

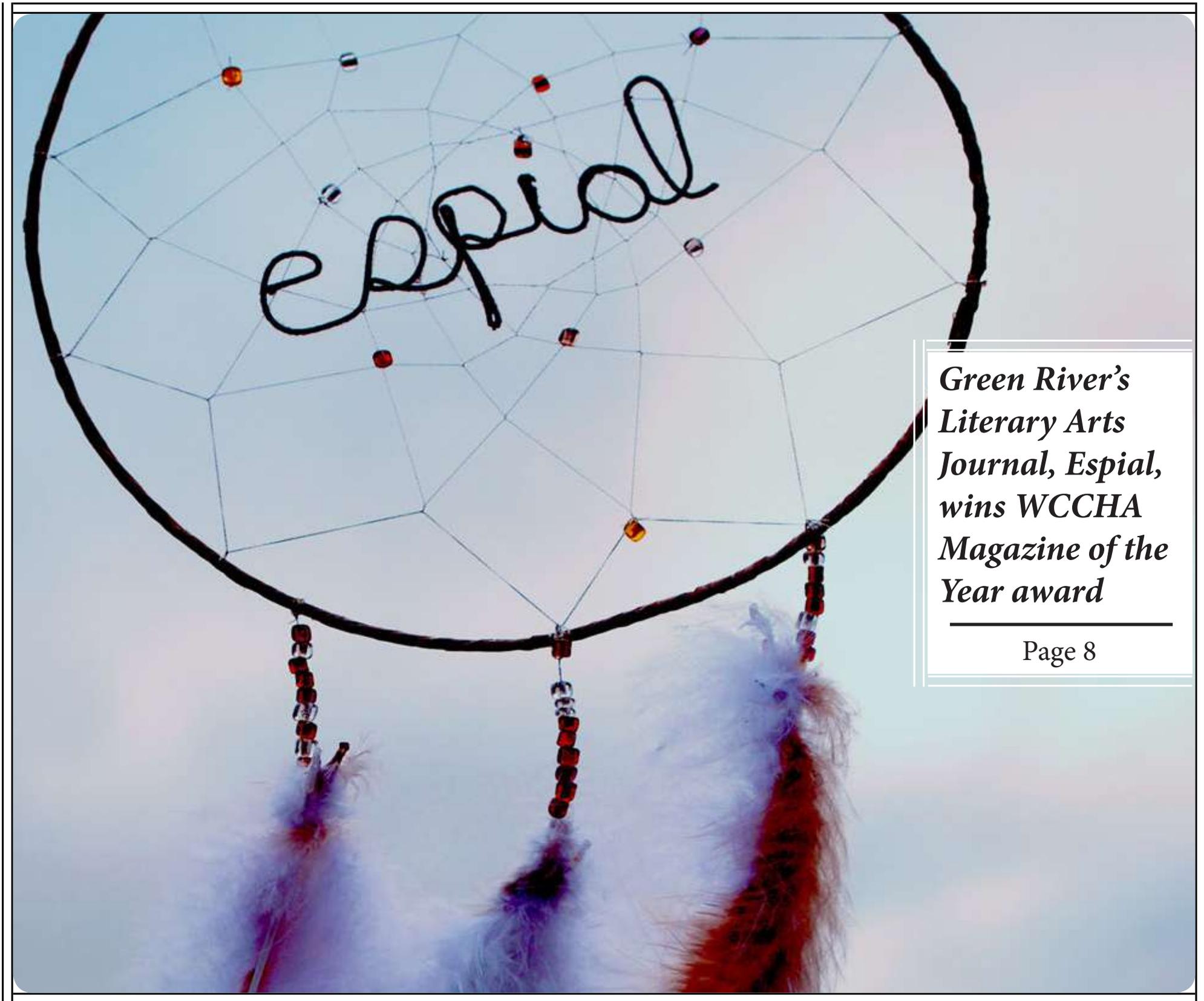
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The Current

Green River Community College

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November 5, 2010



*Green River's
Literary Arts
Journal, Espial,
wins WCHA
Magazine of the
Year award*

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Coca Cola,
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and culture**

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Activity 2: a
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solid second part?**

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Campus

“The season started with a lot of promise”

Bob Kickner, page 15



Photos by Bailey Jo Josie / THE CURRENT



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 Find yourself and your friends in our slideshow of the Oct. 29 Halloween Party



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Campus

Editor: Bailey Jo Josie
campus.editor@mail.greenriver.edu



Man on the Street



Every other week, The Current's editors crawl out of their cave to ask students random questions. Suggest a subject at: thecurrent@greenriver.edu.

Here is a selection of this issue's answers. For more, plus an archive of old questions, visit our website: thecurrentonline.net.

What did you do for Halloween?

I went to a costume party. I went as a hippy, it was pretty cool. We had dancing and eating and movie-watching.

- Greg Gordon



I partied. It was good. We just played a bunch of games and watched some videos and listened to music. Everyone had a costume. I was a fairy.

- Misty Maughan



I hung out with friends. Got dressed up and we went out to eat at Red Robin's. I had [costume] bruises all over my face.

- Ashley Mitton-Dorn



I went trick-or-treating at the mall. It was lovely. I didn't dress up, but my four-year-old son did. He was a police man.

- Marcy Curtis



Teacher Spotlight: Phil Jack

Full name: Phil Ray Jack
Position: English Instructor
Date of birth: April 13, 1956

Year at Green River: 2010 (Sorry, I couldn't resist.) I've taught at Green River for 8 years as an adjunct instructor, and I'm in my third year as a full-time, tenure-track instructor.

Why English?

Writing empowers us and inspires change, in both our personal and public lives. I love teaching composition courses because it gives me an opportunity to show students that writing is not so much about what the teacher wants to read as it is about what you want to say. Even when you are writing a paper for a class you don't enjoy, if you can find the message within yourself that needs to be expressed, writing is transformed from being a chore to becoming an almost mystical way to gain power.

I love teaching literature classes because it gives me a chance to show students that these great writers are just as human as they are, and that the personal struggles we all face are part of being human - others have



Kerry Kralovic / The Current

faced similar things and have found ways to not only survive, but improve.

Describe yourself as a teacher:

I like to think of myself as "hot," but no one has ever given me a chili pepper on "Rate My Professor.com." Like most of my colleagues, I try to be the type of teacher I always wanted to have. I love what I do, and I try to make it clear to my students that I am there for them.

What is your favorite word in the English language?

This changes, but right now, my favorite word in the English language is "serendipitous." Not only is it fun to say, but I love those moments when everything falls into place and we realize we've just discovered

something significant.

From your years of teaching, what's your favorite memory?

Every quarter, there is something different that stands out, and I'm not sure what my "favorite" memory is, but I can share a couple of the great memories I have. For example, I allow my students to have a couple of absences each quarter. One quarter I was teaching evening classes and my students found out that Maya Angelou was going to be in Seattle, so they asked if class was going to be cancelled - they know that I'm an Angelou groupie (She's actually coming to Green River!). I told them that I was not going to cancel class, and by the next time we met, they had orga-

nized a protest.

Their spokesperson said, "Mr. Jack. If you go to see Maya Angelou's presentation, we will use that class period to work on our group presentations. If you don't, we are all going to use that day as one of our absences and you will be sitting here alone."

There are a lot of reasons for this being a great memory for me. To begin with, my students understood how important it was for me, personally, to be able to go to the presentation, and they understood the sacrifice I was making for them. This presented a problem to them, and they used critical thinking skills to come up with a solution that would satisfy my desire to create a meaningful learning experience for them as well as my desire to enjoy a meaningful learning experience for myself. They developed an argument, provided logical support for it, and presented it effectively.

Plus, I was able to go to the presentation.

Find out more about Phil Jack and other faculty members at www.thecurrentonline.net/campus

Coca Cola, cooking shows and culture

By: Remco Zwetsloot
Editor-in-Chief

On the couch with a nice magazine, a trip to the grocery store and dinner at an Ethiopian restaurant. Sounds like a pleasant, relaxed Sunday afternoon, right?

Not for the students who are taking the 'Food For Thought: Coca Cola, Cooking Shows and Culture' learning community, offered for the first time at Green River this quarter. Under the wings of instructors Louise Hull (sociology), and Lori Vail (English) they are undertaking a journey through the world of food, writing, marketing,

politics and much more, as part of a 10 credit course that combines English 101 and Sociology 202.

For both teachers, this has been the first time teaching the class, and they have had to educate themselves. "[It] has been eye-opening to me," says Hull. "It has been disturbing, I have felt outraged at times, I have felt concerned, and I have been amazed."

The class covers a wide range of subjects, and most, such as the relationship of food systems and government, are specific and obscure ones that students and the community don't have much knowl-

edge of, according to Vail. Still, she says, it has been great to work on a subject that, in general, "everyone has a vested interest in and an opinion about," especially as a writing in-

"It has been disturbing, I have felt outraged at times, I have felt concerned, and I have been amazed."

- Louise Hull

structor.

"It's definitely interesting," says Kelli Yerokhina, a Running Start student enrolled in the class. She recalled a video that was played in class about the symbolic meaning of different kinds of bread. "You never realize that, but it's

true."

Most assignments are designed for that purpose; encouraging students to think about things they had never thought about. In one such assignment,

called the conference project, students have to create a fictitious family and calculate the amount of food stamps they are eligible for and what their calorie count should be. Then, they plan a week's worth of

Continued on next page

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Campus



Editor: Bailey Jo Josie
campus.editor@mail.greenriver.edu

Coca Cola, cooking shows and culture | A hyperactive and happy Halloween

Continued from preceding page

meals for the family.

This turned out to be a bit of a struggle for some. "When I started I wanted to buy brand names that I'm used to ... but as I went on I realized I could only buy [store brand], which is lower quality," explains Yerokhina.

"It showed that low-income families really have a hard time, and there's a lot of effort that goes into [it]," says Rob Finch, another student. Both say they have learned a lot from the class, most of which they now use outside of the classroom as well.

What you learn, Finch adds, goes beyond the sociological subject matter.

"The English [compo-

nent] helps you translate what you've learned into what you're writing," while it would be harder for him to articulate his ideas in a standard sociology class.

This, to him, is one of the benefits of learning communities, and for Hull and Vail it was a reason to teach a class like this. Combining two topics pushes students to apply their knowledge in different ways, which helps them relate and connect everything they learn. Plus, it has the added benefit of being very fun.

"It's kind of like raising children together," laughs Hull. "We complement each other. It's a nice yin and yang."

The partnership has been working out great so far, they say, and work-

ing together has allowed them to go a step beyond what they do in their regular classes. Yerokhina and Finch agree.

"They're a lot of fun, they joke around together and are good at getting messages across. A great duo."

Learning communities, which combine several classes or subjects into one course, have been offered at Green River for almost 20 years now, and have been popular with students since they started.

"Students get addicted to [them]," jokes Marcie Sims, an English instructor who has served on the learning community committee, explaining they often continue taking similar classes after trying it out.

The Student Life Office has been buzzing with excitement over the course of the last few weeks. With the increasing number of popular holidays drawing near, students have been busy planning events to cater to the student populace. The Pumpkin Carving Contest was a hit, and the creative assortment served as a wonderful source of decoration for the Halloween Party that took place the following night. The party was quite a success, with over 400 students in attendance.

Anton, the International Activity Programmer, planned the Halloween Party, but hasn't had time to rest. He has made himself rather busy lately

planning the Boeing Trip, Holiday Lights in Leavenworth, and the Whistler Ski and Snowboard trip. He's been actively trying to branch out and reach all of the student interests he can, as have the other student leaders on campus!

Unfortunately, chaos also struck the Student Life Office with the cancellation of Dr. Maya Angelou (originally scheduled for November 4th). Dr. Angelou recently experienced some health changes, and has been instructed by her physician not to travel. So, Student Life has been working hard to reschedule and get the word out! For more information about this, stop by Student Life



COURTESY PHOTO / Student Life
The Pumpkin Carving Contest.

in December, or call (253) 833-9111 x2400.

We are looking forward to the winter months and all the events that they will bring. Stop by Student Life often for updates and to see new events or check us out on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/greenriverrccstudentlife>

- Jenna Shrewsbury, The Student Life Office Blog

www.thecurrentonline.net/blogs

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A & E

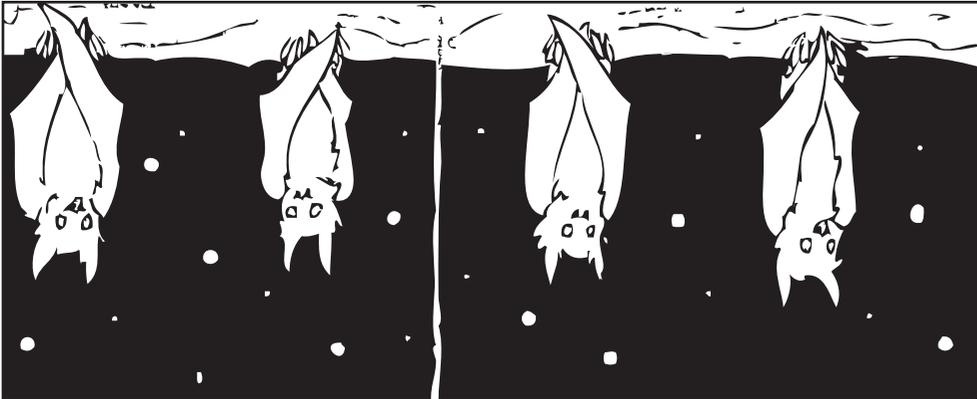
“There have been tears”

Avis Adams, page 8

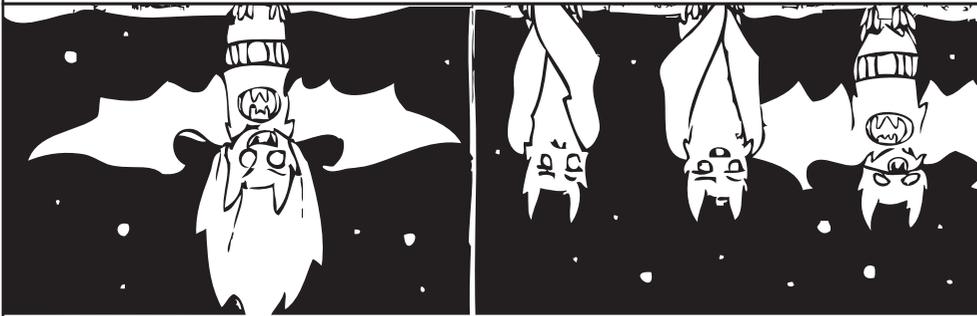


COMICS

By: Whitney Gerard



That costume party was great. Oh, I didn't go... Hey Bruce, what were you-
I went as a pirate. What about you?



I was batman!

That's, uh... That's great, Bruce...

By: Bailey Jo Josie



Do you like to draw?
Do you have a sense of humor?
Do you think we don't have a sense of humor?

Pitch us your artwork, ideas and suggestions at thecurrent@greenriver.edu.



SUDOKU

Easy

3	6		9	8		7	
5	8						
	7				3		5
	5				7		2
	7		8	5	2		6
4	2					9	
7	5				4		
					8		3
	8		9	2	6		7

Medium

			7		3		
	7					2	5
	9	6		1			7
			5			8	1
8	1		3		9		6
	4	5			1		
4				8		5	9
	6	7					3
			2	8			

Hard

8				5			
		6		2	7	8	3
	2	9			8		7
	5	8					
	6		8		3		2
						1	7
6			1			9	5
	3	5	7	4		6	
			5				4

Very Hard

1	8		6				
	2			8			5
		7	2	1	4		6
	4				2		
7		2				4	8
			1				9
4			5	7	3	9	
	7			2			6
						1	4

TRIVIAL TRIVIA

1. How many ways are there to make change for a US dollar?

- a. 249
- b. 293
- c. 274
- d. 214

2. Which day is 'Save a Spider Day'?

- a. March 10
- b. March 14
- c. March 23
- d. March 29

3. Napoleon Bonaparte was terrified of ___.

- a. Failure
- b. Getting lost
- c. Spiders
- d. Cats

4. Which of the following is part of the peach family?

- a. Walnuts
- b. Almonds
- c. Coconuts
- d. Peanuts

5. The infinity symbol (∞) is called a(n) ___.

- a. Lemniscates
- b. Ellipsis
- c. Infinitas
- d. Infinitesimal

6. The machine that takes blood pressure is a ___.

- a. Strigmomanometer
- b. Sphygmomanometer
- c. Tachometer
- d. Rheometer

7. The can opener was invented ___ years after the can.

- a. 2
- b. 14
- c. 45
- d. 112

8. Which was the first to fly in a hot air balloon?

- a. A duck
- b. A sheep
- c. A rooster
- d. All of the above

Answers:
1:b, 2:b, 3:d, 4:b,
5:a, 6:b, 7:c, 8:d



I want to be with you

The brilliant game writer Tim Rogers called Canabalt - a game, colored in 11 different shades of gray, about jumping from building to building - "Super Mario Tetris" because of its platform-based appearance and the addictive gameplay. The playable character only stops running when he misses a jump, caused by a mistimed tap of the player's finger on their iPhone's screen.

In a similar vein, Robot Unicorn Attack (RUA) is about running, but it retains a commitment to visual pleasure. The aesthetics are comparable to



only under those constraints, but prettied it up with the perfect amount of flair. RUA wouldn't be as great without a song featuring the lyrics "I want to be with you / make believe with you / and live in harmony, harmony, oh love." It creates a mood that's unforgettable and borderline magical. RUA is like watching the Wichowski Brothers' Speed Racer on acid.

Now, if budget iPhone and Facebook games can be complete masterpieces, why do AAA titles often end up being lackluster experiences? Well, they fail for two reasons: time and money. It takes a lot of time to polish a unique mechanic that's never been used before. It's much safer and profitable to sell a game that's already been proven to sell; hence why sequels are released quicker than new franchises.

Maybe that's why we're in an indie game golden age. Small-budget games have been making daring moves that large-budget titles can't make, and games like Braid and Super Meat Boy are more compelling than the latest Halo or Zelda. Those franchises have worked to refine their gameplay to a science, and that isn't the way to create an unforgettable experience.

While I'm talking about trendy, indie things, I also want to say that Animal Collective is the best band ever, I drink copious amounts of PBR and watch Gossip Girl religiously.

"It's probably the most flamboyant game ever made, and it's fantastic."

a Teletubby's fecal matter, and "Always" by Britpop band Erasure plays in the background; it's probably the most flamboyant game ever made, and it's fantastic.

The game has many components similar to Canabalt. First off, there is no control over the character's momentum. The unicorn is always running at ever-increasing speed. This puts players on edge because all they can do is react when the unicorn reaches the edge of a platform or when a star falls right in front of them. The other major component is the ever-increasing score. It persistently increases with each gallop, keeping players aware of what they are earning for their constant playtime.

The final component is probably the most important: completeness. There is almost no way to make Canabalt or RUA a better game; the developers knew what they had to work with, and they not only made a game not

Far From the Genuine goes for big break



COURTESY PHOTO/ Brianna Pollock

Matt Zyskowski, left, Rusty Harper, middle, and Cody Sumner, right, make up pop-punk-rock band Far From the Genuine

By: Bailey Jo Josie
Campus Editor

Consisting of Cody Sumner (guitarist and vocalist), Green River student Matt Zyskowski (bassist and vocalist) and Rusty Harper (drums), Far From the Genuine is a unified front of pop, punk and rock, citing Blink 182, Alkaline Trio, Brand New and Fall Out Boy as their main influences.

But when told that their sound (particularly songs like 'What You've Become (Tom's Song)' and 'Contemplating') seems more like a mix of Tool, Soundgarden and Staind, they all have a different reaction.

Zyskowski says, "I like all three of those bands, but the closest one I could see would be Staind."

Sumner has a slightly different view: "I've never been that big of a fan of Tool or Soundgarden, but I can definitely see how people would compare us to Staind," while Harper is "actually a huge fan of

Tool."

Despite the juxtaposition on how their songs sound to an outsider, the guys from Far From the Genuine have become very close since their creation one year ago.

"We're all like brothers in my opinion," says Zyskowski. Sumner adds, "There is definitely that connection between us when we play live. It's something that really can't be described."

And though they have a harder sound than one might think when they hear the words "pop punk", their lyrics prove it to be so. Their song "Sick" is simple, acoustic, with back harmonies and great vocals, and though the lyrics are catchy and poetic, they are static and closely resemble Fall Out Boy.

But this is no ordinary garage band - they have passed that stage of creating a MySpace page and hoping for the best - and though at times unoriginal, they get by more than fine

with their talent.

Their savage passion for their music and their abundance of well composed songs has gotten them big gigs in places where successful bands have played before. Recently, they played at Hell's Kitchen in Tacoma, where, according to Harper "People liked our music a lot Drunk people are fun."

They formed back in November of 2009, starting out with a few jamming sessions in Sumner's shed Zyskowski and Sumner began jamming together in Sumner's shed while their old band was having some down time.

Their MySpace page tells the tale: "[we] played a show, lost a bassist, [Sumner] switched from drums to bass, got another drummer, played some more shows, recorded a rough demo, then a studio demo, never quite got around to posting the studio demo on MySpace, [Zyskowski] switched from

guitar to bass, and [Sumner] switched to guitar, played another show, lost our drummer, got a new drummer [Rusty Harper], and went back to practicing in Cody's shed."

Recently, it seems like the students have gotten closer to a break-through. Their songs have been featured on GRCC's radio station 89.9 KGRG and they have a show at the D4 Venue in Sumner, on Nov. 5. "I think we're pretty close to getting noticed," says Harper.

And what if, despite the odds being stacked against any young band trying to break through, they would actually make it?

"I would be pleased," says Sumner. "Playing in a band for a career is what I've wanted my whole life, and I would totally be okay with selling out."

"You have to make money somehow and frankly, I never really got why people see selling out as bad."

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A&E Review & Preview

Calendar

Concerts

- Nov 6 Stars
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$20+)
- The Supervillians
@ Studio 7
(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$12+)
- All Time Low
@ El Corazón
(Doors open at 7:45 p.m. all ages, SOLD OUT)
- Nov 7 Mae
@ El Corazón
(Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$13+)
- The Classic Crime
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 6 p.m. all ages, \$11+)
- Nov 8 The Summer Rocket
@ El Corazón
(Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$12+)
- Donavon Frankenreiter
@ The Crocodile
(Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, \$20+)
- Nov 9 Fistful of Mercy
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, SOLD OUT)
- Nov 10 Circa Survive
@ El Corazón
(Doors open at 6 p.m. 21+, \$16+)
- Usher
@ Key Arena
(Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$75+)
- KGRG Presents: Left Alone
@ Studio 7
(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$8+)
- Halford
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 7:30 p.m. 21+, \$32+)
- Nov 11 The Lonely Forest
@ Neumos
(Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$15+)
- Nov 12 Ghostland Observatory (Nov 12-13)
@ ShowBox SODO
(Doors open at 7 p.m. 21+, \$28+)
- A Perfect Circle (Nov 12-14)
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$38.50+)
- Nov 14 Brandon Flowers
@ ShowBox SODO
(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$28+)
- Little Big Town
@ Moore Theatre
(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$52+)
- Nov 14 Bad Religion
@ ShowBox SODO
(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$25+)
- Nov 19 Built to Spill (Nov 19-20)
@ ShowBox at the Market
(Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, \$30+)
- ### Movies
- Nov 12 Skyline - NR
Unstoppable - PG13
Morning Glory - PG13
- Nov 19 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - PG13
The Next Three Days - PG13

Horror made simple. Very simple.

By: Stephen Andrews
Staff Writer



The team at Paramount Pictures hopes to scare the living hell out of audiences with *Paranormal Activity 2*.

Closely tied with its predecessor, *Paranormal Activity 2* adopts the same "found footage" format, utilizing handheld cameras to detail the events of one Carlsbad, California family's experiences with a demonic entity. Kristi, sister of *Paranormal Activity*'s Katie, has moved to a new home with her husband Dan, step-daughter Ali and newborn son Hunter. Shortly after Hunter's arrival, the haunting begins, with loud noises keeping

the baby awake, a Ouija Board revealing something wants the child, and household objects moving by themselves. As events escalate, the connection between Kristi and Katie's haunting becomes clear before culminating in a final assault against the family.

The movie borrows heavily from part one. With cameras strategically placed around the family home, audiences have an intimate look into each member's life and the strains the haunting inflicts on them. It lacks special effects, fountains of blood and lumbering killers popularized by other films. Paramount has remained faithful to what made the original so popular: agonizingly tense build-ups to



COURTESY PHOTO / fearnet.com

a quick scare. Fans of the original may enjoy the tension, but waiting for something to happen can become dull. When the action does pick up, much of the story is over and the film zips to a violent conclusion. Fans of faster paced films like *Saw* need not apply.

Overall, *Paranormal Activity 2* is a solid film and offers a darker, simpler approach to scaring audiences than other horror films fare this year. Fans should follow up with the sequel, but series newcomers might understand the overall plot more by seeing part one first.

The Current Picks

Movie:

Get Lamp



Jacon Scott's documentary is a fascinating-yet boring look at interactive fiction; commonly known as text adventures.

These games were early PC videogames exclusively using prose to narrate the adventure. This film is probably the purest documentary ever made. Very little was added to create a plot, and there's very little authorial intervening. It's just the topic and people talking about it.

This does make *Get Lamp* long near the end, but the information holds out as one of the few attempts to archive a near-dead genre. Also, the name of the film comes from the text adventure classic *Zork*.

By: Alexander Bevier

Book:

Brain and Belief: An Exploration of the Human Soul



"The human soul is a myth," writes John McGraw in "*Brain and Belief: An Exploration of the Human Soul*." "[But] it teaches wonderful truths..."

In this illustrious and thought-provoking book, McGraw gives a thorough history of the belief in the soul from prehistoric animists to modern Christians, explaining the psychological and chemical (including LSD) relationships between beliefs in the soul and the religions which form or are molded by them, and modern philosophical and scientific arguments for the function of the beliefs and why the soul does not exist as a physical entity but as an existential abstraction.

By: Stirling Radliff

Music:

Ágætis Byrjun



Ágætis Byrjun by Sigur Rós is a masterful blend of ambience, bass, piano, cello bows on electric guitar strings and the rawness of Jónsi Birgisson's entrancing voice.

The songs range from pulsing bass lines to the frantic noise of a cello bow against electric guitar to soothing piano melodies. Only momentarily throughout various songs is the listener left with a sense of freedom from the weight of the album.

Each song can stand alone (especially *Ný Batterí*) and they fade together perfectly, but by putting this album on shuffle the listener will only starve himself of the true experience. Understanding Icelandic it purely optional.

By: Kelli Wyatt

Espial 2010

On Oct. 15, the 2010 edition of Espial was awarded the Campus Literary/Arts Magazine of the Year Award at the Washington Community College Humanities Association's (WCCHA) 30th Anniversary Conference.

By: Stephen Andrews

After an honorable mention at last year's WCCHA conference in the same low-budget magazine category, the Espial team was determined to win. "The class said they were going to win," Avis Adams, English instructor and one of the faculty leading the journal, laughed. "They said, 'We can do better,' and they did it."

The magazine, now in its eighth year, is produced by students under the watchful eye of several instructors. Every spring, those enrolled in English 239: Espial Workshop, taught by Adams, and Art 150: Literary Arts Journal Design, taught by Gary Oliveira, are put in charge of the magazine and handle every aspect of creating the journal - from sifting through the myriad of art and literary submissions and designing the magazine layout to presenting the journal at an official release party.

First, the Espial team decides on the cover of the magazine. They create cover artwork and vote on their favorite pieces, occasionally tweaking the pieces and sometimes even combining them (see 2007 edition on preceding page).

After finalizing the cover design, the students hold a contest to determine layout style. Past layouts have been rather minimalistic, but more recent issues have contained graphical extras like calligraphy and photo frames to add character and focus to the page and its content.

Following the layout, students begin the painstaking process of selecting content for print. Much of the content is from students not currently enrolled, and there is a sporadic faculty submission as well. Due to a limited

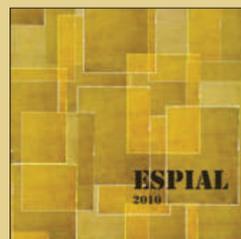
amount of space, the process is very selective; some literary pieces are read and re-viewed as much as six times before they are accepted for print or rejected.

"There have been tears," Adams admits. "We've gotten into some pretty heated debates, and sometimes someone's favorite piece doesn't make it in. There are always tough decisions." When the selection process is complete, the team notifies the winning contributors and those whose work didn't make it into the magazine.

Then, when the magazine has been finalized, Adams and Oliveira oversee its printing while students plan a release party. "It's really important that students have the magazine before the quarter ends," Adams says. "In other years, there were times when we couldn't get the magazine printed in time, and it was really difficult finding all the students next quarter to give them their magazines."

At the end of the quarter the students plan a release party for their edition. They send out invitations for the event, and designs posters that are placed around campus to draw people to the party. During the party, guests enjoy refreshments and have an opportunity to discuss the production process with the magazine team, as well as talk to the featured artists and writers.

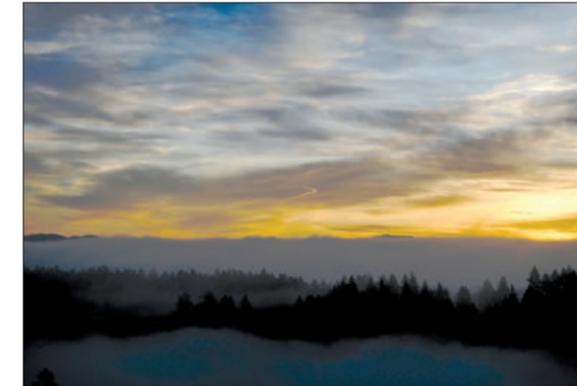
Through it all, Adams believes that students walk away with something they can enjoy and be proud of, a tangible piece of their college experience that can be shown to others. "That's really the most rewarding thing," says Adams, "giving students something they can take with them and use to remember their time here."



On The Inside

Foggy Evening

By: Pedro Anton II



Who helps him

By: Tanya Cohen

Standing on the corner holding a tattered cardboard sign, I Live Outdoors, he says, "Please, anything helps."

A man walks past squaring his shoulders, nose held high ignoring the moldy scent radiating two feet away from the old man; Standing on the corner holding a tattered cardboard sign.

Dirt crusted jeans sag from old bowed legs he leans slight to his left, swaying toward the passing cars, I Live Outdoors, he says, "Please, anything helps."

A dark navy jacket hangs from his shoulders, buttoned all the way up to his white bearded chin. Standing on the corner holding a tattered cardboard sign.

His nautical hat is worn and folding over his ears from years of use. A seafaring soul framed by city lights and busy traffic, I Live Outdoors, he says, "Please, anything helps."

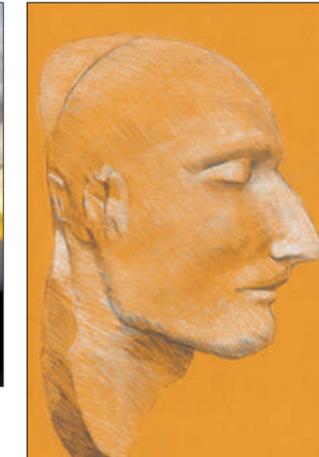
The last great fisherman standing alone on his great sinking ship, as haunted, deep blue eyes peer into each passing car. Standing on the corner holding a tattered cardboard sign.

A woman clenching her crying child rushes to the signal light pushing the button in a rushed effort to get across the street, I Live Outdoors, he says, "Please, anything helps."

In dirt crusted jeans sagging from old bowed legs he leans slightly to his left, swaying toward the passing cars. Wrapped in a dark navy jacket hanging from wide shoulders, all the way up to his white bearded chin, He still stands on the corner holding a tattered cardboard sign. I Live Outdoors, he says, "Please, anything helps."

Silent

By: Tun-Yueh Ni



A Walk In Summer After Rain

By: Wendy Bell

In summer, after rain, the air is awash with the scent of woodland grass and mossy rock.

We watch the mist rise skyward towards a scatter of bashful clouds.

Alone the graveled roads we walk, my hand resting easily in yours, 'till we stop our journeying

to glimpse what is revealed by touch of summer's rain-

the glitter of translucent stones whose stories you would tell as fables tied to shards of memory Though tiring, we amble on beyond the lines of shaggy firs, beyond the road's dividing Y

until a meadow comes into view and a rainbow cloth spreads before us a tapestry of flowered fields,

inviting us to bide a while and listen to their measured song before the light departs the day.

Girl in Red Dress

By: Man Ting So



Nature Takes Care Of Itself

By: Carola Parker



News

“It’s kind of like raising children together”

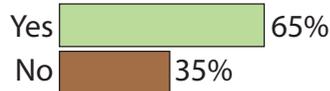
Louise Hull, page 3



Initiatives, Washington State

I-1053

Would require a two-thirds majority - or voter approval - for any legislative action that raises taxes or institutes or raises fees.



I-1082

Would give employers the option of purchasing insurance from private companies starting in 2012 and eliminate the worker-paid share of premiums.



I-1098

Would institute an income tax on high-income families to fund education & health spending and a reduction of certain business or occupation taxes.



I-1100

Would close state liquor stores and give private parties the ability to sell, distribute and import alcohol, as well as removing certain requirements.



I-1105

Would close state liquor stores and license private parties to sell and distribute alcohol, and revise laws relating to the subject.



I-1107

Would end the sales tax on candy, end taxes on certain bottled water and carbonated drinks and reduce tax rates for certain food processors.



Source: wei.secstate.wa.gov

The Elections

How the Nov. 2 midterms played out in Washington and the Green River Community College area. These numbers date from roughly 1 a.m., Nov. 4. Source: www.seattletimes.com

National



Patty Murray **50.84%**

Dino Rossi **49.16%**

U.S. Senate: With 71% of precincts reporting, Murray currently holds a lead of roughly 27,500 votes over Rossi.

Dave Reichert **54%**

Suzan DelBene **46%**

U.S. House District 8: With 71% of precincts reporting, the race has been called in favor of Reichert.

State Legislature, 47th District



Senate: With 63% of precincts reporting, Fain currently has a lead of roughly 2,000 votes, but the race hasn't been called yet.

Joe Fain **56%**

Claudia Kauffman **44%**



House pos. 1: With 62% of precincts reporting, Hargrove currently has a lead of over 4,000 votes, but the race hasn't been called yet.

Mark Hargrove **58%**

Geoff Simpson **42%**



House pos. 2: With 61% of precincts reporting, Sullivan currently has a lead of roughly 3,000 votes, but the race hasn't been called yet.

Pat Sullivan **56%**

Rodrigo Yanez **44%**

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CAPELLA UNIVERSITY



Colleges declare states of emergency. Are we?

By: Lacey Steward
Staff Writer

The Green River Board of Trustees has decided not to declare a financial 'state of emergency'. By doing this, the administration has made clear it will not lay off tenured faculty or close down educational programs in the near future.

Last April, Bates Technical College (BTC) utilized the option and received less than desirable feedback from the community: A May issue of the Tacoma News Tribune said BTC was "unwilling to consider humane ways to making cuts" after issuing more than 40 layoff notices to faculty.

According to Kimberly Pleger, director of college resources for BTC, the college used the declaration to quickly and efficiently

solve the immediate budget deficit challenges it was presented with.

Washington colleges aren't the only ones to make this decision: Nevada, Texas, Utah and New Jersey are just a few states that have seen their schools declare a financial state of emergency since the economic downturn. Colleges that are declaring the financial exigency nationwide are facing budget reductions similar to those BTC and Green River have been facing.

The administration's decision not to declare is based on a goal the college has tried and tries to stick by for as long as possible.

"In the past, as well as with this current year's budget, Green River has not eliminated any programs taught by full-time faculty," said John

Ramsey, director of public information for Green River.

The college has been experiencing unprecedented growth and enrollment, said Mark Millbauer, auto body instructor and head of the faculty union at the college. "Furthermore, we have clearly defined processes in our faculty contract with the college that already provide for fair methods of reducing the work force and closing unneeded programs if warranted."

The college hasn't ruled out the option of declaring such a state of emergency in the future, Ramsey said the decision will likely be made after they see how deep budget cuts are for the 2011-2012 school year. "There are a lot of unknowns as we head into the legislative session in January, such as the lat-

est state revenue forecast, what sort of tuition increase will be proposed, are colleges still going to be held to their enrollment targets, what about Running Start partial tuition, etcetera," he explains.

"I don't think we should be afraid," said Millbauer. "We just need to put our heads together and work through this adverse situation."

According to Millbauer, there are ways Green River can avoid the messy situation that BTC was put itself. As long as Washington's leaders make timely decisions, plan accordingly and make narrow cuts instead of the broad cuts like BTC has done, the college should be on a safe track, he says.

"It's best not to wait until the crisis hits and to initiate incremental steps to be prepared beforehand."

The Undercurrent

Complaints again PR raise noise

The past few years there have been complaints about noise and potential violations of the conditional use permit (CUP) that Pacific Raceways (PR)raceways has with King County, which may jeopardize the lease the college has with the raceways, which hosts nearly 900 student and faculty vehicles every day.



Kelli Wyatt / THE CURRENT

The CUP is administered by the County and is reviewed annually. Specific days are designated as quiet days on which no events that cause noise above an ambient level can be hosted, and neighboring residents complain the organization has not honored that agreement.

According to John Ramsey, director of public information, "it is way too [early] to speculate how any ruling by the County may affect the raceway's ability to continue operation," but it seems unlikely anything will happen that affects Green River students.

The residents in attendance at a recent County hearing made it clear they do not wish for the raceways to be shut down - the economic repercussions would be too significant - but rather simply want the terms defined in the CUP to be recognized and enforced.

By: Kelli Wyatt

Streetlight to be placed on 320th

Green River Community College will have a new street light at the crosswalk from Holman Library to Lea Hill Park. The lack of lighting at the crosswalk has raised the concern of many pedestrians.

The college decided to make the crosswalk on SE 320th Street more visible and will work with the City of Auburn. Puget Sound Energy will be in charge of installing the streetlight on the pole adjacent to the crosswalk. The City of Auburn is also searching for ways to improve signage for visibility, but is still unsure what changes will be made.

Meanwhile, the Auburn Police Department will more closely enforce traffic laws that require motorists to pay more attention to pedestrians who are waiting or attempting to cross the street.

When this will happen is still undecided, but it is certain that college commuters need to be more cautious when approaching the crosswalk from the Holman Library to Lea Hill Park.

By: Kay Jung

Intro to Video Journalism

JOURN107

Item # 5575

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OpEd

"The human soul is a myth, but it teaches wonderful truths."

John McGraw, page 7



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A note of thanks

Editorial Board: Remco Zwetsloot, Kelli Wyatt, Stephen Andrews, Stirling Radliff, Josh Davidson, Bailey Josie, Kerry Kralovic, Alexander Bevier

We are in tough times right now. The Current, in its last issue, reported that a possible decade of budget cuts lie ahead for Green River. A hiring freeze has been instituted by the legislature and, while enrollment at the college has been increasing for over a year, several programs at the college see their open positions unfilled. As you can read in this issue (page 10), colleges across the country have declared a 'state of emergency,' allowing them to fire tenured faculty. Meanwhile, instruc-

tors have been taking on extra students to deal with enrollment issues.

Despite this dire outlook, Green River and the community at large have exhibited no signs of panic or disorganization. Dealing with these issues is stressful and has been rough for some, especially those who have had to absorb workload, yet everyone seems to have dealt with it calmly so far.

This can be attributed to a lot of things. Green River has a 'cushion' in the form of Running Start and international students, making us less susceptible to decreases in funding. The college has an efficient system in place with caring people running it, as shown by the hundreds of thousands of dollars that have been saved by departments and their employees alone. There

are several other factors, but unfortunately we only have so many words that fit on a page.

To all of those involved with the process we want to extend a note of thanks on behalf of the student body. Most students are unaware of the effort put into running a college and won't notice any problems until it is virtually impossible to avoid them, but it's not unreasonable to assume that anyone with knowledge of this situation shares in our gratitude.

That being said, we will continue to provide you with updates and stories concerning the budget, struggling employees and other relevant issues. But until we come probing around your office, we would like to say this to all the hardworking staff members: thank you.

The Editor

By: Remco Zwetsloot

If you want to do it right, being Editor in Chief becomes your life; you're often working 11 hours a day, only go home to sleep and eat breakfast (when you have time for it, that is) and even on a day off your thoughts seem to unavoidably veer toward the newspaper.

Luckily I was aware - to the extent that you can be aware of it without having lived it - of this when I applied for the job and it didn't come as a complete shock to me. But, looking at the past few weeks, it's still quite a surprise to find that all my social interaction worth writing about involved either Green River or my fellow editors.

That being said, it is awfully gratifying when such an investment of time and effort is rewarded by praise and appreciation - even though those who offered it might not have noticed due to my inability to take a compliment. Most of our newsstands had been emptied within three days (though I have to give some credit to the storm that reduced a stack of roughly 50 papers to pulp last weekend) and the number of hits on our website has remained high.

Still, there is plenty of room for improvement, and we've already started making changes. Our teacher spotlights are now done in a Q&A format, allowing faculty to put more of themselves into it and us to be nice and lazy, and we have switched out the word search, which turned out not to be very popular for Trivial Trivia (page 5). On Nov. 6 all of us are going to a journalism conference for college newspapers, where we will hopefully find some additional inspiration and improvements to make. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions or comments, please e-mail us at thecurrent@greenriver.edu.

That's what he said she said

Kelli Wyatt:

Time is a number that rests on the wall.
- Adam Duritz

Bailey Jo Josie:

Never turn your back on Fear; it should always be in front of you, like something that might have to be killed.
- Hunter S. Thompson

Remco Zwetsloot:

A well adjusted person is one who makes the same mistake twice without getting nervous.
- Alexander Hamilton

Stephen Andrews:

A man chooses; a slave obeys.
- Andrew Ryan

Alexander Bevier:

"Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach, and those who probably could but won't because they're in their own way are journalists."
- Leigh Alexander

Kerry Kralovic:

Sometimes questions are more important than answers.
- Nancy Willard

Stirling Radliff:

I don't dislike babies, but I think very young ones are rather disgusting.
- Queen Victoria

Jean-Pierre Garcia:

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
- Marianne Williamson

Editorial Policy

The Current is a limited public forum for student expression, in which student editors make policy and content decisions. Green River Community College delegates editorial responsibility for the content of the publications. The college acknowledges the dual free purpose of student publications as instructional tools and as vehicles for free inquiry and free expression in the academic community. The views and opinions expressed in The Current do not necessarily reflect those of the college or student body.

Theft Policy

A person commits the offense of publication theft when he or she willfully or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over more than three copies of The Current that is distributed on campus [with the intent to prevent other individuals from reading that edition of the publication]. A "publication" includes any periodical that is distributed on a complimentary or compensatory basis. In addition to the imposition of other campus disciplinary penalties, a person who violates this provision is responsible for compensating the publication for all reasonable costs incurred, including, where appropriate, the refund of advertising fees.

Letters to the Editor

The Current encourages all its readers to be involved and will publish letters. We don't accept anonymous letters and the editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become property of The Current. Letters should be sent to thecurrent@greenriver.edu

Note: The quotations featured here in no way represent The Current or the student body's opinion, but rather that of the individual editors.

OpEd

Editor: Stirling Radliff
oped.editor@mail.greenriver.edu

Make the switch to digital textbooks

By: Alexander Bevier
News Editor

Why is it that people still insist on using expensive textbooks for classes? Yes, they are traditional; but they are heavy, costly and horrible for the environment. There's even a light, classy and eco-friendly alternative to a math book. Most people seem to be oblivious to the obvious benefits of these wondrous gadgets, but they've been accessible for several years now. I'm talking about eReaders.

Near the end of October, the US Department of Education granted Bellevue College over \$750,000 to provide low-income students with netbooks.

These computers would be fully equipped with digital versions of their textbooks and would be rented out for roughly \$35 a quarter. That adds up to about \$100 for an entire year's worth of books, while, according to KOMO News, students pay roughly \$1,000 for

physical textbooks annually (most of which they barely glance at anyway).

Amazon Kindles, Apple iPads and Barnes & Noble Nooks are significantly lighter than a 500 page biology book as well.

Those over-sized tomes are daunting both to hold and read. eReaders would promote a much more welcome educational experience, which would increase grades and lower class dropout rates.

Now, there are some reasons to approach this digital revolution with caution. For all new things, there's a learning curve. Isn't it a little early to replace physical books with an alternate method when Green River only recently received student email addresses? What happens when the required textbooks aren't available on an eReader?

There are significant changes that have to be made in order to adopt a new standard medium, but people quickly learn and adapt to the new technology, as they did



By: Bailey Jo Josie

with student e-mails and Angel. And once eReaders start being more widely used in a college environment, there is no doubt publishing companies will change with the times and make their books available in a PDF format.

This August, amazon.com released data show-

ing that people purchase over three times more books after buying a Kindle. Students could end up using these tablets to read things greater than textbooks - classic novels, periodicals and newspapers are all conveniently available for less money, and books are available at cheaper

rates their paper-based counterparts.

With federal funding available, there is truly no reason not to introduce this as a widespread medium, whether in netbook or in eReader format. In these environmentally and economically tough times, it isn't wise to hang behind.

After the allegations: the impact of uncertainty

Hushed tones, suspicious looks, speculations and conflicting stories are common hallmarks

Letter

of rumors brewing. When a community has some, but not all, of the information about a situation that is potentially impactful to the emotional well-being of many, it is easy to react with fear or even hysteria. Being unsure of who can or should be looked to for information makes these covert tendencies even stronger. Unfortunately, rumors rarely help any situation and the recent

alleged misconduct of a faculty member toward a student is no exception.

All of us, whether we are students, faculty, or staff, have a basic need to feel safe. Many of us take for granted that when we come to school or work we will be safe and we will get through our day without incident. The recent alleged event on our campus may have us wondering about our basic safety and/or thinking about previous events in our lives when we had concerns about our safety. When this occurs it's not uncommon to have a reaction. Some reactions are immediate while some take

time to surface. Some reactions are subtle while others are obvious.

Below are some common reactions:

Thoughts: confusion, hypervigilance, poor concentration, nightmares

Emotional: fear, denial, anxiety, anger, panic

Behavioral: withdrawal, sleep difficulties, change in appetite, increased substance use

Physical: fatigue, headaches, weakness

While these are some of the common reactions, they don't cover every reaction. Counseling Services is hopeful that recognition of these reactions will lead to empowerment

and connecting people to the right resources. If you (or those close to you) notice any change in your mood or functioning that is persistent, you may want to seek out some assistance. Talking with friends, family members, or other trusted individuals within your support network is always a good way to go. Sometimes additional resources are needed. Some resources available to anyone on campus who's been affected by these events are:

•GRCC Counseling Services, 253 833 9111, Ext. 2460

•GRCC Women's Programs, 253 833 9111, Ext. 2547

•King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, 888 99 86423 (VOICE), www.ksarc.org

•Domestic Abuse Women's Network, 425 656 7867, www.dawnonline.org

•YWCA, 425 226 1266, www.ywcaworks.org

•MHN Employee Assistance Program, 1-800-227-1060, www.members.mhn.com

•Community Information Line, 211, www.crisis-clinic.org

- Devon Klein and Liz McKinney, Green River Counselors

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Sports

"It's probably the most flamboyant game ever made, and it's fantastic."

Alexander Bevier, page 6



New coach hungry for success in his first season

By: Casey Voellger & Kelli Wyatt
Staff Writer & Managing Editor

"By January, when it really matters, we will be ready to compete for those top spots," says the new women's basketball coach, Tim Riles. Under his leadership, the Gators go into the season, which starts Nov. 27 with a home game against Portland, with high hopes and expectations.

"Coaching is my life. It's what I do," says Riles, and while he is new to the college level, he brings quite a few years of experience with him. Growing up in a family where sports was everyone's passion, a career in athletics seemed inevitable, and he began it at the age of 16 coaching a seventh grade boy's baseball team.

He followed the team

into the eighth and ninth grade, and shortly after was promoted to assistant varsity coach. At the relatively young age of 21, he was made varsity coach.

After five years, Riles divorced his first wife and decided to move away and start over elsewhere.

"I spent some time in small towns, getting my foot in the door again, working my way back up," says Riles. When the job at Green River opened up, he decided it was time to go for what he had always wanted to do - coaching at the college level. "I'm living my dream now. I really am."

Riles joined the staff in April of 2010, which made it difficult to recruit new play-

ers. Still, he was "pleasantly surprised" with the newcomers in the team, expressing high hopes of their performance.

Most players are products of the local high school system, but recent squad additions have also come from Alaska, Texas and Missouri.

As the girls are settling in to their new routine, it's easy to see that they respect their new coach. "He's a really good coach, I like him a lot," says freshman post Natasha Lyonais.

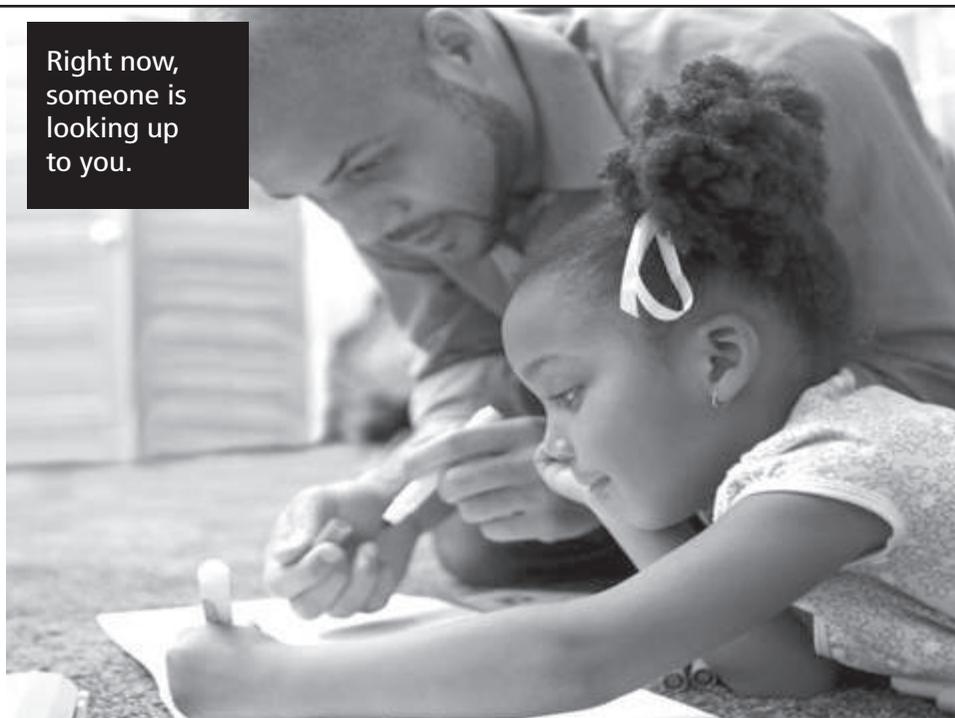
Riles expects the team to be able to make it to the playoffs and to be one of the top 13 teams in the league. "It won't be easy," he admits, "but you need to have confidence in your girls - confidence that you can do it."



Remco Zwetsloot / THE CURRENT

The basketball girls and coach Tim Riles at the end of a practice in the gymnasium.

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Sports Volleyball

Editor: Remco Zwetsloot
thecurrent@greenriver.edu

The fatal slump

By: Julia McDonough & Remco Zwetsloot
Staff Writer & Editor-in-Chief

Green River 1 2: 25 - 21

Clark College 3

1: 20 - 25
3: 26 - 28
4: 21 - 25

Crouched down, their faces radiating with anticipation, the players are surrounded by a silence so tense you could almost reach out and grab it. Coach Kyle Densley sits in silence, his back slightly arched, left hand covering his mouth, his eyes beaming with intensity. To his right, the substitutes tightly clench their hands into a fist, anxiously waiting for an opportunity to cheer.

It never came. Clark scored the winning point, and for a moment the devastation felt everlasting.

During the first set, nothing seemed to be going right for the Gators. Technical errors and miscommunication seemed to leave them disoriented, causing Densley to call a time-out to tell the team they "better start playing like the girls [they] are."

It was too late, and despite support from the sidelines and the crowd, Clark comfortably snatched up the set with a 5-point lead.

With an impressive display of tenacity, the girls quickly fought their way back into the game, gaining an early lead in the second set. Every successful spike was followed by a loud "boom!" from the sidelines, and the frequent

cheers from the sidelines heightened the team's spirits. Momentum was on the Gators' side, and for a while it seemed like they had shaken off whatever it was that caused them to lose the four preceding games.

Clark, after a disappointing performance in the second set, continued to struggle in the third. Not long after the break, Green River had already racked up a three point lead and seemed to be thirsty for more. The lackluster showing of the first set seemed to be behind the Gators and, with nearly everyone in the gymnasium cheering them on, it looked like the girls were almost on par with their impressive, early-season form.

Still, the Penguins hung in there and slowly clawed their way back into the game, first going point for point and finally catching up at the 20-point mark. Both team's coaches paced the sidelines and, while their squads did everything they could to get firm grasp on the match, an overwhelming sense of tension slowly made its way through the gym. In a fast-paced rally, a failed Green River attack finally broke the gridlock in Clark's favor at 26-27.

The Gators again faced an uphill battle, and though they bounced back the first time, it never felt like that same spirit was recovered. "[We are] a very emotional team, and



Remco Zwetsloot / THE CURRENT

mistakes get to us," explained Katelyn Nugent, a Green River outside hitter who is out for the season with an injured ankle.

It showed. Though support from the sidelines never faded, the players became increasingly quiet, and Clark, feeding on their opponent's insecurity, took a sizeable lead they held on to until the end.

The defeat hurt, though it wasn't entirely unexpected. Two key players, Nugent and Tiana Hogan, have been unable to play due to injuries, leaving the team without their desired line-up. Meanwhile, signs of decay had already been showing. After a more than promising start of the season, in which the Gators had two streaks of

four consecutive wins and topped at a 13-4 record, the team had been slowly losing momentum since the start of October, falling to a current record of 15-16.

The players went into this game thinking it would decide whether they would make the play-offs, but due to surprising outcomes in other matches the Gators, despite their loss, still had the chance to go through. Recent results, however, have rendered it impossible for the girls to clinch a spot in the top four.

"The season started with a lot of promise," said Bob Kickner, Green River athletic director. Unfortunately for the team and their fans, it ended with disappointment.

Calendar

Women's soccer

Nov 6 Peninsula - Green River, 12 p.m.

Women's cross country

Nov 13 NWAACC Championships, 5K, 12 p.m.

Men's cross country

Nov 13 NWAACC Championships, 8K, 11 a.m.

Men's basketball

Nov 11 Bellevue Jamboree (scrimmage), 12 p.m.

Women's basketball

Nov 13 Olympic (scrimmage), 2 p.m.

Women's volleyball

Nov 5 Green River - Centralia, 7 p.m.

Nov 18, NWAACC Championships
19, 20

Scoreboard

Women's soccer

Oct 23 Highline 2 - 0 Green River

Oct 27 Green River 1 - 0 Olympic

Oct 30 Bellevue 1 - 0 Green River

Nov 3 Green River 2 - 2 Tacoma

Women's cross country

Oct 30 North Regional Championship, 5K

(3) Diana Evans 20:22

(7) Shelby Leimbach 21:00

Men's cross country

Oct 30 North Regional Championship, 8K

(6) Joe Berger 28:09

(12) Taylor Hughes 29:28

Women's volleyball

Oct 20 Highline 3 - 1 Green River

Oct 22 Tacoma 3 - 0 Green River

Oct 25 Green River 2 - 3 Lower Columbia

Oct 27 Green River 1 - 3 Clark

Oct 29, Dorian Harris Tournament

30 Whatcom 3 - 1 Green River

Columbia Basin 3 - 0 Green River

Clackamas 3 - 1 Green River

Clark 2 - 0 Green River

Nov 3 Pierce 3 - 1 Green River

Note: Full XC results, standings and history, as well as those of other sports can be found at <http://www.nwaacc.org/>

NWAACC Division West

Standings

1. Tacoma	10 - 0
2. Highline	6 - 4
3. Clark	6 - 4
4. Lower Columbia	4 - 6
5. Pierce	4 - 7
6. Centralia	3 - 7
7. Green River	3 - 8

Schedule

November 5:	
Centralia - Green River	
Clark - Highline	
Lower Columbia - Tacoma	
November 10:	
Tacoma - Centralia	
Pierce - Clark	
Highline - Lower Columbia	

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