

## Planning for June ceremony now under way

Over 2,000 expected at commencement

**Darius Parker**  
Staff Reporter

With the end of the year approaching, a committee of staff members met in late April to discuss this year's commencement ceremony.

The committee has been meeting for 15 years now, and each year they are challenged with coming up with something new for the graduating class. The annual meeting ensured that everyone knew their responsibilities.

"There is a lot of work that needs to be done and it's important that everyone is on tap with what's going on," said Hank Bortoff in the Public Information Office.

Delegating responsibilities was one of the main things accomplished at the meeting. Enrollment Services, for example, is in charge of graduate applications; and the president is overseeing speaker applications. Other issues were covered throughout the meeting to ensure that everyone knew what was expected of them and that the ceremony would run smoothly.

Handling the large crowd was also among the issues discussed. It is expected that more than 2,000 people will attend the ceremony, so there will have to be other places besides the gym (where the ceremony actually takes place) for some people to watch. The Glacier Room will be used for people with disabilities and those bringing small children. The ceremony will be telecast to that room and any others that will be used for seating attendants that cannot get into the gym. The key components of the setup will be ready at 10 a.m. on June 16, and student rehearsal begins at 1:30 p.m. (There will also be rehearsal for the faculty.)

Graduates will receive information brochures on May 15; and an informational webpage and voicemail hotline (ext. 4740) will be up by May 1.

Commencement takes place on June 16, which is a Friday and the last day of instruction for spring quarter.

## Legislator tours, speaks on campus

### Upthegrove to support new construction at Green River



MARKS DONES/The Current

Rep. Dave Upthegrove (far left), flanked by GRCC President Rich Rutkowski, talks to staff in automotive technology-- which could be moving to a new building.

**Brian Schraum**  
Editor-in-Chief

State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Kent, visited campus April 25 to meet with administrators and students.

Officials at Green River Community College used the visit to promote a need for new buildings on campus. Upthegrove sits on the House Capital Budget Committee, which considers whether or not to fund projects like a new GRCC Trades complex.

Upthegrove and College President Rich Rutkowski visited the automotive technology department, housed in the 40-year-old TI building. The college is requesting funds to replace the building, which is suffering from cement cracks and roof leaks.

"I'm the gray-haired guy of the division," said instructor Karl Hoffman. "But the facility's certainly been here a lot longer than I have."

Hoffman has been teaching auto classes at Green River for 19 years.

Upthegrove said he would fully support funding for a replacement building, and announced he would "spend whatever political capital it takes" to keep the issue moving through the legislature.

Earlier in the afternoon, Upthegrove spoke to students and called for more involvement

in government and politics. He worries that not enough young people are being heard by their representatives, and their interests are not being addressed. The blame for this lack of communication, Upthegrove said, falls on both sides. He believes legislators, while doing a good job of reaching out to people generally, are not doing enough to stay in touch with students.

"But it's a two-way street," Upthegrove said. "People have to make a little effort."

During his speech, the representative asked the audience if they could name their state legislators. Two people raised their hands -- one was a political science instructor. Upthegrove encouraged students to find out who their representatives are, and to keep in contact with them.

Upthegrove is running for reelection in the 33rd District this year, but currently no one has filed to run against him. He said jobs and the economy, the "pocketbook issues," were the most important concerns facing his constituents.

While the main GRCC campus is not in Upthegrove's district, the legislator still feels Washington should continue financing college programs, and increase the financial aid available to students.

"The state has a critical role to play in supporting Green River," he said.

Upthegrove is exploring the idea of put-

ting state dollars into creating a retraining program for airline employees, with so many of them needing to change careers. Five of the major U.S. airlines were in Chapter 11 bankruptcy last year, according to Airline Forecasts, an independent research firm. Community colleges would play a big role in providing new skills for these workers. Upthegrove said the project was a long way off, but feels its time to start exploring the idea.

In addition, he wants the legislature to retake control of tuition rates. Currently the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, made up of officials appointed by the governor, is in charge of setting the rate for tuition.

"I would prefer that people who are accountable to the voters [make those decisions]," Upthegrove said.

Student government leaders also met with the representative during his visit; he was invited to tour campus during a discussion in Olympia earlier in the year. Upthegrove praised ASGRCC leaders for their work, and hopes to remain involved with student government and student media at Green River and Highline Community College. Prior to entering Washington state politics, Upthegrove was a Student Union representative at the University of Colorado.



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**Security Watch**

Green River Security indicates there have been no releaseable reports filed in the last two weeks. Any new incidents will be reported in the next issue.

**College planning evacuation drill**

**Brian Schraum**  
Editor-in-Chief

Officials are planning an evacuation of the entire campus, to take place in late May.

The drill is designed to test the college's ability to handle a real emergency.

At 10:40 a.m. on May 25, the fire alarms in all buildings will be activated. Speaker phones will also be turned on, announcing the drill.

Students and staff will be evacuated to nine "rally points," outside of the buildings. Building Captains have been assigned to make sure everyone gets out, and other administrators will supervise the rally points.

Officials hope to have the drill wrapped up, and sound the all-clear by 11:10 a.m.

Director of Security Fred Creek said there would be no effort to stop the normal flow of traffic during the drill, and students will not be required to stay or be kept from leaving.

"We don't recommend that they [leave]," Creek said.

The evacuation will cut 10 a.m. classes short, and 11 a.m. classes will start late, however students will not be penalized for this.

Top administrators, led by the college president, will be secured in an Emergency Operations Center (EOC), in the AD building. In an actual emergency, officials would manage the situation using the EOC as a command post.

College policy calls for a military-style operation inside the EOC. The president serves as commander, with various other officials responsible for security, safety and communication; even medical personnel are placed with the responsibility of establishing a triage.

After an earthquake drill conducted last year, officials decided to revise the evacuation plan. At that time, several problems were noticed, including students and even staff who refused to leave the buildings.

"There is no opt-out [this time]," said Public Information Officer John Ramsey.

**Rally Points**

Students, staff will meet here after the fire alarm sounds

**Parking Lot A**

Near flagpole

**Parking Lot D**

Outside AD

**Parking Lot G**

Rear of SMT

**Parking Lot H**

Between PE, LSC

**Parking Lot K**

Near Student Housing

**Kennelly Commons**

Between PA, LSC

**Pond Area**

Between TECH, IVC

**Holman Exit**

Near 320th Street

**Staff Parking,**

Between RLC, OEB

The group in charge of planning the evacuation, which includes Creek and Ramsey, discussed the issue of disabled students at an April 24 meeting.

During emergencies, disabled students are asked to wait near stairs for assistance. They will not actually be carried outside for the May drill, but several officials are concerned that the college is not ready to assist them in a real crisis.

"Let's face it, we're not expecting things to go smoothly," Ramsey said, noting the drill is designed to help prevent problems in true emergencies.



**Events**

**Drive-in Movie**

May 5

Free

Time TBD

Enumclaw

Fairgrounds

Come to a free showing of Nanny McPhee at the fairgrounds. Canned food donations are not mandatory, but greatly appreciated.

**Indoor Soccer**

May 2-5

Free

12-1 p.m.

(12-2 p.m. Friday)

Main Gym

Tournament, athletic shoes mandatory, six teams max. Sign up in student programs.

Contact: Keefe x2400

**Casino Cruise**

May 13

\$25 students,

\$35 non-students,

\$45 couples

10 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Seattle Waterway

Gambling, food, dancing, pics, music, and fun! Sign-up in Student Programs.

# Decision 2006 > Meet the Candidates

Student Government elections will be held May 8 - 11. Voting will take place online via the college website, or at designated voting stations throughout the campus. There are five candidates for president. The vice presidential candidate is running unopposed. The following statements were submitted by the candidates, in the order they will appear on the ballot. Winners will be announced at noon on May 12.

## President



### Amanda Brown

Hi my name is Amanda Brown, I am currently completing my first year here at Green River. Over the past year I have been an ASGRCC Student Body Senator, as well as held the position of the Diversity Services Student Coordinator. While holding these positions I have found that being involved on campus is extremely important for me, which is why I have decided to run for your Student Body President. If elected I will continue to bring energy and enthusiasm to my job, while giving back to you, the student body. I am not only a hard worker, but I value the opinions of the Green River campus. My question for you is, ARE YOU DOWN with AMANDA BROWN?



### Pedro Anton II

I am honored to serve on senate this past year. I have seen how their meetings run, how agendas bought and sold, how deals are made, and much more. Out of all the student governments I have been a part of; only this student government is the most committed and hard working. As President I will do everything I can to make our school year better. We are all great shining examples and role models of our school and I believe that we can help turn the hearts of others to work toward knowledge, building of character and educational excellence. Hi, I am Pedro Anton II and I want to represent you!



### Fred O'Keefe

It's my desire to help the continuing improvements to Green River Community College making it the best community college in Washington State. As a casino supervisor in Las Vegas, I developed experience working with people of diverse cultural backgrounds. The diverse and wide cultural background of the student body is our greatest strength. My desire to work with our Student Senate, clubs, groups, and our student body in the development and in plantation of strong, long lasting plans that will help every student to save or earn extra money; while creating a better environment is my number one goal.



### Ngoc Phuong Ngo "Catherine" Do

I've joined many school activities and lately student government. I've gained many experiences and had so much fun there. As a result, I want other students to have the same opportunities. As ASGRCC President, I will be a connection between students and the senate. During my term, open hearing and discussion through day and night class will be held; surveys will be sent periodically to clubs and activities and posted online. Obtaining all students aspirations, I will strive to make them reality.



### Jibril Leigh

My reason for running for office is entirely based on my burning desire to bring up a more positive change in GRCC, and more importantly, to address issues that concern students the most. As many people already know, I have been involved in many school activities and student related issues therefore, I am fully aware of the many challenges that students are confronted with on a daily basis. I am confident that any investment a student makes by electing me as a president will be paid back many, many fold in my efforts. Let's come together and work hand in hand and add positive values to people around us.

## Vice President



### Ca\$h Chen

Wuzup Green River?!? My name is Cash Chen, I am from Taiwan and this is my third quarter here at GRCC. Currently, I'm involved in many school activities such as ASGRCC Senate and winner of GRCC superstar. Next year I want to step it up even more and be your Student Body Vice President. In this position, not only can I speak for International Students, I can bring the energy and passion to represent the entire student body. If elected, I will strive to represent each one of you, and continue to make the improvements. We gonna have a great time. Ca\$h 4 VP!

## Instructor testing lecture 'podcasts'

Tiffany Richards  
Staff Reporter

Instructors' lectures will soon be available over the internet thanks to a new technology known as podcasting.

Podcasts, which are audio recordings posted online that can be downloaded to computers, iPods, and MP3 players, have already gained wide acceptance at several colleges throughout the country. The state caught up with the growing trend when the University of Washington became the first college in the state to formally offer podcasts of instructors' lectures last fall. The response to the change among

students has been extremely positive.

Jerry Marshall, coordinator of distance learning and psychology instructor, began testing the technology for Green River by recording his own lectures over podcast at the start of Spring Quarter. He plans to continue testing into the summer.

While podcasting's role in the educational experience at Green River remains unclear as of right now, Marshall holds that, "[it will be] up to the individual instructor how their lectures will be recorded, whether they decide to record their entire lecture series or just the more difficult material."

### Instructor awarded honor for aviation education

Curt Scott, aviation technology instructor, was recognized by the Aerospace Education Foundation this month, for his dedication to aviation education. "I was completely surprised when the AFA folks called me and told me I would get this terrific honor," Scott said. "To me, getting the award is icing on the cake, as teaching aviation is mostly pure fun. The only thing better than teaching kids about flying, is flying."

## Halo availability challenges computer use guidelines

Jesse Gauntt  
Staff Reporter

The game that sold the X-Box, and later made its way to the PC, has recently found its way onto computers at Green River. The trial version of Halo, a first person shooter set in alien worlds, is small enough to fit on the small portion of hard drive space the library allocates for students. The game's introduction has caused problems amongst the school community, which are primarily centered on the school's limited number of computers.

Kim Petersen, Director of Technology Development at Green River, says that the main issue was an abuse of the school's system. Users were able to login to several computers at once with the same Student ID number, which allowed for their friends, who may have not paid the technology fee, to use the school's computers for Halo.

Other problems dealt with students being rude or disruptive while playing Halo. On at least one occasion security had to be called in to resolve a fight that had broken out between students. Moreover, while the library considers things like checking email or internet blogging acceptable, different standards are applied to gaming. While the computers are generally used for entertainment, explicitly manifesting this through gaming produces a more hostile reaction from a student who is trying to find an empty computer.

Entertainment can help to relieve stress and refresh students' minds as they grind away at hours of dull homework. The school has acknowledged this, and is

working out solutions to occupancy problems. One solution the school has considered is to designate a selection of computers for the sole purpose of gaming. The school has also prevented abuses of student ID numbers by forcing students to log off one computer before logging on another. The ultimate problem, though, is students viewing users playing games as subordinate to those who need the computers for other reasons. Each student pays a technology fee, and is therefore entitled to use the computer for any purpose allowed under the Code of Conduct.

Each time a student logs on to a school computer, a dialogue appears with a Code of Conduct that the student is expected to read and abide by. An explicit statute banning gaming on school computers has not yet appeared. One is not likely to appear either, unless gaming becomes a problem.

The heart of the matter is that, while the campus computers are frequently used for alleviating stress with gaming, it's easier to see that the student is being entertained. This issue is still up in the air. However, no concrete decisions have been made in one way or the other. "The school attempts to be as responsive to students as possible", Petersen said. On that note, the school is not opposed to gaming on school computers; the school just wants what's best for the community, which the propagation of Halo has challenged.

Students who are interested in this matter should contact Jorge Ramirez, dean of Student Services as well as Brian Grover, Student Body President, both of whom have the most weight in this matter.

# E-portfolios to help students showcase work

Jesse Gauntt  
Staff Reporter

Green River Community College will soon be offering students a new service, E-portfolio, which is essentially a fusion of a résumé, a personal website, and an internet journal such as MySpace. E-portfolio was specifically tailored for the needs that students from over 34 colleges in Washington submitted. E-portfolio adapts to each student, providing preset templates for students who are new to web development, while allowing experienced users to customize their portfolio. Key features of this service include customization, adaptability, and stability.

Creating an E-portfolio is simple with preset templates and varying themes which allow you to quickly select a layout that's right for you. A wizard leads you step-by-step as you select what forms of content to display, what features you want, and so on. If you're discontent with the presets, which are quite numerous and cover a wide variety of layouts, you can create your own. An online flash tutorial can be found at [http://www.chalkandwire.com/eportfolio/tour\\_flash.html](http://www.chalkandwire.com/eportfolio/tour_flash.html), though it is by no means comprehensive.

The service's crowning feature is the ability for students to exhibit their work, creating a dynamic résumé which says more than "I can do such and such" by actually providing examples for employ-

ers to view. There appear to be no restrictions on the types of media that can be uploaded. Everything ranging from photographs, to text, to executable files may be hosted. Moreover, capacity seems to be flexible, and larger files such as videos should be made available. Students are given limitless options to show their mettle with this flexibility.

Your portfolio will stick with you as you transfer between universities, so there's no hassle with having to recompile it with each hop. You can also copy your portfolio, saving time if you want to make a slightly different version of one you've already assembled. Not only does it include your work, but it can display comments made by instructors, creating an impressive résumé.

The college is currently in the process of selecting which package of E-portfolio to use. E-portfolio systems are designed by several developers and the college wants to make sure its needs are met by the package it selects. Once the selection process is done, E-portfolio will make its way to campus.

As part of the selection process, the service may or may not have a fee. How the service is financed will be selected by the college. However, fee or not, the service is definitely worth exploring. If the claims it makes are valid, the fee would be a bargain. A subsidized website, a powerful résumé, and the promise of flexibility make the service sound compelling. E-portfolio promises to provide a website that students won't be embarrassed to share with employers.

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## Spring is in the air... and at the fair



MARKS DONES/The Current

Above: The sun sets over the ferris wheel at this year's Puyallup Spring Fair. The fair ran from April 20-23, and featured a variety of events ranging from ranging animal exhibits to a Mexican-style rodeo, the Extreme Scream (bottom left) to artistic displays (bottom right). The Puyallup Fair continues this September.



## Running Smart

Information for the GRCC high school student

Chris Luong  
Staff Reporter

Cammie Cleveland, a Running Start counselor, had some very useful information about future and current running start students. She first started out with the advantages of being a running start student.

First of all, they don't pay for tuition, but they still have to pay for fees and textbooks. Second, they earn college credit as well as high school credit. There is always a much wider variety of classes to take at the college. There were also some disadvantages too. Some students may be academically prepared, but not mature enough for the new environment. They also miss out on high school and their friends.

If you plan on participating in the running start program, here are some useful deadlines. If you want to start in the fall quarter, be registered by May. Most of the potential running start students are not aware that college registration starts early. As for the current juniors of running start, registration begins in 2-3 weeks.

Cleveland also shared some tips for potential students, juniors and the seniors. For the potential running start students, they should have already started taking the COMPASS test. This will determine whether the student is prepared for the college level coursework.

They should also take note that registration is the first week of June. Make sure to talk to your counselor and think about whether running start is the right program for you. The juniors should still be focused on school. Stay connected to your high school and make sure you don't miss out on anything. Take advantages of upcoming workshops such as financial aid or for college information.

The seniors need to be well prepared for the work if they plan on transferring to a four year university. They should talk to their career officer to plan out their future. Make sure to apply for financial aid and scholarships.

The Running Start population is fairly high at Green River Community College. Last year, there were about 1,057 students. This year we there are about 1,107 students. Students realize that this is a great program and decide to take part in it.

## Student government working on election

Vacant judiciary seat, scholarship among other discussion

Tiffany Richards  
Staff Reporter

Non-voting, ex-officio member Scott Wilson was approved for a vacant voting seat on the Judiciary Committee at the April 20 meeting. Wilson was complimented for his dedication and hard work as an ex-officio, which played a major part in him being picked to fill the vacancy.

The upcoming elections for student government president and vice president dominated most of the remaining discussion. \$900 was granted to the Public Relations Committee to cover the expenses associated with elections promotions, such as the poll workers' t-shirts and candy award for voting.

The duties of the sophomore class president were approved for change to officially open the spot

of graduation speaker to a wider audience.

In other business:

- Student Government members are looking for ideas for this year's sophomore class gift. If you have any ideas, please submitted them into the Information Center or tell a Student Government member. Past gifts include the flower bed near the smoking shelter in the commons, given by the class of 2004.

- The Student Government scholarship, equaling \$500 for one returning domestic and international student, applications are currently available in the Information Center or Financial Aid Office. All applications are due at the end of this month.

- On May 5, Student Programs will be hosting "Nanny McPhee" as a drive-in movie in Enumclaw. The movie will begin at sun-down.

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# How to manage your time well

Caitlin Estep  
Staff Reporter

Make a schedule of all the things that need to be done, use it and keep it around for reference. Responsibilities are more likely to be accomplished if a time and place are planned out ahead of time. This will make things much easier, priorities what is more critical or needs to be done sooner and make a list from most important to least important. Just remember that homework is more important than watching a favorite television show. Think of all the things that need to be done as a timeline; if they are not finished in a timely manner, life will be full of much more stress and chaos later.

Don't over schedule. Leave openings during the day just in case one task takes you much longer than you planned on. This will help one be more prepared. It is important that there is time for school, sleep, fun and other responsibilities. Without some downtime life can become stressful so leave some time for relaxation, entertainment, and for friends. The most important thing to remember is balance, having a well balanced schedule and lifestyle is the key to success.

Most things have to be done sooner or later so do them while you have the time to do a good job the first time. If things are done quickly and poorly the first time, they were not done there best and will most likely have to be done again correctly; this is just a waste of your time.

Write everything down this will prevent forgetting about a commitment. When writing things down make sure it is in a place that is easily seen; leave reminders on the bathroom mirror, front door, or on the steering wheel. It is also very helpful to write everything down in a planner such as when you work, what assignments are due and social gatherings. This will help one become more organized, responsible and reliable.

# A new way to get around town

## Vegetable oil could be the cheap gas people are looking for

Kell Fearon  
Staff Reporter

Kevin McGinnis gets genuinely excited about used vegetable oil. He runs his 1991 Volkswagen Jetta GL ECO Diesel off recycled vegetable oil—a waste product that restaurants are only too happy to get rid of.

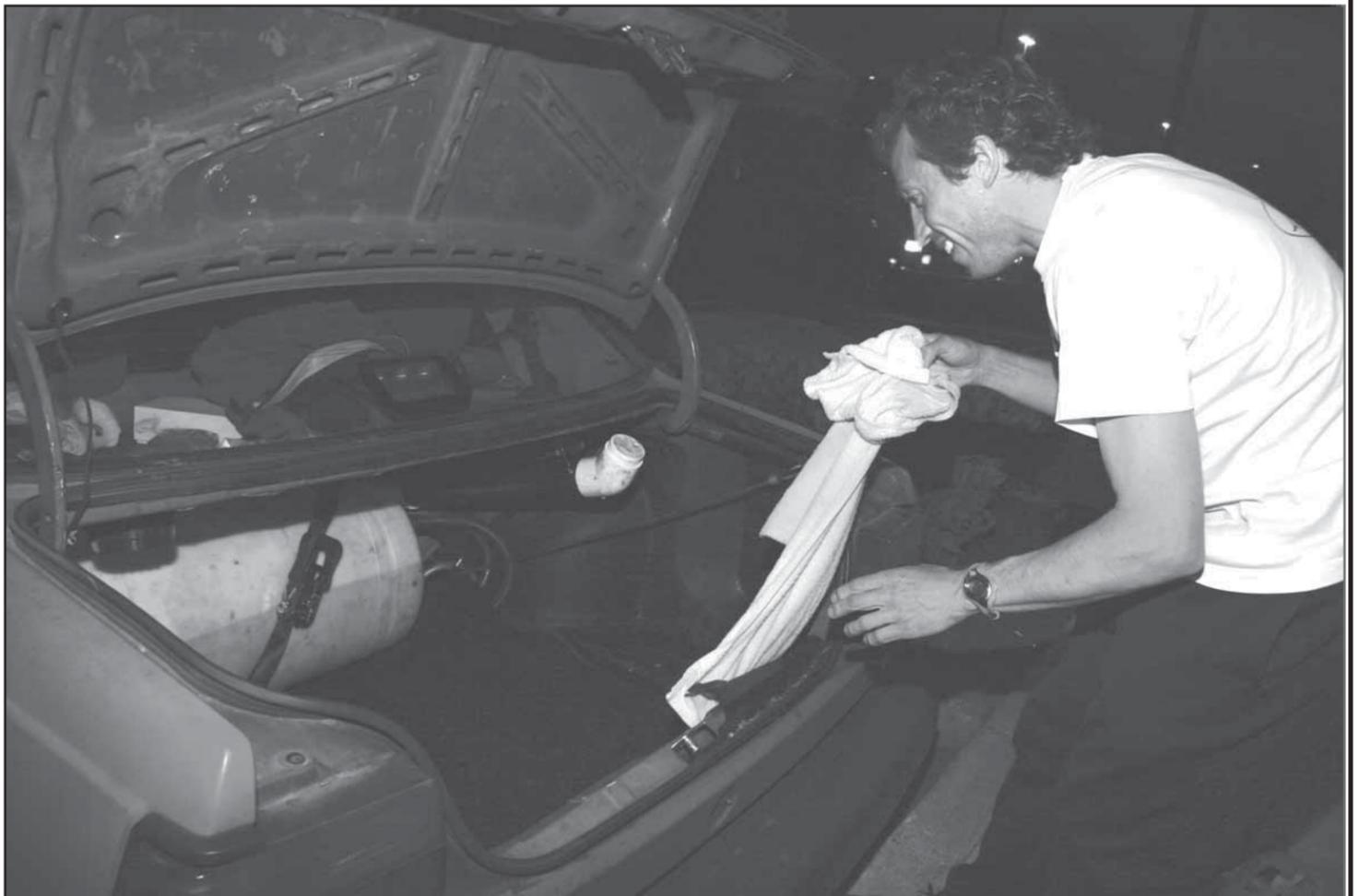
We meet in a Denny's parking lot, where McGinnis has stopped to refuel. During our half hour interview, McGinnis does something unthinkable to most of us...he leaves his car running the entire time. Stranger yet, he invites me to stoop down and have a sniff of his exhaust pipe.

"Kind of makes you hungry, doesn't it?" he quips with a grin. Not only is the exhaust not noxious, it actually smells rather pleasantly of that sweet aroma given off by French fries.

McGinnis' passion for alternative energy took off during a Humanities course at Green River Community College. His group was assigned to design a city that people would want to live in; an ideal "city of the future." As he cruised the internet searching for a way to make his pseudo-city self-sufficient, he came across bio-diesel, a domestic, renewable fuel for diesel engines derived from plant or animal oils. The more he read, the more he realized that this was something he could do.

It took about two months to perfect his design. "I didn't have anyone to teach me," says McGinnis, "it was a lot of trial and error. Now he can convert a car in a single day, something he recently did to a friend's Hummer.

His own car has a 15 gallon tank full of vegetable oil in the



Kevin McGinnis shows how he puts the oil in his car, and makes it run on just vegetable oil.

ANDY GARDNER/The Current

trunk. A second tank can fit back there as well, meaning he can drive for about 1,200 miles without stopping to refuel. McGinnis has to laugh as he watches gas prices climb to new heights. He puts about 60,000 miles a year on his car, and he doesn't spend a cent on his fuel. He's big on recycling too; even the fuel tanks are leftover from a car wash.

There is a significant difference between bio-diesel and vegetable oil. Because vegetable oil must heat up to at least 160 degrees Fahrenheit and remain hot to fuel the engine, a small amount of diesel or bio-diesel is

needed to start the car. (McGinnis makes his own bio-diesel.) After traveling about eight miles, the car can then be manually switched over to vegetable oil. A few miles from his destination the fuel source must once again be switched back to diesel to purge the vegetable oil from the engine, so that it doesn't become thick and virtually immovable as the engine cools.

"It doesn't make as much sense for people who drive a lot of short distances," McGinnis admits. Still, the savings more than make up for any inconvenience that comes along with the con-

version.

In addition to the obvious advantages of being a free fuel source, vegetable oil brings with an additional bonus; power and efficiency are higher than with a standard diesel, and the engine runs much quieter as well. But the most long term bonus is perhaps what engines running on vegetable oil do to the environment. Which is to say; nothing.

"I took this car through emissions and it registered a zero," McGinnis says proudly. "The emissions guy couldn't believe it; he thought it was the coolest thing he'd ever seen."

Anyone

interested in converting a diesel engine to run on vegetable oil can find plenty of information on the internet. If you are willing to search around town for various recycled parts, you can convert a car or truck for as little as \$200. You can also buy a kit from [www.greasecar.com](http://www.greasecar.com) and other online dealers. They offer ready-made conversion kits starting at around \$750. Either way, the conversion easily pays for itself in the first six months, and the benefit to the environment is priceless.

# GRCC student, the juggling master, takes the world by storm -- and soon ESPN

**Robert Westervelt**  
Staff Reporter

Perhaps you have seen Stephen Moore juggling around campus on a sunny day, practicing his impressive routines while joking with other students. Whenever he has time, he will breakout his juggling clubs (his favorite tool to use).

Moore started juggling at a young age when his aunt got him to juggle three balls and after almost a decade off he resumed practicing in 2003. He put many hundreds of hours of practice in and made it to the 2004 World Juggling Championship where he had quite an impressive showing.

The then 15-year-old Moore placed first in beginner rings, third in clubs and fifth in the juggling balls competition.

In June of this year, Moore will be the subject of even more acclaim when he competes in both the National Championships (located in Portland, Oregon) and the World Championships which will be held in Las Vegas and later broadcasted on ESPN in the upcoming months. Along with all this, he is also currently working for his Associate in Business Degree.

Yet with all this fame and exposure, Moore said that his most impressive feat was when a random bystander requested him to attempt to juggle 5 clubs across his back and was successful in doing it. He is so confident in his own skills that he is not afraid to juggle some of the more dangerous things imaginable.

Moore has juggled knives, flaming torches, bowling balls, Claymore knives and in his own words "You name it, I've done it!". Until recently he would perform with these instruments around campus but was asked to stop by the Green River staff in fear of somebody getting hurt despite Moore's assurances that torches and knives are actually just as easy to juggle with as clubs because the form required for both is quite similar.

Moore is not quite sure where his juggling will take him in life but he is positive that he wants to continue it long into the future. Everyday he works on some new, whether it be a routine, trick or tool, he is always looking to improve and polish his own act. When asked what it took to reach the point that he had made it to, he said that "Practice and dedication is all that is needed to become a fantastic juggler. All you need is severe dedication," he said.



MARKS DONES/The Current

Moore has been juggling for many year. He started with smaller juggling balls. He has now moved on to other objects, and has become very well-known for his juggling talents. He'll be on ESPN in the coming months as he participates in the World Championships.

## Shyness 101 gives some great tips in LSC

**Shannon MacInnes**  
Staff Reporter

Most people, no matter how outgoing they may seem, experience periods of shyness one time or another. Shyness 101 at Green River Community College provided students an opportunity to learn techniques to manage shyness and open themselves up. Counselor Patti Kehoe gave students many helpful tips during her presentation in the Glacier room located in the Lindbloom Student Center in late April.

"Shyness affects our lives, but it doesn't have to in a negative way," said Kehoe, "You can't completely rid yourself of shyness but you can manage it." Often we must ask ourselves these questions: Does shyness limit daily activities? Does it prevent us from trying new things or meeting new people? If the answer is yes, then there may be more to it than just shyness. Social disorders are often misdiagnosed as shyness. People who might have social disorders should try to seek professional help in order to live their lives in a more social manner.

Shyness does not have to define who you are. If one is worrying about whether the person seated next to you is having negative thoughts about you, chances are

they are not and they are just as shy as you are, if not more. About 50 percent of the entire population will state they go through shyness.

There are strategies you can use to help you with shyness including:

- Practice projecting your voice.
- Challenge your social inhibition. Whether it's at school or at the mall, ask what the time is. Chances are you will never see these people again anyway.
- Make eye contact. While listening to others or speaking to someone, making eye contact shows that you are interested.
- Find other "Loners". They are probably just as shy as you are and are wishing someone would come up to them and start a conversation.
- Seek out small groups. It can be easier to meet new people and open up when they share the same interests as you.
- Ask for introductions. Having other friends or family members introduce you to people can be a great help in getting a conversation going and breaking the ice.

If you have any questions or concerns about shyness or any other issue, there are resources that can assist you on campus. Counselors are there from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., free of charge in the Women's Programs up stairs.

## Teacher Spotlight: Avis Adams shares her story

**Caitlin Estep**  
Staff Reporter

Avis Adams has been teaching at Green River since 1997. This is her first year on a 10-year-track being a full time faculty. This quarter she is teaching Children's Literature, creative writing, and English 81.

Adams got her Undergraduate Degree in creative writing, Bachelors in English Lit (with emphasis in creative writing and poetry) from the University of Washington. She later recieved her Masters in English Lit at Central Washington University.

"I am 49 and I feel like I am just starting this wonderful career this is my dream job and it is just a dream come true and I forget that I am almost 50," siad Adams.

Adams was a student at Green River, and planned on getting a certificate in bookkeeping until she met Sylvia Mantilla, who was her first teacher in Grammar and Usage.

During her class she realized she would love to work for her and love to learn and teach. Mantilla ended up hiring her for her first part time class; now they are office mates. The first class she taught was at Central and she was incredibly nervous.

"I was teaching and in Graduate School and I was nauseas my

whole first quarter and when I went in my first classroom I just was terrified I didn't know what to do," she said. "So I thought well, I just will pretend to be a teacher, so I went in and they bought it and I fooled everybody; I think the first day was just the hardest. It was a lot of fun."

Adams grew up in Washington, and was born in Puyallup. She has been married for 28 years and meet her husband when she was 16-years-old, when they were high school sweethearts. She has a son named Tim who is 25 and a graduate from San Diego State. Her daughter, Signa, is a graduate from Portland State University.

"Education was always important and I always wanted to go to college so I came back as an adult the most important thing for me was that I model for my children the importance of education I thought if I only do one thing by getting my degree if I only inspire my children to see the importance of education that they can be successful students than i will feel successful and I did and they did," said Adams.

She has published over 25 poems in literary journals around the area. "That's what brought me back to school. I new I wanted to write I never thought I would teach but I love teaching," she said.

Adams is involved in Wash-



TIM PERRY/The Current

Adams instructs her 9 a.m. class in the RLC.

ington poets association, the National Council of Teachers of English, and The Society of Children's Writers and Illustrators.

"I love working with students, I love seeing their potential; I love seeing them blossom in my class," said Adams.

# What does your instructor make?

## Full-Time Faculty

Teacher Name	Salary
ADAMS, MARY J	\$45,874.80
<b>Water and WW Technology</b>	
ADDO, EMMANUEL	\$42,601.03
ALFORD, JAMES	\$47,163.63
ALLEN, PAUL	\$49,062.75
<b>English</b>	
ANDERSON, ANDY	\$49,777.88
<b>English</b>	
AQUINO, VICTOR	\$47,848.63
<b>English</b>	
ASH, JANET	\$45,949.50
<b>Engineering</b>	
AVERY, JOHN D	\$52,113.00
<b>ESOL</b>	
BAHL, VIVEK	\$54,402.00
<b>English</b>	
BAYER, RONALD	\$52,113.00
<b>Music</b>	
BEHRBAUM, ANITA	\$48,782.63
<b>Physical Education</b>	
BEHRBAUM, MICHAEL	\$48,222.13
<b>Physical Education</b>	
BINDSCHATEL, BRENDA	\$50,008.13
<b>Accounting</b>	
BLACK, STEVEN R	\$48,346.63
<b>Mathematics</b>	
BLAISDELL, MARK	\$48,558.53
<b>Economics</b>	
BREHM, ROBERT	\$50,867.50
<b>Behavioral Science</b>	
BRUCKER, BARB	\$52,113.00
<b>Physical Therapy</b>	
BRUMBAUGH, STEVE	\$50,164.00
<b>Biology</b>	
BUSH-JR., JOHN C	\$54,402.00
<b>Psychology</b>	
CANTRELL, CATHERINE	\$44,704.25
<b>Basic Education</b>	
CARTER, ALAN R	\$49,403.00
<b>Information Technology</b>	
CHRISTIANSEN, STEVE	\$52,113.00
CLAUSEN, JEFFREY	\$52,019.00
<b>Philosophy</b>	
CLAY, KEITH A	\$54,402.00
<b>Physics</b>	
COMOLLO, GEORGE	\$49,840.13
<b>Aviation Technology</b>	
DANIELSON, ARTHUR	\$44,704.25
DAVIS, SUSAN	\$52,113.00
<b>Accounting</b>	
DIRKS, RAINER	\$51,179.00
<b>German</b>	
DUVA, CATHERINE	\$46,541.13
<b>ESOL</b>	
FERRO, RICHARD	\$54,370.63
<b>Anthropology</b>	
FILSON, ROBERT	\$54,402.00
<b>Geology</b>	
FLEITES-LEAR, MARISELA	\$52,113.00
<b>Spanish</b>	
FRANKLIN, CAROL	\$47,350.38
<b>Basic Education</b>	
GALMISH, HENRY	\$52,113.00
<b>English</b>	
GOMEZ, GUSTAVO	\$52,113.00
<b>Information Technology</b>	
GOTO, HEIDI	\$40,048.00
<b>ESOL</b>	
GOTTSHALL, RODNEY	\$50,164.00
HALLSTONE, DONNIE	\$52,113.00
<b>Mathematics</b>	
HAMMER, JOYCE	\$50,307.25
<b>Mathematics</b>	
HANSON, DOUGLAS	\$40,999.00
<b>Aviation Technology</b>	
HAULMAN, BRUCE	\$53,530.25
<b>History</b>	
HEPLER, SUSAN	\$52,113.00
HIMES, GAIL	\$46,017.75
<b>Dean of Student Services</b>	
HOENE, JENNIFER	\$46,541.13
<b>English</b>	

HOFFMAN, KARL	\$52,113.00
<b>Automotive Technology</b>	
HOLZ, DIANA	\$52,113.00
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	
HOPKINS, RICHARD	\$49,125.00
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
HUCKE, MICKIE	\$54,402.00
<b>Physical Therapy</b>	
HULL, LOUISE	\$45,370.25
<b>Sociology</b>	
JACKSON, THOMAS	\$44,934.50
<b>Physical Education</b>	
JACKSON, WILLIAM	\$52,113.00
<b>Business Education</b>	
JACOBS, MARIANNE	\$54,402.00
<b>Anthropology</b>	
JANSEN, LLOYD	\$54,402.00
<b>Political Science</b>	
JESCHKE, DAVID	\$44,062.75
<b>Geographic Information Systems</b>	
JEWELL, JEAN	\$48,378.00
<b>ESOL</b>	
JOHANSON, SANDRA	\$52,113.00
<b>Philosophy</b>	
JOHNSON, KEITH	\$49,348.00
JONAS, ROBERT	\$49,323.38
<b>Mathematics</b>	
KATIMS, KATE	\$48,627.00
<b>Speech</b>	
KESSLER, LESLIE	\$51,894.88
<b>Early Childhood Education</b>	
KINHOLT, STEVE	\$54,402.00
<b>Mathematics</b>	
KNOWLTON, JOHN	\$51,739.25
<b>Journalism</b>	
KNUTSEN, ROGER	\$51,801.50
<b>Chemistry</b>	
LENEGAR, CHARLES	\$49,840.13
<b>Manufacturing Technology</b>	
LOTUS, LINDA	\$51,502.70
<b>High School Completion</b>	
LOUCKS, KATHLEEN	\$54,402.00
<b>Speech</b>	
LOWE, WALTER	\$52,113.00
<b>English</b>	
MACKENZIE, MARJORIE	\$49,497.75
<b>Library</b>	
MANTILLA, SYLVIA	\$51,179.00
<b>English</b>	
MARR, KENNETH	\$52,113.00
<b>Chemistry</b>	
MARSHALL, JERALD	\$54,402.00
<b>Psychology</b>	
MARSHMAN, MICHELLE	\$54,402.00
<b>History</b>	
MARTIN, GLEN	\$52,113.00
<b>Carpentry Technology</b>	
MC-CAULEY, JEFF	\$52,113.00
<b>Engineering</b>	
MC-KINNEY, ELIZABETH	\$52,453.00
<b>Counseling Services</b>	
MC-VAY, MICHAEL	\$54,402.00
<b>Biology</b>	
METIVIER, PAUL	\$48,215.00
<b>Ceramics</b>	
MICHAELS, LARA	\$52,596.25
<b>Mathematics</b>	
MILLBAUER, MARK	\$50,992.00
<b>Auto Body Technology</b>	
MITCHELL, ROCHELLE	\$45,980.63
<b>Mathematics</b>	
MOORE, JULIE	\$45,825.00
<b>English</b>	
MOORE-MUELLER, LAURA	\$52,113.00
<b>Mathematics</b>	
MUELLER, JAY	\$54,402.00
<b>Chemistry</b>	
MULLET, DAVID	\$52,113.00
<b>Anatomy-Physiology</b>	
NARAYANAN, AJAY	\$54,402.00
<b>Physics</b>	
NAVIN, PATRICK	\$49,902.38
<b>Photography</b>	

NELSON, DAVID	\$50,245.00
<b>Mathematics</b>	
NELSON, ERIC	\$52,113.00
<b>English</b>	
NORDYKE, JUDITH	\$52,113.00
OLIVEIRA, GARY	\$47,755.25
<b>Photography</b>	
OLSEN, SHERRI	\$46,304.25
<b>Occupational Therapy</b>	
PALMER, ELKE	\$50,873.73
<b>Nursing</b>	
PAPRITZ, R.	\$51,179.00
PELLETIER, DIANE	\$53,779.25
PERDUE, CAROL	\$47,163.63
<b>Reading</b>	
PHILIP, BRENDA	\$51,459.13
<b>Library</b>	
PRIMIANI, FRANK	\$54,402.00
<b>Business Administration</b>	
RAFANELLI, VICTOR	\$48,471.38
<b>Business Management</b>	
RAPOZO, LORI	\$47,935.78
<b>Computer Reporting Technologies - Computer Reporting</b>	
REISING, PAMELA	\$51,179.00
<b>Mathematics</b>	
ROSEMOND, HARRY	\$51,677.00
<b>Reading</b>	
SCHREIBER, SCOTT	\$42,226.88
<b>Welding Technology</b>	
SCOTT, WILLIAM	\$49,404.38
<b>Speech</b>	
SEMSEN, LEE	\$44,642.00
<b>Library</b>	
SERNA, FELIX	\$52,113.00
<b>Design Drafting Technology</b>	
SHAFER, NEAL	\$51,832.63
SHORT, JULIA	\$51,894.88
<b>Nursing</b>	
SIMPSON, LEA	\$46,864.75
<b>Business Education</b>	
SIMS, MARCIE	\$52,113.00
<b>English</b>	
SJOGREN, ROBERT	\$50,698.13
<b>Natural Resources</b>	
SLETTVET, JULIA	\$46,864.75
<b>Business Education</b>	
SMALL, CYNTHIA	\$50,649.63
<b>Art</b>	
SOLOMONSON, CHITRA	\$52,453.00
<b>Physics</b>	
SORENSEN, DANYL	\$46,291.88
<b>Automotive Technology</b>	
STRAIN, JOYCE	\$52,113.00
<b>Business Education</b>	
TAGLIENTE, THOMAS	\$45,233.38
<b>Manufacturing Technology</b>	
TAYLOR, GARY	\$50,711.88
<b>Drama</b>	
THOMASON, MARK	\$46,266.00
<b>History</b>	
THOMPSON, PATRICK	\$47,506.25
<b>Music</b>	
TRUJILLO, LISA	\$50,338.38
<b>Reading</b>	
VIEIRA, ROLAND	\$50,164.00
<b>Anatomy-Physiology</b>	
WAAGAN, TERRY	\$42,258.00
<b>Design Drafting Technology</b>	
WARNER, KATHLEEN	\$52,113.00
<b>Sociology</b>	
WELDELE-WALLACE, SIDNEY	\$51,396.88
<b>Court Reporting Technologies - Court Reporting</b>	
WHETHAM, JENNIFER	\$45,619.50
<b>English</b>	
WHETSEL, IDENNE	\$48,555.00
WILTURNER, CARHIOUS	\$53,468.00
<b>Psychology</b>	
WOOD, JAMES	\$47,630.75
<b>English</b>	
WOODS, DONALD	\$47,705.00

## Administration

RUTKOWSKI, RICHARD PRESIDENT	\$135,000.00
JENSEN, APRIL EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT	\$112,152.00
BANNISTER, EDITH VICE PRESIDENT OF EXTENDED LEARNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$99,999.84
BRUMFIELD, RICHARD VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS	\$99,999.84
HEFLEY, KARA VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT	\$99,999.84
HERSHBERGER, CAROLYN VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$87,456.00
JONES, BRENT VICE PRESIDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES	\$87,456.00

## Deans

BALL, SAM CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$71,289.84
BELDEN, BILL DEAN, STUDENT SERVICES	\$84,006.00
BURGESON, JUDY DEAN, ENGLISH, HUMANITIES, SCIENCE	\$72,845.76
GILLILAND, CHRISTIE DEAN, TRANSFER EDUCATION	\$84,427.92
GRISWOLD, AL ASSOC. DEAN, WORKFORCE EDUCATION	\$71,289.84
MITSUI, MARK ASST. DEAN, STUDENT SERVICES	\$62,499.84
NAKANO, KIM DEAN, LANGUAGE, ACADEMIC SKILLS, WELLNESS, LIBRARY	\$81,289.92
SCHAEFER, AMANDA ASST. DEAN, ACADEMIC EDUCATION	\$60,000.00
WHEADON, RON DEAN, PROFESSIONAL/TECHNICAL, WORKFORCE EDUCATION	\$84,427.92

## Divison Chairs

NAVIN, PATRICK FINE ARTS	\$13,943.65 + Instructor Salary
KESSLER, LESLIE HEALTH SCIENCES & FAMILY STUDIES	\$10,457.73 + Instructor Salary
MC-CAULEY, JEFFREY F TECHNOLOGY	\$10,457.73 + Instructor Salary
AVERY, JOHN D ESOL	\$4,290.36 + Instructor Salary
FRANKLIN, CAROL LAW (LANGUAGE, ACADEMIC SKILLS, WELLNESS)	\$3,217.77 + Instructor Salary
GALMISH, HENRY P ENGLISH	\$3,485.91 + Instructor Salary
KATIMS, KATE HUMANITIES	\$3,485.91 + Instructor Salary
MILLBAUER, MARK T TRADES	\$3,485.91 + Instructor Salary
DAVIS, SUSAN BUSINESS	\$2,413.32 + Instructor Salary
HAMMER, JOYCE MATHEMATICS	\$804.44 + Instructor Salary
JANSEN, LLOYD SOCIAL SCIENCE	\$804.44 + Instructor Salary

## In Comparison: College/University Presidential Salaries

RUTKOWSKI, RICHARD  
\$135,000.00  
GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BELL, PRISCILLA  
\$131,250.00  
HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FLOTEN, B.  
\$105,375.00  
BELLEVUE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

TRANSUE, PAMELA  
\$145,000.00  
TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OHARAH, JACK L  
\$160,000.08  
EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PURCE, THOMAS L  
\$171,111.60  
EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE

EMMERT, MARK A.  
\$470,004.00  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

RAWLINS, V LANE  
\$300,000.00  
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

JORDAN, STEPHEN M  
\$176,418.60  
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

MORSE, KAREN  
\$194,707.92  
WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

MCINTYRE, JERILYN S  
\$198,720.00  
CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## Labor contracts are being renegotiated

Tiffany Richards  
Staff Reporter

The faculty at Green River expects to have a labor contract prepared in the next four to five weeks, according to the faculty's chief negotiator.

Hank Galmish has been working with both the college's faculty and administration since last October to come up with a revised version of the United Faculty Coalition (UFC) contract, which officially expired nearly a month ago. The UFC is a branch of the American Federation of Teachers and the Washington Education Association.

The contract is a legal document that details the compensation and working conditions of union members. It comes up for review every three years for both the faculty and administration to revise. The contract was extended, or rolled over, during the last revision period in 2003.

"It's been a good process," Galmish said, "Both sides have heard concerns from the other side, concerns that wouldn't be normally known." The details of the contract weren't released. Both sides have to agree on a revised version by the end of this quarter on June 16.

\* Instructors with circled salaries are the 15 highest-paid instructors at Green River

## Current Endorsement

**In race for president, Leigh stands out from the pack**

College is an environment filled with pressures, competing time commitments, imperfections and often times confusion for students. Perhaps no student is more involved in easing such difficulties, and improving the college environment, than the ASGRCC President. And in the present election, no candidate appears more able to take on this role than Jibril Leigh.

Leigh has overwhelming enthusiasm for both GRCC and the educational process. He was born and raised in Africa and has a firsthand understanding of the way that education impacts our society. His life experiences, though not the most important factor in choosing a president, transcend those of the other candidates and should help him reach out to both the students and the administration.

While all of the candidates appear qualified to hold office, several particularly so, we feel Leigh's passion and vision put him a notch above the opposition. Several candidates talk of their desired position as if it were just another notch on the ladder. 'It looks good on a resume,' they told us. While we appreciate the honesty of this statement, it hardly seems preferable to elect a candidate whose goals are linked to career-building. Leigh has a solid grasp of the real issues affecting students, and

was one of few candidates who did not seem content with "business as usual."

Of those who stood out from the pack, it was Leigh's real experience, coupled with a real plan (though admittedly lacking in detail), that won our support. He has experience in organizations such as the Job Corps, math club and the American Design Drafting Association. He

was nominated to speak to the state legislature, and also delivered an emotional speech at the college's scholarship banquet.

While he clearly does not have the ASGRCC experience possessed by some of the other candidates, these are skills that can be readily acquired while in office. However, there is no on-the-job training for passion. It is for this reason that we throw our support to a new face in the world of student government.

Leigh was the only candidate to concede that there is room for improvement in the government and the campus, while his opponents either agreed

fully with the present leadership, or offered little comment. While Leigh said the current president and vice president had made important progress (and we agree), he also talked about some key points they could improve on. Change and progress is always necessary for advancement, and we do not feel this election should be used simply to re-

and professional.

In all reality, the ASGRCC President does not have the authority to lower textbook prices, or to fix parking, or to improve tuition rates. Rather, we feel it is the president's role to lobby – sometimes fiercely, and in the face of opposition – for these changes on behalf of the students. Leigh's determination to address real issues was impressive. Though he sounds more like a candidate running for governor, it is this kind of deep vision that is needed in a time of great expansion and change for GRCC.

Leigh is very friendly and easy to talk to and is someone who could easily bridge the gap between students and faculty as he is personable, knowledgeable and willing to talk to anybody who will listen. Students will feel comfortable going to Leigh with any questions or concerns, and we feel confident he will in turn bring them up with the administration.

Most importantly, Leigh was the candidate who took the role as president most seriously. He is the kind of person we trust to represent our interests in an environment of competing forces in students, faculty, staff and administration. It is for this reason that we endorse Leigh for ASGRCC President in the coming election.

- The Current Editorial Board

*" Leigh was the only candidate to concede that there is room for improvement in the government and the campus, while his opponents either agreed fully with the present leadership, or offered little comment. "*

tain the status quo.

Specifically, Leigh discussed improving smoking areas, lowering books costs, promoting carpools and increasing awareness on the students' part. He also wants to send a strong message to Olympia about the rising costs of tuition to try and make it more manageable financially to go to school. While we question Leigh's real ability to put these words into action, we found his progressive ideas to be both refreshing

**Balance of power is the only option for salvaging our democracy**

**Matt Jonas**  
Opinions Editor

If we do not have a government with the same party in power in all of the branches of government nothing will get done. This is a statement that I have heard repeated several times on the 24 hour news channels in regards to the potential capturing of the Senate and House of Representatives by the Democratic Party this fall. This absolutely floors me; these talking heads actually threw a direct attack against what our founding fathers envisioned this country to be, and they did it without missing a beat. This just reassures my insinuation that all politicians have their own interests ahead of the people's will.

To be fair neither side of the aisle is guilt-free in this pitiful attempt at a job-security tactic. During the 90's, the time of Newt Gingrich's "contract with America" the same cowering cry of "nothing will get done" if the Republicans control the congress bellowed from the left. Now it seems that the nature of politics has come full circle again and the Republicans are shouting that democracy will be slighted by the pushing of discussions on issues that they have put to bed. This astonishing behavior is just another justification for the necessity of having a governmental system of checks and balances.

If you compare the Clinton administration to the current Bush administration the achievements that were made during the Clinton administration are light years ahead of what Bush has been able to accomplish. President Clinton lost control of the congress in his first term and still was able to affect change to healthcare, lowering the bulging deficit and, every year that Clinton was in office, the job market grew by more than 2.38 percent. This President has had the privilege of his party control-

ling both houses of congress, which has resulted in the inability to keep up with population growth and job growth.

Those that argue having an opposition party in power of the legislative branch need to address their faulty philosophy and brush up on their democracy studies. Without dissent you never get a different view for what you are conditioned to perceive. I feel that this ideology is more relevant today than at any other point in our history.

Over the past thirty years we have slowly lost the identity of a representative democracy and the repetitive mantra that our government will be ineffective has been a successful campaign slogan for incumbent candidates.

Voltaire stated that "so long as the people do not care to exercise their freedom, those who wish to tyrannize will do so; for tyrants are active and ardent, and will devote themselves in the name of any number of gods, religious and otherwise, to put shackles upon sleeping men". The key to a successful practice of democracy is the participation of the people's conscience. The paranoia that the incumbent party spreads not only does not have any foundation, but has become very destructive to the experiment of democracy that has been running this country for more than 230 years.

The track that we are on now will eventually lead to ruin of our freedom because a democracy without a Jiminy cricket becomes a tyrant controlled government. The importance is not which party is in power, but that a party of opposite ideals is able to have a seat at the table. Productivity, as well as ethical boundaries, will benefit from the implementation of a true democracy and not a monarchy that seems, in the recent years, have taken over. The office of the presidency has become somewhat incestuous with the possibility of a Hillary Clinton or a Jeb Bush victory.

It is time to stop rating our officials on their pedigree or the fact that they are in line with the sitting president. Empires that are based off of democracy have fallen and this is due to the simple fact that absolute power corrupts absolutely, and without a system of checks and balances we are

doomed to repeat history. So when you are at the polls this November take a moment to push out the paranoia rhetoric and decide what country you want to live in, a dictatorship or what the founding fathers had envisioned this country to be years ago.

**EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY**

*The Current* is a public forum for student expression.

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**The views and opinions expressed in *The Current* do not necessarily reflect those of the College or the student body.**

We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard. *The Current* will publish **Letters to the Editor** provided they are signed and submitted in a timely manner. Letters should be e-mailed to [thecurrent@greenriver.edu](mailto:thecurrent@greenriver.edu). We will not publish letters which demean any person because of race, gender, class or sexual orientation. We reserve the right to edit letters for conventions and taste.

## Nuptials should not be associated with hatred

Michelle Smith  
Contributing Writer

It's been over a year since the laws in Massachusetts have changed. It is now possible for homosexuals to marry. The ruling in the case of Goodridge vs. the Department of Public Health has stated that same and opposite-sex couples must be given equal civil marriage rights under the state of Massachusetts Constitution.

Over 5,000 same sex couples have already been married in Massachusetts. This is finally a step in the right direction for homosexuals to have the same rights heterosexuals. Although they are considered to be married by the state, the federal government doesn't see them as married because of the Defense of Marriage Act.

Homosexuals should be able to have the same rights as the rest of the married couples in this country, by being able to marry whomever they want regardless of gender. Who decided that marriage is between a man and a woman anyway? The government has decided that marriage between Man and Woman is the rule.

President Bush talks about equal rights for everyone, and says that he supports homosexuals, but he thinks it is wrong for them to marry. How is he supporting them if he thinks it is wrong for them to lead a normal life and marry who they please? His statement is completely hypocritical, espe-

cially in his "Marriage Protection Week" of October 2003, saying "I am going to do everything in my power to keep marriage between a man and woman." Where is the support for homosexuals there?

How would homosexual marriage hurt heterosexual marriages? Some people say that if homosexuals were to marry and raise a family, the children would be deprived of a mother/father relationship. If this is the case, then no one with children should be allowed to divorce because it would deprive their children of having a mother/father relationship. A lot of fami-

*" President Bush talks about equal rights for everyone, and says that he supports homosexuals, but he thinks it is wrong for them to marry. "*

lies in the United States are without a mother/father figure in their lives because of divorce, death of a parent, foster care, or the armed services. Even with that not all families do better with both parents. There are cases where the parents are alcoholics, druggies, or are abusive; even though there are two parents there it doesn't mean that they are good parents. But apparently it is hurtful for the children's well being if the children have two moms or two dads instead of one.

There are people out there that seem to think that children who grow up with gay or lesbian parents will be more likely to become homosexual themselves because

that is what they've been shown growing up. This is a complete fallacy and there are studies that prove it. Children have the same chance to find out they are gay in a homosexual household as they do in a heterosexual household. If living with homosexuals made you gay then living with heterosexuals would make you straight. However the majority of homosexuals grow up in heterosexual households.

Some people in this country think making homosexual marriage legal would affect heterosexual marriage in a negative way. For years our country has been fighting for equal rights for people of different races because we are all human and we just have different color skin. Why is it acceptable to discriminate against people because their sexual preferences? There is no reason that marriage shouldn't be legal between two people of the same sex. All they want is to be able to live a normal life, to live like everyone else and when they decide to commit to a relationship they would also like to receive the same benefits that married people have, such as collecting social security after their loved one has died, to be able to make decisions in the hospital about medical treatment, to be considered next of kin and preside over their loved one's will, to have the tax breaks of a married couple, and all the things heterosexual married couple receive.

Why not give these same privileges to people who love each other but happen to be of the same sex? Massachusetts's is the first state in the country that has made it legal for homosexuals to marry. This is a step in the right direction, hopefully others will follow its path.

## A humorous, in-depth look at our academic standards

Matt Orme  
Copy Editor

A comatose student has sparked some heated debate over the quality of education at GRCC by earning a perfect 4.0 GPA for winter quarter. Dale Clober, 19, has been attending college at Green River since his senior year of high school.

For the past two quarters, however, Clober has been attending class in a hospital bed due to a coma he slipped into at the beginning of the fall.

"We're really proud of Dale," said his mother. "It took him a while to get adjusted to life as a comatose student, but he has really shown how strong of a person he is by achieving academic perfection in spite of his handicap."

One of Clober's teachers, who wished to remain anonymous, explained how it is that a comatose student can do so well in a class.

"Well, it's pretty easy, actually," the teacher explained. "First, I grade on participation, but since I can't technically quantify and grade on how often someone contributes to class, I base that on attendance. Dale's nurse is really good about getting him into the room on time.

"Then, honestly, I just like that he doesn't say anything stupid. Have you heard what some of these kids think passes for literary analysis? Especially those Running Start kids? I grade on a bit of a curve, so Dale gets the best grades because he is the least idiotic...and I think that being nearly brain dead helps him achieve that."

Clober reportedly went into the coma following an instance where he was shown

*" Besides, it's not like Dale was taking a difficult course load. I heard he wanted to be a liberal arts major. What does it matter if those grades are inflated? "*

the grades of other students in one of his classes.

"I remember the teacher accidentally displayed the grades for the class on one of those projectors," said one witness. "I heard Dale mutter something like, 'surrounded by idiots.' Then he started laughing and crying at the same time. It was terrible. Ten minutes later he was lying on the floor in a heap."

Some believe that Clober's coma was in response to his complete shock at the less than perfect grades of his classmates.

"He once said that he couldn't see how grades from Green River meant anything to four year schools," said Jenny Thompson, a 3.4 student. "I see now that he assumed that everyone was getting perfect grades just like he was. I really can't stand guys like that."

A small and unpopular group of concerned students have formed an organization with the aim of making the coursework and standards of the college more rigorous. They have made Clober into a symbol of their cause.

"Look...Dale is just this guy who did perfectly in school," said recently beaten student agitator Guy Zimmer. "It was easy for him. He couldn't believe that other people weren't doing as well as he was. I think

he went into this coma to show everyone how broken the system really is. We're in college, after all. This should be more than high school part deux."

Administration officials reject the claim that the college has inflated the grades to the point of near meaninglessness.

"If it were really that easy, would people on campus be getting anything less than a 4.0? No," said someone in a tie behind a desk. "Besides, it's not like Dale was taking a difficult course load. I heard he wanted to be a liberal arts major. What does it matter if those grades are inflated? It's not like their degrees will be useful beyond emergency toilet paper anyway."

Clober's mother is concerned that the debate over the validity of the coursework at GRCC is detracting from the most notable aspect of the entire situation.

"It doesn't matter what those poo-pooer's say about Dale or the college. I have all the proof I need that Dale and the college are living up to the standards they are supposed to be. I just got Dale's acceptance letter to Evergreen State today. They don't just let anyone in there."

*The preceding was a satirical piece addressing academic standards on campus.*

*The Current does not necessarily support the views expressed in this or any other column.*

## A devil from the past

Matt Jonas  
Opinions Editor

It has been more than 52 years since Edward R. Murrow's conscientious broadcast concerning the demonizing actions taken by Senator McCarthy, and now it seems the efforts that were undertaken by Murrow were in vain. Senator McCarthy's reckless indictments of American citizens as traitors still seems to be thriving in the punishing of the ideological protestors.

The brave and responsible actions that were taken by Murrow and his staff are the greatest testament to not only journalism, but also patriotism. The lack of journalistic ethics in safeguarding the rights of the public is a direct assault towards the efforts put forth by a responsible democracy. The recent events in Aurora, Colorado, pertaining to the comments made by Jay Bennis, a history teacher at Overland High School, have been unjustly labeled as debatable and truculent toward the teacher's allegiance to the US. This condemnation is eerily similar to the character assassination that took place during Sen. McCarthy's charade. A man has been placed on administrative leave while the school officials sort out the details.

This gross miscalculation of spirited debate for outright anarchy by pundits and journalists is just another example of the rebirth of the suppression of informative, but at times abstract from the main stream, philosophy. The actions taken against Bennis are emblematic of the illegal actions taken against the rights afforded to us by our constitution. Holding up a mirror to ourselves has had a major hand in the production of this great country.

Bennis's comments resulted in the crusade by Sean Allen, a sophomore student in his class, to railroad Bennis's right to free speech. The stance that school officials are taking is that they are not violating his rights, but rather are adhering to their policy of that "all discussion must be fair and balanced".

Bennis, as so many blood-thirsting "journalists" have put it, failed our children but not in the manner of what he has presented rather in that he has not attempted to dispel these horrendous lies sooner.

The placating of our deepest insecurities has been the recipe which irresponsible journalists and politicians have enlisted for years to push their agendas. The questioning of our leaders is imperative to sustaining the freedoms we enjoy. Murrow understood this and demonstrated the necessity of its use through his outright challenging of the witch-hunt being sponsored by our government in 1954. His valiant effort resulted in substantial change and has resulted in further safeguarding our way of life.

This legacy left by Murrow is starting to flicker out and soon his work may be forgotten. The time is ripe for an ethical and democratic revolution against the perpetrators of the public trust, and those in office and those in the media that are guilty of misleading the public through their massaged messages.

We all should demand more for those that we place our trust in and stop allowing our fears to rule over our common sense.

# Green River to hold its first ever drag show

Ryan Gaudinier  
Entertainment Editor

Green River Community College (GRCC) is holding its first ever drag show on May 10th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The event will showcase diversity on campus and focus on gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual rights.

The first hour will be a traditional drag show, filled with performers all obviously dressed up as women singing, dancing and showing off. To all you drag show virgins out there; drag shows are fun events no matter what your orientation. While there are many stereotypes out there including that only flaming homosexuals would enjoy such a fabulous event, a drag show is fun for anyone with an open mind.

Drag queens are oftentimes lavishly and overwhelming dressed up in ornate dresses and extravagant jewelry. They also tend to exaggerate feminine qualities, which is all part of the fun. Queens perform to current and traditional music, usually in the form of a female anthem or other song showcasing woman's struggles.

I have met many drag queens and they come from all different backgrounds. Some drag queens are very feminine outside of costume. Others are very masculine outside of costume and putting on

*"If you are scared or hesitant to attend a drag show, remember that everything is the name of fun. A drag show is a great way to forget all about male stereotypes and traditional gender roles and broaden your view on the world, if only for one night."*

girl's clothing gives them an opportunity to shed their masculine side and be someone completely different for a night. Any man, gay or straight, feminine or masculine, has the potential to dress up for the night and perform.

This drag show and the pink prom held on April 20th show that GRCC is reaching out to its gay community and recognizing people of all orientations on campus. Both of these events, both firsts at GRCC show the slowly changing atmosphere and stance towards gay rights and the "homosexual lifestyle."

The second hour will feature a yet to be determined speaker who will educate the crowd about gay rights. He or she will hopefully talk to the crowd about their own past experiences, and just what it does and does not mean to be

gay.

Amanda Brown is in charge of the event, and is looking around for performers who are interested. The event is open to both students on campus and other members of the community. If you or someone you know wants to be in or simply go to the event, one can call student programs at extension 2400 for more information.

I personally recommend that everyone go to a drag show at least once in their life. It's an eye-opening experience and certainly isn't just for members of the gay community. If you are scared or hesitant to attend a drag show, remember that everything is the name of fun. A drag show is a great way to forget all about male stereotypes and traditional gender roles and broaden your view on the world, if only for one night.

## Writing club hosts poetry slam event

Hannah Noel  
Staff reporter

Do you have what it takes to be a poet? Do you have what it takes to put all your fears of stage fright aside? A new club called the Creative Writers Roundtable hosted a poetry slam on April 19th to test whether students had what it takes. Phil Ray Jack, one of the Poetry Slam judges and also a professor at Green River Community College (GRCC) stated "in order to be a successful poet in the real world you must put aside all stage fright because poetry is made to be read aloud."

Poetry slams have slowly been gaining popularity throughout the country as they showcase young poets talent and gives life to poetry not possible when simply read off of a piece of paper. The raw emotion and power of poetry slams is attracting more and more people who normally would not care for poetry. These slams are helping poetry lose its old-fashioned reputation and attract more and more creative young minds into putting their talents into poetry.

The poetry slam tested entrants to see if they had what it takes to be a poet in the real world. A poetry slam is a contest that consists of an open mic with the theme of poetry. Contestants read their work in front

of judges, GRCC professors and poets themselves, Ray Jack and Jill Kronstadt. The judges were impressed with both the turnout to what they hope is a new annual event and the quality of the poetry reading.

The club has only been running since the beginning of spring quarter, although they did have a few meetings during the summer. "Having a poetry slam was a way for our brand new club to get it's feet wet" said Atelloora Nightmoon-Barnum, the current president of the club and is the one who set up the Poetry Slam. The club currently has 26 official members but is looking for new aspiring poets to join them. The club meets every Monday at 3:30 in RLC 101 but is also run off an internet message board where authors are able to post their poetry.

The first place winner of the slam was an unknown poet who was a last minute entrant and is not a member of the club. He came into the slam as a dark horse and ended up taking away top prize. Second and third place went to Sarah McKinley and Sean Hansen respectively, both club members who are better known within the club. The prizes were a DVD for the first place winner, a calculator set for the second place winner, and a book of poetry for the third place winner.

# Franken's lighthearted look at dreary situation

Matt Jonas  
Opinions Editor

Al Franken is a man that can claim the title of savior and notorious figure depending on what political skew is being used. For Republicans he is an irritating mouth piece for the "liberal" propaganda, and for Democrats he is a rallying cry for the establishing of moral culpability in politics as well as being a manifesto for the party. Franken brought to the forefront in his last book the salacious lies that were being passed off as irrefutable truths, and now he has brought forth the "truth".

Franken's new book simply entitled *The Truth* (with jokes) touches on a variety of issues ranging from the Iraq war to gay marriage. Starting off the long list of truth is the infamous election and the platform of fear that was so effective in his contestable victory. This kickoff to the book is a solid foreshadowing of the themes that are expressed throughout the rest of the novel.

His satirizing of the serious situations that have started to plagued this country comes as a refreshment from the doom and gloom reality that we reside in.

This is a novel for the nihilist, which makes up a part of all of our genetic make-up. Franken propagates his humor into something more than the usual rant that

powerful enough to inoculate you from the lies is the truth. This book is both word and shield. With jokes." Franken commented in regards to the intent of his

*"I present The Truth not just to shock you, not just to make you laugh and cry alternating... but to rouse you, to prepare you for battles ahead. The only vaccine powerful enough to inoculate you from the lies is the truth. This book is both word and shield. With jokes."*

Al Franken  
Comedian, Political Commentator

is associated with politically driven novels; he brings to the foreground viable ideas for change where others just complain.

"I present THE TRUTH not just to shock you, not just to make you laugh and cry alternating, or maybe even at the same time, not just to set the record straight- but to rouse you, to prepare you for battles ahead. The only vaccine

book.

With some many books that just attack with a callous and malicious intent Franken has created a masterpiece that brings about an outraged feeling throughout the novel. Those of the "liberal" persuasion will take the books message to heart, which is predictable, and will hopefully implement the hard lessons that we

have learned over the years. The intriguing timing of this book can also offer a bridge in the gap between republican and democrat. No matter what your political affiliation is you the value of picking up this book and giving it a once over is more than worth the time.

I know that picking up a book that criticizes those that are sup-

posed to be representing your will is a difficult pill to swallow, but the knowledge that can be gained from this unfiltered work outweighs petty partisan feelings. Franken also offers, for the less politically inclined reader, a cynical vacation from the mundane trials and tribulations that make up everyday life.

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# Gorillaz announce their retirement

Brilliant hip-hop tandem calls it quits for now, but leaves door open for comeback

**Matt Jonas**  
Opinions Editor

Over the past year the audience of hip-hop has been captivated by four offbeat animated figures that deliver a methodic melody, the Gorillaz. Coming off the astounding success of their sophomore album *Demon Days*, Damon Albarn, the group's front-man and mastermind of the imaginative group, has decided to shelve the act.

Coming off a five-night stay at Harlem's famous Apollo theatre, which capped off an exceptionally successful tour by the group, Albarn made the announcement that the retiring of the beloved animated characters was indeed on the horizon. "It's been brilliant, and this time it's been a runaway success, so why not just leave it like that? So we're retiring," said Albarn.

The innovative and conceptualized music that the Gorillaz claim responsibility for has been a much needed breath of fresh air for a genre that has, as of late, fallen into a rut when it comes to the freshness and evolution of hip-hop. The loss of the Gorillaz's pioneering beats and Dell's urbane rapping will surely send

shock waves through the hip-hop community, and without it seems that there is no clear candidate to take up where the 'Rillaz have left off.

The mid to late 90's and early into this decade have seen acts such as Massive Attack, Tricky and Sneaker Pimps that have not only contributed to music but, like the Gorillaz, have revolutionized where music is going. Unlike these three inventive groups that may go away for a couple of years, but return with something groundbreaking, it looks as if the 'Rillaz will not elect not to follow the same paths blazed by these artists.

The taking away of the Gorillaz, as with a lot of music acts that retire during their prime, may not be totally permanent. With cryptic comments like "We've been taking notes and we're going to do it hip-hop style, like Jay Z", hinting at a comeback similar to the Jay's, Albarn has left open the door for a possible triumphant return.

The resolve by fans to keep around the Gorillaz is clear, but an understanding of the reasoning behind their departure seems to be just as clear. No one wants to see a group so unique and suc-



The Gorillaz are brilliantly animated in all their music videos creating a style no other group can duplicate. VIRGIN RECORDS

cessful leave so abruptly, but there are times when it takes that to preserve the integrity of what was accomplished. Unfortunately this does seem to be one of those times.

Make no mistake: the 'Rillaz have run their course for now in

the eyes of Albarn and will be put away for a time that varies from a couple of years down the road to indefinite. The complete dissolution of the dynamic group will go out with a bang; the talks of final shows in Las Vegas as well as a movie will be the last gasps

before the four characters leave the industry that they helped revitalize. They will be missed, but somehow I feel that we have not seen the last of the audacious adventures provided by the dynamic beings that are the Gorillaz.



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ANDY GARDNER/The Current

## Fastpitch keeps on swinging forward

**Eric Hanninen**  
Sports Editor

The fastpitch team continues to struggle but they won't let that keep their spirits down. They have shown remarkable improvement as of late, and are getting much closer to that elusive first W of the season.

They may not have gotten off to a great start, or even any start at all, but they continue to play hard and personify the term sportsmanship. After recently losing 14-10 and 13-10 in a double header against Grays Harbor, there may

still be some room for optimism.

According to head coach Gary Jones, the team has great chemistry and is doing its best considering the situation they're in.

It's tough to win when the most key position on the field is where they lack the most experience. We don't have a girl with a lick of pitching experience. Imagine the Seattle Mariners coming into a matchup with a pitcher who has never stepped on a mound before, any team that has pitching inexperience is at an immediate disadvantage.

Also, with only three players returning and eight new players,

it's tough to win in the NCAACC without experience. Having good team sportsmanship and awesome attitudes in all the players is very important, and we continue to display that.

The way you have to look at it is, taking it with a grain of salt. At this time next year we'll have a veteran team with plenty of pitching experience and hopefully a lot of experience at other positions too.

The team is yet to win a game at (0-20 Overall, and 0-12 in League). But who knows, maybe, next year we'll be undefeated and be on our way to a NWAACC

Championship appearance.

On top of all this adversity, the team has also been plagued by the injury bug. The starting lineup has suffered the loss of two everyday starters and has forced more freshman into the games to be baptized by fire in league play. The overall lack of depth has been quite the hinderance to their season.

As the laundry list of problems builds the team has kept a positive

outlook on things and sometimes that's all you can do.

As long as they continue to play hard and have fun those victories could start to come in bunches. It's always hardest to get that first win, then they seem to come naturally.

Watching them building up valuable lessons and experience for the next year is definitely encouraging.

## Gator tennis team weathers storm

**Chris Luong**  
Staff Reporter

The women's tennis team has a different opponent this year, the weather. The squad was rained out twice early in the year.

It has been tough for the ladies but they still managed to pull through and win against Treasure Valley on April 15. That was their first win of the rainy season.

Overall the team has posted a solid respectable record of 2-3. There is plenty of room for improvement but the team is optimistic that things should turn around. After all, it's tough to build a rhythm when there has

been so many rained out matches.

Some key players to look out for would be Jackie Utu, Della Rizo, and Mary Layton. Utu won both of her matches playing the number 4 singles. Rizo won both of her matches. Layton won both of her singles and doubles with her partner Michelle Dawson.

Layton also played basketball for GRCC. We all should be looking forward to seeing the team in action on Friday May 5th against Skagit Valley. Mark your calendars for May 19-21 for the championships.

On the other hand, the men have been tearing up their competition. Despite the loss against

an overpowerful Gonzaga University team. The men are (4-1 Overall) and undefeated in league play.

In league play, the Gators have not surrendered more than three matches in a single match-up. In fact, out of 27 total league matches played the Gators have only lost 5 total. That is what you simply call domination.

In the upcoming weeks they plan on building towards their 20th men's league title. Seeking their first since 2003, the year their five year reign at the top ended. They've got three home matchups remaining and could use some fan support as an extra boost towards their goal. A title.

### Editor-in-Chief Position Open:

The Current is accepting applications for editor of the newspaper beginning next fall. Applicants must have a good understanding of newspaper journalism and the operations of a student newspaper. Previous experience working on a student paper of similar size and scope will strengthen your qualifications.

### Salary: \$2,000 scholarship

For more information or to pick up an application, contact John Knowlton, newspaper adviser, at 253-833-9111 ext. 4201 or via e-mail at [jknowlto@greenriver.edu](mailto:jknowlto@greenriver.edu). Deadline for submitting completed applications is 5 p.m., May 15. Interviews will be held between 3-5 p.m., May 17 in the Rainier Room of the student center.

# NFL Draft

## Who should the Hawks take this year?

**Barak Zozosky**  
Staff Reporter

Every April, all 32 NFL teams are filled with great hope and optimism entering the coming season. For this year's Seattle Seahawks, it is no different. Each draft class is very important in building and sculpting a team's future. Seattle will be looking for that special player to push their team over the edge, and become champions of not only the NFC, but the entire NFL.

Last year yielded some draft gems—Lofa Tatupu was a 2nd round selection that became the leader of the team's defense. Tatupu ended his season with a trip to Hawaii to celebrate his Pro-Bowl selection.

Linebacker Leroy Hill became a starter after free-agent signee Jamie Sharper went down with an injury. He went on to be a hard-hitting spark plug that fired

up the defense and the rowdiest crowd in the NFL, Seattle's own Qwest Field ranks at the very top. There is no crowd louder than our own.

So who will the Hawks take in this year's draft? There are a couple directions in which the Seahawks could go.

An obvious choice would be to go after a guard to replace the departed All-Pro Steve Hutchinson, who left this off-season to sign a mega deal with the Minnesota Vikings. But upon further inspection, that gap may be filled from within our current team roster.

Floyd "Pork Chop" Womack is expected to content for the job. He was a starter for last year's team but went down with an early injury and never got back in the lineup due to stellar play by the young and talented Sean Locklear.

Hutchinson could also be re-

placed by last year's first round draft selection, Chris Spencer.

Spencer is a natural center, but the team says that he has the versatility to play either the center spot, or guard. Oklahoma left guard Davin Joseph could be a possible selection for the Hawks in that 31st spot.

Also, the Hawks signed traditional tackle Tom Ashworth from the New England Patriots. He has said that moving to guard would not be out of the question for him as he feels up to the daunting task.

Another possible route for the Hawks to go would be more defense. Seattle may have a job opening opposite cornerback Marcus Trufant. Last year's starter at corner, Andre Dyson, was not retained by Seattle, raising the point that they may want to go with more youth in the secondary.

Many Seahawk fans seem to

like Kelly Herndon in our nickelback role as opposed to the pressure that comes with starting and having to go against the other team's best receiver week in and week out. So selecting a secondary player is a strong possibility.

The health of strong safety Ken Hamlin also may be a concern for the Hawks. Hamlin was seriously injured following a brawl outside of a Seattle night club following a win against the Houston Texans. Hamlin appears to be healthy going into the year, but some added secondary depth certainly would not hurt Seattle at this point. Especially since his replacement Marquand Manuel departed for Green Bay. If Virginia Tech CB Jimmy Williams can fall to Seattle, look for General Manager Tim Ruskell to use his selection on the Virginia Tech standout.

Perhaps most needed for the

Seahawks would be a speedy wide receiver that could manage the slot between starters Darrell Jackson, and newcomer Nate Burleson, a Seattle native that attended O'Dea High School.

Bobby Engram, who has been a valuable weapon for Seattle, but he is getting older and will need to be replaced in the coming seasons.

Miami wide receiver Sinorice Moss would be an excellent fit in Mike Holmgren's version of the west-coast offense, and would provide an immediate spark in the passing game. Moss is a shifty receiver in the mold of a player like Steve Smith, and has drawn comparisons to his older brother Santana, who had a break out season for the Redskins last year. Look for Moss to be the Seahawks selection come April 29th, the date of this year's NFL draft.

## Golf team looking ahead to championships

**Eddie White**  
Staff Reporter

At the Douglas Invitational in Canada, the Gator Golf Team took a third place finish. Although the team didn't fully play to the level that they are capable of there were some notable performances.

Paige Gifford had another solid outing, shooting back-to-back rounds of 85, finishing another in second place. Another good performance on the girl's team was Amanda Ferguson, who put up a score of 92 on day one, then com-

ing back with an 85 on the second day of the tournament putting her in third place.

On the guy's team, Todd Swendal had the best finish in 8th place putting up a score of 79 and then an 80. After struggling with an 85 on day one, Dustin Jones came back with an impressive 75 on the second day, finishing him in 11th place over all.

The Athletic Director Bob Kickner acknowledges that, "We didn't have our best day", but goes on to say "You don't want

to peak to early, by having a bad day, the team should refocused coming down the stretch".

The next tourney will be in Spokane followed by the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) Championships in Walla Walla on May 21 and 22.

Although he's not coming off his best performance of the season, the all-star of the team is Tyler Dost. In the previous tournament, the Olympic Invitational, Dost shot a 75 on the Cascade

course, then a 70 on the more difficult Olympic course sending him home with an overall win.

A 19 year old, Dost has already scored a 68 at Fosters Golf Links in Tukwila, and an even more impressive 67 at Toquitz Creek in Colorado. He said "I'm optimistic about our chances at the NWAACC Championship".

Dost is a class of 05 graduate of Kentwood High School. He has a younger brother still attending Kentwood. When not on the golf course he enjoys playing basket-

ball and Texas Hold'em with his buddies.

He lives by the philosophy of, "Life's a ditch, so dig it". When done with at Green River, Dost would like to leave the state for a university but stay in the Pac-10, wanting to go to either Arizona State or Southern Cal.

Both of those teams would surely welcome this easy going guy to join their team, and who knows, with a lot of hard work and a little luck he could be playing on the PGA in a couple years.

## GATOR SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Baseball

vs. Lower Columbia  
April 29, 1 p.m.  
vs. Centralia  
April 30, 1 p.m.  
@ Pierce  
May 4, 3 p.m.

### Fastpitch

@ Centralia  
April 28, 2 p.m.  
@ South Puget Sound  
April 29, 2 p.m.  
@ Pierce  
May 2, 1 p.m.

### Tennis

vs. Shoreline (TBA)  
@ Bellevue  
May 3, 2 p.m.  
vs. Skagit Valley  
May 5, 1 p.m.

### Golf

Skagit Valley Invitational  
May 14-15  
NWAACC Championships  
May 22-23



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## Gator baseball team steps up their game

**Robert Westervelt**  
Staff Reporter

As the season races past its midpoint, the Green River Gators are in the midst of an exciting pennant chase. The Gators are fighting Tacoma for second place in the league and it appears that it will go down to final week of the season before it is decided.

The top team (Lower Columbia) automatically receives a birth into the NWAACC playoffs while the second and third place teams fight it out for the remaining spot.

The Gators record currently stands at 18 wins and 11 losses (8-5 in league play) which is good for 3rd place in the division at four games out of first place and two games behind Tacoma with 15 games still to go.

Luckily for GRCC, the schedule favors the Gators the rest of the way as they have already completed all but 2 of their matches with Lower Columbia, while Tacoma still has to play them 5 times down the stretch.

On Tuesday April 18, the two battled in a double header with each team taking a game apiece. Tacoma is a formidable opponent but the Gators were up to the task.

They have three games remain-

ing against Tacoma during this final stretch. One is a home game on Sunday May 7. The next two are a doubleheader we must play at their home base.

The two games featured many key hits, clutch pitching and dramatic moments. Throughout the season thus far Brandon Kuykendall has lead the offensive attack, batting .370 and setting a pace for the rest of the team's timely hitting.

Meanwhile, Joel Nelson has taken charge of the pitching staff by winning 4 games with an impressive 1.71 Earned Run Average.

On the Saturday April 29th, Green River hosts Lower Columbia for their final match up with the team, where they hope to make up valuable ground in the league race.

Then on Wednesday May 10th, Tacoma journeys up to Green River to play the Gators in the first of three games in 4 days that will more than likely determine who goes to the playoffs.

**Scores Online:**  
[www.greenriver.edu/athletics](http://www.greenriver.edu/athletics)