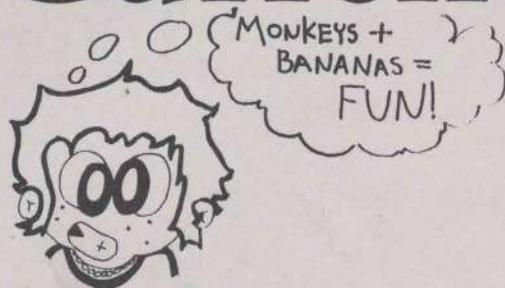


# The Current



Special thanks to J.C.  
For the logo



Now in spellcheck!

Green River Community College

Winter 1999, Issue 4

## Finals are coming!

### Smile!

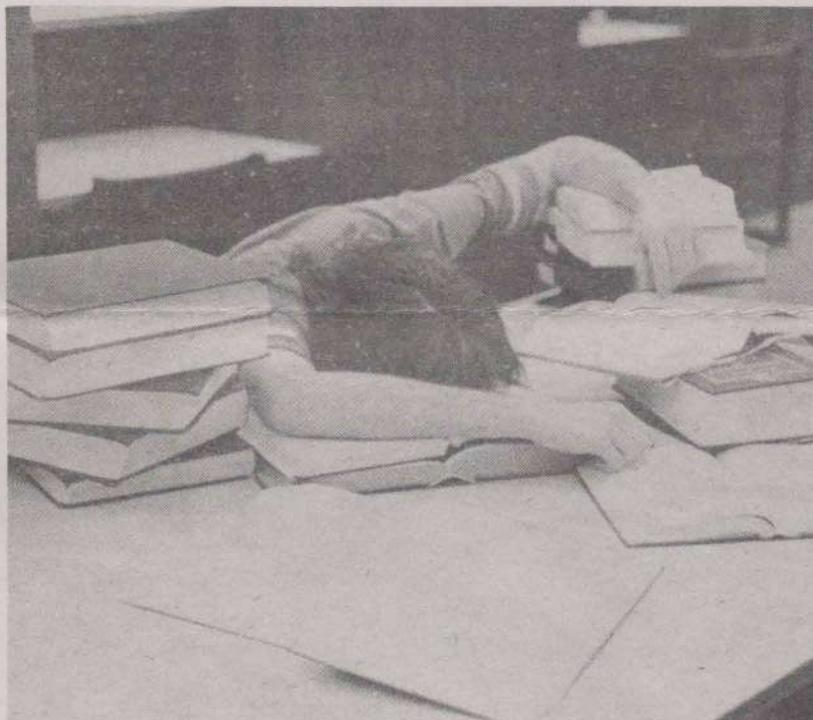
By Maren Ham

If you happened to walk past the library on the afternoon of February third, it's very possible you found your day becoming a little brighter, due to an excep-

tional bunch of students begging you to smile. The students, led by Jason Custer, stood outside of Holman Library for the better part of an hour, reminding passers-by to smile. "I was sitting here bored and I thought of Patch Adams and his theory on saying hi, so I made a sign that says smile," said Custer, when asked where it all came from. He sat outside of the library alone for several minutes before friends began to join in one by one. Before long, there was a huge crowd spreading cheer along with him, and anyone in the vicinity found it very hard *not* to smile. The students encouraged strangers to grin using phrases such as "Come on, smile - it makes your day better," and "It makes you feel like dancing." Many people walking by asked the students if their efforts were a project for a class, which all of the kids denied. They were doing it for no real reason at all, just to bring a little warmth into everyone's day. "You always see people walking by all

sad and depressed looking so we wanted to cheer them up," said Stephanie Kooper. When asked if they were going to continue promoting smiles, the group came to a consensus of "probably."

So as you are walking along the paths of Green River, remember to smile at those who pass by, it just might bring a little sunshine to a typical rainy day.



Winter finals are just around the corner and for some they're a breeze. This poor soul, however, seems to lack the intensity and concentration needed to comprehend his studies.

### Final schedule Winter Quarter '99

#### Friday 3/19

All 9 a.m. classes  
8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

All 1 p.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All 4 p.m. classes  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Open test time  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Monday 3/22

All 7 a.m. classes  
7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

All 10 a.m. classes  
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

All 12 p.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tues/Thurs classes  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Tuesday 3/23

All 8 a.m. classes  
8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

All 11 a.m. classes  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All 3 p.m. classes  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Open test time  
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Thursday

March  
18th has  
been  
designated as  
a study  
day.

## How not to drive: Part I

**Analysis**  
By Scott Spivey

You are trying to get from point A to point B. Say to school for instance, and you are already going five over the speed limit or more, because there is someone right behind you on your tail. They either honk or flash their lights at you because you are going to slow for their speedy selves. And moreover what's with the zigzag effect? And by that I mean, I look down 124th every morning and I see people always to the very right or to the very left. What's with that? Is everyone too impatient? Or you just hate people driving in front of you? I see it all the time--people just pass somebody even though they are already 10 miles over

the speed limit. There is a thing called police you know. It is unsafe. I can't even think of how many times I have been nearly hit because people have driven too far left or when people are walking, drivers drive too far right. And why? Just so they can tell the person in front of them to speed. There is a state law that provides for this. If you have five or more vehicles behind you which are close, you must pull over and allow them to pass. Now what's wrong with that? The next thing is, why do people not signal? Is there something wrong with your turn signal? Or is it you just don't pay attention when someone is behind you? Often what I have seen is that you have a steady pace with the car ahead of you.

You both are doing the speed limit or a little over and then suddenly they turn without signaling. This is how accidents happen. People always jump in front of you in your lane without signaling. Local law enforcement are not enforcing that law very much. Your insurance goes up and you may be out a car. The person that you got into a wreck with may sue and so forth. So the point is, signal! Last but not least, is the driver who goes too slow. They do the speed limit or less. Believe it or not more accidents are caused by people who go too slow than people who go fast and the biggest reason why Seattle was rated the No. 1 traffic jam city now is that people take their time. I

find it funny that people who work all day complain about getting home and what do they do? They take their good time getting home. If the speed limits were raised and not lowered the problem would probably go away. Roads like 124th need to increase by about 10 miles an hour and then people wouldn't be so impatient, traffic would flow a lot better and it would make a lot more sense and eliminate the "rush hour" bug. We have already had a few accidents at our gates at this school because of these driving habits. Be careful when you drive and drive responsibly. In conclusion, we must soon watch out. The state is considering passing a bill that says if a police officer catches you by doing things

like this, you can and may get your license revoked.

*More on this next issue :*

**Parking Lights**  
**Colored lights**  
**and the ever controversial**  
**Vehicular Manslaughter.**

### Auto



## The Current

*The Current* is the official student newspaper of Green River Community College.

Letters to the editor, story ideas, student works, etc. may be submitted to *The Current's* mailbox in Green River Community College's STA building.

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**Sports Editor**  
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**Photo Editor**  
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**Reporters**

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**Sarah Heller**  
**Angela Bower**  
**Jessica Estrada**  
**Jason Custed Maren**  
**Ham Stephanie Kupper**  
**Mike Mondt**

**Telephone:**  
Newsroom: (253)833-9111  
ext. 2375  
**Advertising:** (253)833-9111  
ext. 2377  
**Fax:** (253)288-3457  
**E-mail:**  
current\_grcc@hotmail.com

Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editors. Signed editorials reflect the sole opinion of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper. Letters to the editor are welcome and will be published as space allows. Letters must be signed.

*The Current* reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, and privacy.

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# Opinion

Views expressed in the Currents opinion page are the opinions of the writer, unsigned editorials are the opinions of the Current editors. Editorials in no way are the views of GRCC or its administration.

## Risk is part of the ride



Photo by Sam Segawa

Snowboarders like this one, may soon be required to wear a helmet.

By Akio Segawa

Snowboard, Boots and...uh...helmet? If the U.S government has their say this might be standard equipment. Do we really need to be required to wear protective gear on the slopes? Everyone knows that risk is all part of snowboarding and skiing, so shouldn't wearing a helmet be our own personal choice.

Ask anyone who snowboards and you'll hear that there is nothing like flying down a powdery tree lined mountain. I myself have been snowboarding for just a couple of years and I quickly learned that the best way to go is most often the trail that not too many travel.

Although only a small handful of fatalities have happened this year, there are many ski days in a year, and most trips rarely get more than a bruised tailbone or a sprained wrist. The problem occurs when the need for speed goes to far, and snowboarders go off onto unmarked trails. These are the stories that everyone hears about creating a negative image. You know the ones. That whole irresponsible kid image.

Snowboarding is not a dangerous sport, wait, I take that back. Snowboarding is no more dangerous than driving without a seatbelt. The danger is always there, but

can be avoided if you're careful. Just take simple precautions. If you're not familiar with a trail, take it for a test run. It won't kill you to take one run at a slower pace. Also watch out for other snowboarders at the bottom of cliffs and things. You don't want to accidentally crush one of your fellow boarders' do

you? There's also something I read about learning how to fall correctly. I don't really know what exactly that is. Every time I fall it never seems like the right way.

So I guess the best advice is to just be careful while trying to not sacrifice fun. That's my philosophy.



Snowboard, boots, helmet?

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## The weekly java goes to a place with much more than coffee

By: Laci Qualls

Only Auburn's Best go to the Annex, it says so right on the hand stamp, and once you get in there you know it has to be true.

However, standing outside at Eight o'clock waiting for the Annex to open might give some of Auburn's Best a first impression they'll never forget.

As teeny-boppers were dropped off by their parents, a steady flow of people all decked out in their "skaw" gear hovered around the door smoking. An occasional person would come out of the bar from across the street and mingle with the younger crowd.

Once the doors opened the scene was much the same as outside. After paying the cover charge and getting the stamp, the all ages crowd migrated like a herd of buffalo to get as close to the stage as they could.

At first many people were pretty shy about getting out there and dancing, but as soon as the band started the big huddle of little girls started to strut their stuff.

The theme for the night was Skaw music, and many people came ready to show off their swing moves. All but two were actually

good. The *Kageys* opened up by offering the best swing dancers free Arby's coupons.

"The band was great, but you couldn't here what they were saying." Said Skaw groupie Eric Johnson.

During one of the first songs the lead singer had a bit of a mishap. While singing his heart out and dancing like a madman, he executed a pretty vicious jump, and landed on a pretty expensive piece of equipment. The speaker was fine, but the singer sustained a minor knee injury.

He kept right on singing, but between songs he did make a comment on just how bad his knee hurt. Later in the evening he could be seen limping all around the Annex.

It did seem as there was some problem with the acoustics in the building. The instruments and the vocals were drowned out by the bass. This didn't seem to bother any of the Junior High girls who really only went there to pick up on the guys.

Later in the evening the younger crowd trickled out to make it home by curfew, and a new forty-

something crowd came in straight from line dancing lessons. They attracted a few stares, but some of the older people could really get down.

Next up to rock the house was *Who's Your Daddy*. This band didn't have nearly half of the brass instruments as the *Kageys*, but the vocals were easier to hear, and quite pleasing to the ear. They had a sound that was unique to the other skaw bands. The rhythm was a bit different but in a good way, they were fun to dance to.

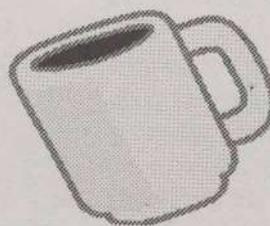
When some of the dancers tired it was time for them to refresh themselves with a nice bottle of water, too bad that the Annex sold out of water very early on in the night. They had to settle for a dollar can of pop. A dollar can of flat pop at that. You could also purchase a push-up pop to re-hydrate your dancing system.

All refreshed and ready to go the swingers were pretty excited to hear *Skasmopoliton*. What can you say, it was another skaw band. With a unique name.

Aside from the number of brass instruments nothing really set one band apart from the next, except the name.

By the end of the evening all of the remaining teeny boppers were all danced out, and picked up in front. As for the line dancers, they walked to their cars across the street at the bar. The major Skaw followers chatted about how great the bands were, and everyone else had to yell just to hear each other. All in all the Annex is a great place to go for an out of town. It's a good place to hang out for a person of any age. There is no drinking or drugs allowed, so there are none of the pressures of a big party. If you like people watching this is the place for you. There are people of all types, and all ages to check out. It brings back memories of Junior High, and gives you a look on the other side of the hill.

One quick word of advise, knock before you go into the bathroom, and after washing your hands, turn the hot side all the way to the back, and the cold side all the way to the front, or else you might have a problem.



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# CD review "You've got mail"

Written by Brianne Kirk

Music from the Motion Picture:  
*You've Got Mail*  
Warner Sunset/Atlantic

Following in the footsteps of its predecessor, *Sleepless in Seattle*; the soundtrack to the major motion picture, *You've Got Mail*, combines the old and the new to bring us another great compilation. The producer, Nora Ephron, utilizes the absolute talent of such legends as Louis Armstrong and Roy Orbison. As well as the newer upbeat edge of the Cranberries and Sinéad O'Connor.

A handful of familiar tunes makes this an easy sing-a-long. Not the run of the mill songs that everyone is tired of, these are fun.

*Splish Splash* performed by the legendary Bobby Darin surely brings back childhood memories for many.

Bobby Day's *Rockin' Robin* could bring a smile to almost anyone's sour day.

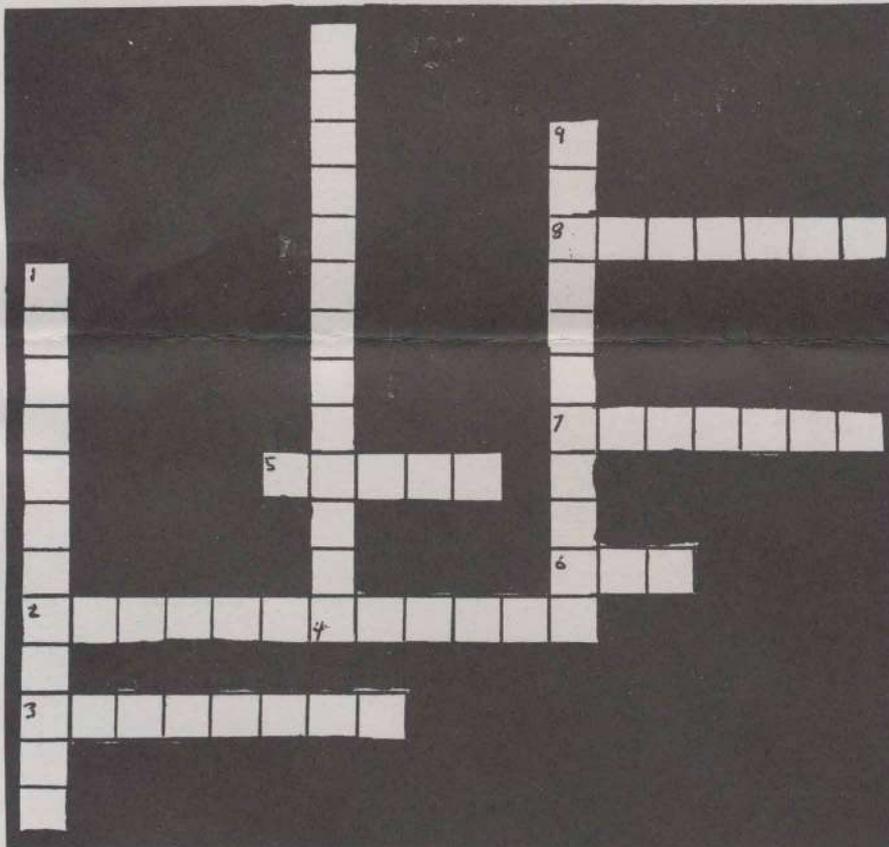
Most of the songs on this album are

upbeat and cheerful. There are a couple of more sentimental songs such as the ever famous *Over the Rainbow*. This rendition performed by Harry Nilsson, is somewhat slower and more melodic than that of the infamous Judy Garland version sung in *The Wizard of Oz*. Although slower, it does stay true to the original.

I found the most peculiar song to be that of Sinéad O'Connor. Entitled *The Lord Must Be in New*

*York City*, it has an old fashioned sound with a newer abstract beat. The lyrics don't seem to fit into the flow as the rest do,

This combination of old and new is comparable, though not as great, and the *Sleepless* soundtrack before it. The reunion of the director and actors in the film must have inspired this soundtrack. It has the same mellow yet upbeat jazzy quality that makes it enjoyable to almost anyone.



Answers can be found in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> issues

- 1 down, name of the movie for this weeks review.
- 2 across, the Current news editor.
- 3 across, this weeks insert.
- 4 up, last weeks Broadway musical review.
- 5 across, the front page of last issue was on the Current \_\_\_\_
- 6 across, Auburns best has music to my
- 7 across, last weeks movie review features a large \_\_\_\_
- 8 across, page 3 of this issue is an \_\_\_\_ page.
- 9 down, the assistant editor of the Current

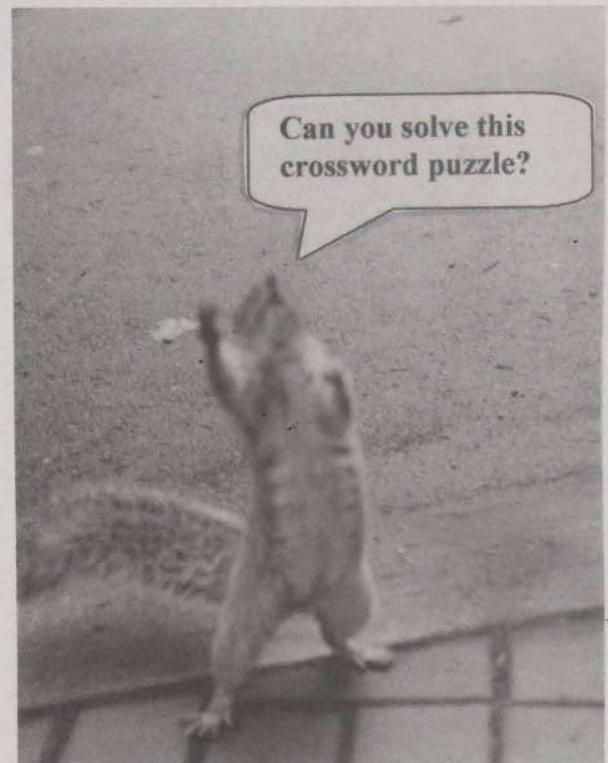
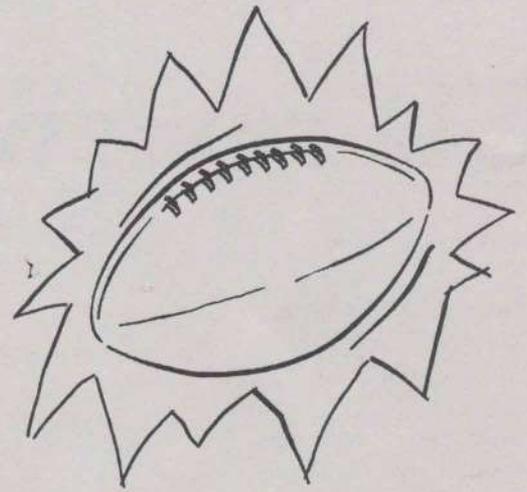


Photo by Angela Bower

## Movie review



### THERE'S NO BLUES ABOUT VARSITY BLUES

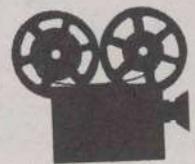
Varsity Blues is a triumphant story about the game of football. This movie is not only appealing to sports fans, it relates to everyone that has gone through high school. There is an equal balance of football and high school life to give the movie originality, suspense, and laughter. This is what makes Varsity Blues a movie not to miss.

In Texas, football is not just a sport it is life. This outlook on the sport ruined many lives due to the pressures from the parents, teachers, and townspeople. They didn't realize

that these kids just wanted to have fun and play football. The star of the movie is Jonathan Moxon, ( James Van Der Beek of Dawsons Creek). He is the second string quarterback for the coyotes and is struggling through high school trying to deal with his everyday problems. Mox is teamed up with a great cast that ranged from the 400 pounder Billy Bob, who drank maple syrup straight out of the bottle and looked sweatier than his pet hog named Bacon. Tweeder was the cowboy in the group, always

drinking beer and trying to get into trouble. Lance Harbor is the quarterback for the Coyotes and has a promising football career ahead of him until someone breaks his leg. All of these kids were coached by Bud Kilmer, (John Voight), who wanted the championship and didn't care who got hurt in the process. He played the role of a very hard man that did not care for his players, only himself. He treated the players like they were nothing but losers and slackers. This movie has a huge amount of tension which captivates you all

the way until the end. Overall this was a great movie with an outstanding cast and amazing story line that everyone should go see.



## Want to know the future

### Predictions of 1999.

We have a psychic who had some revelations over the quarter break and would like to share his visions. Once again this isn't a total fact but we would appreciate some predictions that can be sent in to us. This year promises to be a big year especially since its the last in the millenium. So watch out Nostradamus here comes *The Current Psychic Report*.

1. President Clinton will get removed from office and the people of the United States will begin voting out the Republican Party.

2. Y2K will not be a problem but some companies who are incompetent will fail due to not enough protection against the bug.

3. The Pope will get shot at or his life will be tried upon. Due to religious uprisings in Europe.

4. Britain or the US will invade South Africa because of the major ports that reside there, another note is that Nelson Mandella may not be in office after the year is over.

5. Saddam Hussein will be removed from Iraq. And Israel may help with the occupation.

6. There will be a new civil rights movement sometime in the next two years that will be a move for or against affirmative action.

7. Because of the support in helping terminal patients, marijuana will be legalized all the way around.

8. On New Year's eve the death toll and crime rate will increase tremendously due to people thinking its the end of the world.

9. Teletubbies will go off the air and trends like Elmo, Giga Pets and Furbys will become nostalgia items and will go out of style.

10. Swing dancing will become a bigger night activity than club dancing.

# Sports

## Proud to be a Gator

By Mike Mondt

When Green River Community College was looking for a new head baseball coach they did not have to look far. Although swiped away from the Pierce Community College baseball squad, where they had just completed their most successful season in eight years, Denny Oughton was an instructor at Green River already. Some of you might recognize Oughton from the gymnasium or weight room, as he currently instructs Weight Training, Strength Conditioning, and Physical Fitness in River. Oughton brings enthusiasm and a winning attitude to complement his extensive baseball knowledge.

Oughton grew up in Puyallup, Washington where he starred for the Rogers High School baseball team at shortstop. Upon graduation he took his talents to Arizona. After a two year stay in Arizona, Oughton came North to finish his playing career at Pacific Lutheran University.

From there, Oughton took his talents to the coaching level. He debuted at his alma mater, Rogers High School. Oughton coached at Rogers for three seasons, from 1993-1995. He guided the Rams to impressive 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes at the state tournament in his three year tenure. Oughton then took the head job at cross-town rival Puyallup High School

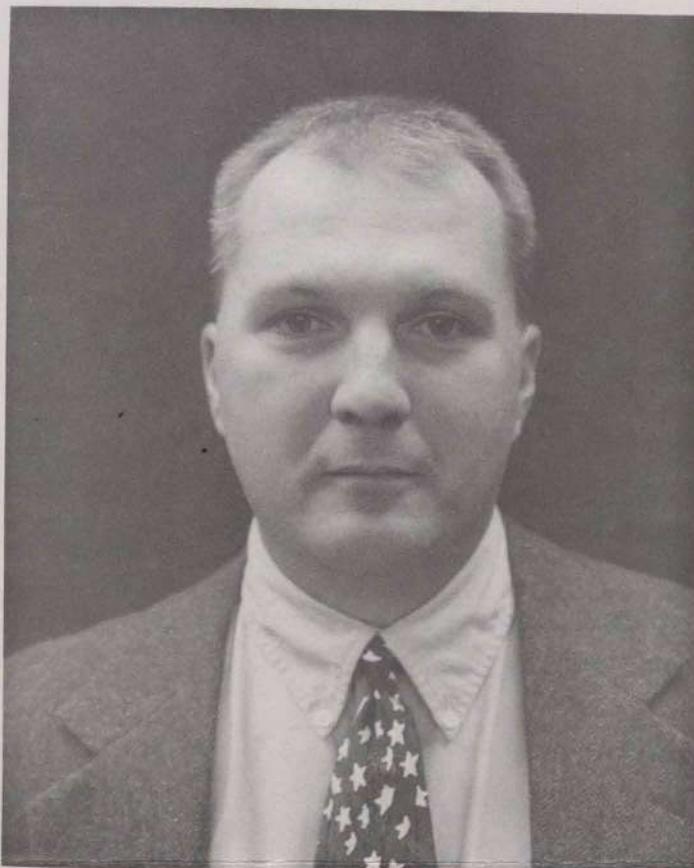


Photo by Johan Flink

Denny Oughton, new GRCC baseball coach, plans to lead GRCC into a new era of baseball.

for the 1996 season. After another successful playoff season, eliminated in the state regionals, Oughton jumped to the college ranks at Pierce Community College. He led the Raiders to a 4<sup>th</sup> place NWAACC finish, their highest in eight years. He admits that coaching at Pierce and instructing at Green River was awkward at times and that is why he jumped at the opportunity to coach at Green River.

After two years as an instructor in the Physical Education Department, Oughton can now truly call Green River "home". Oughton says, "To come to a solid program and have a chance to be an instructor and a coach was a golden opportunity." Oughton values the ability to build

relationships with his players as their instructor and a coach. Oughton states, "I am excited about their (players) chances and effort."

A big change will take place this spring on the Green River diamond. Instead of the "ping" of the aluminum baseball bats, the crack of wood bats will be heard. Safety reasons and out-of-control offensive numbers were the basis for the change. This will take some pop out of the balls and make it a less offensive game. Oughton adds, "Offensive production will be down for the whole league. This is a great year to be a pitcher. There will be a lot more 3-2 and 5-4 ball games." Oughton sees some of his players adapting quickly to the change while

others have not made the transition as smoothly. Most college ball players have not swung a wood bat in their entire career. Growing accustomed to aluminum bats is easy as balls travel further, faster, and hits of the handle are more common. Oughton says, "Wooden bats make defense more important. A 5-0 lead with wood bats is the same as a 10-0 lead with aluminum bats."

Oughton claims that his coaching philosophy will not be changed much by the new wood bats. "We'll have a wide open style, running, hit-and-runs. You won't be allowed to sit back and wait for the big inning like you could with aluminum. There will be more running and moving runners along."

Practice started for the Gators on February 1 in preparation for the 1999 season and home opener on March 6 against University of Victoria. Oughton likes Green River's chances. "We should challenge for a conference championship. I have high expectations for myself and demand the same from my players." Oughton cites a solid offense as one of their strengths. Defensively, Oughton has some holes to fill, specially with the importance of defense with wood bats. The pitching staff is young, 11 of 13 are freshman, but Oughton has a cure for that. "Our staff has a lack of experience, but that can be fixed with innings on the mound to gain confidence." A confidence easily acquired from an optimistic coach like Oughton.

Above all, Denny Oughton provides GRCC with a winning attitude and a successful, experienced head coach. For the Green River baseball programs sake, hopefully Oughton will be head coach for years to come. Oughton concludes, "I am just proud to be a Gator."

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

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# Student works

## Reasons why smiling is good:

1. People will wonder what you're up to.
2. Nothing's sweeter.
3. It warms you up and makes you feel good.
4. It makes you feel like dancing.
5. It makes the world a prettier place.
6. Because it's sexy.
7. It's an anti-sad thing.
8. Why not?
9. Because I said so.

This is a message from "the Current" staff.

## Advice Column- Dearest Paige.

**Disclaimer:**  
Yes, the advice column is back and better than ever. So we need your questions. Please send them via e-mail to [Current\\_grcc@hotmail.com](mailto:Current_grcc@hotmail.com) subject line: Dearest Paige. If you can't get access to a computer, simply write me a letter and put it in the mailbox labeled The Current in ST-A building. We would love to hear from all of you. Dearest Paige is not professional advice and should be taken as entertainment only. The

Current is not responsible for the results. Now to the questions.

**Dearest Paige,**  
I have some questions about sex. When do you think it is too early for sex, too late? Why is it girls are considered slutty if they have sex a lot and guys aren't? Lastly, why do you think girls are so competitive with each other?  
Thanks,  
Just Wondering

**Dear Just Wondering,**  
I think the perfect age for sex is when you can seriously say "Let's have sex" to your partner without laughing or anything. If you face the facts, that is truly

the only time that you know that you are ready and if they don't laugh, they are too. As far as the old thing goes, if you are not having sex or have not had sex by the age that you feel is right for you or you just haven't found that right person to have sex with, it is very cool and you should feel good that you were so choosy. For the next question, many girls are slutty and their reputations have spread to a lot of other women. That is why when women have sex with multiple partners responsibly, others interpret it differently. Guys don't really have the same frame of

mind. If they have sex, they just have sex. There is no real connection with what people think of it. By the way, I do know some guys that I would consider sluts even if they weren't about to admit it. For the the last question, it is in our nature. If someone has something, we want we will get it. That is just the way that we were brought up to think. Usually it doesn't matter who we hurt or lose. It is the object or person that we want that keeps us driven.

## The Current wants to publish your talent

The Current needs your student works. If you like to draw, take pictures or write poetry, let us publish it for you. Just submit a copy to the Current mailbox in the ST building.

By  
Carolyn  
Stevens



A very special thanks to:  
Carolyn Stevens,  
for her talent and artwork.