

Green River Community College

# CURRENT

Student Newsmagazine

October 27, 1994

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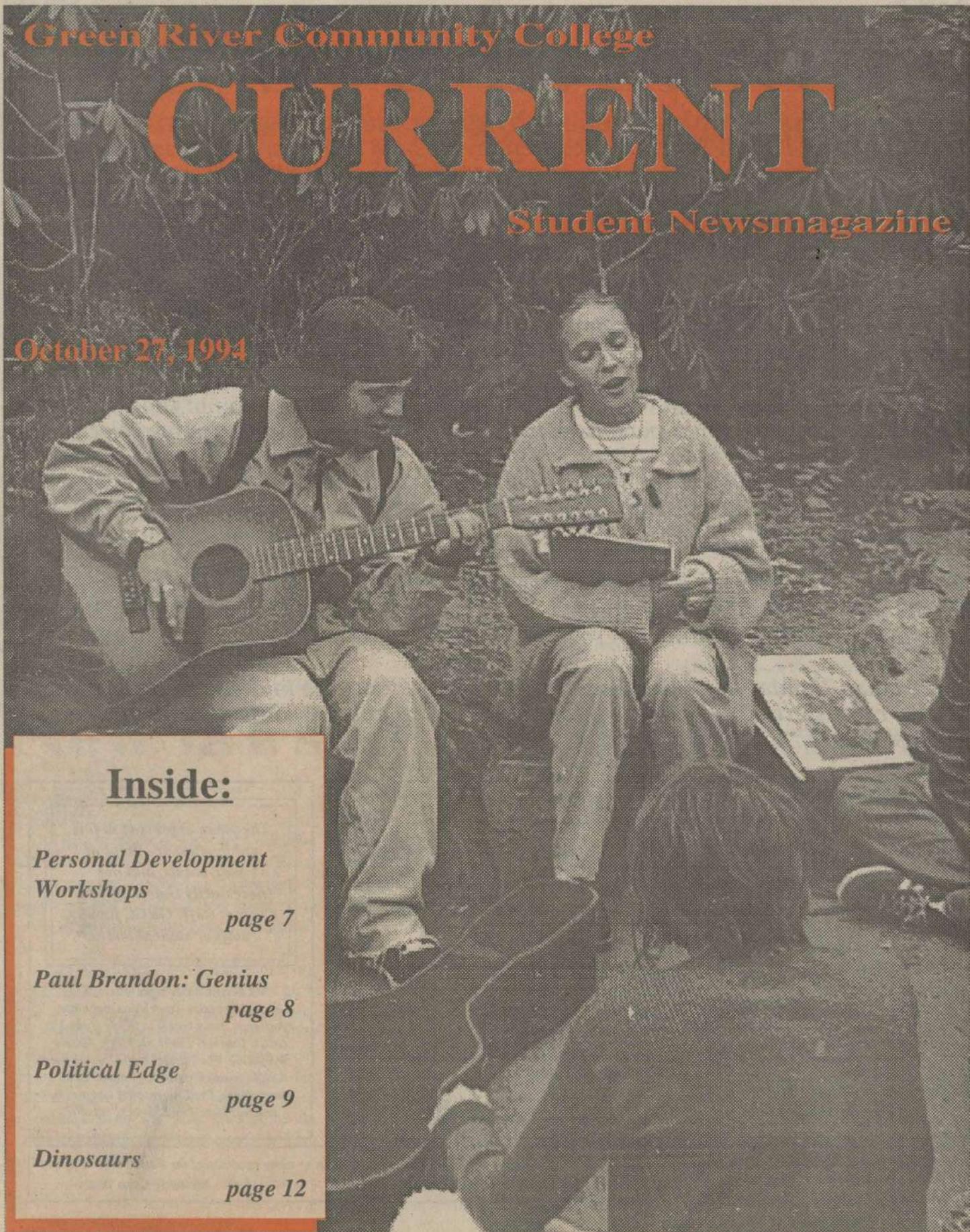
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# COMING EVENTS

KGRG will host its Fall Benefit Concert Friday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m. in the Lindbloom Student Center. Scheduled to appear are bands Sicko, Sister Psychic and A Sunny Day Real Estate. The show is open to all ages, and tickets are \$9 or \$8 with a canned food donation. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. More information is available by contacting Chris Hansen at extension 268.

GRCC will be conducting its Halloween Costume Ball Saturday, Oct. 29 at 9 p.m. in the main dining area of the Lindbloom Student Center. Cost is \$3. More information is available by contacting Carrie in Student Programs at extension 337.

A pumpkin carving contest will take place Monday, Oct. 31 at noon in the Lindbloom Student Center. Interested persons may sign up in the Student Programs office.

Flu shots will be available for students, staff and community members Tuesday, Nov. 1 and Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 11:30-2 p.m. in the lobby of the Lindbloom Student Center. Cost is \$10.

GRCC will be presenting Casino Night Friday, Nov. 18 from 8 p.m. to midnight on the Lindbloom Student Center Mainstage. The event is free. More information is available by contacting Heidi in Student Programs at extension 337.

A Hawaiian Holiday will take place Dec. 16-23. Students are invited to participate. Group rates start at \$899. More information is available by contacting Steve Sauers at extension 392.

## THE CURRENT

Volume 30 Number 2

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*The views expressed in this publication are those of individuals, and not necessarily shared by The Current staff, GRCC faculty, staff or student body.*

*The Current encourages letters to the editor, news tips, story ideas and other comments. Bring letters to SC-3, or mail to GRCC Current, 12401 SE 320th, Auburn WA 98002. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and punctuation. The Current staff can also be reached by calling 833-9111 ext. 267.*

Cover Photo: GRCC students gather outside the Lindbloom Student Center to take part in an emotional sing-along rendition of the Poison classic "Every Rose Has Its Thorn."

Photo by Ryan Winn

# Native American writers visit GRCC

Nationally recognized authors merge traditional and contemporary styles

*Warren Berry  
Contributing Writer*

Six Native American writers will "give voice" to their work in a public forum at the Green River Community College Performing Arts Building at 7:00 p.m. Friday night.

The first annual Native American Writers Symposium will combine the modern written word with the native tradition of oral story-telling; it will include poetry, short stories, and novel excerpts. The symposium is co-sponsored by GRCC's Native American Student Association and Multicultural Services. The featured speakers, who live in the Pacific Northwest, have achieved national recognition with their work. The writers include Philip Red Eagle, Fred Bigjim, Duane Niatum, Arthur Tulee, Tiffany Midge, and Tom Heidlebaugh.

Red Eagle is of Dakota and Northwest Coastal Salish ancestry. He was born in Tacoma and raised in Washington and Alaska. Basketball, the Navy and the University of Washington kept him busy until

the spring of 1983.

"I have been rousting about the Seattle art community ever since," said Red Eagle, who also originated and co-founded The Raven Chronicles to help promote artists of color and diversity in the Northwest.

"The Native American Writer's Symposium is free and open to everyone in the community, native and non-native alike," said Girtha Reed, coordinator of Multicultural Services at GRCC. "It is important for the college to serve the community as well as educate students."

Reed believes that "for a student to be successful and get through the system with a minimum of difficulty, a student must be involved in the whole campus. An event like this is one way of getting students involved." More than 100 Native American students from all over the country are currently enrolled at GRCC.

"The symposium is of special interest," Reed added, "because the Muckleshoot tribe and Green River College are neighbors. One of our college Board of Directors mem-

bers, Virginia Cross, is also a chair person for the Muckleshoot tribal council. We have several tribal members enrolled and hope that the symposium will draw more student interest from that area."

NASA President Sherri Ames Foreman — also a member of the Muckleshoot tribe — will be the mistress of ceremonies.

"I'm excited about having such strong role models on campus," Foreman said. "It's good to get the blinders off and see new things in a different way. Native Americans have come a long way in my lifetime. Books and movies have treated my culture in a more real way, since members of my culture are doing the writing."

"There are still many stories out there to tell," she continued. "I hope that the writers at the symposium will inspire the next great writer to start writing."

Donations of non-perishable food, for the Muckleshoot Residence Center, will be accepted at the door.

## New laws affect tipsy drivers

*Kelly Murff  
Staff Writer*

In recognition of National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, Green River Community College conducted a town meeting Thursday, Oct. 20, offering information on drunk driving and the new laws that surround it.

At a reported 22-minute interval, someone will die in an alcohol related accident. According to one of the guest speakers, Washington State Trooper Eric Robertson, "DWI's happen to be one of our major challenges." New laws, which became effective July 1, have been constructed to enhance penalties. The laws target re-offenders and those with excessively high blood alcohol levels.

Another speaker was Mark Shaw, a survivor of a DWI accident. While driving

home from a sporting event on his son's 14 birthday, Shaw's mini-van was struck by a drunk driver who went into their lane. His son Ian experienced the most severe injuries, and remained in the hospital for five weeks after the accident. In addition to countless injuries to his back and limbs, Ian received a scar on his face that required 200 stitches. Shaw described his son as "a living miracle."

Chip Goss, a defense attorney who represents clients whom are charged with DWI and alcohol-related accidents, believes the new laws are a mess. He is displeased with the fact that a .1 BAC is used as the measure to determine what is legally drunk.

"That's what I fight day in and day out," he explained.

Anyone under 21 caught driving with a BAC of more than .02 will automatically

have their license suspended for three months as a result of the new laws. With a suspension on a driving record, insurance can be raised to a SR 22, high-risk rating, which entails higher rates. Also, regardless of age, anyone found driving with a BAC over the .1 level will lose their license for 90 days. The suspension has nothing to do with the court system and is irrevocable in most cases.

### Notice to all students and faculty:

The Current is now accepting submissions for story ideas. If you have an event you would like covered, please stop by the Current office in SG-3 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

# Needy families turn to community for help

## Green River program aims to assist locals this holiday season

*Ruth Nyhuis*  
Staff Writer

With the holidays approaching, many families do not have money for expensive presents, and some do not have money for any gifts at all.

For the past two years the financial coordinator at Green River Community College has given out the names of needy families to students.

### Green River makes China connection

*Brian Flanigan*  
Staff Writer

Green River Community College will be welcoming a new instructor this spring.

Through a plan organized with Kent's sister city in China, GRCC and Yangzhou University in China have set up an instructor exchange program.

Officials from both colleges met at the Asia-Pacific Trade Exchange on Oct. 3 and agreed on a new partnership two days later that would help to establish ties between the two schools. An instructor from Yangzhou University will begin teaching Chinese language classes this spring at GRCC, while a GRCC instructor will travel to Yangzhou to teach English classes.

"This partnership furthers our commitment to internationalize our curriculum," Richard Rutkowski, president of GRCC, said. "The people of Yangzhou are very interested to extend themselves outside China, particularly in trade and education."

The instructor from GRCC has not yet been named, and will probably not be traveling to Yangzhou until fall quarter, 1995.

Yangzhou was founded in 486 BC and is in Eastern China on the lower reaches of the Yangtze River.

The program is called "Giving from the Heart." This holiday season, however, the program will involve members of the community as well as students.

Student programs, which operates out of the upper level of the Lindbloom Student Center, is hoping to get people more involved this year, uniting both students and faculty. About 150 community contacts have been reached, including community service groups.

Last year 33 families were 'adopted,' and this year the goal is to reach 50 families. When students or community members sign up to adopt a family, they will receive specific information as to the needs of each family, as opposed to last year's system of just putting together a miscellaneous basket.

Each sponsor will learn how many

children the family has, whether they are boys or girls, and what their hobbies are. They will also find out whether or not it is a single-parent household, and if so, whether the parent is the mom or dad.

The deadline for students to sponsor a family is Monday, Oct. 31. Students wishing to adopt a family can contact Chris Khuel in Student Programs at extension 337. Sponsors will receive information the week of Nov. 11, and baskets will be handed out the first week of December.

"The best part is it's really localized," said Khuel. "People aren't just signing a check to someone they don't know. It could be the person next to you in class, in the cafeteria, or someone who's really close to you."

# GRCC merges onto information highway

## Internet system provides unlimited resources to students

*Renee Traikova*  
Staff Writers

The Green River Community College library is preparing to install a new computer system, Internet, which will allow students to have free access to other sources of public information, including universities and colleges all over the world.

Internet is a collection of interoperating global networks which utilizes the use of a computer without the expense of long distance telephone calls.

Students in the college will be able to use a database available in another state, or perhaps another country, through the power of this network and a computer, which will assist them in their research and study.

If, for example, a student needs any text or bibliographical information to help

them with their academic assignments in the college, they will be able to do this much faster and certainly much more effectively with the help of Internet.

Once the information is found they will be able to transfer or copy the document to their own system.

GRCC will offer help on an individual basis for anyone who might want to benefit from this service.

Lee Semsen, head librarian at GRCC, hopes that the new electronic technology will be installed in early November. The system, he says, will be a great help for students and also the predecessor for installation of another, even more useful Internet service — Electronic Mail — which the college will be able to get in the future.

# International Programs searches for volunteers

*Kelly Murff  
Staff Writer*

Green River Community College's International Programs office is searching for volunteers to help intensive E.S.L. students learn "real" English.

Last Spring, members of Phi Theta Kappa helped international students at GRCC practice their English skills and meet new friends by participating as classroom assistants and speaking partners in E.S.L. classes. Because of the positive response from both volunteers and students, International Programs has decided to extend the program to others on campus.

Volunteers are assigned to E.S.L.

classes to help foreign students learn conversational English rather than book English. Volunteering opportunities occur every Friday during the noon hour.

The American students participate in classroom discussions with three or four international students. According to Ross Jennings, International Programs Coordinator, the volunteers "kind of get things going and show that it's really not that scary to be in a classroom with an American."

Discussions are open and can vary from sports and hobbies to academics and jobs. Volunteers lead group work and facilitate participation to help foreign students relieve some of the isolation they might feel

in an unfamiliar country with a language and culture they are unaccustomed to.

Jennings also believes that such experiences not only help the international students, but the volunteers as well. During the one quarter in which commitment is desired, volunteers have the opportunity to learn about the attitudes and cultures of people from around the world that might otherwise not be possible. More than likely, explained Jennings, a lasting friendship will result.

Further information is available by contacting Ross Jennings or Nancy Kremer in International Programs at 833-9111 ext. 456.

## New Metro route may ease commute for Kent students

*Cathy Pringle  
Staff Writer*

After a year of negotiations, Green River Community College has obtained direct bus service from Kent to its campus.

The new bus route, which was finalized through Metro on Oct. 17, will begin service in February, 1995. The bus route will run from the Kent Park and Ride to the East Hill area and then to the college. Sara Bynum, public information specialist for GRCC, said the cost is still being negotiated, but the college would like to subsidize the program.

The route is hoped to reduce traffic around the campus, as Kent provides the largest population-base of GRCC students. Bynum also said that it is hard to tell how many students will use the new route, but that many at GRCC have wanted the route for a long time.

Metro already has a bus that runs directly from Federal Way to GRCC's campus. According to Bynum, the service is working fine, and many riders use the commuting time to do homework.

The new Kent bus route was approved by Metro and the King County Council during their yearly meeting. The new route and other changes could effect bus service on the Seattle waterfront. One of the effects might be having busses run every 30 minutes instead of every 20 minutes.

## Carl Sagan speaks to crowded house at Lindbloom Center

*Shane Westman  
Staff Writer*

In the midst of a nation-wide tour, Dr. Carl Sagan made a stop at Green River Community College last Friday to speak to students and faculty.

Sagan, Pulitzer Prize winner and world-famous astronomer, said the purpose of the tour was not to promote anything in particular, but to simply come into contact with people he normally wouldn't have the opportunity to meet.

The campus was buzzing with excitement in anticipation of his arrival, and Sagan did not disappoint the audience, which seemed to hang on his every word. Sagan, a professor at Cornell University, has published several books, and a film is due out in 1996 based on his award-winning book, *Contact* — which he is writing the screenplay for.

Sagan was a true showman and kept the audience involved throughout the lecture. The discussion was informative and created a picture of the whole spectrum of science. It was indeed remarkable to see a wide variety of ages and social classes present. The billions and billions of hands clapping could be heard, and few negative comments were voiced.

Sagan's appearance was the first in a series which will include other speakers throughout the year such as actor/dancer Gregory Hines.

Information on future guest speakers is available in the Lindbloom Student Center.

# Hallstone honored with Town & Gown award

*Brian Brandli  
Staff Writer*

Donnie Hallstone, a Green River Community College math instructor, received the annual Town and Gown award Thursday, Sept. 29.

The Town and Gown award, which is two years old, honors GRCC faculty or staff members for outstanding contributions to the school and the community. The award is presented by GRCC and the Auburn Chamber of Commerce.

Hallstone, who has been a member of the GRCC faculty for 11 years, feels that education offers a variety of stimulating daily challenges that he simply cannot resist.

"I intend to continue teaching until I retire or drop dead," he stated.

A member of the board of directors for Auburn Youth Resources and Church Lake Maintenance company, Hallstone vol-

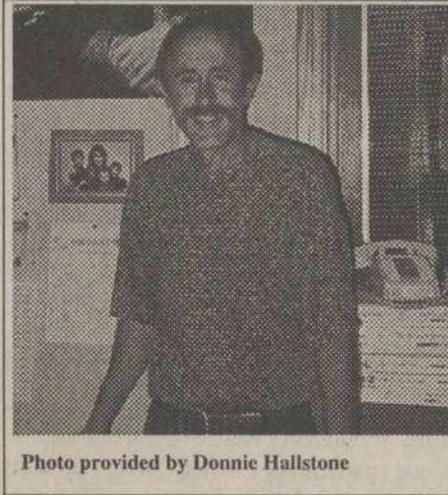


Photo provided by Donnie Hallstone

unteers his time coaching youth baseball and basketball. He is also a volunteer teacher for elementary students. When Hallstone is not giving his time to people, he enjoys reading as many mystery novels

as he can get his hands on.

"It was really nice to receive some recognition for the work that I do in and out of school," Hallstone said. "To be honest, I think there are plenty of other instructors who deserve this kind of honor just as much as I deserve it."

Hallstone plans to use the award to promote programs for the youths in his community.

"There are too many distractions in our society that are pulling kids away from education. We need to have more committees for kids to help encourage them to stay in school," Hallstone commented.

"With the way things are today," he continued, "I give the kids who manage to stick with education the utmost respect."

In addition to receiving the Town and Gown award, Hallstone was also honored for the GRCC Distinguished Faculty award in June.

## Outdoor Programs offers wide array of student activities

*Brian Brandli  
Staff Writer*

The Green River Community College Outdoor Programs committee is offering competitive prices on a variety of trips and camping equipment rentals for fall quarter.

Three trips have already been conducted, the first of which was a kayaking venture on Lake Union. The second outing was a beach camping trip to Westport, and the third a mountain biking trip to Victor Falls.

"The trails have many spots that overlook the Puyallup valley," commented Joe O'Brien, a committee member and participant. "I was impressed with what I could see from each of them."

The fourth of the six trips will take place Saturday, Nov. 5. The cost is \$115.00 per student and \$135.00 per non-student. The trip, which will consist of skydiving at Kapowsin, near Puyallup, will include transportation, professional instruction and one jump.

The Northwest Trek trip Saturday, Nov. 19 will cost \$5 per student and \$7.50

per non-student. This trip, which will include transportation, entrance to the park and a guided tour, will give people a chance to see the many animals that live in the park.

The last trip, which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 10, will cost \$13 per student and \$18 per non-student. The group will travel to Leavenworth, in central Washington, to join in on a Bavarian celebration, a traditional German Christmas festival. Leavenworth organizers will provide a variety of foods and activities, such as shopping and the annual Christmas tree-lighting ceremony. The trip will provide transportation, as well as coffee and cookies upon arrival.

Future events planned for this winter include a tubing trip, a tour of ice caves, a trip to Stevens ski resort, a Crystal Mountain ski trip, an ice skating trip and a cross country ski trip.

Outdoor Programs is also offering great buys on camping rentals for its trips or for personal camping trips. Rental equipment includes mountain bikes, tents (2-4 persons), external and/or internal frame

packs, day packs, sleeping bags, packing stoves and Coleman stoves. Outdoor Programs t-shirts are also available for \$10.00.

Checks, cash or major credit cards are being accepted for trips and/or rentals. More information is available by calling 833-9111, extension 337.

### Single Parent Connection

Tuesday, Nov. 1st

Noon to 1 p.m.

Occupational/Education Building,  
Room 22

\*Meet other single parents

\*Learn about resources

Bring your lunch - Coffee & Tea  
provided

Sponsored by the Women's Center,  
for information call ext. 402.

Men and Women are welcome!

# Workshops take counseling process to students

*Carrin Hargraves*  
Arts & Entertainment Director

Green River Community College's Counseling Services and Educational Planning Center are offering a series of free workshops for personal development and self improvement to all interested students.

The workshops are conducted on campus in SG-59, from noon to 1:00 p.m. on Thursdays, and cover topics such as stress management, mental health and organizational skills.

Personal Development Workshops began four years ago, under the direction of Counselor Ted Broussard, in hopes of bringing the counseling process out of the office and involving larger numbers of students. The workshops are one-hour sessions that provide opportunities for learning and a variety of resources for students to look into.

Upcoming workshops include "Taking the Fear Out of Decision Making," Oct.

27, which will focus on one method of making decisions and different ways to conquer undecidedness; "What Can I Do With a Major In...?," Nov. 3, which will combine educational options, group discussion and jobs associated with various majors; "Blended Families: Common Problem, Common Solutions," Nov. 10, which will address difficulties of blended families and offer guidelines for enhancing family relationships; "Beating Depression," Nov. 17, which will offer an understanding of depression and self-help approaches for beating depression; and "Choices," Dec. 1, which will teach participants how to apply concepts to experiences and present an understanding of relationships among values, choices and power.

The final workshop for Fall Quarter, "Stress Break," will focus on calmness and relaxation and will be conducted Dec. 8 in LC-225.

Workshop topics are chosen as a result of direct suggestions from students and staff, on the basis of current trends, and surveys completed by students attending previous workshops. The workshops are conducted by GRCC counselors and educational planners, as well as speakers from community agencies.

GRCC Counseling Services also provide a number of on-going support groups. The Work Transition Support Group is a new program designed to assist adults in making transitions in both personal and professional lives. On-campus AA Lunchtime Recovery Meetings are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays, from noon to 1:00 p.m.. The Sexual Minority Support Group, which offers support for gay men, lesbians and bisexuals, meets on a bi-weekly basis. More information about these and other counseling services is available at extension 292, on campus.

# Workforce training program builds character

## Individuals work to better themselves in job re-training course

*Ron Lunsford*  
Sports Director

With technology changing daily, more and more Americans are finding themselves out of jobs.

A new program at Green River Community College offers people a chance to re-enter the business world with new-found confidence.

The New Chance program, a workforce training program that began last February, is designed to help adults "decide what to do when they grow up," according to Barbara Biteman, the program's instructor.

The 10-week, 12-credit program is designed to help a dislocated or displaced worker make a smooth transition into a viable re-training program, or possibly a straight re-entry into the workforce. The course stresses personal enhancement, vocational guidance, computer literacy and basic skills.

"When I quit my job, I was really low. The program really built my self-esteem and courage," commented Debbie Beck, a successful program graduate.

The personal enhancement section of the course works on the building of self-esteem, setting goals that are appropriate to the situation, and acquiring team oriented skills. The vocational guidance portion includes aptitude testing and provides opportunities

for individuals to do career research. Resume writing and interviewing skills are also included.

The computer literacy section teaches participants basic points about Microsoft Windows 3.1 and Word for Windows — two of the most productive business tools available today. The basic skills segment of the program enhances reading comprehension, as well as writing and math skills.

Although the course is not guaranteed to be effective, many past students have gone on to successful careers away from what they have done for most of their adult lives. Some people have left careers of 27 years just to see what was on the horizon. The course allows the subjects to learn when it is appropriate to take a risk and when to sit and watch.

"It is a great program," Beck said. "I think that it could be beneficial to high school seniors that still have no idea what they what to do with themselves. It will give them an opportunity to decide what to be."

New Chance is already underway for Fall Quarter, but some late admissions may be allowed. The course will also be offered in the future.

"When they say 'new chance' they mean new chance. It is another opportunity to make yourself better and just be yourself," Beck stated.

## Paul Brandon: Genius

# Tobacco use: a result of brain deficiencies?

I have been accused in the past of having a narrow-minded outlook on life and of not being tolerant or accepting enough of people who do things a little differently than myself. While this accusation may be somewhat legitimate, when I try to understand those who are so different from myself, I must ask why?

To sight one small example, let's focus on those who consume tobacco products. I was once a smoker myself — until I saw the light and realized what a disgusting habit it was. Let me relate a story to illustrate my point.

I am walking along through the vast campus of Green River. Nothing particular is running through my mind until BAM... BOOM! A beautiful girl is walking along ahead of me. My heart skips a beat as I think to myself, "This is quite possibly the most beautiful woman I have ever seen, I gotta meet her."

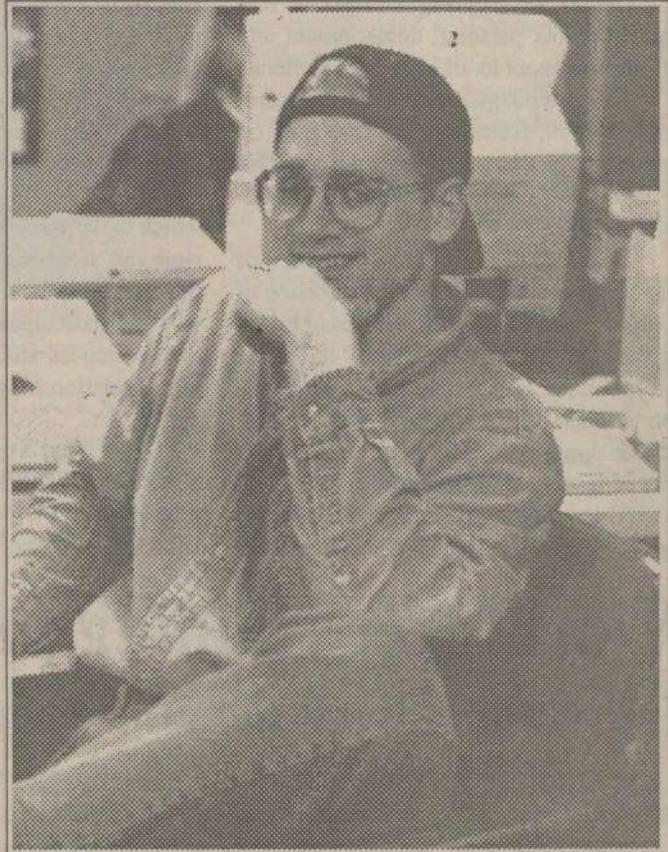
I quicken my pace in order to catch up as I fix my hair and check my breath. About half a mile and couple of shots of binacca later, I am two steps behind this goddess among women when, "uh-oh, what's this she's reaching for in her purse. Oh no, not mace again! No it's... a pack of Marlboro 100's (or even worse, GPC lights). WHOOOAA! I took a quick left and hid in the first bush." Once again a perfect day is spoiled by the heartbreak of a beautiful woman throwing it all away for a pack of cigarettes. She could have been the one — Mrs. Genius. But it appears she will have to live the rest of her life never knowing of my feelings for her.

Some may find this to be a somewhat outrageous illustration, but I find it to be entirely reasonable. I just happen to think that, short of sleeping around, doing drugs and not bathing, smoking is one of the most unattractive habits known to man. Even when I was a smoker I wouldn't date anyone who smoked. While this was a VERY hypocritical angle, I only smoked

for a very short amount of time and very few people ever knew about it (as if that makes a difference).

Even if I do understand the attraction to cigarettes, I do not understand how anyone could continue to smoke when faced with the facts about what it does to your body, not to mention what it does to your social life. Smoking can eliminate a whole class of people from one's life — people who will not tolerate a person who lights up! What it all comes down is that smoking is a habit that brings a whole lot more harm than good. So why are so many people so affected by it, and why do so many people love it so much? For this I do not have an answer, genius that I am. I fail to comprehend the actions of smokers.

I know that many of my readers will disagree with what I have said about smoking because it is somewhat socially acceptable, and there are some rationally thinking people who do smoke. Where tobacco use crosses the line into pure idiocy is when chewing tobacco comes into the picture. Do I really need to even get into this? What is so cool about stuffing dried up leaves into your lip, creating the most foul stench in the world and spitting endless amounts into a Dixie cup. Obviously people who chew tobacco are the same people who spend half their time writing fan mail to Billy Ray



Cyrus and the other half of their time begging for a Texas-style couch dances at the Deja Vu. These are people who have no desire whatsoever to be found attractive by anyone who does not resemble a moose or a sheep. These are people who just don't give a damn about their outward appearance, or their breath for that matter.

It just doesn't make a whole lot of sense to me how one plant, tobacco, could have such a strong hold on us that we will sacrifice untold amounts of money and massive amounts of pride just for the opportunity to shave a couple decades off our life. I don't claim to know everything about people. I just know everything about things that make sense!

## LAME!

With the breakdown of American society, values of any kind have been pushed aside for the selfish concerns of me, me, me. The use of politically correct terms is another example of the majority catering to the simple-minded views of the minority.

What is political correctness? Supporters would say that it eliminates all possibility of discriminatory language. However, in doing so, aren't we drawing negative attention to those groups who want to be treated just like everybody else? Why cause them to stand out? For example, it would be politically correct to say: "The secretary gives his or her work to her or his supervisor, who then congratulates him or her on her or his job well done." Now, that sounds totally ridiculous! Most people reading that sentence would make fun of it because it implies that the writer is a female sexist, and it completely draws attention to the whole sexual issue.

How many people really care or even notice when something is politically correct or not? For example, the use of "mankind" is not a gender issue but a use of a word to define the human race as a whole. It has nothing to do with sexism, and those who would take it this way are making an issue of something just to be making an issue. Furthermore, it is considered "sexist" to say "manmade;" instead we're supposed to say "manufactured, of human origin." Aren't we taking this a little too far?

Of course, political correctness is not just a sexist thing, but covers all of the minority groups. However, the people that have devised this language don't always know what they are talking about. For example, it is politically correct to refer to a person that can't hear as "hearing impaired," and the word "deaf" is considered to be discriminatory or insulting. Someone who knows would tell you that this isn't true, though. If you ask a person who can't hear if he (OOPS, sorry! HE OR SHE) is hearing impaired, he or she would sign back to you and say, "No, I'm not hearing impaired — I'm deaf. Hearing impaired means partial hearing loss. I can't hear at all, so I'm deaf." This is a good example of how sometimes these politically correct people think they're being fair, when in actuality they didn't do their homework.

Have you noticed that in the politically correct world, everyone is challenged in some way? They're physically challenged, mentally

## THE POLITICAL



EDGE

challenged, socially challenged. Pretty soon we'll be hearing about those that are vertically challenged, sexually challenged, pigmentally challenged... How far will they go with this?

Who are these people that go to such extremes to rewrite and change the way Americans speak? Do they have nothing more constructive to do than to waste everybody's time pushing a guilt issue that does not exist? Racism and sexism already exist in such obvious ways; why make up something new?

If women or anyone else want equal rights, great; all the more to them. But if it isn't a blatant insult to gender, race, color, religion, mental ability, physical ability, choice of career or choice of sexual orientation, what difference does it make? Has this gone so far that we're supposed to refer to our dogs as canine beings? Come on — get real!

Besides, these people are lacking consistency. Instead of hysterectomy, shouldn't it be herterectomy? Should we change hernia to hisnia? Or how about HISORHERNIA!

## COOL!

Follicly challenged, vertically impaired, and mentally deficient — these are some of the euphemisms that people enjoy making fun of when pointing out the idiocies and extremes of political correctness.

While I agree that these are the more ridiculous cases of political correctness, political correctness itself is not simply hype and humor, but an actual attempt to encourage people on a wide scale to become more aware of other people's sensitivities.

Though some terms of political correctness were simply made up to take away credibility from other terms, on the whole, political correctness has tried to remove some of the negative connotations and denotations that people have placed on certain terms.

How often does one hear the term "deaf and dumb?" My guess would be not too often, because the more politically correct term of "hearing impaired" has been put into play in American terminology — and rightfully so.

Another term one doesn't hear, or use too often — at least in a serious sense — is the term "gimp." If someone called a male in a wheelchair or a female on crutches a gimp, besides being simply asinine, it would be insensitive as well as rude.

Everyone knows it is not politically correct to call someone of African descent a "nigger," someone of Mexican descent a "spic," or someone of Asian descent a "gook." A more acceptable way of referring to someone and their nationality is to say that they are African-American, Mexican-American, and Asian-American.

While I am not advocating political correctness in reference to everything, it is important to be aware of sensitive terms that may offend someone.

Remember, words are hurtful, and can give off wrong impressions. I am simply advocating that people be more conscious of the terms they use in their everyday conversations. Besides, a little sensitivity and awareness never hurt anyone.

Present this coupon at the Current office and meet John and Melissa in person.  
Offer good through 10/27.

# Letter to the editor

**J**ohn Carey's commentary opposing U.S. military action in Haiti ("The Political Edge," 10-13-94) seemed to me to be more a lame attack on President Clinton (complete with a stale "dope smoking president" quip and an accusation of "lying through his teeth" that is never qualified in the article) than an informed, thought provoking piece of journalism.

To systematically deflate your points in order, I must start with the President's lack of military experience. As a veteran myself, this was a major concern of mine around election time as well. His lack of military experience was no secret, however, when the American public elected him our president. So, with all of his strengths and faults, we have named him our president and ever since George Washington was in office, on of our president's duties has been overseeing the military. Should the President of the United States not be able to make any military moves for the next four years? The U.S. people elected Bill Clinton as our president two years ago, so deal with it.

You also note that countries all over the world are changing governments and that the U.S. doesn't interfere in those places. How many of those countries that you speak of are U.S. allies? Democracies? You say we shouldn't be in Haiti because we have no resources (i.e. U.S. money) there. Are you saying U.S. soldiers lives should only be placed in jeopardy if there is a buck to be made by a U.S. corporation? I am not about to say "P.R." and money don't enter into Presidential decisions but, as a Gulf War veteran, your attitude is offensive to me.

As for Clinton turning our armed forces into "glorified baby-sitters," I can personally, without hesitation, say that our forces in Haiti probably accomplished more in their first two-and-a-half hours in Haiti than my 31st Combat Support Hospital did in my last year in Germany in the Army. The actual combat support hospital was in storage the entire time. Would you rather see your tax dollars going to support democracy or to finance some crazy, beer swilling youths partying habits for when they are not trying to "look" busy?

Finally, you state that Aristide is not "what the people want." I am going to say you have never even been there! Therefore, I am going to base my opinion on the reactions of the vast majority of Haitian citizens and say "Yes, this is what the people prefer."

If you really want to dog on Clinton that bad, I'm sure he has made some bad decisions in his career and you could easily exploit a weak spot. I should warn you though, you may have to substantiate your rash statements, and maybe even have to do some research.

-- Jim Cosby

(Editorial note: in inclusion of "dope smoking president" was not at the hand of John Carey, but was rather my personal alteration to spice up the introduction of the story. It is no secret that Clinton admitted to it on national television. -- C.W. Assistant Editor)



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# A corner of Italy comes to Kent

Cary Williams  
Assistant Editor

If you believe yourself to be an aficionado of fine Italian cuisine and still haven't tried the Sportivo Italian Cafe in Kent, your sampling of restaurants is by no means complete.

Located at 25666, 104 Avenue SE (near Albertsons in the Kent Hill Plaza on the East Hill), Sportivo holds true to its promise of providing delicious, authentic, fine Italian cuisine at a price that will make anyone happy.

The restaurant, now going into its third month, is arranged in such a manner that, despite its relative compactness, still provides plenty of personal space in an atmosphere that is social and friendly. And best of all, diners unfailingly leave the restaurant with a smile on their faces and a contented feeling in their stomachs. With Paolo Pezzali (head chef and co-owner at Sportivo) in the kitchen, it is no surprise.

Trained in Italy and Switzerland, you can always count on "Michelangelo" Pezzali to create a masterpiece. Pezzali and partner Luigi Boccato strive to serve authentic Italian dishes, and you can always expect a delightful twist on the menu items for variety.

As head waiter, Luigi is an experienced server and a delightful host. With a great deal of experience both here and in the old country, he will make your stay both pleasant and memorable.

If you ask Paolo and Luigi how long they've been in the business, they may answer jokingly, "Since before we were born." And that, I can tell you, isn't too far from the truth.

For the discriminating eater, Sportivo offers its Healthy Pasta, baked with fresh vegetables. Served with homemade soup and bread (prepared fresh every day), all of the menu items are exquisite. And to suit varying budgets, Sportivo's menu runs the gamut. Everything from lamb in a sherry and white mushroom sauce to spaghetti marinara is available, and all are guaranteed delicious.

Every dish at Sportivo is either sautéed or baked. Nothing is fried. Luigi and Paolo go out of their way to acquire the best ingredients available, even down to their espresso ("Lavazza"), and their wide selection of wines.

After you fill up on lunch or dinner, I highly recommend that you check out the homemade desserts, one of which is Tiramisu, a sort of lady finger soaked in espresso. Ingredients include mascarpone (sort of an Italian cream cheese), sugar, Kahlua, rum, and espresso. Also, they import a variety of Italian ice creams.

These desserts are charmingly served, with the coconut ice cream displayed in a halved-out coconut rind, lemon in lemon peel, and the orange and pineapple following suit.

Sportivo also offers food to-go, as well as a catering service. And if there's something you would like that's not on the menu, there's a good chance that you can get it anyway. As Luigi states, "If we can do it, we'll do it."



photo courtesy of Paolo Pezzali

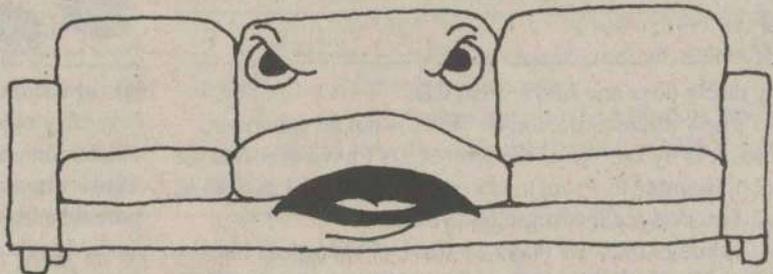
Business hours are from 11:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, and 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on weekends. Lunch is served until 4:00 p.m.. Sportivo is closed on Sundays.

Although it still holds true that you can't please everyone all of the time, Sportivo goes a long way toward satisfying the most discriminating of appetites.

OUT OF THE BLUE

By RYAN DUCKETT

I'M SICK OF MY LIFE. I'M SURE  
IF YOU WERE FARTED ON ALL DAY  
YOU WOULD GET SICK OF IT TOO.



R.D. '94



# Sometimes Pulp is stranger than fiction

Tony Tost  
Staff Writer

Quentin Tarantino's newest work is the bloodiest, baddest, raddest and most entertaining movie made since, well, *Reservoir Dogs*, his last movie. But *Pulp Fiction* is definitely not for pansies. If juicy, explicit, vulgar dialogue spiked with the occasional racial slur offends you, go see *Forrest Gump* for the fifth time instead. But if one can stomach the avalanche of slurs and obscenities found in this scum-ridden gem, the rewards will be good and plenty. The following is a typical exchange between John Travolta's Vincent Vega and Samuel L. Jackson's Jules Winfield: Travolta - "Is giving her a foot massage as bad as (colorful term for oral sex)? No, but you're in the same (deletive) ballpark." Jackson - "Same (deletive) ballpark?... it's not even the same (deletive) sport. You can't tell me that (an extremely colorful term for oral sex) is the same as giving a foot massage." If you found the above dialogue exceedingly offensive, don't see the movie. Go home and watch *Full House* instead. But if you found the above passage exceedingly hilarious, rush to the theater now, because there's a lot more where that came from.

Tarantino has assembled a stud-filled stable of actors to wallow in his genius. Besides Travolta and Jackson (who's character's so cool his wallet reads "Bad Mother Fucker"), the cast also includes such talents as the comely Uma Thurman, Harvey Keitel (who happens to be the best actor of his generation, De Niro, Pacino, etc. included), Ving Rhames, Tim Roth (a stud), Amanda Plummer,



## Movie Review

Eric Stoltz, Rosanna Arquette, Maria de Medeiros and last but not least, the God of all action heroes, Bruce Willis.

Julia Sweeney, Steve Buscemi and Tarantino himself are among those with bit parts in the 140-minute epic. Everybody gives bad-ass performances, except for Sweeney, who must be either Tarantino's friend or lover because she fits into the movie about as well as Mother Teresa would.

While the movie is *mucho* entertaining, it isn't sugar-coated, easily consumed fare either. Besides scenes of shooting, stabbing, drug injecting, snorting and (yum,yum) homosexual butt-rape, there's also the ghastly sight of a pasty white John Travolta with his shirt off. But for every gross-out moment, there are exactly 23 thrilling ones (I did the math): Willis confronting his *Look Who's Talking* castmate Travolta, Travolta and Thurman in a twist contest, Willis and Rhames' revenge on the hillbillies, and countless other classic scenes.

The funniest of those scenes happens in the backseat of Jackson's car when Travolta accidentally shoots a guy and his head explodes like JFK's (I know it sounds gross, but trust me, it's hilarious). Watch out for *Pulp Fiction* at Oscar time, because nominations for best movie, screenplay, director and supporting actor (Jackson) and actress (Thurman) are in order. A clean sweep at Oscar time would be fitting for the best American movie since *Raging Bull*.

# Heavenly blends English-pop with slick melodies

Andy Poehlman  
Staff Writer

In my never-ending endeavor to have the world handed to me on a platter, a week ago I called one of my favorite local record labels (K Records out of Olympia) and asked what I could get for free. The lady on the phone (Julie) told me that she would send out something in the mail, but what that something was to be was anyone's guess. Much to my delight, two days later a box appeared at my door containing four CD's, including one entitled *The Decline and Fall of Heavenly*, by Heavenly. It was the one on top, so it went into the player first.

The CD opens with "Me and My Madness," which is raw, over-the-top pop, and also easily the best song I have heard off a new record in a year. It blends the wide-eyed simplicity of a children's record with a bent sort of distorted raw chorus. The next song, "Modestic," was even better. Lots of horns, lots of slick production and lots of innocent cynicism: "Don't try to win me with your charms, it'll only do you harm." The lady that sings and writes most of the songs, Amelia, has a superb sense of melody, sort of in the English pop (they hail from Oxford) tradition of the Beatles with kind of an Elvis Costello twist.

The day after I got this record I played it for everybody I



## CD Review

could. They all said it was at least "very good," and my girlfriend Shary, upon hearing the first two songs, said "Gosh, man. They play that guitar silly!" so it's not just me.

K Records usually signs acts that I like, but I would've never thought something this slick would be in their catalog. The third song, "Skipjack," keeps in the style of what the band calls "Colossal Crashpop." The rest of the record is consistently superb. "Itchy Chin" is more of the same. "Sacramento" is a neat and yet saucy instrumental, while "Three Star Compliment" is kind of a dream pop number with a hard edged backbeat. "Sperm Meets Egg, So What?" is grade-A pop-rock as well, with a fun and yet somber, dark tone reminiscent of a strange gothic castle.

"She and Me," the last song on the record, is the only really slow-paced, sad song. And for the record it is quite a sad occasion when this record ends.

If you can find this you ought to get it. I would. I swear. I am not lying. I will buy this record for you, or at least give you a really crappy cassette copy of it so you are forced to go out and purchase it yourself when you can't stand having a second rate copy of a first rate album.

In the wonderful world of professional sports, I often find myself wondering what I could do to make life for pro-athletes a little easier.

For the many unfortunate people whom God chooses to bless with athletic abilities superior to that of the average person, life can be quite cruel. Imagine the trauma these people must have experienced having been forced into the world of pro-sports. It's pretty scary — almost as scary as a Pearl Jam concert, but not really.

I can't recall how many nights I have gone without sleep knowing that these daring people were out there risking their lives and making the world a better place for people to live. It has been my life-long objective to bring forward the strenuous conditions and the tired and worn lifestyles that many of these athletes lead to the American public. As a matter of fact, I could even manage an organization that brings forth information on the struggles of the pro-athlete. I know some of the people out there may think this is a stupid idea, but dumber things have been managed (Pearl Jam).

If given the opportunity to start such an organization, one of my goals would be to increase the base salary of pro-athletes. A good base salary is right around 5 million. Many of you may

be wondering where this extra income will come from. Increased ticket prices? Hardly. The selling of team stock to individuals? Get real! I'm talking about something completely revolutionary. As my old grampa used to say, "If I ever hear about you trying to set me up for another robbery, I'll kill your kids, your mother, and that fat ugly (bleep) of yours. Then I'm gonna come after you, and I'm gonna blow your heart out your body, sucka!" This, amidst dröling and various bodily noises, has always stuck in my mind as being very important, although I'm not sure why.

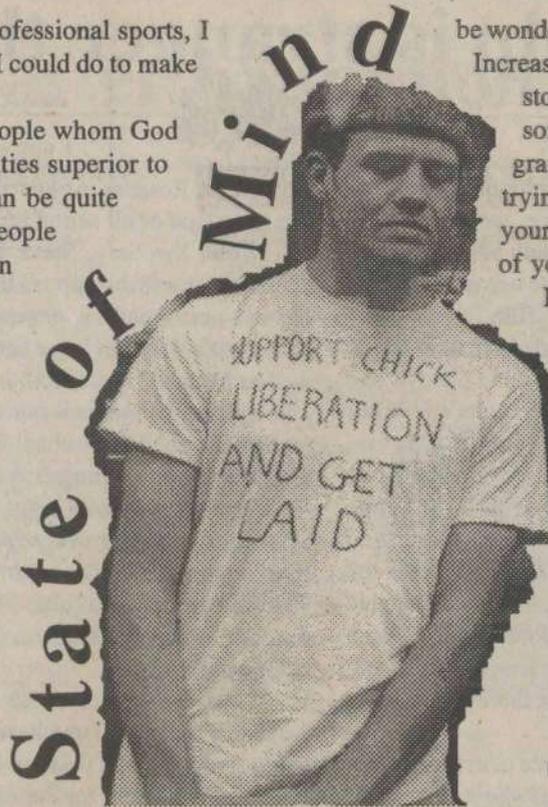
Anyway, under my plan, all U.S. citizens would pay an additional 30% sales tax on every dollar spent on sports paraphernalia. We could then all sign a petition stating that pro-athletes should be exempt from paying the IRS. Again, I know you're wondering who will make up the difference, but before you ask yourself that, ask yourself this: "Would me paying another 5% really make that much of a difference"? Of course not.

In turn, this excess money from the sales tax would be distributed evenly to each professional sports organization, and the extra 5% we as

proud Americans pick up will cancel out what the pro's would have to pay the IRS.

Now I'm not implying that my plan is perfect, but unfortunately we do not live in a make-believe world. Well I do, sometimes, but for the majority, the world isn't fair. If it were, Kurt Cobain wouldn't be dead — Eddie Vedder would.

## Dean Disharoon



# Men's soccer streaks into third place

*Ron Lunsford  
Sports Director*

Heading into the second half of the season, the Green River Community College Men's Soccer team is finding itself in a great position. Their record puts them in third place, just barely edging into a playoff spot.

The relatively young team, with only two second-year players, have done exceptionally well, winning five of their last seven games. These wins were in

large part due to excellent defensive play by sophomore defender George Quenga and freshman goalie Travis Tangen.

A majority of the team's offense has been generated by Aaron Mishcel, a freshman from Kentwood High School. His eight goals lead the team.

The brief wining streak began Oct. 8, with a 2-1 win against Everett. This was followed by shut-outs against Shoreline, Spokane, and Bellevue. The streak concluded with a 1-1 tie against a tough

Edmonds team.

A loss against Clark placed the team one point ahead of both Clark and South Puget Sound. A key match against South Puget Sound took place yesterday. Coach Dan Keene commented that the game was essential in determining whether or not the team goes to the play-offs.

The top three teams from each division will enter the playoffs, which begin Nov. 15.

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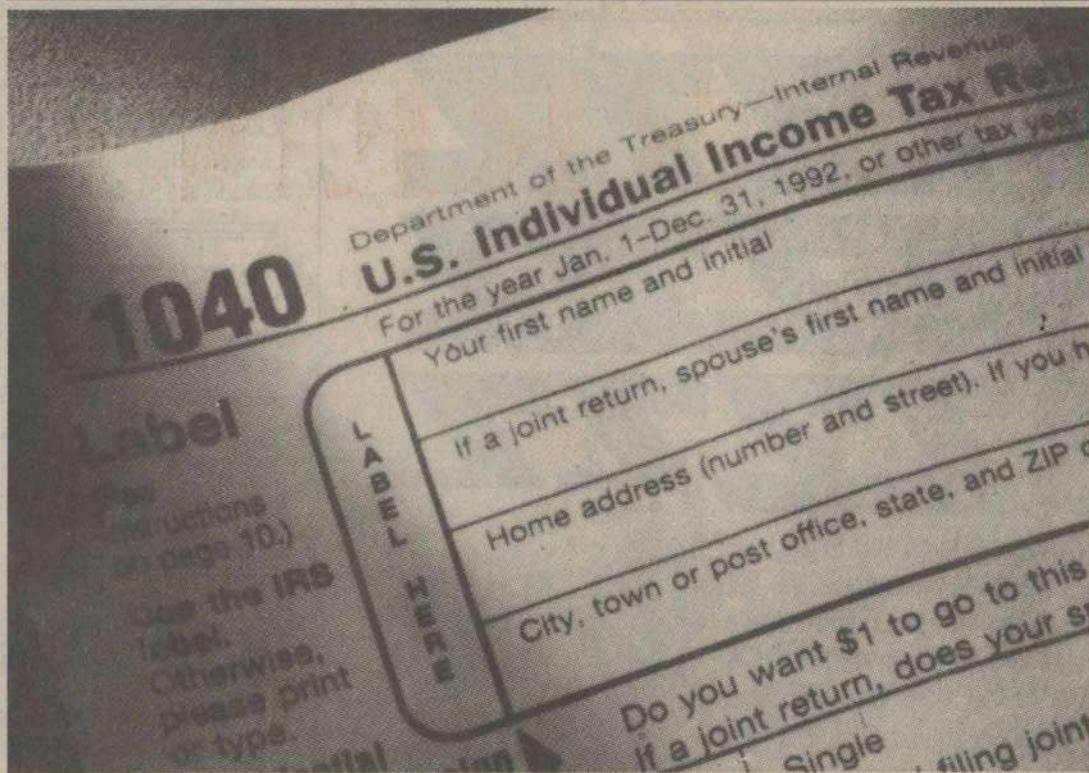
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