

Gators look to playoffs
Tennis, golf eyeing championships
see Sports | 15

Students mark Cinco de Mayo



MARKS DONES/The Current

Students outside Campus Corner Apartments take salsa dancing lessons as part of Cinco de Mayo festivities. Among the other highlights, Mexican-style cuisine and a piñata. The holiday celebrates the Mexican army victory over the French in 1862.

See story on page 13

Campus parking will get worse, officials say

Amber Petersen
Staff Reporter

If you think parking on campus is bad now, wait until the summer of 2011.

That's when an additional 247 spaces in Parking Lot D (next to the administration building) will be removed as part of the continuing renovation of the campus.

The parking spaces will be removed to make room for the college's new Trade and Industry complex. Plans call for a new TI complex that will have more tools and equipment than are currently available in the four outdated TI buildings. The college's welding shop will remain at its present location.

After the new TI complex is constructed, the college will turn the old location into additional parking, said Sam Ball, dean of instruction for capital projects.

"We already know there's going to be a [parking] problem during construction," Ball said. He said college officials expect to "ratchet up" the parking and bus-shuttle system in use at nearby Pacific Raceways.

If the project receives legislative funding as college officials hope, construction on the \$30 million TI project would begin in the summer of 2011 and be completed within 18 to 20 months.

"We already have the funding for the pre-design process which is the first step," Ball said. If state funds follow through, design will begin in 2009.

There is an excess of parking at the raceway for Green River students and employees. Recently, the college added three new shuttles buses to the route. In the future, additional buses will be added to improve parking.

"The shuttle services are the only possible solution at the time," Ball said.

Buses run from the raceway to the college's Holman Library from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, the metro 181 runs from there, straight up to the college.

Parking is a long-term, ongoing issue for the GRCC's 9,000 students. The campus has few than 2000 parking spots now. Ball said the TI construction project will eliminate about 75 percent of the parking available in Lot D, just east of the AD building.

Attorney: college can censor newspaper

If true, *The Current* would be country's first 'closed forum' paper at a public college

Current Staff Reporters

Green River administrators may have a green light to censor the student press, according to a claim by the college's attorney. If true, *The Current* would be the first college newspaper in the country able to be legally censored.

At the heart of the issue is whether or not the paper can be called a "limited public forum," in which case student editors would be the final authority on content.

Until 2005, courts in more than 60 cases had unanimously supported the First Amendment press rights of students at public colleges. However, a federal appeals court recently gave administrators in Illinois, Indiana

and Wisconsin the authority to choose the public forum status of their student newspapers. The ruling applied the *Hazelwood* censorship standard, created in 1989 to determine the level of censorship allowed for high school publications. Other courts had previously rejected applying the standard at the college level.

In a limited public forum, officials can censor a newspaper article only if they can prove that a "material and substantial disruption" of the campus would occur, or the rights of others would be violated. Administrators have more leeway to censor in a closed forum. No court has ever found a public college newspaper to be a closed forum.

Though the latest ruling was not binding in Washington, free press groups have urged colleges across the country to declare

their student publications public forums. As it stands now, Green River Community College does not have a policy on the issue.

In the absence of a policy, courts determining forum status look at the school's actual practice. *Current* Editor-in-Chief Brian Schraum feels Green River's practice indicates the newspaper is a public forum.

"To our knowledge, administrators have never tried to control content, or censor us," he said, noting that a policy was needed simply to reaffirm that.

However, Cheryl Bateman, the assistant attorney general assigned to GRCC, disagrees because some newspaper stories are produced as part of a journalism class.

"Do I believe it's [*The Current*] more of a non-public than a public? Yes," Bateman said.

Schraum and adviser John Knowlton are pushing the college to adopt a policy declaring public forum status. The administration has not ruled out the idea, but with advice from Bateman they have not moved in that direction.

"The college has been pretty supportive, and I think it's important that people know that," Schraum said. "But the AAG is pitching this bogus theory that isn't backed up with case law."

Schraum and Knowlton have been working with the Student Press Law Center to support their claim with legal precedent.

If administrators do not adopt a policy, and Bateman's argument is true, final responsibility for newspaper content would rest with administrators. It would be the first such instance in collegiate press history.



Rock the Vote:
Elections,
Promotions
see inside



Squirrels, trash a bad mix
page 6

Financial Aid
Out of Reach?
page 11

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Printed by

King County Journal Newspapers



Security Watch

Marijuana Pipe
April 24

While patrolling the campus trails, security found a suspect scraping a marijuana pipe. When confronted, the student said he planned to smoke the pipe with two other people.

Parking Lot Pursuit
April 24

Security received a report that two men in a Daewoo were speeding through the parking lot around 7:30 pm. An officer met up with the suspects in Lot C, and found them trying to drive between the Trades buildings. The car then took off; another officer pursued in a patrol truck and later found them in the back of Lot I. When asked, the men said they did not need any help and sped off again. Shortly afterwards, they flagged the officer down and asked for directions to the Administration building. When told it was closed, the driver swore and took off yet again, scraping the bottom of his car on several speed bumps. In Lot K, officers eventually boxed the car in. The two men refused to show ID, and took off on foot towards 320th Street; a King County Sheriff's deputy arrived shortly after security lost sight of them. They cornered the suspects in Lot A. The men claimed they were simply lost and trying to leave; the deputy believed the two had been drinking, which they denied. Both were trespassed from campus. The Daewoo was impounded.

Locker Room Theft
April 25

A student reported several items stolen from his PE locker during an 11 a.m. class. The lock was open and undamaged; the student said he may not have locked it before leaving.

Student Fight
April 28

Officers were called to the third floor of SMT around 10 a.m., because of a fight. One of the two parties had already fled the scene. An instructor reported that one of the students had been talking during class; when asked if he had a question, another student yelled "no, he is talking about his car, and then he doesn't do well on his tests and then complains about it afterwards." After class, the first student allegedly waited outside for the second to leave. A confrontation followed, in which the instructor claims the two were shouting and shoving. The first student took off after security was called. He later denied any physical contact.

Clarification

A student wishes to clarify his statement regarding the CAP program, quoted in the April 14 issue of The Current:

"I support it [CAP] because it gives underrepresented, new and returning students guidance to help them navigate the education system," said Diversity Services Coordinator Lorenzo Ortiz.

The Current is committed to fair and accurate coverage of campus news.



Events

Sounds of Hawaii

May 19
\$20 reserved
\$5 students
7:30 p.m.
LSC

Second annual;
music by Na Palapalai, entertainment by Augie T, and hula.

Contact: x2400

The Putting Zoo

May 21
\$10 per person
10:30 a.m.
to 4:30 p.m.
LSC
(main dining area)

Price includes transportation
1 Go-Kart race,
2 rounds of putt-putt golf,
and lunch.

Contact: Jeff x2400

Mariner's Game

May 24
\$30 students
\$45 non-students
5:15 p.m.

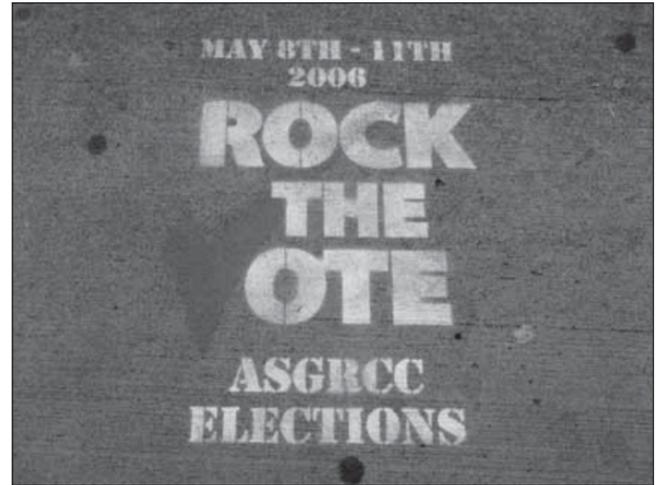
Watch the Seattle Mariners play the Baltimore Orioles at Safeco.

Contact: x2400



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

Kennelly Commons



TIM PERRY/The Current

Featured Senators



Susan Evans

Senate Secretary

"Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest."
-Mark Twain

Susan joined Senate because she was forced.

Birthday: Nov. 15, 1990

Favorite Superhero: Underdog

Major: Computer Applications Specialists (GRCC Alum 2000)

Susan's Superpower: The power of Baking

Food of Choice: Ice Cream!

Born in: Salem, Ore.

Favorite TV Show: Alias - when it ends it will be Lost or Gray's Anatomy, it's a toss up!

Susan wants the student body to know that she supports everyone to the fullest. GO GATORS!



Steve Chung

Finance Committee

"Active Hong Kong boy, no matter how hard it is, just do my best"

Steve joined the senate for the opportunity to have fun.

Birthday: June 27, 1986

Favorite superhero: His mama

Major: Business

Steve's Superpower: The power to pull off any style of pants

Food of Choice: Japanese and Chinese

Born in: Hong Kong

Favorite TV show: MTV's "Yo Mama"

Steve wants the Student Body to know that working on Senate is a rewarding experience.



Keely Tafoya

Public Relations

"Love is not what we become, but what we already are." -Unknown

Keely joined Senate to be involved, meet new people, and to give a voice to those not normally heard.

But really for the name tag!

Birthday: Dec. 1, 1985

Favorite Superhero: Her Dad

Major: English/Ethnic Studies

Keely's Superpower: Persuasion through communication and eyelash batting

Food of Choice: Chicken flautas con chipotle

Born in: Lacey, Wash.

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order SVU

Keely wants the Student body to know that she is passionate in all that she does. All students can come to her with suggestions or concerns. She is always available and ready to listen.

Green River students win unique contest

Campus drafting association leads the Human Powered Paper Vehicle competition

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

The American Design Drafting Association (ADDA) here on campus won best performance in the Human Powered Paper Vehicle competition at Eastern Washington University (EWU). On April 29, Green River Community College's (GRCC) team of drafters took their paper vehicle, The Green Caddy, over to Eastern Washington to present and race their vehicle against teams from other colleges in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

All vehicles made for the competition must be ninety percent paper by weight, and the vehicle must not weigh over seventy-five pounds. These rules create a competition that is not heavily affected by money, as the raw materials are cheap, and there is no entry fee for the competition.

The members of GRCC's team, Laura Davis, Ron Holt, Rich Burnham, Joe Heithe, John Hickson, Dave Ausmus, and Simon St. Maur-Windle started the process of building the paper vehicle by looking at the rules, making some rough drawings and then combining the high points of everyone's design to make one final design plan.

After the design was finalized, the construction started. GRCC's team used high density cardboard tube and high density cardboard sheeting for materials. They also used spray can paint to make the Laura Davis, Ron Holt, Rich



COURTESY PHOTO

ADDA members proudly display their award for best performance, and their prize-winning vehicle, after the competition.

Burnham, Joe Heithe, John Hickson, Dave Ausmus, and Simon St. Maur-Windle vehicle visually appealing once it was constructed. Holt did the lettering on the caddy making it look finished and professional.

Once the vehicle was finally finished, it was time to test just how the caddy would perform. Three riders rode the course. Heithe, nicknamed Big Joe at 380 pounds was named test rider. Ausmus, the co-chair told him if the caddy could withhold Big Joe it could withhold anyone.

When the day of the competition arrived, the team checked in at EWU. They were the sixteenth team to perform out of eighteen teams. The race is 300 meters long with pylons, ramps, and pullouts along the track to make things interesting for both the rider and the crowd. Heithe was the lead rider for the team, with Burnham riding second, and Holt finishing up the last leg of the race.

GRCC smashed the rest of the competition with a time of one minute and twenty four sec-

onds, only three seconds slower than the all-time track record. The nearest competition clocked in at two minutes, easily behind GRCC's mark.

The competition took some major planning, teamwork, and tons of hands on work. The unique competition made GRCC students do what many would think is impossible, make a usable vehicle only out of paper. When asked what he remembered most about the competition, Ausmus replied "it's a helluva lot of work."

NEWS BRIEFS

FOI request filed for Grille contract

The Current has filed a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain public records concerning the Gator Grille.

The Grille is operated by Chartwells Educational Dining Services, in an agreement with the college. The Current is seeking copies of the contract and financial records.

The college has responded, and intends to fill the request if Chartwells does not seek a court injunction by May 19.

Budget planning now under way

Green River administrators are currently developing the college budget for next year.

The "general fund" is divided up annually by top officials, and is approved by the board of trustees.

For 2006-2007, officials have identified eight critical issues that will be priorities during the budget process: improving student engagement, helping under-prepared students, fostering diversity, improving promotion and collaboration with outside groups, increasing technology training, and serving students with better "customer service."

The proposed budget will be drafted May 22-24.

Student government hosts live candidate debate

Tiffany Richards
Staff Reporter

The weekly student government meeting was spiced up with a live candidate debate on May 4. The debates captured most of the students in the commons area, with nearly half of them listening well into the actual meeting.

\$1,500 was granted to the Muslim Student Association to host a basketball tournament on campus during the weekend of May 13 and 14. The bill was "tabled," held until the next meeting, last week due to unknown extra expenses. Those expenses were taken care of by this meeting.

A constitution change was also approved to appear on the ballot along with the Student Government president and vice-presidential candidates during the elections, which take place May 8 through the 11. The last part of Article IX of section 2 currently requires by-law changes to be advertised in The Current five calendar days before voting.

If approved by a majority of the student body, it will read, "Proposed By-Laws and/or amendments shall be advertised around campus seven (7) calendar days prior to the By-Law or amend-

ment being voted upon. Locations of By-Law changes will include bulletin boards, in Student Programs, and other readily-seen-by-the-student-body settings."

Greater awareness among the student body and the reduction of advertising costs are the reasons for this change.

In other business:

- A by-laws change to section 3, numbers 1 and 3, detailing the academic qualifications of both voting and non-voting Students Government members, was approved.

- A request for funding for Seattle poet Christa Bell to come to campus was withdrawn.

- A request of \$470 from the American Society of Mechanical Engineering (ASME) to cover the expenses of members to attend the Human Powered Paper Vehicle contest at Eastern Washington University was approved.

- A request for \$2,500 to fund an end of the year carnival from the Class Officers Committee was approved.

- A Dance Connection club bill, which requested \$500 to fund a Cinco de Mayo event at Campus Corner Apartments, was withdrawn because the club already had the necessary funding.

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Young to serve temporary stint as assistant dean of student services

Brian Schraum
Editor-in-Chief

The college has selected Kenneth Young to serve as interim assistant dean for student services, replacing former assistant dean Mark Mitsui.



Kenneth Young

Young comes to the position from the Educational Planning department, where he has served for the past two years as a "generalist,"

working in a variety of areas.

He will serve as assistant dean for about six months, as a permanent replacement is selected. The assistant dean monitors a variety of student programs and support services.

"I've learned more in a week than I ever imagined you can learn," Young said after a week on the job.

Young said he was interested in the full-time position, but would return to

his old job in Ed Planning if the college selects someone else.

Prior to his work at GRCC, Young worked at Olympic College in educational planning, and was also an adjunct faculty member teaching strategies for student success.

He's also worked at Bates Technical College in the department of labor grants, and has worked with the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle.

Young started out his career at the University of North Carolina, where he was previously a student dual-majoring in sociology and African studies. He was active in student government, and knew he wanted to stay at college in the working world.

"You get to meet so many brilliant students," Young said. Young decided to move to Washington however, after his mother was diagnosed with cancer.

"I said 'whatever she needs, I'm going to be there to provide it,'" he said.

In his spare time, Young enjoys spending time with his family -- and attending ballet for his six-year-old daughter.

He also enjoys high school prep basketball and golf.

Students are educated on health issues through unconventional mediums

Andy Gardner
Chief Photographer

Green River's Auburn campus housed the annual wellness fair April 26, a collaboration of the college nursing, occupational therapy and physical training programs with local health-based businesses and clinics.

Entrepreneurs and clinic representatives alike stood beside college students, talking about the dangers of smoking, STDs, bipolar disorder, life in a wheelchair, or with cataracts. Tri-fold pamphlets lay beside demonstration models and jars of things quite foul labeled with the word "biohazard."

The fair was thrown to pro-

mote awareness of health risks, and demonstrations allowed students to get a first hand account of the hardships faced by people with disabilities and degenerative diseases.

Within a few shorts minutes every student who walked around the line of booths, in the fair end of the lunch area received a crash course in health and wellness, throwing Velcro beanbags at a cloth tic-tac-toe board mounted on an easel while balancing on pogo-boards and wearing fogged glasses enacting life with cataracts.

In the commons, smokers dealt with posters and nursing students with "spunk" -- blowing smoke with extra vigor and scoffing health awareness.

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TIM PERRY/The Current

The aviation department's flight simulator has been out of commission this year; the replacement will cost \$100,000+

Aviation department to receive upgrade

Prospective flight simulator will replace inoperable, outdated model

Kell Fearon
Staff Reporter

The aviation department will be receiving a new flight simulator in time for the 2006-2007 school year.

The new simulator will replace the 14 year old simulator which broke down in September of last year. The previous simulator was unable to be repaired because the original factory no longer supports it and no replacement parts are available.

For those on their way to obtaining a pilot's license, six hours of simulated flying time is an important part of their training program.

"It's been a problem," admitted aviation instructor George Comollo, "We simply haven't had a simulator available this year."

Comollo went on to say that a new simulator was badly needed anyway, in order to keep up with changing technology.

"Using the old one and then going on to something newer is kind of like learning to drive on an automatic and then switching to a stick," he said. "We want our students to be exposed to the newest technology here."

Green River used to have a lease agreement for the simulator that was cut off after 9/11. The agreement allowed students from other schools to experience

a taste of Green River's aviation program and spend some time in the simulator. Comollo says the program was good for the community and helped to interest new students in attending Green River. There is a possibility that the lease agreement may be put back into effect with the acquisition of the new simulator.

No one from the aviation department has seen the prospective simulator yet as it will likely be built to order. The total cost of the simulator is expected to be over \$100,000. The school is still considering several models, but the board of trustees is expected to make a final decision on May 15.

Technology Fee Committee distributes 2006-2007 funding for an assortment of campus projects

Kent Center and aviation program awarded highest amount of funds

Kell Fearon
Staff Reporter

The Technology Fee Committee recently released their annual list of projects that will be funded for the 2006-2007 school year.

The Green River's Kent Campus was allocated over \$58,000 for new computers and staff support for labs. The main campus received another \$154,000 to divide between various technology-related departments.

A large percentage of the fund—\$31,000—went to the aviation department to help fund the new flight simulator that will be arriving in time for the fall 2006 quarter. Student Programs received \$27,250 for a wireless network in the LSC building and a new color printer.

Not all departments were able to be awarded the amount they

requested. The A & P department had asked for \$62,000 for new microscopes, but received less than half of that. Enrollment Services' request for two new computer workstations went unfunded, and The Current was granted only \$2,360 of the \$9,500 requested.

The funding for the projects comes from the technology fee paid by students. The fee is charged to students at a rate of \$5.00 per credit, to a maximum of 12 credits. Funding has nearly doubled from the 2005-2006 school year to the 2006-2007 year, going from \$123,000 to \$214,000.

The Technology Fee Committee decides how the funds will be spent. The committee consists of seven voting members and three non-voting members. Five of the seven voting members are students; including the ASGRCC

Chief Justice, Vice President, and three students appointed by the ASGRCC Executive Committee. Dean of Instruction Kim Nakano is the Technology Fee Committee chairperson.

The committee meets regularly each quarter to review the budget, which is divided into two parts. The annual standing budget supports the technology and staffing in the Holman Library and the new open lab in the Technology Center. The project budget consists of funds left over after the annual standing budget allocations have been made. The committee requests proposals from the campus to buy technology that will benefit students. Committee members then discuss each proposal on several occasions before deciding which projects to fund and how much money to allocate to each.

Squirrel population linked to trash problem

Custodians say cleaner campus means fewer varmints



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

A notorious Green River squirrel raids the garbage cans on campus. Custodians say trash is attracting the rodents.

Eddie White
Staff Reporter

The issue of the squirrel population on campus seems to be a constant debate within the student body and faculty. The grounds maintenance people say that the issue comes up every year.

It seems to be that everybody has a different opinion on how bad the problem is, or if there's even a problem at all. Some students simply feel that the squirrels are cute and friendly little critters, therefore feeding them draws more around and makes them more social, while others feel that they are a nuisance on campus and a problem that needs to be addressed due to the litter situation.

These two opinions contradict each other; the people that befriend these creatures are the ones that keep them around to annoy the people that think they are a problem.

Of course there's always that horror story of a manic squirrel running up the leg and arm of some poor girl and stealing a Twinkie out of her purse, but nobody has actually seen it happen.

The main concern is the squirrels getting into the garbage cans and dragging out trash and leaving it around campus.

Jennifer Wren, a maintenance worker here at Green River said, "Yeah, garbage around campus is an issue, but I've never seen a squirrel dragging cigarette butts out of the garbage..." suggesting that the two legged creatures that also occupy this campus might be just as guilty of creating this untidy look.

The head of the maintenance division, Tom Trindell said, "We pick up three or four large gar-

bage bags in the parking lot everyday... more so in the winter and fall due to the cooler weather.

As it gets warmer we find the same amount spread out around campus", which suggests that students are simply throwing their garbage out of their car.

Trindell also said, "When the squirrels get into the garbage they leave whatever they drag out right around the garbage can". He said the current garbage cans aren't designed to add the flapper lids on them, and with a hundred garbage cans spread out around campus, it would be extremely expensive to replace them all. He said, "another thing to take into consideration is the fact that the cans are emptied only twice a week unless they are over half full".

This being said, there are a large range of scavenging animals that come out at night, such as raccoons, possums, rats, ect., so maybe the squirrels are catching all the flak for what might not be entirely their fault.

What it comes down to is, that we all need to do our part to keep our school clean. If you see a piece of trash lying around, just pick it up and carry it ten feet to the trash can. We are lucky to attend a school in such a beautiful and remote area filled with wildlife and foliage, and with that comes the responsibility to find a way to coexist with the wildlife that we share the area with.

Take care of our campus, throw your cigarette butts in the garbage, don't litter and help out and pick up a piece of litter today if you see any. To simply blame the squirrels for the shortcomings that we all possess, seems a little irresponsible.

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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. 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.



TIM PERRY/ The Current

Students in the OT Assistant program discuss curriculum, and how they can hone their skills in their respected fields.

OT Assistant program to get new home in Science Center

Nicole Swapp
Features Editor

In addition to the new Science Building being built, many programs, including the Occupational Therapy Assistant program (OTA), is going to be getting a new look.

OTA is a program that helps people who have been disturbed by physical injury, illness, developmental, psychosocial or aging-related problems.

According to Noel Hepler, OTA program coordinator, OTA students work towards getting jobs in public schools, long-term care centers, hospitals, rehabilitation centers and geriatric day centers.

Including the new classrooms and labs that are going to be on the first floor of the Science Cen-

ter, there will also be a bigger facility for the OTA program. There is going to be classrooms, lecture halls, and well as shops where students can get a better hands on feel for the job.

According to Hepler, there are going to be simulated departments where students can practice and hone their skills for a greater efficiency in their job field.

Hepler also said that the job availability is outstanding! Green River is the only Associate of Applied Science degree in OTA in the Pacific Northwest.

In the new building, the OTA program will not be getting a lot of new equipment, but will be getting new things to help better students who practice OTA. "We will be benefiting from a mock apartment and bathroom where

students can practice techniques used to help individuals become independent in their daily living skills," said Hepler.

The OTA program is hoping to become more well known at Green River, and also in the community. They are working with Public Information to market themselves to returning students who are embarking on new careers.

Hepler said that OTA is a great career to get involved in. Money Magazine's April 2006 issues said that employment for OTA is ranked number 9 in the top ten fastest growing professions.

For students who are interested in an OTA career, there is an information session scheduled for Tuesday, May 23rd from 3-6 p.m. on the OEB building room one.

A how-to guide to a less stressful life

Some tips that can help students during times of stress

Caitlin Estep
Staff Reporter

The life of an everyday college student is full of never ending stress. Questions like, when is the Exam? How can I possibly get this paper done? Am I prepared?

On top of all the pressure we have to do well in our academics we have the stress of life piled right on top. Family friends and work add stress and conflict into our already hectic lifestyle.

However, there is good news, there are many ways in which a student can relieve stress.

Physical activity is a very popular way to reduce stress. Go out and play tennis, basketball, football, or baseball. By playing a sport you're giving your mind a break and concentrating on something that you enjoy doing.

Having a hobby is another way to relieve stress. Whether it is building model cars or mapping out the stars having fun activities

in a hectic schedule is a good to forget about any worries.

"I go shopping and buy things that I don't need," Said Lindsay Smalley.

Take a deep breath. Sit and relax. We live in such a noisy and busy culture it is important to give time and be able to comfortably enjoy some silence. Yoga is recommended to relax the mind and the body through stretching and breathing techniques.

It is always important to express the feelings that get trapped inside our minds. Write in a journal; this is a good way to learn more about yourself and understand the stressful situations better.

Janelle Peyton, a running start student, said "either go weight lifting or go running sometimes I will call a friend just to vent. Other times I will journal just to express myself, and then I am done with it."

Keeping yourself busy is a helpful way to relieve the pressure of stress. Try being expres-

sive, paint a picture, play the piano, or play in the mud. Doing little things throughout the day can help you not think about stressful events in your life.

Being social with peers is another great way to reduce stress. There is something wonderful about knowing that there is a person out there who cares about what is going on and will always be there.

One last way to reduce stress is to do something that is fun. Watch a favorite movie, read a good book, walk the dog, paint a picture or hangout with friends or eat a favorite snack.

"I pull out the Dryers Strawberry ice cream with real strawberry chunks and eat it with a sample spoon from Baskin Robins. The small spoon makes it last longer," said Cara Rudd.

Stress is something that can really control your body, and affect the way you live. Using these tips are great little ways to help you overcome the struggles of stress, and what it can do to your life.

May is bike to work month

Some unique places to take your bike and relax around Washington

Chris Luong
Staff Reporter

May is the official Bike to Work month. Everyone is encouraged to bike to work or just anywhere. It is great exercise and helps control pollution. Always remember to be safe when biking.

Wear a helmet at all times. Your bike helmet should fit you properly. You don't want it too small or too big. Never wear a hat under your bike helmet. If you're unsure if your helmet fits you well, ask someone at a bike store.

Next, you should make sure your seat, handlebars, and wheels fit tightly. Check and oil your chain regularly. Check your brakes to be sure they work well and aren't sticking.

Check your tires to make sure they have enough air and the right tire pressure. Also, wearing bright clothes and putting reflectors on your bike can help you stay safe. It helps other people on the road see you.

And if they see you, that means they're less likely to run into you. You should make sure that nothing gets caught in your bike such as loose pants, backpack straps, or shoelaces.

Try to stay away from headphones too. Music can distract you from the noises around

you such as a car honking at you to get out of the way.

Now that you learned the safety part, here are some events happening around Washington. In Bellingham, there are some meetings: February 1, March 1, April 5 at Bellingham Library, 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Bike to Work and School Day is May 19! In Seattle, The Cascade Bicycle Club has several annual Bike to Work events.

This year you can participate in Starbucks Bike to Work Day, the Group Health Commute Challenge, or the Vulcan Bike to Work Breakfast. In Snohomish County on May 19, stop by in Everett, Lynnwood, and Mill Creek and participate in the Snohomish County Bike Commute Challenge May 19-June 16. Also on May 19, the Skagit County is sponsoring the Fifth Annual Walk-n-Roll.

The idea is to travel to work and back that day by walking, riding your bike or combining these trips with taking the bus.

Roller blades and skateboards work too. Each individual who registers as a participant will have his or her name entered into a prize drawing, including five \$100 cash prizes and gift certificates from local restaurants and merchants. Visit www.beactiveskagit.org to learn more.

More Information:
www.beactiveskagit.org

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- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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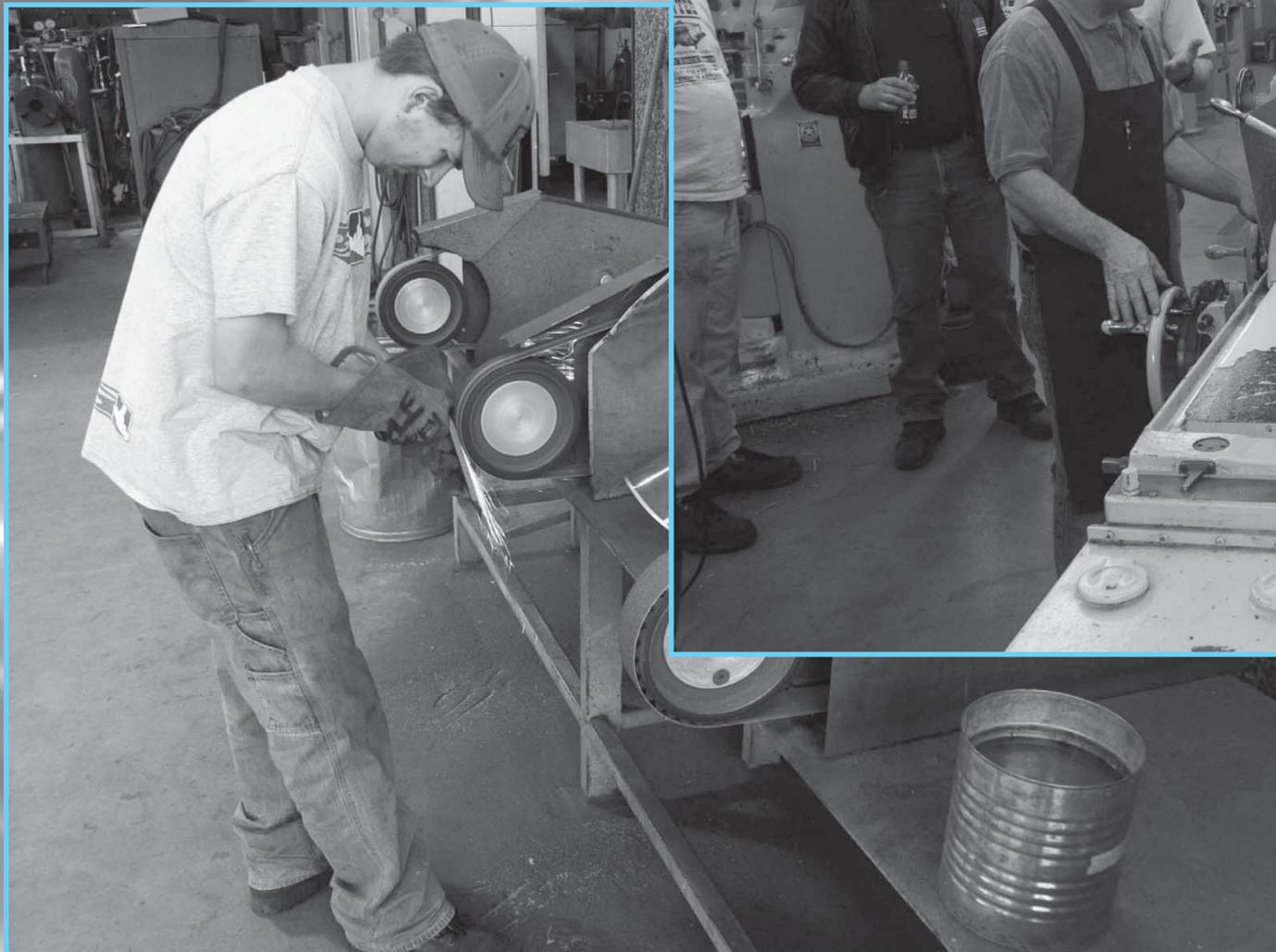
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The Working World

Showcasing Green River's professional/technical program offerings...



The college currently offers a variety of skill- and trade-based programs, including automotive technology (top right), carpentry (bottom right), and welding technology.



Real life experience for student carpenters

Chris Luong
Staff Reporter

Half-million dollar homes are being built by students.

Students from fall, winter, and spring quarter are working together to build four new homes in Kent with custom-built cabinets, marble fireplaces, and many other fine finishes.

The students have been working hard to meet their deadline by the end of spring quarter. The purpose of this project is to have a successful career in the future. Also, because the demand is high in the field, there have been more job offers than there are students.

Students at Green River can earn a variety of certificates or an Associate in Applied Science degree in Residential and Light Commercial Carpentry.

Students interested in the carpentry technology program can contact Carpentry Technology instructor Glen Martin at 253-833-9111 ext. 4208.



Another parking story -- this time with a satirical twist

Matt Orme
Copy Editor

A recent poll conducted by a bipartisan campus research group has determined that over 80% of Green River students consider parking to be the number one issue standing in the way of their academic success.

The study was conducted by a recently formed student activist group currently calling itself N.N.Y. (No Name Yet). The group's mission statement is to "bring to light the common concerns of the common student...and then slap the people who can fix those concerns in the face."

N.N.Y. Chairman Dave Mehlman admits that "the mission statement needs some work."

Of the issues investigated in the recent student poll, no single topic had such consensus as did parking on campus. While other topics such as lack of campus culture, elitist media, and outdated interior décor also divided the campus into overwhelming silent majority and underwhelming idiots, Mehlman has chosen the parking issue as the first major battle the N.N.Y. will fight.

"Sure, the parking thing has been done to death. That's what we're all about. We want to take on the topics that everyone knows about, that everyone has an opinion about, but that still remain issues facing the campus," said Mehlman.

In addition to the call to action, the N.N.Y. has provided a number of suggestions, as provided by students on campus, as solutions to the parking problem. These range from charging for parking, a position taken by many who drive cars their parents have paid for, to such innovative solutions as offered by future mechanic John Albarn of the automotive program.

"Yeah, well, my plan is simple," said Albarn. "What we should do is just make every parking space into two parking spaces. Then people will just have to swing by the trades and industry building to have some work done on their vehicles to make them half size. It's totally do-able, for a modest fee."

Administration officials also differ in opinion about the parking problem.

"I don't see a problem. These parking lots have sufficed for years, and they will continue to do the job for years to come,"

said one spokesperson while holding his hands over his eyes.

"I don't see where the N.N.Y., which is an exceedingly lame name for an organization,

gets their numbers. I don't hear 80% of the student body complaining about parking. Everyone here seems quite content with the current system," claimed one spokesperson while cleaning both ears simultaneously.

"Mmmph! Mmm mmmmm mm mmmph!" said a junior administrator through the black gloved hand of a college accountant.

"It's a major issue that the college is ignoring," said Mehlman. "The only reason the poll wasn't 100% in favor of doing something about parking was because the remaining 20% is composed of people without cars and those weirdos who have 7

"I can assure you," said Steam Engine Joe, assistant dean of transportation, "that something is being done about the parking issue as we speak."

a.m. classes and like it."

Some campus officials, in the face of such pressure, have conceded that something does need to be done about the parking issue.

"I can assure you," said Steam Engine Joe, assistant dean of transportation, "that something is being done about the parking issue as we speak. Within the next few months this issue will be a thing of the past."

In a related note, the student government has decided to but the N.N.Y.'s funding.

Said one black gloved accountant, "Let's see those agitators cause trouble after they have to buy their own pencils."

Letters to the Editor...

The views expressed are solely those of the person providing them.

Regarding the April 14 issue:

"This issue is the best ever. It is impressive and very professional. Great job. The look is impressive and your stories are well thought-out and excellent attention to your editing."

- Francis K. Lindland
Graphics Designer/ Illustrator

"I just have to tell you, what a great job the "current" staff is doing with the newspaper. When John sent us the email that we could access this on-line my response was "WOW"."

- Kathi Anderson
TRIO/Student Support Services

"The new paper looks great. This comment is in regards to the article on the building projects. Did you know that in addition to the nursing program, the occupational and physical therapy programs will also be located on the first floor of the science building? These are programs that have been at GRCC for over 30 years. We are currently in the OEB building and are looking forward to the big move."

- Noel Hepler
OTA Program Coordinator

EDITORIAL AND LETTERS POLICY

The Current considers itself a limited **public forum** for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions.

"Green River Community College delegates editorial responsibility for student publications to students, and therefore assumes no responsibility for the content of the publications. The College acknowledges the dual purpose of student publications as instructional tools and as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the academic community."

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

Regarding the April 28 issue:

"I was recently interviewed by one of your writers, Jesse Gauntt. I just wanted to let you know that I was very impressed. He was punctual, prepared, and accurate with the information I provided. He was also respectful by arriving on time and systematically going through his well thought-out questions that covered two different technology topics. I was pleased with both articles he recently wrote (e-Portfolios and Halo) from the interview. *The Current* should be pleased that they have someone like Jesse Gauntt representing them."

- Kim Peterson
Director, Technology Development

Health care problems in need of better diagnosis



Matt Jonas

The health care in this county is one of the most hotly debated issues when it comes to election season, and some how, shortly after election the enthusiasm that is connected with this issue dies off. Over the past six years the cuts to our health care system have slipped through the cracks in our indignation toward policy slashing.

There are more than six million of our children that are not covered by health insurance, which results in the holding off of inoculations and standard treatment for these children because of the price. Our emergency rooms consistently receive a non-passing evaluation of their ability in comparison to other countries facilities, but there are a few that receive a passing grade but a lot of those do not accept patients that do not have health insurance.

The public's health has been formed into a cash cow for soulless bureaucrats resulting in the creating of two groups; those with insurance and those without. Every politician is willing to talk about radical improvements to our health care system, even discussing such "radical socialist" ideas like universal health care, but when it is a good couple of months down

the road the lobbyist devour any glimpse of inspiration for change to the health care system and keep to the status quo.

A new market to the bulging number of uninsured are college students, which cannot even fathom paying for their own health care coverage. Almost every college student in considered to be living in poverty, even years after they have graduated and somehow they are also expected to pay for health coverage that runs over a couple hundred a month if you are lucky. Something to look forward to.

Recently, I was hospitalized for a collapsed lung and, between the lack of quality staff and the debate over what exactly my insurance would cover, I was dealt the consequence of losing almost a third of my lung, which "may or may not re-inflate. It's a crap-shoot," to quote one of my twenty something doctors. The month that I spent in the hospital was an eye-opening experience to what most Americans are subjected to, and I was one that had health insurance I could only imagine what those without coverage would have to go through. I know that my peers do not really have much of a passion for health care and revolutionizing it; before my hospital stay I honestly didn't give two thoughts to it myself, but I have opened my eyes and realize how important it is to offer quality health care and coverage to every American.

In this country we seem to go through a cycle of outrage. One minute it will be health care than it will immigration; spending less time discussing possible solutions and more time condemn-

ing people as the root of the problem.

We like to sweep problems such as poverty and the uninsured without taking time to address the problems. It says a lot about a country's health care system when its citizen goes to outside venues to address their needs because what they offer to those that have coverage is contemptible at best.

Prescription drugs seems to be the current hot button topic of the health care debate. You hear politicians on aisle rail against their opponent on the lack luster changes to the program while at the same time presenting a solution that, at best, is comical.

The last couple of election cycles have seen the implementing of the "grandma cannot afford her medication and her dinner" attack ads. I have to admit when I first saw these I was moved slightly, but being the cynic I am I quickly saw distasteful motivation behind the creation of these ads. All that the grandma campaign offered was a biting pseudo platform for the challenger to stand on and shout at the incumbent with.

I do believe that this loathsome behavior can be changed through a more proactive role played by not only those that cuts to the health care system may result in a life or death struggle, but those that are not covered, which now includes myself.

When you hear the candidates make their usual speeches on how they are going to go to Washington and revolutionize the fledgling health care system vote for the one that you think is the most sincere about that platform and a couple months down the road when they have forgotten their pledge write them and tell them that you haven't.

Affording college



Kell Fearon

Six years is a long time to do nothing. This is the waiting game that is played by high school graduates whose parents cannot finance their children's college education.

To qualify for a federal Pell grant, students must be at least 24 years old or be declared financially independent, and being declared financially independent is virtually impossible. Unless you were emancipated by the courts before age 18, you are unlikely to qualify.

Even if you have lived and worked on your own since the age of sixteen you will likely have a hard time convincing the government of your independence. Filing a tax form every year and checking that little box saying no one else can claim you as a dependent doesn't cut it. You had better have receipts for every bill you ever paid, and copies of every lease you ever signed. Then you need to track down your parents and force them to sign a paper saying that they have not helped you for the past few years.

Complications arise with such factors as being estranged from your parents. Even if you do manage, by some miracle, to provide all the required proof and a parent's signature, you still have to go before a committee and spill the whole sordid story of your life... and they could still turn you down!

I'm lucky; I'm old enough that I qualify for assistance. Many of my friends don't. I hear the same thing from them time and time again, "I would go to college, but I can't afford it so I have to wait two (or four or six) more years."

Not everyone is lucky enough to have parents who will pay for their education. Some parents genuinely can't afford it; others are just plain financially irresponsible. When one friend of mine, age 22, asked her mother about why there was no money saved for her to go to college she was told, "I don't know, I guess your dad and I just hoped you would get a scholarship." Too bad they never mentioned this to her while she was still in high-school.

The cost of attending college tends to increase at almost twice the general rate of inflation. In practical terms, this means that it was feasible thirty years ago for a student to work a minimum wage job and still afford their tuition. Not so today, where even working a forty hour week can leave you with just enough money to survive. Studies have shown that students who work during college generally have lower GPAs and take longer to graduate than students who do not work. Working students are also unable to participate in many college social experiences that would undoubtedly make them a better-rounded graduate, and citizen.

Delaying financial aid to students under the age of 24 is unfair and serves only to ensure that college will remain the domain of the wealthy. If our country is to continue to be a competitor in the global market, we must make it a priority to make higher education available to as many young people as possible.

Forgotten promises result in slashing of funding



Matt Jonas

Enrollment around the nation has taken hits and Green River Community College is no exception. The passing of a deficit reduction bill has sent students and college officials into frenzy over the seizure of the remaining table scraps that make up the federal college loan program.

The cuts will total over \$12 billion to student loan programs affecting directly the more than 6 million students that take out loans to pay for college. For those that are dependent on the government either footing the entire bill or a majority of it, this comes as a massive blow to their journey for higher learning.

The funding cuts occur in tandem with the skyrocketing of tuition costs at both public and private institutions. Since 1993 the tuition costs have been climbing steadily while the funding, that has become more and more necessary, is being minimized.

While the increase to the low-interest loans and grants provided by the government has been non-existent, and with this new deficit reduction package, the only increase to federal help for students is an increase to a couple of loans but in their rate and not in the total amount of funds offered.

So a student that is in college one quarter now has been removed, not as a result of poor grades, but as a result of broken promises and poor fiscal responsibility. Now, the removal of your funding you would expect goes to paying down our obese debt or toward the funding for

cancer research, something noble. Instead it is going to pay off the sweetheart deals established with oil companies.

The real impact of this reduction package will not be felt until the fall, but the years of paring down by this administra-

system not just the loans, are whittled away.

We hear all the time, especially come campaign time, that the education revolution is upon us and that our youth will no longer stay among the ranks of mediocrity. This rhetoric seems to stay just that. It does

not turn into a revolutionary mandate. Instead it becomes a sacrificial lamb for the bulking up of our military and the bank accounts of campaign contributors.

There is in place a "bailout" of the oil com-

panies, as a result of hyped up fear surrounding hurricane damage, which will total over \$7 billion dollars over the next five years. To further demonstrate their demonstrative behavior these robber barons have filed a suit against actions taken by congress to retrieve another \$28 billion in promised funding while posting the largest profit earnings ever. So much for the fear that Katrina will wipe out the oil infrastructure of this country.

This gross manipulation of funds by our government is the reasoning behind the deterioration of the US educational system, not the students' performance. The education revolution is upon us but it is not what students and educators had in mind. Rather it seems to become a causality of unchecked bureaucracy.

So the next time that you look to your right and the friend that you had made last quarter is no longer there, take a moment and thank your elected officials for their fulfillment of campaign promises on increasing education spending, and stopping the gutting of the programs that has been occurring for years.

" With a record \$89.5 billion offered in loans to students last there; the consensus on the College Board has stated that this amount of funding is not nearly enough... "

tion has already started to impact students at all higher learning institutes.

With a record \$89.5 billion offered in loans to students last there; the consensus on the College Board has stated that this amount of funding is not nearly enough to keep pace with the ascending tuition costs. As a result students are forced to take out loans with private lenders that will charge them a considerable rate in comparison with the federal programs' rates.

The outrage, as with most issues that this administration makes controversial, does not stop at the simple elimination of what were once dependable loans, but continues to what programs are being increased over our youth's education. Some of the programs that are not being cut, but are instead receiving record funding include the military and the oil infrastructure of this country. The fears of President Truman, the wild expansion of a military complex, seem to be realized at the expense of our youth's education. The spending on the defense budget sets new records with every budget that this administration posts, while the social programs that include our educational

KGRG sets up promotion booth on campus

Student body presidential candidates given opportunity to promote themselves on-air

Ryan Gaudinier
Entertainment Editor

KGRG set up a radio booth in the main commons on May 1 to promote the radio station and voting here on campus. A DJ was at the booth at all times running the radio station from the commons. KGRG's trademark hard rock was heard all over campus as speakers blasted out a feed of what the station was currently playing.

The student body presidential candidates were in attendance to give an on-air promotional speech trying to persuade students to vote for them for student body president. They also walked around talking to students about their platform and why voting for them was the correct choice.

The radio station speeches were important for the candidates as they were the largest opportunity for exposure the candidates would have. Campaign rules strictly prohibit any promotion for office through any radio station other than KGRG or any newspaper other than this one.

These rules heighten the importance of the KGRG radio speeches as they guarantee the speeches to be the largest stage of the campaign. The candidates all gave their speeches sometime in between twelve and one to an audience ranging easily outside Green River's influence.

Many of the radio personalities and DJs were talking to students about the process of running a radio station, the costs of



MARKS DONES/The Current

A group of Green River students huddle around the KGRG promotional booth.

running the station, and what it takes to become a campus radio DJ. KGRG also did a little fundraising while they were out there, giving little gift packages away to anyone feeling a little generous. Donation packages were available in five, ten, and fifteen dollar increments.

Students all seemed to enjoy the booth and the hard rock resonating throughout campus. Many seemed eager to donate trying to give back to a radio station they spent countless hours enjoying. It seemed that everyone there, students, DJs, candidates seemed to enjoy the event.



MARKS DONES/The Current

Tool's 10,000 Days

Jesse Gauntt
Staff Reporter

Tool released its new album, 10,000 Days, on May 2; the long awaited follow-up to Lateralus, which was released in 2001. The album is heavily influenced by Maynard Keenan's involvement in A Perfect Circle, but it is still deeply rooted in Lateralus.

The distinguishing Tool effects are still there: each song exceeds six minutes, the mystical album art is done by Alex Gray, and the familiar Adam Jones and Keenan dynamic duo continues to ensue. The album artwork, which has always been a part of the Tool experience, enhances the purchase. The album includes stereoscopic glasses, to view the 3D cover art.

I interviewed two Tool fans, Nic and Derek to help give me a more rounded opinion of the album.

Nic, who is deeply into Rock, Alternative, and Electronic, was captivated by the more subtle aspects of the album. He really enjoyed the album artwork and the depth of Keenan's lyrics. He enjoyed replaying songs and letting the words soak in, trying to find meaning. "The ambiguity and mystery of the lyrics drew me in," he said, "I found myself

listening to Rosetta Stoned while trying to find the underlying meanings. There's a lot to Tool that's below the surface."

Derek enjoys Classic Rock and Progressive Metal. No stranger to songs in the area of 30 minutes, he enjoyed the length of each track. "It's one thing to play music for 11 minutes," he said, "it's quite another to entertain someone for that long." Tool continues this trend with 10,000 days, each song ranging from six to 12 minutes, which is in stark contrast to the two minute power-pop songs found today.

I was most impressed with "Right in Two", the second to last track, which sucked me in with its mellow introduction and deep lyrics. Most of the album has a distorted bass and guitar dynamic with angry vocals, but this song relaxes the gain and doesn't sound distinctly like Tool. All of the other tracks on the album, I could flip to anywhere on the song, and know that it was Tool immediately. Right in Two was the exception, sounding more like A Perfect Circle than Tool.

Tool's 10,000 days, is speculated to pay tribute to Keenan's mother, who was paralyzed until she died. The new album brings the familiar sound Tool fans have grown to love and the same depth fans have grown to expect.

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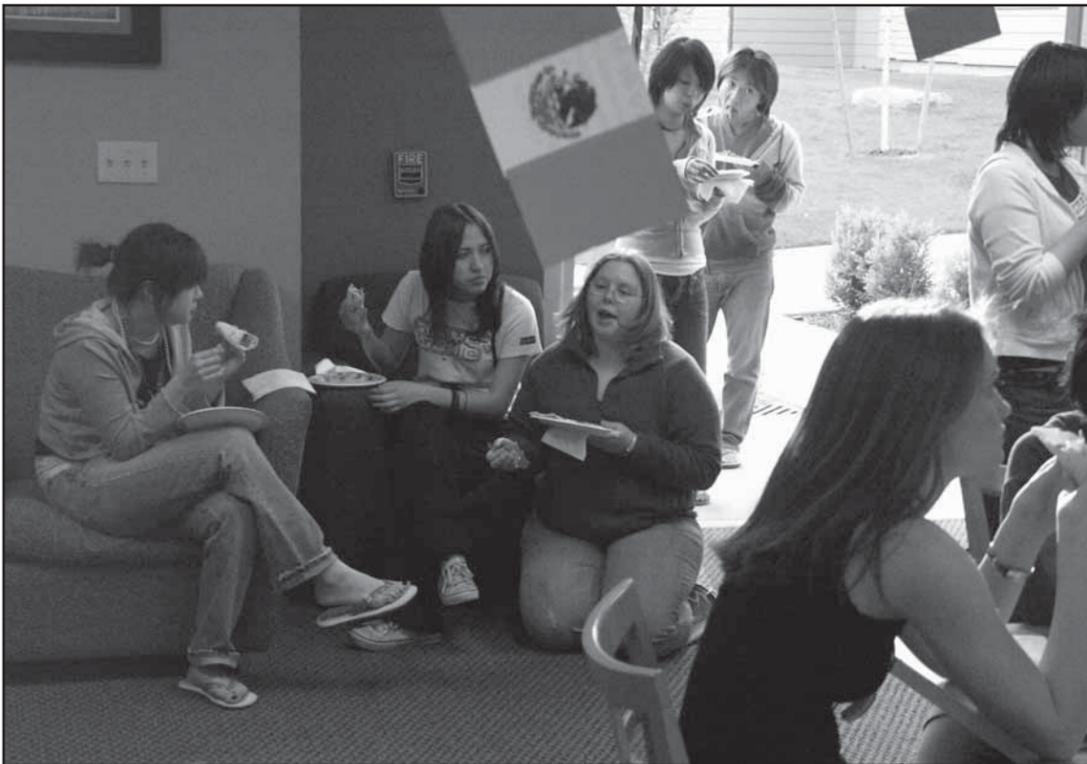
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A group of Green River students celebrate Cinco de Mayo by eating chicken fajitas in the Campus Corner Apartments.

Green River celebrates Cinco de Mayo

Shannon MacInnes
Staff Reporter

While many college students think of Cinco de Mayo as just another excuse to party and get drunk, there is a lot more to the holiday than just drinking Coronas. The celebration at the Campus Corner Apartments showcased what Cinco de Mayo really had to offer.

Students gathered from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on May 5 to celebrate the Mexican holiday. Salsa dancing lessons were held for anyone brave enough to try. The fear of making a fool out of themselves didn't stop many students from dancing, while the rest of crowd

laughed at those unlucky enough to stumble on the dance floor.

Chicken fajitas were served to everyone in attendance in celebration of Mexican linguine. The aroma of the fajitas was without a doubt the highlight of the night. The wonderful smell of Mexican cooking filled every corner of the apartments with a wonderful aroma.

Everyone took turns trying to hit the piñata. Candy finally fell from the air as the piñata was broken open and people rushed to collect the candy that was sprawled out on the floor.

But not only is Cinco de Mayo a time to get together with friends and family, it should also be a

time of remembrance. Often people celebrate events without knowing the actual history behind it, or taking the time to remember it. People celebrate Cinco de Mayo in Mexico and the United States because it marks the victory of the Mexican army over the French during the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

Cinco de Mayo is not to be mistaken for Independence Day in Mexico. Mexico did not declare independence from Spain until September 15, 1810. Even though it is not an independence day, it should not be thought of any less. May 5th should be a reminder of the patriotism and pride troops had during the battle.

An evening of games, culture

Shannon MacInnes
Staff Reporter

"Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" is something that could be heard on campus on May 5 at 6 p.m. The X-ing International Club hosted, Friendship Night where members and non-members of the club met in RLC room 131 to play games and meet new people.

They played group games ranging from Gestures, a game very much like charades, to Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, which entails people sitting in a circle singing while one person dances and others try to intimidate that person.

The X-ing International Club

hopes that by hosting events such as Friendship Night, more students may want to check out the club. The goal of the night was to bring many students of different backgrounds together for a fun night of game playing who would in turn hopefully check out the club on a more permanent basis.

The club provides students help on campus and also promotes culture exchange. With so many different cultures on campus, students are able to learn about different and interesting different cultures by joining a single club. The X-ing International Club meets every Tuesday at 5pm in the campus corner community room, and everyone is invited.

'Massive Attack' returns to the U.S.

Matt Jonas
Opinions Editor

With palpable and disciplined anticipation by the masses setting the atmosphere, who have stuffed full the Paramount, waiting to witness the taking of the stage by the band Massive Attack. This innovative group has not been to the states in a stint of eight years that saw a number of line-up changes during their hiatus from the US. The release of a greatest hit collection that does justice to the ground-breaking work done by this group accompanies this rare performance state-side.

The group has, similar to many groups that have achieved illustrious success both critically and monetary, gone under changes to its core members. The early years of Massive saw the coming together of musical masterminds from the founding three: 3D, Mushroom and Daddy G collaborate with exceptional lyricists like Tricky, Martini Topely-Bird and Liz Fraiser; the flavor that Massive put forth was arguably as innovative as Elvis's swinging hips or Beetle-mania.

Now the "battle-worn" group has come back to its loyal subjects in the Northwest to spread their hypnotic and melodic confections over the bland Seattle air. As many Massive fans will tell you this is a historic night and long overdue, but with any great band the forcing of a performance may result in lowered quality to the music so the drones wait with a certain level of patience. As Robert Del Naja and Grant Marshall took the stage the crowd erupted with steady welcoming roar. Shortly into their set the concerns that seemed to be weighing on the minds of Massive Attack's loyal subjects were stomped out as the innovators of true trip-hop style projected a quality to their music that cannot be obtained through the ear buds of your iPod.

Being a virgin to the live show of Massive, and hearing how spectacular they were, I have to say that I was thoroughly impressed with the bands set list, which read like the track list of their recently released Collection CD, a hit parade of their "mainstream" singles. The high point was the performance of 'Angel', a literal ascension into what deep and hard trip-hop/electonica should sound like. The ferocity in which they performed their work lived up to the hype that I had put upon their shoulders. With most concerts that I have attended the atmosphere surrounding the performance seems to die down over the length of the show; there are those few exceptions and Massive Attacks inspiration kept almost everyone out of their chair for the entirety of the show.

Spanning every generation there are bands that the masses flow in the same fashion as if their music was a gospel of an inspiring religion, and for me seeing Massive Attack live reaffirmed my allegiance to the good book of Bristol that their act has been preaching for more than a decade. Those that had the misfortune of missing their performance at the Paramount are in luck; in the fall Massive Attack launches a world tour to support the impending release of new material early next year. Founding member Robert Del Naja answered a question directly regarding future performances in the northwest with "We're going to tour more dates in the States in September. Seattle is definitely going to be in our itinerary. It's a funky city."

So with a little luck those that missed out will have a second chance to redeem themselves; your addiction for their music will hopefully be fed by another performance in the Emerald City.



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Midsummer Night's Dream: A photographic preview of the upcoming play

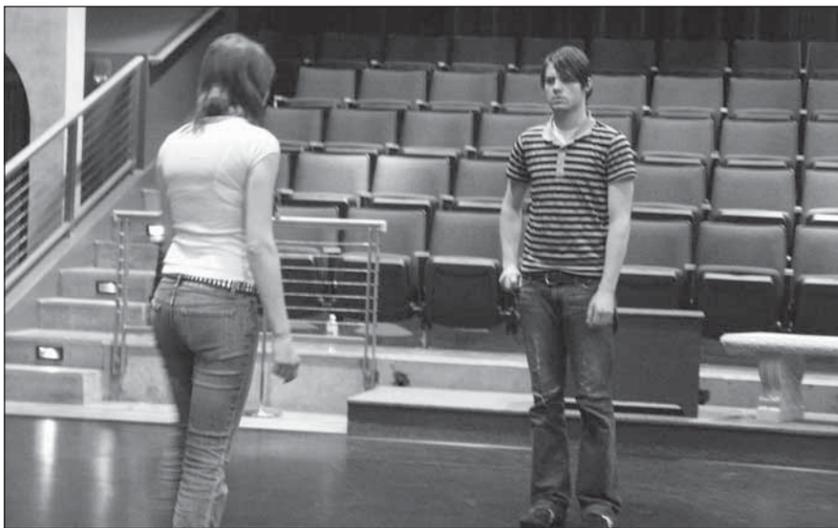


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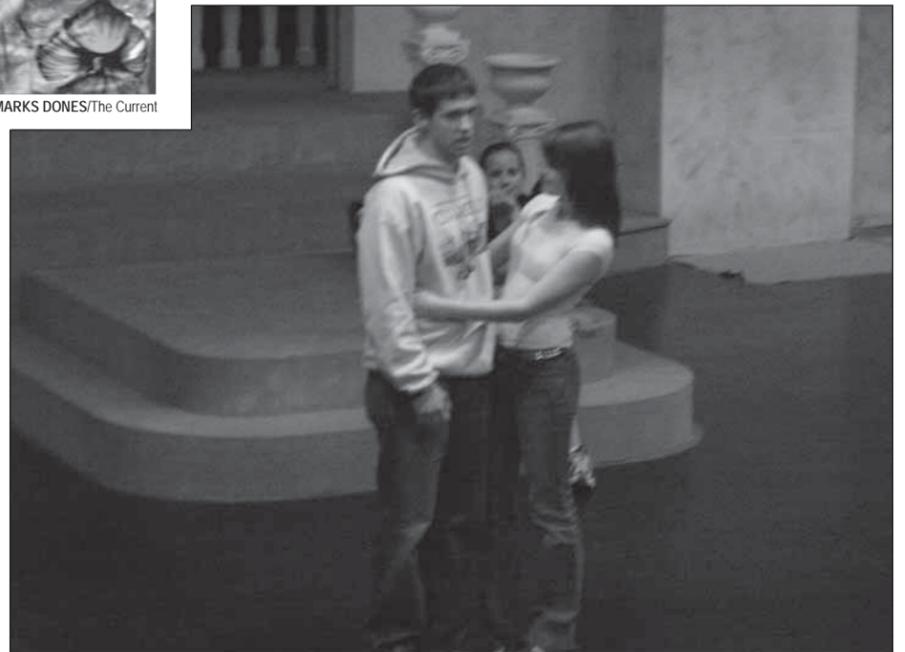
Opening June 2 | Tickets \$8

CHARACTER	FIRST CAST	SECOND CAST
Thesus	Ben Stahl	Adam Lindberg
Hippolyta	Breanna Snodgrass	Rachel Morrissey
Philostrate	Sam McCorkle	Mary Zacher
Egela	Juliet Kune	Veronica Gruba
Hermia	Colleen Abbott	Ceci Coon
Lysander	Darren Adams	James Clement
Demetrius	Adam Norwest	Adrian Centoni
Helona	Beth Pigott	Leah Ingraham
Oberon	Steven Smothers	Jared Vermillion
Titania	Kat Smith	Amanda Wilson
Robin	Caitlin Halvorson	Katelyn Huillet

Director: Gary Taylor
 Stage Manager: Adam Lindberg
 Make-Up Artist: Katie Diaz



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Tennis, golf looking to championships

Eric Hanninen
Sports Editor

The Gators are having a strong spring sports season. The men's tennis team is in first place and undefeated in league play. Heading into yesterday's match with Shoreline, the Gator men's tennis team (under first-year head coach Mark Hansen), is 6-0 in NWAACC league play. Green River's return to prominence since the passing of legendary coach Steve Sauers has been expected as Coach Hansen both played for and coached with Sauers in the 1990s.

Green River won 19 men's championships over a 35-year span with the last coming in 2003. The Gators are hoping to hold on for a regular season title, before participating in the league championship May 19-21 in Spokane.

On the female side we're hoping to break even at .500 entering

the NWAACC championship, (held the same time as the men's). They're led by captain Michelle Dawson, though she has struggled this season.

The golf teams have played solidly and have some hopeful players as the season winds down. On the men's side they were led early by the outstanding play of Tyler Dost. He won an entire tournament earlier in the year.

The slack has been picked up by Todd Swenddal since then. He has played well as the weeks have gone by.

The women's golf team has been led all season long by Paige Gifford, a freshman out of Kentlake. She has finished in the top five every tournament, and won twice. She is looking to win it all at the NWAACC championships.

All in all, with championship-caliber players, the Gators are looking to bring home gold.

Scores Online:
www.greenriver.edu/athletics

Commentary | Seahawks draft picks solid, not flashy

Barak Zozosky
Staff Reporter

The NFL Draft has come and gone, and, for some teams, it was a huge success. Others left a few experts scratching their heads.

The Seahawks fell somewhere in the middle. Although their picks may have not been the most flashy or eye catching, they put together yet another solid draft. In the first round, Seattle picked up cornerback Kelly Jennings from the University of Miami. Jennings is an excellent cover corner that will provide an immediate upgrade at corner opposite Marcus Trufant. This should bump Kelly Herndon into more of a natural nickel corner position like he was used to playing while with the Broncos.

At six feet and 180 pounds, the only knock on Jennings appears to be his lack of ideal bulk. His smaller frame will make it difficult for him to cover the NFL's bigger, more physical receivers. However, Jennings makes up for it with his excellent strait line speed and excellent team character that Seahawks GM Tim Ruskell is so high on.

With their second round selection, the Seahawks addressed their defensive line with the selection of Virginia Tech standout Daryl Tapp. Much like Jennings, the flaw with Tapp seems to be his lack of size. At just a shade under six-two, Tapp is considered small for a defensive end. With the

emergence of the smaller defensive ends like Dwight Freeney of the Colts however, the Seahawks think they may have gotten the steal of the draft. Tapp is a hard working player with a great nose for the ball and excellent anticipation skills.

Tapp will provide a great change of pace from the current ends, Grant Wistrom and Bryce Fisher. Look for Tapp to contribute right away; he could work his way into a starting position by late in the season or early in the 2007 campaign.

As for the rest of the picks, Seattle took guard Rob Sims from Ohio State in round four. Sims will help fill the void of Steve Hutchinson who signed with Minnesota last March. Sims is considered to be more of a depth pick, and will most likely not see much time in a starting role in the near future.

USC fullback David Kirtman was the pick in round five. Kirtman will help out on special teams this year and may be groomed to take over the fullback position when aging veteran Mack Strong hangs it up. And in the final round, punter Ryan Plackemeier from Wake Forest, and wide receiver Ben Obomano from Auburn. Both will struggle to make the 53 man roster come training camp time. All in all, you have to love the work the Seahawks scouting team has done.

OVERALL GRADE: B

GAME SCHEDULE

Baseball

@ Tacoma

May 13, 1 p.m.

@ Grays Harbor

May 14, 1 p.m.

Regional Playoffs

May 20-21, TBA

Fastpitch

SEASON FINALE

@ South Puget Sound

May 12, 2:30 p.m.

Tennis

vs. Spokane

May 12, 1 p.m.

@ Spokane

NWAACC Tourney

May 19-21, TBA

Golf

Skagit Valley

Invitational

May 14-15

NWAACC

Championships

May 22-23



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Coming down to the last swing

Kyle Riger
Staff Reporter

Gator baseball continued its quest for respect in the NWAACC last week, facing a tough schedule that included Lower Columbia, Pierce and Centralia.

The four-game home stand had a rocky start with the Lower Columbia Red Devils sweeping GRCC in a two-game series. Lower Columbia's dominant pitching held the Gators to no runs in both of the games combined, for shutout losses of 0-6 and 0-10.

The Gators managed to take one out of two from Centralia in a split series where two games were decided by a mere two runs total. The Gators couldn't quite hold Centralia's high offensive production in the first match-up, falling short 10-11. However, in game two of the series the Gator pitching managed to hold them under five runs in a 5-4 win.

Coming off the split, the Gators faced Pierce last week in a two-day, three-game series. They began the series by splitting a double-header on May 4 in Tacoma. With some major support from the bats, Green River managed to score 12 runs on Pierce pitching and held them to two runs in a 12-2 rout of the Titans.

However, the Pierce pitching later settled down in game two, holding the Gators to only four runs -- proving to be just enough as they handed Green River a 4-5 loss.

The Gators capped off the series on the weekend with a 10-7 win in a hitting affair, bringing their record to a respectable 21-15 on the season. The baseball squad finishes its regular season this



ANDY GARDNER/The Current

A Shoreline player fouls off an offering from Green River; the Gators swept them earlier this season with scores of 11-7 and 3-1. Regional playoffs begin May 21.

week with three crucial games against Tacoma and Grays Harbor, May 10-14.

The real test then starts as regional playoffs begin on May 21. Green River is now sitting with a 9-8 record in league play. If the team can hold on to the third and final position in the NWAACC Western Region, they'll make the playoffs.

Leading the charge at the plate has been sophomore Brandon Kuykendall. He leads the team with a .365 average and 30 runs batted in. First baseman Kyle Mowatt's game-winning RBI in the 5-4 victory over Centralia moved his average up above .300 recently. Freshman Joash Brodin (.327) and Bryan Marquez (.305) have also proved to be steady at

the plate.

The team leader on the mound has been Kyle Nunley. His 4-1 record and 2.44 ERA has been a steadying influence on a maturing staff.

The upcoming series with second-place Tacoma will likely hold a huge bearing on the playoff run. The winner of the three-game set will likely host the playoff match-

up on May 20.

The Gators are hoping to continue their solid play and maybe surprise a couple teams out there during the playoffs. First though, they'll have to get through the league rival Tacoma Titans.

Green River hasn't had a baseball title since 1998; this year, the Gators are hoping to change that.

Mariners night is a hit with students

Robert Westervelt
Staff Reporter

Green River students decided to have a night on the town, so they rallied up all the Mariners fans headed out. At the end of April when they all got together and caught a game at Safeco Field, everyone had a blast.

The festivities kicked off with the students meeting up with the faculty at about 5:15 p.m. on April 26. The site chosen for the two squads to unite was the bus circle outside the Holman Library.

They then proceeded to journey up to Seattle, where they fortunately got to the game early enough to watch some batting practice by the visiting, and

reigning World Champion, Chicago White Sox.

The crowd from the campus took in this game from the luxurious Hit It Here Café, where they tasted great ballpark food and had a great view of the action from the right field club level.

Every ticket came with an \$18 food voucher that students redeemed on everything from corndogs to hamburgers, and of course the Safeco classic, garlic fries.

There was a big rush to get the food orders in before the game started at 7:05 p.m., because who would want to miss the gem of a pitching match-up slated that Wednesday night?

From their seats they were able to cheer on the Mariners

right fielder Ichiro Suzuki, who to the dismay of his many fans, went 0-4 in the game.

After the excitement of the first pitch died down, the discussion quickly turned to other things, ranging everywhere from school, work and certainly the Mariners themselves.

Many students discussed the baseball season, with the consensus being that while the Mariners had many promising young pitchers and batters alike, this would more than likely be a rebuilding year that would set the team up to have many successful years in the future.

Other fans were just happy to be in the stadium after not attending a game in numerous years and were simply amazed just how much the roster has

changed since the glory years for the hometown nine. Gone were heroes Edgar Martinez, Bret Boone and Freddy Garcia. They had been replaced with a fresh crop of young talent. Among these newcomers are players such as Adrian Beltre, Jose Lopez and Felix Hernandez.

The game itself left nothing to be desired as it had everything including pitching, timely hitting and clutch performances all around. The Mariners jumped out on perennial Cy Young candidate and the White Sox ace, Mark Buehrle.

Jarrold Washburn got the win this night against the White Sox, who in 2005 won their first world championship in over 80 years, breaking the curse of the "Black Sox." He shut them

down over six and two-thirds innings, allowing only one run and four base hits.

Lopez provided all the necessary offense by driving in two runs on a timely second-inning double. Raul Ibanez got into the action in the sixth inning by hitting a massive home run to the left field bullpen to make it 4-0, Mariners.

J.J. Putz got the save in the ninth inning, as the M's defeated the White Sox 5-1, enabling all the fans to go home happy.

The game was so popular that the staff behind the event has announced that on Wednesday, May 24, the college will once again see the Mariners play, this time as they take on the Baltimore Orioles.