

Green River Community College

# CURRENT

Student Newsmagazine

February 2, 1995

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# COMING EVENTS

*A Personal Development Workshop, entitled "Career Planning Simplified," will be conducted today at noon in SS-16. The workshop will offer the secrets of successful career planning. The presenter will be John Arnhold.*

*Student Government will be sponsoring a baloon sale Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Paper Tree bookstore. Students will be able to purchase two printed baloons and four non-printed ballons for \$3.50. Flowers will also be available.*

*A bi-weekly support group for lesbians, gay men and bisexuals at GRCC is being organized. More information is available by contacting Couseling Services at extension 292.*

*Financial aid application workshops will be offered Thursday, Feb. 9 from 2-3 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 22 from noon to 6-7 p.m.; Thursday, March 7 from noon-1 p.m.; and Tuesday, March 7 from 6-7 p.m. All workshops will be conducted in the Lindbloom Student Center's Baker Room. More information is available by contacting the Financial Aid Office at extension 317.*

## THE CURRENT

Volume 30 Number 6

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*The views expressed in this publication are those of individuals, and are 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: One of the many fuzzy friends found on GRCC campus.*

*Photo by: Charlyene Johnson*

# Students offered chance to experience Eastern Europe

Kelly Murff  
Staff Writer

This summer Green River Community College will offer students an opportunity to explore Greece and Turkey while earning college credit.

Students planning to take Geography 190 or any of the photography classes will be eligible to participate.

Although students will register for the classes Summer Quarter, the trip won't begin until Sept. 4. Scheduled as such, students will be able to spend their two weeks

abroad with cooler weather and fewer tourists.

Accompanying students on the trip will be photography instructor Patrick Navin and geography instructor Robert Lee. Credit values for the courses are currently undecided.

A background in the aforementioned subjects is not required, but according to Lee, "if you have any interest in photography, this is one of the best places to shoot." The geography portion of the trip will involve observing the natural landscape, ter-

rain, climate, and the people and cultures of the places visited. Students will also have the opportunity to visit various archeological sites to get a glimpse of how the area evolved historically.

The trip will accommodate approximately 16 students and cost about \$2,000 for travel, lodging, and two meals a day. More facts about the trip can be obtained by attending an informational meeting tomorrow at noon in SS-8 or by contacting Bob Lee at extension 441 or Patrick Navin at extension 417.

## Furness brings a touch of *reality* to Green River

### UW Director to speak on Human Interface Technology

Kelly Murff  
Staff Writer

A lecture on how virtual reality applies to math will be conducted by Thomas Furness III, Ph.D. at Green River Community College Thursday, Feb. 16.

The presentation is part of a math series created in honor of Alexander Heft, a recently retired GRCC instructor, and was designed to show students how math can be used in the real world.

Furness is the director of the Human Interface Technology Laboratory at the University of Washington. In 1993, he was the keynote speaker for a virtual reality conference which examined current research developments in the field and how the technology can be used to help people with special physical, learning, attention, or sensory impairment needs.

Furness will be speaking in SS-8 from noon to 1 p.m., and admission is free.

The last speaker of the series will be Ben Nelson on Wednesday, March 1, who will discuss various industrial applications of mathematics.

More information on the series is available by contacting Mandy Wickett at extension 337 or Christie Gilliland at extension 508.

## Government opens to student body for trials

Wendy Hale  
Staff Writer

Green River Community College's student government is offering students a chance to get more involved with the government here on campus.

In an effort to expand awareness so that more students will get involved in the spring elections, student government will allow interested students to take over — among other positions — the presidential and vice-presidential positions for a week.

The participants will be selected from a drawing on Thursday, Feb 9. Interested students may submit their names to the drawing boxes in Holman Library, the Lindbloom Student Center, or the campus radio station, KGRG. Information will also be posted around campus and broadcast through the Lindbloom Student Center intercom.

The fill-in president and vice-president will be sworn in to serve Feb 13-17 and attend a Board of Trustees meeting Feb 16. They will follow the same daily duties that the current government follows, although they will receive help from the president and vice-president elected to the student government now.

The presidential fill-in's duties will include making judicial appointments; appointing committees and boards; appointing students to faculty, administrative and trustee committees; signing and vetoing legislation; and making and signing contracts.

The vice-presidential fill-in will work as chairperson to the student senate; serve as student representative to the All College Council; and convey all legislation passed to the president.

More information is available by contacting the Student Programs office upstairs in the Lindbloom Student Center.

## GRCC's multi-cultural group promotes diversity

*Jerry Weatherhogg  
Staff Writer*

The Green River Community College Multi-Cultural Task Force is working toward better representing the diversity in the student body.

First and foremost, diversity is not just an issue of race.

"Diversity (is) all the differences on campus," explained Ted Broussard, chairperson of the Multi-Cultural Task Force. "It's about ethnicity, different ethnic groups. It's about differences in gender. Differences in sexual orientation. Differences in religion."

When the multi-cultural group began about seven years ago, they worked on getting a diverse population on campus and making sure people were represented from the real world. Now the group's focus is on making GRCC a place where people of different cultures and backgrounds feel comfortable.

The group has full meeting approximately every month and a half, with the smaller subcommittees meeting in-between. During their meetings, they devote about half an hour of time toward training. The leaders plan an exercise to teach diversity, or speakers from other groups on campus detail what they are doing. The rest of the session is devoted to planning. They have work teams (subcommittees) which focus on specific topics, such as campus art, hate crimes, public relations, the immigrant and international population, and faculty and student training.

They currently have a handful of projects in the works, some of which are visible on campus. By the end of this year, they plan to have a poster "to have people think diversity and respect diversity," Broussard continued.

"Another thing going on (is) with campus art and (the) environment. We purchased some artwork by different ethnic artists

showing different ethnic groups and we are placing them all over the campus," he said.

Only about ten works are posted, but he hopes to increase the number every year. The Immigrant and International Work Team is planning an International Week and an English as a Second Language (ESL) week, both tentatively set for the weeks of March 8 and April 21, respectively. Plans include international foods and demonstrations.

Broussard would like to stress that the Multi-Cultural Task Force is not a social club. Work is done to improve relations on campus. Therefore, no fees are required and membership is open to anyone in the college community. Their next meeting is planned for Thursday, Feb. 23 from 2-4 p.m. in the Rainier Room, and everyone is welcome.

More information is available by contacting Broussard extension 292.

## Chevy donates new Blazer to automotive tech classes

*Honor Currey  
Staff Writer*

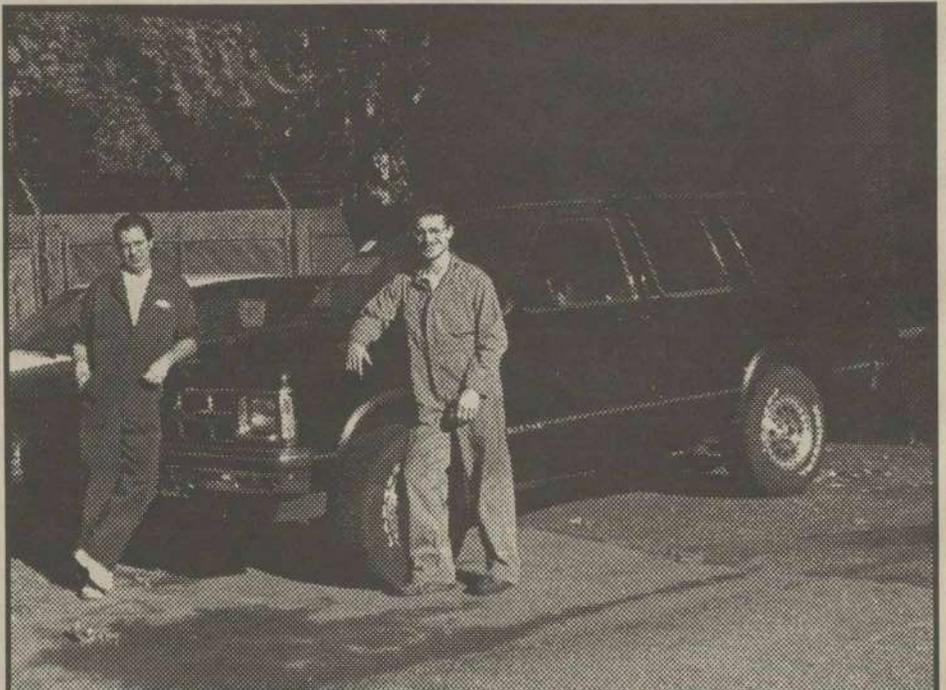
The Green River Community College auto department received somewhat of a belated Christmas present last month — a 1994 Chevrolet Blazer four-wheel drive.

The truck was donated by the Chevrolet Motor Division and Auburn Chevrolet/Geo for in-class instructional purposes. The vehicle will be used for training in both the areas of automotive technology and auto body.

Dick Noe, a GRCC automotive instructor, said that the donated vehicle will be used to keep students up to date with the technology of the later models.

The Blazer was presented at an informal ceremony in which the general sales manager for Auburn Chevrolet/Geo and the district service manager for the Chevrolet Motor Division handed the keys of the truck to GRCC President Richard Rutkowski, Vice President Donn Adams and Noe.

According to Chevrolet Motor Division, close to 11,000 new Chevy vehicles have been donated to schools.



Two automotive technology students pose with the new blazer donated by the Chevrolet Motor Corporation. It was one of nearly 11,000 cars donated to schools.

Photo by: Charlyene Johnson

# New routes give Kent commuters new options



The Auburn #181 bus will have mates at the GRCC stop, as routes #164 and #168 begin arriving from Kent.

Photo by: Charlyene Johnson

*Rene Gagnier  
Staff Writer*

In light of the ongoing parking problems at Green River Community College, students tired of fighting for spaces may want to consider taking the bus.

Metro is helping to alleviate the problems by starting two new bus routes Monday, Feb. 13, both of which will transport students from the Kent Park-and-Ride on Southeast Wax Road to the GRCC campus.

Taking the bus will cost \$39.50 monthly. Daily rates are also available at a reasonable price.

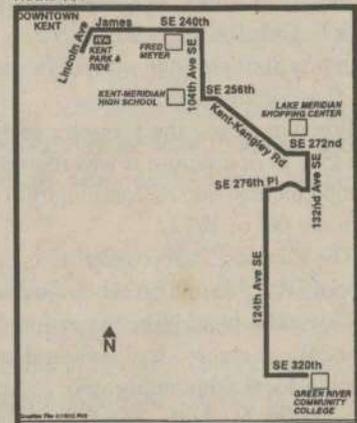
Route #168 will pick up passengers in half-hour intervals, and route #164, during the mid-day, will arrive once every hour.

The Metro bus system will "try to accommodate classroom schedules," stated Tim Apicalla, a representative from Metro.

Students interested in obtaining free tickets to try out these routes can sign up in the Student Programs office when the route is implemented. Proper identification will be required.

"We hope that it will help the students out as giving an alternative means of transportation," Apicalla said.

Route 164



## TAKE A FREE RIDE!

If you would like to try Rt. 164, compliments of Metro, bring your student i.d. to Student Programs and receive your free ride tickets!

## Discussion group permits students to speak their minds

*Tony Tost  
Staff Writer*

Alpha Chi Beta, Green River Community College's division of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, is sponsoring a "Science, Humanity and Technology" discussion series.

The discussions, conducted bi-weekly, feature an eclectic array of films, speakers and literature.

"The purpose of the discussion group is to add to the richness of the student's education here at Green River," commented coordinator Shelley Douglas-Carey. "It is an aspect that is available to students of many four-year colleges, but is often not accessible to many community college students."

Douglas-Carey added that on many

four-year campuses, the students are looking for ways to fill their time and may turn to activities such as discussion groups to fill the void, but since GRCC's students all live off campus and commute to school and work, such activities are not often available to them. Phi Theta Kappa is working to ensure that GRCC's students have as many opportunities for cultural and intellectual stimulation as possible.

The first installment of the series will be today in the Lindbloom Student Center's Baker Room at noon. The speaker will be Tatyana Dunayeva, a former resident of Moscow who will be speaking on freedom of speech as it existed in the Soviet Union and its role in the development of contemporary Russian government.

# Earthquakes: are we ready yet?

David Burr  
Executive Editor

Cemented firmly between the myths and the realities of controversy surrounding the next big earthquake in the Northwest, many things are still unclear.

One thing, however, is clear: Northwest residents are not prepared.

Evidence of this lies in the realms of the nightly newscasts, where the footage of crowded REI stores in the aftermath of Saturday's 5.0 earthquake was abundant.

The most significant problem inherent in predicting the future is the fact that we simply cannot know what to expect in terms of damage or mortality statistics. We also don't know what to expect in terms of

additional damage caused by aftershocks.

We only know that we don't want to be around when this type of earthquake does occur, and ignoring the possibility that the "big one" could happen at any time seems to be the common source of relief for most.

Even more unsettling are the predictions geologist Jim Burkland has seen come true — he predicted last weekend's quake a week in advance.

Burkland predicted on *Town Meeting* that the Northwest would experience an earthquake between Jan. 27 and Feb. 3 with a magnitude somewhere between 3.5 and 6.0 on the Richter scale. He uses astrology to make these predictions.

"Many scientific colleagues don't be-

lieve in my predictions because they have discarded the information I use as unimportant," Burkland said.

In the last 20 years, however, more than 75 percent of his predictions have come true, according to Burkland.

"Most earthquakes occur (within) two hours of a sunrise or sunset," Burkland said.

A number of factors contribute to his predictions: the moon's gravity and its effects the earth; high tides; the effects of previous earthquakes; and the positions of the sun and the moon relative to the earth.

To illustrate his point, Burkland said that the 1965 Northwest earthquake, which registered 6.5 on the Richter scale, occurred the day after an eclipse of the moon. Often, an unusual change in the behavior of household pets may be an indication of environmental abnormalities.

Burkland, who was a geologist for 35 years, has just retired and lives in San Jose, Calif. He worked for the federal government and has taught at universities on both the East and West Coast.

Even more alarming are Burkland's predictions for the future. In addition to the magnitude 8.0 earthquake he says will occur before 2010, he believes the Northwest will experience a quake with a magnitude of 6.0 before the end of the century and that residents "should really prepare."

Burkland will be featured in the April edition of *National Geographic*.

Chris Jonientz-Trisler, a seismologist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, explained that predictions or no predictions, Northwest residents had better be prepared.

"There's been no method of predicting earthquakes that has been accepted by the scientific community," Jonientz-Trisler explained. "They can happen at any time, and they can be devastating."

People should plan on being able to

## High school students earn college credits at GRCC

Honor Currey  
Staff Writer

In fall of 1990, as a result of the Choices Legislation led by Booth Gardner, the Running Start program was put into effect in five community colleges.

For two years, the program underwent a trial period before it was required to be implemented into all community colleges in the fall of 1992.

The Running Start program is an optional tool available to high school juniors and seniors who would like to get a jump on their college career. It allows students to attend a local community college and receive credits for high school that also apply as college credits.

There are certain stipulations that must be met by the student, most of which apply to any other GRCC student. High school juniors and seniors must take the ASSET test before enrolling. Students must qualify for and be enrolled in 100 level classes or above to receive college

credits as well as high school. They are not allowed to "clump" into one class together, as one of the program's objectives is not only to educate the student academically, but to introduce him/her to many of the social aspects of college life in general.

Perhaps one of the most appealing aspects of the program is the fact that each student's tuition is paid for by his/her high school, and students need only pay for books and individual class fees.

Students participating in this program with GRCC come primarily from the Auburn, Kent and Federal Way school districts. Some students, however, come from as far as Oak Harbor. The numbers of high school juniors and seniors participating has gone up since last quarter from 216 to 223 participants. Over half of these high school students take 6-15 credits.

Last year, three participating students not only graduated high school but also received their AA at the same time.

## Point

## THE POLITICAL

## Counterpoint

The presidential address to the nation Wednesday, Jan. 25 needs to be addressed itself.

Bill Clinton has got to be one of the best politicians to ever hold office. He is a very eloquent speaker. In a speech that lasted over an hour, he sure talked a lot.

But did he say anything?

He started out by trying to befriend the Republican party, paying lip service to past Republican presidents such as Ronald Reagan. In one sentence he was able to say he had learned humility in the past two years but that he was proud of himself at the same time. Bill then started trying to baffle us with some numbers, saying that the government has cut spending — not really.

They have cut projected spending, which means if they thought that they were going to spend \$2 million next year and then changed it to \$1.5 million, they have cut *projected* spending. The point being, if they only spent \$1 million this year, did they really cut spending?

Willy also came up with "A New Covenant." Does he know what a covenant is? A covenant is a two-way promise; you make a promise to me and I make a promise to you. If either side does not live up to the promise made, both sides are void. Does this mean that if Clinton says he is not going to raise taxes, that Americans don't have to pay them if he does? Not likely.

He went on to briefly touch on just about every issue he has ever

John Carey - Ruth Nyhuis



EDGE

had to address. He mentioned raising the minimum wage. If he does, jobs will be lost when employers cut back to make up for it or raise the cost of products. The cost of living then goes up, as well as interest and unemployment rates. Back to square one. The Slickster just can't let go of some issues — like health care and the crime bill. He made the remark that many democrats gave up their seats in the house to pass the crime bill. Correction; The American public voted them out of office for passing a ridiculous feel-good law which took away their rights — specifically the gun ban on assault weapons.

In front of an audience filled with Republicans, Clinton gave the annual State of the Union address as well as he could to a bunch of tight-wad men and women who definitely need the help of the fashion police.

When Clinton said "It is not right to punish poor children for the mistakes of their parents," Republicans sat in stony silence. Okay, so Republicans want to punish children on welfare. What do they want them to do, flip burgers at Mickey D's?

For the hard-core Rush Limbaugh fans, the President's speech might have been a laugh, but Clinton addressed all of the problems our nation is having, many of them due to past Republican presidencies. America is wallowing in debt as a result of Republican legislation and needless spending.

Our country might be overrun by Republicans on Capitol Hill, but America is a much stronger country now with Clinton than it ever was with either Bush or Reagan.

Clinton was voted into office when the American public was wanting a change, and now the polls are showing him to be very unpopular and disliked. Gee, talk about de'ja vu with Gingrich. He was voted into office, but how long do you think he will last before the public hates him? How long will it be before the public blames the Republicans for all of the homeless children running through the streets once they've been cut off from welfare.

## Bleha earns honors while chairing blossoming department

Wendy Hale  
Staff Writer

Dr. Bernie Bleha incorporates his extraordinary humor with excellent teaching skills to give his students at Green River Community College a quarter they're not likely to forget. Bleha, who teaches color and design, three dimensional design and drawing, is also the chairman of the entire fine arts division, which includes photography, journalism, art, drama, music, and dance. In addition, Bleha is the director of the Helen B. Smith Gallery, located in the Holman Library, and is an artist in his own right.

Bleha spends up to 25 hours a week working on new art creations, usually producing six to ten pieces a year. He has been honored with numerous awards for his outstanding achievements, including presentations by the Ford Foundation, in Los Angeles which represents Tamarind Lithography Workshop, and Co-founder Gemini Limited, which is a fine arts publishing house. Bleha also received the Distinguished Faculty Member award at GRCC in 1991, and has been displayed as a Prominent Northwest Artist, in the Archives and Manuscript Division at the UW.

This is a special honor for Bleha, who was selected by a panel to participate in the archives. A complete biography, including slides of the artist's work, is published for each inductee and is accessible to the general public.

Bleha has also worked for the King County Arts Commission and the Auburn Arts Council. He co-founded the Auburn

Arts Commission, and because of his extraordinary work there, the council has decided to exhibit Bleha's work. His art will be displayed in the upper lobby of City Hall in December of this year.

Before coming to GRCC, Bleha worked in Los Angeles as a printmaker. He came to Washington to help build factories for Boeing after a "burn out" in

L.A. Bleha soon decided that this was not the career he wanted to pursue and applied for an instructing position at GRCC in 1967.

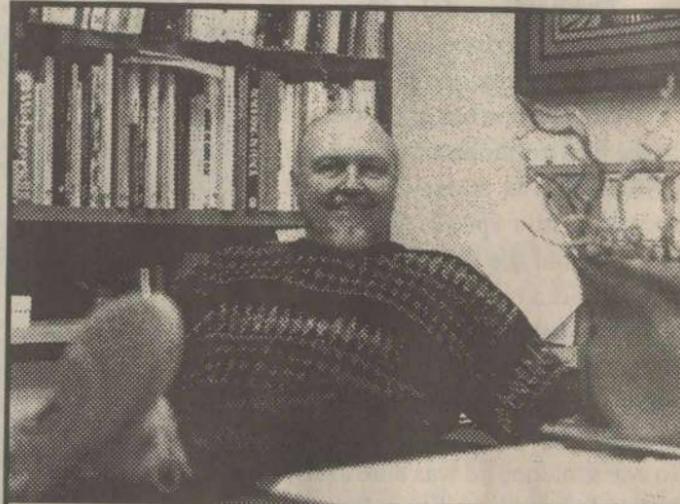
"I was looking for a place to develop a good program," commented Bleha.

Nine weeks after being hired, Bleha was placed in charge of the fine arts department.

Many community colleges are in the process of losing their fine arts programs, but GRCC's program continues to thrive.

"GRCC has one of the best Fine Arts departments in the state," stated Bleha proudly. This says a lot for GRCC because there is no specific building for fine arts, whereas there often is for other colleges.

Bleha believes in teaching and enjoys watching his students progress. He is very



Bernie grooves to his own pattern in his office.

Photo by: Tiffany DeLong

dedicated to teaching and his many positions here on campus.

As director of the Helen B. Smith Gallery, Bleha books seven major shows each year, including a faculty show every other year and a student exhibition every spring. Student art is judged by a panel of GRCC faculty members including Bleha, and awarded for outstanding recognition. He also takes part in many other shows in the Auburn area, from grade school to community work.

Bleha holds a bachelor's degree in graphic design and a master's of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Washington, as well as a doctorate in higher education from Florida at Nova University, in Fort Lauderdale.

## Pitt and Quinn intensify roles in newest legend

Tony Tost  
Staff Writer

*Legends of the Fall* is the movie Brad Pitt has been waiting for. Not since *Thelma and Louise* has he been this good. The sound of the young girls' hearts fluttering could be heard every time he was on the screen. This was no accident.

Hollywood has used the western and its maverick settings to boost young actors into the top echelon of superstars for generations. Gary Cooper, John Wayne, Clint Eastwood and Kevin Costner are just a few of the young stallions to rise to stardom in the western genre.

Brad Pitt and Aidan Quinn can now add their names to the list.

Both give star turns as Col. William Ludlow's (Anthony Hopkins) sons. Pitt shines as the wild, rebellious and charismatic Tristan, and Quinn excels as the older, ambitious and intelligent Alfred. Also giving fine performances are Henry Thomas (Elliot from *E.T.*) as the youngest and most naive of the brothers, Samuel; and newcomer Julia Ormand as Susanna, who's engaged to Samuel, coveted by Alfred and lusts for Tristan. The only real dud in the bunch is Oscar-winner Hopkins, who is fine

### MOVIE REVIEW

## *Legends of the Fall*

Starring: Brad Pitt, Aidan Quinn, Anthony Hopkins.

Rated - R

until his character suffers a stroke. He then proceeds to turn into a bumbling, obnoxious, Popeye-looking grump. His acting is so bad it would make Jean Claude Van-Damme cringe.

Set at the start of the 20th century, *Legends* sprawls across the globe for the duration of the characters' lives. Among the events covered are a world war, several scalplings, two bear fights, one suicide, a tennis match, countless untimely deaths and several other dramatic slips and slides. Those looking for a good cry will certainly find one. Those looking for good entertainment will be satisfied. Anyone looking for a pretentious work of cinema will be disappointed, as they should be.

## Former student launches career as playwright in Auburn

Ruth Nyhuis  
Staff Writer

John Calveri, a former Green River Community College student, has displayed the cycle of life through two generations in *Through the Eyes of a Child*, an all new, all original musical production.

The show contains 14 songs, two reprises and a wide variety of musical styles that includes everything from big band to modern jazz.

The script was written by John and Joseph Calveri, while musical arrangements were done by Randy Kartchner, from California.

While attending GRCC, Calveri participated in the Green River Music Company, the college's professional entertainment training program. He began writing the play about a year ago, with his brother Joseph. He began to ponder life after his nephew was accidentally shot in the chest.

"Our society has lost the empathy toward children," Calveri said.

Reviews of the play have detailed an emotional rollercoaster. Some viewers stated that they walked away feeling as if they could be better parents, siblings, spouses and children.

*Through the Eyes of a Child* premieres Friday, Feb. 24, at the Auburn Performing Arts Center. The show then travels to the Everett Civic Center, Saturday, Feb. 25, and finally to the Puyallup Performing Arts Center March 3-4.

The show lasts about two hours and the ticket prices will run \$8 for the Auburn and Everett performances and \$7 for the Puyallup performance.

Calveri hopes to begin work soon on a movie script.

## Local bands top the list of performers in Lindbloom Center during lunches

Ruth Nyhuis  
Staff Writer

Student Programs at Green River Community College offers several opportunities each quarter for students to perform for an audience of their peers.

The campus talent series takes place at noon, on the Lindbloom Student Center's mainstage, various days throughout the

quarter.

The series, which has included a variety of acts such as Blue Rain and Mind Play, provides an excellent chance for students on campus to display their talents and for students to discover new and interesting acts during their lunch breaks.

At least one member of the group must attend GRCC to qualify as a campus talent

performer. The group or band must then submit either a video or audio tape of their show and may submit another tape for possible airtime on KGRG, the campus radio station.

Students must follow a sequence of essential steps to make sure their "gigs" will go through. First, a representative will need to contact Heidi Nolte in Student Programs

to sign a contract and determine whether or not merchandise will be sold at the show. Student programs will also provide technical production — such as lights and amplification — and information on getting posters, flyers and any other promotional materials printed at GRCC's print shop.

Flyers and posters may be posted on campus (on cedar surfaces only), and groups

will be responsible for taking down all of their own propaganda.

Wednesday, Feb. 15, the campus talent series will present an artist performing dances in honor of Black Student Union Week.

More information about the campus talent series is available by contacting Heidi Nolte or Kim Bateman in Student Programs at 833-9111 ext. 337, 338 or 339.

## Consider This...

# Explicit TV comedy is sabotaging our youth

For months, much hoopla and propaganda has been focused upon the proliferation of comedy on television and its disastrous effects upon society. Apparently television is not satisfied with just showing comedy and humor; it also has a need to glorify it as well.

Everywhere one looks, on every channel, all that is seen is gratuitous comedy irresponsibly strewn across the screen. Cable television is the worst, with each blasphemous channel displaying graphic comedy on an hourly basis. I know some will say that there has always been humor, with or without television, but you will be hard pressed to tell me that there isn't much more comedy today than in my father's and grandfather's age. It's about time we return to the safe, black-and-white era of previous generations of television programs.

One thing that is disturbing to me is how comedy is infiltrating our formerly safe and somber suburbs. Thankfully, comedy had been contained to the inner cities ever since the industrial boom. But laxing morals, a lack of discipline at home and in the classroom, and a breakdown of the Christian morals in which this country was founded has allowed such dangerous comedians such as Richard Pryor and Eddie Murphy to corrupt mainstream America and twist and bend the psyche of our youth.

It may not be "politically correct" to say this, but I personally wasn't concerned with black-on-black humor. But now things have changed. Now there are funny white men, and even women are getting into the act. Roseanne, Tom Hanks and Jerry Seinfeld are just some members of the white race to turn to the black hole that is wealth and fame through senseless, graphic humor. Perhaps most dangerous are unfunny wanna-be comics such as Pauley Shore who will resort to any level of crude behavior to try to entertain our impressionable youths. It is no coincidence that you are seeing a dramatic rise in the number of young white comedians like Adam Sandler and David Spade. It is so bad out there that my grandma is afraid to go to the mall for fear of reckless youths slinging jokes and clever insults over

her head.

To compound the disastrous effects of TV upon our comedy-obsessed society, the government deems it necessary to render us defenseless against the increasing threat of humor. If Bill Clinton and his bleeding-heart liberals had their way, the average citizen's home would be devoid of any whoopee cushions, exploding cigars or any other means of defense; only the street urchins would be armed for laughs. They want to eliminate the threat of retaliation, and they want to strip our right to defend ourselves.

I say "Fight humor with humor." An eye for eye, a giggle for a gaggle. If you can't take it, then you're not a man! But the liberals and the left-wing media have twisted and turned the statistics to try and convince a frightened public that they are more likely to be a victim of comedy if they have whoopee cushions, etc. in their homes than if their home is devoid of comedic implements. Yeah right. What are they going to say next? That women have the right to choose what to do with their bodies? That the government and religious groups shouldn't force their beliefs down other people's throats? The fact is that the right to bear arms is clearly outlined in the constitution and it should not be stripped from the citizens of this great land, no matter how many innocent lives are senselessly insulted because of it. It should be obvious that television is the real source of this country's comedy dilemma. It couldn't possibly be because of real life problems.

I propose banning comedy completely from television. Now that the Republicans and Newt Gingrich are in power, we'll soon be returning to the policies of the fifties, and hopefully all of America will see the demise of this dark cloud that has been hanging over our heads for the last thirty years.



by Tony Tost

### COLLEGE LIFE

By Chris Farrar



National Student News Service, 1994

# Genrefest offers alternative to alternative

Heather Gilley  
Staff Writer

The "Seattle Sound" is typically defined by the music style commonly referred to as grunge. A few rough guitar chords, a vital bass beat, and lots of feedback are all it took to attract an angst-ridden generation to this Northwestern city. What people rarely realize is that beneath all the hype and frustration of grunge, an eden of musical diversity flourishes. Genrefest, an all-ages event presented Saturday, Jan. 28 at the King Theatre by local indie label Ivy Records, was the perfect chance to step back from the usual and take a fresh perspective on the future of popular music.

Genrefest featured Kill Switch...Klick, Faith & Disease, and Diamond Fist Werny, three local bands with very distinct and original musical ideas. Well known on the Seattle club circuit and listeners of college radio stations such as KGRG (Green River Community College's radio station), these three bands have attracted good followings while still managing to maintain their unique qualities and artistic integrity.

The show began with Kill Switch...Klick, serving up a heaping helping of what has been termed "post-industrial grit," a combination of driving techno beats, eerie, angry vocals, and various sound samples. The playlist included tracks from their debut CD such as "Beat it to Fit, from the CD *Paint it to Match* on Cleopatra Records.

KSK's earlier releases include a self-titled cassette and a video for their track "Follow Me," which was banned in Canada for portraying bondage acts. KSK is also a founding member of The Northwest Elektro-Industrial Coalition, which promotes and publicizes the development of industrial music.

Priding themselves on the lack of guitar in their music, KSK utilizes a variety of equipment including synthesizers, acoustic

drums and drum machines, and the "slambar," an original instrument constructed by KSK vocalist, Damin Sabastian. The slambar is a four-stringed percussion instrument, holding a likeness to a steel guitar but sounding much more aggressive, which one member plays with two screwdrivers.

With a sound more industrial than new Ministry, as heavy as Nine Inch Nails, and as experimental as Skinny Puppy, Kill Switch...Klick is beating a path through the mainstream and creating a place for itself in the Seattle music scene.

Next came the haunting songs of Faith & Disease, an ethereal dream-core band led by the vocal talents of fire-haired songstress, Dara Rosenwasser. In a shroud of candlelight and incense the band delivered dreamy tracks from their newest CD release *Fortune His Sleep* and their debut CD

*Beauty & Bitterness*, recorded under the Ivy Records label. Instrumentation included acoustic and electric guitar, various percussion, bass guitar, keyboards, and a variety of accessories such as bells and a rainstick.

Above all, the ecstasy of Rosenwasser's enchanting voice brought to life this music as beautiful, but much different than the hypnotic mumbling of The Cranberries. Many have also compared Faith & Disease to 4AD label artists such as Dead Can Dance, Cocktop Twins, and Mazzy Star, but they have definitely developed a mysterious sound all their own.

Faith & Disease's other accomplishments include a couple of 7" singles, several contributions to compilation CDs, including some releases in Germany, and a few locally released videos. Their music ranges from a cover of the Cure's "All Cats are Grey" to traditional Hebrew Hashivenu. They have performed a mini-tour in California, played at Bumbershoot, and are planning a club circuit tour of the United States. Faith & Disease can currently be found grac-

ing the clubs of Seattle with their haunting music.

Diamond Fist Werny topped off the night with their distinctive droning. Creatively mixing Eastern influence into their grooving guitar rhythms, Diamond Fist Werny has been held responsible for the birth of the term "Zen-core." Vocalist Todd Werny, backed by Tim Soba on acoustic and sample drums, and Axel Mundi on bass clarinet, alto clarinet, and soprano saxophone, delivered a hard-driving performance including tracks from their first self-titled CD recorded on Rudy Records. Contributing to their performance was a visual interactive display consisting of slides and computer generated images.

Aside from their debut CD, Diamond Fist Werny contributed to the *Seattle Music Scene Volume Two* and the *END 107.7 Unleashed* compilations, as well as two five-song cassettes and a 7" single. The original sound of Diamond Fist Werny lends much credit to the talents of Axel Mundi. The deep moan of his bass clarinet and the lulling whine of the soprano saxophone combined with the heavy guitar riffs gives the music a depth and dimension unlike anything heard before. Contrary to the expectation that a band dependent on a clarinet for a bass-line would be fairly mellow, Diamond Fist Werny presented a hypnotic, psychedelic performance packed with slamming twists and turns.

"With typical grunge bands getting signed left and right it's been kind of hard to stick to our own thing..." stated Todd Werny, vocalist of Diamond Fist Werny, "but we shot ahead doing our own thing hoping we're ahead of our time. Eventually our time will come."

Genrefest is definitely a show to remember, bringing together this diverse collection of musical talent and breaking away from the everyday alternative scene. These bands are what alternative should be all about, pursuing an original idea and breaking new ground in the music world. Hopefully Kill Switch...Klick, Faith & Disease, and Diamond Fist Werny help bring this city's scene back to life. There may be hope for the 'Seattle sound' yet.

**"With typical grunge bands getting signed left and right, it's been kind of hard to stick to our own thing."**

**Todd Werny**

# Well-known hazards of feeding squirrels ignored

## Caution should be used to prevent health risks

Brett Baumann  
Special to The Current

When feeding squirrels, be sure to keep a safe distance. Rabies are not worth a peanut and a smile.

While you're walking along the lush pathways of Green River Community College, you probably can't help but notice the pack of squirrels stalking you through the weeds. If you happen to be eating as you walk, the number of stalkers increase and likewise their ferocious tempers.

The fact is, these cute little fat beggars can be dangerous. The squirrel is in the varmint family and can also be a carrier of the infamous rabies virus. The virus was once deadly to humans; rabies at one time would put a county up in arms.

Today the problem with rabies can easily be taken care of. A series of shots directly to the stomach is a fair price to pay for feeding these creatures.

So if you see a fellow student feeding one of these fuzzy inhabitants that share our campus, just shake your head and point to your stomach.



Despite the dangers of rabies, some students cannot resist the fuzzy varmint.

Photo by: Sara Grubaugh

## Did you know?

Inside the confines of America's corporate, pseudo, higher education facilities, there exists an intense phantasmagoria of student integrity shrouded in dim candlelight and the mesmerizing scents of Jasmine and Opium incense. Dark nights that give way to darker days are filled with the emotions of innocent victims that lead terribly boring lives outside the safe walls that they have built up around them with only 7-inch vinyl records to keep them company.

No kids, there aren't any midnight pizza rendezvous, or all night pajama parties — just the immutable sounds of a whirring turn-table. Morbid voices of 2 am callers requesting Nirvana's "Rape Me", and "God", by the conceptually ethereal songstress Tori Amos, haunt the soul of the lonely shadow behind the amplified microphone.

Suddenly, out of the placidity of another starless night, eccentric howling disturbs the communes of tiny brown squirrels that reside atop the evergreens that are littered carelessly

throughout the desolate college campus. The members of the strange cult shake the walls of their temple, dispersing low melodic chants, and sacrificing their sanity to their alternative God.

It is a deeply rooted, antagonistic, retro-viva, underground world of faded corduroy and chintzey orange velvet. It is where the obscure and destitute procreate immoral implications, while sharing heaping dishes of decent Chinese food and Italian calzones with James Dean and Jack Kerouac. It's an ambiguous outlook by generations X, Y and Z, of a depleting society which perpetually retains its cosmic suicide and relinquishes nothing but an industrialized, grungy attitude toward life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

It exists, now, in a sleepy hollow of industry and creativity near the mushroom infested, marshy, green bog of our prevalent quintessence.

— Carrin Hargraves

*No kids, there aren't any  
midnight pizza rendezvous,  
or all night pajama parties  
—just the immutable sounds  
of a whirring turn-table.*

# Run and shoot Gators rebound from slow start

*Julia Greene*  
Staff Writer

The Green River Community College Men's Basketball team is 8-10 overall and 3-5 in Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges league play. On Saturday, Jan. 28, the Gators easily defeated the Grays Harbor Chokers 90 to 83.

The Gators have two shining stars on the team: Todd Kennedy and Eddie Turner. Kennedy, from Curtis High School, is a 6'1" sophomore guard with 29 points in league play. Turner, of Culver City High School in California, is a 6'3" sophomore guard with an average of 16 points a game in league play.

"It is more of a team effort, committee thing. We need to pick up three of our next four games to get into position," third-year Gator Basketball Head Coach Matt Thacker said.

Four of the Gator players believe the team will be going to the playoffs.

"We have the talent to turn around our losing streak and turn it into a winning streak," Freshman Guard Mark Warren, from Enumclaw High School, said.

"Because we have a very talented team and because we are mentally tough, we will be pulling it together," 6-foot-5-inch Fresh-

### Men's Basketball Schedule

Feb 4 - Tacoma @ GRCC  
 Feb 8 - Pierce @ GRCC  
 Feb 11 - Lower Columbia @ GRCC  
 Feb 15 - GRCC @ South Puget Sound  
 Feb 18 - Centralia @ GRCC

All home games played at the GRCC Gymnasium. Start time is 8:00 pm

man Center Quilly Glover from LaHabra High School in California said.

"Right now we are 1-4 but we are still in it and we have to win three games in a row and get on a roll and see what happens from there," Mark Tichenor, 6-foot-0" sophomore guard from Timberline High School, stated.

In previous seasons the Gators have been haunted by injuries but this season the players have not been affected.

"We are pretty healthy right now and we are in pretty good shape," Thacker said.

## Half court defense keys Gator victory over Chokers

*Alisa Schwabauer & Jerry Weatherhogg*  
Sports Director

On Saturday January 28, the Women Gators faced a bitter loss to the Grays Harbor Chokers 64 to 66. As the final seconds ticked away the Gators were only able to watch the game slip away as the team received a technical foul.

The first half the Gators dominated the Chokers. The combined defense of Forward Karen Spezialy and Point Guard

Julie Orth left little room for the Chokers to maneuver. The Gators half-court zone defense seemed unpenetratable and forced the Chokers to make vital mistakes. Also, the outside shots of Guard Nicki Spry left the Chokers standing in their tracks. At the end of the first half found the Gators leading. Their dominance seemed insurmountable.

Returning to the court after halftime, a seemingly different Choker team and a different Gator team emerged. The Gators found themselves scrambling for passes and points. Critical errors and mental mistakes allowed the Chokers to come back and take the

lead.

Valiantly the Gators struggled to unify their efforts. They rallied and were leading with seconds left on the clock. Unfortunately the lead slipped away as an easy shot rolled off the rim and into the hands of Choker defense.

Moving the ball quickly down the court, the Chokers hurried to tie the game. With only one second left on the clock, a personal foul was levied against the Gators. The two free throw shots tied the game.

With one second remaining on the clock, Coach Gary Nichols called for a Gator timeout but the Gators did not have any timeouts remaining. A technical foul was assessed against the Gators clinching the victory for the Chokers.

Top scorers for the Women Gators are Spry with 22, Orth with 16 and 13 rebounds.

January 25, GRCC traveled to Centralia, both tied for Third Place in the division. The physical level of play was used to Centralia's favor, as the Lady Gators lost 68-54. Outpowered on the rebounds (50-23) and outshot on the floor (16 of 57, 28-percent shooting). "It was more like a rugby match. It was ugly and that's not our game," Coach Nichols said.

Asked about his teams performance throughout the year, coach Nichols replied, "[We are an] excellent basketball team. I'm also very proud that the kids earned 3.27 GPA through the Fall quarter. We are successful not only on the court but also in the classroom."

### Women's Basketball Schedule

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All home games played at the GRCC Gymnasium. Start time is 6:00 pm.

# Climbers to tackle Baker's glaciers

## Club allows students to experience mountains while learning

*John Skierski*  
Staff Writer

Several mountain climbing excursions are planned for this summer as part of the Green River Community College mountain climbing program.

With the sun looming about as it has been lately, it is hard to ignore the monolith of Mount Rainier in all its pristine beauty. Now imagine standing atop it, taking in views of the surrounding Cascades from the highest elevation point in Washington State. With a relatively small amount of cash, Alex Roberts, director of intramural sports can make that view a reality with GRCC's three-year-old program.

Several climbs, ranging from two to four days, are scheduled and cost between \$100 and \$300 each.

Two four-day trips to Mt. Rainier, a two-day climb on Mount St. Helens, and a

three day climb of Mount Baker are scheduled. Also, scheduled are two training ses-

**During the climb, a fully-trained staff will guide the climbers up through the glaciers to their appointed destination.**

sions on Mt. Rainier.

The dates for these climbs are as follows: Mt. Rainier Emmons Glacier Route, June 19-22 and Sept. 4-7; Rainier Kautz Glacier Route, June 29-July 2; St. Helens (late-May date still pending); and Baker

Coleman Demming Route, July 24-26. Dates for the training sessions are April 1-2 and May 6 or 7 (the first date is an overnight seminar).

Before going on any of the hikes, one of the three training sessions must be attended. Participants should plan on following an extensive exercise regiment. Before the climb, a full medical questionnaire must be filled out.

During the climb, a fully-trained staff will guide the climbers up through the glaciers to their appointed destination. To date there have been no major injuries and no major problems of any kind.

Most of the gear is provided, and an itemized list will be given to climbers upon registration. Safety is a number one concern with the mountain guide staff. More information is available by contacting Alex Roberts at extension 293.

# Tichenor returns to line up after injury

## Gators' speedy line up dependent on good team work

*Julia Greene*  
Staff Writer

Returning to the court after a potentially career-ending injury, Mark Tichenor

**"I had a whole year off and it took along time to get back to where I was capable of playing."**

**Mark Tichenor**

provides a spark of hope for this season's Green River Community College Varsity Men's Basketball team.

The former Timberline High School star returns wearing jersey number 10 after sitting out last season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament.

The injury to his left knee occurred in November, 1992 and required surgery. One aspect of this injury is that it requires the use of a knee brace, which Tichenor still wears occasionally.

It was a difficult injury for Tichenor. The injury required sports rehabilitation for six months, causing him to miss the entire basketball season. The injury has now healed as much as possible.

"A lot of players do not come back from the injury. It is as much mental as it is

physical," said Head Coach Matt Thacker.

"I had a whole year off and it took a long time to get back to where I was capable of playing," commented Tichenor. "It was hard for me to come out on the court and not be scared to injure it again."

According to teammate Chris Decastro, Tichenor is a great team player.

"He plays hard defense and works hard at practice everyday and he leads by example," said Decastro.

"He is so unselfish in his play and how well he sees the court and all his hard work and hustle," Mark Warren, another teammate, said

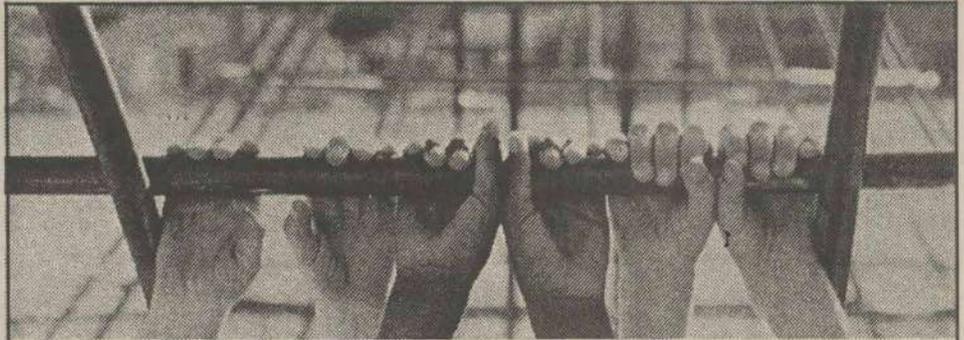
Tichenor, a 6'0" sophomore guard, returns from last season's squad that was 13-12 and reached the NWAACC's Western Regional Playoffs.

*Quake from page 6*

survive on their own for at least 72 hours. However, Jonientz-Trisler said that in an extremely catastrophic quake, people should expect to be on their own more like two weeks.

"There were more things, as (last weekend's) earthquake occurred, that people were wishing they had done," Jonientz-Trisler said. "This was a warning. It was a reminder that this whole area is earthquake country."

In preparing for an earthquake, one should concentrate on making sure their basic needs are taken care of. Aside from food and water, a reliable preparation kit would also include coats or tarps; flashlights and batteries; and a first-aid kit. Jonientz-Trisler also emphasized having light medical training — such as a first-aid class — in the event that professional care is unavailable.



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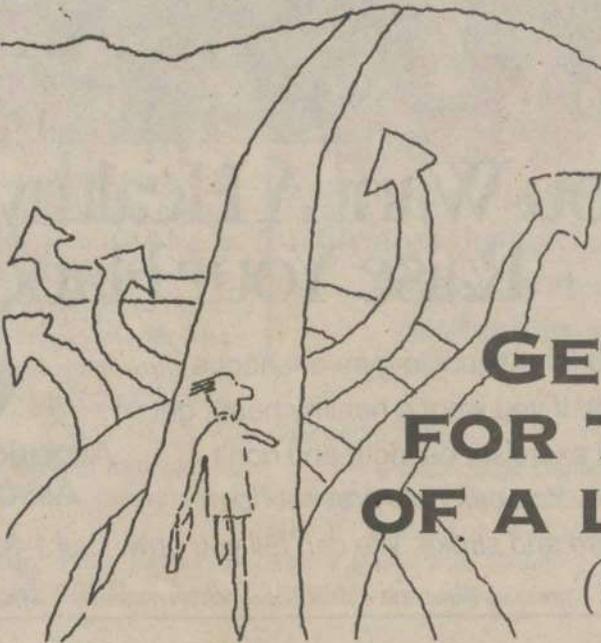
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