



GSU Update

Uncertainty surrounds review board appointment

by JASON SLOTKIN

By the end of the January 29 Geoduck Student Union (GSU) meeting, the group had not made the any appointments to the Police Service Community Review Board (PSCRB).

After the GSU had interviewed two candidates for the remaining positions on the board, the discussion digressed into what some GSU members described as attacks and disrespectful statements. The most recent contention involving the GSU and the PSCRB involves representative Tez Stair, who, despite dissent from representative Kate Schiffman, decided to join the PSCRB. During the recent PSCRB forum, he identified himself publicly as a member of the review board along with Tasha Glen, the student who had been recommended by the GSU to fill a student seat on the PSCRB.

Earlier this year, Art Costantino, Vice President of Student Affairs, had delegated to the GSU the responsibility of finding students to fill vacant positions on various campus committees, including the Student Conduct Code Disappearing Task Force, The Campus Land Use Committee (CLUC), and the Polices Services Community Review Board.

GSU representatives also had "right of first refusal" for any open student positions these committees. "Right of first refusal is confusing," said GSU representative Josie Jarvis. Representatives also choose which committees they would be in charge of recruiting and interviewing students for.

During the most recent meeting, representative Charles Loosen said that right of first refusal was used by representatives Jake Mixon and Randall Hunt to join as student members of the CLUC. According to Loosen, at the meeting these appointments were done before other students could apply. The current process involves filling out an application, a one-on-one interview by a representative, and an interview by the entire GSU. The GSU than has to come to consensus over an applicant before recommending a student to any committee on campus.

According to Tim Markus, chair of the PSCRB, some students who were interested in joining the review board had contacted him about joining. He had referred

their applications to the GSU, as was brought up by Loosen. Shyam Khanna, the representative who had volunteered to find students for the review board, said he did not know about the students who had gone straight to the board. Earlier this year, Khanna had been criticized in a letter by student Jeffrey Luxmore sent to the GSU, about how Khanna was recruiting students for the review board. The letter drew attention to an email Khanna had sent the the Sabbot Infoshoppe mailing list. Luxmore in his letter argued that Khanna had misused "his power and influence to forward his own personal agenda."

The letter had been read into the record during the previous GSU meeting by Stair, who also voiced similar concerns during the most recent meeting.

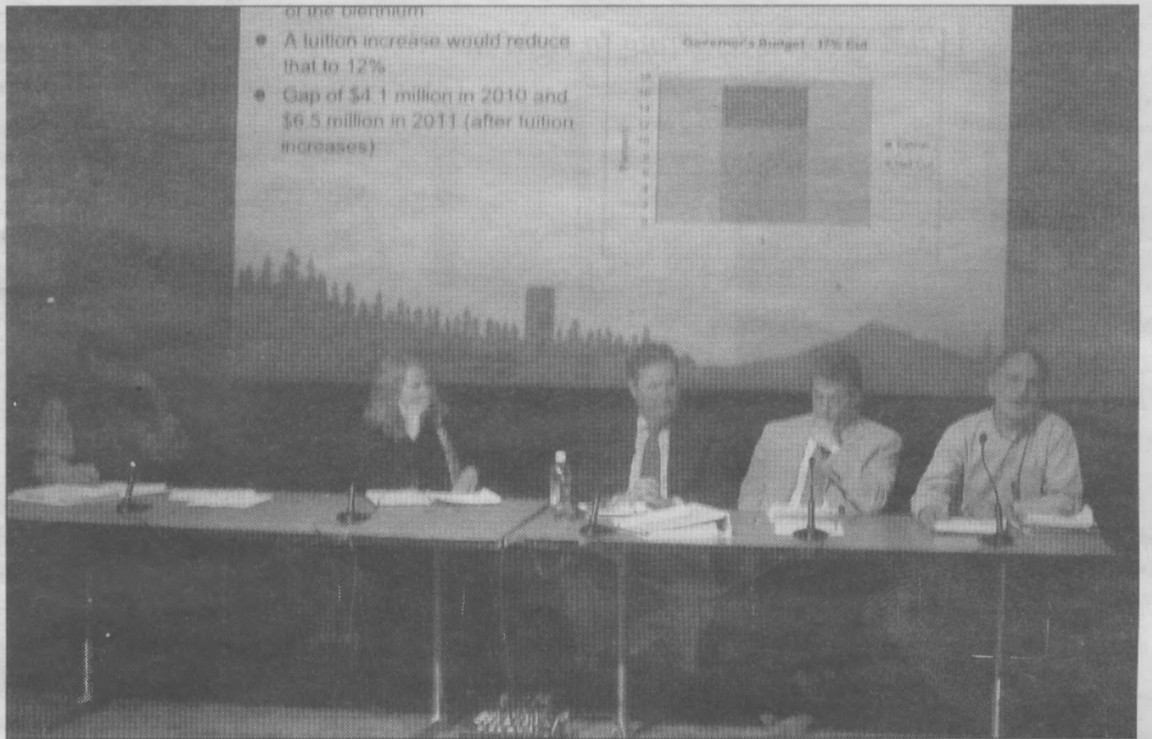
At the meeting Khanna said that he felt a process was developed. Representative Randall Hunt said it was "too late in the discussion in the discussion" for these concerns. "I feel like this is the discussion we should have had." "It's a very loose process," said Jarvis.

The GSU has not developed any bylaws on how to recruit students for committee positions, standard questions for interviews, and what Jarvis calls other "specificities". The process for filling the empty seats on the PSCRB and other committees is intended to "get all the students with sufficient conflicts of interests out of the pool."

When Stair announced he planned on joining the PSCRB, Khanna had two more applicants ready to be interviewed by the GSU. Several members argued that Stair's application had already been blocked, but Loosen said that Stair was free to join the board as a student, and did not necessarily have to go through the GSU's process.

Whether or not any GSU member has acted with misconduct is still being debated by various members, but uncertainty seems to permeate the whole process. "We didn't decide if who we say gets on the board, gets on the board," said Jarvis.

Jason Slotkin is a senior enrolled in an independent learning contract.



STEVE TROTTER OUTLINES THE BUDGET CUT PROCESS

SAMANTHA SERMENO

Tuition hike still on table

by MADELINE BERMAN

The second budget forum of the year was held on Wednesday January 28 in the Recital Hall. Speakers included Evergreen President Les Purce, Steve Trotter, Executive Director for Operational Planning and Budget, Don Bantz, academic provost, Art Costantino, Vice President of Student Affairs, John Hurley, Vice President of Finance and Administration, and Lee Hoemann, Vice President for Advancement.

The agenda consisted of a PowerPoint presen-

tation about the budget cut process, followed by administrators answering questions from the audience and finished with a timeline for decisions about the budget.

"These decisions should reflect the college's commitment to teaching and learning in interdisciplinary/interactive programs and courses for a diverse community of students, faculty, and staff," said Trotter. "At the same time we need to focus on the needs of current

see BUDGET, page 5

Voices raised at rifle forum

by MADELINE BERMAN

The Police Services Community Review Board (PSCRB) hosted a forum on Monday, January 26 in Lecture Hall 1. This forum is the second one this month—and the first forum hosted by the PSCRB—with the proposed rifle purchase as a subject.

Those present included members of the Police Community Review Board, Students for a Democratic Society, Evergreen Police Services, and Thurston County SWAT.

Police Services chief Ed Sorger was present and spoke on behalf of the rifle purchase, citing the campus' liability to protect the students and the school's current lack of active shooter response training.

Next to speak were Billie Burlock

and Phil Chinn, representing the opposition to the purchase. They questioned the need for purchasing rifles during the current budget crisis and spoke of the idea that allowing Police Services access to more firearms would increase the militarization of the police.

The forum was then opened for questions. Many raised concerns about when the rifles would be used and where they would be stored. Others wanted to know about what the school will do to ease the tension and bridge the gap between Police Services and students.

During the question-and-answer portion of the forum, Art Costantino, vice president of student affairs, spoke about how Police Services came to be armed originally.

According to Costantino, the

campus had been very divided as to whether the police should be armed at all, and it came down to a single vote in favor of police armament.

Members of the audience then asked if they could vote on it again. The answer to this question was lost under the noise of shouting in response to the question.

For more information about the rifle purchase proposal, visit www.evergreen.edu/policeservices/responseproposal.html or cpj.evergreen.edu/pdfs.html and click on the "week 3" link.

Madeline Berman is a sophomore enrolled in Image and Sequence.

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vox pop



What are you listening to right now?

by SIMONE FOWLER and
CLAIRE ROSENFELD

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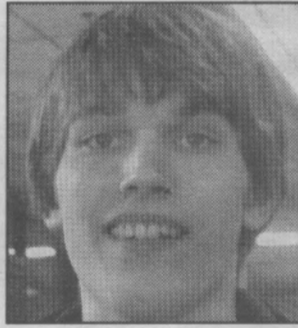


"Girl Talk... 'Let Me See You'"

Maggie Duderichs

Sophomore

Order & Chaos



"'Hoppipolla', by Sigur Rós."

Adam Peterson

Junior

Food, Health, and Sustainability



"Russian techno."

Everett Halfman

Freshman

Russia and Eurasia: Enduring Legacies



"Mount Eerie's new album."

Megan Luke

Freshman

Prolegomena to a Future Poetics



"I'm listening to Azure Ray... it's 'For the Sake of the Song'."

April Reeves

Freshman

Imagining the Body



"Right now I'm listening to The Strokes... their whole album. 'The Way It Is' right now."

David Dunaway

Freshman

Computer Science Foundations

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.

CPJ Forum

1 p.m. Wednesday
Discussion on issues related to journalism.

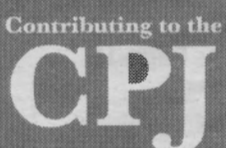
Post Mortem & Issue Planning

5 p.m. Thursday
Critique the last issue of the CPJ and help plan for the next one.

All meetings are held in CAB 316

Call the Cooper Point Journal if you are interested in any of the available positions listed above.

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The content of The Cooper Point Journal is created entirely by Evergreen students. **Contribute today.**

The Cooper Point Journal

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Sustainable-business events with the Center for Sustainable Entrepreneurship

by **BRENDAN DELANY** and **BEN ANDERSON**

This past week at the Center for Sustainable Entrepreneurship (CSE), we met with Evergreen alumnus Bob McIntosh, the founder of STARangers, an organization with aims congruent to the CSE. STARangers helps students find ways to start and run businesses in a sustainable and conscientious way. Since both of our groups have only recently gotten off the ground, we hope to form a bond that will strengthen both and offer the greatest resources to the community.

We have a couple of big events coming up. First, we are offering a field trip to the Bainbridge Graduate Institute (BGI) on Bainbridge Island. BGI is a great place to check out if you're interested in business but unsatisfied with the traditional teachings of "profit, profit, profit." BGI offers MBAs in sustainable business, one of only a few graduate schools in the country to do so. If you're interested in seeing what these people are all about, shoot an email to csc@evergreen.edu. The trip is planned for February 7, 2009 and there are still spots left in the van.

Secondly, the CSE is working with several faculty members to host an event titled "The New Economy: Green and Sustain-

able Solutions" on February 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. The event is focused on finding solutions to today's problems through the power of sustainable entrepreneurship, and will include many speakers in both lecture and forum formats. There will be a free movie showing of *The Great Squeeze*. There will be plenty of chances to drop in and learn about the future of the economy as more and more people become aware of the need for socially and environmentally responsible business. As an added bonus, popcorn will be provided.

At our next meeting, we will be visited by Evergreen entrepreneur Bill Raynes, executive director of the Youth Connection of Puget Sound in downtown Olympia—a nonprofit organization that provides activities to keep youth out of trouble. He will be talking about the dynamics of running a nonprofit organization. If you think you want to learn more about nonprofits or are interested in starting one, this is a great opportunity.

The CSE meets every Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. in SEM II A 2109.

Brendan Delany and Ben Anderson are both juniors enrolled in Advanced Foundations of Successful and Sustainable Businesses.

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Kat Van Hollebeke, Student at The Evergreen State College Olympia, WA



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HIP-HOP SHOW MARCH 11

produced by **CHRIS FOSTER** and **HIP HOP CONGRESS**

Hip Hop Congress is back and ready to start 2009 off with ambition and style. Having recently become an official chapter of the National Hip Hop Congress, we are organizing and ready to take serious actions towards doing more for our Evergreen student body and surrounding communities.

We have booked a show for March 11 to be held on-campus at the CRC. It will feature Josh Martinez and headliner One Be. Lo. One Be. Lo. is a nationally known rapper out of Pontiac, Michigan. We are fortunate enough to have him perform for our event the day before he has to fly back to North Dakota for another show. The March 11 show will be held in the back bay of the CRC. There will be no bags allowed and large jackets will have to be patted down. Please tell anyone planning to attend—we do not want to

have to turn people away because they brought bags. But please stop by, listen to some dope music, have a great time, and support your local hip-hop community.

Also, Hip Hop Congress will be giving weekly Facebook and MySpace announcements as well as submitting more in the CPJ with artist and recent album reviews. In the upcoming weeks we will also be writing bios of the artists performing at the March 11th show, along with all the music and info you may want to know before the show. Hip Hop Congress will also be posting a monthly Calendar around campus, which will include many campus students groups events.

KEEP CHECKING US OUT! Hip Hop Congress meets every week at 3:30 p.m. in the lecture hall rotunda. Please come to our weekly meetings and chill...

Chris Foster is a student at The Evergreen State College and a member of Hip Hop Congress.

CALLING ALL STUDENTS OF COLOR!

Contribute to the Students of Color Anthology

Hey, students of color! Did you know that Evergreen has had seven past anthologies written by student of color? Due to lack of student involvement, there hasn't been one since 2000. That's almost a full decade gone by without this valuable means of expression. That is far too long to be sitting quiet! I am calling out to you, Evergreen—Olympia, Tacoma campus, and reservation-based programs—let's bring back the students of color anthology!

There are several different ways to get involved in the project. You can contribute your writing, two-dimen-

sional artwork or photography by sending a copy to palcer29@evergreen.edu, or you can join the Student of Color Anthology council. The council will be a core group of students who will plot the course of the making of the anthology. The first meeting of the council will be held Thursday, January 29 in the First Peoples' Unity Lounge at 4:30 p.m.

Also, for those of you attending the Tacoma and reservation-based programs, I understand that it is often difficult to meet here at the Olympia campus, so please, if you are interested in being involved in the project, send me an email and we can get your voices heard.

~ CERISE PALMANTEER

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Progress and problems at Flaming Eggplant: "We're not marking up kombucha"

by MADELINE BERMAN

The Flaming Eggplant is now into its eleventh week of business.

"The Eggplant is doing well. We're still excited to be serving food," said coordinator Julianne Panagacos. Since opening early fall quarter, Panagacos feels that the Eggplant has made great strides in overall functionality. "We definitely have a better handle on things. We've learned how to work at the college."

The Eggplant has yet to break even because they must first cover the initial cost to set up the cafe.

"We lost \$5,196.58 in operations fall quarter," said Panagacos. "Our goal is to break even operationally by next November. It's definitely a goal we're going to have to work towards."

To reach this goal, they have set standards for food cost. The cost margin for food from the grill will ultimately be more than food that doesn't take as long to prepare.

In regards to what they're not doing—"We're not marking up kombucha."

The Eggplant is also starting to set up farm contracts for next season. They are working with different local farms in order to make sure that the farms grow enough food for the Eggplant to buy. Farms include The Evergreen State College organic farm, Wishbone Farm, and Pigman's.

"We hope to have more and more local food as time goes on," said Panagacos.

Along with buying locally, the Eggplant is striving to be more organic by now serving coffee from Olympia Coffee roasters, "the only entirely organic coffee roasters in town," according to Panagacos.

Students at Western Washington University are trying to start a food co-op on their campus. Planning is still in early phases, but they are using Flaming Eggplant documents and bylaws as a starting point.

The Eggplant also recently had a board of advisors meeting. The board is almost finished approving night operation for winter quarter. "The remainder of winter quarter will be a trial period in order to find out what works best for the employees and when it makes sense to be open."

The Flaming Eggplant is also planning approach the S&A board for funding for a full time staff position and more money for coordinators.

The Flaming Eggplant Café is located on Red Square and is open weekdays from 8 to 10:30 a.m. and 12 to 2 p.m. For more information, visit <http://academic.evergreen.edu/groups/flamingeggplant> or call (360) 867-6092.

Madeline Berman is a sophomore enrolled in Image and Sequence.



THE FLAMING EGGPLANT HAS BEEN IN OPERATION FOR NEARLY 11 WEEKS

OLGA PETRUS

Students talk budget cuts at Capitol

Evergreen students, along with representatives from other schools all over the state, converged on the Capitol Building to discuss the higher education budget cuts that are expected to raise the Evergreen tuition 7%. Among the assembled was the newly reformed Evergreen WashPIRG. The budget cuts are part of plan by Governor Gregoire as a response to the national economic recession, caused by the Bush administration's subprime housing debacle.

Senator Ken Jacobson put the question in the following terms "do we want to help the poor, middle class, advanced students... what's the philosophy?" The student speakers were represented the full economic spectrum from all over Washington. The sub-committee's working assumption was that some cuts would have to be made, inviting the students, in a somewhat patronizing tone, to "play

lobbyist" and help them hammer out the details. Student opinions ranged from a "7% ceiling" for tuition increase, to saving money for financial aid, and to openly protesting the budget cuts.

Evergreen reps were culled from WSL (Washington Student Lobby) and WashPIRG (Washington Public Interest Research Group). WashPIRG had been on hiatus since last year after organizing issues and questions over students voting to fund the national group (see New WashPIRG organizer). The new organizer "hopes to establish WashPIRG on campus again this year". The group is currently pushing against the budget cuts and is helping to finance food for the poor through the local Bread & Roses chapter.

~ ANDY ROSENBERGER

New WashPIRG rep on campus

Rachel Erstsad is the latest WashPIRG representative on the Evergreen campus. Though the school currently has no contract or PIRG chapter on campus, Erstad's director sent her to TESC to rejuvenate interest in WashPIRG. According to Erstad, she has had some very positive responses, especially during presentations in classrooms.

"Some had reservations on WashPIRG. They heard about what happened last fall."

In order to see WashPIRG reinstated on campus, the majority of a 25% student vote must be in favor of a chapter presence at Evergreen. For now, Erstad plans to help work on campaigns, such as a program called Recycle Mania and give students resources.

~ MADELINE BERMAN

Academic Advising presents the Winter Contract Café

The next Café is coming up right around the corner, on Wednesday, February 4 from 3-5 p.m. in the Library Lobby. The Contract Café is a new event full of creativity, elegance, and a welcoming café atmosphere. Last quarter our first Contract Café was a great success. Close to 70 students who were planning future contracts attended this event! We hope that this event will encourage students to work proactively and carefully plan individual study so that the experience is thoughtful, creative, and rigorous. Please encourage anyone you know who may be thinking of future contracts to attend this event.

The Contract Café is aimed at helping students learn about individual study—internships (INTs) and Individual Learning Contracts (ILCs) and plan for the following quarter or beyond. The Contract Café is a collaboration among Academic Advising, The Writing Center, Career Development, The Center for Community-Based Learning and Action (CCBLA), the Academic Deans' Office, and our faculty, and will provide information, creative brainstorming, and proactive planning for students who are considering undertaking an INT or ILC in a future quarter.

We'll also feature students who have successfully completed ILCs and INTs. These students will showcase their work and share their accomplishments with the Evergreen community. Please contact Academic Advising if you are interested in sharing your experience with individual learning contracts.

At the Contract Café, students can get answers to their questions, such as: What is individual learning? How do

I write a contract? How do I make my ideas become realities? How do I turn theory to practice? How do I design my own syllabus?

At the Contract Café, students can learn from academic advisors about the process for constructing a contract and using the online tools which have been developed by the college. The Writing Center staff will be on hand to provide help on writing clear, concise learning objectives. The Career Development Center and CCBLA staff can help to generate ideas about potential internship sites. Faculty will be there to discuss students' ideas and add their own suggestions. This will be an opportunity for students to learn more about potential faculty sponsors with expertise in their areas of study.

The Contract Café's objective is to support students as they plan for high quality individual study. We hope that many students, staff, and faculty will attend. Please feel free to contact Dalya Perez at (360) 867-6308 if you have any questions of if you are interested in participating.

~ DALYA PEREZ

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Grammar Garden at the Writing Center

The Writing Center presents The Grammar Garden, a series of four workshops that build upon each other. We begin with nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and prepositions; go on to verbs and adverbs; then forge ahead to sentences; and finally wrap it up with Punk-tuation! These workshops have been designed to illuminate the underlying structures with which all writers work, thus giving them a basic understanding of what is happening in their sentences and how to unravel linguistic knots.

These workshops are actually fun; there is very little "lingo" involved, because it's not about the lingo, it's about language empowerment. When learning about oil painting, it's important to understand paint, strokes, and texture; when learning about writing, you need to know about verbs, adjectives, and comma usage.

For just four hours out of your life, **weeks four through seven (Wednesdays at 2 p.m.)**, you will gain a better grasp of your own style. Grammar Garden takes place in LIB 2310, right inside the Writing Center. Come on in and try it out. You won't be sorry.

~ VICTORIA LARKIN

S&A Board's Special Initiative (S.I.) fund update

On December 10 of last year, the S&A Board spent the last of what was available in the Special Initiative fund, leaving the fund balance at -.35 cents, but that wasn't the end for student groups wanting money. On January 7 the Board conducted budget sweeps based on their advisor's recommendations. Unused funds from Geoduck Union, S&A Productions, S&A Board, The Phrontisterion, Yarn Pioneers, Musician's Club, and the Student Video Gamers Alliance were deposited back in to the Special Initiative fund, totaling \$26,524.34.

Winter quarter, the S.I. Fund budget began at \$26,523.99. The S&A Board has funded the following groups so far:

M.A.S.H.-January 7

Total Rewarded: \$2,188.13 in goods and services

Evergreen Anime Club -January 12

Total Rewarded: \$1714.16 in goods and services

The S&A Board is using a modified system to better meet the needs of student groups. For those unfamiliar with the Board's normal procedures, normally a group has five minutes to present, ten minutes for questions and answers, and 20 minutes for the Board to deliberate and award funds at the end of the deliberation.

Now instead of deliberating on each proposal individually, the Board will be deliberating on several proposals at the same time, assuring that each group has a more equal opportunity to get some money from the pot. The Board feels that this is a better solution than their normal first-come first-served strategy in which there would not be funds available to groups that were signed up for a hearing at a later date.

Due to the large number of proposals already received (ten!) and the limited amount of funds in the SI, the Board is no longer accepting budget proposals. However, a sign-up sheet is available outside the workstation for groups to be contacted if more money becomes available in the SI.

The S&A Board meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.e. in the CAB Solarium. On Wednesday, February 4, the Board will meet from 2 to 5. All meetings are open to the public. If you were unable to attend a meeting, minutes are posted next to the KAOS bulletin board on the 3rd floor of the CAB.

The S&A office manager, board coordinator and Board Members are always available to help you with any questions and concerns! Office hours are posted outside our cubicle in Student Activities CAB 320, Workstation 6. You can also call us at x6221, or shoot an email to saboard@evergreen.edu.

~ RAINBOE SIMS-JONES

Essay workshops in the Writing Center

Beginning on Wednesday, January 28, the Writing Center is launching a new four-part workshop series, Creative Approaches to the Essay, which will run from weeks four to nine. This workshop series is designed to facilitate the process of essay writing, be it in the form of seminar papers, synthesis essays, personal narratives, or research papers, through a variety of different stages. The series begins with exploring what an essay is, moves to organizing ideas, follows with framing papers, and concludes with revising and editing. The workshops will take place between 3 and 4 p.m. on Wednesdays in LIB 2310.

~ C.V. ROTONDO

Conflict resolution skills workshop

As a part of our commitment to providing relevant information and training about how to effectively deal with conflict to the Evergreen community, the CARE Network, in conjunction with the Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County, is sponsoring a Conflict Resolution & Basic Communication Skills workshop on February 9 from 3 to 6 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn some new and valuable skills as well as brush up on past learning experiences or learn more about the CARE Network and our role within the community.

Space is limited to only 30 seats. Send your name, email, and phone number at which you can be contacted to Sara Sohn, sohnsar26@evergreen.edu, by February 4. You will receive a confirmation email with additional details.

~ AARON LEE

School sets timeline for budget

BUDGET, from cover

and future students."

"There have been no decisions made at this point," said Purce. He stressed that those working with the budget are very open to suggestions from the entire Evergreen community.

According to the flyer passed out, the next steps will be for the divisions to continue to develop budget-reduction and tuition-increase scenarios. Then in early March, the Vice Presidents will finalize

a draft budget reduction plan. There will continue to be updates throughout March, including another campus-wide session.

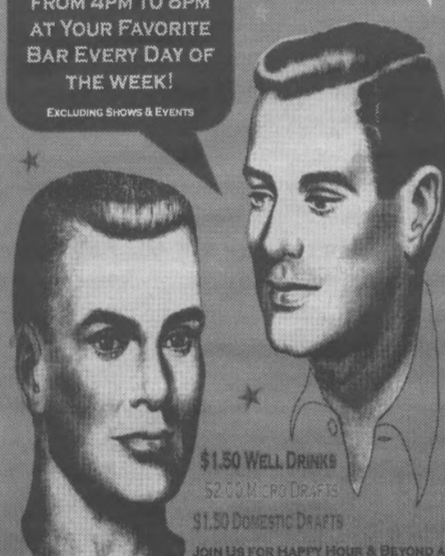
During spring quarter the president will recommend the 2009-2011 budget plan to the campus community and the Board of Trustees will approve it by June 10. For more information, please visit <http://www.evergreen.edu/president/budget/home.htm>

Madeline Berman is a sophomore enrolled in Image and Sequence.

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GREENERS BECOME RECYCLEMANIACS

EVERGREEN ENTERS FRIENDLY RECYCLING COMPETITION

by COLLEN UUEREB

Evergreen is, for the first time, participating in the national annual event known as RecycleMania. According to the RecycleMania website, it is "a friendly competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities." Colleges of all sizes, no matter what their current recycling or waste reduction interest, can take part during this ten-week time period.

Rather than competing against other colleges and universities, the newly formed RecycleMania committee at Evergreen has decided to use this time period to enter the "Benchmark Division" and focus on creating awareness while at the same time being able to compare efforts to other schools of similar size. Categories the committee especially wants to target focus on waste minimization and food service/organics.

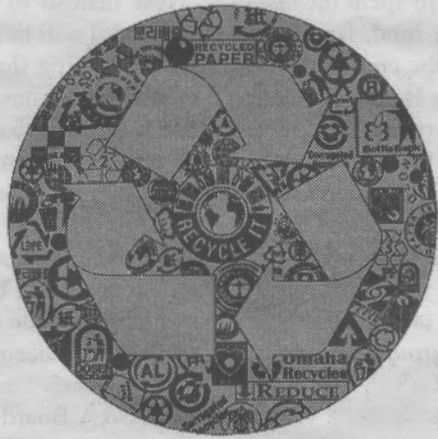
"We are in the Benchmark Division...to build infrastructure and institutional excitement about recycling, compost, and general waste diversion," said Halli Winstead, sustainability intern with Aramark Food

THE ULTIMATE GOAL IS...TO BE A ZERO-WASTE CAMPUS BY 2020

Services. "Our focus on food service organics is due to the fact that we have a very limited understanding of what our compostable volume is at Evergreen."

During the next ten weeks, all aspects of Evergreen's solid waste will be weighed and entered into the national RecycleMania database. Fortunately, facilities staff on campus already collects and weighs all landfill and recyclables generated on campus. However, more data needs to be collected regarding our organic waste.

"We currently do not have a record-keeping practice in place [for compostables] and RecycleMania is a good span of time



to develop one and give the campus a much more clear idea, with raw data, of what and how much we compost," Winstead added. "This picture is essential for us to plan and develop a closed-loop campus compost system in the future."

As a side benefit, by entering in the information into the event database, Evergreen will also be able to see how it ranks on a weekly basis compared to other schools.

The RecycleMania committee is made up of people with a variety of experiences and backgrounds. Interns, faculty, facilities staff, and both undergrad and graduate students have all taken interest in this event and have divided areas in which to concentrate. Some have developed new signage to help educate, some are introducing composting within offices, and others are working with students residing on campus.

Evergreen already has a recycling program in place, a Free Store (where students can take reusable items), and a composting program where food waste either goes to the Organic Farm or to Silver Springs Organics, but more can still be done. This time period is a great opportunity to educate students, faculty, and staff on solid waste issues on campus. After all, the ultimate goal is eventually to be a zero-waste campus by 2020. Just within the next ten weeks, there will be an increase in clearer signage around waste collection areas all across campus. Take a few more seconds and put waste in the correct receptacle. To become more involved, contact Lindsay Raab at raabl@evergreen.edu; to learn more about the event visit www.recyclemania.org.

Collen Uuereb is a Masters of Public Administration graduate student.

Permaculture's common sense sustainability

MOVEMENT PROMOTES ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION

by KELDA MILLER

In September 2008, a group of 115 people came together on the Kitsap Peninsula north of Olympia. They danced in the fields, taught under the trees, and talked late into the night about the state of the world and the simple solutions they had at their fingertips.

"A spirit of excitement and cooperation [was] in the air," said Michael Pilarski, a founder of the gathering.

It was the first Permaculture convergence to happen in the Evergreen State for many years, and it was a much-celebrated success.

From the viewpoint of many environmental and social justice activists, it is sadly apparent that modern-day humans have a tough time living on the planet. Look through the long view of history, through the current destruction of vital ecosystems, or through the eyes of oppressed peoples globally, and it is a truly an overwhelming feeling.

One thing that can be agreed upon, though, is that the typical lifestyle in this country could use a big, humbling dose of reality. Consumption rates, resource use, and empire lust affect the entire world. Rather than be overwhelmed by this, many people use this as a starting point for changing lives and attitudes.

One of these movements is Permaculture education. To promote sustainable futures, first many of us must learn how to live responsibly on the planet: how to grow food, build shelters, process wastes, save water. These skills are not new to humans, but may have been lost, ignored, or devalued. Permaculture seeks to re-empower a common sense that includes sustainable human habitats. This common sense acknowledges that the health of the ecosystem is intrinsic to the health of our future generations.

Back in 1982, The Evergreen State College proudly hosted the only International Permaculture Convergence held in the United States. These events today draw thousands. In 1982, TESC hosted the founder of permaculture, Bill Mollison, and Masanobu Fukuoka, author of *The One Straw Revolution*, and an amazing array of teachers.

But what is happening in the local Permaculture movement lately?

"Many balls were sent rolling which

will yield results for years to come," said Pilarski also of the recent Convergence.

One of these is the almost-launched Washington Permaculture website to network all statewide projects. This will compliment the Seattle Permaculture Guild's website, and our-ever useful online forum, Permies.com. (Also of note, Permies.com is offering internships for Evergreen students. Find out more at the Career Development Center.)

As for local projects, Thurston County is teeming with them. Terra Commons is transforming area lawns into abundant

food forests. Fertile Ground Guesthouse is hosting a series of freeschool classes and continues to be the most sustainable guesthouse in the region. Olympia's very own Queen Bee, a.k.a. Marisha Auerbach, continues to teach Permaculture Design Courses throughout the Northwest. There's also an Olympia Permaculture Guild on GoogleGroups.

As for events, there is some exciting news—Austrian permaculturist Sepp Holzer will be staying in Thurston County for a month this spring. His amazing projects in Europe have inspired leagues of

food foresters, aquaculturists, and plant and animal breeders. To check out his work, look him up on YouTube. Keep an eye out for specific workshops he'll be teaching; they'll be posted in our online listings mentioned above.

Also, the Permaculture movement is keeping a keen eye on Olympia, as a town that has birthed many fun projects. Last summer Olympia hosted the first Village Building Convergence in Washington State. It was a weekend of fun building projects through GRUB and Oly Salvage. Also, for barter enthusiasts, there is now a Westside option at Nature's Creation Farm that provides an alternative to the long haul to Tonasket. Olympia's Barter-faire may grow and expand this year.

As always, check out current Permaculture Design Courses and other events in the online resources above. Keep up the great work, and see you at Synergy.

Kelda Miller is an Evergreen alumna and co-founder of the Seattle Permaculture Guild. She now lives in Puyallup on a one-acre urban farm. She can be contacted at kelda@riseup.net.

TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE FUTURES, FIRST MANY OF US MUST LEARN HOW TO LIVE RESPONSIBLY ON THE PLANET... THESE SKILLS ARE NOT NEW TO HUMANS, BUT MAY HAVE BEEN LOST, IGNORED, OR DEVALUED

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AH, SIZIZIS, SO MUCH MORE THAN A PALINDROME

by SAMANTHA SERMEÑO

I don't like putting the things that I love in a box. But sometimes it's just easier to share that way, more portable. Kind of. And though SIZIZIS is rather lacquer boxlike, it's also pretty special, at least to me and to the many who haunt it during the foggier hours of the morning. It's open all the time, you see. Besides Denny's and Top Foods on the Westside, SIZIZIS is one of the few places I know that's open 24 hours a day, each day; I'd like to think it's a bit more popular than a manufactured diner and grocery store, too.

"SIZIZIS" or "Sih - Zeh - Ziss" Is located on the left hand side of 4th avenue and Plum Street, nestled between Cicada Restaurant and Lit Fuse Tattoo. It rarely, if ever, closes. The staff even hosted a show on Christmas Day. Maybe they rearrange their eight dark tables and perform jigs at 4:35 each morning when no one's looking. Or roller-skate. Regardless, they're here, and you could be too.

As a café more focused on beverages, particularly teas, SIZIZIS serves cupcakes, cookies, some coffee, and more tea than you could hope to sample and tire of (even after a couple of months). Their menu includes varieties of green, black, red, aromatic, herbal, healing, artisan, decaf and Yerba Mate' teas along with espresso and coffee alternatives (and French roast). Also, their variety of aprons are more akin to rear-less dresses that one would expect wayfaring peasants to wear. With ruffles. I'd also like to point out that "SIZIZIS" is a palindrome, even upside down. If this dark, wood paneled tea-room were inverted, you'd

be dancing on an assortment of glass knobs and mirror-filled portholes. I'd imagine that it would defy gravity in that odd way that overturned canoes (or Tupperware containers) retain pockets of air when swiftly tipped over and submerged underwater; which is good news, since oxygen is especially needed when one dances. The bathroom is just as intricately flourished with woodwork and sage and cream hues of marble. Somewhat Gothic, nautical, and Art Deco in feel, the fact that they offer two different kinds of soft toilet paper makes me want to braid them a friendship bracelet. Or a tapestry complete with gnomes, dryads, and beads (the iridescent glass kind). Even at one in the morning, the fogged up windows and dim lighting contrast with the cold and relative silence



SIZIZIS CAFE

OLGA PETRUS

outside. I hear wafts of people's conversations drift from opiates, Che Guevara, Coco Rosie, employment, and the Green Lantern; which is neat, but maybe that's just Olympia.

ent or "spaced out" music on a regular basis. For now, any of SIZIZIS' staff can book music shows, or be go-betweens in the booking process (should anyone organized and motivated enough tap into this resource). Ben tells me that each barista tea-server works six hour shifts, the hours between nine and one a.m. being the busiest. He admits that there isn't much that he doesn't like about working here; everything's really laid-back and enjoyable. He especially enjoys the variety and freedom of booking live music and playing whatever matches his whimsy, the creative and otherworldly design of the space, and the general atmosphere of people enjoying all sorts of tea and coffee. When I bumble around the topic of how SIZIZIS is doing economically (I cringe a bit, hoping I'm not hitting a sensitive nerve), he says that they haven't made much of a profit yet, though business is slowly increasing. Just how messy rooms often get messier before they start to appear cleaner, I figure the investment and general start-up period of any independently owned business suffers a bit before they financially start to profit. I ask about plans for SIZIZIS' future and am told that they'd like to eventually obtain a liquor license which would entail some bar-hours (age exclusive is yet to be determined) in which a select variety of alcoholic beverages will be served. Soon SIZIZIS' own herbal tea blends will be available for sale in those nifty metal cylindrical containers, too! But for now, Sizzizis is present and a pretty place to daydream.

Samantha Sermeño is a Sophomore enrolled in French and Japanese Media and an independent learning contract titled Comics As Commentary.

I converse with a quiet and amiable Ben, barista and tea-server extraordinaire, for ten or so minutes. After concluding that we're not sure what we'd like to talk about, we settle on the topic of music. SIZIZIS has had a few live shows already, and it plans to integrate more regularly-scheduled musical performances; Ben even hints at more ambi-

THREE FINE POLKA DOTS

by CATHERINE KANA

The audience in Eagle's Hall was still and tranquilly captivated by the sweet melodic tones of Firs of Prey and the melodica. Grey Anne's angel wings and smooth angelic voice followed this act. Her drum, slowly swinging hips, and simple hand gestures wooed the audience into such transfexion that she asked the tech men to make the sound "a little bit quieter." A hand jive to "We Will Rock You," several beats slower and quieter; and later a single match flickering in the dim light that Grey Anne held at her chest moved the audience into a kind of magic enlightenment.

Christopher Francis introduced a different order of musical pleasure with his powerful expressiveness and assertively-plucked guitar strings. The audience embraced his free-spirited liveliness as he pronounced, "What are we doing with our lives?" and shook his head goofily like a wet dog or an honest child. His outwardly passionate and unapologetic expressiveness reached an apex as he vigorously pounded a dustpan and his entire left leg on the floor. The

audience was jovially entertained when Christopher played Beyonce's "Crazy in Love" for a "misplaced belly dancer" from downstairs who joined him on stage.

Polka Dot Dot Dot's Ked sneakers accentuated sparkling red and black polka dot dresses in the same way that an air of humbleness accentuated the ballroom's classy elegance. An angled sleek black guitar and three microphones echoed the balance of the fine a cappella trio. Jordan's crack that Olympia was a "post-apocalyptic eco-utopia" cast the audience into a state of loving reverence. The love deepened at the sound of the banjo and toy microphones that sung "something we just can't put our little fingers on." "A Ghost Waltz" about love and loss and an eerie majestically-bowed saw enthralled the listeners. The Dots were swayed to an encore by the crowd's deep intake of breath, preceding loud applause after the final song.

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

KAOS Radio Top 30 for the week of 1/27/09:

1. Various Artists - Guilt by Association Vol. 2
 2. A.C. Newman - Get Guilty
 3. Saffire the Uppity Blues Women - Havin' the Last Word
 4. Kelleigh Mckenzie - Chances
 5. Animal Collective - Memweather Post Pavilion
 6. Bobby Jones Featuring the Mannish Boys - Comin' Back Hard
 7. Coco and Lafe - Cafe Loco
 8. Fake Problems - It's Great to Be Alive
 9. Greensky Bluegrass - Five Interstates
 10. Jorma Kaukonen - River Of Time
 11. Paul Rishell and Annie Raines - A Night in Woodstock
 12. That Handsome Devil - A City Dressed In Dynamite
 13. Tony Furtado - Deep Water
 14. Amy Obenski - From the Deep
 15. Bill Evans and Megan Lynch - Let's Do Something...
 16. Gaye Adegbalola - Gaye Without Shame
 17. Hello Saferide - More Modern Short Stories from Hello Saferide
 18. Various Artists - Northern Faction 4
 19. Mark Olsen and Gary Louris - Ready For the Flood
 20. Matt and Kim - Grand
 21. Ohnostereo - self-titled
 22. Pablo Menendez - Havana Blues Mambo
 23. Script - self-titled
 24. Various Artists - Fest 7
 25. I Are Droid - I Are Debut
 26. Shirock - Everything Burns
 27. Various Artists - Habitat
 28. Alice Russell - Pot Of Gold
 29. Kokoura - Anitie
 30. Beirut - March of the Zapotec and Real People Holland
- ~ NICKY SABALU



Day of Absence/Presence

Re-envision. Re-create. Re-unite. Respark!

Day of Absence and Day of Presence 2009

WHAT WOULD
THIS CAMPUS
BE LIKE WITH-
OUT ANY RACIAL
DIVERSITY?...OUR
CURRICULUM?...WHO
WOULD BE MISSING
FROM CAMPUS?

Although many of us focus on issues of diversity each and every day, the entire campus is asked to think about racial diversity and community for two days each year when we observe the Day of Absence and Day of Presence.

These events are designed to discuss relevant cultural community issues. Although the spirit of the two days is a constant, for us to be a stronger community, the methods are varied. In the past we have had: workshops, guest speakers, films, plays, readings, concerts, comedians, dancers, artists, panel discussions, week-long activities

The programs that are collaboratively created by an open committee of staff, faculty and students are created to explore and celebrate issues of diversity, culture and community at Evergreen.

Check out this year's highlights for our programs and remember that events that have asterisks require pre-registration. So register as soon as you can.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.EVERGREEN.EDU/MULTICULTURAL

Full descriptions can be found on our website: www.evergreen.edu/multicultural or on displays around campus. You can also call First Peoples' Advising Services directly at 867-6467.

QUEREMOS VIVIR
SIN MIEDO
WE WANT TO LIVE WITH-
OUT FEAR

Raúl Añorve is from Instituto de Educación Popular del Sur de California (IDEPSCA). He will be giving a lecture on Wednesday February 18 at 7 p.m. in Lecture Hall 1. He will also have an interactive workshop earlier that same day called, The Liberation and Oppression Puzzle at 9 a.m. in Seminar II in

room C1105. Participants must register for this workshop as space is limited.

Based on Popular Education formation, IDEPSCA has worked toward developing programs around five general themes: Education, Poverty, Immigration, Work, Health and Gender. Raquel Salinas, a coordinator for First Peoples Advising Services, describes how IDEPSCA's mission has influenced the organizations direction: "to create a more humane and democratic society by promoting the socioeconomic, cultural and political realities of disenfranchised individuals through self-organizing, self-development programs using popular education methodology."

Añorve explains that "our collective knowledge is not for sale. Instead of packaging it, marketing it, and profiting from it, we have sought to create it and recreate it for the benefit of human development. Reflecting on a common experience – action-reflection-action – we generate knowledge, and through this process of knowledge-production we learn that a particular experience is a systemic one and not isolated to any one individual. This is a dialectical process that helps anyone who seeks social truth – from a day labourer to an activist, to a college professor – to find it."

~ RAQUEL SALINAS

YOUR
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One of our special events this year will be the educational concert from Correo Aereo on /Day of Presence, Wednesday, February 6 from 1-3 p.m. in Lecture Hall 1.

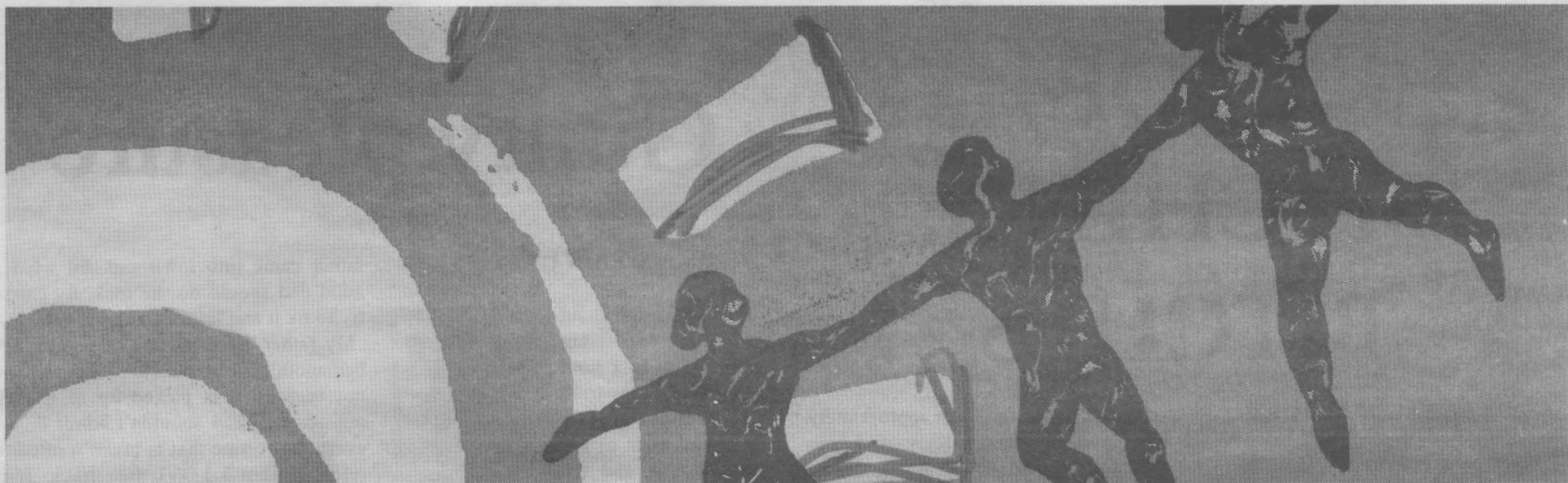
Correo Aereo (Air Mail) is an award winning multi-instrumental and vocal Latin/World Music Duo plus stand up bass, performing traditional and original music of Latin America; primarily of Venezuela, Mexico and Argentina.

Together, Abel Rocha and Madeleine Sosin combine a stunning array of string and percussive instruments with silken vocal harmonies described as "locked in carnal

embrace" by the Austin Chronicle. Abel plays harp, guitar, cuatro and quinta huapanguera. Madeleine plays violin, maracas, bombo and jarana. Evan Flory Barnes adds hot stand up bass.

Their music is richly polyrhythmic, soulfully melodic; fiery, haunting, joyful! Correo Aereo performs both as a duo or trio.

~ RAQUEL SALINAS



Day of Absence schedule of events

What is Day of Absence?

The Day of Absence was originally a unity dinner celebrated by our African American faculty in the early 70's. It grew to become an opportunity for all students, staff, and faculty of color to gather off-campus for an educational community-building retreat.

The idea for the Day of Absence came from a play of the same name by African American playwright Douglas Turner Ward.

What is Day of Presence?

In 1992, the Day of Presence was added by students and staff of color in order to reunite the college community and honor diversity and unity as a whole campus.

The programs that are collaboratively created by an open committee of staff, faculty and students are created to explore and celebrate issues of diversity, culture and community at Evergreen. Check out this year's full schedule online for our programs and remember that most events require pre-registration. So, sign up right

away.

Full descriptions can be found on our website: www.evergreen.edu/multicultural or on displays around campus. You can also call First Peoples' Advising Services directly at (360) 867-6467.

This is info for Day of Absence on-campus events.

Day of Absence

Friday, February 6

All events are free. To attend any of these workshops, pre-registration is required. Space is limited. To register call Nashira Knight at (360) 867-6467 or email her at knightn@evergreen.edu.

Many of the sessions run concurrently.

9 – 11:45 a.m.

Finding Our Stories: Exploring the Cultural Heritage of European Americans Presenter: Janet Partlow
Longhouse 1007C

9 – 11:30 a.m.

Mindful Of Privilege: Strengthening the Vow to Anti-Racist Action Presenter: Fletcher Ward
Longhouse 1007

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Mirrors Of Privilege Film & discussion presenter Andrea Seabert
Lecture Hall 1

9:30 – 11 a.m.

Stuff White People Like Workshop presenter: Art Costantino
Longhouse 1007 A & B

9:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Whiteness Studies: Healing From Racism Workshop presenter: Chris Ciancetta
SEM 2 A 1107

10 – 11:30 a.m.

What Role does Creativity Play in Resilience and Resistance? Presenter: Susan Greene
SEM 2 E 1105

10 – 11:45 a.m.

Intersections of Race & Gender Workshop presenter: Talcott Broadhead
Longhouse 1002

Noon – 1 p.m.

Reflections & Orientation to Community Service Facilitators: Ellen Short-Sanchez, Hilary Hacker, Jean Eberhardt
SEM 2 A 1107
After meeting for a short reflection,

participants will then embark to various locations, travel is by bus or van. (Directions about where to meet will be announced at noon in the space above.)

1 – 5 p.m.

Community Service Dedicate an afternoon of service locally and learn what is already being done to address racial and social justice issues.

Participants will need to sign – up by calling or emailing Hilary Hacker at (360) 867-6137 or hackerh@evergreen.edu by February 3.

Organizations include but are not limited to: Books to Prisoners, De Colores Books, Evergreen VISTA, Squaxin Child Development Center, Camp Quixote Meal/ P.O.W.E.R. Orientation (Parents Organizing for Welfare & Economic Rights), CIELO-Latino Empowerment and Community, Enhancement Evergreen Elementary Dual Language program.

1 – 3 p.m.

Re-envision. Re-create. Re-unite. Respark! Community Quilt making Presenter: Talcott Broadhead
Campus Activities Building, 3rd floor pit

Off-Campus Community of Color Retreat

Lacey Community Center at Woodland Creek Community Park at 6729 Pacific Avenue SE

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

We hope you can come and join us for a wonderful day of community building and sharing!

We will provide vans if you need a ride to the site (email or call us by February 3). Everyone brings a potluck dish and it is a great place to meet up with old friends or find new ones. The theme of the day is always educational, always fun, and always about our community. Mostly though, it is about ourselves.

This year we have some wonderful students and staff sharing their talents and wisdom with us, along with special guests. We are looking forward to addressing youth issues, as well as building intergenerational community strength and unity.

Updates and specific times for events will be provided later.

Day of Presence

Wednesday, February 18

All events are free. To attend any of these workshops, pre-registration is required. Space is limited. To register call Nashira Knight at 867-6467 or email her at knightn@evergreen.edu.

Also, on this day in the library lobby you will be able to walk a labyrinth and collaborate in the making of a paper quilt. Times for these events will be announced.

8:30 – 9 a.m.

Welcome Reception Presenter: Raquel Salinas
SEM 2 C 1105

9 – 11 a.m.

The Liberation and Oppression Puzzle Workshop Presenter: Raul Añorve
SEM 2 C 1105

10 – 11 a.m.

And Justice For All Film and discussion: Presenter: Andi Seabert
Longhouse 1007 A & B

10 a.m. – noon

Star Power Workshop Presenter: Art Costantino
Longhouse 1007 C

12:15 – 1 p.m.

Community Choir Evergreen staff, faculty and students
First floor of the library building lobby in front of the new wall sculpture

1 – 3 p.m.

Correo Aereo Educational Concert
Lecture Hall 1

3:15 – 5 p.m.

Allowing Silence and Stillness. Acting with Compassion Presenter: Fletcher Ward
Library 3201 A & B, President's office board room

3:15 – 5 p.m.

Confirmation Bias, Cognitive Dissonance and the Challenge to Re-envision and Re-create the Brain's Wiring Presenters: Sonja Wiedenaupt, Dalya Perez & Norma Alicia Pino
SEM 2 C 1105

3:15 – 5 p.m.

Arab and Muslim Detention Presenters: Therese Saliba and Jose Gomez
Lecture Hall 5

4 – 5 p.m.

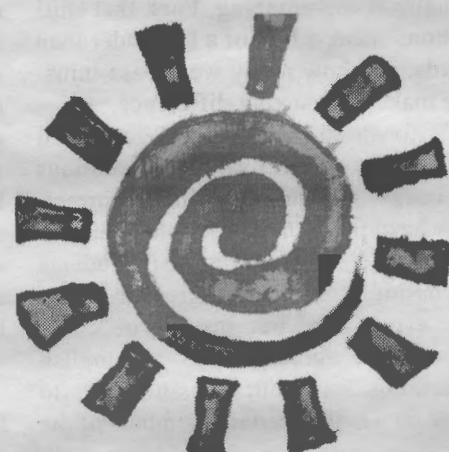
A Rosetta Quilt: The interplay between unity and difference in our community Presenter: Joe Tougas. Meet in front of the mural which is along the front of the library towards SEM 1

4 – 6 p.m.

Skin Deep Film and discussion presenter: Andi Seabert
Lecture Hall 1

7 – 9 p.m. **Queremos Vivir Sin Miedo (We Want to Live Without Fear)**

Presenter: Raul Añorve
Lecture Hall 1



STOP BITCHING, BITCHES

by YONATAN ALDORT

"When Jena 6 don't exist, tell him that's when I'll stop saying bitch." – Jay-Z

The title of this article, which I hope has caught your attention, is not meant to apply to women as a group or any women specifically. I am using the word bitch here to describe an unfortunately large portion of my fellow students who have undertaken to be obsessively bitchy guardians of excessive political correctness. "We shouldn't say the word bitch because it's patriarchal." "Should we say Black or African-American?" "Is it really fair to blame white people for everything?" These are just a few of the stupid-ass things I've been hearing from an increasingly oversensitive and thin-skinned student body that accomplishes stunningly little to actually remedy the racism and sexism that pervades our society.

We live in a nation in which the dominant group has swept racism and sexism under the rug, denying that these issues exist even as the actions continue. Racism and sexism are covered by a thin veneer of bullshit that becomes transparent to anyone who has ever been a victim of either or people who actually opens their eyes to the realities of American society. This shitty denial of the truth comes through extreme political correctness, as words gain more focus than actions, thus allowing complete inaction on the actual issues.

While politicians and reporters avoid words like "ghetto" in favor of "densely populated urban centers" or other such crap-tacular phrases, one in three black men go to jail in their lifetime, and poor Latino neighborhoods are subject to aggressive ICE raids that violently tear families apart.

But that's not what's important, is it? We should debate how to phrase these problems appropriately so we can avoid actually doing anything. Fuck that shit! Actions speak a hell of a lot louder than words, and how rosily we phrase injustice makes no fucking difference.

It is for these reasons that I get pissed off when conversations about solutions get caught in a mire of political-correctness hawking. I have seen the scenario all too often: a group of students discussing such issues agree on virtually everything, but instead of channeling that agreement to accomplish something, some bitchy asshole has to bring up whether certain members of the



group are phrasing things appropriately. Everybody is touchy-feely and gets offended by just about any goddamn thing (whoops, better apologize to the religious folk for taking the lord's name in vain). How the fuck are we supposed to accomplish anything if all we can talk about is why one person or another phrased something in a way that didn't quite seem right to us?

Motherfuckers, people were assassinated for preaching change and peace; they were shot with fire hoses, had their houses bombed and shit—and you're too fucking soft to get through a conversation without crying about the words your fucking allies use? Bitch, please. If you really want to spend your time mincing around semantics without having any depth behind your words, go be a fucking politician, because that's all they've been doing and guess what: *nothing fucking changes.*

The fact is, when real changes are made, negative words lose validity, not the other way around.

Now, I want to make clear that I am not by any means advocating the use of racial

slurs in conversation, because those are completely unproductive and can only accomplish hate and division. But it is fucking ridiculous to seize on words or phrases which were never meant to insult an entire group based on immutable traits and have a variety of meanings in conversation.

For example, if we never say bitch, then wouldn't it also be appropri-

ate to avoid the word bastard due to its potential to insult men without fathers? There is no fucking point to this line of thought. A bitch will be a bitch whether we call them that or not, and if you need further proof, take a look at Anne Coulter, Sarah Palin, Condoleezza Rice, and Bill O'Reilly's racist ass. These are all first-class bitches, and will continue to be so whether we call them that or not.

Thus, in the interest of shaking things up, I encourage those of you who engage in this bitchy PC-hawking to break your obsessive spell by venting your anger at me for writing this with vile shit talking. Call me a fucking asshole, a motherfucker, a bitch, whatever. Shit, call me a dirty Jew, a kike, a Christ killer; I don't give a fuck if it breaks you out of your own PC bitchiness. Because to me, looking at history and who made real changes, I just don't see real changes ever being made by the people who sat around debating how to phrase the challenges they faced.

Yonatan Aldort is a junior enrolled in Decolonizing the Mind.

RACISM AND SEXISM ARE COVERED BY A THIN VENEER OF BULLSHIT THAT BECOMES TRANSPARENT TO ANYONE WHO HAS EVER BEEN A VICTIM OF EITHER

Guilty pleasure

by ERIN GRAY

I don't know about anyone else, but growing up in a rural area, 45 minutes from the nearest grocery store and most of my friends, cars and the magic age of 16 creates freedom. There is a special bond between driver and car. My first car made it so I didn't have to be trapped in the car with my mother, or listen to my older brother's shitty music every time I wanted to leave the house.



That first car was a little purple Geo Metro and I loved her. Her name was Dylan, because she was just spunky enough to pull off a boy's name. She and I had lots of fun. We went to drive-ins, met up with friends and she was always there for me when I needed a place to make out with my high school boyfriend. We lived happily together until an unfortunate tragedy struck about two years ago.

While I was sitting on Harrison waiting for the car in front of me to turn into the Westside Mart, some stupid lady rear-ended me. I was just fine; Dylan had taken all of the damage to keep me safe. The woman hit us so hard that it bent Dylan's frame and our days together were over.

I got a new car about a month later, a Saturn of some kind—it's light blue with vinyl seats. I tried to connect with the new car but something always seemed to interrupt the connection. It was as if the car hated me. I have been driving this car since I lost Dylan, and until recently I had forgotten how fun it can be to drive.

My recent rediscovery of my love of driving was prompted by my Saturn's malfunctioning, a most outrageous attempt to declare its hatred for me. My

father came into town and did what a good dad should do; he took my car to try to fix it and left me with his vehicle.

My father drives a truck, a giant black behemoth of a truck. This truck is huge not because it is jacked up or tricked out—it just IS. I shouldn't admit this—every part of me that is green wanted to reject it—but I LOVE that truck. It is like being king of the road. Even though I have to hoist myself into the driver seat using the steering wheel, and I am completely incapable of driving it, I love it. I felt majestic, noble, and powerful driving this truck.

When I drove in town I felt as if I had to rein in the power of the truck. When I finally got to take him out on the freeway it was a dream. It had so much power, it was like it drove itself.

That's when I realized I was driving a stallion. I named him Black Beauty. Within a week I had named my father's truck something I had failed to do in the two years I had been driving the Saturn.

Last week I had to trade back. I handed in the keys to Black Beauty and received the keys to my Saturn and a tear came to my eye. I drove home no longer feeling like a king, but fearing for my life as I stared down the wheels of a semi-truck.

The worst part of all this is that the Saturn, once no longer in my father's care, ceased to malfunction. The mechanic to whom he took it didn't even find anything wrong with it, so I was at least relieved that there would be no future problems. But I was wrong. As if to slap me in the face not a day after I had the car in my possession, it wouldn't even start. I am now convinced that this car has it in for me.

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

Your opinion can be kickin' it here too.

Just email it to

cpj@evergreen.edu

cpj@evergreen.edu

A two-state solution

by ERIC MAPES

In a political culture in which expressing sympathy for Palestinians or condemnation of Israeli government policies is grounds for charges of anti-Semitism, it's not hard to see why so many public figures maintain uncritical support for Israel regardless of what decisions are taken in Tel Aviv. As a result, billions of our tax dollars go annually to support the occupation and expropriation of Palestinian land in defiance of international law, the U.N. and world public opinion generally.



The Palestinians (also a Semitic people, F.Y.I.) are supposedly unworthy of sympathy because some among them use "terrorism," a vague term our leaders refuse to define, but seems to refer only to violence perpetrated by official enemies. Never mind that for most of the occupation, the vast majority of Palestinians have confined themselves to non-violent resistance.

Never mind, either, that *Israelis* pioneered many of the violent tactics used by groups like Hamas. The Irgun, a militant Zionist faction, used marketplace bombings and assassination, even killing other Jews. They and the Haganah, forerunner of the Israeli Defense Force, carried out numerous civilian massacres and used Jewish civilians as human shields in their nationalist struggles against the former British occupiers and the Palestinians. The Israeli air force introduced hijacking to the region in 1954, holding hostage the hapless passengers of a Syrian airliner.

Since non-violent demonstrations are routinely crushed by the Israel Defense Force (IDF) and ignored by U.S. journalists, it is hardly surprising that some Palestinians turn to violence. The hateful anti-Israeli rants of the insurgency's bitter survivors may be well-known here, but I wonder how many readers are familiar with the following:

"... [S]trike mercilessly, women and children included. Otherwise the reaction is inefficient. At the place of action there is no need to distinguish between guilty and innocent." – David Ben-Gurion, first Israeli Prime Minister

"You [Palestinians] shall continue to live like dogs, and whoever wishes may leave." – Moshe Dayan, Likud Defense Minister

"[I wish that Gaza] would just sink into the sea." – Yitzhak Rabin, Labour Prime Minister

"... [T]he borders of Israel are where Jews live, not where there is a line on a map." – Golda Meir, Labour Prime Minister

"[T]he Palestinians must be made to understand in the deepest recesses of their consciousness that they are a defeated people." – Moshe Ya'alon, IDF chief of staff

"[The ceasefire] harms the Israeli strategic goal, empowers Hamas, and gives the impression that Israel recognizes the movement." – Tzipi Livni, Israeli Foreign Minister

These don't exactly sound like people sincerely interested in a peaceful, two-state settlement.

The record shows that Israel and the U.S. routinely reject proposals by world leaders for a peace treaty based on the pre-1967

border, proposals supported by 98% of the U.N. general assembly, the Arab League, even Hamas and Hizbollah (and, on the rare occasions when our deceitful media system informs people about them, a majority of the U.S. population, too).

The IDF breaks more cease-fire agreements even than Hamas. The latest U.S./Israeli proposal, condemned by the world court and understandably rejected by Hamas and Arabs generally, is to cram the Palestinians into nine resource-starved cantons separated by walls, cameras, and checkpoints, and then let them call it a state—or if they prefer, "they can call it fried chicken," as Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Illan bluntly put it.

Europeans horribly persecuted Jews for millennia, culminating in the Holocaust. History records that about 1900 years ago the Romans brutally evicted them from the "Promised Land," where they had lived since their mythological ancestors committed genocide against the previous inhabitants.

Present supporters of Israel apparently believe that these facts justify the use of violence by modern Jews to take control of some (or maybe all) of their ancestors' conquests on the eastern Mediterranean, build "settlements" there, and treat "like dogs" the native population, whose roots there go back "only" thirteen centuries. Israel's right to self-defense, they maintain, extends to indiscriminate retaliation and collective punishment of occupied people. They further assert that people unconvinced by this tortured reasoning really just hate the Jews.

To sympathize with Israeli civilians living

under constant threat of rocket attack but not Palestinian civilians living under constant threat of house demolition, arbitrary arrest, and aerial bombardment—including with illegal cluster bombs and white phosphorous—requires more moral dexterity than I possess. Nor am I agile enough to avoid the question of why U.S. taxpayers should subsidize this dangerous undertaking. Why should we send Israel attack helicopters, F-16s, tanks and military bulldozers—even nuclear arms—for free? Why should we finance new "Jewish-Only" developments on occupied land? Besides being immoral, this dubious "support" actually increases both the probability that Israel will be destroyed in a cataclysmic war and the frequency of "terrorist" attacks.

The success of the Northern Ireland peace process depended on direct negotiation with "terrorists" (or "resistance fighters" as such people almost invariably see themselves), leading to an agreement that substantively addressed the grievances of the occupied Irish.

I hope that President Obama has the wisdom to see that, in this case too, peace is possible. If Israel negotiates in good faith with the Palestinians' legitimately-elected representatives, a viable agreement based on the pre-1967 border could be reached. People who care sincerely about all human life, Jews and Arabs included, will push for such a settlement. People who *want* another catastrophe in the Middle East, for whatever reason, will seek to stay the course.

Eric Mapes is an alumnus of The Evergreen State College.

A tiny doorway beckons

PART ONE OF TWO

by CASEY JAYWORK

If you've known visions of Dirty-Harry six-shooters snubbed tight and chilly against the concave sweat-pool of your temple, or ever wondered how



many sleeping pills you could devour in one pivotal moment, then you get where I'm coming from. Or—let's be honest—if you can listen to My Chemical Romance without irony, then, yeah, we're on the same page.

(This is only funny because it's being discussed from the outside. Tragedy plus distance equals comedy.)

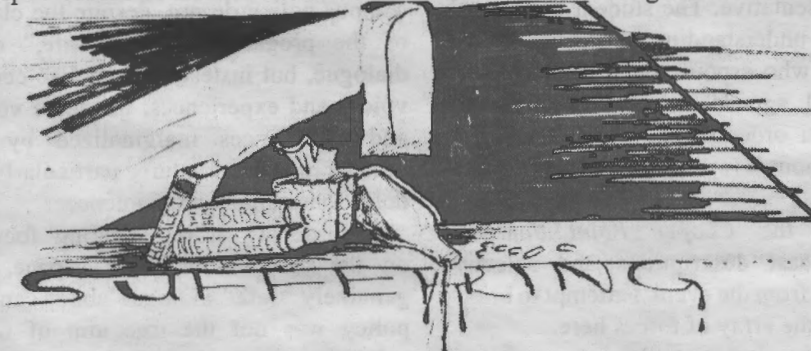
The question—The Question. Hamlet's catchphrase. What Camus calls "the fundamental question of philosophy." For Dostoyevsky, it was a plot device; for Hunter S. Thompson, a final appendix. For you and I, it's a tiny doorway situated in the back of the closet, hidden behind piles of dirty laundry and old shoes, carefully out-of-sight, and yet somehow beckoning, like a fire escape or a drug, daring us to plunge.

It's 3:30 a.m. and the walls creak and mumble around you, a graveyard of battered drywall and deadwood. The tiny doorway rattles, hungry. Gusts of undiluted wind rush past the other side, tantalizing and ineffable, an uncharted country of virgin waters and un-judging peers, arms outstretched toward your

prone, naked body. Dutiful, you turn away and plug your ears—

"It's a permanent solution to a temporary problem," you whisper, like a prayer—but the bed-sheets shackle your pale body, and the mattress beside you is as empty as a glass, and gazing heavenward reveals no god, only cracked plaster and a dusty movie poster.

That tiny, rattling door remains. It will not be outgrown. No matter how much rat-pack refuse or sand or poetry we fling atop it, despite oceans of alcohol or Prozac or



self-help text we drown ourselves in like liquid armor—still, it will not stay locked. Suicide—it's an enduring option.

This may not be a bad thing. Imagine a world without the terrible freedom of the choice to live or die. Imagine a dog at the end of a leash, skipping joyously or cursing the day it was born or maybe just eating its own shit, then locked safely away in a state-of-the-art pet facility at the end of the day, cared for, protected, helpless.

Imagine a world without pain or angst.

Suffering, turned off. Imagine the silky caress of oblivion doing its work on worry, fear, hurt, anger. No bad vibes (*man*). No worries.

What exactly is it we're longing for? Is there an important difference between this imagined world and death?

Buddha: "Life is suffering."
Us: "Yes. Where can I find a gun?"

You, too, find your armpits angled at 90 degrees, palms outstretched, in both welcome and farewell, like that famous rabbi of old—the original wrist cutter. He,

of course, had help; and, more importantly, had God. Had access to God, the guarantee of Truth, Purpose, and Meaning. His reality included something divine, something eternal, as more than just a theoretical flourish. For that man, the script was already written, and the only choice was how much to improvise, if even that. There was no leap of faith, no terror of freedom, possibilities and responsibility spawning like an infinite horizon of trials and verdicts, no tortured nights festering under the agonizing absence of something

greater. There was only the weight of destiny, Atlas crucified and emancipated, a divine cog ex machina, wheeled out in effigy—a symbol for himself.

Our position is perhaps closer to Judas: swinging wretchedly from his tree branch in the careless wind—and yet even he has his consolation, having touched—kissed!—the divine and thus knowing that something matters, some Value endures, and this life is not, only a "vast, never appeased emptiness."

And so an old question resurfaces: is it better to be, not damned or saved, but damned or forgotten? "And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover to entertain these fair well-spoken days, I am determined to prove a villain." Or, "Which is worse, hell or nothing?"

But maybe this is a dead end, no pun intended, because hell is just as fictional—to our situation—as heaven and choirs of seraphim and JC's foretold super-hero return. Whatever wisdom Judas may have found is inapplicable to our lives. What if God did come back? What could he be but the neglectful parent, head hung, whining and conniving for his children's forgiveness—that is, sanction—for his ongoing irresponsibility?

How is a good God possible even in principle?

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

Should the Evergreen police get rifles?

A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE

by BILLIE BURLOCK

Evergreen Police Services wants rifles—three AR-15 semi-automatic rifles, plus gear. These are being requested to be able to respond to an



“active shooter” on campus, such as a Virginia Tech-type situation. Strangely enough though, when the Police Services Community Review Board (PSCRB) asked Ed Sorger if the police force having rifles would have prevented the situation at Virginia Tech, he responded “No.”

Wait, back up. How did the subject of rifles come up, anyway?

The Campus Safety Enhancement Bill was created in response to the shootings at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University. Washington’s six four-year public institutions of higher education with police departments in Washington collaborated to complete these self-studies.

Evergreen Police Services chose to investigate the threat of an active shooter. Rather than the immediate safety concerns facing our community on campus (such as sexual assault), they chose to investigate this hypothetical, improbable situation.

Let’s look at this critically. Using university shooting statistics from the past six years, including Case Western Reserve University (2003), Virginia

Tech (2007), Delaware State University (2007), Louisiana Tech College (2008), and University of Central Arkansas (2008), the probability of an event like this happening on a specific campus each year is $P(x)=0.0003$ or once in every 3,140 years. So the estimated probability of death by active shooter in any given year of $(Px) = 0.0000005$.*

Meanwhile, in the past six years, there have been 31 reported instances of sexual assault (the number of unreported instances is probably many times that). Also, suicidal students have been denied counseling at

Evergreen due to lack of funding. In fact, we are in a time of possible grave budget cuts, when every TESC department is being told to think about what it would look like to run with a 10% cut in budget. But the police are requesting \$10,000 for rifles and gear, plus \$2000 a year for additional training. Looking at the facts, where do our priorities, financial and otherwise, lie?

For much of the history of The Evergreen State College, there was no police department or police services on campus. There were simply “Campus Safety” officers. Eventually they were replaced with formal police officers,

although they were unarmed. In 1995, Art Costantino and the Board of Trustees approved the “limited arming” of Evergreen Police Services, despite much student outcry, a 1200-signature student petition, and then a direct action civil disobedience campaign.

We can draw from the past to get a decent idea of how these weapons will

be used (or misused).

The police are already armed with tasers, the “less-than-lethal” weapons that have caused deaths in this country. Tasers were pulled on students last year with some frequency, generally in situations where the victim was

neither committing a violent crime nor physically threatening the officer. Two students were tasered in two separate events one week last school year. The PSCRB still hasn’t come up with any conclusions pertaining to this issue by way of police accountability.

Note that besides the threat of an active shooter, we are not dealing with hypotheticals. Police everywhere are abusive, which should be taken into account when considering this proposal. On New Years Day 2009, a University of Washington student in Seattle was shot to death by the police. Two months ago a young man named Jose Ramirez was shot to death in his back by the Olympia Police Depart-

ment in his car (the police involved have not received any formal repercussions).

When asked about racial profiling in the community, Police Chief Ed Sorger commonly responds that he has never received a complaint. Several students have recounted to the authors stories of their having confronted Ed about concerns with racial profiling. As for official complaints to an organization, students who feel abused and threatened are not likely to go to that organization’s department to file a complaint with them. The lack of complaints should be more indicative of an inadequacy in this channel of voicing concern, rather than being indicative of a lack of concern.

There are concerns about racial profiling on campus. Last year a statement signed by 14 student groups condemned the methods the Evergreen Police were using to catch graffiti artists as racial profiling. Racial profiling gives students of color a particularly different experience on campus.

I urge you to do your own investigation. Learn the facts and history. Consider: where is this money coming from? What else, exactly, can it be used for? How were the police armed in the first place? Should we even have to focus so much effort on an improbable scenario when police abuse and other tangible issues stick out like a sore thumb?

Billie Burlock is a student at The Evergreen State College.

The politics of neutrality and genuine student power

by C.V. ROTONDO

Political divisions came to the fore at the recent Geoduck Student Union (GSU) meeting, particularly over Tuesday night’s forum on the proposal



from Evergreen Police Services to purchase 10,000 dollars’ worth of rifles, ammunition, training, and other equipment. While this contentious proposal would understandably arouse conflict between representatives of differing political and experiential viewpoints, concerns much larger than the immediate issue are at play.

Since the onset of this school year, the GSU has struggled to define its guiding principles and goals, engaged in a constant battle over a political framework. This conflict has managed to fetter any substantial gains for students and their faculty and staff allies on campus. In my analysis, this stalemate enables administrators and police to continue to define policy and practice at Evergreen. The last GSU meeting proved a watershed in an ongoing struggle in which bold statements of purpose and direction illuminated often-observed political agendas. The larger conflict between members of the GSU is one over frameworks for political action, over our roles as representatives and of objective neutrality as we act in our positions. Fellow members of the GSU, students, and I, have argued

that this position is not only impossible, but serves to perpetuate the power imbalance that already exists.

I define my role as a representative by the only portion of the GSU’s constitution that I feel carries much political weight, the portion that sets the GSU on a mission to seek a “balance of power” between administrators, faculty, staff and students. If action guided by the spurious hope of objectivity or neutrality reifies the existing power imbalance, then taking such a position, as certain members of the GSU have, is to negate one’s purpose as a representative. The student body needs a keen understanding of the balance of forces; who espouses and supports what political agenda, especially within the GSU, in order to make informed decisions about how to politically engage on campus.

Given the *Cooper Point Journal*’s milquetoast descriptions and selective quoting from the event, I attempt to briefly outline the array of forces here.

Whether intentionally or not (and past actions can inform the distinction), members of the GSU proclaiming neutrality or objectivity support the entrenched power of administrators such as Art Costantino and his allies in Police Services (who benefit from his historically pro-armament policies). I will offer my (admittedly non-neutral) perspective as a participant in the meeting.

Of particular interest was Tez Stair’s request that the tape recorder used to record meetings be turned off during our

discussion of the recent student forum (why you might not have access to our discussion) and Art Costantino’s whispered inquiries as to Charles Loosen’s attendance at meetings (Loosen was absent that day).

Also, implications were made that radical voices on campus constitute dogmatic bullies, unwilling to hear a diversity of views and silencing those who disagree with them through menace. Jake Mixon and Alexandre Chateaubriand’s comments were illustrative here. These diatribes against radical dissent and alternatives to campus policy do not, despite the claims of the progenitors, seek “safe,” open dialogue, but instead marginalize certain voices and experiences; the same voices and experiences marginalized by the broader power structure, particularly by police harassment and violence.

Much debate at the meeting focused on the creation of “safe” space, yet genuinely “safe” dialogue about campus policy was not the true aim of those espousing neutrality. “Safety” must be given context. In the current historical moment on campus, that context includes unaccountable, racist police (potentially with high-powered rifles), the dismantling of social services such as counseling and sexual assault prevention, the proven threat of sexual violence, and the disempowerment of students, faculty, and staff to meet the needs of an administrative bureaucracy and their salaries. The Geoduck Student Union is the body heralded by these administrators for the

channeling of student dissent and alternative visions.

Part of my argument for a powerful, political stance from the GSU is that nowhere in the founding documents of the GSU are its powers and scope adequately defined. During the negotiations following the sit-in last spring (in which I participated), this proved a point of much contention. Costantino argued that the GSU was the only legitimate avenue for student voice. The sit-in negotiating team argued that the GSU’s was illegitimate given its ambiguous scope, lack of real power, and historic support of administrative initiatives against the dissenting voices of students. I would argue now that it is up to an organized student body to define the power and scope of the GSU. The same forces which have historically bent it in favor of the administration and its allies are now undermining this possibility.

As a representative, I am committed to pursuing my radical politics (which does not constitute bullying or making spaces “unsafe”), and through them dismantling the current power imbalance on campus, which is weighted heavily against students. In that spirit, I denounce implicit or explicit alliances with Costantino or the police and obscurantist claims to neutrality and objectivity, in favor of the radical political agenda upon which I was elected.

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

An open letter to Police Services

by KATRINA HANSON

My name is Katrina, and I was at the active shooter forum Monday, January 26.



I noticed that over and over, students were asking about where their school funds are going, and I have heard these same questions from students all over campus: "Why don't we have more funding for counseling services?" "Student activities?" "Photoland?" "The library?" "The art studios?" And over and over, professors who have been here for decades are asking why they don't get pay raises when housing prices rise, why they don't get more health care coverage as health costs rise, why they don't get raises when the general cost of living rises.

Yet, we were just at a forum discussing whether we think it appropriate for campus police to spend \$10,000 plus \$2,000 each subsequent year on rifles, ammunition, and training for a possible emergency.

A possible emergency.

Isn't it an emergency that professors can no longer live near the schools in which they teach because housing costs are too high, forcing them to drive to work instead of walking? Isn't it an emergency that students are being denied education because they don't have sufficient scholarships and funding for their education? Isn't it an emergency that student groups like Women's Resource Center and Women of Color Coalition, who bring in speakers to talk about combating racism and facilitate workshops to prevent sexual assault, no longer have enough money to do so? Isn't it an emergency that art facilities like Photoland are getting their budgets cut so that students who cannot afford their own art materials can no longer do the art they love?

Isn't it, above all, an emergency that numerous students, including many of my friends, have been denied access to the Evergreen Counseling Center, even when they needed help the most, because the counseling center doesn't have enough money to hire additional counselors? An emergency that, if prevented, would allow students who are depressed, suicidal, and going through traumatic experiences to talk to someone and receive help; something that would prevent them from lashing out at other students—perhaps as an active shooter on campus!

Many students of the Evergreen campus are outraged that our school funds are being used to pay for *more* weapons and *more* police training, instead of going where we need funding most: to help the students from the inside out, so that we no longer need an outside force "protecting" us.

I urge you to decide, for the health of the campus and its students, faculty, and staff, not to give more funding for police weapons, and instead to use that funding to do what a college is supposed to do: educate.

Thank you for your time,
Katrina Hanson

Katrina Hanson is a junior and an intern at the Women's Resource Center.

Prop 8, black voters, and the Democratic party

IF LIBERALS EXPECT BLACK PEOPLE TO VOTE AGAINST THEIR PRINCIPLES, THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ASK, NICELY

by JARED TEER

The 2008 elections were historic: America elected its first black president. Voter turnout neared all-time highs, with black voters coming out in record numbers to support liberal Democrat Barack Obama.



The elections were also an example of black social conservatism coming into conflict with liberal ideology. In California, the same black voters who voted for Obama, voted seven out of ten in favor of Proposition 8—a proposed amendment to the state Constitution, restricting the definition of marriage to a union between the opposite sexes.

Liberals erupted with shock and outrage over the "insensitivity" shown by the black voters. Liberals were scrambling to understand and explain their perceived irony in the black voters voting for "discrimination."

Some blamed the history of racial oppression in the black community. Huffington Post blogger Leonce Gaiter wrote in his October 21, 2008 blog, "Throughout American history, black men could not protect themselves, much less their families, from the predations of the majority, who could own, rape, maim and kill you and yours at will...Once we began to develop some sense of self-respect, we overcompensated with a black buck hypermasculinity that's still apparent today. From blaxploitation movies to gangsta rap, it's been a constant in the images with which we're entertained."

Some blamed racism and religion (the black church). In his November 8, 2008 blog, Huffington Post blogger Terrance Heath quoted Horace Griffin's book *Their Own Receive Them Not: African American Lesbians And Gays in Black Churches*:

"Following slavery, the racist attitudes that defined black men as sex predators caused black men extreme hardship and death...Given the majority culture's racism and sexual attitudes, African Americans soon learned that their very survival depended on distancing themselves from 'sexual perversions.' Much of

black heterosexuals' antihomosexual sentiment exists as a means of countering the perception of black sexuality as perverse in order to survive and gain respectability and acceptance by the majority."

Others simply blamed stupidity in the black community. Columnist Wayne Besen of 365gay.com wrote in a November 7, 2008 blog, "I believe our failure with the African American vote...has more to do with education levels than race. In general, people with lower levels of education—of any race—do not vote for gay rights. White people are twice as likely to graduate college as black people."

Aspiring social commentators in the Evergreen State College newspaper, the *Cooper Point Journal*, weren't as refined in their arguments.

In a November 13, 2008 article, Colin Bartlett's in-depth analysis lead him to the prolific conclusion, "To the 70% of African-Americans who voted in favor of Proposition 8...I say *f**k you*."

The vitriol in the CPJ didn't stop there. In the November 20, 2008 CPJ, Jeffrey Luxmore wondered if "certain" groups should be voting at all. Luxmore wrote of the blacks who turned out for Obama who voted in support of Prop. 8, "Talk about unintended consequences." Luxmore continues, "...what if *everyone* voted? Forget about who will turn up at the polls and who won't. Everyone casts a vote, we tally them up, and that's it. That would be a step towards participatory democracy. But do we even want that to happen..." Among Luxmore's apprehensions concerning full participatory democracy, is the fear that abortion might be outlawed. Apparently, nothing is more horrible to Luxmore than if more people were born to participate in the oppressive practice of democracy.

Anti-Christ is the religion of liberalism, Ann Coulter once wrote, "Democrats don't want black voters, but they need them." According to the sentiments expressed by Bartlett and Luxmore, Coulter is right.

Aside from the temper tantrums and calls for voter suppression spewed in the CPJ, of the three legitimate reasons cited by liberals—racism, religion, and stupid-

THERE WAS NO D OR R NEXT TO PROP. 8 ON THE BALLOT, SO NATURALLY BLACKS VOTED FOR THEIR PRINCIPLES

ity—stupidity seems to be the only cause that blacks and liberals can play an active role in assuaging.

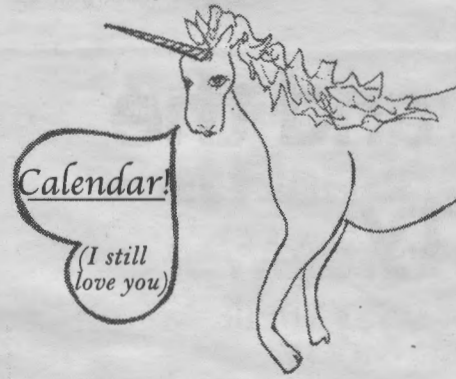
Since the 60's, blacks have block voted for liberal Democrats—mainly because of allegations of Republican racism and lofty promises of government handouts. It's not that 70% of black voters in California are dummies, it's just that when left to their own faculties, black people have no idea that they should support liberal causes. There was no D or R next to Prop. 8 on the ballot, so naturally blacks voted for their principles. Liberals' ideas are so out of sync with black notions of common sense, that if not informed by liberals beforehand how they should vote on an issue, blacks will tend to oppose that liberal issue.

If liberals expect black people to vote against their principles, they're going to have to ask, nicely. Hurling n-bombs and vandalizing churches—as has been reported in California—probably won't win support in the black community. Don't ask me what the LGBT community's message to blacks should be, because I don't know—I just know "F**k your religion ni**er," won't cut it.

I also know that most in the LGBT community—like blacks—are Democrats, and attacking blacks in such a way could have repercussions for the entire party. So, maybe some concessions and compromises are in order, because perhaps another of the dreaded Ann Coulter's assertions about blacks is true: they're "The only thing standing between the Democrat Party and oblivion."

Jared Teer is a student at The Evergreen State College

I bet you don't agree with everything you've just read. Why don't you submit to the letters & opinions page yourself at cpj@evergreen.edu?

**Thursday, January 29****Annual Homeless Census**

Go out in teams to designated areas to look for homeless people and camps, and conduct survey. Breakfast and lunch provided. Drexel House (604 Devoe Street SE) 8 a.m. - noon
Gingerspice Yoga

HCC 10 a.m. - noon

Campus Police Officer-Lateral community forum

Lecture Hall 4 noon-1 p.m.

"Songs of Freedom" Day of Absence/Presence meeting

Come to these organizational meetings leading up to Day of Absence/Day of Presence music collective each Tuesday and Thursday. LIB 1003, noon-1 p.m.

Vagina (monologue) meetings

You know you want to. Sem I Annex F (Rainbow Lounge) noon-1 p.m.

Guerrilla marketing workshop

Led by Evergreen '81 Alum Peter Epperson. CAB 320 Solarium 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Wymon's writing circle

Musing, creativity, and tea! Thursdays CAB solarium 3rd floor 4:30 p.m.

POWER workshop

Know your rights workshop presented by Parents Organizing for Welfare & Economic Rights (POWER), sponsored by the WRC, with childcare provided by WRC volunteers. Sem II A3105, 5 p.m.

SESAME Middle East Film Festival: *Belonging*

Lecture Hall 5, 5:30 p.m.

Open mic night

Sign-up starts at 6 p.m. HCC 7-9 p.m.

SESAME Middle East Film Festival: *Palestinian Identity Abroad and in the Diaspora*

Lecture Hall 5, 6:30 p.m.

Asian Studies Development Program and Public Forum

Leading scholars in the field of Asian Studies and *Indian Culture Through the Lens of Dance* program through Saturday. Longhouse 7-9 p.m.

SESAME Middle East Film Festival: *33 Days*

Lecture Hall 5, 7:30 p.m.

"Sins of the Mother"

Tickets \$12-\$33. Harlequin Productions (202 4th Ave. E). Thursday - Saturday 8 p.m.

Blackbird Raum

Come enjoy this musical performance hosted by student group Carnival. Featuring the Hail Seizures. HCC 9-10 p.m.

Friday, January 30**Hatha yoga practice**

Free community yoga! CRC 314, 3 p.m.

Ethnic Night: Korea!

HCC 7-9 p.m.

SESAME Middle East Film Festival: *Slingshot Hip Hop*

Lecture Hall 5, 7 p.m.

Free music show near Timberland Library

Featuring musical talents of Margy, Peppers, Socks and Sandals, and Cacuey. Media Island (816 Adams St. in the studio behind the house) 8 p.m.

Gateways for Incarcerated Youth Prom

The Gateways Program aims to provide opportunities to incarcerated youth to pursue educational goals and develop and strengthen cultural identities. Featuring hip-hop artists Gabriel Teodros and Canary Sing. Tickets are \$10 ahead of time (tickets available in CCBLA in Sem II E2125, TESC Bookstore, or the CAB every weekday from noon-1 p.m.) or \$15 at the door. 2nd floor LIB lobby 8:30 p.m. - midnight

Hip Hop Healers for Gaza: Breakbeats that break walls

A South Sound Save GAZA campaign event featuring musical talents Mohammed Al Farra (from Palestinian Rapperz), Gabriel Teodros, Abeer Alzinaty (aka Sabreena da Witch), Skim, and Def poet Mark Gonzales. Tickets at Rainy Day Records are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Loft on Cherry and 5th Ave. (525 Cherry St. SE) 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 31**Holistic Health Expo open house**

Various presentations on healthy foods, nutrition response testing, thermography, martial arts, body alignments, and energy methods of healing. To reserve a space call (253) 576-8278. Lion's scout cabin (301 Yelm Ave. W.) 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Movie Screening with a Purpose

HCC 1-4 p.m.

Icarus Meetings

"A radical mental (health) support collective." All are welcomed. Media Island (816 Adams St. SE) 5 p.m.

Weekly film screening

HCC 7-10 p.m.

If film showing

Come watch this 1969 Cannes Film Festival winner of boarding school student uprising and anarchic ideology. HCC 8 p.m.

Music, cider and cookies

A \$3 show featuring musical talents Punch, Killywell, Generifus, and June Madrona. 721 Rogers St. NW 8 p.m.

Westside Arts Walk music and art show

Featuring musical talents of MC Firedrill, Duke Midnight, Moon Runners, and Feather Mountain. Free. Stump House (132 Decatur St.) 8 p.m.

Twig Palace music show and milkshakes

A free show featuring Eleanor Murray, Benjamin Blake, and Briana Marela. Milkshakes for sale, too! 337 Thomas St, 9 p.m.

Sunday, February 1**Karaoke night!**

HCC 6-8 p.m.

Substance-Free Sunday Movie

Hosted by I & J housing. HCC 8-10 p.m.

Monday, February 2**Evergreen forest clean-up**

Join the Environmental Resource Center and help care for and clean up the forests we all know and love. Clock tower (Red Square) 1 p.m.

Hatha yoga practice

Monday yogic philosophy discussion and subsequent community yoga. CRC 314, discussion at 2 p.m. and yoga at 3 p.m.

S&A Board meeting

Open forum CAB 320, 3-3:10 p.m. and business meeting 3:15-5 p.m.

Waste awareness concert

Hosted by Sustainability housing residents,

free performance. HCC 7-10 p.m.

Le Voyeur movie night

Le Voyeur Café and Lounge (404 4th Ave. E) 10 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3**"Songs of Freedom" Day of Absence/Presence meeting**

Each Tuesday and Thursday. LIB 1003, noon-1 p.m.

Self-defense techniques

Part 2 of the self-defense series, taught by Officer April Meyers and Director of Office of Sexual Assault Prevention, Talcott Broadhead. Beginners welcome. HCC 7-9 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4**Grammar Garden essay "Bits" workshop**

"This week is all about untangling verbs: tenses, gerunds, adverbs, and the ominous subject-verb agreement." LIB 2310, 2-3 p.m.

Hatha yoga practice

Free community yoga! CRC 314, 3 p.m.

"Insurgent Architect or Let's Get Organized" essay workshop

This "Creative Approaches to the Essay" workshop will help anyone organize and write through brainstorming and discussion. LIB 2310, 3 p.m.

S&A Board meeting

Open forum CAB 320, 3-3:10 p.m. and business meeting 3:15-6 p.m.

Big Leowski night

Hosted by Mindscreen. Free screening of Cohen awesomeness and encouraged costume contest. Lecture Hall 1, 6 p.m.

National teach-in on global warming

Lecture Hall 3, 7-9 p.m.

Century Masters Series pianist concert

Benjamin Moser, the first prize winner of 2007's Young Artists International Auditions will be performing some Beethoven, Liszt, and Rachmaninoff. For tickets, call 753-8586 or go to Washingtoncenter.org. The Washington Center for the Performing Arts (512 Washington St. SE), 7:30 p.m.

Le Voyeur: trivia night

Le Voyeur Café and Lounge (404 4th Ave. E) 10 p.m.

Thursday, February 5**Open mic night**

Sign-up starts at 6 p.m. HCC 7-9 p.m.

Common Bread: Dances of universal Peace

Community meeting and workshop on dances of universal peace, singing, and chanting. Lecture hall Rotunda 6-8 p.m.

Homeland Security Seattle Hip Hop 206 Legends Show

Featuring Nite Owls (Barfly of Old Dominion and Gatsby of Cancer Rising), Mr. Hill, Billy the Fridge, DJ Bad Cuzin, and Deadbeat. \$5 at The Royal (311 N. Capitol Way) 9 p.m.

Club meeting times:**Mondays****Women of Color Coalition (WOCC)**

CAB 206, 3 p.m.

S&A Board

Open forum CAB 320 3-3:10 p.m. and business meeting 3:15-5 p.m.

Hillel meeting

CAB 320, 3:30 p.m.

Greeners for Truth and Reconciliation

Sem II B3109, 4 p.m.

Cooper Point Journal organizational

CAB 316, 5 p.m.

Tuesdays**Folk Dance**

CAB 320 cubicle 4, 10 a.m.

Black Student Union

3rd floor CAB (TV Lounge) 3 p.m.

HABOO

LIB 2147, First Peoples lounge, 4 p.m.

Student Video Gamers Association

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

Greeners 4 Christ

Sem II D1107, 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

Outside of the Assistive Technology Lab, for students with disabilities or those interested in learning about disabilities. 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

3rd floor CAB (TV Lounge) 2 p.m.

Center 4 Sustainable Entrepreneurship

Sem II A2109, 2 p.m.

Students Educating Students About the Middle East (SESAME)

CAB 320, 2 p.m.

Clean Energy

Lab II 1250 (on January 21, February 4 and 18) 3 p.m.

Pre-Health Society

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

Freedom of Consciousness Club

3rd floor of CAB (the pit) 3:30 p.m.

Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES)

Please note this new weekly meeting time. 3rd floor CAB 4 p.m.

EQA Evergreen Queer Alliance

Sem II A2109, 4 p.m.

Hip Hop Congress

Lecture Hall Rotunda 4-5:30 p.m.

Writer's Guild

LIB (Writing Center) 4 p.m.

Anime Club

For more info, contact: EvergreenAnimeClub@gmail.com. 3rd floor CAB 6-9 p.m.

Socialist Alternative

Sem II C3109, 6 p.m.

Thursday**Zionist group**

3rd floor CAB 3:30 p.m.

Global Medical Brigade

Sem II E2109, 4 p.m.

Common Bread with centering prayer

Come to Common Bread's weekly meeting of chanting, eating, and meditation. Longhouse 1002 (Cedar Room) 5:30-8 p.m.

Gaming Guild

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

Friday**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**

3rd floor CAB (TV Lounge) 7-9 p.m.

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COMICS



DA HIFTENCLAW TOOTS

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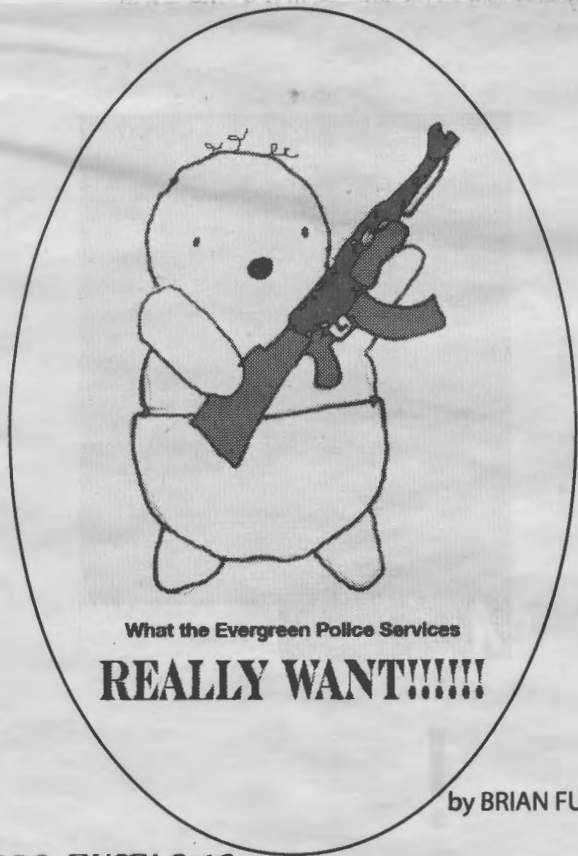


By MIKEY B

by MIKEY BADGER



by WILL RAISL



by BRIAN FULLERTON

RICKY, THE WORLD'S TALLEST COWBOY



Madeline Berman

ENDLESS PROBLEMS



by RYAN BUCK



by MADELINE BERMAN

I have just drunk the shadows of despair in the form of cold water;
oh what have I ever done, ye gods!?
which of you have forsaken me, causing such a sensation?

-I haven't been out too long nothing close of cruelty
and still, can't know

I was walking to the bakery and it was a normal day.

The peaches were flailing inside pastries
and I was on my way.

Said to myself, "looks like it's time to for a say,"

as I left the sun a ray;
and I was on my way
flash forward

light stars bright tonight
a starry delight too right
bright light trite stars
rainbow prism spider cars

something else flung far
So I googled google

Do you have a brain
are things the same
do you have a mind
are things in time

?

emanating equilibrium awareness
hypermind realize
intelligent experience

it's that it's this
this it's that
if that exists
then that then that
an eternal solitude - can you dig it - external
a Wikipedia article on the All

!

honey comb i'm home
the walls are cheese right good night