

Proposed budget could cut programs funds

By DAVID LAMBERT

The budget proposed by the Student Programs Budget Team for the academic year 1977-78 may include substantial cuts in several areas under this year's budget because of lower enrollment in 1976-77.

Among the most noticeable of the cuts in the proposed budget is the total elimination of bowling from the funds under recreation and A.C.U.-I. control. The bowling program had been funded at \$995 this year and had requested \$1,040 for 77-78. This tentative elimination will bring the recreation

budget down from \$2,428 this year to \$1,433 for next year.

Funds under Auxiliary control, which includes the campus radio station KGRG and the CURRENT, have been cut approximately \$950. Most of this cut comes in a reduction of \$1,000 in the CURRENT budget under this year.

Monies under ASGRCC control also got the ax, taking funds out of all three branches of student government to the tune of approximately \$900 and a compromise reduction of \$300 in the ACAP day care allocations.

Another category that took a major cut in budget was Student Employment, which may suffer a loss of \$5,000 under this year. This may mean cuts in work-study and work grants.

The funds under Athletics control were not affected substantially in the proposed budget with the exception of men's basketball, which received a cut of approximately \$1,000 under this year's budget.

Some programs fared better in next year's budget. The funds under Administrative control

many be increased minimally to cover a re-arrangement of classifications within the budget. The other program to get a proposed increase over this year is Performing Arts. This part of the budget has tentatively received \$1,000 over this year's allotment.

The Budget for 1977-78 is still tentative and there will be two open hearings before the budget is approved. These hearings are open to the public and will be conducted on Feb. 24, 3-5 p.m. and March 2, 7-9 p.m. Both hearings will be conducted in the Rainier room.

Green River Current

Vol. XII Thursday, Feb. 17, 1977 No. 13

Green River Community College 12401 S.E. 320th. St. Auburn, Wa. 98002

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Marijuana bill would decriminalize grass

By MARK D. STUMPF

Decriminalize the possession of small amounts of marijuana, and:

a) both respect for the law and the effectiveness of drug education will increase, dissuading youth from the misuse of pot and other dangerous drugs.

b) more and cheaper pot will be available to younger children, and youth will view the legislature's relaxation of penalties as a seal of approval for drug use in general.

Members of the House Judiciary Committee heard testimony from both points of view during the first public hearing on a bill that would decriminalize private possession of one ounce or less of marijuana.

Jointly introduced last month by eight legislators (the sponsor of a similar bill last year reportedly lost his bid for re-election), the Marijuana Education and Control Act of 1977 would punish possession of 28 grams or less of pot with a civil penalty of not more than \$25. Twenty-eight grams (one ounce) is enough to fill what's called a "baggie" on the street, which is enough to make 20-30 marijuana cigarettes, and sells for between \$10 and \$15, one drug educator later told the committee.

Use of marijuana in a public place, possession of more than 28 but less than 40 grams of pot, and possession of any amount while operating a motor vehicle or aircraft would remain misdemeanor (criminal) violations. Selling the weed in any amount or possessing more than 40 grams would remain felonies.

The "civil" aspect of the penalty for possessing 28 grams or less means the violation would be much like a traffic infraction — the officer would write the violator a ticket, take his pot, and let him go. The violator pays the fine, and that's it. No arrest, no apprehension, and no criminal record necessary.

Growing an amount less than 28 grams would be included in the civil penalty category, but the proposed law excludes "hashish" and "hash oil" from the relaxed penalties altogether.



Marijuana soon to be decriminalized? Staff photo by Lee Vanderlaan

Two pot tickets within two years would put the violator in a mandatory drug education program, which could cost him up to \$50.

Five persons testified at that two-hour hearing on the bill Jan. 27, two for the measure, two against it, and one just commenting on the technicalities.

The decriminalization bill would be "a step in the direction of drug abuse prevention," said Roger Roffman, assistant professor of social work at the University of Washington and director of training at that college's Drug Abuse Institute.

"This bill does something that exists now in only one state in the country, and that's Minnesota: it mandates for the repeat offender . . . in addition to the fine and arrest . . . a mandatory referral to drug education. It's analogous to what we do for the drinking driver," Roffman said. He said the stricter current law is promoting "alienation, disrespect for the law, and most importantly, disbelief concerning drug education" among the 350,000 Washingtonians he said use marijuana.

Roffman reported that the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Bellevue already enforce pot laws in ways similar to this bill, and said it has the support of the Seattle Chief of Police, the Washington State Council on Crime and Delinquency, and many area newspapers.

A State of California report released last week says that local criminal justice agencies there saved at least \$25 million in workload costs in 1976 under a liberalized pot law similar to the one proposed here, Roffman said.

"I'm not attempting to promote sale or use of marijuana," Roffman said. "Because it is against the law, we're not doing the job we need to do to educate about the relative risks that are involved" in marijuana use.

Decriminalizing possession while retaining severe penalties against driving under the influence of marijuana would create law enforcement problems, said Rep. Claude Oliver (R-8th), who spoke against the bill. He said chemical tests to determine whether a driver is under the influence of marijuana would cost law enforce-

ment agencies \$800 per test (a later witness said the tests cost less than \$100).

Oliver related the observations of a Berkeley professor that marijuana-using students suffered "a real loss of drive or attainment," causing honor students to slide to average or completely drop out of school. Oliver said the professor now opposes legalization as a result of his study conducting the study.

Minnesota passed a law similar to the Washington proposal in April of last year, and Mark G. Kurzman, director of drug abuse programming for the University of Minnesota, said the law saved the state \$3.5 million in the first six months.

About 1,500 persons have been issued citations, and only one of those has been a repeat offender, Kurzman said. "I would suggest that's an extremely low recidivist rate by any standard."

There has been "no apparent increase" in marijuana use in Minnesota since decriminalization, Kurtzman said. A Drug Abuse Council study of marijuana use in Oregon also found "no significant increase" during the first two years of that state's experience with a civil penalty pot law, he indicated.

A personal appeal was made by Susan Roylance, a former Oregon resident who headed an unsuccessful attempt to put the Oregon pot law before the voters. She said her brother ruined his "important, productive years" by smoking pot. "I know that he was a different person during the time he used it," she said.

Roylance quoted a county sheriff in Oregon as saying that youth there feels "if the legislature accepts pot, there can't be much truth to the idea that it's harmful." She said many sheriffs throughout the state told her the effect of the law was that the age bracket of marijuana smokers dropped.

Concern over giving young persons life-long criminal records for
(Continued on Page 2)

Reaction to Poetry Week favorable

By DENNIS LACKEY

The three-day Poet Theatre last week was highlighted by an evening of oral recitation and thought provoking candor by the traveling poet b. f. maiz. The presentation of oral poetry was well attended and received by an appreciative audience. His style stimulated and bound the audience in silence as he roamed purposefully from side to side throughout his performance. The vigorous applause from those in attendance seemed to satisfy maiz and he smiled broadly as he engaged in a question and answer session at the conclusion of the evening's entertainment.

The three-day gathering of poets

and writers featured panel discussions and readings by poets, publishers, educators and editors from throughout the Pacific Northwest. Three area recipients (it seems the Pacific Northwest region has an above-average number) of National Endowment for the Arts grants, W. M. Ransom, Primus St. John and Beth Bentley were welcome contributors to the week's events. They and Lonny Kaneko, a Seattle-area poet, gave a poetry reading Thursday evening to conclude the Theatre.

Readings were presented in the Rainier Room Tuesday and Wednesday at noon and featured local

artists that were known and new. Nelson Bentley, an active poet, educator and writing influence in the Northwest; James Mitsui, the author of "Journal of the Sun"; Margot Smullyan, writer of a book of poetry entitled "Every Other Monday"; campus instructor poet Wayne Luckmann read selections to a group of students, teachers and citizens from the community that expressed interest and curiosity in the poetic artform. Wednesday's reading featured area poet, Sam Greene; new-to-the-Northwest-from-the-East-Coast poet, Sharyn Skeeter; soon-to-be-departing-from-the-area-poet-in-residence-of-Yakima, Joan Stone who has accepted an educator's position in the high-mountains of Colorado; area educator-poet, Tom Brush; and a first-time-ever-reading by journalist-poet, Marjorie Luckmann.

A panel discussion was offered each day of the Theatre. Topics ranged far and wide. Definitions and attempts to define poems, poetry, poets (professional and/or otherwise), ethics and concerns of the poet and the craft, "is there a need or desire for poets(poetry) in the world or in Auburn?" proved interesting and informative stimulus.

Possibilities for expanding the activities next year into a five-day

cultural arts exhibit and winter affair were being discussed before the conclusion of the '77 edition of Poet Week. Ideas for using the affair as a cultural forum for the arts that originate in and around this particular corner of the world.

Student, faculty and community response to the activities staged last week has been favorable and encouraging. Those involved in the presentation expressed the hope that it was just the beginning of a flourishing of the arts with Green River serving as a focal point.

Mailroom

To the Editor:

I would like to thank Charlie Firth for admitting Teri Reed's wrong doings in the last issue of the CURRENT. At this time it is still hard to discern the truth: is it the first truth that Teri told the CURRENT or the Firth truth Charlie told the CURRENT for Teri. Charlie—you stated Teri as being, "Basically an honest person." Does this mean that sometimes she is honest and sometimes she isn't honest? Justice is blind Charlie; however, it is not deaf, dumb and indifferent.

Patrick J Cimino
SENATOR-AT-LARGE

Programs news

By LARRY LINDSLEY

Here's "what's happening" at Green River this week . . .

Jewelry sale: Rings and things are being sold today until 4 p.m. in the lobby of the Lindbloom Student Center.

Sportswear: Sporting items are on sale in the three divisible dining rooms through tomorrow.

Bingo: They say money is just "waiting" to be won...tonight at 7:30 in the LSC.

Youth Theater: The return of "Superman" begins tomorrow night at 8 p.m. in PA-8, continues on Saturday with performances at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. and goes

through Sunday with 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. shows. Tickets are at the door.

Washington's Birthday: Take a day off on George...next Monday.

More good food: Outdoor Programs is sponsoring a Back Country Cooking Seminar on Tuesday, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in the Olympus and Baker rooms.

Musical dining: The Green River Music Company and the Kent-Meridian Jazz Ensemble will provide the "vibes" for a Jazz Dinner Show on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. Today is the last day for reservations. Sue Krutz, ext 337, has more information on the evening's festivities.

Graduation applications now available

For those students who will have completed the required number of credits for graduation at the end of Spring Quarter, now is the time to go to notify the Admissions Office.

"At four-year schools, they keep track of the student's credits and when he is eligible for graduation, but we don't do that here," Bernice Gants of the Admissions office said. "The only way we have of knowing if the student is ready to graduate is if he tells us."

She went on to explain the steps of the notification procedure:

1. Pick up a Graduation Application from Admissions, fill out the attached alumni card and return it to the receptionist, who will have your transcript put on it.

2. Come back in a few days to pick up the form and take it to your advisor for checking.

3. Finally, bring it back to the cashier, pay the \$7 fee, and turn it in to Registration.

During the student's last quarter the forms are processed and notification of eligibility to graduate, or ineligibility and what the student needs to complete his requirements, are sent out.

"Quite a few students believe they are eligible when they really are not," she said, "and it is most often the self-advised students." So she suggested that students check with an advisor or herself a quarter before graduation.

Also, the requirements may change slightly from year to year, but a student must meet only those requirements that were in effect when he started.

There is just one graduation ceremony at Green River, conducted in June, but graduates from any quarter the previous year may go through it. An additional \$5 would then be required for cap and gown rental. This additional fee is also paid to the cashier.

Address changes should be reported to the Admissions Office not only to insure notification of the up-coming graduation ceremony, but also because, whether attending the ceremony or not, the diplomas are mailed.

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARINGS — 1977-78

Thursday, Feb. 24	3 to 5 p.m.	Rainier Room LSC
Wednesday, March 2	7 to 9 p.m.	Rainier Room LSC

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Marijuana legal?

(Continued from Page 1)

marijuana violations could be better dealt with by giving them a way to erase those records "if they prove themselves worthy" than by decriminalizing the offense, Roylance said. "Utah has done that." Although the Oregon law had nothing to do with large amounts of marijuana, Roylance said "because of the passage of that law, throughout the judicial system we saw a great lessening of penalties, even for larger amounts for sellers."

The \$25 fine the proposed law provides is "meaningless," Roylance said, and the 28 gram limit for the civil penalty is too high. She noted that 28 grams makes 15-30 joints, and "it only takes one or two to put a person in a mind-altered high that is equal to a case of beer."

"When you're talking about a baggie of marijuana, you're talk-

ing about a baggie that could be sold to 15-30 people to have them all in a mind-altered state. Move it (the \$25 fine cutoff point) to two or four grams, don't put it clear up to 28. That's the casual user amount."

She said the drug education idea is fine, but asked, "Why wait until the second (offense)?"

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Capital punishment — the biggest crime

By STEVE POWELL

Will the legalization of capital punishment do any good? Not only is the answer to that question NO, but the only reason that it has been legalized in the first place is because the voters were ignorant enough to believe it would do some good.

The death penalty actually inspires more murders than it prohibits by giving the murderer moral respectability. By putting capital punishment in the law books, it makes society realize that murders are an accepted part of life. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty isn't either cruel or unusual punishment but rather it is essential in our society. That in itself justifies a type of murder committed by the government. This gives the murderer even more respectability because the Supreme Court admits to the fact that issues can be resolved by murder. The fact is that murder rates are often higher in death penalty states than in the others. It also seems to be true that the murder rates tend to increase around the time of a highly publicized execution.

Murder is being accepted and in the case of Gary Gilmore, sensationalized. Murder seems to have always been popular as is evident by the large number of false confessions given to the police.

In some cases, the thought of being locked up in a cell for life is much less appealing to a murderer than being made a celebrity just before being executed. That one moment of popularity might motivate a person to kill someone, especially if they want to die anyway.

Although morals should be a strong enough reason to abolish capital punishment, it is not. Therefore, there is also the misconception about money.

It is not true that executing someone saves the taxpayers money. Cases involving murders go through one appeal after another and they are usually paid for by the state because they want to make sure that they don't hang the wrong person. It has been estimated that it would be cheaper to imprison someone for 40 years than to put him to death.

The biggest problems lie within the Judicial System. The courts have so many loopholes in them that the amount of money a client has could determine his sentence. The more money, the better the lawyer and the more known loopholes. The looseness of that system is what causes most of our problems in law enforcement. The government often spends thousands of dollars backing the prosecution only to lose the case on a small technicality. Until the Judicial Branch of government adapts a stricter code of ethics, we will continue to have difficult times enforcing the laws.

Another questionable thing about capital punishment is the jury. If I was a juror, in a state with a mandatory death penalty, it would be impossible for me to vote "guilty" although it wouldn't bother me at all to send him to prison for life. Even if there was no doubt in my mind that he was guilty, I still couldn't stomach sending someone to death in such an inhuman, unnatural way and so I'd have to vote "not guilty."

What! And let him go out to kill again. If our court system would keep a murderer in jail for life instead of letting him out on parole, then that wouldn't be the case. But since a man like Charles Manson could possibly be paroled after serving just six years in prison, that shows the injustice of our Judicial System. Prosecuting attorneys are always dropping their cases to a lesser charge knowing the reluctance of jurors to convict a criminal on the death penalty. Get rid of the death penalty and strengthen the courts so that a man sentenced to life imprisonment will actually serve out that sentence, then and only then will there be a decline in murders.

The death penalty's sudden popularity gives society a false sense of security. Instead of finding a cure for our courts and justice system we are taking the easy way out and accepting murder as a way of life when actually it is a sickness that must be dealt with.

America passive to social problems

By LINDA BARROW

Sitting in the weak winter sun, watching the wind skip dried leaves over the concrete of the plaza, I glanced at the pool, now waterless and dirty. And I remembered the time it was spurting and overflowing with suds after having been sabotaged with a box of Tide.

It was 1967, and Green River Community College was just two years old. The 1340 students attending that quarter spent much of their time in the Upper Lounge (next to the Library) talking about music and parties and cars, and generally enjoying themselves.

It was a time when we were still called "girls" and teased our hair, and had to wear a dress to be admitted to the after-game dances.

It was a time when male students' hair was short (and usually a little greasy), and when they were overwhelmingly in favor of the mini-skirt, and they could feel the hot breath of the draft board on the backs of their necks.

It was a time when 80 per cent of the students had never even tried marijuana, when the majority disapproved of long hair on college men and approved of U.S. involvement in Viet Nam, when although they would welcome "a Negro" as friend or neighbor, they would not allow their imaginary daughters to marry one.

It was a time of unquestioning acceptance of the status quo. And we should have learned our lesson, for in the next few years we were outraged to suddenly find ourselves the victims of our own naivete.

Yet lately we seem to be returning to that position of

unquestioning acceptance. We have already begun restoring to authority, social and political, a respectability and trust that may be warranted, or may not, without examination and justification.

Perhaps this move came because it is easier to accept than to question; but more probably it came because the most glaring examples of our lack of judgment (the war and the Nixon Administration) have been ended, and we really want to believe things are the way they should be: The last 10 years was just some unexplainable digression, but everything is all right now.

Yes, everything is all right now, except: There is a movement among politicians in Washington D.C. to reinstitute the draft — and we say nothing.

Carter has already been sermonizing like some sort of Calvinistic moralist — and we say nothing.

Ray thinks our priorities are wrong and would see oil tankers here at the expense of the environment — and we say nothing.

There have been industry induced profit-motivated shortages in even the most badly needed supplies, oil and natural gas — and we say nothing.

Society condemns racism, but too many individuals are proponents of it — and we say nothing. We are quiet in the face of inequities and injustices that deserve to be shouted down; we are passive in our indiscriminate acceptance of policies and issues that demand action. What we must finally realize, what we should have learned from those chaotic, convoluted years, is that this thoughtless and careless acceptance still carries with it the responsibility for the effects of that passivity.



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The Green River Current is published every Thursday (except during test weeks and vacation periods) by students of Green River Community College as an educational experience. Opinions expressed in the Current are not necessarily those of the college, student body, faculty, administration or Board of Trustees. The Current welcomes all letters concerning subjects of general interest as long as rules of good taste and libel are observed. Letters must be signed with the author's true name and telephone number for verification, although names will be withheld upon request. Because law holds the Current responsible, the editors must reserve the right to delete questionable material.

A space in time

'The Story of Big Bambu'

By MIKE VOURI

Once there lived an extraordinary penguin who was called Bambu by his mother, who incidentally, loved him very much. Bambu was no ordinary penguin, as I said. What other penguin could claim a faint resemblance to Groucho Marx? Bambu had sprouted a mustache for exactly that purpose. He had many friends who loved him for his outrageous sense of humor, his eccentric blend of the rational and irrational, and most of all, because he was not afraid to say and do the things they only fantasized about along the dark corridors of their imaginations.

It was the latter trait, encouraged and amplified by his friends, that eventually changed him. Not for the worse, actually. But had one known him before his peculiar transformation, they would have preferred the original item.

Bambu had been going about his business one day when his friends approached him at the community playhouse. Bambu loved to act and he was pretty good at it.

"Hey, Bambu!" hollered Bakerman, another actor. "You know, with your balls, you ought to run against Rhoda Tiller for president of the student government."

This particular penguin community was fortunate enough to have its own college where young and old penguins alike were educated in the finer art of being successful penguins. The theater was part of the college and so was the government.

Bambu laughed and goosed the tailfeathers of a young female bird. "Who me?" he chortled. "Why not, it might be good for a laugh. The whole thing is a farce anyway."

"Hey wouldn't it be a kick if we got him elected," mused Emcee, another actor.

Bakerman quickly spoke up. "We wouldn't want him to get elected! That's not the point. All we'd want to do is show the rest of the school what an act of futility it is to have an election — or even a government for that matter."

"What's all this 'we' business? Are you guys serious?" Bambu asked while nuzzling the gullet of a young female bird.

"Of course we are," Bakerman answered. "Let's see now, we gotta get signs, paper buttons, uh... you'll have to be a write-in candidate... and uh, a platform, that's it, a platform. We've got to run on a premise."

"How about free food for everybody?" Emcee offered.

"Yeah, that's good," Bakerman said as he began scribbling ideas on his clipboard. "And we gotta ask for free coffee during finals week, uh, we'll demand free parking and the total disbandment of the Student Ice Cap."

The Student Ice Cap was the school's legislative body. Most students thought the Cap was nothing more than a rubber stamp organization, populated by power-mad vultures. They met every Thursday and the meetings were called The Ice Capades.

The campaign was soon on the move. Bambu paraded around the campus in a top hat and tails and occasionally he wore a sandwich sign with "We're not above buying your vote" enscribed upon it. The actors made great sport of it. They all went out and bought Groucho noses and mustache glasses and marched around the school in tux tails.

It wasn't until the debate with other presidential candidates that the situation went awry. One of the candidates, who'd been dubbed Jesus by his detractors because he'd had himself depicted on a campaign poster wearing a loin cloth, challenged Bambu to a debate to test the 'sincerity' of his candidacy. Bambu should have called things to halt right there. But instead, he picked up the gauntlet and sent a shower of insults flying in Jesus' direction. The young penguins loved it and for the first time since Bambu had thrown his beak in the ring, the 'credible' candidates, namely Rhoda Tiller and her associates, became worried.

They charged Bambu with campaign fraud and threatened to have him impeached if he were elected.

Bakerman scoffed at the idea. "Hell, if he's elected, we'll be the ones that will impeach him! Why not, he's our monster."

The election wasn't that close. Tiller made it home with 400-plus votes. Her closest competitor was Bambu with 120. But Bambu had been bitten by the bug. Bakerman and Emcee shook their heads in disbelief.

"I didn't think he'd take it that seriously," Bakerman moaned.

"He actually wanted to win," Emcee observed ironically.

School was soon out and during the summer migratory move, Bambu appeared to be his old self again. Irreverent. Unnerving. Unbelievable. Unfettered. Unpretentious. Just marvelous.

Then school began again. After a week or two, it became common knowledge that there were many empty seats on the Ice Cap. Bambu decided he was going sit in one of them and immediately ran for election. Of course, he won. Five penguins ran for seven seats.

"I don't believe it," Bakerman groaned. "What have we done?"

"Maybe he's got a trick up his sleeve," Emcee rationalized. "He said he wanted to get in there to shake them up a bit."

And that he did. Politics had become an obsession for him. When the post of vice-presidency opened up, he was looked upon by many as the logical replacement. After all, he had come in a "close" second the spring before. But it was all up to Rhoda Tiller and she had plans of her own.

Had she told Bambu she had someone else in mind for the job at the

outset, nothing would have happened. However, just as most politicians find it impossible to face a situation directly, she couldn't either. She promised him the job... if he would be good.

"Hey, what's wrong with Bambu lately?" Bakerman asked after watching Bambu hurry by all businesslike with his green Ice Cap binder.

"He's being good," Emcee replied. "Tiller told Bambu that if he learned how to control the Ice Capades to her satisfaction, she'd make all his dreams come true. So, he's learning."

When it came time to select the new vice-president, Bambu discovered he hadn't learned enough. Tiller appointed a well-known pelican who'd flown in and out of the political coup many times.

Bambu took it seriously and became lost to the ages. He politicked, maneuvered, made charges and waited patiently for Tiller and the pelican to make a mistake.

"Hey, did you hear Bambu on the radio the other day?" Emcee asked Bakerman over a tuna salad sandwich.

"Yeah, he wants to nail Tiller and the pelican's pinfeathers to the wall," Bakerman observed. "He's after them because they broke ritual by examining tailfeathers in his igloo without his permission. He said they broke the law."

And so Bambu had become a true professional, hell-bent on avenging the wrongs committed against him and apparently he was having the time of his life. Bakerman and Emcee rarely saw him anymore. Bambu had even given up acting... or had he?

"Did you see Bambu on T.V. the other night?" Bakerman asked while adjusting the controls on the brand-new light board in the brand-new theater. "He's going to add two million to the budget to 'redefine' the Pioneer Square area. He mentioned something about the return of the seamstress industry."

"Oh yeah, I saw him," Emcee answered. "He was riding that whale like a bucking bronc."

And so...

So long Bambu. Big Bambu. Ah, for God's sake, come home now. We still love you.

GRCC Loomers not looney

By BARBARA HOBBY

Students passing by HS4 recently may have wondered if Green River Community College was being invaded by escapees from the local looney bin. No, those women sitting outside in the sunny, but still cold, February air, learning how to embroider; and those other women working feverishly on baskets; and those yet other women, speaking of shuttles, picks, and warp, are all harmless. And no, they're not taking part in a group therapy session. They're members of the weaving class taught by Elayne Levensky. Design and Material — Textiles, 154,155,156.

In Beginning Design and Materials, 154, the students learn the basics of weaving; how to set up the loom, different weaves, and a few new words (that's what shuttles, picks and warp are all about).

For their final project the students make something of their own choice, on loom or off-loom. For example, some of the students have done tapestries or even garments as on loom projects. Others experimented in basketry, soft sculpture or macrame or even combinations.

The advanced weaving classes, 155 and 156, are grouped together. Advanced students work on a flexible contract basis. They do projects that interest them; no certain amount of work is required — the students sign a contract to do what they feel they can in a quarter, what they want to do. Some are doing basketry, soft jewelry, woven rugs and blankets. Others are doing notebooks on finishing techniques or natural dyes.

Each person in the advanced

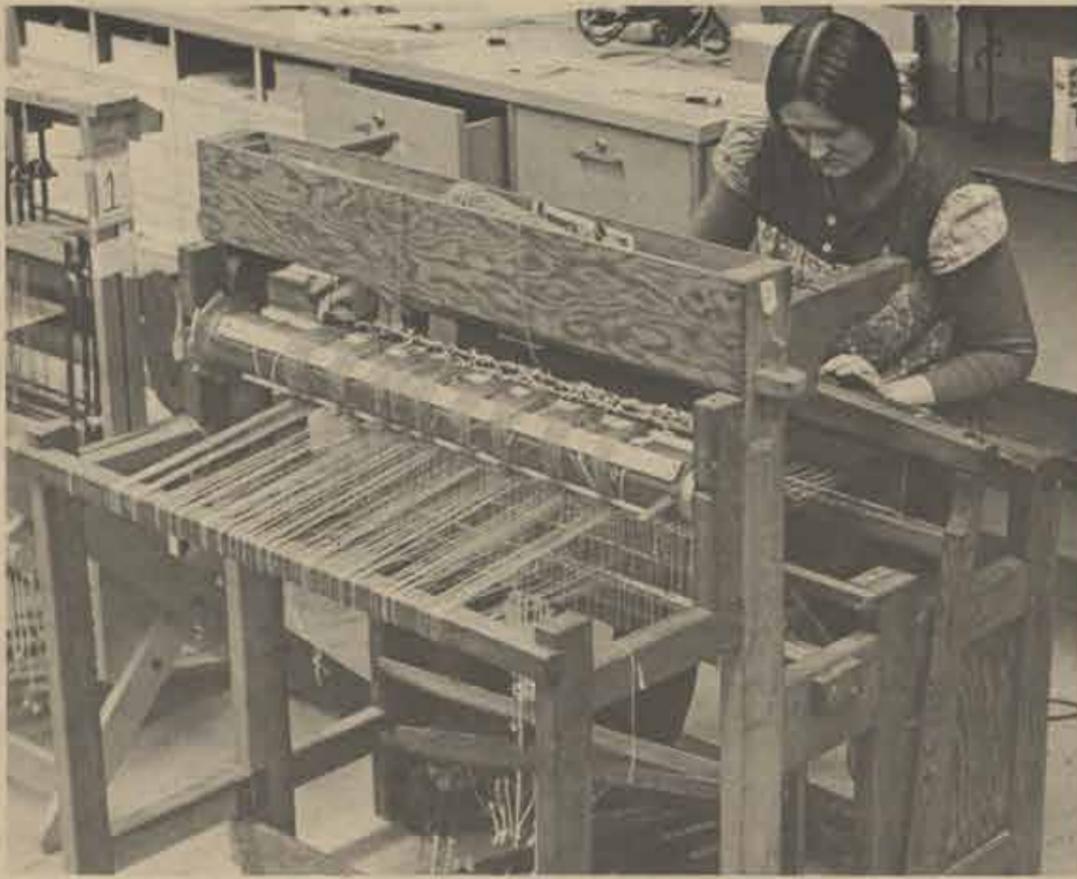
class takes a turn at demonstrating something for the rest of the class. There have been demonstrations on natural dyes, crochet, soft jewelry, basketry, spinning and carding wool, card weaving, embroidery, and finishing techniques. One afternoon was spent studying a fleece (her name was Jane). The students learned the different parts of a fleece, which parts are better quality wool, and what to look for when buying a fleece.

In the advanced class emphasis is placed on "pushing yourself" to see just what the student can do. Some students have created things they never dreamed possible, and in doing so have learned things about themselves as well.

The advanced class this quarter is rather small, and they've become a somewhat closely-knit group. Part of this is due to the "bring and brag" sessions on Fridays. The class uses that time to discuss and brainstorm on their present projects, sharing with and helping each other.

Both beginning and advanced students attend class for an hour every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for lecture, which is where most of the technical learning happens. They also go on field trips to different art shows and the Museum of History and Industry.

Design and Materials — Textiles, 154,155, and 156 will be offered this Spring quarter. Any student looking for something a little different in the form of an art class can sign up during Spring Quarter registration, Feb. 22 through March 11. Further information may be obtained by contacting Elayne Levensky, Carol, or Paula in HS4.



Paula Chorney weaves a wool rug on a four-harness floor loom.—Staff photo by Mike Burr

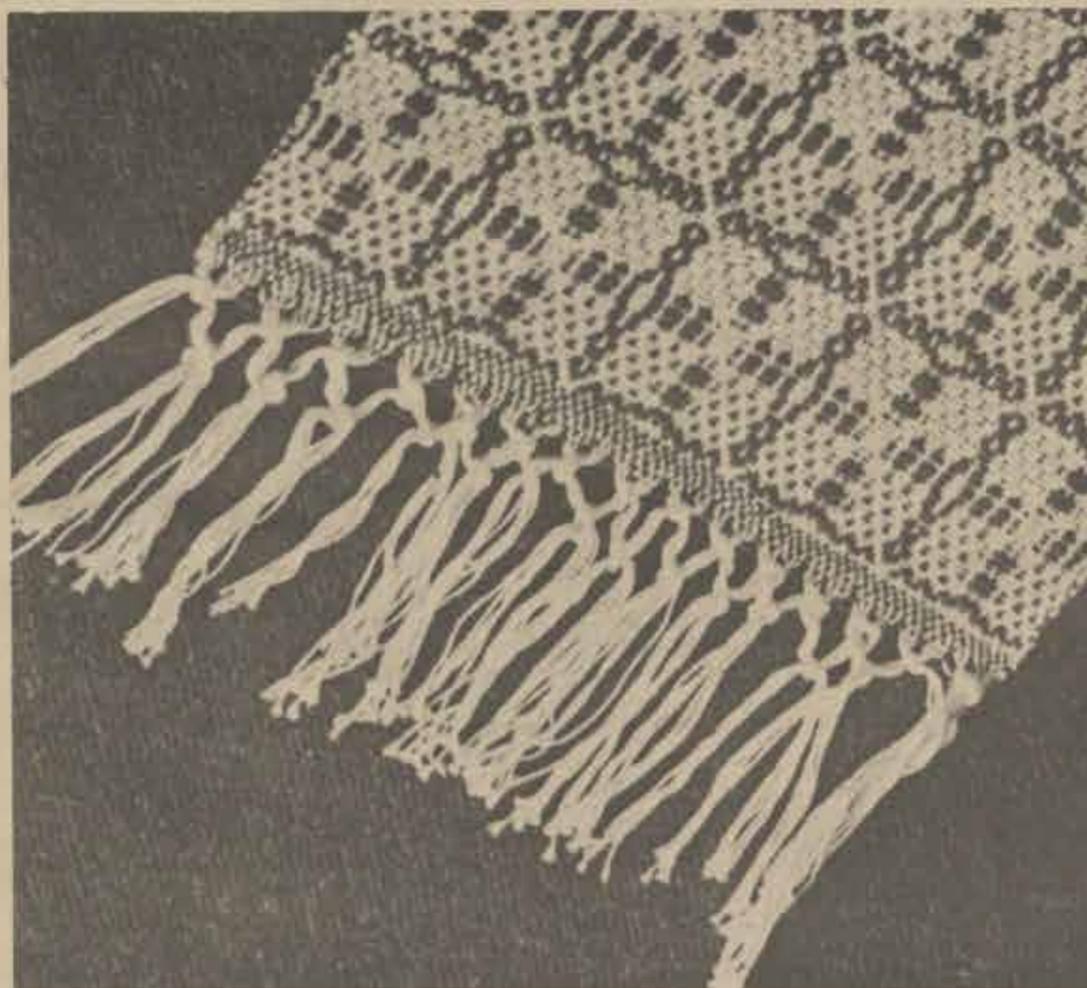


Class weaves new experinces

The first assignment is to make a notebook of different weaving samples, including tabby, basket, and twill weave. Also tapestry, Soumak (a type of knotted texture), and Leno (a lace like open weave). One of the final samples suggests using materials such as unspun wool, rya knots and novelty yarns for different textures; another suggests weaving unlikely

materials like plastic tubing, crepe paper, or video tape.

After completing the notebook samples, the students do a patterned weave. They use their names as a basis for a pattern by using numbers to represent the letters, and they figure out the pattern from that. By using their full names every student ends up with a pattern uniquely their own. (See related story on Page 4)



Pictured above is a name draft pattern by Pam Oppenheimer, her beginning weaving project.—Staff photo by Mike Burr

Pam Decker passes a shuttle through the shed to complete one pick of a place mat.—Staff photos by Lee Vanderlaan

maiz gives readings

By BARBARA HOBBY

"I've come here to poet with you," said b.f. maiz last Wednesday, February 9. He then proceeded to mesmerize an audience of about 100 with his poetry, followed by a question and answer period.

maiz doesn't read his poetry, he performs it. He paced the floor like a caged lion, stalking the words, gesturing as if to swat at the words with a massive paw.

GRCC was the 61st campus maiz had visited in the past 14 months. It was the first time he had seen such a poetry workshop on a college campus and was apparently impressed.

In honor of Black Awareness week, maiz dedicated his first two poems to blacks who had been killed in the civil rights struggle. The audience sat through the performance in respectful silence, applauding only occasionally. "Prisoner and Prisoner, in Prison" was one of the poems applauded. The audience laughed as maiz recited the humorous poem telling of a prison cockroach's fate — under his foot. Some of the other poems presented were: "Leave us not Lament the Leaving of Langston", dedicated to black renaissance poet, Langston Hues; "The Stroke of Awe", pondering what man's proper position before God should be; and several love poems, "The Fresh Time of Ourlove", "When on That Holy September Sabbath Morning", and "Upon Ourlove's Leaving". And not to be left unmentioned, "I Have, Although You Did Not", a sad and beautiful poem of unrequited love.

maiz, age 58, started writing 25 years ago. He has no favorite

poets, only favorite poems. maiz believes there's more to poetry than writing it.

"I believe in living it, in experiencing it," he explained. maiz believes the duty of the poet is to get people to feel the facts, as well as learn them. Said maiz of being a poet, "If you believe in it, you do it." He amused the audience with his story of reciting poetry for eight hours straight, to prove that a poet can do a day's work.

Halfway through his performance, maiz explained the three things he tries for in his poetry. First, elegance — the best of the language. He uses no profanity. Second, eloquence — he uses words that "taste good to the tongue". And last, relevance — things relevant to the human condition; love, death, etc.

maiz is much misrepresented by his publicity and introductions. He is introduced as a black poet, who ran away at the age of 13 to live on the streets. Emphasis is placed on his two past prison terms and former addiction to heroin. A bad man made good. Reformed.

What isn't mentioned is that he learned to read at age four — taught by his mother, a school teacher. His father was a minister. maiz entered the public school system at age nine. At age 13, when he ran away, he was already in the 11th grade. He was an A student all the way. Even at the four different universities he attended.

"My ambition is to join that choir of songbirds," said maiz, "singing of man from womb to tomb." His next book, "Dear Stranger", will be coming out this fall or late summer.



b.f. maiz, poet, gave readings of work during poetry and Black awareness week at GRCC.

Music Co. — KM to give dinner show

A variety of music and the smell of roasted prime rib will be wafting out of the Lindbloom Student Center Feb. 23, when the Green River Music Company is joined by the Kent-Meridian Jazz Ensemble for their first dinner show here.

The Jazz Ensemble from KM will lead off the evening with their "Big Band Sound" at 7 p.m. while the prime rib dinner "with all the trimmings" is being served.

Then the Music Company will take over the rest of the show with their more varied musical arrangements.

It will give members of the Music Company experience in performing in a kind of Las Vegas lounge show atmosphere, said the Company's Director, Pat Thompson. "And we don't get to do much of that, so we'll really be enjoying it."

Attendance for the evening's entertainment will be by reservation only, and they are requested to be made by Feb. 17. Tickets are \$7.50.

More information may be obtained by telephoning 833-9111.

Political prisoners detained world-wide

By LEE COMBS

Growing within Indonesia is an archipelago, an archipelago of prisons and penal colonies. In the last 11 years over 100,000 Indonesians have been held captive, designated by the Indonesian government as being too violent or dangerous to be released or reintegrated with their families. These prisoners serve indefinite sentences under brutal circumstances, detained without charge or trial.

Detention without trial, torture and death sentence all continue to be featured as instruments of justice in many African nations.

Hardly any Asian country or European country fails to try, sentence and imprison prisoners of political crimes.

Most Soviet political prisoners are detained in colonies and prisons in the corrective labour system. Medical neglect dovetails with chronic hunger and overwork to give to Soviet penal institutions a more punitive character than is justified by any standards.

Throughout 1975-76 there has been a slight but unmistakable deterioration of the overall human rights situation in the Americas. The situation in Latin America is particularly bad in Chile, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. Approximately 30,000 political prisoners are believed held in these four countries alone.

In the United States people are

not imprisoned because of their political views or actions or because of their ethnic origin. But in some cases it is difficult to avoid the suspicion that an individual's imprisonment may be due to his political actions rather than the alleged crime he or she may have committed.

In all these cases prisoners are held for political reasons. These are prisoners of conscience, being held for their beliefs.

Dr. Mykola Plakhotnyuk is being detained in a special psychiatric hospital in the Ukraine. He was born in 1936 in the Kiev region. After graduating with distinction from a medical school he worked in a children's sanatorium and then in a medical institute in Kiev. In 1969 he was questioned by state security about his relations with some Ukrainian nationalist writers. The following year he wrote several statements defending Ukrainian political prisoners and was dismissed from his job, after which he was refused employment. In 1972 he was arrested and charged with "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda". Before being tried he was subjected to psychiatric evaluation and diagnosed as "schizophrenic with delusions of persecution" and "periodically irresponsible." Plakhotnyuk was sent to Dnepropetrovsk psychiatric hospital, which uses select criminal

convicts as orderlies to terrorize and mistreat inmates.

Mr. Swaraj Bhattacharya, 55, secretary of the West Bengal unit of the Socialist party, was arrested in June 1975 along with other members and leaders of the Socialist party following the declaration of a national state of emergency in India. He has been held in detention without trial under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act. He is reportedly being held in solitary confinement in a cell measuring 2.46 meters by 1.23 meters without any ventilation. He suffers from chronic diabetes yet has no medical attention or the special diet required.

These are just two examples of poor conditions and the lack of fundamental justice and human rights.

Some governments deny charges that they hold political prisoners when they are simply exercising inadequate control over their own security police. In some countries torture has for so long been habitual that no real effort is made to stop it. But all these acts are offences against political freedom and human rights. They must be protested against, always in hope of change, for it is particularly in those countries, where better education and living conditions are bringing greater political awareness, that the battle must begin. We must help those whose conscience

has led them to prison. Many cannot appeal for themselves.

Amnesty International is an organization which works to free these "prisoners of conscience". Further information may be obtained by writing them care of Amnesty International, 2112 Broadway New York, New York 10023.

Engineer's Club to throw kegs

The Engineer's Club on campus is planning to build a catapult. The club is planning to compete in a keg throwing contest on Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho sponsored by North Idaho College.

The catapult supposedly will throw the empty keg up to one-and-a-half miles onto the lake and the distance will be measured by triangulation. North Idaho College won last year with a distance of five-hundred-thirtyseven feet. Last year was the first year of the contest.

Rainier Beer is supplying the empty kegs.

Wide World of Sports(ABC) and Sports Spectacular (CBS) have expressed interest in the contest which is scheduled for May 6.

High Tides and Green Grass

Elton John destined to become musical legend

By KELLY ENOCHS

The fourth annual American Music Awards were held in Santa Monica, Jan. 31 and seen on nationwide television. As usual I disagreed with a few of the selections, but if everyone agreed on music or anything else, we would all be in trouble.

At the risk of sounding like a high school rocker I admit that I was pleased to see Elton John win the male-pop-rock singer award. Although I don't like Elton and Kiki Dee's *Don't Go Breaking My Heart* that was named best single pop-recording, I've long admired his many fine albums.

While many people have been critical of John's personal life and dismissed his music as pop drivel, his popularity has never waned. Rather with a string of 13 platinum albums and one gold LP (his first album *Empty Sky*) his popularity, and income, has increased dramatically. At the present time, only Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin and Chicago can compare with Elton's drawing power and economic impact.

An ABC Thursday Night Special aired Feb. 3 allowed everyone a chance to see the magic stage presence and musical artistry John possesses, in a live concert filmed last September in Edinburgh, Scotland. Strangely enough, ABC chose to air the special at 11:30 p.m. instead of prime-time.

Fortunately television was able to capture the colorful beauty of a live concert without intruding in the ridiculous manner of the *Midnight Special* or *In Concert*. In other words, no Wolfman Jack, no fancy backdrops or logos, and no cameramen crawling all over the stage spoiling the view. It was nice for a change to see a *real* concert filmed for TV, rather than TV dictating the action.

While still under 30, Elton seems to be mellowing a bit in comparison to his previous concerts. In the past he has always performed with a large backup band often including a horn section, and wearing the wildest stage clothes ever seen. Sitting alone at the grand piano in a plaid-checked suit with his usual oversized glasses and very short hair accenting his creeping baldness, John seemed more like a younger piano-playing Sinatra than a rock star.

Watching him perform solo without a backup band was great. One could hear all the words to *Bernie Taupin's* lyrics, the varied nuances and wide range of Elton's nearly effortless vocals, and the sparkl-

ing full bodied tone he can draw from a piano. His fingers fly across the ivory with a majestic, almost classical touch, running up and down the keyboard with ease.

The songs he performed included *Holy Moses* and *Sixty Years On, Bennie And The Jets* and *Candle In The Wind* from the double LP *Goodbye To Yellow Brick Road*, and *Rocket Man* from *Honky Chateau*. A beautiful, long and slow piano solo then led into a song I believe is called *Tonight*.

These were followed by *Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me* from *Caribou*, *Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word* from his new double LP *Blue Moves*, and a personal favorite of mine *Someone Saved My Life Tonight* off the autobiographical *Captain Fantastic And The Brown Dirt Cowboy*.

Elton then played a moving version of his first hit single *Your Song* from the Elton John album. Although simple, the words are possibly Taupin's best.

John then closed the concert with the rocker *Saturday Night's Alright For Fighting* during which the audience shouted the lyrics while he jumped atop the piano. A girl threw Elton her scarf, which he used as a headband, and he responded by giving her the piano bench, finishing the show standing.

John proved once again he is a superb showman able to enthrall an audience, and he seems to be transcending rock and roll into popular music nearly everyone can enjoy. Elton John is already the single biggest phenomenon of the 70's and appears destined for musical legend.

DISCOGRAPHY:

Empty Sky, Elton John, *Tumbleweed Connection*, 11-17-70, *Madman Across The Water*, *Honky Chateau*, *Don't Shoot Me I'm Only The Piano Player*, *Goodbye To Yellow Brick Road*, *Caribou*, *Captain Fantastic And The Brown Dirt Cowboy*, *Rock Of The Westies*, *Greatest Hits*, *Here And There*, and *Blue Moves*.

CONCERT RUNDOWN:

Feb. 19 - Commander Cody, New Riders of the Purple Sage, Stanky Brown.

Feb. 26 - The Spinners,

Mar. 2 - Manfred Mann's Earth Band. Paramount Northwest for these three.

Mar. 3 - Jethro Tull, reserved seating, Seattle Center Coliseum.

Mar. 9 - Boston, Seattle Center Arena.

Mar. 13 - Queen, Thin Lizzy, also

in the Seattle Center Arena.

Mar. 18 - Janis Ian,

Mar. 19 - Styx, and Ambrosia,

Mar. 25 - Leo Kottke,

Mar. 27 - Chic Corea and Return To Forever, reserved seating. The

last four shows are all at the Paramount Northwest.

Hopefully by the time you read this we will all have Led Zeppelin tickets for Mar. 26 in the Kingdome.



I THINK I CAN — Mark Dana is just at the start of his long journey and his first obstacles were the mountain ranges.

Dana travels cross country in Bikecentennial escapade

By LEE COMBS

Imagine traveling four thousand miles across the United States by bicycle. Think of the farms, the towns, and highways you would see.

Imagine crossing the Continental Divide, viewing the Grand Teton, and pedalling through the great forests of America.

Mark Dana, 19, a student at Green River, pedalled his ten-speed approximately four-thousand two hundred fifty miles across the U.S. with Bikecentennial, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting bicycle travel.

On May 19 last summer Mark, in a group of twelve, left Reedsport, Oregon with their final destination two-and-a-half months away in Yorktown, Virginia.

Groups like Marks's left each coast on a daily basis, accompanied by a leader and assistant leader who were responsible for emergency aid, food, etc.

These groups found shelter in gyms, YMCAs, churches and along the road in their one man tents.

Ages of the bicyclists ranged from the youngest, a six year old, to an eighty-six year old man who had to drop out after fifteen hundred miles because of knee ailments.

A little more than four thousand people began the trip across the U.S. and over two thousand finished.

Bikecentennial not only selected less travelled roads to aid bicyclists, but also to enable the riders to see rural America.

The first week was mostly becoming used to riding sixty miles a

day. The Cascades were their first proving ground.

Thirteen days after leaving Reedsport, Mark ruptured his achilles tendon, which swelled and grew more painful during the next week. He saw a specialist in Dillon, Mont. who recommended several days of non-riding rest.

After catching up with his group at Yellowstone, the group encountered the Teton passes. Tagwotee Pass, elevation 9,700 feet, had ice on the road creating extremely hazardous conditions for the riders.

Mark's group crossed the Continental Divide nine times.

Kansas greeted them with the road sign "Bikecentennial Riders, Welcome to Kansas." There were homecooked meals, one farmer let Mark's group drive a combine in his wheat field, and some were lucky enough to try some peanut butter pie.

Kansas was the endless plain. Missouri and Kentucky were rolling hills.

The end of the journey certainly had its reliefs.

The riders had problems too. There were reports of one or two riders forced off the road.

Bicyclists fought off dogs with everything from chemical repellants to tire pumps.

The trip was full of memories. Mark took over seven hundred pictures.

Bikecentennial will be around in 1977. They have trips, maps and information for all over the world.

More information can be obtained by writing Dan Burden, P.O. Box 8308, Missoula, Mont. 59807. Mont. 59807.

GRCC Art of Living course new to curriculum

People interested in alternative life styles might explore the *Art of Living* course which will have an introductory session Tuesday at noon in the Baker Room of the Lindbloom Student Center.

Sponsored by The Universal Institute of Applied Ontology, the course is designed to consider anything from organic gardening to natural childbirth and communal living.

According to Jake Good, program coordinator, "we need to develop a sensitivity to what life's design really is."

More information is available by contacting Jake Good at 833-5125.

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Springtime runner

By DON WISSBROD

I start to jog in the spring. The playground of a nearby elementary school rids itself of the swampish texture it has during the winter months. The sun rises early and I can see where I'm going. It is important for a jogger to see where he is going.

I stop running when winter renders the playground useless. The sidewalks are always present. They seem to invite me to run on them. They never get too wet and it is impossible for them to turn into mud. The sidewalks are lighted by street lamps that conveniently keep back the morning dark.

However, I am not fooled by the sidewalks innocent appearance. To run on them means the destruction of my ankles. Dogs are strategically positioned concealed behind bushes and fences, waiting to sink their canine fangs into my legs.

For sure, I prefer good dependable dirt. I would rather run by rows of trees than rows of houses. I would take birds over dogs anyway.

When running, I am involved with my body. I am taking time to care for it. Showering off the sweat feels good. My lungs glow with warmth and my muscles feel capable. It is similar to the sensation a person has after a game of basketball or tennis, but the difference is that my running is everyday and it is an individual relationship between my mind and body that includes nothing else. That is why I hate running on the sidewalks, I get distracted by the cement, the dogs and the civilization.

I am lucky to have the playground available. I also have been considering the idea of using an old dirt road that has dwindled down to just a trail in the woods. A morning run on that trail would momentarily get me away from the distractions I mentioned and also give me the extra dab of nature that the playground lacks.

I live in a fairly large suburban community. My house rests on the edge of a ravine, and thus borders different environments. Last spring a young deer wandered up the ravine and into my backyard. He walked into the street, but turned around and hurried back down the edge of the ravine. I guess he didn't like the sidewalk either. Someday, if I ever do get out on that trail, I would like to see that deer, it would feel like an accomplishment.

More Sports: I had originally intended this column to cover the big time wrestling match that is coming to Green River, however I had second thoughts because I was not sure big time is an actual sport. It has been said by some rumor spreaders that the wrestlers do not genuinely compete, but instead they act and put on a show that is for the most part predetermined.

The matches are to take place on Sunday at 7 p.m. in the GRCC Gymnasium. Tickets are available at the Student Programs office.

Tentative budget cuts, drawn up by the student programs budget team, includes these cuts for sports: men's basketball faces a cut from \$7,100- \$6,000, golf may be increased from \$875- \$1,000, and bowling may be eliminated completely.

Gators win two straight

Last night the Green River men's roundball squad traveled to Bellevue and will be home tonight to play host to Skagit Valley. Coach Bob Aubert considers both to be two of the better teams in the conference.

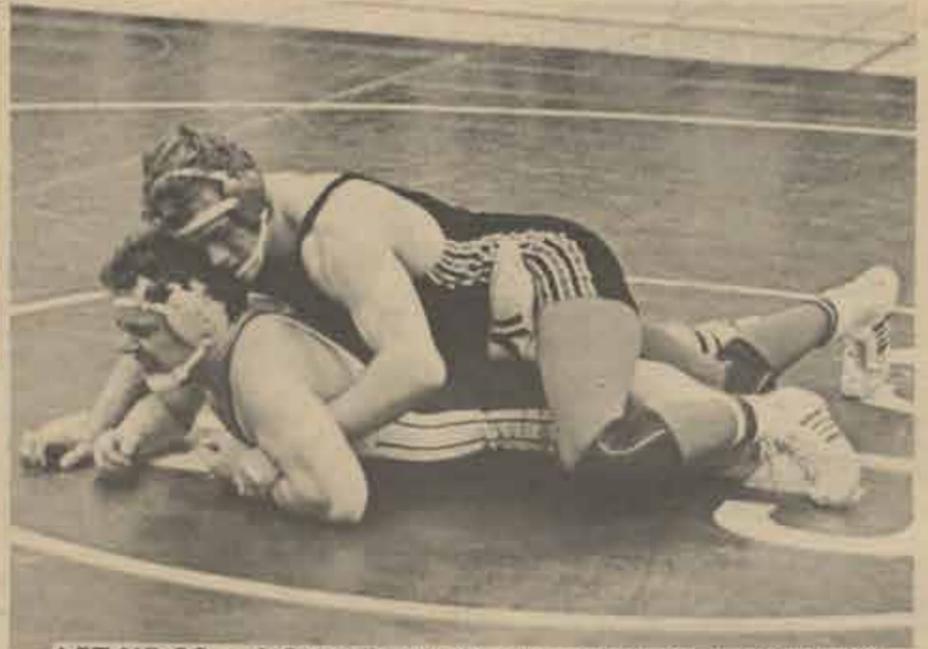
Last Wednesday the Gators traveled to Edmonds where, according to Aubert, they displayed a super effort and outscored the Edmonds squad 89-82. High scorers in the game for Green River were Craig Fite with 25, Todd Eisinger's 20, and Jerry Line's 18.

Saturday the Gators played host to Everett and held off a strong visitor comeback to gain a 75-73 victory. The Gators led at halftime 49-24, and Aubert said it is hard for a team with a large halftime lead to come out and play well in the second half.

With seven minutes left to play the Gators held a 21 point lead that they watched melt away as nearly every shot Everett put up went through the hoop. On the last second of play the Trojans put up a shot that fell off the rim, ending the game.

High scorers for the game were Eisinger and Fite again, with 20 points apiece, and Line with 15.

The worst the Gators can now do is end conference play in a tie with Everett, thus requiring a play-off between the two teams with the winner going into the play-offs, and ending the season for the loser. For this to happen Everett would have to win their two remaining games and the Gators would have to lose to both Bellevue and Skagit Valley.



LET ME GO — A Centralia wrestler tries to keep Green River's Bill Bressler from getting up as the two square off in a dual match in the GRCC gym. Green River heads for state tournament action this weekend and is one of the favorites to take top honors, if all members of Coach Doug Carr's squad stay healthy.

Intramurals

In last week's action, the Trojans beat the Kona Buds 32-21. The high score for the Trojans was Gustafson 11.

The Hoosiers beat the No Names 47-38. High scorer for the Hoosiers was Capri 13.

The track team was led to victory by the nine points by both Campbell and Hayden in a 32-28 win over Booters who were led by Gardner with 15.

The Rats defeated A Few Stars 29-16.

The Pink Fairys beat the Unknown Salts 49-12.

The No Names, led by Andy Kramer's 31 points, whipped the Unknown Salts 75-20.

In other games during the week the Trojans won over the Booters 28-17, A Few Stars over Atoms 36-31, and the Kona Buds 70 over Gladiators 29.

Standings as of Feb. 11

Team	W	L
Division I		
Wazzu	3	0
Kona Buds	3	1
Track	2	1
Velvet Buzzsaw	2	1
Trojans	2	2
Booters	1	3
Gladiators	1	3
Hull's Hoopers	0	3
Division II		
Pink Fairys	3	0
The Blanks	3	0
Cheap Shots	3	0
Hoosiers	2	1
Slum Dunks	1	2
No Names	1	3
U of Auburn	0	3
Unknown Salts	0	4

CURRENT SPORTS

Team	W	L
Division III		
Has Beens	3	0
The Rats	3	0
Hot Rocks	2	1
Gillnetters	2	1
Arrowmatics	1	2
Outsiders	1	2
A Few Stars	1	3
Atoms	0	4

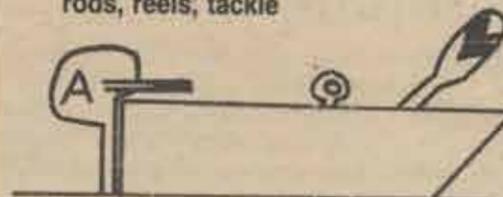
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