

GSU update

Absent reps intentionally halt Union from work



PHOTOS BY OLGA PETRUS

by MADELINE BERMAN

A group of Geoduck Student Union (GSU) reps coordinated to halt the union by not attending this week's meeting. Without these members, the GSU did not have enough representatives present to make official decisions. Members of this group included representatives Dawn Bradford, Alexandre Chateubriand, Charles Loosen, Jake Mixon, and Tez Stair.

The representatives who were present chose to discuss what they would like to see included in next year's GSU budget, which must be turned in to the S&A Board by next Monday, March 16. This budget is necessary for representatives to attend mandatory retreats and receive stipends.

In order to further address these issues an emergency meeting will be held at noon at representative Josie Jarvis's house on Sunday, March 15.

A letter of resignation from representative Alexander Chateubriand was also read. This resignation will not take effect until the end of this quarter. The letter can be read on page 10.

Reps then chose to turn off the recorder and attempted to close the meeting. However, state law RCW42.30.200 requires a student governance body such as the GSU to follow all state open-meeting laws, including keeping a record or minutes of the meeting. No one was keeping minutes of the meeting once the recorder was turned off.

The meeting was then moved to the basement of the library. A portion of

the group split off in order to oversee the interviews of their Elections Commissioner (EC) candidates. The remaining three members, Kate Schiffman, Josie Jarvis, and Cameron Morris stayed to discuss their feelings about the ongoing oppression they find present within the GSU and possible ways to deal with this issue.

"If we build up that we feel targeted, it gets dismissed," said Jarvis. "They make it into a personal attack."

"I don't know what the best option is [to address these issues]," said Schiffman.

Reconvening in CAB 320, GSU reps engaged in heated discussions with one another before talking about EC candidates and solving internal issues. The idea of bringing in a third party to mediate between members was introduced for the first time this school year.

As a follow-up to last week's GSU update, Sky Cohen was officially appointed to the Police Services Community Review Board at the GSU meeting on March 4.

Madeline Berman is a sophomore enrolled in Image and Sequence.



Students want money back from Chile study-abroad trip

by SETH VINCENT

Student Rebecca Moorman wants to be reimbursed for the money she was charged by faculty Jorge Gilbert for her spring 2008 study-abroad trip to Chile. Moorman said she has consulted with an attorney to determine the best way to get her money back.

She and others in her class were frustrated with the quality of the trip and have complained to the administration. An audit shows Gilbert mishandling money, substantiating students complaints. Moorman estimates she was overcharged about \$1000.

"Many of Moorman's classmates are interested in some kind of reimbursement," she said, "or at least an apology."

"That money is so hard for

students to save," Moorman said. She said that she and another student plan to work with an attorney to decide between filing a claim with the state, or suing Evergreen directly.

"We really want Evergreen to take accountability for their faculty," said Moorman. "I think they are irresponsible, and I'm probably never going to take classes there again."

To read more about students' complaints about Gilbert, and the audit that substantiates those complaints, go to cooperpointjournal.com

Light schedule saves money and energy

Until further notice, the lights along Evergreen Parkway will be turned off at 11:30 pm nightly, coming back to life every morning at 6:00am. Facing a 10% cut to the Facilities and Services budget, Director Paul Smith says that the new lighting plan is meant to reduce operating costs in a manner that has "the least impact possible, while keeping services at a high level." The move isn't expected to significantly affect students — those taking night classes will have ample time to find their way home after class. Late night traffic on the parkway is considered to be sparse.

Smith didn't have any hard estimates as to how much the cuts would save, but ventured several hundred dollars per month as a ballpark figure. Smith and colleagues are also considering other lighting options, such as cycling off lights in parking lots, to "meet the cuts without having to let people go."

Figures showing the savings from the plan should be available in April.

~ MARK YATES-WHITE

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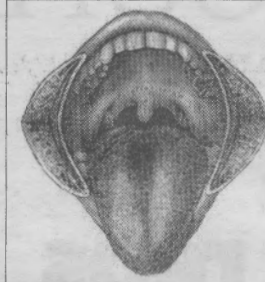
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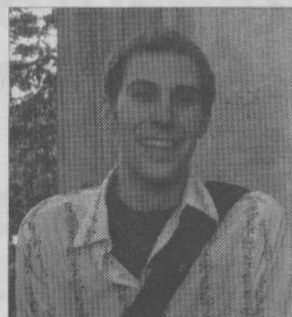
vox pop



What news event on campus this quarter affected you most?

by SAMANTHA SERMEÑO and SETH VINCENT

Watch the video of the full responses online at www.cooperpointjournal.com



"John Pumilio, the director of sustainability, leaving for another college in New York."

Alex Bertolucci

Senior

Independent Learning Contract



"Last week's GSU meeting. It was crazy because during student voices people were talking about Free Speech..."

Ellis Perry

Freshman

Independent Learning Contract



"Arming the police—I'm kind of neutral to it; I can see both sides."

Esther Herron

Sophomore

Medieval and Renaissance Studies



"The budget cuts would be the first, biggest thing that'll affect me the most."

Escenth Marigny

Freshman

Political Economy of the Media



"The rifle-thing proposal and whether I wanted to support it or not... I think it's too much money."

Alex Morley

Senior

Plants, People, and Phytochemicals



"What is going to effect me most about the cuts? Largely, what educational programs will be cut."

Ben Dean

Freshman

Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Have a Vox Pop question you'd like to ask? Email cpj@evergreen.edu.

Student Group Meeting 5 p.m. Monday

Find out what it means to be a member of the student group CPJ.

Post Mortem & Issue Planning 5 p.m. Thursday

Critique the last issue of the CPJ and help plan for the next one.

CPJ Forum 12:15 p.m. Friday

Discussion on issues related to journalism and the future of the CPJ on the Web.

All meetings
are held
in CAB 316

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is published 28 Thursdays each academic year, when class is in session: the first through the 10th Thursday of Fall Quarter and the second through the 10th Thursday of Winter and Spring Quarters.

Copies of submission and publication criteria for non-advertising content are available in CAB 316, or by request at (360) 867-6213. Contributions are accepted at CAB 316 or by email at cpj@evergreen.edu. The CPJ editor-in-chief has final say on the acceptance or rejection of all non-advertising content.

is distributed free at various sites on The Evergreen State College campus. Distribution is limited to one copy per edition per person. Persons in need of more than one copy should contact the CPJ business manager in CAB 316 or at (360) 867-6054 to arrange for multiple copies. The business manager may charge 75 cents for each copy after the first. Terms and conditions are available in CAB 316, or by request at (360) 867-6054.

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Women targeted during political actions

by ANNA-MARIE MURANO

There has been a rise in political involvement in our community during winter quarter of 2009. Women play a major part in two popular campaigns—Middle East solidarity on campus and challenging the purchase of rifles by the Evergreen police. By playing prominent roles and taking on leadership positions, women become more exposed during public protests, most recently on the Evergreen campus and previously at the Port of Olympia in 2007.

Apparently, sexual harassment and intimidation have also increased when these women have made their political participation public.

On Wednesday, February 25, there was a die-in in the CAB to educate people about the invasion of Gaza. Over 40 people participated. Participants who “played dead” laid down still for half an hour.

“I was lying face down in front of the Israel display, one table in,” said Tessa Wyllie de Echeverria, an organizer with SESAME, regarding her experience during the protest “About halfway through the die-in I heard a male voice that I believe was talking to two other males. However, I had my eyes closed and could not see them. I heard one say ‘we should grab the tits of all the

girls and see if they wake up.” Another woman participant also heard men talking to one another. She said that one of the men said, “We should grab their titties,” and in response another man said, “Yeah go for it. It’s free game.”

On Wednesday, March 4, members of

Alive!, a coalition of students in opposition to the current police proposal to acquire rifles, and Women’s Resource Center (WRC) voiced their dissent. The women carried cardboard cutouts of AR-15s on campus and handed out literature.

One of the women who passed out leaflets approached a group of three men who disagreed with her stance. They talked over her and laughed when she asked them not to interrupt her. Another male-bodied student approached the group and singled her out, telling her to “Shut up. You’re talking way too much,” and proceeding to scream that she was an “anarchist idiot cunt” before walking away, which made the other men laugh.

These incidents do not represent the only time Evergreen students have been targeted for their political dissent.

On November 11, 2007 during the Women’s Action Olympia Port Protests, pro-war counter-protesters tried to intimidate women demonstrating against the Iraq War by using derogatory language and threatening the women physically. The fact that many of them were Evergreen students was used to degrade and

insult the women protesting. After over 40 participants were arrested, they were held in vans and Intercity Transit buses. During this time, one of the counter-protesters exposed himself to the bus full of women.

When the women were transported to



LAMISE SHAWAHIN

SOME WOMEN OF LAST MONTH’S DIE-IN WERE SEXUALLY HARASSED BY MEN IN THE CAB.

WHILE THE DEBATE ABOUT FREEDOM OF SPEECH CONTINUES, TRUE INTIMIDATION EXISTS FOR WOMEN EXPRESSING POLITICAL DISSENT ON OUR CAMPUS AND BEYOND

the Olympia city jail, they were forced to strip down to their bottom layers, leaving some of the women with transparent tops, while being visible to male guards.

Of the people who participated in the Women’s Action, 26 were charged by Thurston County Prosecutors Office nearly a year after the alleged offense. Of these 26, over half are currently-enrolled Evergreen students. The outcome of the case against the “Oly 26” is yet to be determined. They continue to claim that their actions in November 2007 were necessary to stop the use of the Port of Olympia by the US military. They also are exploring the possibility of civil suits pertaining to their mistreatment while incarcerated. Although women face challenges for political participation, none of the women recently targeted at Evergreen have ceased their political involvement. Rather, it has increased their desire to be involved.

“At first it’s shocking, being silenced like that, and my immediate reaction was a combination of anger, hurt, disbelief, and paralysis,” said Janae Choquette, an organizer with SESAME who participated in the anti-rifle flyering and witnessed the attack on her friend. “But ultimately, being confronted with patriarchy just makes me more militant as a

feminist and more vocal as an activist.”

While the debate about freedom of speech continues, true intimidation exists for women expressing political dissent on our campus and beyond.

Evergreen President Les Purce, in response to vandalism and the removal of flyers, sent out a campus-wide email stating:

“This should be a place where all serious ideas are welcome, even when they challenge our beliefs or offend our sensibilities. Our response to these ideas should be to listen, seek to understand, and then to respond with our own ideas and evidence... we should never seek to silence those we disagree with or treat each other disrespectfully.”

The question remains of what kind of statement will be made in response to threats and language used to silence women of the Evergreen community.

Anna-Marie Murano is a senior focusing on organizational development.

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Budget-committee member gets students' input

"OUR GOAL IS TO MAKE SURE YOUR INSIGHTS AND PREFERENCES ARE HEARD BY THE ADMINISTRATION"

by MADELINE BERMAN

As a student member of the Budgetary Planning Committee, Ben Anderson wants students to be involved in and informed about the budget process.

Working with other committee members such as Steve Trotter, Executive Director of Operational Planning and Budget, Anderson organizes forums and tables to try to keep the student body engaged in creating the budget for the next biennium.

"Our goal is to make sure your insights and preferences are heard by the administration," said Anderson. "I want to be a catalyst and try to get people involved."

One concern for Anderson is dispelling rumors he's heard surrounding budget cuts.

Anderson feels that "most students seem ill-informed [about the budget situation]."

He tries to get more students involved by telling them the most extreme scenarios that have been proposed, such as scenarios in which all grad programs or the Tacoma campus get cut.

"I just try to look at the most drastic things and let them know what's going on," Anderson said. "I try not to spread rumors."

While nothing is for certain being cut, all potential scenarios are being considered.

"I want to tell [students] what's up and get their input...Even if you can't see it, you're going to pay more next year and get 15% less," said Anderson.

For more information about the budget or how to get involved, visit www.evergreen.edu/budget.

Madeline Berman is a sophomore enrolled in Image and Sequence.

WashPIRG movin' on up

WashPIRG is working to create positive change in the community and establish itself on campus.

Last Thursday WashPIRG hosted a dance-off at the HCC to raise awareness about its campaign to combat hunger and homelessness. The organization collected fifty pounds of clothing at the dance-off, which were subsequently donated to Camp Quixote.

The following Saturday, WashPIRG participated in a service-a-thon in which students asked people to pledge money for each hour they volunteered; and the money was then donated to Bread & Roses. Students were placed at three locations in Olympia, including Bread & Roses, the Community Kitchen, and outside of the Westside Olympia Food

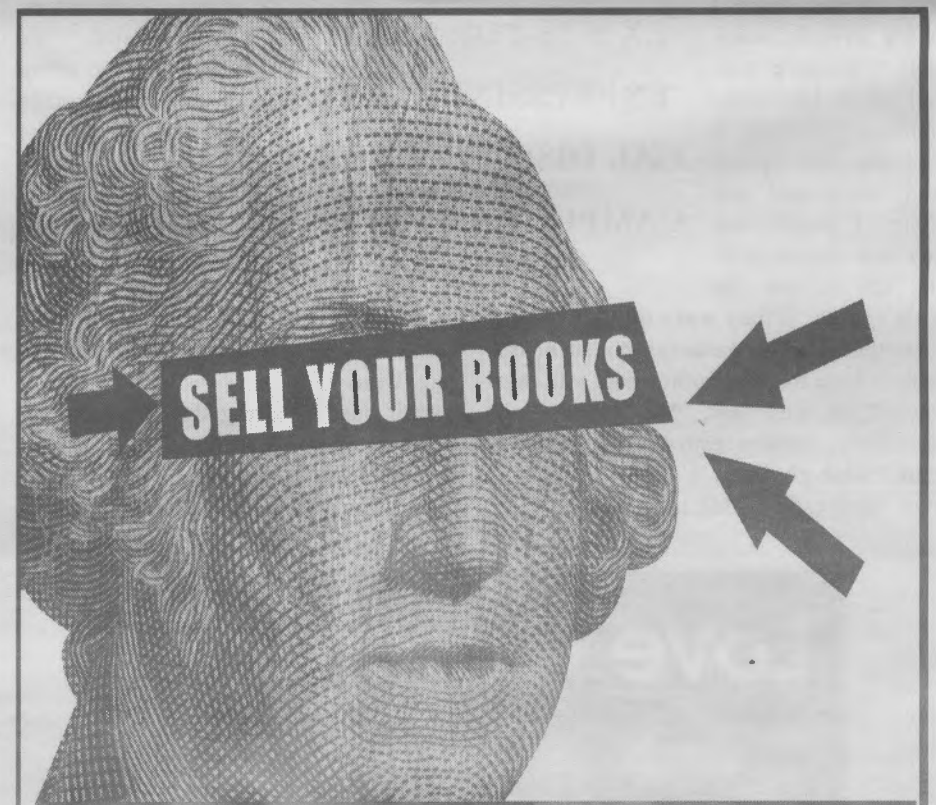
Co-op, where they asked patrons to purchase an extra item of non-perishable food to be donated to the Community Kitchen. All in all, student volunteers raised over \$1,100 and collected three large boxes of non-perishable food.

Currently, WashPIRG is collecting signatures to be placed on the spring ballot so that they can once again establish an official chapter here at Evergreen. For more information about WashPIRG and their current campaigns please visit www.washpirgstudents.org.

~ KARA HAMILTON

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Parkway closure

Starting Monday March 16, parts of the Evergreen Parkway will be closed from the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

According to an email released to TESCrier from Paul Smith, facilities will be constructing a new welcome sign.

During these times, the 41 and 48 buses will not stop at the Red Square loop, and will stop only at housing.

Construction at the roundabout is expected to continue until the end of may.

~ JASON SLOTKIN

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Rally at capitol

COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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by ANNA PEDERSON

Nearly 350 students and professors from Washington state community colleges gathered inside the rotunda of the capitol building in Olympia on Thursday, March 5 at an organized rally against budget cuts and enrollment capping on community colleges.

Chanting and loud applause were quickly hushed because the noise was interfering with the legislature that was in session.

Michele Johnson, chancellor of Pierce College, said that there are 24 community and technical colleges in Washington, and they serve half a million people statewide. Individuals of countless backgrounds utilize the resources that community colleges provide; including those without high school diplomas (1.5 million people in Washington), as well as Running Start students, those hoping to move on to four-year universities, and those who may have been laid off and wish to receive more training.

It was clear that the main question the speakers at the rally and of those in attendance was "how are these budget cuts going to affect me?"

The current unemployment rate in the United States is at 8.1%, and many feel that community colleges are the solution, not the problem, in the current economic situation. Seventeenth-district representative Debb

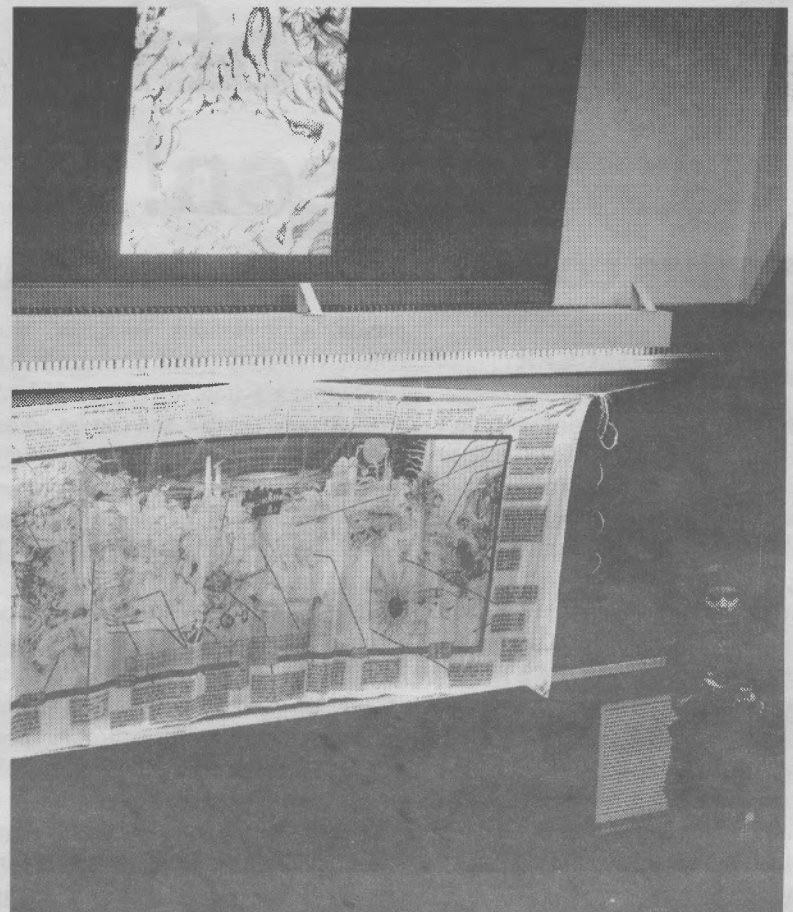
Wallace, who serves as chair of the house of higher education, encouraged those in attendance to advocate their representatives and senators to protect education in Washington.

But a grim truth is that with the \$8.2 billion deficit that Washington is facing, a lot more than community colleges are being offered up onto the chopping block. Wallace mentioned discussions floating around the legislature involving cutting back on health care for children and seniors. Balancing the current state budget is not going to be easy. There is support from legislators like Senator Derek Kilmer and Rep. Reuven Carlyle, but higher taxes seem to be on the horizon for all citizens during this slump.

All speakers at the rally undoubtedly agreed that a heart of community lies in its educators, and recognize the importance of fostering greater thinking not only for personal betterment, but for the betterment of the country.

And proposals are being made to help keep college affordable. Some proposals Rep. Carlyle offered are increasing textbook availability at lower prices, bolstering online class enrollment, and to keep enrollment where it is. It may not be much of a step forward to lower prices, but at least it's not backwards.

Anna Pederson is a part of the Olympia community.



OLGA PETRUS

Beehive Collective and eco-conscious artwork

Beehive Collective is a Maine-based organization that educates youth about current world problems through art and collective posters. Recently, Beehive has been focusing on the environment and the effects of global warming. On March 10, 2009, Evergreen State College students had a chance to attend a presentation about the effects of coal and the artwork that goes with it.

~ OLGA PETRUS

Dear CPJ Reader,

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For the next academic quarter, we (the CPJ Organization) need these positions filled:

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Olympia community connections

by HILARY HACKER

So it's the end of the quarter and you don't know what you're going to do? Come to the CCBLA and find an internship at a grassroots organization requesting your help! We've got tons of different opportunities just waiting here for you to take them on. We can look at your interests and skills, and help you get connected to the perfect organization for you. Be a part of it; our community is asking for your help!

Action Days

Saturday, April 11 we'll be helping Residential and Dining Services and the Sustainability House to start an edible forest garden in the housing area.

On-Campus Events

March 11 is CCBLA's fifth birthday! "We have resources of folks dedicating time and energy to our ongoing relationships, bringing more intentionality to the work as an institution because CCBLA exists and supports work in the classroom as well as work in community," says Alice Nelson, Evergreen faculty. Come and join us in Sem II E2125 from 5-7 p.m. to celebrate five years connecting students and community! "We have a home in the CCBLA."

April 1: Farmworkers Awareness Panel. More details still to come!

Community Requests

G.I. Voice is looking for interns or volunteers to work at its recently-opened Internet café Coffee Strong, located in Lakewood within blocks of Fort Lewis. Coffee Strong is a G.I. coffeehouse owned and operated by recent vets; it is the second G.I. Coffeehouse to open since the Vietnam War. In addition to coffee, computers and free Wi-Fi, they hold concerts, movie nights, and other events. There are also resources for active-duty soldiers, their families, and veterans facing service-related issues such as deployment, PTSD, sexual assault, and command grievances. Coffee Strong serves as a safe space to discuss issues such as the war, deployment, PTSD, and the hardships of life in the military. They are seeking interns and volunteers to help with outreach, promotion, fundraising, and to work as baristas. If you are interested, please contact Seth Manzel at (253) 228-8912, or sethmanz@hotmail.com. The faculty contact for contracts is Zoltan Grossman 360-867-6153 or grossmaz@evergreen.edu. More information online at www.givoice.org.

Stonewall Youth is committed to working within a social justice framework and seeing themselves as part of a larger movement of social change. They are currently searching for interns and volunteers to support with a variety of their annual projects, such as the drag show and their winter retreat. Regular volunteer positions include group facilitator, drop-in hours support

person, appreciations volunteer, winter retreat chaperones and Stonewall Activism Summer School host home. Volunteer positions are flexible and can be adjusted and negotiated to fit your needs. There is also the possibility of creating your own volunteer positions if you have other interests, ideas, or special skills you would like to bring to the Stonewall community. For more information on how to participate, contact Katrina Stern at events@stonewall-youth.org.

Gear Up With Music gives students the tools to create life-affirming poetry and songs that examine the personal challenges they face at home, at school, and with their peers. The program integrates music into core curricula to increase individual academic achievement and improve students' opportunities for future success. The program focuses on topics such as gang life, alcohol and drugs, cultural awareness, and creating peaceable schools. Gear Up With Music is now searching for interns and volunteers. For more information contact Todd Denny at info@todddenymvp.com.

Volunteer for the 2009 Green Festival, March 28-29. Green Festival is a two-day event co-produced by Global Exchange and Green America committed to the movement towards a just and sustainable society, featuring over 300 socially- and environmentally-responsible enterprises, over 150 leading speakers, live music, and delicious organic food and drink. Volunteers are needed for the event and will receive free admission, an organic cotton T-shirt and free memberships; for more information please visit www.greenfestivalvolunteers.org/seattle.

Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights (POWER) is a grassroots coalition that monitors welfare legislation and its implementation in the Olympia area. POWER holds weekly volunteer meetings Wednesdays at 1 p.m. at the First Christian Church, downtown Olympia at Seventh and Franklin. All are welcome!

Students in Service is an AmeriCorps program and a way that students can be rewarded for their time spent within the community. Email sis@evergreen.edu for more information.

While striving to better address these needs, we would also like input from you, the student body. If you have ideas about Action Days or interests in particular organizations and would like to see them represented here in this column, please feel free to add your thoughts by contacting Hilary Hacker at hackerh@evergreen.edu or call (360) 867-6137.

Hilary Hacker is an AmeriCorps VISTA and an Evergreen alumna.

A lesson in deep listening

by SARAH J. BLAND

Terry Setter told *Advanced Audio Production* class ahead of time—be here as much as possible. We cleared our schedules.

George Massenburg would be here at Evergreen for three days. Massenburg, a master of audio technology, inventor of the Parametric Equalizer, surround-sound guru, and founder of GML Inc. is truly a distinguished pioneer in the recording industry.

Massenburg has earned three Grammys, one for producing, one for engineering, and another for technical achievement; he is also the only person in history to do so. His musical discography covers over 30 years of producing and mixing for folks like Linda Ronstadt, Frank Sinatra, Earth Wind and Fire, Cher, and The Dixie Chicks, as well as soundtracks for films such as *Armageddon*, *Runaway Bride*, *That Thing You Do*, and *American Tale*, among others.

Now that you're listening closely, or at least reading intently, these three days were a changing experience for me, one I think I could only have experienced here at Evergreen.

Early on the second day of our three-day workshop, I walked down the long, echoing cement hallway at the back of the COM building towards the 16-track studio. Kevin Kent, the audio intern, rounded the other end of the hall. The doughnuts I brought and abandoned at the classroom door were still warm. Kevin and I walked up to the top of the elevated control room.

Massenburg sat there, staring at the two flat computer screens scrolling back and forth with his darting trackball, sitting as fixedly as though he had never left from the day before. His glare cracked with a kind smile and a "Good morning, how are you today?" conversing for a moment, then back to the screens.

Music broke from the speakers; The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band played, and then stopped, play, stop, play, stop, play, stop.

The doctor is in. The diagnosis is terrible—but fixable, with minor surgery. He is an engineer, an artist, and a skilled practitioner trying to save this recording's master copy that just so happens to contain an offending "tick" hidden among the jagged sound waves. For Massenburg, the audible tick festers with each playback. To the untrained, the sound is so discrete and quiet that it is unnoticeable. But for Massenburg it's a thorn, and for Kevin and me standing

behind him we begin to hear it with each pass and playback. Massenburg isolates the section, zooming in and out, looping the few seconds over and over, hands, eyes, and ears fully engaged.

The visual interfaces for audio recording have become so realistic, accurate, and interesting to look at; audio work has become quite a staring marathon. However, Massenburg is teaching us—showing us—that nothing replaces the human ear.

This tick had to be heard before it could be seen.

He zoomed in even tighter until the waves spread out to a single string of sound wiggling across the screen; and there it is. A hard, abrupt spike and steep drop with a weird fizzle in the middle jumps out at us.

"There it is," he says.

He zooms in closer, like a microsurgeon getting into position to make an incision.

All the machines and gears in the world do not replace the human touch that ultimately controls the laser, needle, or knife. In this case, it's a virtual pencil.

The pencil tool in Pro-Tools isn't one I have used much, if at all. I sat in my introduction to audio class pondering when someone would ever need to draw in a sound wave—now I was getting get my answer.

He highlighted the area of the sound spike, and drew in a reasonable, wavy-yet-smooth line, manually re-writing the sound itself. Amazing—and then he let the two of us watch him do it again.

Terry Setter walked up the control room stairs and I said with my eyes wide, "Wow, you missed it."

The three days we spent in the 16-track studio with Massenburg were like being in an intensive care unit, and it left a powerful impact. Evergreen has given me the chance to learn by experiencing in many ways. I had hands-on time pushing the faders, closing my eyes to focus all of my brain's energy to my ears. This was the chance of a lifetime, to study with one of the greats of my major in a one-on-one environment. I cherish the type of learning environment we have at Evergreen and will take this experience with me as a story to tell, and as a lesson in deep listening.

Sarah J. Bland is a senior at The Evergreen State College.

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Kristina Williams 2009-2010 Business Manager

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Tree tattoos: Why are images of trees such popular tattoo choices?

by ALISSA BENNETT

Someone walks into a tattoo shop, asks to look at the artist's portfolio, and then asks if the artist happens to do custom tattoos. After learning that this particular shop does do custom designs, the customer asks how much it would cost for a tattoo of a tree of a specific size.



Why are people inspired to get tattoos of trees? There is an assortment of underlying motivations and values for getting tree tattoos. Tattoos often convey something about the person to whom the tattoo belongs. In a way, tattoos have a voice. They silently vocalize something important. Everywhere, people are displaying tattoos of trees, and I am fascinated with the significance behind these tattoos.

Originating as a means of labeling, or as a means of spiritual or ritual art, tattoos have become a fad, though most still embody deep meaning. Often people get tattoos to simply be deviant; other times tattoos serve the purpose of symbolizing something important to the owner. When tattoo-wearers present their tattoos to someone, often they will share a life experience they were going through or some significant symbolic meaning that it has

to them. All around the world, tattoos tell stories, display desires, or even speak for the death of a loved one.

There are many reasons behind tree tattoos. People have always recognized the deep importance of trees. We can identify with trees in terms of their growth and stability, along with many other reasons. Trees stand for regeneration and renewal, because forests are constantly undergoing change.

The transformation they go through,

PEOPLE ALSO RESPECT TREES FOR CERTAIN CHARACTER- ISTICS THEY POSSESS OR CONTRIBUTIONS THEY MAKE

losing and re-growing leaves, also reflects how we go through phases of our lives. People often get tattoos of trees that are in the process of losing their leaves or already have lost their leaves to show this alteration. They provide us with wisdom and a feeling of protection, too.

Trees, because of their interplay with air, water, fire, and earth also represent the popular idea that "everything is connected". All of these ideas are part of the interconnectedness, along with animals, since trees provide habitats for

wildlife. Many people also decide to include the roots on their tree tattoo to emphasize this connection, because the roots sink into the earth.

People also respect trees for certain characteristics they possess or contributions they make. Trees supply us with things we need in order to survive, like oxygen, food like fruits and nuts, and wood for numerous uses. Other than apparent shelter, they also give humans a sense of protection; forests are our sanctuaries.

Trees are also a source for healing because of their medicinal properties. Compounds and other parts from trees have provided treatments for a vast number of diseases and health disorders. Many people have had loved ones who were saved because of trees, whether they are aware of it or not. Those who are mindful about the beneficence of trees appreciate them and honor them in ways such as tattoos.

Humans have always had a meaningful relationship with trees. Not only do we relate to them, we rely on them. The connection between trees and humans is a deep correlation that can be recognized even through the art that people get permanently on their bodies.

Alissa Bennett is a freshman enrolled in Trees and Humans.

Open letter to the S&A board

by BEN CHASSLER LUCAL

I opened the S&A survey when I received it, curious to see what it was all about. Right away I had a feeling that something was wrong.



The first question in the survey reads, "Is sexual assault a likely threat on the Evergreen campus?" This seemed to come out of the blue.

I know that statistics regarding non-reporting clearly show that sexual violence is a grossly under-reported crime. According to The Evergreen State College Rape Response Team (RRT)'s "One in Three" pamphlet, "12 rapes occur every hour, one in three women is raped in their lifetime, and the highest rape victimization rate is for women between the ages of 16 and 19—many first-year college students are in this age group."

What is the message, I wondered, that TESC is sending to victims/survivors and perpetrators about reporting sexual assault, and our commitment to response if (according to the survey questions) TESC doesn't even seem to be sure that rape on campus is a problem anymore!?

Obviously, stopping oppression—stopping rape—"fits with the spirit and culture of Evergreen", according to the S&A survey.

Do we truly believe that the S&A Board's use of an insensitive survey can capture the scope of the need for services such as those provided by the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention (OSAP)? And can we truly allow the results of this survey to justify either the eradication or continuation of OSAP?

Please, use your voice. Be an ally. Tell TESC and the S&A Board that preventing sexual assault is a priority.

Additional issues with the S&A Board Survey:

Students need support, not misleading questions, to eradicate the epidemic of sexual assault. I fear that this survey may contribute to our cultural blindness to this problem and may reinforce the phenomenon that "rape is perceived by many as someone else's problem" (TESC RRT's "One in Three" pamphlet).

In addition, students must log in using their Evergreen ID and password in order to participate in the survey—which leaves survey engineers with a means by which to track respondents and responses. Compromised confidentiality, and further risk of re-traumatization, clearly contributes to under-reporting.

This survey seems to lump recreational equipment use and sexual violence among the same caliper of student concern; is it really likely to be the avenue through which students choose to disclose their use of services or experiences with sexual violence?

If you are going to send out a survey asking sensitive questions that have the potential to trigger strong emotional reactions in some people, it is probably a good idea to provide information about where they can get support. Some support networks include...

Safeplace 24-hour crisis counseling line: (360) 754-6300
Evergreen Counseling Center: (360) 867-6800
The Office of Sexual Assault Prevention: (360) 867-5221

Ben Chassler Lucal is a freshman enrolled in Imagining the Body.

The art of seeing

TRACKING IS MORE THAN JUST FOLLOWING AN ANIMAL

by ZEBULUN BROWNE

Have you ever heard of someone who is a tracker? What do you think of when you hear the term "tracker?" When you think of tracking, what does it mean to you? Is the goal simply to discover the name of the animal who made it (if it was an animal!), or is it to find that animal at the end of its trail? Or is it neither, or both? Every thing not only leaves a track, a record of its existence, but effects and is affected by everything within and around it, on any type of terrain.



Trackers are those people who decode the mysteries around them, who learn to read the Earth like a story, an "open book." It is an essential aspect of hunting—not only being able to interpret and follow a trail, but to be able to sign-track as well, reading the overall landscape for clues as to the location of animals. Trackers assist law-enforcement in finding lost people, as well as fugitives. But tracking can be used by anyone!

Awareness and tracking go hand in hand. Knowing what places may be dangerous at certain times of day, or in certain weather conditions, knowing how long that chicken salad has been out of the fridge, knowing what the weather will be tomorrow by looking at the sky today, tracking the flow of the economy, tracking global and local politics, being aware of when and why your emotions shift throughout the day...knowing where something will show up by determining what happened previously.

This is tracking.

I have been developing my passion for tracking for a few years now, and my interest has been increasing exponentially as of late. The more I go out and get onto some tracks, becoming enraptured with them, the easier it is to get absorbed in their adventures in the future. Initially it was hard, because I would feel overwhelmed by how much there was to track, how much is contained within a single track, and how little I knew. But the more I do it, the easier it is to give myself to the track.

By focusing on individual tracks, we eventually begin to understand how the maker of the track fits in with the world around it, and eventually we are able to see and feel the animal moving within its tracks, and within ourselves. By going outside and interacting with the tracks of animals, we slowly open up aspects of ourselves we may not have known we had.

We can develop a great interest, a passion for learning. We will not only want to know, but need to know: what happened here? What is this telling me? If we keep asking these two questions, and create more of them, our understanding will grow. Eventually a deeper feeling of unity with our world will develop.

It is important to have an understanding of what you may find when you go out into an area, so the use of field guides and other reference material is critical. I usually take a field guide with me, as well as a pencil, drawing pad, and measuring tape when I go out tracking. I have found that drawing tracks helps me immensely in developing my acuity. Remember to record accurate

measurements (track length, width, stride, number of toes, etc.), as well as location, time of day, weather conditions, etc.

The more information the better! That way, when you go back home, you can look up the specifics.

I find it best to look into the books at home, as the tracks are too fascinating to ignore when I'm out in the field. Sometimes though, I'll be dying to look up what animal it could have been, and will pull out my field guide while still in the field.

An essential aspect of tracking is focus. This aspect of sticking to one thing is essential, and I believe it is one of the greatest stumbling blocks, one of the biggest walls we have to push through when beginning something.

With tracking, it's all there in front of us. We don't need to go somewhere else to find tracks. We can practice anywhere, anytime. Try looking at a track as close as you can, scrutinizing every detail; then back up as far as you can while still keeping an eye on the track, and watch how it seems to change with distance.

Certainly we need to immerse ourselves in an inspirational atmosphere such as the mountains, woods, or seashore, but remember—tracks are everywhere. And anywhere you go, there you are! You can always study your own tracks. Use them for determining height, weight, sex, age, emotional state, direction of travel...and on and on. It's all there. All too often we look, but do not see.

Zebulun Browne is a sophomore enrolled in an independent learning contract.

We say occupation; you say banana

by LAMISE AL-SHAWAHIN

If you've been on campus lately, you may have noticed some flyers, posters and handouts decrying Arabs, Muslims, Iranians, and specifically Palestinians of being misogynistic gay-bashers who have little or no value for their children's lives. These seemingly compelling pieces of propaganda declare Israel as the lone bastion in the Middle East where these groups of marginalized peoples stand even half of a chance.



Personally, I'm so grateful that Israel is concerned with women's rights and gay rights. I bet they airlifted all the women, children, and queer folks from Gaza before the air and ground raids that killed 1300 people and injured over 5000 while simultaneously destroying the already pitiful infrastructure of Gaza. No? Oh well, I suppose they were militants, because without an organized military all Palestinian civilians are potential enemy combatants and "human shields." Besides, according to "Evergreen's own little 'Israel lobby'" (Feb. 26), those numbers are exaggerated.

Unlike the campus groups that take their arguments from the PR firm Stand with Us*, I don't have a variety of organizations that provide me with a list of non-sequitur talking points aimed at distracting the public from the actual issue at hand.

I have a more valuable resource at my hands—the real stories of my family: *survi-*

vors of the Israeli occupation.

SESAME's film festival was called "Roots and Realities of Occupation." When I talk about Palestine, I talk about the realities of occupation.

I talk about my grandfather Yusuf. My grandfather was a poet, not a "militant" or a "terrorist". His pen was his weapon, but it was no match for air raids. He was forced out of his home in Beitunia (West Bank) because of the occupation. sixty six percent of that city, the city of Beitunia that my grandfather is from, now belongs to the State of Israel. My grandpa decided he could afford to be a poet because he thought that he would have the land he owned to fall back on in his old age. My grandpa is now landless, living in an apartment in Chicago, thanks to the occupation.

When I talk about the occupation, I talk about the PTSD that my family suffers. My grandmother was in her early twenties when an air and ground raid in the West Bank in 1967 forced her to take her four children, including my mother, into a dark room full of dead bodies to hide from the Israeli Defense Force (IDF). The only safe place for her to take her children was a mass grave. The bodies were piled up in a narrow room near Ramallah because people were being killed too fast to be buried. My aunt was only 5 at the time, but she still remembers the rancid smell of rotting flesh.

When I talk about Gaza, I talk about the occupation. I talk about the 1.5 million people who are packed into the 140 square miles of the Gaza strip, people who were

driven to Gaza from other villages and cities in Palestine by the Israeli Army in 1948.

Israel controls imports, exports, the movement of people, Gaza's air space, and seacoast. Israel began its blockade of Gaza in January 2006 when it started slowly limiting access to fuel, electricity, food, and water; essentially starving Palestinians in Gaza and turning it into the world's largest open-air prison.

I talk about the fact that in Israel the median household income is \$37,000 US dollars when half the population of Gaza lives on \$3 US dollars per day.

I talk about the Israeli settlements built closer and closer to Palestinian cities and towns; and the seizure of Palestinian homes, land, and businesses to expand these settlements.

I talk about the children who were denied proper childhoods.

I talk about the parents who have to watch their children starve.

When campus groups get their information from Stand With Us as a way to respond to all this, they often appropriate the struggles of women and queer folks, which distract from the *roots and realities of occupation*.

We say, "Occupation," they say, "Arabs mistreat homosexuals."

We say, "Occupation," they say, "Arabs mistreat their women."

Like my grandfather, my focus is also in literature, and, in literature, this attempt to mislead or distract the audience is called a red herring. The arguments used in most responses to Palestine are an attempt

to revive old Orientalist misrepresentations, as well as post 9/11 racist anti-Arab Islamophobic sentiment in Americans to legitimize as well as distract from the facts. Their argument is that Arabs are misogynistic, homophobic, dirty, bad, and lecherous, so their deaths are trivial and even a service to humanity. Completely irrelevant arguments are constantly brought up in the racist literature (more correctly described as *litter-ature*) that SIIA Shalom distributes** in order to demonize Arabs and Muslims to justify Israel's ethnic cleansing in Gaza...as if *anything* could justify what is being done to the Palestinian people.

* If you'd like to respond to this article, you can find a pre-packaged response on www.StandWithUs.com that states Palestinians didn't lay claim to the land until the 1967 war when Israel "captured" the land from Jordan and Egypt. I don't want to spoil your fun, but be assured that I already have a response to it.

** You can find it at www.StandWithUs.com. Check out the pamphlets that liken Arabs to Nazis or boldly assert that the US, UK, and Israel are the only countries in the world that have civil rights or, my favorite, the one that talks about how Israel is a champion of environmental issues—"We plant trees, so it's okay if we kill Palestinians!!!"

Lamise Al-Shawahin is a junior enrolled in Decolonizing the Mind.

The CPJ takes letters and opinions and turns them into newspaper pages.

MAGIC

That'd be nice, but really, you should SUBMIT so we can put your opinion in the paper.

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Fuck you, chicken McNuggets

by ERIN GRAY

We all have vices, things we love but that we know are bad for us, things we hide from others, and only do when there is no chance of being caught.



My vice is Chicken McNuggets, a fact I never thought I would be announcing the masses of Evergreen, probably the least-friendly place for the McNugget, but here I am. I am not sharing this because I wish to reveal my soul or even defend my actions, but because the McNugget and I had a falling-out.

The incident occurred last week, and turned my love for the delicious golden-brown McNugget to pure loathing.

Last week was a busy week, and on one of the busiest days I was in my car, hungry, and I didn't want to cook. Cooking would have taken too much of my precious time for homework. My boyfriend, who is strictly against fast food (as most people should be), was going to be out of town for most of the night.

So I saw an opportunity. I could just drive through McDonalds, eat at home, and get straight to my homework, and my boyfriend (a.k.a. my external conscience), would never know. The plan was beneficial to all parties involved. I

get my McNuggets (served to me by a guy who thought he was funny—he was not) and drove home. I got started on my homework as I ate.

Not five minutes after I finished my grease-laden meal I got this horrible headache. It was no run-of-the-mill headache either, so I drank a huge glass of milk and took some Tylenol, hoping that would make it go away. It did not; it was as if my brain was on the losing end of a bad rugby match.

I couldn't concentrate at all. I gave up trying to get some writing done, got into bed, and did what reading I could. As I lay in bed, I became very cold; I layered and cranked the heat in my room to an oven-like temperature, yet still I was shivering under my covers.

At this point I realized I was very sick. In the span of two hours I went from perfectly healthy to a sick puddle; all I could do was lie in bed and make pitiful noises (which is very uncharacteristic of me since I tend to despise whining). It even got so bad that at one point I was having trouble lifting a glass of water.

All of this during a week in which I should have been staying up late and getting up early. Instead, I was in bed unable to do *any* of my homework. I slept for 12 straight hours that night, and woke up feeling better, but nowhere near normal.

My hypothesis is that some jerk in McDonalds was sick; he coughed or

sneezed on my McNuggets, and then I ate them, which got me sick in a matter of minutes. So now, needless to say, I am bitter towards the chicken McNugget, and a plan that was meant to save me time cost me more than I was willing to spare.

There was some light in this dark cloud of sickness—the story of a woman with her own McNugget fiasco that puts mine to shame. A woman from Fort Peirce, Florida made a stop at her local McDonalds and ordered McNuggets. After her order was taken and she paid, she was informed that the restaurant was out of McNuggets, so she attempted to order a McDDouble, and, much to her chagrin, was informed that the restaurant was out of that, too. At this point, frustrated and hungry, she asked for her money back, and was told she couldn't get her money back.

The woman now did what she thought was necessary—she called 911 requesting the police be sent to her emergency. She not only called 911, but called three times, at which point the police did arrive and cited her for misuse of emergency services.

I just contracted the plague; there was no police involvement, and I am glad and relieved to know that the McNugget doesn't just have it in for me.

Erin Gray is a senior enrolled in an independent learning contract.

Gunshots speak louder than words

A response to "It's an issue of social control"

(Feb 26)

by **ARRON LEE**

This is in response to "It's an issue of social control", in which the writer, Tez Stair, claims his voice was silenced by the pulling down of posters in support of Police Services' request for high-powered rifles.



To claim that it silences voices to tear down posters that are in support of a group who has so much power and ability to reach people—a group like police services—is just plain and simply ridiculous. Having your voice silenced requires that you lack power compared with those who are silencing your voice. We can't look at the college and say that radicals here silence the voice of the powerful (the administration) or those who agree with them.

The voice of Police Services is a loud one, and no matter how much we radicals tear down posters that support the status quo, spray slogans like "Call you parents, they miss you" on the CRC, or protest; the fact of the matter is that ours is a much quieter voice. At least for now.

Radicals have a long and wonderful history in this nation. They are the ones who fought for the 40-hour workweek, and stood alongside those who fight for civil rights as they were beaten and shot by the police. They threw tea in to Boston Harbor; they freed African and black slaves.

We have a long history of not only having our voices silenced by the conservative mainstream and the reactionary elements within it, but also being killed for our radical points of view.

Now, I am not claiming that we radicals on this campus need fear assault or death by those of you who are conservative (yet), but ours is a long history of the State (and when I say State I mean the government and all those who serve them, the police, and military) trying to silence our voices by violence, and we remember this daily.

It is ridiculous to claim that tearing down posters that advocate the same side and point of view as Police Services, an office that receives direct funding from the State, silences voices. Police Services has resources far beyond that of any radical or liberal group on campus that opposes them. They have the backing of the college as well as any number of other police departments and the state of Washington. To silence their voice would require more than tearing down a few posters.

To those students who feel that we radicals are silencing you, look back on what I just said. Ours is a struggle that has a long and violent history and that violence did not start when we threw a rock for the first time. That violence started when we were beaten and shot by police employed by the state for advocating against an oppressive system. I am speaking as an anarchist, a radical; I have seen my sisters and brothers in socialist and communist struggles around this nation and the world killed for opposing state oppression and repression.

You, and I'm talking to you now Tez, you have not been silenced, but you have experienced a very small shift in power, and that is what you are upset about. What is even more telling for me is the loudest voices speaking against rifles on this campus are women, and those loudest in support of rifles are men.

Aaron Lee is a senior enrolled in Gateways: Political Economy and Popular Education.

Power, propaganda and "violence"

by **C.V. ROTONDO**

A revelation came at a recent Geoduck Student Union (GSU) meeting that I had torn down fliers; this was coupled with selective journalism from the Cooper Point Journal, accusations, condemnations, and gestures of support that have come from various areas of campus.



The most pronounced condemnation came during the last GSU meeting from the student group SIIA Shalom, who claimed that I had threatened their right to free speech, citing constitutional amendments and other supposedly equally-offensive fliers on campus, predominantly those of the student group Students Educating Students About the Middle East (SESAME).

Since that meeting, Art Costantino has sent out a "Freedom of Speech Memo" over the GSU's listserv, stating "The concept of academic freedom also recognizes that the expression of opinions that provokes must be protected if learning is to occur," followed by "encouragement" that the student government "denounce efforts to curtail the free expression of ideas."

Given these directed, political sentiments, along with other recent conversations with readers who express "disappointment" in my actions, I feel that it's necessary to elucidate my reasoning. Hopefully such an elaboration will also serve to put the discourse of what is "violent" or "silencing" political action on campus into context.

First of all, it's important to acknowledge that even the regular reader of my writings does not know me. If my actions shock or "disappoint" you, consider that my words cannot possibly carry the complexity of my evolving political consciousness, nor are

they designed to. My writing is focused upon particular issues at particular times, with particular intent to engage, encourage, and empower the reader to take his or her own political action. My political actions beyond the content of these words are understandably opaque to you. I ask you to recognize that such opacity is the result of inadequate context and limitations of the medium.

I saw the particular flier in question as inaccurate, silencing, and above all, racist. This message is pervasive in our post 9/11 racist state, engaged in the ambiguous "war on terror," in which Arab people are condemned as violent religious extremists who threaten core values of our Anglo-capitalist society. The message is not only sanctioned by a government complicit in the occupation of Palestine, in a historical time when public dissidents such as Norman Finklestein and Desmond Tutu are under constant threat of political and economic suppression, but is brought to us at Evergreen by the wealthy and powerful Israeli lobby.

Bluestar PR is a public relations firm for the state of Israel and its policies (not for Jewish people) and does not represent journalism, but the public relations campaign for a brutal occupation. This group is boldly racist and have inaccurate attempts to justify terror and bloodshed like the recent December assault upon Gaza (which is just one highly publicized event in an ongoing military and economic occupation).

All of this makes me exceedingly angry, as did Tez Stair's pre-conclusive "experiment," to which I was responding when I made my now infamous admission that I took down Bluestar PR fliers put up by the student group SIIA Shalom.

Certainly there are more productive, collective means by which to oppose blatantly racist and inaccurate propaganda on campus (illustrated by the proposed *hate free zone* collab-

oratively developing amongst SESAME, the Black Student Union, MeChA, and other student groups), but I stand by the action that I took. In order to put my action fully into context, I want to turn now to the discourse of "violence" on campus as well as the current repressive political climate.

Let's begin with the concept of "free speech," one of those nearly-empty phrases utilized in times of political expediency. As I stated when confronted in the Union meeting, I do not support "free" speech that oppresses or seeks to justify violence on a massive scale, such as Israeli occupation. To leap to the protection of "free" speech is a dubious gesture from someone like Costantino, whose political silencing of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) last year was as politically convenient as denouncing my alleged "silencing."

Now let's deconstruct "violence." One "disappointed" reader stated that he saw my action as "violent." Tearing down a poster is not violence—occupying an area and ruthlessly murdering its inhabitants through bullets or starvation is violence, tasing naked students on acid is violence, laying into a demonstrating crowd with pepper spray and batons is violence, vehemently pushing to arm campus police with AR-15's is violence, and verbally berating female-identified politically-vocal students is violence. If we are going to discuss the violent application of power, let's discuss those situations and not conflate removing an insidious, racist flier with the violence regularly visited upon our community and communities across the world in the name of perpetuating exploitative relationships like those depicted on the flier in question.

C.V. Rotondo is a senior enrolled in Non-fiction Workshop.

Letter of resignation

by **ALEXANDRE CHATEAUBRIAND**

On March 20 I will resign my seat as a Student Representative in the Geoduck Union (GSU).



I wanted to take a moment to express my thanks to all the students who entrusted me with their voice in an extraordinary opportunity to work on their behalf. I hope you will find that I was worthy of that trust.

My resignation comes after much reflection and conversation with my friends and family. It is clear that I cannot continue to work for the GSU without injury to those I love and care for and that is not something I can bare.

I am well aware that the GSU has had quite a turbulent year. Though at many

times every representative has felt this pressure, at no point has any one of them stopped fighting for you and protecting your interests throughout the college and the state.

I am proud of the work accomplished by this year's GSU and the work that will continue to be accomplished in the future. Over the past months we have fought to bring your voice to every level of campus and sought to protect your interests during this financial crisis; whether by removing the WashPIRG fee or placing students on committees like Budgetary Planning, PSCRB, Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance, and many others.

Student representation is not a secure installment at Evergreen. The GSU is only in its third year and is still building a foundation. Yet it has proven to be the strongest, most resilient form this school has ever seen. Through the

Geoduck Union, Evergreen now enjoys the strength of student representation at the legislature and has the benefits of students' voices interacting with faculty, staff, and administration on every topic important to the quality of life we all share.

Though my time as a GSU representative has come to an end, my work as a student advocate is just beginning. I hope to remain your student liaison to our Board of Trustees and to keep working with the Law Society and Men's Resource Center. It is my sincere desire to continue working in the public service of students for as long as you find me able and worthy of doing so.

Thank you, Evergreen.

Rep. Alexandre Chateaubriand

Alexandre Chateaubriand is a sophomore enrolled in an independent learning contract.

**This is where your opinion goes,
send it to cpj@evergreen.edu**

Zionism threatened by misconceptions

UNDERSTANDING IT CHARACTERISTICS AND BOUNDARIES

by RUSSEL KATZ

Zionism is the Jewish self-determination movement and as such is an expression of Judaic cultural/religious ties to Israel. Zionists believe in the right of the state of Israel to exist. If you think that Israel has a right to exist, then by definition, you are a Zionist.



Responding to a question at Harvard University in 1968, Martin Luther King said, "When people criticize Zionists they mean Jews, you are talking anti-Semitism." Language like "Zionism is racism," or "Israel is apartheid," fails in that respect; is untrue, and communicates that you don't understand the definition. The claim "Israel is apartheid" is untrue because Israel not only provides equal rights to all citizens, and acts fairly in self-defense, but no other nation in the world is held to the standard to which Israel is held. A double standard for Israel is anti-Semitic. There are plenty of legitimate criticisms of Israel to be made; many are held by this author, but a double-standard is unfair and displays a lack of understanding. Dialogue needs to account for Jewish cultural and religious ties to Israel. Failure to do so shifts the rhetoric from policy critique to ethnicity critique.

Any analysis of the Middle East that doesn't account for the existential terrorist threat surrounding Israel and from the wider radical Islamic world is biased and one-dimensional. The growing influence of radical Islam profoundly affects Middle-Eastern politics. Failure to acknowledge its import is a denial of reality. Accounting for radical Islamic ideology significantly alters the picture that is portrayed on campus and the context of the discussion.

Hamas' charter is a case in point. Article 13 of Hamas reads, "There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad. Initiatives, proposals and international conferences are all a waste of time and vain endeavors."

The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, an anti-Semitic forgery, is repeatedly cited by Hamas' charter as a historical text. Published in 1920 and distributed by the Russian secret service at the behest of Czar Nicholas II in order to scapegoat the Jews to alleviate political pressure, it remains popular in the Arab press today.

These sentiments are largely left out of the discussion on campus, even though they play an integral role in understanding the context of Israel's actions and political decisions.

At last week's GSU meeting (March 4) SIIA Shalom and those who support Israel were called racists, likened to the KKK, and accused of supporting genocide by student reps and supporting students. SIIA Shalom came to respond to comments made by student rep Chris Rotondo that threatened their civil liberties, Rotondo said that "If you're talking about censorship you're not taking into the fact that power relation exists. I tear down flyers, I've torn down racist, bigoted fliers from campus, I've done it. Like the Zionist...the pro Israel shit, I tear that down" (Feb. 24). Rotondo

reiterated this point: "I do selectively support free speech I don't think that free speech; as like a mandate across the board works," (March 4). Other student reps echoed this sentiment, Shyam Khanna, facilitating the meeting said, "I'm pretty sure that's not a violation of any... of any first-amendment type shit." And "Everyone has the right to speak, but like the messages that your group is propagating is racist... would we let the Ku Klux Klan table and put up fliers? I don't see a difference, like, you're advocating the extermination of a people and so are they."

A student critiquing SIIA Shalom spoke in support of censorship saying, "Umm, ok so just to make a clarifying statement, umm, and really quick, sorry if not everyone wants to indulge me on this but the whole like two state solution, your second state would have involved the expulsion and killing of 750,000 natives from their first state."

These criticisms are both false and offensive. It is shocking that specific members of the student government would not support civil liberties and make biased claims without ever even talking to us as individuals or as a student group. "you're advocating the extermination of a people" and "your second state would have involved the expulsion and killing of 750,000 natives from their first state." These sentiments display the dire need for there to be a spoken pro Israel voice on campus to address misunderstandings and lack of information that has been provided to the student body. With our voices left unspoken and censored the conversation would become stale and as hateful as it has proven to be by people condoning the censoring of our group.

SIIA Shalom was identified as making Evergreen an "unsafe" space. In a prepared statement, Anne-marie Murano (SESAME coordinator), claimed that SIIA Shalom was funded by Stand-WithUs and BlueStarPR, which she referred to as "DeathStarPR." She went on to say discuss "a national censorship campaign...a well-funded campaign nationally to end discourse on campus around the Israel-Palestine conflict." In order to protect the campus, she proposed making Evergreen a "hate-free zone." Meaning that material judged to be offensive would be officially censored. These are strong statements from an individual who refuses to meet with SIIA Shalom and won't engage in any kind of conversation on the matter.

Working towards conflict resolution requires discussion, not censorship in the name of an unknown/abstract "power-relation". Moreover, if that power relation is the alleged "Jewish conspiracy," then the claim is racist in itself. If you think that SIIA Shalom put up a flyer that was offensive, then you should discuss it with them, not mandate to silence them. The actual power-struggle is manifested in intolerance towards a few individuals voices based on political ideology of the many student-reps, coordinators and teachers here on campus.

Russel Katz is a sophomore enrolled in Advanced Foundations of Successful and Sustainable Business and is the coordinator for SIIA Shalom.

What's the point of college?

by CASEY JAYWORK

Maybe it's just the senioritis talking, but I'm a quarter away from graduating, yet I find myself pretty hard-pressed to justify the last three years



(and tens of thousands of dollars) I gave to Evergreen. Perhaps it's my own dumb fault for electing philosophy, which means I can become (1) a professor, (2) a lawyer, or (3) a barista—so, financially, that's two parasites and one chump), but it's seeming more and more grotesquely obvious that an undergraduate education in the humanities is little more than a souped-up reimagining of ye olde aristocratic practice of sending rich kids to be properly socialized for successful drawing-room discussions. (I don't mean to imply that all students are rich, only that the priorities of a BA education are geared towards such.)

One interesting side-effect of this economic situation is skyrocketing tuition by dictate of the laws of supply and demand. As college education has become a hotter professional luxury and status-symbol—a sort of "thou art educated" hall-pass to get through closed doors and glass ceilings—an ever-widening swath of people invest their time and money into purchasing this allegedly indispensable product. Eventually, college ceases to be a conspicuous luxury and becomes a normality. This crowd of ravenous consumers inexorably attracts merchants hawking their wares (e.g. Evergreen), who have to compete with each other for the substantial but finite market.

How do they compete? Like this: "Oh, yeah? Well, we have a sauna and an Anime Club. And a school panda bear! Beat that!" This accumulation of pretty-but-superfluous add-ons is accelerated as the original group of high-end buyers starts looking for the best colleges, so as to differentiate themselves from the rabble who just went to a college. This causes every institution to start looking even more desperately for a way to differentiate themselves from the pack. At the same time, someone has to pay for this mountain of sparkling crap: some of the bill goes to the students who've been duped into thinking they have to attend—thus reinforcing the cycle of debt-slavery among non-rich graduates—and some of the bill goes to Uncle Sam, thus giving him more authority (as the biggest investor) over how colleges are run.

My question is, why? What's the point of maintaining this centralized, towering edifice of power, knowledge, and money?

Why not, alternatively, self-educate by getting a library card and a group of intelligent, motivated friends with common interests? (In the age of the Internet, this has never been easier.) There would rarely be need for professors, whose existence is largely superfluous. (This is demonstrated beyond a shadow of a doubt by the prevalence of Evergreen ILCs [do you even need to meet your professor to do one of those?], as well as the common situation of professors teaching a subject about which they know nothing.) For the rare times when an expert would necessary, well, there must be a more efficient way of finding one than keeping them on retainer for \$40K per year, as the current system does.

And, yeah, maybe this model would turn off some employers, but in the long run, any employer who rewards a diploma over talent is going to go bankrupt (hopefully—this might just be my inner-libertarian talking).

HOW DO THEY COMPETE? LIKE THIS: "OH, YEAH? WELL, WE HAVE A SAUNA AND AN ANIME CLUB. AND A SCHOOL PANDA BEAR! BEAT THAT?" THIS ACCUMULATION OF PRETTY-BUT-SUPERFLUOUS ADD-ONS IS ACCELERATED AS THE ORIGINAL GROUP OF HIGH-END BUYERS STARTS LOOKING FOR THE BEST COLLEGES

Plus, if getting a good job was really the purpose of education, then why aren't we all taking business classes or some similarly career-oriented program? Either college is for getting a job, in which case the fluffier humanities have no place here, or it's one of those strange, obscene monsters of blind cultural evolution, like suburbs and Stairmaster machines (i.e. it's pointless).

All of this wouldn't all be so bad if the institution of college, especially in the humanities (I hear that the sciences have less want of coherence), did something which couldn't be gotten elsewhere. But I suspect that just the opposite is true: because it's the default option for anyone who doesn't want to "flip burgers for the rest of their life," all the creative smart people get subsumed into the authority structure of undergraduate institutions. All of the radical enlightenment and insight that happens in school isn't a product of the school: it's a product of the students.

This isn't by any means an original observation: Thoreau wrote, "Those things for which the most money is demanded are never the things which the student most wants. Tuition, for instance, is an important item in the term bill, while for the far more valuable education which he gets by associating with the most cultivated of his contemporaries no charge is made."

On the other hand—ironically, obviously—I couldn't have made any of the arguments I just made without a college education. So maybe it's good for one thing: understanding its own uselessness.

Casey Jaywork is a senior enrolled in Nietzsche: Life, Times, Work.

Moonchildren Riot to Follow's play runs this weekend

by CATHERINE KANA

Evergreen student group Riot to Follow Productions will present *Moonchildren* this weekend, directed by Stella Martin. This comedic play takes place in the 1960s and was written in the early 1970s by Michael Weller.

The main characters include seven college students, whose lives and relationships reflect the social issues of their time. Their interactions are a microcosm of love and life and the greater context of the Vietnam War and social revolution. This comedy includes many moments of drama and

questions about the meaning of life.

Mark Alford and Allie Van Nostran are co-producers and co-founders of Riot to Follow Productions. *Moonchildren* is the second play performed by this entirely student-run organization.

This play was picked for its significance today to a student body aware and active about current wars and social tensions. Additionally, *Moonchildren* emphasizes the struggles and passions of real life.

Alford described the captivating and "interesting pace" at which the each character is unraveled and presented to the audience.

Riot to Follow Productions is an "ambitious enterprise," said Alford.

This student group is the only theatrical outlet outside of the academic programs at Evergreen and works to "fill a gap" where there is not enough theatrical expression. Three plays are chosen by the members of the student group and performed each academic year.

Riot to Follow struggles without adequate theatre space and equipment to practice and perform their plays. The communications building is reserved for performing academic programs only.

In spring quarter Riot to Follow will pres-

ent a "one act festival" of six one-act plays. This structure will enable room for creativity and increase the number of character roles available to interested students. Auditions will be held in week two of spring quarter.

Moonchildren is not only captivating and entertaining, but FREE, and will take place this weekend on March 13, 14, and 15. The show starts at 7 p.m. in Lecture Hall 1.

Catherine Kana is a sophomore enrolled in (Re)imagining the Middle East.

The Evergreen Singers



THE EVERGREEN SINGERS DANCING AND SINGING IN THEIR WINTER QUARTER PERFORMANCE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8

CATHERINE KANA

SOFTER HEART

You got
your hand on your hip
making me spit
up assumptions.
Im not really crushing on you
so hard
as much
anymore.
Am I tired?
Am I drowsy?
Or am I just tired of not knowing you.
Maybe you're not cool.
At all.
Maybe you're a hoax.
You're not really what you dress like
or what you want me to see you as.
There is a person underneath
your style,
and I want to see her.

Not your performance installation of self.

Maybe someday
Ill ask you what your name is,
if you want to give me your number,
if you want to go on a date,
what kind of music you like to listen to,
what you're studying in school,
what you like to do on the weekends,
and find out you're a bitch
and not worth my time.
But maybe Ill crack you
and maybe you'll crack me.
Maybe Ill open you up
while you open me.
Maybe Ill slip by your defenses
Corrode your ammunition
Vault over your black walls
And embed in your mind
whispering
to let go.
You'll find me
where the ear softly meets the neck
where you hide your secrets and stow
away locked desire
and there
will be my kiss
goodbye.

~ NEAL MARKS

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Top 30 for the week of 3/10/09:

1. Neko Case - Middle Cyclone
2. Refugees - Unbound
3. Mirah - (A)Spera
4. Bonnie "Prince" Billy - Beware
5. Nextdoor Neighbors - Magic Vs. The Machine
6. V/A - Dark Was the Night
7. Joanne Shenandoah and Michael Bucher - Bitter Tears Sacred Ground
8. Ari Hest - Twelve Mondays
9. Robyn Hitchcock and the Venus 3 - Goodnight Oslo
10. Halloween, Alaska - Champagne Downtown
11. Cursive - Mama, I'm Swollen
12. Morgan Grace - Valentine
13. Kathy Boyd and Phoenix Rising - Stories Never Told
14. Beirut - March of the Zapotec and Real People Holland
15. Zion I - Take Over
16. End Times - S/T
17. Kinky - Barracuda
18. Maria Taylor - Lady Luck
19. June Madrona - Battlegrounds
20. Coyote Poets - Callin' You Home
21. Thou - Peasant
22. M. Ward - Hold Time
23. Alice Dean - Beautiful Thief
24. Oreka Tx - Nomadak Tx
25. Violens - V
26. Willie Nelson and Asleep At the Wheel - Willie and the Wheel
27. Bran Flakes - I Have Hands
28. Mark Delaney - Sidecar
29. Mulatto Patriot - Sonic Visuals
30. Jeffrey Foucault - Shoot the Moon Right Between the Eyes

~NICKI SABALU AND JESSE CALLAHAN

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Evergreen's track season to start with its first meet, March 14

by NICK PACE

The back of one of the workout shirts that Junior Brian Rakestraw wears occasionally at team practice reads, "our sport is your sport's punishment".

If running is punishment, then the track and field team, which includes almost all of the cross-country runners of last season, is routinely punished every day.

However, once you get into the groove of running drills or, on alternate days, just running for roughly about an hour and fifteen minutes each weekday, it becomes almost like a religious experience—a tradition that gets you into the groove to the point where it becomes like life times two, just whizzing by even more quickly.

Jason McConnell, who has been the assistant coach for track and field since last year, has been with the team since the beginning of his undergrad years, and has even developed a philosophical interpretation to the art of running.

"To me, distance running takes a very academic approach," said McConnell, who is in the MIT program at Evergreen. "To study, one has to go through the ordeals of working out with the team each day, and coordinate their schedules. The final exam is at the meets, and at the end of whatever event you compete in, you get your final grade based on what you think you've accomplished."

As of now, everyone is doing a running event this track season. The majority of them run mid- to long-distance, and five athletes specialize in sprinting events. Training tactics for distance and sprinting are generally different, especially considering how much energy is to be rationed for an upcoming event.

Diet also changes, as with any college sport. In fact, when practicing, one of

"COACH CRAIG HAS GOOD WISDOM AND ADVICE TO GIVE TO ATHLETES BUT ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS HE EMPHASIZES IS SELF-SUFFICIENCY"

the most common conversation-starters is about food, such as what athletes made for dinner last night. After a race, runners get a distinct craving for food, particularly carbohydrates. Pasta is a common meal two or three days before a meet to store energy. Traditionally the runners schedule a gathering for a

huge pasta potluck so that each athlete remains physically on-track (no pun intended).

With any of the Evergreen runners, balancing athletics and academics is no easy feat.

"Incorporating schedules can be difficult, especially if you have a job or any extra activities you're passionate about," said junior Ana Cassilias.

One challenge the entire track team has faced in the initial period of the season is the absence of Coach Craig Dickson, who is teaching in Indonesia and Thailand, but will be back in a week or so. To keep the ball afloat, Jim Seefeldt and McConnell have been coaching this week's drills and practices.

"I honestly miss meeting Coach to discuss my athletic progression or what I can do to keep fit," said Cassilias. "But Coach Jim and Jason have done a good job nonetheless."

Some athletes on the team share similar feelings, but in general, it hasn't hindered their determination to make the upcoming meet on Saturday worth the drive to Mt. Hood.

"Coach Craig has good wisdom and advice to give to athletes, but one of the most important things he emphasizes is self-sufficiency," McConnell said.

"It's an exciting feeling going to our first meet of the season," said Cassilias.

For most of the track runners, the Mt. Hood meet will require getting up around 6 to 6:30 a.m., eating a decent breakfast—preferably something bland like oatmeal and toast (you don't want anything rich, spicy, or acidic), and driving from the CRC in the team van at 7:30 a.m. During the drive, many team members will try to psychologically prepare themselves and suppress anxiety by remembering what they have each worked at to get to this meet based on the previous weekdays.

"For me the first meet of the season has always been the most exciting," said McConnell. "The reason being that one feels fresh after training consistently and the hopes are high."

Ten Evergreen athletes are entered in the Mt. Hood Community College Saints Open, including four women and six men.

On the women's team, senior Lindsey Farah and freshman Evelyn Coleman will be sprinting, while freshmen Emily Baker and Karrissa Carlton will be running distance events.

Sports Flash

Intercollegiate

The Men's Basketball finals (March 11-16) take place in Point Lookout, Missouri.

Men and women's track and field compete on Saturday, March 14 at Mt. Hood CC Saints Open

Club Sports

Women's crew team competes in the Daffodil Cup, March 28 at American Lake in Tacoma.

Other News

The men's crew team resturfaces! More news to come.

Water polo team in the process of becoming a club sport.

On the men's side, the sprinting events will be represented by sophomores Ryan Lara and Alex Combs-Bachman and senior Jason Shoemaker. Middle-distance will be represented by sophomore Liam Rockwell and junior Nicholas Pace while sophomore Tyler Wilks Luce will be competing in both middle distance and long distance.

It should be an interesting season for track, considering there is a new roster of athletes, as there was with cross-country. Some athletes, such as distance runner Brian Rakestraw, who plans to study abroad in Equador, will not be present for this year's season. Nevertheless, the team is determined to send some athletes to nationals towards the end of this season. Go Geoducks!

Nicholas Pace is a junior enrolled in India: Tradition and Beyond.

Write On!

A Writer's Conference

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illustration by Stephen Hendricks

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Submit: cpj@evergreen.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 12

Take back the weight room

Every Thursday, women and trans folk are invited to exercise in the weight room.

2 - 5 p.m.
The CRC

John Marzluff

University of Washington professor John Marzluff, author of *In the Company of Crows and Ravens*, will be talking about the avian creatures of delight, sponsored by the Center for Ecological and Nature Skills Education (CENSE).

6:30 - 8 p.m.
Lecture Hall 5

Inescapable Beauty, Elusive Sublime art exhibition.

Finally, we get to see what everyone has been up to in the program *Inescapable Beauty, Elusive Sublime!* The program is putting on an exhibit of the things they've been working on at the place where Otto's Bagels used to be. Opening night is on March 12 and it will continue the next day from 10-5 p.m.

7 - 9 p.m.

Old Otto's Bagels in downtown Olympia on 4th and Washington
Free!

The Vibrarians record release party

The Vibrarians will be having a party about their new CD that's being released on K Records. Special guests will be there, too.

8 - 11:45 p.m.

The Big Room 508 Legion

Free!

All ages

Friday, March 13

Help out Olympia Salvage

Students at Evergreen for Ecological Design (SEED) will be sorting inventory, pulling nails, sweeping floors, and generally helping out the Olympia Salvage. The Olympia Salvage uses materials from landfills and recycles those materials for new construction.

A carpool will be in the bus loop at 10 a.m.

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Olympia Salvage at 415 Olympia Avenue

Moonchildren

Michael Weller's play *Moonchildren* will run this weekend. It's produced by Riot To Follow and directed by Stella Martin.

7 - 9 p.m.

Everyday until Sunday, March 15

Lecture Hall 1

Bound

The Evergreen Queer Alliance presents the Wachowski brothers' first film, *Bound*.

7 - 9 p.m.

SEM 2 B1105

Second Annual Olympia Pie-Dol

Where bands bake pies that battle for pie supremacy—afterwards, music with Marcy Pepper, Sacuey, One Diuster Short of a Country Song, and If it Aint's Breakfast Why Fix it? This is all at the Finger Complex.

8 - 11 p.m.

Finger Complex on Harrison and Rogers

Music at Le Voyeur

The Repeaters, Outdoor Voices, Vague Prophets, and My Bones and Organs are performing in the back of Le Voyeur.

10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Le Voyeur Café and Lounge (404 4th Ave. E)

21+

Saturday, March 14

Dance, Dance, Dance, Dance!

Dancing with DJs David Wolf, Harley, Luc, and Guy.

9 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

The Phoenix House at 421 Pheonix Street

all ages

Improv show!

An improv show by the student group Generation Friends Comedy Arts, performing only for the TESC community.

11 - 11:45 p.m.

Lecture Hall 1

Sunday, March 15

Remembering Rachel Corrie

A community potluck at the Olympia Center to remember Rachel Corrie. You should definitely bring a dish.

6 - 8:30 p.m.

The Olympia Center at 222 Columbia Street room 101 and 102

Free!

Monday, March 16

Open gym basketball

Anyone can come to this.

7:30 - 11:30 p.m.

CRC

Tuesday, March 17

Evaluation Week

Today you will either be completing your eval, meeting with your faculty about your eval, or just finishing up a very tough winter quarter. This will be followed by you having a totally awesome spring break. You did it!

Wednesday, March 18

Ultimate frisbee

Ultimate frisbee (or "casual pickup") meets every Wednesday in the soccer field.

3 - 5 p.m.

The Soccer field

Acrobaticists

Nanda Acrobaticists performance and workshop is going to be held. Contact Seyia Hongo at shongo@spscc.ctc.edu for more information.

7:30 - 9 p.m.

The Minnaert Center for the Arts at SPSCC

\$5

STUDENT GROUP MEETING TIMES

Mondays

S&A Board CAB 320, 3-5 p.m.

Women of Color Coalition CAB 216, 3 p.m.

Hillel meeting CAB 320, 3:30 p.m.

Greeners for Truth and Reconciliation Sem II B 3109, 4 p.m.

Cooper Point Journal CAB 316, 5 p.m.

Tuesdays

Folk Dance CAB 320 cubicle 4, 10 a.m.

Black Student Union CAB 3rd floor (TV Lounge), 3 p.m.

HABOO LIB 2147, 4 p.m.

Capoeira CRC 316, 5:30 p.m.

Student Video Gamers Association

CAB 3rd floor (TV lounge), 6-9 p.m.

Greeners 4 Christ SEMII D 1107, 7-8:30 p.m.

Wednesdays

Students at Evergreen for Ecological Design (SEED) CAB 320 cube 17, 12:30 p.m.

Amnesty International CAB 320 Solarium, 1 p.m.

Barrier Breakers club LIB 2318, 1-3 p.m.

CENSE Nature Walks Front of clock tower, 1 p.m.

Chemistry Club Lab II room 2211, 1-2 p.m.

Folk Dance Alliance CAB 320 (cube 4), 1 p.m.

Geoduck Student Union Sem II E1105, 1-4 p.m.

Synergy CAB 320, cube 17, 1:30 p.m.

Women's Resource Center CAB 320, 1:30-3 p.m.

Black Student Union CAB 3rd floor (TV Lounge), 2 p.m.

Center 4 Sustainable Entrepreneurship SEMII A2109, 2 p.m.

Students Educating Students About the Middle East (SESAME) CAB 320, 2 p.m.

Clean Energy Lab II 1250 (February 18), 3 p.m.

Pre-Health Society Lab I room 3033, 3-4:30 p.m.

Freedom of Consciousness Club CAB 3rd floor (the pit), 3:30 p.m.

Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) CAB 3rd floor, 4 p.m.

Evergreen Queer Alliance SEMII A2109, 4 p.m.

Hip Hop Congress Lecture Hall Rotunda, 4-5:30 p.m.

SIIA Shalom CAB 3rd floor, 4 p.m.

Writer's Guild LIB (Writing Center), 4 p.m.

Greener Organization HCC, 5:30 p.m.

Anime Club HCC, 6-9 p.m.

Socialist Alternative SEMII C3109, 6 p.m.

Thursdays

Global Medical Brigade SEMII E2109, 4 p.m.

Sabot Infoshoppe CAB Solarium, 4 p.m.

Cooper Point Journal CAB 316, 5 p.m.

Gun Club Sem II C1107, 5 p.m.

Hip Hop Congress Board meetings in the Lecture Rotunda, 5 p.m.

Common Bread Longhouse 1002 (Cedar Room), 5:30-8 p.m.

Gaming Guild CAB 320, 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Juggling Club Red Square, 6 p.m.

Fridays

Carnival club CAB 320, 4-5:30 p.m.

Evergreen Student Productions/MEI 3rd floor of the CAB (TV Lounge), 5:15 p.m.

Saturdays

Anime Club HCC, 2-4 p.m.



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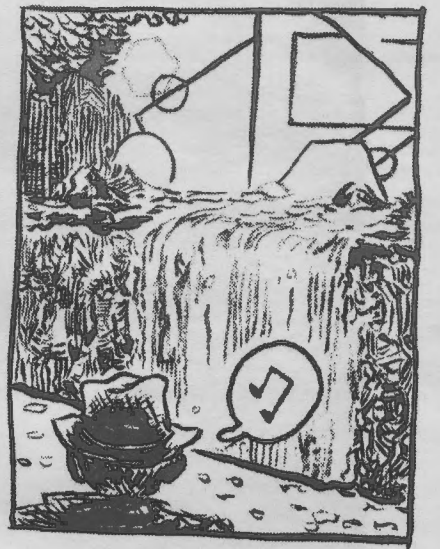


by MAO REICH

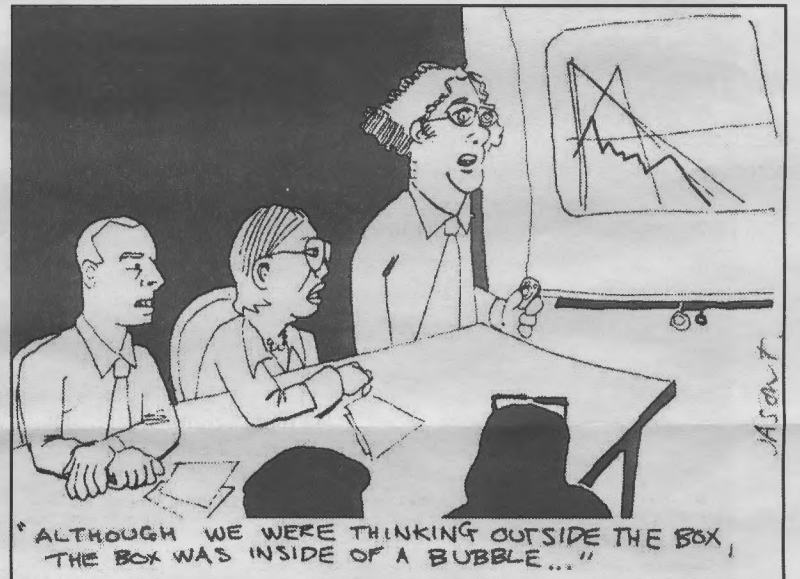
SPACE RAIL



by RYAN BUCK



by NATHAN BURGESS



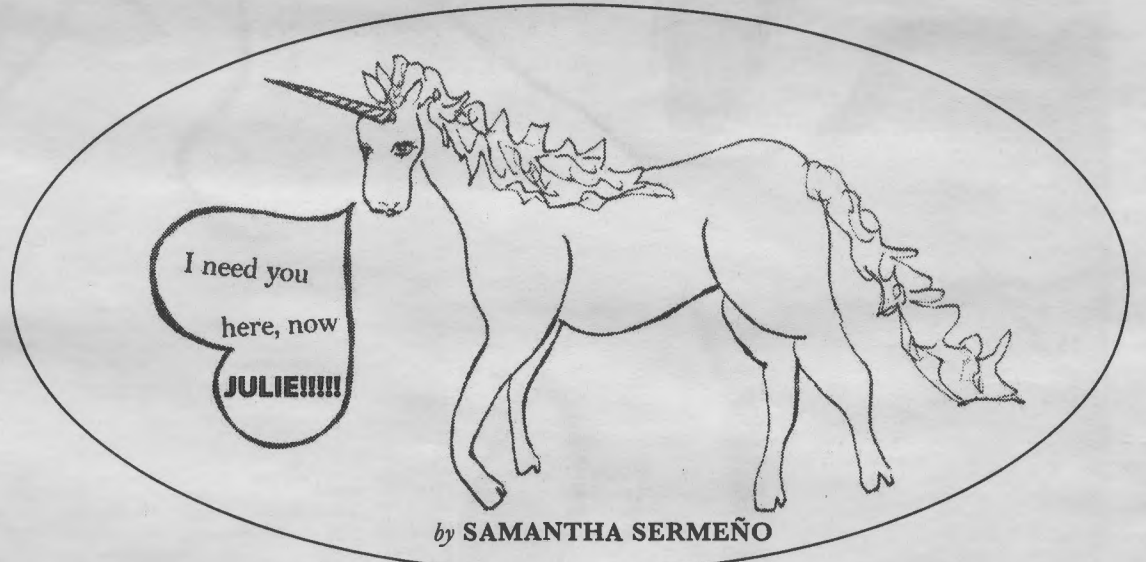
by JASON TRENT

Untitled 1



by Brian King

by BRIAN KING



by SAMANTHA SERMEÑO

ASTRONOMY LESSON: PHASES OF THE MOON

M. Berman



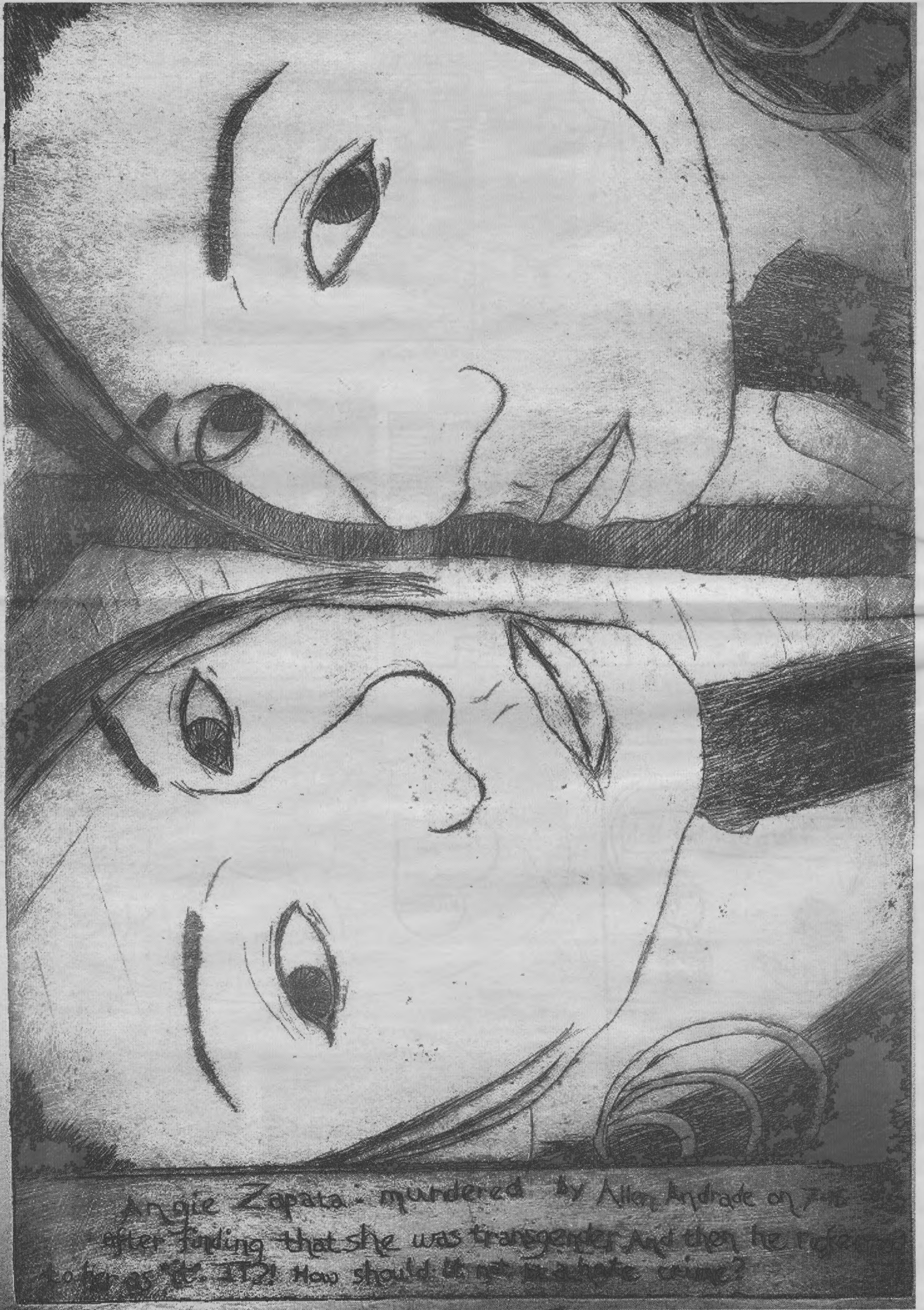
WANING



WAXING

by MADELINE BERMAN

“IT”



created by ELISSA WELLS