 1972 presidential election where his articles became known as "the most accurate but least factual pieces of writing of the political race."

In a nutshell, "Gonzo Journalism" (the type of journalistic writing that Thompson created) is news-writing where the reporter puts himself into the writing and where fiction is sometimes blended with the truth to make the writing more personal and more interesting.

This is the form of writing that Thompson used in all of his later books and all articles he wrote in the last sighs of the 20th century.

Thompson spent the rest of his days writing for espn.com, living at his reclusive home called "Owl Farm" in Colorado and speaking at college graduations.

He also made a small political comeback when he wrote about the dreaded 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center. It read:

"The towers are gone now, reduced to bloody rubble, along with all hopes for Peace in Our Time, in the United States or any other country. Make no mistake about it: We are At War now - with somebody - and we will stay At War with that mysterious Enemy for the rest of our lives... We are going to punish somebody for this attack, but just who or what will be blown to smithereens for it is hard to say. Maybe Afghanistan, maybe Pakistan or Iraq, or possibly all three at once. Who knows?"

Unfortunately, he had many health problems, most of which stemmed from one of his legs being longer than the other. This caused him to be put in a wheelchair, which was very frustrating.

Five years ago, he had decided that he had had enough and shot himself with a .45. His wife, Anita, had found a note in his notebook.

"Football season is over. No More Games. No

More Bombs. No More Walking. No More Fun. No More Swimming. 67. That is 17 years past 50. 17 more than I needed or wanted. Boring. I am always bitchy. No Fun - for anybody. You are getting Greedy. Act your old age. Relax - This won't hurt."

Thompson was a man who believed in personal freedom and though some of his acts could be cited as extreme or radical, he never strayed from his beliefs.

He is still missed by many who believe that his political wit, his robust cynicism of most subjects and his overall genius of writing is very much needed in today's writing world.

At least we will always have his books and his printed wisdom of the world.

Bon Scott remembered for establishing AC/DC

2008 album mega-hit 'Black Ice' is tempered with respect for departed vocalist



By: Bailey Josie

In the world of hard rock and roll, there are few bands that have withstood the test of time in terms of general popularity, hard-core fan loyalty and have one of their albums right behind Michael Jackson's Thriller as the highest-selling album of all time. AC/DC is just this kind of band.

In the last two years, AC/DC has had one of the biggest comebacks of their careers.

Their album Black Ice was released in October 2008 and has now sold over 6 million copies. This makes it the second highest selling album of 2008 worldwide, and their international tour earned them the fourth highest grossing tour of 2009, right behind U2, Madonna, and Bruce Springsteen.

February 19th, there was a moment of somber remembrance as the 30th anniversary of AC/DC's second (though considered by many to still be the original) singer, Bon Scott's death was upon the world.

In the band's dominant country, Australia, people payed their respects.

In Melbourne on the specially honored "AC/DC Lane" fans from all over were encouraged to decorate the street's alley and walls with AC/DC posters and artwork, one of the signs saying, "If you paste over these posters before February nineteen Bon will come to you in your sleep and punch you in the face."

That example shows how devoted people are to the memory of one of rock and roll's greatest front men.

Bon Scott was not just a singer with a taste for big women, booze or baring his hairy chest to the world at all times; he was a "poet" who wrote some of the world's most provocative lyrics ("I was so satisfied/ Deep down inside/ Like a hand in a velvet glove").

Some of the wittiest rock 'n roll songs of the era ("I got patches on the patches/ of my old blue jeans/ well they used to be blue/ when they used to be new/ when they used to be clean.") are to his credit.

Scott was also a loyal friend and person who would send postcards to everyone he knew whenever he was out of town and once rode a train 500 miles to see a girl that he liked.

"It's a shame he died, to me he kinda MADE AC/DC", says Green River student Taylor Huntress.

Scott was 33 when he died and at the time, his death was the subject of a wide array of speculation and gossip. Some thought it was a conspiracy, others suspected heroin overdose, and Ozzy Osbourne once stated that he died of hypothermia.

It was finally revealed that Scott choked on his own vomit while he was asleep in a car outside of his friend's house.

The official autopsy stated it as a "death by misadventure."

A few months after Scott's funeral, by the insistence of his own parents, the rest of the band members, Angus Young (Lead Guitar), Malcolm Young (Rhythm Guitar), Phil Rudd (Drums) and Cliff Williams (Bass) went on the search for a new singer. Who can blame them? AC/DC was the biggest up-and-coming band in the U.S. since their 1979 album, Highway to Hell, was released and became a hit. They couldn't have just quit right then and there.

They found Bon Scott's replacement in Brian Johnson, an English singer who formerly fronted the band Geordie. AC/DC's first album without Johnson as a replacement for Scott was the immortally successful Back in Black, which, as of right now, is the second highest selling album in the world behind Michael Jackson's Thriller and the number selling album of all time for a band. It has sold over 45 million copies worldwide.

Since Back In Black, AC/DC has released 11 albums, they have been inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame and they have a popular all-female tribute band called Hell's Belles who reside in Tacoma, Washington.

AC/DC is perhaps one of the most well-loved rock bands of all time and some of that love is for the irrepressible, irreplaceable Bon Scott; he is certainly missed.



Bailey Josie/The Current

GRCC men's basketball rebounds from slow start, makes playoffs

After a slow 2-5 start, Green River men's basketball was able to fight back and qualify for the the NWACC tournament. The tournament will take place from March 6 to 9 in Kennewick at the Toyota Center. GRCC will play Shoreline in the first round.

By: Curtis Rogers

After getting off to a slow 2-5 start during the regular season the Gator men's basketball team knew that they were going to have to dig deep if they were going to have a shot at the playoffs. With a late season charge that has seen the Gators reel off four straight victories, the Gators have silenced their critics and have clinched a spot in the NWAACC playoffs. Since the slow start the Gators have won 10 out of their last 15 games and are streaking at the right time. They'll be looking to continue this momentum in the postseason as they'll be hoping for a deep playoff run.

One of the biggest keys to the turnaround has been their ability to share the ball. The Gators have three players who are averaging at least 12 points per game and six players are averaging at least six points per game. Sophomore guard Jake Wilcox has been the offensive catalyst for the team during the regular season as he is averaging 6.9 assists to go along with his 12.6 points. Wilcox has also been a thorn in the side of his opponents on defense as well as he is averaging just under 3 steals per game. The gators leading scorer Chris Plooy has

shown tremendous poise despite being just a freshman. He has been dynamite from the field shooting 48% and averaging 13.4 points and 4.8 rebounds as well as leading the Gators in scoring in nine of their first 22 games. As a team the Gators have shot a very respectable 44% from the field. Despite their success from the field they have struggled from the free throw line as they have shot only 63% from the charity stripe. In fact only one player is shooting better than 70%. If the Gators are going to make a run at the NWAACC championship their free throw shooting must get better.

Defense has been the name of the game for the Gators as they have used an attacking defense in order to create pressure. The Gators have used their lack of size to their advantage as six players are averaging at least one steal per game. One of the defensive stalwarts of the team is sophomore forward Brock Pendleton. Pendleton has lead the Gators in rebounding, averaging 6.0 rebounds per game to go as well as being second on the team with 1.2 steals per game.

The final two games of the season for the Gators will be against Pierce College and Lower Columbia who just so happen to be two of



Staff Photo/The Current
Coach Tim Malroy (center) huddles with his team earlier in the season. The Gators won 10 of their final 15 games to clinch a 2010 playoff berth.

the three teams that are ahead of Green River in the west standings. The Gators still have a chance to pass Pierce College in the west standings as they sit only one game back of the Raiders. With wins in their next two games the Gators could gain sole possession of third

place if Pierce College falters. If the Gators want to send a message to their opponents heading into the playoffs these next two games could be crucial as they could potentially face off against Lower Columbia in the first round of the playoffs.

It's not out in the open, but
GRIEF IS HERE.

1 out of 3 college students experienced the illness or loss of a family member or close friend in the last year. Talk about loss and help your friends in need by starting a National Students of AMF Support Network Chapter at your school.

TalkAboutLoss.org

Pitching is the key to Green River's fastpitch team in 2010

By: Alex Heikke

Fastpitch season is coming up at Green River Community College, with the first game being against the Central Washington Junior Varsity team on the 6th of March.

Since the season is about to start, people have been talking. As a result of the discussions about the fastpitch team, it was reported that the team was actually short on players and would not be able to play if they were to not find any more players.

Bob Kickner, the Athletic Director at Green River, claims that this rumor is false. In fact, Kickner states that the fastpitch team is looking very promising today.

"We usually have to try and find girls to play from other places like cheerleading, but we actually have all softball players this year," says Kickner.

The team, however, is looking shorter compared to a usual team, where there are about fourteen to fifteen players. Green River currently has twelve players, which is definitely enough to play.

While the team does indeed seem to be pushing it on players, the amount of pitchers that the team has is solid, which is one thing that is very necessary.



Alex Heikke/The Current

Green River Community College's 2010 fastpitch team poses for a group photo.

There aren't very many returning players this year to fastpitch, but the pitcher from last year, Caitlyn Duggan, will be returning for another season. Last year Caitlyn pitched seventy-eight innings in fourteen games, and faced 337 batters as a pitcher. Her win percentage was 583. Duggan was also one of the top hitters on the Green River team in the 2009 season. We can look

forward to Duggan returning this year as a team leader.

A full team of softball players is what Green River fans can look forward to the 2010 season.

"The team is practicing and looking really good," says Kickner. Contrary to the rumors, GRCC can once again enjoy another season of Coach Dillinger and his girls on the softball field.

Athlete spotlight: Daniel Cotton

By: Robert Barger

With a glimpse of good weather and bouts of rainy days it is easy to tell that Spring is on its way. And with the new quarter comes a brand new season of Tennis. Starting in April, tennis Green River Community College's tennis team will look to defend its NWAACC title and Daniel Cotton hopes to be a big part of this.

Starting when he was ten years old, Cotton has developed a love and passion for tennis. His older sister was trying out for the high school team and naturally, he wanted to play too. But as any sibling rivalry would have, he didn't just want to play with her. He wanted to beat her.

Upon seeing this motivation his mother put them in tennis classes. When they started out his sister would beat him almost at will. It only took him about a year to catch up to her and soon he was winning almost every match. This drive and determination lead him to join the high school tennis team at Tahoma High School.

As a part of Tahoma's team, Cotton developed into a talented tennis star. He was voted MVP of his team two years in a row. As well as being honored with the most valuable player award, he received an invite to district three straight years, and an invite to state his senior year. His stellar play in high school made the transition to college pretty easy.

"High school is much different than college tennis," said Cotton. "In college I thought we were going to practice everyday, but because we don't even have courts on campus we can't. The skill level is definitely not the same compared to high school. High school had a lot better players, and I feel I am an exception because I played at a 4A school with some of the best players in the Pacific Northwest."

A lack of confidence is not something that Cotton has problems with. Fortunately for him, he is able to back up his confidence with skill. Last year in his first year at GRCC he won first place in #2 doubles, and won second place in



Robert Barger/The Current

Daniel Cotton aching his serve on the court. Daniel was a tennis star at Tahoma High School.

#3 singles in route to helping the team win the NWAACC title.

Despite his past success he is already looking forward to the future. Cotton wants to help GRCC win the NWAACC title again along with improving on his personal success.

"I practice at least an hour and a half five to six times a week," said Cotton. "My expectations are to win first place for doubles and singles and I would like to play #1 or #2. I want to win every match that I play in, doubles and singles. But we'll see how things go."

Tennis has proven to be more than a game for Cotton and he has reaped the benefits of playing it for so long. Along with teaching him dedication and compassion, it has taught him how to be an honest person, stay focused, always have a game plan, and it has provided him with a career in teaching it to others.

Although he has a rewarding career to look forward to, Cotton is focused on the present and looks to keep GRCC at the top of the conference this spring.

Honea's House

By: Andrew Honea

It's March, and that means that baseball is almost here again. This year should prove to be yet another interesting year in the majors, especially with all the news prior to the season. How will the Cardinals do with new hitting coach Mark McGwire? How will the Braves do as Bobby Cox enters his final year as head coach of the team? Could the Yankees yet again repeat for a 28th World Series title? Even the future of Tim Lincecum is up in the air, as many people wonder if he can win a 3rd straight Cy Young award. 2010 means a big year for the MLB.

As I mentioned before, the Cardinals will be backed up this season by new hitting coach, Mark McGwire. As a long time baseball fan, I wonder what his best advice to the younger hitters will be. Even though his playing career has been over for a while now, his many years of experience should be the perfect shot in the arm for the St. Louis Cardinals. Only time will tell if McGwire will truly have an effect on the commonly dominant offense, led by Albert Pujols and Matt Holliday. With his recent confession of using steroids while playing for St. Louis, McGwire is sure to bring lots of publicity to the Cardinals Organization during the 2010 season.

As Bobby Cox's illustrious career in Atlanta nears an end, one question is on my mind and must also be on the minds of many other baseball fans. Can Atlanta take back its old shape and become dominant in the NL East like they once were during Bobby's historical run of 14 straight division titles, with a World Series Championship in 1995. Along with the news of their Coach's departure, Atlanta were also recently shocked with news that Chipper Jones will be retiring after the 2010 season, if he can't rebound to the kind of player he once was. That news must give Atlanta a drive to improve from their recent down slope. The end to the 2010 season is sure to be an emotional one for Braves fans.

A question at the beginning of every season is who will win the World Series, and the Yankees are always involved in that conversation. With close to no major losses to their roster, the Yankees look very likely to repeat. World Series MVP Hideki Matsui has moved across the country to play for the Angels, but he doesn't look to be a major threat during the regular season, as he continues to get older. Melky Cabrera has also made a big move to the Atlanta Braves, a team that is definitely trying to rebound since dropping off the map. As Derek Jeter comes into the final year of his contract, accompanied by Mark Teixeira and C.C. Sabathia, a force of nature on the mound, the Yankees look like close to nothing can get in their way. We'll see if they can continue to dominate any team who steps in their path as the 2010 season prepares to kick off.

In just a few short weeks, a lot of these questions will begin to be answered along with a few more. Who will the new rookie sensations be? What team can shock the world and revive themselves from a once pathetic performance. 2010 is going to be a good year to be a baseball fan.

Food Market at Lea Hill



Stop by and see our **NEW** International/European Foods Isle
Grocery, Frozen, Dairy, Meat and produce products!
Fully stocked with all your grocery needs.



Fresh Bakery & Deli

Full service, fresh and delicious!

Need to run in for a quick snack, something for lunch or dinner? Ask our Bakery and Deli counter staff and we are ready to help.

From fresh deli salads and sandwiches, sliced sandwich meats and cheeses to fresh baked cookies and breads, we have it.

So, come in for something from our bakery or deli and get a great tasting deal!

Café Appassionato

Featuring 100% shade-grown fair trade coffee & espresso

Need a quick blueberry muffin and a cup of coffee or a extra hot non-fat vanilla latte with lots of foam? Then, we have a delicious cup ready for you!

To start off your busy day right, or sneak off for a quiet break, Café Appassionato is ready!



Food Market at Lea Hill Valuable Coupon



Any 16 oz.
or Larger
Espresso
Drink

\$200 OFF!

Food Market
at Lea Hill

Limit 2 Per Coupon • Limit 1 Coupon Per Family • Cash Value 1/20¢
Coupon Good **March 5 to March 23, 2010** Coupon Good at Food Market at Lea Hill



Food Market at Lea Hill Valuable Coupon



1lb. Potato
Salad or
Macaroni Salad

Free!

W/ purchase of a Rotisserie Chicken, 8 Piece Chicken or a pound of Chicken Tenders

Food Market
at Lea Hill

Limit 2 Per Coupon • Limit 1 Coupon Per Family • Cash Value 1/20¢
Coupon Good **March 5 to March 23, 2010** Coupon Good at Food Market at Lea Hill



12722 SE 312th Street • Auburn, WA 98092

Store Hours:
Seven Days a Week 6 am - 10 pm

Phone No:
253-288-0005

Visit us on the web, www.yourfoodmarket.com
and sign up for weekly e-mail ad!