

## State of the election

By Sam Jessup

On Monday, March 13, two items were put to the Evergreen student body for a vote. The polls will remain open until April 7.

One vote concerns the ratification of the Geoduck Student Union Constitution. If the constitution is ratified, Evergreen students will have a government for the first time since the student "cultural caucus" was declared unconstitutional by the Washington Attorney General in 1991.

The other vote concerns the reaffirmation of the quarterly WashPIRG fee. Because the fee is voluntary, students must reaffirm it by vote every two years. This year students are voting to affirm an \$8 fee, up from \$6 two years ago and the first increase in twelve years.

So far students have shown overwhelming support for the constitution's ratification. As of Wednesday evening, there were 929 votes in support of ratification and 79 votes against.

WashPIRG reaffirmation is more controversial but still widely supported. Again as of Wednesday evening, 773 students voted in support of the WashPIRG fee and 146 voted against.

Both items up for a vote need 25% voter turn out, 1064 total votes, to pass.



One of many voting booths set up around Evergreen campus. Photo by Curtis Randolph.

Poll operators started counting the number of students using polling stations on Tuesday. By a rough estimate, most voters are using the polling stations.

Since Monday, WashPIRG campaigners have been handing out voting information and "WashPIRG 'yes'" stickers near polling stations and going door-to-door in the dorms.

To ensure a fair election, Elections Commissioner Adam November and WashPIRG agreed to a twenty-foot buffer around polling stations. For the most part, campaigners have respected the buffer and

poll operators have remained vigilant, but in an interview Wednesday, November expressed frustration at the impotence of the elections commission and the absence of policies pertaining to campaigner behavior during elections.

Despite his frustration, November made it clear that he believed WashPIRG campaigners were "behaving very well" given there are no guidelines governing their conduct.

Sam Jessup is a junior enrolled in Data and Information. He is also the News Coordinator for the Cooper Point Journal.

## Funding WashPIRG: Where does your money go?

By Sam Goldsmith

WashPIRG wants your money. They want it to buy supplies, they want it to pay for their office, and they want it to pay staff salaries. And they want \$2 more of it.

The every-two-year election to renew WashPIRG's funding started on Monday. For the first time since 1994, WashPIRG proposed an increase in their quarterly fee, from \$6 to \$8. The WashPIRG fee was established on campus in 1983, and the biennial fee election has been around ever since. But how does WashPIRG spend your money?

Most student groups at Evergreen are funded through a quarterly student activities fee imbedded in the cost of tuition. WashPIRG is different. They are part of a national non-profit organization with chapters in 100 colleges and universities. WashPIRG is the Washington chapter of StudentPIRG, and has two chapters—one at Evergreen and one at UW. They receive no funding from student activities.

WashPIRG is an acronym for Washington Public Interest Research Group. Founded 30 years ago, StudentPIRG is a watchdog group that works on campaigns relating to the environment, consumer protection and government reform.

The proposed \$8 student fee would give WashPIRG at Evergreen an \$85,000-\$90,000 budget next year, depending on how many students opt out of the fee. The budget is broken down into three areas: campaign expenses, operational expenses and staff salaries.

Blair Anundson may look like a student, but he's not. He's a full-time WashPIRG employee and the WashPIRG campus coordinator at Evergreen. He took the job right after graduating from college in Pennsylvania in 2004 and will leave Evergreen in June. A new full-time coordinator will replace him in September—if students renew the fee.

Continued on Page 4 ...

## South Dakota v. reproductive rights What it means to women in Washington

By Paul B. Osterlund

On March 6, South Dakota marched ahead of its peers in the controversial battle to overturn Roe v. Wade, a subversive movement that has only strengthened in light of this legislation. After its passage in the State Senate in February, Governor Mike Rounds confirmed a bill that bans the vast majority of abortions, with exception to only those that directly threaten the life of the mother. Rape and incest, however, are not included as exceptions. The new law stipulates that doctors in violation could receive up to five years in prison. The measure is seen as counterproductive by pro-choice advocates in South Dakota, a state in which less than 1,000 abortions are performed annually in a single clinic. Amendments that would put reproductive rights decisions in the hands of the voters were struck down, as well as further exceptions to this stringent measure.

The impetus for such a law seems to be part of the nationwide pro-life movement bent on overturning Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision overturning most laws that previously restricted abortion. Governor Rounds' comments regarding his decision mainly stemmed from his belief in the necessary protection of the unborn. "The sponsors and supporters of this bill believe that abortion is wrong because unborn children are the most vulnerable and most helpless persons in our society. I agree with them."

Lucy Daumen from the TESC Women's Resource Center shares the concerns of those

in opposition of this recent legislation. "My biggest concern is that individual states will follow suit and the national law will become obsolete. The significance (of the South Dakota law) is pretty high." Despite the buzz surrounding this potential threat to reproductive rights nationally, women in the State of Washington should not worry. The current state of reproductive rights in the Evergreen State includes provisions regarding privacy. As it stands, Initiative 120 affirms the right of a woman to receive an abortion as well as to maintain privacy regarding reproductive health. "We are very fortunate in Washington," Daumen says, "It is very progressive in its reproductive rights."

Sources:  
Cnn.com, March 7, 2006

Paul B. Osterlund is a freshman enrolled in Legacy of the American Dream: Media and Nature.



## New Community Language Lab

In Seminar II, A3116A

By Caryn Ice

Monday, March 6, 2006 marked the opening of the first ever Community Language Lab on The Evergreen State College campus. The lab saw a flurry of activity as curious students, faculty and staff came to check it out.

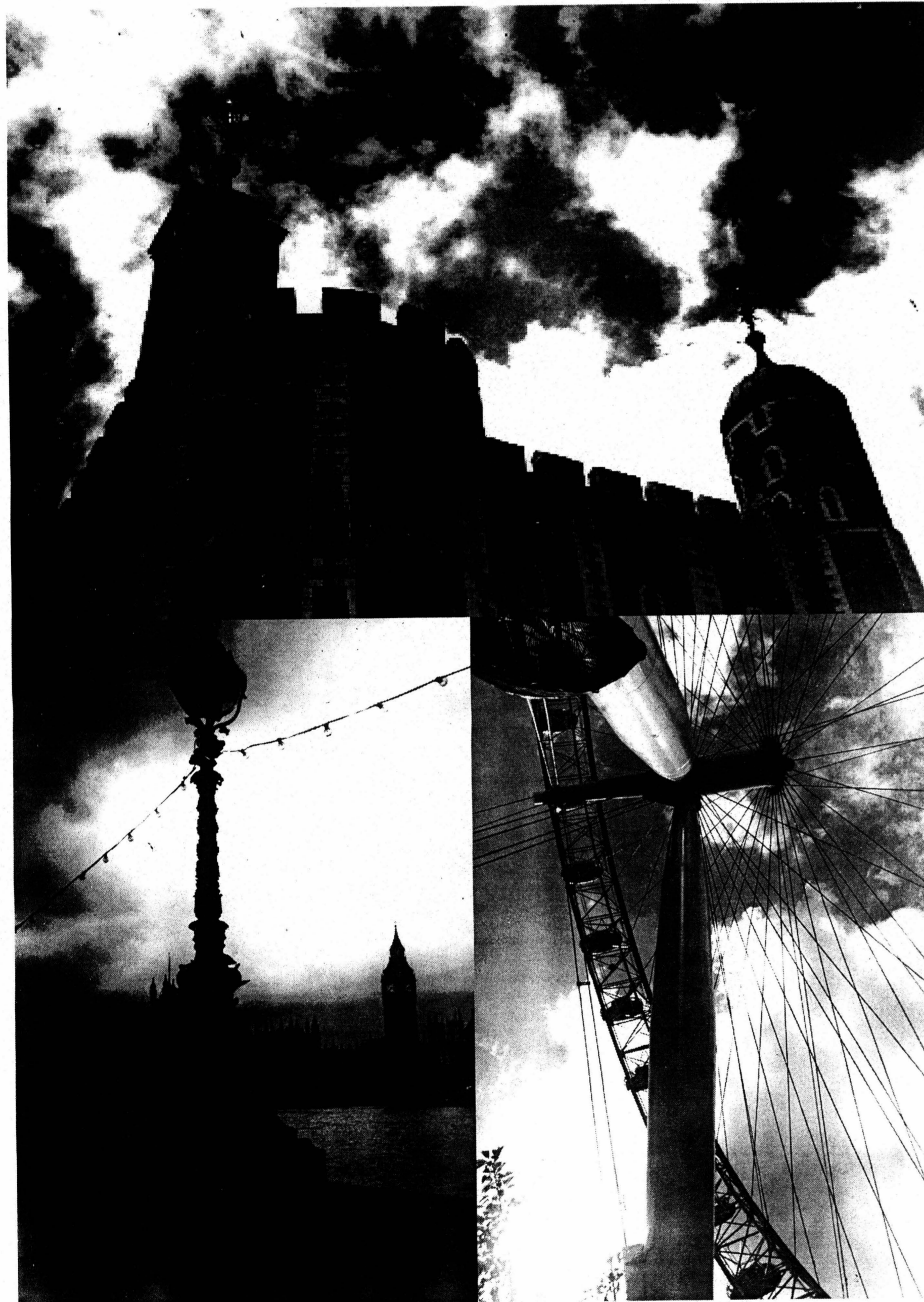
The new lab is a resource for students, staff, faculty and community members to hang out and learn new languages, brush up on old ones and network to create a stronger language community on campus. The lab also has a lounge area where people can speak and learn from each other, utilize program tutors and use foreign language computer software.

The language software is available for over ten languages, ranging from Arabic to

Latin. The lab also has software for languages regularly taught on campus such as French, Spanish, German, Russian and Japanese.

Susan Fiksdal says, "We envision the lab as a lounge with a purpose. When people come to the lab they'll be able to network with others who are interested in a particular language, create conversation groups, find tutors, as well as study at individual lab stations. This is a unique concept that supports the notion of community that Evergreen has always tried to provide."

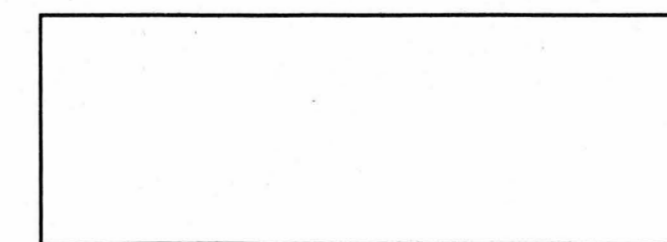
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London

Photographed by Christina Weeks, freshman  
Enrolled in Madness and Creativity

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STUDENT VOICE

"I want the student government to act as the general representative of the student consensus."

Lane Greenman is a freshman enrolled in the History and Evolution of Disease



"Solve world hunger and animal cruelty ... and clean out my shower—it's REAL MOLDY."

Cassie Barden is a super senior enrolled in Foundations of Visual Arts



"I want them to attend meetings pant-less. And then appoint a representative for Evergreen at the state level."

J. Reid Johnson is a senior enrolled in Foundations of Performing Arts



What do you want the student government to do if it is established?

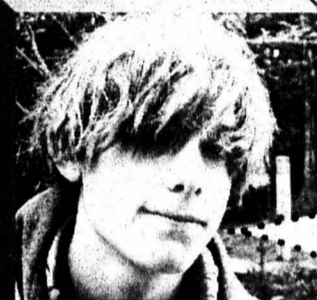
"It would be great to have more food sources after hours for Evening and Weekend kids and robots in the computer center."

Ashlee Wactor is a senior enrolled in Beats, Bukowski and Dorothy



"I think they should get rid of the Greenery and give freshmen back their ovens."

Neal Sauer is a freshman enrolled in Res Publica



"If they could get ANYTHING done, I would be happy."

Chris Jennings-Shafter is a junior enrolled in Math Systems

"I want the government to bring cohesion to the Evergreen community by providing a public forum."

Veronica Oh Happy! is a sophomore enrolled in Ceramics



By Alex London and Aaron Bietz

COOPER POINT JOURNAL

Your work in print

The Cooper Point Journal is written, edited and distributed by students enrolled at The Evergreen State College, who are solely responsible for its production and content. It 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. It is distributed free at various sites on The Evergreen State College campus. Free 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 867-6054 to arrange for multiple copies. The business manager may charge 75 cents for each copy after the first. We also sell display and classified advertising space. Information about advertising rates, terms and conditions are available in CAB 316, or by request at (360) 867-6054.

Contact

Cooper Point Journal  
CAB 316  
News: (360) 867 - 6213  
Email: cpj@evergreen.edu  
Business: (360) 867 - 6054  
Email: cpjbiz@evergreen.edu

Contributions

Contributions from any TESC student are welcome. Copies of submission and publication criteria for non-advertising content are available in CAB 316, or by request at 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.



The CPJ is printed on recycled newsprint using soy ink.

Meetings

Our meetings are open to the Evergreen community.  
**Paper Critique 4 p.m. Monday**  
Comment on that week's paper. Air comments, concerns, questions, etc. If something in the CPJ bothers you, this is the meeting for you!

**Student Group Meeting 5 p.m. Monday**  
Find out what it means to be a member of the student group CPJ. Practice consensus-based decision making.

**Content Meeting 5:30 p.m. Monday**  
Help discuss future content, story ideas, Vox Populi questions and possible long term reporting projects.

**Content Forum 12:30 p.m. Wednesday**  
Lecture and seminar related to journalism and issues surrounding CPJ content.

**Thursday Forum 4 p.m. Thursday**  
Discuss ethics, journalism law and conflict resolution.

Staff

Business

Business manager.....Corey Young  
Assistant business manager.....Jordan Lyons  
Business apprentice.....Lindsay Adams  
Ad proofer and archivist.....Carrie Ramsdell  
Paper archivist.....unfilled  
Distribution manager.....Anna Nakano  
Ad sales representative.....Kristen Lindstrom

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Managing editor.....Kate DeGraaff  
Arts & Entertainment.....unfilled  
Briefs.....Francesco Di Stefano  
Calendar.....Francesco Di Stefano  
Comics.....Chelsea Baker  
Copy editor.....Sean Paull  
Letters & Opinions.....Alex London  
News.....Sam Jessup  
Photos.....Aaron Bietz  
See page.....Christina Weeks  
Student Voice.....unfilled  
Reporter.....Paul Osterlund  
Design.....Curtis Randolph  
Victor Sanders  
Advisor.....Dianne Conrad

Concert for Scholarships

With the importance of education, scholarships play a vital role in improving the composition of our society and the lives of individuals. Not only is this concert an opportunity to support scholarships for Evergreen students, but also an opportunity to be entertained. The Jude Bowerman Band, "High Energy Funky Grooves," and Alice Stuart & The Formerlys, "Good Rockin' Blues," will play at 6:30 in the Com Building's Experimental Theater following a "heartly" reception starting at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the reception and \$18 for the concert and they can be purchased at buyolympia.com, Orca Books, the Evergreen Bookstore and the box office two hours prior to the concert. All proceeds go to The Evergreen State College Foundation Scholarships.

Student Projects for Clean Energy on Campus

As you probably know, greenhouse gasses are causing what scientists are calling global warming. As most people know, one of the main causes of global warming comes from cars and trucks, but what many people don't know is that colleges and universities emit their fair share of greenhouse gasses.

So at Evergreen we are doing our part. Recently Evergreen students have voted to buy only green tag energy or energy that is the most fully efficient energy. The Evergreen State College has won an award for this. Now it is time to go further. In addition to buying all green tags, The Evergreen State College is looking to build energy sources right here on campus. We have grant money that will be used for this project. Part of this grant money will go to students' projects. There has been a committee established to set guidelines, pick which proposals will be accepted, and to oversee the student projects. The committees consist of four students and three faculty members. You can pick up applications at the CAB or register online. The committee will begin looking over proposals after the break, starting on the tenth. Grant applications are now available. Pick up an application in Student Activities, CAB 320. To request an electronic copy of the guidelines and applications, e-mail Ann Shipley at shipleya@evergreen.edu. Call 867-6220 for more information.

Get Your Event in the CPJ

If you're planning something and you want Evergreeners to know about it, there's no better way to reach them than with a mention of it right here. If you think the Evergreen community would be well served to read about your event, request or notice, make a submission to the CPJ. This isn't just an opportunity for student groups and organizers of on-campus events, but anyone trying to publicize something happening that would be of interest to Evergreen people. Submit a press release, a flyer, anything about your event to the CPJ and you can reach a large audience for free. The CPJ is published on Thursdays, so submissions should be made by Tuesday of the week prior to when they should be publicized.

Iraqi activist to speak

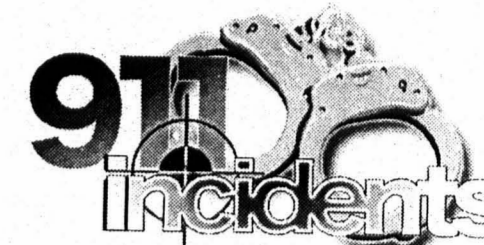
Eman Ahmad Khamas, an Iraqi journalist, translator and human rights activist representing the Iraqi groups Women's Will and Women's Call for Peace, will be speaking on the situation in Iraq as part of a national tour. She arrived on March 5 as part of a delegation of Iraqi women with the aim of sharing their experiences with the Americans and inciting U.S. and U.N. officials to create a pen rights violations by both U.S. and Iraqi forces and has regularly published articles on women's conditions in Iraqi since the U.S.-led invasion. She will be appearing twice on Friday, March 17: from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. in Sem II D1107 and at 7:30 p.m. at United Churches (110 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SE). Both events are free and open to the public.

Rachel Corrie Commemorative Events

Olympian and Evergreen student Rachel Corrie died on March 16, 2003. To mark the third anniversary of Ms. Corrie's death, three public events are being held in Olympia. At Evergreen, there will be a reading of her words from noon to 2:00 p.m. in Sem II E3105. At 7:00 p.m. a remembrance and vigil will be held beginning in the First Christian Church (701 Franklin St. SE) and moving to Percival Landing for the vigil. Lastly, at 9:00 pm there will be a memorial dance party at Yes Yes (320 4<sup>th</sup> Ave W) with DJ PHAN.

Incunabula

This Saint Patrick's Day, why not stumble over to the HCC to take in some "mind mending aural manipulation?" Deafchild, Bacchus and Jacob Aman will be playing "psychedelic electronic music" described as "booty-shakin," "insanely cool" and the product of a "resident extra-terrestrial," respectively. Promotional literature specifically insists this event be "substance free." With a suggested donation of \$5, this event will run from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.



MARCH 10, 5:45 P.M.

An Evergreen officer drew his firearm on a motorcycle driver after a four minute pursuit leading off campus. The driver was using the Fire Lane near the Soup and sped past a patrol unit after an attempted initial stop. The officer began pursuit and found the bike and driver in a garage on Rainwood Drive where he was taken into custody after the officer drew a gun. Yes. A gun.

MARCH 11, 1:32 A.M.

Responding to a noise complaint in T Dorm, officers found a man with blood on his hands, casually lighting a cigarette, filter side out. When asked what he was doing, he stated he wasn't aware he was smoking the filter. The man was arrested for MIP and issued a trespass warning for TESC. His breathalyzer result at the station was .205%.

MARCH 10, 12:24 P.M.

A student ravaged Aramark for \$3.29 after leaving the deli without paying for a juice drink. The student made a point that thefts from big corporations really didn't affect society because they can simply "write off their losses." This is the third theft reported from food service this week.

MARCH 09, 3:14 A.M.

An on-duty RD contacted Police Services for assistance during a housing check in B Dorm when she located a multi-colored smoking device and an Airsoft Gun. The owner of the items' actions were forwarded to the grievance officer.

MARCH 14, 10:15 P.M.

A man slipped and fell down a stairwell in SEM II. When officers arrived on scene the man said he may have injured his ankle. He was transported to Health Services.

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- Friday April 7th: Runaway Girl @ 8:PM of the Blackberry bushes

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# Funding WashPIRG

43 percent of the WashPIRG budget pays Anundson's salary, and a portion of his boss's. Anundson's salary and benefit package is roughly \$25,000 for the academic year. The \$2 fee increase would give Anundson's successor a slight cost of living increase in the fall.

"We wouldn't be able to be as strong without a full-time coordinator," says Anundson. He says WashPIRG is able to do "a lot more for the community per dollar" than other student groups because of the full-time coordinator position. His job is to manage campaigns, organize volunteers and "train students to be kickass activists."

Operational expenses account for 23 percent of the WashPIRG budget. This pays for office supplies, a phone line, photocopies, travel to regional events, advertisements in the CPJ and other related costs. They also pay rent for their office in the CAB because they are not funded through Student Activities. Rent for Anundson's cubicle runs just under \$100 per month.

Campaign expenses account for 34 percent of the budget. This money goes to national staff recruitment and train-

ing, national campaign supplies, the salary of a national campaign manager, and a WashPIRG website.

Anundson says StudentPIRG's strategy is to have activists both on and off college campuses working on the same

of only \$35,000 to \$40,000 annually depending on the level of student participation in the fee.

Anundson says the large discrepancy in Evergreen and UW's budgets is because UW has an opt-in system versus our opt-out system. This means that students at UW have to go out of their way to pay the fee, unlike Evergreen where students have to sign a waiver to not pay it.

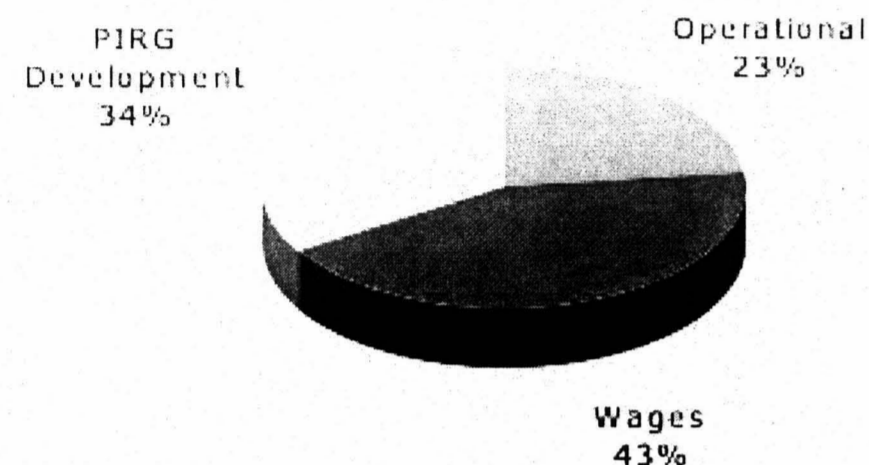
Anundson says UW covers their own expenses even with a smaller budget, but doesn't contribute as much as they should to larger off-campus campaigns for a university of their size. Anundson says UW's small budget does not mean the Evergreen chapter could run on a smaller budget.

The biennial vote is WashPIRG's "biggest grassroots outreach on campus. It takes a lot of time to coordinate," says Anundson, "but if you really want to build a long term group, you need a stable funding source, and there's no more stable source of funding than students."

*Sam Goldsmith is a senior enrolled in a contract titled Writing the News.*

*Continued from cover...*

## WashPIRG Budget Breakdown



campaigns. Off-campus campaigning is not directly related to Evergreen, but part of StudentPIRG's larger effort as a watchdog group.

Roughly 85 percent of Evergreen students pay the quarterly WashPIRG fee. Anundson says Evergreen is an example of how successful StudentPIRG chapters can be at getting funding from students. UW, for example, has a budget

Blair Anundson: "Here are a few examples of campaigns and victories over the last 2 years."

- During the 2004 election season, WashPIRG registered 500 Evergreen students and contacted over 1000 more during our get-out-the-vote drive.

- WashPIRG participated in campaigning for Initiative 297 during the 2004 election. The initiative passed and forced the federal government to clean up the Hanford Nuclear Waste Facility in southern Washington.

- WashPIRG worked on the campaign Power Evergreen on Clean Energy.

- WashPIRG worked to pass the Clean Cars for Washington Act, requiring tougher emissions standards for automobiles in Washington.

- WashPIRG members have raised money for groups who are working to fight hunger and homelessness. They have raised funds for tsunami relief, Hurricane Katrina relief, Bread and Roses, and more.

# Community Action Focus: CCBL&A

By Jacob Berkey

Time to get motivated! The quarter with the sunny weather is just around the corner. Spring is the perfect season to get out there and engage in some community action. So what will get you out there?

Guilt can motivate some towards action ... with so much going on and so much left to do, just sitting around this spring quarter will leave you feeling guilty forever. Every morning the eyes peering back at you in the bathroom mirror will fill you with frustration and disgust. Not only will you be so severely racked with guilt that you will be unable to function, but you will also be unable to forgive yourself for all the wasted time. A good guilt trip may motivate you to act.

Pride is what gets some people involved ... imagine helping others. The joy and wonder on their faces as you bring a change to their life. Internally the pride wells up in your soul because you know that you are totally awesome. Finally all that hard work has paid off. Your privileged position—as a college student—is being used for increasing the good in the world. Your actions have fundamentally changed the life of another forever. Pride may be your motivator.

It could be that you are motivated by fear ... nuclear war, death and pestilence are everywhere. Governments with blood on their hands disenfranchise the masses under the cloak of corporate personhood. People are starving and freezing in the streets. No one cares and soon the world will end—burning and screaming. The 'revolution' will tear it all down so everything will start new—a better way, a brighter tomorrow. Fear motivates some to action.

Here at the Center for Community Based-Learning and Action (CCBL&A—Sem II E2125) we help motivated students get involved. Depending on what your inspiration is we can help you find an avenue to get real-world experience in the field. There is a lot that needs to be done to make the world a better place for everyone. We work with many community groups to connect students with opportunities to get going.

*Jacob Berkey is a first-year MPA student.*

Make us your first step to...



We provide opportunities, guidance and sometimes even tuition awards! With the Students in Action (SIA) program we can offer tuition awards to students who are involved in their community. Money can be a motivator too, and with this sweet deal you'd be silly to take a higher plane and pass it up—spots are limited. All it requires is signing up at the Center.

Students, whatever your motivation, the Center is here for you. There are all kinds of good things happening out there. We've already helped many students find their calling and students have helped us find ours as well. It really is a cool place to be.

So maybe you're motivated to stop on by and say hi. Maybe you are not interested because of guilt, fear, pride or money matters. This spring quarter will turn out to be one of the most action-packed yet. Like it has been stated before, there is a lot to be done and a lot going on.

Upcoming Events:

The Gleaners Coalition Community Day March 25  
Neighborhood Action Week April 24-28

# The big question: What now?

News Commentary

By J. Reid Johnson

If the votes continue on the trend set by the first two polling days, the 'Geoduck Union' constitution will be ratified. Which makes this the perfect moment to ask the pressing question: What will our student union do?

Contained in the proposed constitution there is a noted lack of specifics, although that is exactly as it was intended. Co-author of the constitution, Brad Bishop, said in an interview: "We didn't want this process to be about what we perceive as the failure of the last attempts. Which is that you spend the whole campaign figuring out what it is that you are trying to do."

Taking the question straight to the student body I found that many believe it should confront the administration on an assortment of issues, anything from smoking shelters to curriculum with food service falling somewhere in the middle ... as to how representatives would go about enacting said changes, no one is sure.

Speaking with administrative staff I was slightly surprised at their excitement at the prospective formation of a student government ... though now I realize how troublesome it must be attempting to fulfill the needs of four thousand plus individuals when one cannot be sure of their collective desires.

In talking to various students affiliated with student groups, it seemed some believe that the union would ostensibly

carry forward the agendas of their groups with the extraordinary power of representation ... although what exactly is stopping them from gathering representation for themselves, I am not sure.

Carrying the student union forward has been the concentrated dismissal regarding function. At this stage in the proceedings it appears the question will be answered by the representatives themselves. That being said, I certainly do not look forward to guessing which twenty-one candidates' collected stance might be productive ... or at the very least, not destructive. Nor do I have the slightest envy for the unfortunates upon whom it will fall to answer the big question: What do we do now?

Prior to undertaking this story I had done a fairly respectable job of avoiding the Student Activities offices altogether. Similar to many students, I instinctually feared that once passing too far beyond those glass doors, some part of me might never make it out. My instincts were right. Like a mist just above the cubicle walls, my trepidation will float for who knows how long.

*J. Reid Johnson is a senior enrolled in Foundations of Performing Arts. He has also appointed himself as the 'Special Correspondent to Emerging Democracy' and will continue to cover Evergreen's student union process.*

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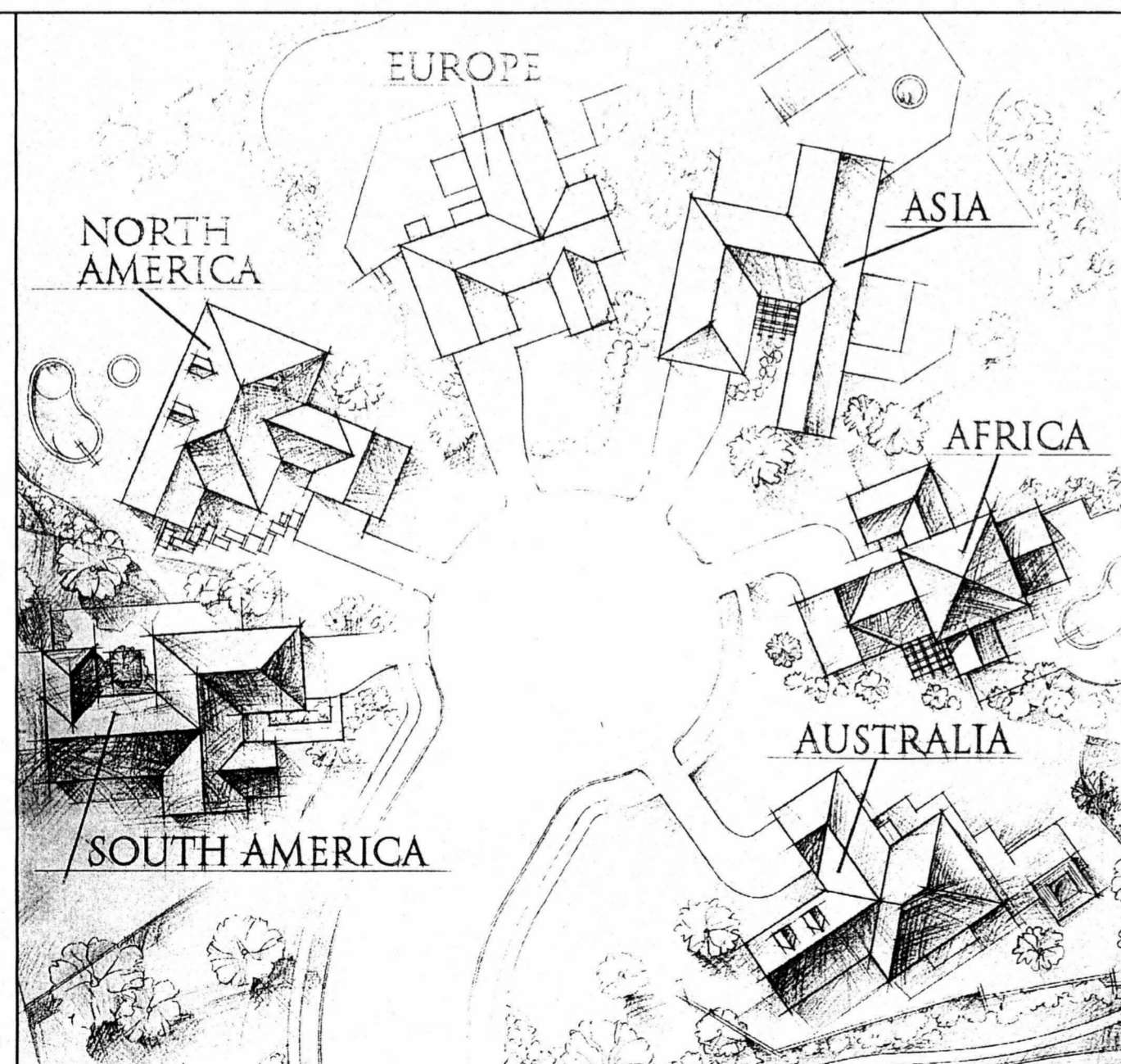
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## New Community Language Lab

*Continued from cover...*

"This is an initial step," Pat Krafcik says. "Our greatest wish is that people will come and use the lab ... we hope the campus community will respond to this so that the lab can grow and become a staple of the campus."

The lab is the result of the hard work of Susan Fiksdal, Judith Gabriele and Pat Krafcik, who represent over thirty faculty who teach languages. The lab is located in Seminar II, A3116A and is open six days a week, Monday through Saturday.

*Caryn Ice is a junior enrolled in Language and Law and an independent contract called Advanced Studies in Latin.*

# COMMUTER CONTEST



It's not too late! You can still fill out a Commuter Log and be entered into a drawing for \$700 of great prizes like massages, and gift certificates to local shops and restaurants!

Bring in your completed commuter log to Parking Services or enter it online at: [www.evergreen.edu/commute](http://www.evergreen.edu/commute)

**Commuter Logs must be turned in by March 24th!**

Pick one up at Parking Services or the Evergreen Bike Shop

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## Summer seminars in Central Asia: Mosques, Mountains, and Minarets ... and Geoducks?

By Dr. Robert Smurr

This summer, a group of very fit, very adventurous and very inquisitive Evergreen students will be exploring some of our marvelous planet's most exotic cultural and physical landscapes. Heavy books, heavy backpacks, high temperatures, high altitude climbs, blisters, sweat, bushwhacking and fatigue await them. Even more exciting, however, is the fact that you too still have time to join us on this trip of a lifetime. Seven weeks of intensive on-campus historical, cultural and literary surveys will prime us for three weeks of our field component in Central Asia. Not only will you have the opportunity to earn 16 credits for the full summer offering (combined A and B term), but you can do so for an extraordinarily reasonable price (maximum in-country expense \$2,000). But why would you want to do so, you might ask? Following is a short list of the appeal: unique Silk Road oasis cities, staggering alpine beauty, profound remoteness, exposure to fascinating cultures and peoples, befriending local shepherds and regional English-speaking college students who will be hiking with us, exploring Central Asia's vast cultural and geographic diversity, trekking through high alpine settlements, and of course, holding seminars around nightly campfires.

So you still remain unconvinced? Keep in mind that one need not be a seasoned mountaineer to appreciate the incomparable beauty of the region and the equally impressive hospitality of our hosts. Asan-Usan Peak, for example, commands a presence that is so magnificent, so very physical, as to make even the boldest egoist bow to the power of the sublime. Similarly, even jaded travelers will be softened by the authentic warmth of the Kyrgyz shepherds who freely proffer delicious kumyz (fermented mare's milk), butter and yogurt to those of us who are merely passing through. Imagine finding yourself, if you can, reclining on your back in a lush 10,000' high alpine meadow and gazing skyward to admire another 6,000' of sheer granite walls looming above. Then simply roll your head a few degrees and take in the immense purity of a nearby 19,000' glaciated beauty, Pyramid Peak, all of which will be enhanced by the home-baked bread and warm hospitality of our gracious seminomadic hosts. You are likely to feel as if you were among the first explorers to walk into Yosemite Valley.

But where is this Shangri-La, you might ask? Somewhere in the far reaches of the Himalaya, perhaps? Actually, ours is found Kyrgyzstan's high Karasu (Black Water) Valley, tucked deep in the southern folds of the country's Pamir-Alai Range. The Karasu Valley, one of the many highlights of our trip, is a semi-arid alpine environment that has all the attributes of both Yosemite and Alaska compressed into an incomparably stunning seven linear miles, but with nary a tourist. We might encounter a group or two of dedicated international big-wall climbers, and we are assured to meet a few families of seasonal Kyrgyz yak and sheep herders, but beyond these always hospitable folk, this unique Karasu Shangri-La will feel as if it is our own. Indeed, so isolated is this gem that few people of any nationality have made the arduous journey to get here. But for you, the intrepid Geoduck, the difficulty in getting here is part of the allure, part of the mystique. 100-plus degrees Fahrenheit in the lowlands? No problem. 14,000' scree-covered alpine passes? Just a minor inconvenience. Because the trek itself is

not technically demanding, anyone who has regular backpacking skills will feel at home, so long as their fitness level is top-notch.

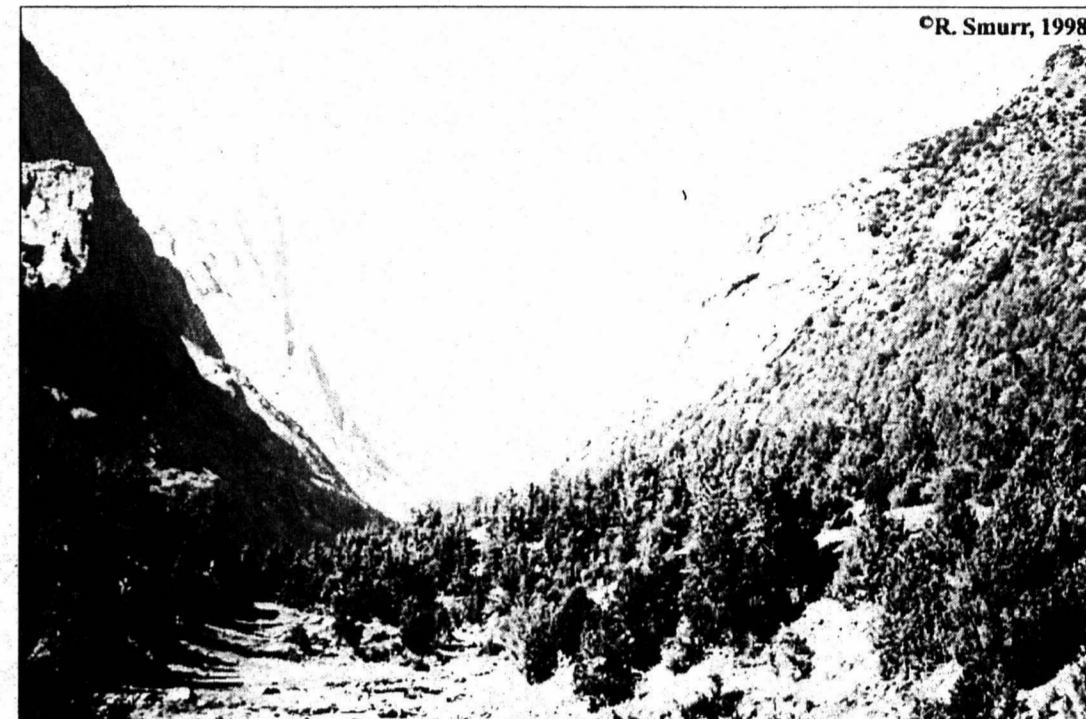
If the difficulties already sound too daunting to entice you to travel to the region, but if an interest in Central Asian history, politics and culture still intrigues you, read on, for Evergreen's summer course, "Central Asia: Mosques, Mountains, and Minarets ... and Backpacks," invites all students who wish to learn more about an increasingly critical—and still relatively unknown—region of the world. Students will be able to earn 16 credits entirely via on-campus academic study, or via a combination of on-campus and on-location study. Those who choose the latter option will spend one week exploring the exotic ancient Silk Road cities of Tashkent, Samarkand and Bukhoro, as well as two weeks high in the Pamir Mountains, one of the world's greatest ranges. Those who choose not to join the class on the travel component will complete intensive research projects during the same period. Because the course will also offer a variable credit option, students who desire to join the trip, for example, but who do not desire or need to earn the full 16 credits can opt to register for as few as 2 credits upon advance consultation with the faculty.

This summer's course is envisioned as a preview to 2006-07's yearlong program "Russia and Eurasia: Empires and Enduring Legacies." As expected, some of the students who are joining this unique trip are coming to it with the detailed cultural, linguistic and historical knowledge that they learned during 2004-05's Russia program, whereas others simply desire to gain an introduction to Russian and Central Asian studies. Regardless of your preparation, participation remains open to all registered summer students. That is, no academic prerequisite is required for the course or the trek component, but maturity, excellent physical condition and a willingness to endure unexpected physical and cultural hardships are a must for those who choose the travel component.

Robert Smurr, a specialist in Russian and Environmental History, will be teaching this summer course and leading the trek. He has led numerous commercial expeditions to the region and has arranged to offer an enhanced trip to students for a greatly reduced price. (This means, of course, no air-conditioned buses, lower quality hotels, etc.) Together with Patricia Krafcik, a specialist in Russian literature and folklore, Rob has been teaching the academic year Russia program every other year since 2000-01.

Pat and Rob have aimed to convey the beauty, enormity and great diversity of the former Russian (and Soviet) empire to students via texts, lectures and film in every Russia program that they have taught together. Last summer was the first in which the program took books to the field: eleven students joined Rob on a backpacking trip to Siberia's remote Altai Mountains. There we had a chance to sample the diverse ethnic, religious and geographical diversity that still remains within the current boundaries of the Russian Federation itself.

This summer the program is again taking books to the field, but we are moving beyond the borders of Russia and into the newly independent states of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, both of which were previously under Russian and Soviet imperial control. We will be exploring a



Asian Usan and Pyramid Peak from the Karasu Valley. Photo by Robert Smurr

region that has seen only a handful of Westerners, studying its human and natural history, and sharing our daily experiences with Kyrgyz and Uzbek friends. But where, you might ask, are the Pamir Mountains, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, and what makes them so special? All are located in the very heart of Central Asia, directly north of Afghanistan and south of Kazakhstan. The Pamir-Alai Mountains are found at the northern extreme of the Pamir Range, itself an enormous chain that forms the core of the so-called Central-Asian knot: the Himalaya, Karakorum, Pamir, Tien-Shan, Hindu Kush and Kun Lun Ranges all spin off galaxy-like in every direction from this center. Not surprisingly, then, Kyrgyzstan has one of the world's highest average country elevations, and its indigenous people have long sought refuge in its isolated valleys from some of the world's most powerful invaders, including Genghis Khan and Tamerlane.

Certainly the Pamir-Alai's geographic isolation is alluring in its own right, but it is the might of this range, together with its magnificent peaks, remote valleys and ancient native peoples that make the region so unique. Fortunately for us, the weather during our late August trip will be ideal: daytime temperatures in the mountains will range from 50 to 80 degrees, and nights are unlikely to drop below freezing, even at our higher camps. Add to this equation the complete absence of mosquitoes, the probability of only short and sporadic rain showers, and you get a sense of the alpine paradise that awaits your arrival. Our trek will also be blessed by surprisingly lush flora at every turn and every altitude, for here we'll encounter a profusion of diverse wildflowers, gnarled ancient juniper and cedar trees, and endless yak and sheep-grazed meadows.

The experience is guaranteed to transform every single participant, but the transformation will only come via rigorous physical exertion and mental preparation. Indeed, two days prior to our first glimpse of the above-mentioned high Karasu Valley, our group will need to carry fully laden backpacks over the challenging 14,300' (4347 m.) Aktubek Pass (horsemen will carry some of our food, however). Other challenging passes and descents will add to both our fatigue and our sense of wonder. My bottom dollar tells me that by the end of the trek most of us will likely prefer to continue trekking perpetually into the great and beguiling terra incognita that is

Central Asia rather than return to our beautiful but familiar Northwest home.

Much lies in store for students before the hiking portion of our journey actually gets underway, however. Indeed, the trip begins in Tashkent, Uzbekistan's enormous and always vibrant capital city—formerly the third-largest city in the entire Soviet Union. Here we meet our hosts and get a tour of the city. The following day we board a flight to the ancient Silk Road city of Bukhoro. The sheer number of ancient architectural masterpieces that have survived the centuries in this oasis is astounding in its own right, but the vast ensemble is so well preserved and authentic that you will expect to see Marco Polo's caravan—or Tamerlane's troops—around any corner. We'll have two full days to explore the ancient khanate's mosques, back alleys and spice markets before we drive across the stark and forbidding Kyzylkum (Red Sand) Desert to the most famous of all Silk Road cities, Samarkand.

Simply imagine: you and your classmates are now standing in Registan square, the heart of Samarkand. In front of you loom three of the world's greatest examples of Timurid architecture, the Sher-Dor, Tilla-Kari and Ulugbek Madrassas, the latter of which dates to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. There are few sites in the world that can rival the grandeur of the architectural harmony found here. Only if the French chose to build two more Notre Dame cathedrals to stand side by side with their existing masterpiece would the Registan Square have a worthy competitor.

The goal of this program, and even more so of its travel component, is to give students a deeper understanding of our wonderful and wonderfully diverse planet. Frankly speaking, its real agenda is to transform students into genuine world citizens, ones who are curious and compassionate about all peoples in all places. Again, keep in mind that this course and its associated travel component is open to all interested students. For further information, please contact Rob Smurr at 867-5056.

*Dr. Robert Smurr is a Russian historian currently teaching in the program Consumin: Utopia: From Wilderness to Wal-Mart. He will be teaching Russia and Eurasia: Empires and Enduring Legacies with Dr. Patricia Krafcik again in 2006-07. During his summer breaks for the past decade Rob has been leading commercial trekking and climbing expeditions to remote mountain destinations in Russia, Central Asia and beyond.*

It's the bee's knees, two lumps of sugar please

### Lookaftering

Vashti Bunyan  
Dicristina Stair  
Released October 25, 2005

I would like to state foremost that Ms. Vashti Bunyan (a descendent of the late, great Paul Bunyan) has the yarbles to tell Jimmy Page, despite his patronage to the unrecognized folk singer, that she would rather record her own song to one he had written for her. I would also like to further state "Fuck Jimmy Page," and you can quote me on that. These lilting, sunlit lullabies are for sleeping children now grown. These are not nocturnes or aubades, but sunny afternoons for that daycare center in all of us. It's all so dreamy, when you wake up, the sun is setting but still aloft so you can go out and play before your mother picks you up and you go home to dinner, which you hope is corn-on-the-cob. Afternoon fading to evening. Favorites of the likes of such minds as Joanna Newsom and the Animal Collective (see below, but later). Humming bits on a sidewalk street, gentle mother Maggie lyrics. Donovan (*Summer Day Reflection Songs*) down on Nick Drake but a woman, in fact feminine and motherly. I don't think that I would ever stoop so low so as to say that someone's voice is angelic, so I won't say it, but this means I have to imply it, or just use a different word, like beatific, which is equally reprehensible. To me, in subject transition as I think about my summer vacation at the beach like a dream, this is the Espers. I kinda wanna know what espers means, 'cuz that's an awesome word, without gypsy melodies. So I'm gonna go read Beatrix Potter, have a nap and then have apple juice and graham crackers when I wake up, enviable and decadent true enough, but that's the life of a music reviewer. Or at least it should be. Somewhere in this album is a children's book I'll write once I actually have children. Try it, you'll love it. Moreover, this has become the wonderful memory of being hungover on a summer hill with a certain someone who made it all right despite the hangover I haven't seen the likes of since until I wake up this morning, whose eyes made me forget the terrible ache behind my own. Whatever, go listen to Belle & Sebastian, you know Isobel Cambell's gone so some how it no longer dulls the pain. Well, I suppose there's always Ibuprofen.

By the way, apparently Espers isn't actually a real word, although I think it might be some kind of tree, or at least it should be, maybe.

I've been watching TRL much of these past weeks, my Evergreen education really, and aside from all the physical ailments and side effects resulting, I feel that I need to have sex with the lead singer of the All-American Rejects and I'm consuming massive quantities of Coca-Cola™, which is odd 'cuz I'm straight and I don't drink soda unless there's alcohol involved.

### Pink

(Import)  
Boris  
Disk Union  
Released November 24, 2005

Apparently, people who bought this album have also bought The New Pornographers, (Sunn 0)), Queens of the Stone Age, the Animal Collective and Clap Your Hands and Say Yeah, quite an eclectic hodge-podge of genres for one band. Perhaps the only band they really hold any similarities to is Sunn 0)), who opened for them at the Yes Yes somewhat recently. In fact, it was the night of the GZA, which many of you probably remember. And I stupidly saw the GZA suck when I could've seen Boris kick motherfucking ass. Well, live and learn. Boris is a mix of sorta-psychedelic post-rock noise, metal, pure straight-up rock and roll and whatever the fuck else they want to be. *Pink* is their newest expedition into ... I'm not going to finish this sentence, in fact I'm going to move on to another one. *Pink* tends to veer more into the straight up rock and roll unlike their previous release *Feedbacker*, which pretty much sounds like it says. Still reveling in their muddy guitar mucking, Boris kicks it up a notch with their riffage (this one goes to 11) more attuned to *Akuma no Uta*. I'm actually a little reluctant to finish this review as I'm afraid I won't do it justice and then have to face mockery from my oh so elitist friends (who am I kidding, I don't have any friends) who might not approve. Trying to pretend you're cool is a bitch. Anyway, this album proves (not that it needed to be proven) that the Japanese can out-rock any American band any day, and we're just a funny funny joke to them.

Matthew Allison is a sophomore enrolled in Voice of the Poem.

## Nothing is cool

By Matthew Allison

### Illinoise

Sufjan Stevens  
Asthmatic Kitty  
Released July 5, 2005

Basically, I have a problem, or rather a difficulty. The problem lies in the fact that it's 6:30 a.m. and I'm still writing this crap; the difficulty lies in that I can't find all the sad songs on this album—I was gonna say reveled in, but apparently that's a synonym for being drunk and I'm already that so where does that leave me? Stranded, that's where. The fucking lexicon left me high and dry once again—indulged myself in, the night none of you will remember because none of you were there. This particular night I did not get laid, but a very good friend and I made the perilous journey to Princeton because we had nothing else to do. We did get lost, and there were some sad songs that have since been mislaid by me, presumably along the road, that I'm fishing for now. So now I am lost in all of this nonsense, but like that fateless night in January, Mr. Sufjan Stevens will save me, and hopefully you as we go on hitchhiking on some God-forsaken abandoned stretch of road of destiny. He believes in Jesus, which is the secret to our salvation, but I don't—I'm an atheist—so I think we're all fucked. Hopefully in his quest to redeem us all, particularly by doing so state by state via conceptual albums, he'll save us all; hopefully he'll do Washington since we all need it. "For the Widows in Paradise, for the Fatherless in Ypsilanti" is the most poignant song ever written. Yes, I know it's not on this album, but since I can't find any of the aforementioned songs I'm indulging myself in this one. Like me, as I was saying before, (before I so rudely interrupted myself) somewhere we all lost our way and Sufjan Stevens will find it for us.

The original pressing called for Superman to be on the cover, but copyrights were not agreed upon and that sniveling bastard Jerry Seinfeld won out. It's probably not his fault, almost more than likely it isn't (I certainly don't want to get sued, again, which is a lie, I've never been sued ... yet) but you gotta blame somebody. So I'm gonna blame this on Princeton in the after-hours and dedicate this to Mandy who won't approve but will be forever enveloped in that playground glow of Mr. Stevens on foreboding winter nights and who led me down slides that I more than don't regret. This album was released on Sufjan's label which is named after a kitty who suffers from asthma named Sara. Oh it's all too cute, someday I'll have a kitten named Suffy.

### Prospect Hummer

[CD-single E.P.]  
Animal Collective featuring Vashti Bunyan  
Fat Cat [Caroline]  
Released May 24, 2005

This is a more appropriate venue for Vashti Bunyan. Although her previously mentioned solo album release seems quite modern yet timeless, the instrumentalism provided by the Animal Collective makes this release just seem somehow more fitting. With stranger, less traditional backdrops for her voice, the music seems to have this quality that Vashti Bunyan has always anticipated for her music that I have convinced myself she has always desired. This prospect hummer, which I have yet to receive, only sweetens the deal. The other prospect hummer, not fellatio related, is equally relevant 'cuz I prospectively see myself humming this in the future.

# Dance Away

By Victoria Larkin

During Synergy week, I participated in two different dance events, both held at the Longhouse. The first was the GypsieNation Ritual Dance. The second was a Ceili (Kay-lee), a Celtic social dance ritual.

The GypsieNation dance was held during the afternoon. It was to be a ritual dance for purification and healing. As we crossed the threshold of the front entrance of the Longhouse, we were told we were entering a non-verbal space: No talking. There was a fire burning in the fire-pit, and altars with 'candles' (battery-operated) were set up in a few places. People had been encouraged to bring items that were significant for them to place on the altars. Days before, I'd chopped off 15 inches of my hair, representing specifically the last 5 years of my life, and generally the last 10. I'd considered bringing it, but just having my bare neck with me was enough. I was still reeling from the effect of it, and this was to be the first time I would dance without my hair.

As we entered, somewhat ambient music was playing over the speakers, and it was a time for warming up. After while the head dude, Skywalker, gathered us all into a circle and spoke to us about dance as ritual. Dance has always been a part of ceremonies in many cultures throughout history, for purposes of worship, healing, rites of passage, as well as for social occasions. At this GypsieNation dance, we were to focus on letting go, purification and healing. We all took a moment to focus, and Skywalker suggested we call ourselves back to our chosen intentions throughout the time we were dancing. The music then began.

All kinds of world ambient hip reggae etc. kept folks swirling and grooving for about 90 minutes. Most everyone was within themselves and in the music. There were some children who danced with each other, and some adults interwove, but mostly it was a solitary experience. This suited me fine, as I am accustomed to it. Dance and music and I go back all the way. For me dance has always been a non-verbal form of communication with myself, with my emotions, and with some part of The Mystery. This time I could not help but focus on the wound at the back of my neck, and all that went with my missing hair. I found it was like dancing without one of my limbs. Much to let go of, much to break through to. I allowed myself to go inside completely and to connect with the unspoken, the pain as well as the hope. It seemed that many did the same, though I

wasn't really watching them. Some danced around the fire, some sat by the altars, some circled around the whole space, and others lay quietly on the floor.

When the music came down, we gathered and sat in a circle again and spoke of our experiences. Somehow I'd forgotten how important dance is for me. I'd spent a good portion of my life with only dance as my focus, but for the past few years I've been away from it, busy in my head. If nothing else, I was grateful for having been reminded of the power dance has for me, to connect me, to center me, to lift me out of my physical. The kind of energy tapped into and raised can be powerfully cleansing and help to process all kinds of emotions. With focused intention, a gathering of people can affect not only the molecules inside of them, but even those outside. I left in silence, filled with emotion and filled with a sense of the possible.

The second dance I participated in was the Ceili, a completely different experience. A Ceili is an interactive social dance

For me dance has always been a non-verbal form of communication with myself, with my emotions, and with some part of The Mystery.

had to be the dude. I was having a gender crisis. During one dance we worked our way around the circle and wound up with our new partner at the end of each sequence; each time I got to my next 'girl' I would automatically curtsy, even though I was supposed to be the guy. The funny thing was that the girls would automatically bow back to me!

As things went on, people laughed more and more, though there were times of relative silence while everyone was concentrating really hard, or just trying to catch their breath.

Jeez, no wonder girls used to faint all the time! Swirling around, laughing ridiculously, loaded down with skirts and underthings and corsets and hair, dancing in tight spaces with oil burning for light, and probably very little air ...

The Ceilis always make me think of Dickens—"Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig, top couple"—the thumping and clapping and smiling and laughing. There's no way not to laugh, if you're dancing at all, that is ... I can imagine being miserable all night long as you watch the one you want dance off with some other one ... But surely even then there must be healing

in having your community dancing and feeling such a part of it around you ... interweaving arms and hands and glances and smiles ... Hearts rise, colors rise ...

There were two kilted gents there, and another

one I've already mentioned, and another who was not wearing a white shirt and was in a wheelchair. They seemed to have come together with some friends. I wondered if I could spin a wheelchair around, if and when he became my partner. The group around them was doing a great job of it, and they were all having a great time. On one of the breaks, the two kilted lads raced each other out to the night air—the one in the chair seemed to start it, and the other, as if they were loving brothers, good-naturedly ran to catch up, and just barely passed him as they sailed into the darkness outside the open doors.

Another favorite moment of mine happened just after a female friend of mine offered to be my gent. Of course I accepted, and we had just heard the caller tell us to follow the example of the couple opposite us. We turned to look at said couple, only to catch them as they plunged their tongues into each others mouths while in heated mushy embrace. My 'gent' and I abruptly looked at each

other, astonishment on our faces, and wondered aloud if we were meant to do that! We laughed instead, and got on with our dancing.

I wonder how it must've been back when this was not an uncommon way to spend a Friday night with many friends and families, everyone fairly merry and full of good feeling toward all ... As it was, my head was cleared, the stars were out, I felt light and content.

Dance has a way of bringing people into a place where they can open to themselves and to each other. Solitary dancing, even strictly couples dancing, can be of value for the unity of the individual, as can couple dancing for the pair. But this group experience is that to the power of 10. At a Ceili in particular, each person is part of a creation of interlacing connective circles, like those found in Celtic art. We weave in and out of each other, touching hands and eyes, while musicians keep us going 'round and 'round ... Within a community, where we touch each other and laugh together at the same things, including ourselves, without enough time to think about anything besides the next move, the next rhythm, the next flourish, dance can make us all forget what separates us: our thoughts have no time to settle in our minds, no time to fester into conclusions and judgments. We spend at least those hours in a perfection of unity with either ourselves and/or a group of beings.

Whether in ritual space or social space, with specific intention or just for pleasure, alone or in company, dance is a pure form of being that lifts the physical into the spiritual. We all need to remember our source, and our commonalities, and with music and movement we can go beyond words, which so often trap us in the life of the mind.

So, to quote one of my dance teacher's favorite T-shirts, I say let us: Shut up and Dance!

Victoria Larkin is a senior who works as a writing tutor and is enrolled in Arts, Environment and the Child: Walking the Wheel of the Season.

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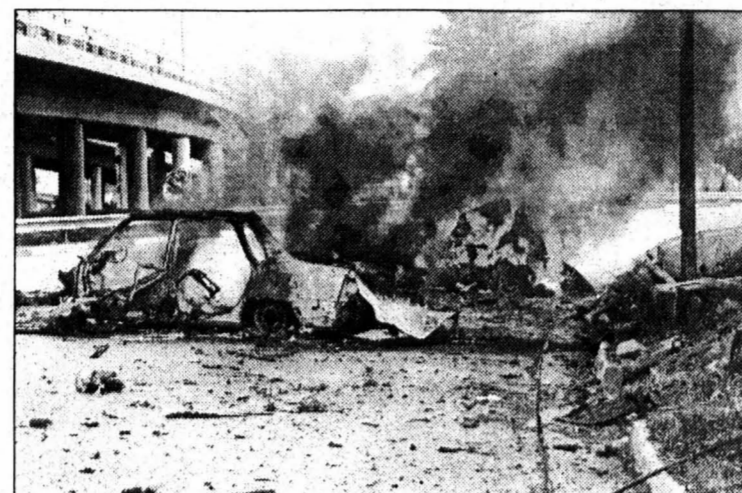
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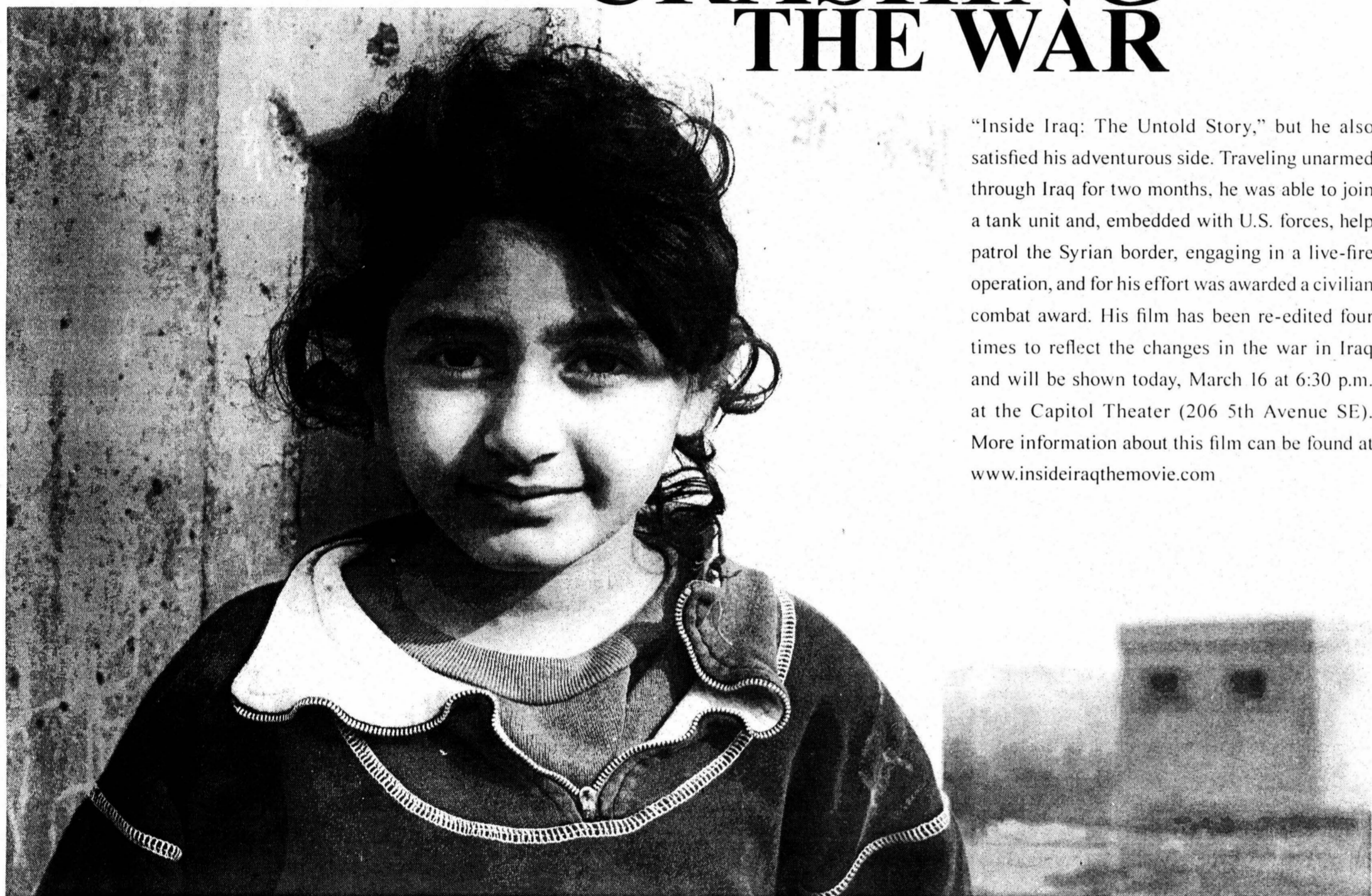
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In an effort to get his own sense of the conflict beyond what was being offered by others in the media, Mike Shiley, adventure traveler and filmmaker, traveled to Iraq. Going as a freelance journalist by striking a deal with his local ABC affiliate in Portland, OR, Mr. Shiley made his own press pass at Kinko's and cashed in his frequent flyers to make the trip. Not only did Mr. Shiley produce the documentary film



# CRASHING THE WAR

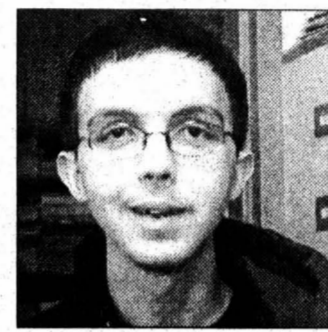


Photos courtesy of Mike Shiley

"Inside Iraq: The Untold Story," but he also satisfied his adventurous side. Traveling unarmed through Iraq for two months, he was able to join a tank unit and, embedded with U.S. forces, help patrol the Syrian border, engaging in a live-fire operation, and for his effort was awarded a civilian combat award. His film has been re-edited four times to reflect the changes in the war in Iraq and will be shown today, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Capitol Theater (206 5th Avenue SE). More information about this film can be found at [www.insideiraqthemovie.com](http://www.insideiraqthemovie.com)

## How video games actually impact us *False perceptions held by many*

I'd like to think my world revolves around video games. Your world may not, but there are millions of us out there that play games every day of our lives. Unfortunately, there are many people trying to slow my ability to live my life by censoring and even trying to shut down certain types of video games. I recently read an interesting history of the comics industry that I feel is rather relevant to our current situation on the issue of video games and violence.



By Jacob Stanley

Comic books got extremely popular after the Second World War and as the people reading them grew up, so did the stories they read about in them. By 1954 there was a crash in the comics industry after a book was published by Dr. Fredric Wertham, a German-American psychiatrist, called "Seduction of the Innocent." In this book he attacks comic books with violence or sexual themes in them, saying that they encourage youth to imitate this behavior and are a hazard to society. This book created fear of federal legislation and led to the creation of the Comics Code Authority (CCA). It was a strict set of decency laws created by the industry to slow the production of violent or sexually themed comic books in the United States, which effectively shut down several genres of comics immediately.

I mention this history because it took more than thirty years for the comic book industry to really recover from such a stigma of regulations, and even now they aren't as popular as they might have been had certain parental

paranoia about a book been disregarded. The video game industry is in a similar pickle these days with its own regulations. Luckily it already has a rating system that isn't too harsh and is used by all video game publishers if they want to sell games on the mass market. People still misunderstand the way video games work, though, and continue to push the idea that they encourage violence in the real world. The rating system was created for a reason: so you'd know what you're buying and for what ages such a game is appropriate. Parents have apparently not caught onto this fact.

The idea that an imaginary world would further violence and sexual misconduct is rather outlandish to imagine. I would liken it to saying that watching a film, such as "A Clockwork Orange," would make you want to go out and kill or rape someone if such mediums were thought to create unsavory behavior. Recently video games have been called "different" than books and movies because you're actively participating in the act of violence or misconduct. I feel this idea is also a moot point because the rating system mentions specifically what the game is going to entail as far as poor conduct goes, and the description on the back of the box will give you an idea of what actions you may be participating in. Don't buy *Call of Duty 2*, a WW2 theme game, and not expect to have to kill a German or two when you begin the missions.

In any case, when one buys a video game, it is used as a tool to escape reality, not prepare for a way to re-enact it later. Video games are being looked at as something that people with some sort of mental problem or anger issue participate in to slow their immortal rage to kill. The fact of the matter is that the median age of gamers these days is around 25 because those that were raised when video games

first emerged have now grown up with video games in their lives. The legislators are trying to say that youth are being corrupted, that they're going on killing sprees because video games made them want to. That's bullshit. Kids want to kill other kids because school sucks and life gets too hard for folks that have depression issues, but video games can be a good outlet for that anger if one lets it.

No matter the spouted "facts" of congressmen and lawyers, crime has been going down this past decade and video game sales are at their peak. The media would like us to believe that games are the problem and that they are leading us down a path towards violence perpetrated in the name of *Counter Strike* or *Grand Theft Auto*. Violence has always existed and there are plenty of crazy people to go around, but crazy people have hobbies too, and just because a few of them might play video games on their off time that doesn't make their hobby evil. Hitler liked to paint, but that doesn't make all artists fascist sociopaths or the practice of art a way to train one's imagination to depict violence in the world accurately enough to want to perpetrate it.

Dungeons and Dragons was once berated as "satanic" by Christian groups, but it is merely a game where your imagination is allowed to flourish. So are video games and perhaps that is why legislators are so against it. If we are given a chance to participate in a world we truly enjoy and desire, such as *World of Warcraft*, D&D, or any number of games, comics or books that have enveloped our lives, then we might just get tired of the way this world is working and try to change it.

Jacob Stanley is a sophomore enrolled in a few four-credit gems to get a +3 creativity modifier.

## Smart women are rich *A miniscule rant*

Idle curiosity prompted me to flip through Evergreen's Extended Education catalog. My eyes fell on a course being offered in financial management, targeted toward women—a subject with which I take no issue whatsoever.



By Calen Swift

It bears the title *Smart Women Finish Rich*, which phrase I do take issue with. Pardon me if, in my idealism, I am being a traitor to the cause of women's rights to our grand American Dream, but I do not believe that ending rich should necessarily be the goal of any smart woman, man or person of any gender.

Allow me to provide my revision of the phrase that somehow became the title of a college course. Smart women live in ways that uphold their beliefs. A smart woman stops, and recognizes the wealth that she already has in her intellect and abilities. Smart women, at the finish—indeed, all people—realize that riches do not lie in finances.

Calen Swift is a sophomore enrolled in Cells and Molecules, Principles of Economics, Intro to Spanish and Woodworking.

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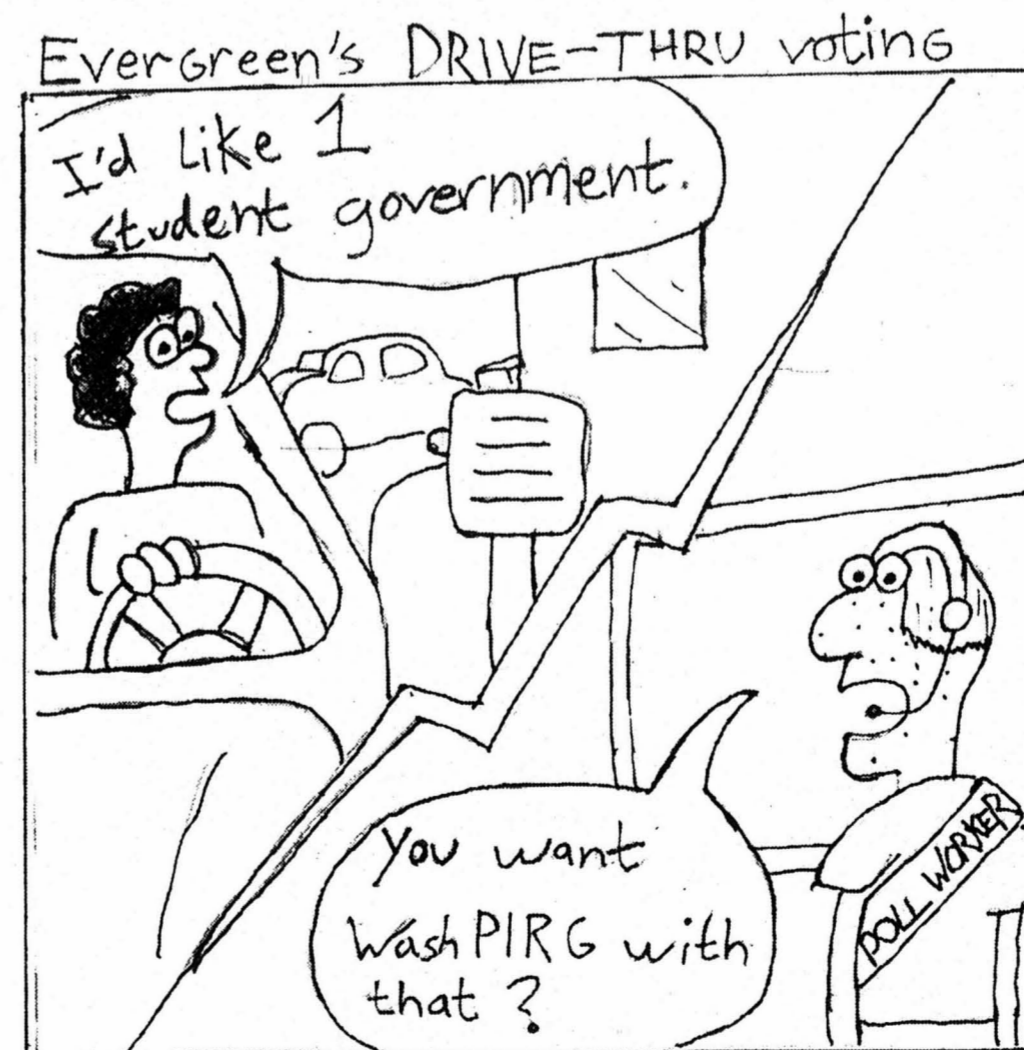
Paul Zaloom  
"The Women of all Enemies"

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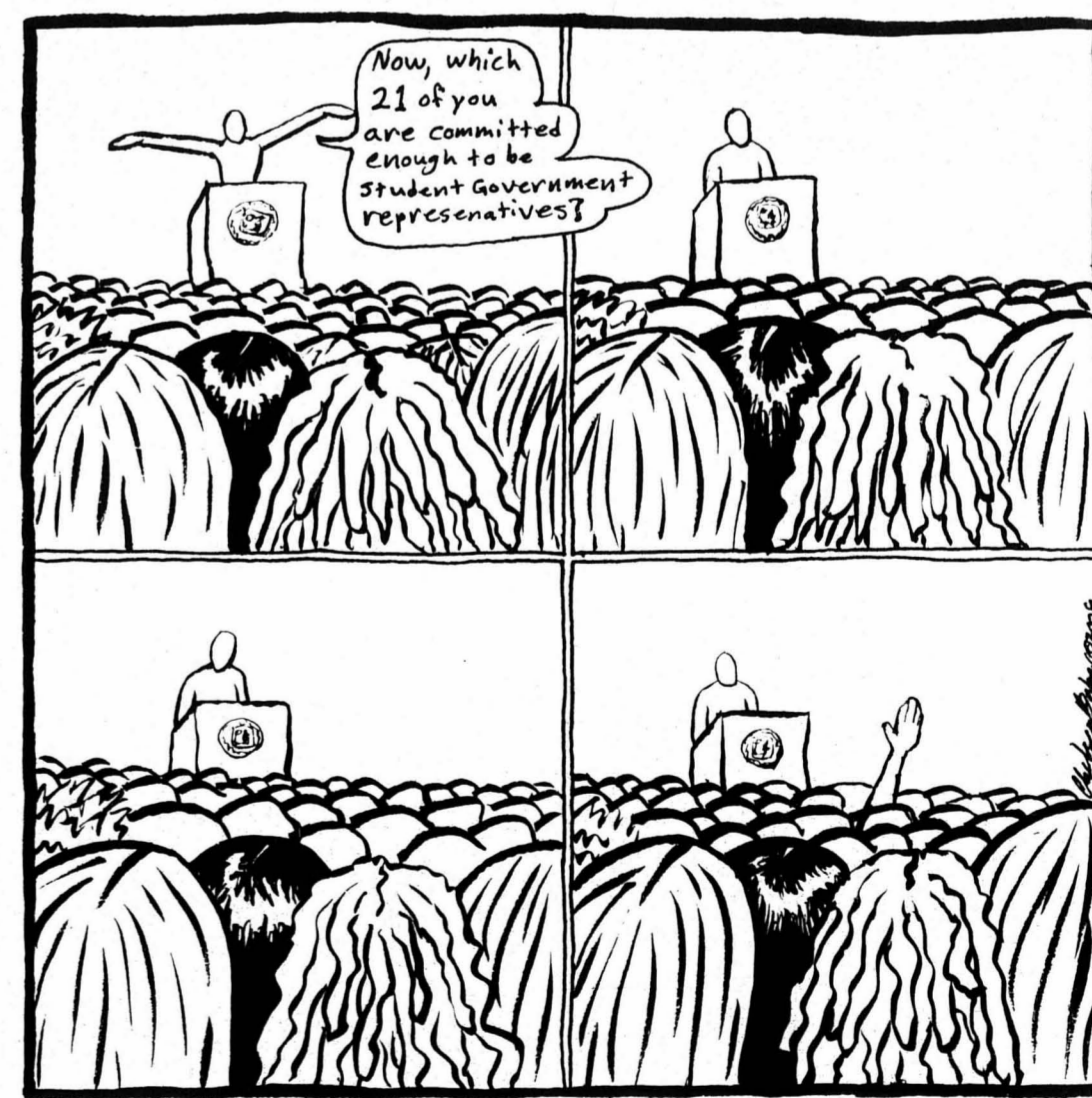
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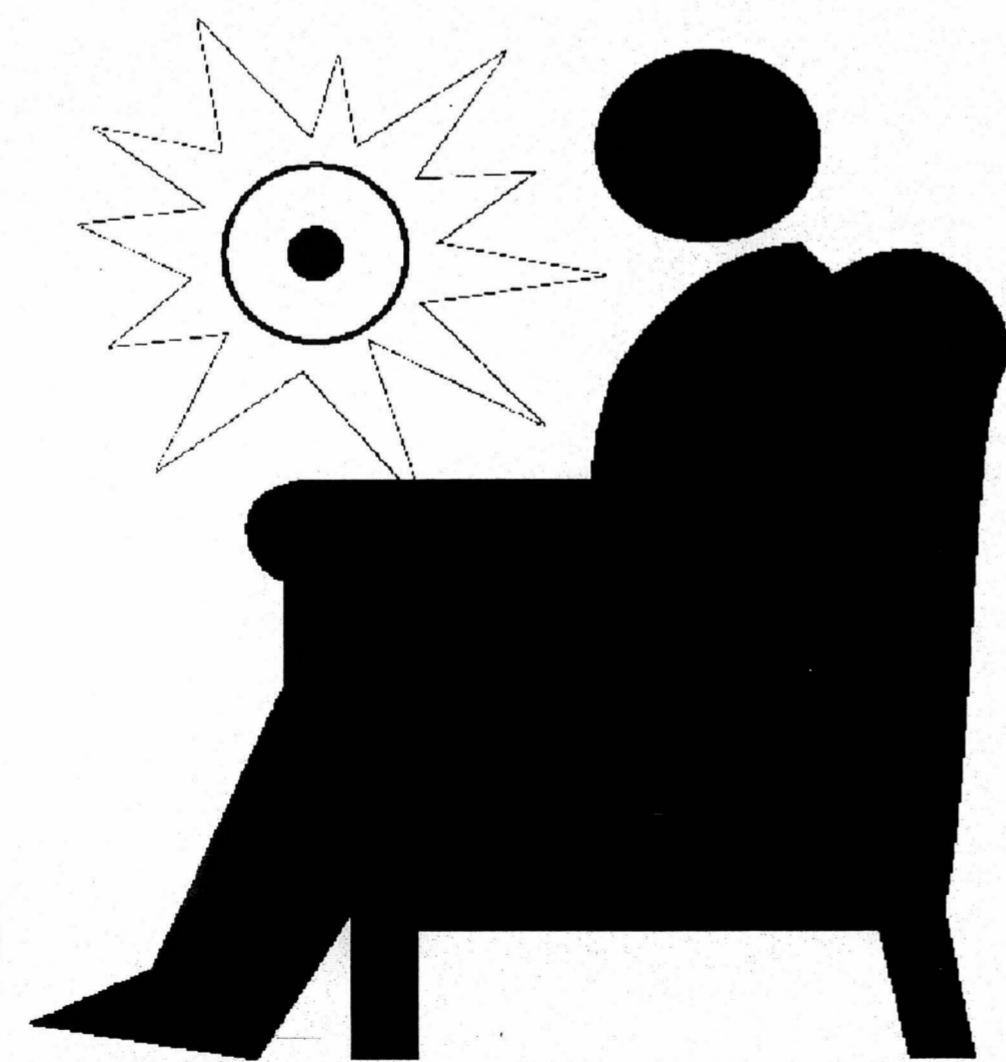
# Apply To Be Next Year's Editor-In-Chief



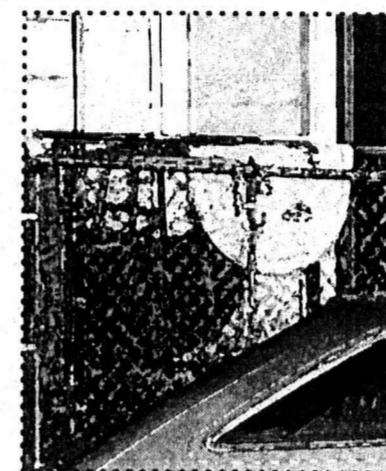
Become a leader and co-coordinator of the student newspaper and learn about interpersonal conflict resolution, open communication and sharpening your critical thinking skills!

Application materials will be available on CD at the CPJ office in CAB 316 beginning

**Tuesday, February 21**

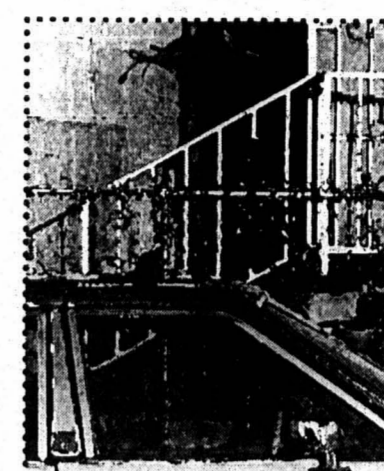


**Application Deadline is April 7**



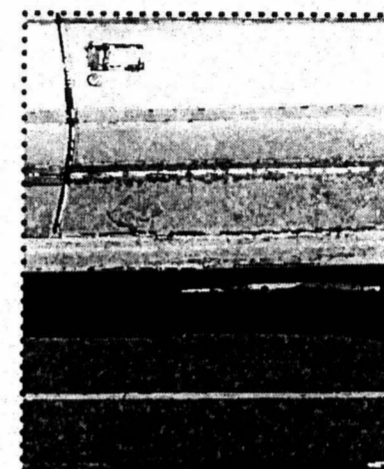
• The Voice of the Poem and Other Musics presents: "Maledetto" for seven virtuoso speakers by Kenneth Gaburo and operas written and performed by students at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., respectively. This event is being held in the Com Building's Recital Hall.

**friday 17**



• Stonewall Youth Drag Show - This all-ages drag show promises to be a hoot. For more information and details, visit [www.stonewallyouth.org](http://www.stonewallyouth.org). Doors are at 6:00 p.m. and the show is at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 and sliding scale for youths. Tickets can be bought at the box office the night of the show at the Capitol Theater (206 5th Avenue SE).

**saturday 18**



• Ghostface Killah with M-1 of Dead Prez, Common Market, Cool Nutz and djibesOne will be playing the Showbox in Seattle. Go re-affirm Evergreen's support of Wu-Tang Clan. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 on the day of the show. They can be purchased from [www.TicketsWest.com](http://www.TicketsWest.com) or the Showbox's box office. Doors are at 8:00 p.m. Open to all ages.

• Marionette and Puppet Making: Doing Street Theatre

**tuesday 21**

• Triple Dog Dare will be playing a show to mark the release of their new CD "Virtual Radio." Six people will receive a free copy. Admission is \$5 and open to all ages. 8:00 p.m. at the Matrix Coffeehouse (434 NW Prindle St., Chehalis, WA).

• Peace Rally - From noon to 1:00 p.m. there will be a rally in opposition to the war in Iraq with protesters planning to line 4th Avenue in downtown Olympia from the Heritage Fountain to the 4th Avenue Bridge.

Part of the weeklong event "Towards a South Sound Social Forum." Sponsored by EPIC. This will be held at Yes Yes (320 4th Ave W) from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

• Batik Fabric Dyeing followed by Media Island Benefit Another event of "Towards a South Sound Social Forum," this time being held at the Eagles Hall (805 4th Ave E). The fabric dyeing starts at 5:00 p.m. and Grizzle Grizzle Trashcan Band will play with a secret punk band that is yet to be announced from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Photo By Aaron Beitz

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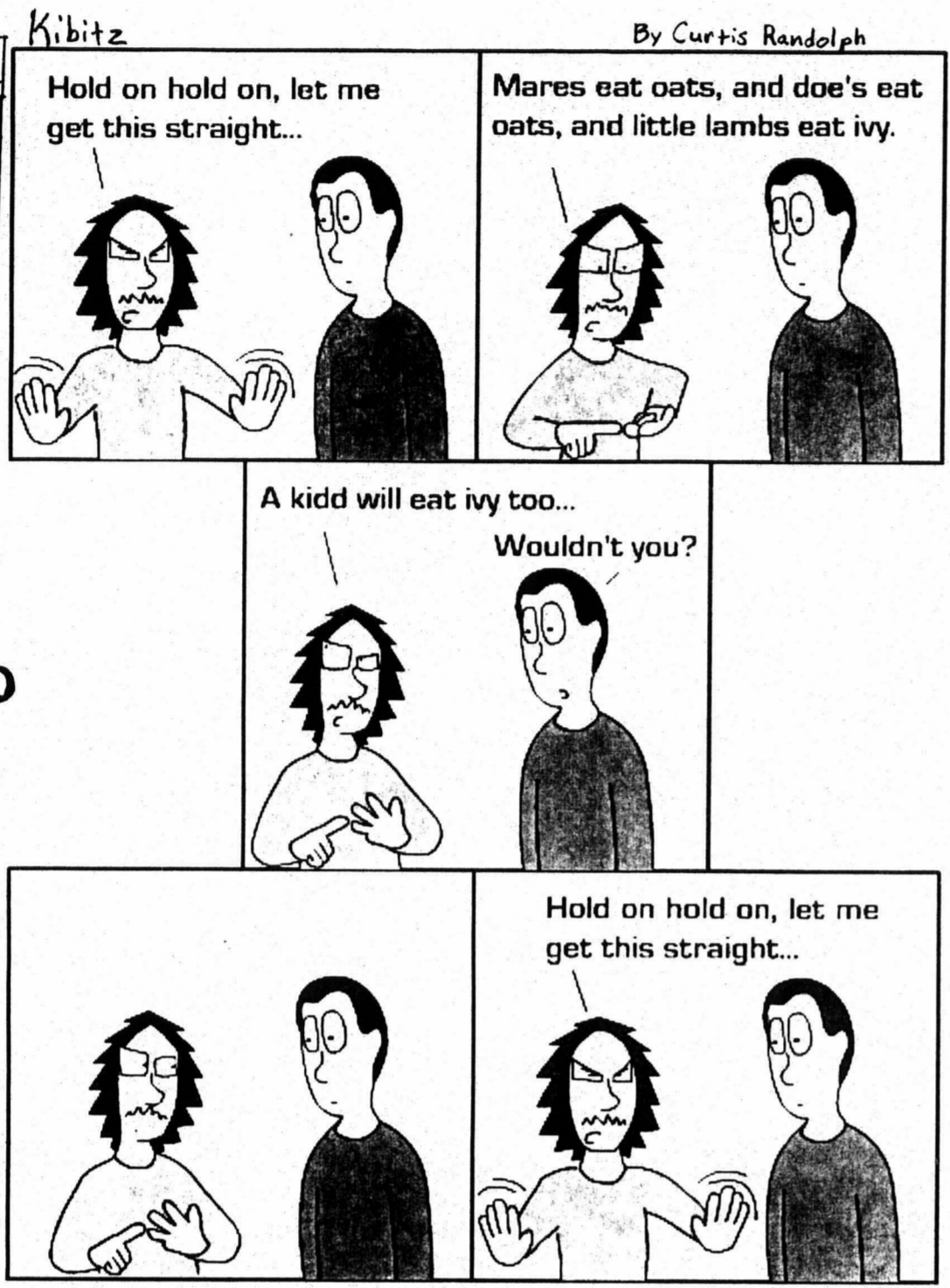
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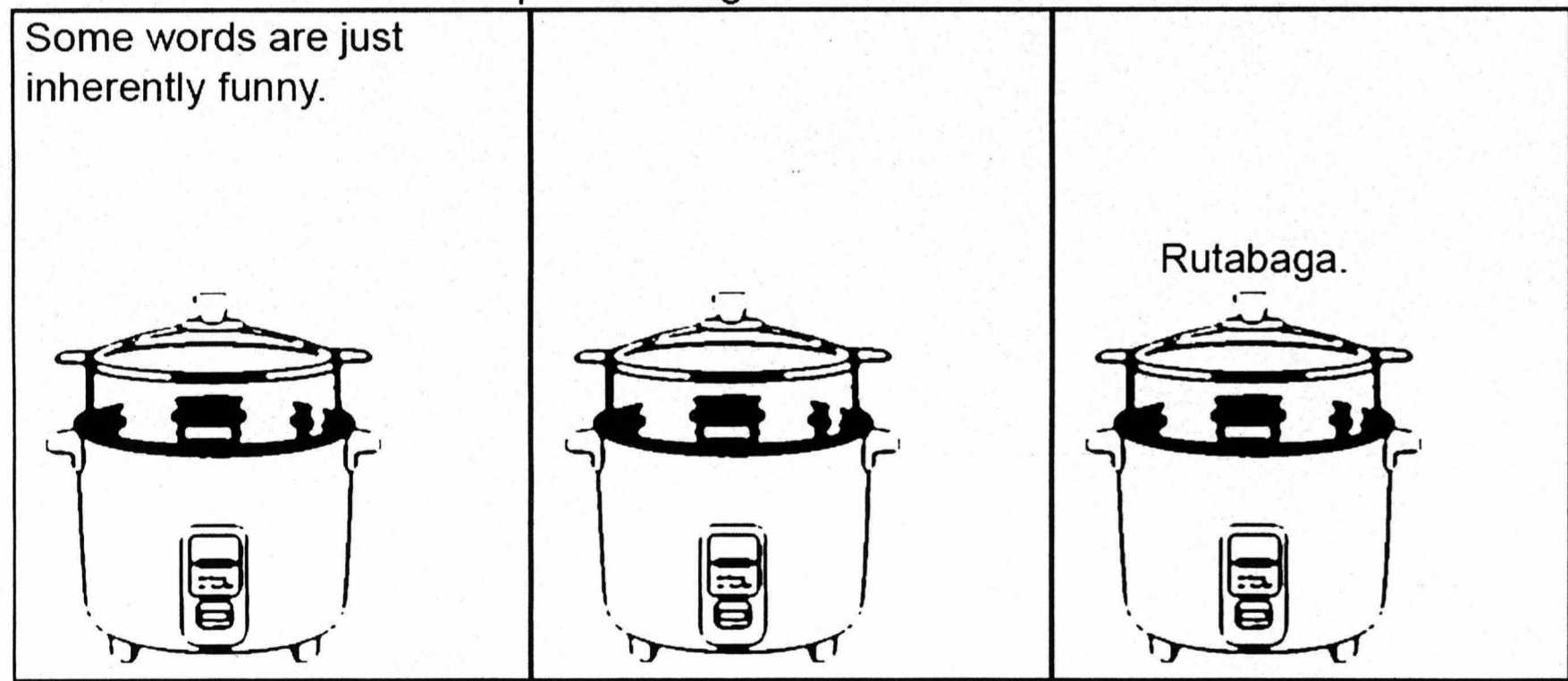
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