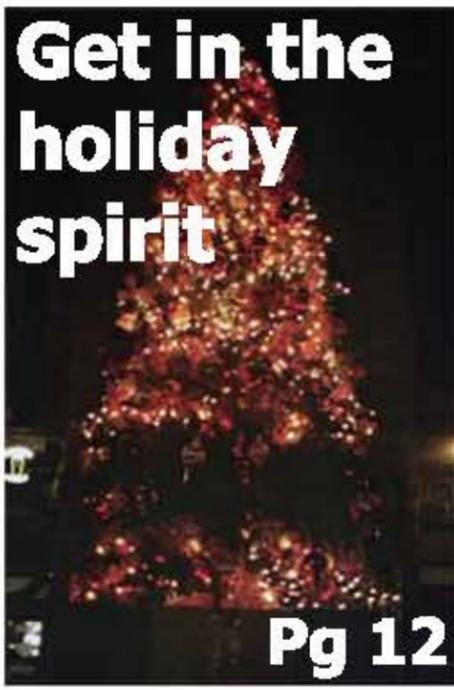


THE CURRENT

Friday | December 9, 2005

The Green River Community College Student Newspaper

Get in the
holiday
spirit



Pg 12

The sky is falling

A midnight blizzard
takes the campus by
storm **Pg 3**

Question your student
government **Pg 4**

Spotlight:
From Gambia
to Green River
The Jibril Leigh story
Pg 8

Also:



Love
ain't no
Picnic

Pg 10

Return to
Longhorn

Longhorn
BARBECUE

HOME OF THE OLD SOUTHERN **Pg 18**

What's
in your
iPod?



Pg 17

Editorial Staff

Andy Gardner
 Editor in Chief
 Photographer

Nicole Swapp
 Managing Editor

Brian Schraum
 News

Tyler Foster
 Entertainment

Eric Hanninen
 Sports

Kevin Diers
 Radio

Contact
 The Current

Victoria Haas
 Advertising Manager
 ext. 2376

John Knowlton
 Newspaper Adviser
 ext. 4201

Newsroom
 ext. 2375

Email
 THECURRENT@greenriver.edu

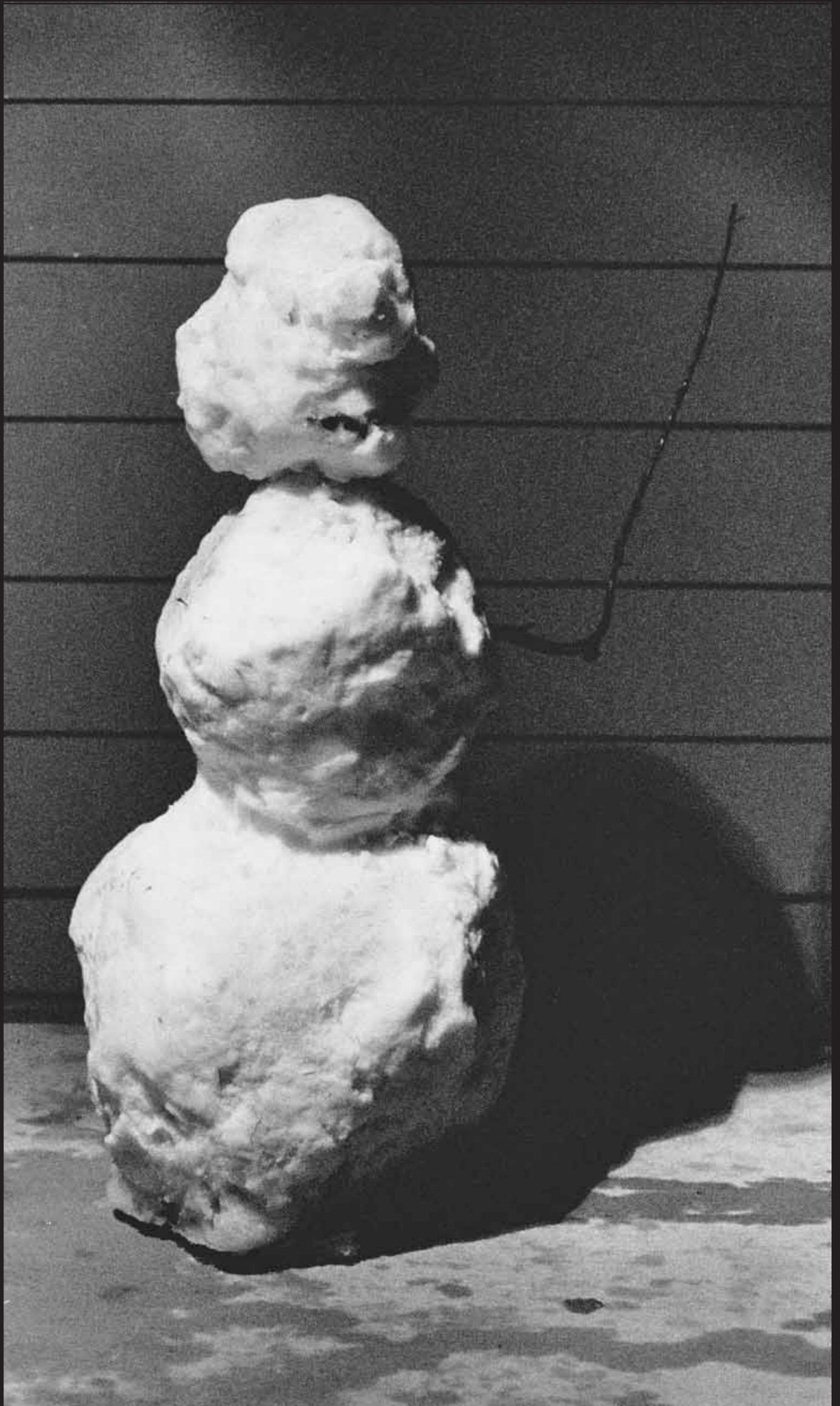
Cover

Student Body Vice President Jonny Gannaw was anything but chill during the snow storm that swept through the campus on the night of December 1.

Contents

Government	Pg 04
News	Pg 06
Spotlight	Pg 08
Picnic	Pg 09
Gifts	Pg 12
Radio	Pg 14
Scene	Pg 16
Entertainment	Pg 17
Sports	Pg 19

A very special snowman

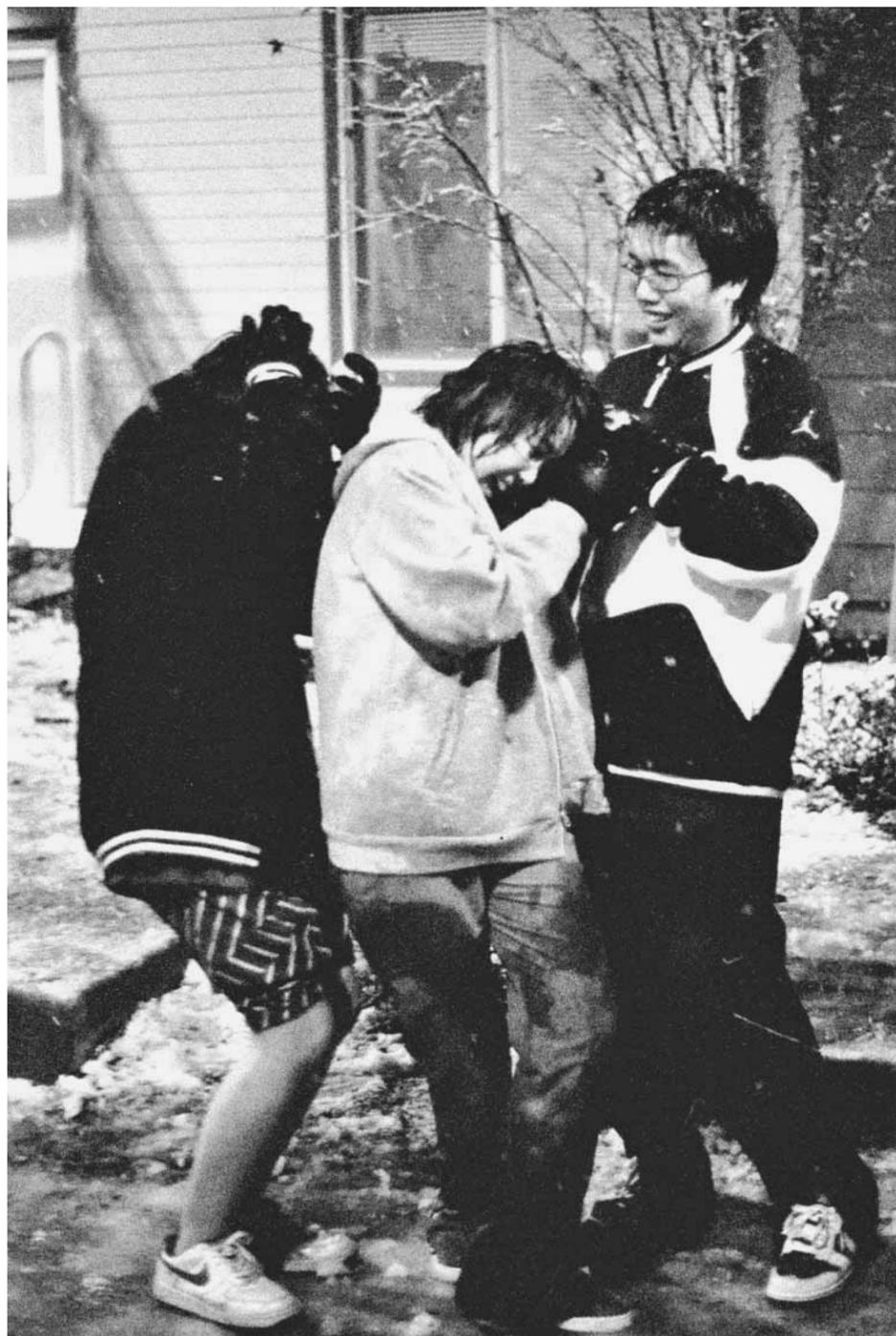


Andy Gardner/Editor in Chief

Here's a snowman from the shallow end of the gene pool. Found at the Campus Corner apartments, this frozen freakazoid stood less than 3ft. Not only is he lacking a corncobb pipe and a button nose, but it appears that two eyes made out of coal were subbed out for the optional growth (it's not a tumor). Fortunately, he was given a mouth and one arm.



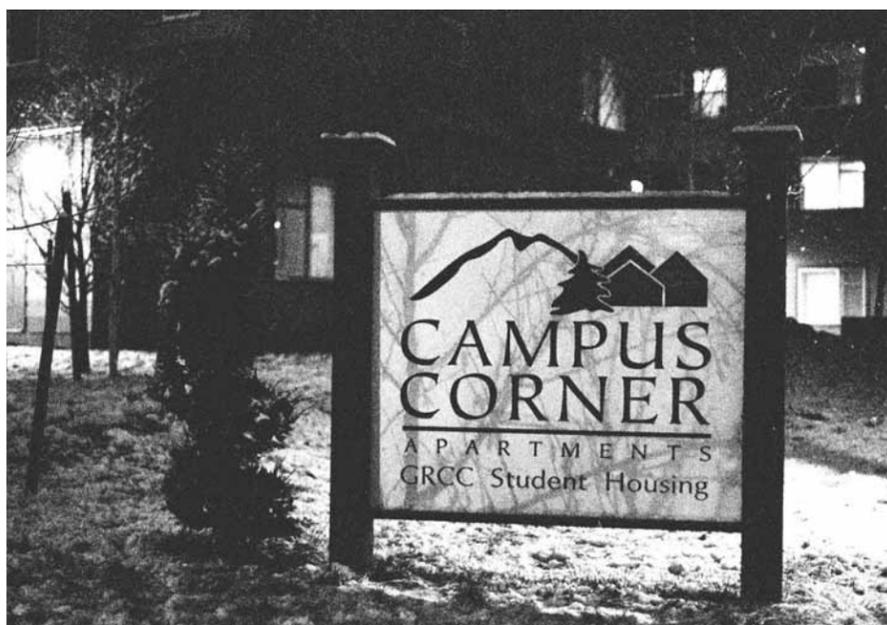
Andy Gardner/Editor in Chief



Andy Gardner/Editor in Chief

Let it snow

The Campus Corner apartments hosted a blizzard of activity on the night of December 1, 2005. As Friday swiftly approached, the majority of the student housing residents forgot about finals and class altogether as they enjoyed the storm. The snowfall was so thick you could barely see and keeping dry was completely out of the question.



Andy Gardner/Editor in Chief

Question your student government

President, Brian Grover, if you could invite anyone to a picnic, who would it be and what would you eat?

I would invite Jesus and I would bring fried chicken, corn bread, and cream soda. However, I would only bring a little bit of food because Jesus could turn one piece of chicken into a 12 piece bucket. After Jesus had done the food multiplication thing, I would then invite the rest of the world to the picnic and we'd have a party.

Vice President, Johnny Gannaw, what is your New Year's resolution?

With the coming of the New Year, I plan to improve my time management skills. I would like to procrastinate less and take more time to organize my future while still being able to live in the moment.

Chief Justice, Cameron McKee, do you think raindrops are jealous of snowflakes?

Rain drops are cool and all, but a raindrop cannot hold a candle to a snowflake. I never hear anyone talking about the individual uniqueness of a raindrop. Also, I don't run around trying to catch raindrops on my tongue. Finally, rarely is school cancelled because of rain. So, yes, I do think raindrops are jealous of snowflakes. In fact, I'm jealous of snowflakes.

Ask your student government whatever you'd liked to. Send it in to The Current, or call us. We reserve the right to censorship but rarely use it.



Keepin' it Green Energy Conservation Day Recap

On Friday, November 18 at 12-2 p.m, as a part of "Keepin' it Green" Week, Student Government designated a day that focused on the conservation of energy. We brought in an advocate for solar energy and we had information about Ethanol. We also handed out edible oil sludge to individual that told us how they could conserve energy on an individual basis. The "oil-sludge" was accompanied by statistics about the amount of oil the U.S. uses in comparison to the rest of the world. We wanted to create an event that created awareness about the need to conserve energy. Also, to go with the whole "energy" theme, we had an energy drink company come in and give out samples of their energy drink.



President Brian Grover making an "oil-sludge" snowcone for students.
Andy Gardner/ Editor in Chief

ASGRCC's by-laws revised for years to come

Here at Green River the ASGRCC has always made it a goal to make everyone's college experience better. One way this is accomplished is through the revising and editing of the ASGRCC by-laws. The by-laws are rules and laws that pertain to ASGRCC's internal affairs. Any proposed changes to the by-laws are always published in the Current prior to going before the senate to be voted upon. The reason for this is to promote awareness through out the student body. We want to know what the students have to think, if there are any thoughts or concerns. We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to attend the senate meetings they are held Wednesday and Thursdays from 12-1 in the Rainier Room located upstairs in the Lindbloom Student Center.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the By-Law changes please attend our meeting on Thursday, January 5th. If you are unable to attend the meeting feel free to contact the Bylaws Committee chair Candice Johnson at cjohnson@greenriver.edu or dial extension 2410. Thank you for helping us make Green River better.

Present (Article 2 section 4 paragraph 3):

The Sophomore Vice-President shall assume the powers and duties of the Sophomore President if that office becomes temporarily vacant. The Sophomore Vice President shall also assist the Sophomore President in the fulfillment of their powers and duties. The Sophomore and Freshman Vice Presidents shall assist the ASGRCC President with the ASGRCC Student Government Scholarship.

Revision:

The Sophomore Vice-President

shall serve as the liaison between the student senate and the campus radio stations by presenting a bi-weekly report to the radio stations. The Sophomore Vice-President will assist the ASGRCC President with ASGRCC Student Government Scholarship. The Sophomore Vice-President shall assist the Sophomore President in the fulfillment of his/her powers and duties. The Sophomore Vice-President shall assume the powers and duties of the Sophomore President in the event that office becomes temporarily vacant.

Present (Article 2 section 4 paragraph 4):

The freshman President shall serve as the liaison between student senate and the official campus radio station, by presenting a weekly report to the campus radio station. The Freshman President shall assume the powers and duties of the Sophomore Vice President if that position becomes temporarily vacant.

porarily vacant.

Revision:

The Freshmen President shall maintain the student senate and student government webpage located and contained in the official GRCC website www.greenriver.edu. The website shall be used as a tool to keep the student body informed in regards to the ASGRCC and shall be updated weekly. The Freshmen President shall assist the Freshman Vice- President and the Sophomore President in the fulfillment of their powers and duties.

Present (Article 2 section 4 paragraph 5):

The Freshman Vice-President shall assume the responsibility of presenting the senate reports to the official campus newspaper and radio station if the Sophomore President and Freshman President have not presented the reports. The Freshman Vice-President

shall also assume the powers and duties of the Freshman President if that officer becomes temporarily absent.

Revision:

Freshmen Vice-President shall maintain the student senate and student government MySpace profile located and contained at www.myspace.com. The profile shall be used as a tool to keep the student body informed in regards to the ASGRCC and shall be updated weekly. The Freshman Vice-President shall present a weekly report to the senate representing the class officers. The Freshmen Vice-President shall assist the Freshman President and the Sophomore Vice- President in the fulfillment of their powers and duties. The Freshmen Vice-President shall assume the powers and duties of the Freshmen President in the event that office becomes temporarily vacant.

Get to know your Senators



Whitney Blake
Bylaws Committee

Quote that best represents her:

"Later that day I got to thinking about relationships. There are those that open you up to something new and exotic, those that are old and familiar, those that bring up lots of questions, those that bring you somewhere unexpected, those that bring you far from where you started, and those that bring you back. But the most exciting, challenging and significant relationship of all is the one you have with yourself. And if you find someone to love the you you love, well, that's just fabulous."

- Carrie Bradshaw, Sex and the City (Sarah Jessica Parker)

Whitney joined Senate because she thought that I could make a difference. I felt that I was not going to make my college experience all about academics but also about getting involved. I felt that with Senate this could all happen.

Birthday: August 6, 1986

Favorite Superhero: Radioactive Man

Major: Early Childhood Education with a Specialization in Montessori Education

Her Superpower: The ability to make people smile!

Food of Choice: Camp Orkila Brownies

Born in: Honolulu, HI

Favorite TV show: Sex and the City

Whitney wants the Student body to know that she feels that it is important to get involved with something wherever you go. "You may not feel at the time you are making a difference but to someone you are and if it is only that one small thing you do than that's wonderful. Change happens when people do small things that get the ball rolling. So get involved and make a difference!"



Ariel Estrada
Finance Committee

Quote that best represents him:

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe."

-Anatole France

Ariel joined Senate to represent the students and to make a change.

Birthday: January 3rd, 1986

Favorite Superhero: Captain Planet

Major: Accounting

His Superpower: Humor

Food of Choice: Adobo

Born in: Seattle

Favorite TV show: ESPN sports center

Ariel wants the Student body to know that he enjoys playing football and basketball....Seahawks...Represent!!!



Congratulations to the 2005-2005 Student Body Class Officers

From Left to Right:

- Freshmen President- Pedro Anton II
- Freshmen Vice President- Lani Robbins
- Sophomore President- Jordan Fezell
- Sophomore Vice President- Joy Jung

These four class representative serve on the student senate as ex-officio members. They give strong input on policies and procedures and are driven to improving GRCC. Each officer has a vital role in promoting ASGRCC and all of its events through working hard with various campus resources. Please congratulate these individuals on their accomplishments.

HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT?
YOU CAN WRITE OUT YOUR QUESTION(S), AND
ASGRCC WILL ANSWER THEM!

QUESTION:

Drop off your question(s) at the Student Services Desk in the Lindbloom Student Center!



**GET INVOLVED!
BECOME A
GATOR-AIDE**

CONTACT CAMERON
CMCKEE@GREENRIVER.EDU
FOR MORE INFORMATION

'eRecruiting' service helping students find jobs

Olga Astrouskaya
Reporter

Online job searching is now possible for Green River Community College (GRCC) students.

Today, GRCC students can use "eRecruiting" for finding a job at any time and any place. "eRecruiting" is a brand new service at Green River with job search tools that make looking for a job easier. The Career and Employment Center (CEC) provides students assistance in career planning and job searching. Students come to the CEC to get help on finding the right job, and manage their career plans so it doesn't interfere with studies.

"eRecruiting" is an online alternative for looking for a job in the CEC, with the difference that it is much more convenient for students with busy schedules. Students can visit the CEC and check out how it works, and then get started with searching for a job online.

In order to find out whether the new service works as well as described, I went through the required process of finding a job with the help of the "eRecruiting." I found it pretty much the same as looking for a job in the CEC. The only difference is that "eRecruiting" gives students more flexibility with the time and place of searching for a job, because it's done online, even when the CEC office is closed.

First I had to go see my advi-



"eRecruiting is very interactive between students and employers."

- Mari Ragland
Director, CEC



sor and get a referral form. After filling it out, I went back to the CEC and got all the needed information. I was ready to start my job search now. As an international student, there were quite a few good on-campus jobs that I was offered, such as writing cover letters, cooperative education and other. For getting some help with making decisions and understanding the requirements for a job, I contacted the employers via e-

mail, and got responses in a short time.

"eRecruiting" is very interactive between students and employers," says Mari Ragland, the director of the CEC.

Students can easily ask questions to the employers of the jobs they are interested in, she said. It is a great resource for various jobs, and everyone can easily find the best option that fits their schedule and interests.

According to Ragland, within six months they will be able to transfer the service fully online.

"We are transitioning our job-search binders online, and planning to switch to this service completely in near future," said Camron Barth, a Career Center employee.

The binders have various part- and full-time, on- and off-campus jobs from all over Washington and even other states, Barth said. New

jobs come in to the CEC every day, so there are always fresh options for those looking for a job.

And now Green River students can find all that information online. After creating an account at www.erecruiting.com and uploading a resume, I was free to start my job search. It is much more convenient, and saves a lot of time.

The CEC is located in Room 225 of the Lindbloom Student Center.

Peer mentors ready to help

Students helping students in new program

Olga Astrouskaya
Reporter

The new Peer-Mentoring Program at Green River Community College (GRCC) provides students with guidance and support.

The Diversity Services at Green River offer all students personalized mentoring, academic advising, and support of one's academic goals.

Today, there are two mentoring programs at GRCC: The Mentor and the Peer-Mentor Programs. The Mentor Program's main goal is to provide students with assistance and support in their academic life. It helps those students experiencing academic difficulties to increase their success.

Students often need someone to say, 'you can do it', and encourage them to achieve their goals, and they really appreciate the mentors' job, according to Veronica Garaycoa, the director of Diversity Services and the Program Director for the Washington Achievers Programs at GRCC.

One of the Mentor Program's main objectives is to provide a support system with mentors who would model positive experiences and listening skills, and encourage class attendance.

There are about 40-50 GRCC students matched with faculty, staff and administration. Students are matched with those they would feel more comfortable talking to and spending time with. The "mentees" have some requirements they have to follow in order to be a member of the Mentor Program. They have to meet with the Director of Diversity Services at least twice each

quarter, and keep good academic progress, maintaining a GPA of 2.0 or higher. Also, "mentees" have to meet with their mentors a minimum of twice a quarter either by phone, in person or email.

Kathi Anderson, the TRIO/Student Support Services Program manager, and one of the mentors at GRCC, shares her experience:

"It has been a wonderful learning experience for me, and it has given me the chance to connect on a one-on-one basis with my mentee," she said.

The Peer-Mentor Program has just started this fall quarter, and is increasing the number of its members. The difference in this program is that Green River students with some academic experience volunteer to become someone's mentor, and help new students to go through all the academic difficulties that they've went through themselves.

The Student Body President, Brian Grover, said he likes to be a mentor, because he gets to give tips that he wishes he would've known when he started.

"I enjoy giving my mentees good study habits and ideas to make their college experience better," said Grover.

Anne Hadjimalis, the Peer-Mentor Program Coordinator Assistant, says that having a mentor gives you a great opportunity to make new friends, and clear things out when you have any questions.

"We want to make students' experience here at Green River a positive one," said Anderson. She believes that the Peer-Mentoring Program is "one of the best ways for students to maximize their college experience."



Hundreds of transfer students make the University of Washington, Tacoma their destination each year, and thousands have earned their bachelor's degree here. It's a place where world-class faculty engage students in educational experiences on a beautiful, historic campus. We have a wide range of degree offerings, a new student center, and many more great things happening—all right here in downtown Tacoma.

Apply now for Autumn 2006. Most programs are also accepting applications for this Winter and Spring quarters. Talk to your advisor or check out our Web site for more information and a list of upcoming campus visits.

 UNIVERSITY OF
WASHINGTON

TACOMA

(253) 692-4400 www.tacoma.washington.edu

Transfer to UW Tacoma for undergraduate studies in: Accounting • American Studies • Arts, Media and Culture • Asian Studies • Business Administration • Communication • Computing and Software Systems • Education • Environmental Science • Environmental Studies • Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies • Finance • Geographic Information Systems (GIS) • General Studies • Global Studies • Hispanic Studies • Human Rights • International Business • Management • Marketing • Museum Studies • Nonprofit Management • Nursing (RN to BSN) • Political Economy • Politics and Values • Psychology • Public History • Restoration Ecology • Self and Society • Social Welfare • Urban Studies • **plus graduate degrees and certificates.**

New classes available during winter quarter

Ina Russell
Reporter

New classes winter quarter allow students to gaze at the sky, write songs in a new keyboard lab, learn rules of evidence and examine theories of media effects. Students can register now for the following new classes.

Auburn Campus

Several new courses are being offered during winter quarter. See below for more information.

Kent Campus

A student may enter these one-credit computer classes at anytime during the first eight weeks of the quarter. Classes are taught in a flexible learning environment on Monday and Wednesday evenings. They are self-paced and under the direction of a Business Education instructor.

All meet MW 4-7 p.m. in KC 0220

Excel Basics

Bus E 174.1

Excel Formulas/Functions

Bus E 174.2

Excel as a Database

Bus E 174.3

Excel Charting & Macros

Bus E 174.4

Excel: Integrating MS Apps

Bus E 174.5

Access: Create/Modify Database

Bus E 176.1

Access: Queries, Retrieve Data

Bus E 176.2

Access: Create/Modify Forms

Bus E 176.3

Access: Create/Modify Reports

Bus E 176.4



Montessori Preschool

Preschool Program

The Montessori preschool program on campus provides a culturally-rich learning environment for 3-5 year olds and also serves as a model lab school for the Early Childhood Education Program.

A certificated Montessori teacher serves as both the master teacher for the children and the instructor for the adults. Parents who enroll in the program can earn two college credits in Parent/Child Education.

For information on this innovative program, please contact the Early Childhood Education office at 253-833-9111 ext. 2729.

New Offerings at Main Campus

Exploring the Solar System (Astro 101 and Geol 101)

Coordinated studies class

MTWTh 1-3:40 p.m. in SMT 214

Item # 0607 and 4035; or 0609 and 4037

Students will investigate the processes that shape the planets and their moons and will compare and contrast the Earth to other bodies of the solar system.

Civil Evidence (Bus E 233)

Item # 1899 U

MW 5-7 p.m. in HL 150

These two classes are intended for persons interested in a career in litigation. Students should have some familiarity with law and the legal process in general.

Prerequisites: Bus E 103 and eligible for Engl 102. BA 200 or 205 recommended.

Fundamentals of Litigation I (Bus E 236)

Item # 1907 U

TTh 7-9:30 p.m. in HL 150

Media Criticism (Comm 215)

Item #2405

Daily 8-9 a.m. in SMT 341

This class will look at some of the major issues in contemporary media and develop some methods for coming to a more critical understanding of those issues.

Intercultural Communication (Comm 238)

Item # 2427

Daily, 11am to Noon in OEA 105

This class will study the ways culture guides, influences, and tailors the way we communicate with each other.

Discrete Mathematics (Math 210)

Item # 5349

Daily 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. in SMT 111

This math class is taught once a year. It is for computer science majors and math majors. Covers logic and counting with applications to computers.

Fundamentals of Music (Music 101)

Item # 5469

Daily 12-1 p.m. in RLC 145

Incorporating our new 21-station MIDI keyboard lab and updated sequencing software, this course will cover basic songwriting along with note, rhythm and chord reading skills.



Laughin' it up

Comics work on improv, stand-up in GRCC Comedy Club

Anna Fogel
Reporter

Does it sometimes feel that there is not enough humor on our Green River campus, that maybe life could be a little funnier? Green River freshman Joshua James Gallagher felt that way, so his solution was to start "The Comedy Club".

Gallagher, an aspiring teacher, had always loved to make people laugh. "Comedy is a very important social skill everyone should have," he said. "It brings people together."

This is one of the main reasons he started the club.

Not only does it bring people together but it also seems to help those with lower self-esteem to feel better about themselves, and more comfortable in their surroundings.

Young Gallagher does have some experience with comedic performance. He was in drama club for two years and started an improv club at his school, Sumner High. But the event that cued in his love for comedy was performing in his high school play *Asylum*. The sense of accomplishment obtained by completing this play helped to heighten his self-esteem and allowed him to see the path toward the comedy club.

Starting the club was not as simple as realizing the idea. When he started

asking his fellow students about joining the club, the response given was less than enthusiastic. But, eventually he realized that he was asking the wrong crowd -- those who were in his night classes. Once he started asking students in the morning classes about joining the club, the response was overwhelmingly positive.

The next task was to find an advisor. Gallagher sent e-mails to over twenty teachers to no avail. Finally, professor Gary Taylor agreed to be the advisor for the club. His main purpose is to keep the members on track and make sure everything within the club is going smoothly.

The club meets twice a week, one day devoted to improv and the second day for stand-up.

Improv is basically coming up with jokes or funny comments on a whim, whereas stand-up is more focused on improving more intricate jokes and allowing the members to see how it is to perform in front of a crowd. Joshua suggests that if a student is more interested in performing, they should attend both meetings each week.

So if you feel like you need a little more comedy in your life, join "The Comedy Club". For more information, you can reach Gallagher by sending him an e-mail at: gallagher51@att.net.

'Dreams of ambition'

One student's journey from a remote African village...



"Where I come from, growing up, there is not a single hope to make it in life."
- Jibril Leigh

Andy Gardner/Editor in Chief

Amidst an early morning snowfall, Jibril Leigh stops to observe from the foot bridge on the backside of the new technology center. Leigh, is from Gambia and an international student here at Green River.

Jibril Leigh
International Student

Attending GRCC, I am working on a career to become a civil engineer. So the one million dollar question is how does a young man from a remote village, Jes-sadi, Gambia West Africa find himself at GRCC in Auburn, WA?

I was born and lived in a small village founded by my great grandfather. He claimed the village from the wilds of a West African jungle. We were a poor farming village and everyone had to work. I remember my first job as a small boy was to carry the water kettle to the workers in the fields. I am one of eighteen children fathered by my father, who had two wives. It is the custom of our people for a man to have up to four wives and many children.

I worked hard to be where I am in life today. Nothing has ever come easy for me. I had lots of my friends ask me questions like "Why you come to America," "Why you work hard at what you do?" Being born and raised in America it is very hard to understand how lucky one is. Where I come from, as one grows up, there is not a single hope to make it in life. There is no running water, electricity, clinics or good education. The basic elements that help sustain the necessities of life are just not available to the indigenous people.

However, I was very fortunate to come from a large family who has given me every support at their disposal. My parents sold their cattle to help support my education. It was not easy on them but their desire to see the kids be educated overshadowed everything else.

During my early childhood life, I hated education and never want-

ed to go to school. What I wanted to do then was to go hunting and tree climbing. There were no cards, television, telephone, electricity, so I did not have anything to inspire me. The only thing that inspired me was heading into the jungle.

I remember a story that stands out very well in my life. My mother would set me out for school and many times on the way to school I would change out of my school uniform into regular clothes. I would then head into the jungle to hunt; accompanied by my dogs, say 5 to 10 of them.

I would chase down rabbits, wild pigs, antelopes, baboon and any animals I ran into. Of course, there were exceptions to that; such animals as lions, tigers, leopards and the like were out of the picture.

My adventure lived a short life and the hunting excursion abruptly stopped when I saw one of my teachers visit my mom. I knew he would reveal my skipping of school and he did just that. From that point on, hunting became a history. She sent me to a town where she was sure that I would attend classes. I wanted to go running and hunting. I learned to enjoy learning and in 1997 I came to America.

Now things are very different, because I am able to recapture those dreams of ambition and aspiration that I never thought of as I was growing up in my village. I love America. It provides opportunities for a lot of us. It guarantees every one of us the right to pursue happiness. GRCC is a great place to be. It provides the venue for every one of us our constitutional right to better out lives and the lives of others.

The scholarship foundation, TRIO, MLC, Writing Center and many other programs all are help-

ing in great ways.

I am very confident that one day I will sit back at my home country and say to myself "Thanks to America and her people and GRCC and the scholarship donors,

staff and faculty members, and all my friends." By that time, there will be running water, electricity, good clinics, schools and good roads.

Finally, I will leave you with

this: get involved, work together in harmony, pursue whatever you are destined to. And keep to the fight; combat global poverty, hunger, diseases and illiteracy around the world.

GRCC WINTER QUARTER REGISTRATION BEGINS NOV. 14

Exploring the Solar System
(Astronomy 101 & Geology 101) coordinated studies class (10 credits) Learn about the Earth and other planets in our solar system. Discover the location of the largest volcano and deepest canyons in our solar system. For more information, contact Bob Filson at ext. 4324 or at bfilson@greenriver.edu.

NEW PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

Computerized Machining and Manufacturing Technology
Learn new machining skills in this evening program. The program is modularized, with each lasting just a couple of weeks. For more information, contact Tom Tagliente at ext. 4228 or at ttagliente@greenriver.edu

Intro to Graphic Design
(Art 120) Teaches you how to use typography and imagery to illustrate ideas for print and the web. For more information, contact Gary Oliveira at ext. 4663 or at goliveira@greenriver.edu.

Information Technology
Certificates are available in IT Basics, IT Help Desk Support, IT Networking, and IT Information Assurance. For more information, contact Alan Carter at ext. 4630 or at acarter@greenriver.edu

Music Fundamentals
(Music 101) Are you interested in learning note names, basic rhythms, chords and simple song writing? Music Fundamentals is the course for you. For more information, contact Ron Bayer at ext. 4207 or at rbayer@greenriver.edu.

Medical Anthropology
(Anthropology 205) Will cover biological and cultural aspects of health and illness. For more information contact Marianne Jacobs at ext. 4625 or at mjacobs@greenriver.edu.



Check out these classes!

The story behind *Picnic*

Crowds are pleased with Gary Taylor's presentation

Renada Arens
Reporter

Picnic, a play performing this month by Green River Community College's (GRCC) Theater Extemporé, was written by William Inge and won a Pulitzer Prize in 1953. The Dec. 3 performance was directed by Gary Taylor, and featured acting by Amber Richardson, Marie Wilson, Leneé Lameyer, and John Patrick. The Dec. 3 performance of *Picnic* was held in the Performing Arts Theater of GRCC.

Set in the middle of the last century, *Picnic* shows the encounter between the women of a small Kansas town and a brawny stranger named Hal (John Patrick). *Picnic* portrays the struggles and triumphs of love, especially as experienced by the 18 year-old beauty, Madge (Amber Richardson).

Picnic takes place in the yard between the houses of Flo Owens (Sarah Jacobs) and Helen Potts (Danielle Lash), during preparations for a Labor Day picnic. The play opens between Helen and the stranger Hal, the young man she recently hired to do odd jobs. Helen's neighbor Flo disapproves of Hal's unconventional background and manners, and distrusts him with her two daughters, especially when he shows an interest in Madge. Despite this, several women in the neighborhood take advantage of opportunities to admire Hal's brawn.

Young Madge also finds herself immediately drawn to Hal. Madge is the prettiest girl in town and already has a beau, the well-mannered and well-to-do Alan Seymour (Ben Stahl). Her mother Flo hopes Madge will marry Alan, and warns her that her chances of marrying well are fading. In an especially comic line, Flo declares to Madge that "Next year you'll be 19, then 20, then 21, then 40."

Madge, although she is sought after by all the boys in town, wonders if she actually exists. At one point during the story, Madge tells her mother that sometimes she has to look in the mirror to remind herself that she is really alive. She wishes she was smart like her younger sister Millie, and wonders if her mother loves Millie more. While a crowned beauty queen, Madge is insecure and confused about the meaning of beauty and love. In one poignant scene, Madge faces the audience and declares, "What good is it to be pretty?"

Another chief character is Rosemary Sydney (Leneé Lameyer), a schoolteacher rooming with Madge and Millie's mother, Flo. Rosemary is middle-aged, single, and in the beginning of the play, declares that she doesn't need a man. However, as the story progresses, and Rosemary meets the exciting stranger Hal, we see she is lonely and longs for a commitment of marriage from her suitor, Howard (Jon Hawkins). Rosemary and Howard's relationship is largely dissimilar to that of Madge and Hal, but in both, the difficulties of loving and needing another person are apparent.

One well-expressed theme of *Picnic* is that of putting up a front to the world. The two sisters, Madge and Millie, are stereotyped by those who know them. "Millie is the smart one and Madge is the pretty one," are characterizations both these girls adopt, one burying her head in books, the other preening in front of an open window. Despite apparent security in their projected roles of "smart" and "pretty," Madge and Millie both wish they possess the qualities of the other.

In one of the last scenes in the play, Rosemary, the self-sufficient schoolteacher, adamantly demands that Howard marry her. When Howard protests that he can't marry a woman who won't even say "please," Rosemary's tough exterior crumbles and she becomes touchingly vulnerable, and as she says, more herself than she had ever been before.

A projected front is also seen in the character of Hal. His confidence comes from his football stardom, muscular good-looks, and ability to charm the "babes." When he asks Millie to draw a picture of him, and Millie requests that he pose naturally, Hal finds this difficult. It is easier for him to assume the role of macho stud than reveal his true self. Again, this mask falls at the end of the play, when he declares his love for Madge.

The entire cast was well-rehearsed and the acting is believable. John Patrick lacked some of the bravado one would expect from Hal's character, but he portrayed a boyish sincerity in his scenes with Madge.

Marie Wilson, playing Madge's tomboy sister Millie, was a pleasure to watch. Wilson played the perky Millie with enthusiasm and comic flair, and highlighted the tension between the two sisters. By her final scene, Wilson had reconciled Millie with her femininity, while still maintaining the character's original quirky charm.

The appealing set, complete with two realistic looking houses, lawn furniture, and other props, along with the strains of 1950's era music, easily transport to the time and place of *Picnic*. A few of the costumes did not invoke the 50's, and the music and sound effects were too loud at times, but for the most part, the design of the play was appropriate and enjoyable.

Despite an unsatisfying ending, *Picnic* was a well-executed and performed play. While the plot was not resolved and the audience is left doubting the outcome of Madge and Hal's romance, perhaps this was *Picnic's* intent, showing that love, in the end, is really not enough.



Andy Gardner/ Editor in Chief



Andy Gardner/ Editor in Chief

From Make-up

The making of a star * Behind the scenes * Stress * Hell week * Dress rehearsal * Stage fright *

Dedication * Memorizing * Show time

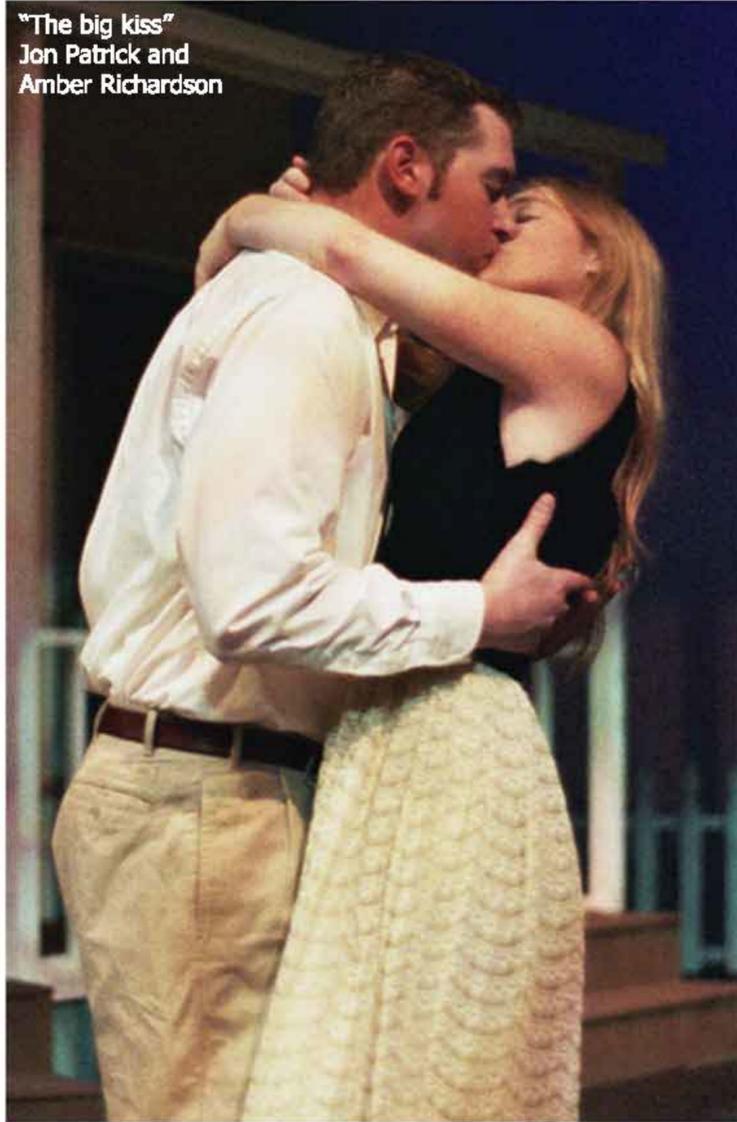


Daniel Lash

Love ain't no Picnic

Photography by Andy Gardner

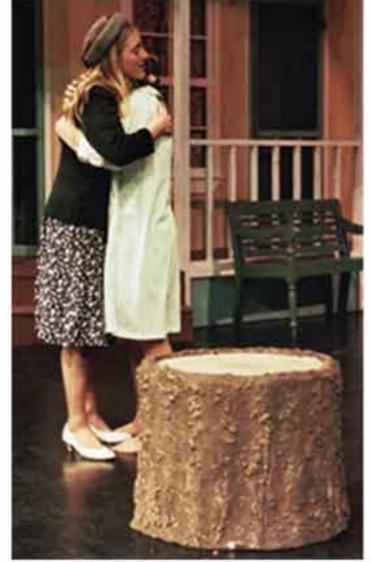
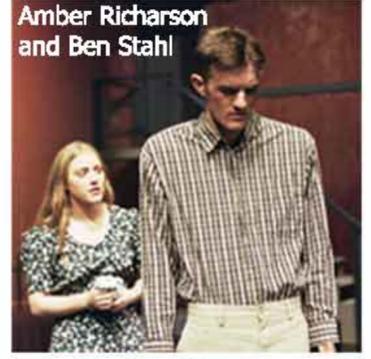
"The big kiss"
Jon Patrick and
Amber Richardson



Amber Richardson and Sarah Jacobs



Amber Richardson
and Ben Stahl



Picnic
Theatre Extempore'
Fall 2005



To Production

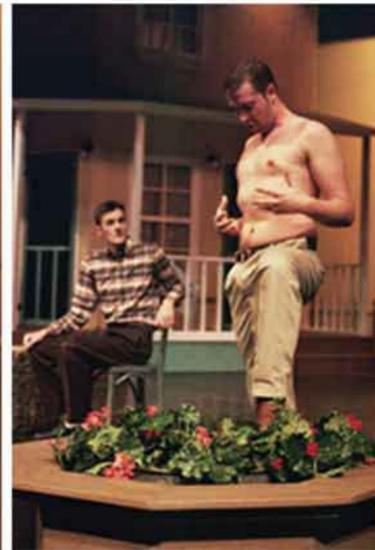
Dedication * Memorizing * Show time



John Patrick wrestles Ben Stahl



Jon Hawkins and Lenee' Lameyes



The making of a star * Behind the scenes * Stress * Hell week * Dress rehearsal * Stage fright *

How to save money for the top gifts this season

Renada Arens
Reporter

After discovering what girls at Green River are asking for this Christmas, a team of reporters at The Current uncovered some creative ways to afford great gifts.

Music is likely on the wish list of any girl you're shopping for. If you're not sure what artists she enjoys, pick up a gift card to a store like Best Buy. If you know what CD she wants, it's hard to beat the prices at eBay and Half.com. Brand new CDs can be under \$5, but take into account the cost and time it takes to ship online orders.

If you're brave enough to find out what size she wears and know what her style is, clothing is a great gift idea. Two stores with great bargains are Target and Ross Dress For Less. Gift cards are a wise alternative, but you might consider purchasing a gift card at stores with more name recognition, like Old Navy, Gap, and Aeropostale. Some hot fashion items this year are cowboy boots and long necklaces, which can be found on eBay for significantly less than you'd find at a department store.

Speaking of necklaces, there's a reason you hear so many jewelry commercials this time of year. If the Shane Co. is out of your price range, wide assortments of costume jewelry for every taste and budget can be found at many stores, from Fred Meyer to Macy's.

Don't worry if the perfect gift seems to elude you. A heartfelt letter or something handmade are sometimes the most meaningful presents of all.

gIFTS FOR gIRLS



The top list of gifts this season for that special girl

Tim Perry
Reporter

So you've decided that instead of waiting until Christmas Eve, this year you are going to look for your girlfriend's Christmas gift early. But what are you going to get her? So, in an effort to assist my fellow brothers in the horrifying search for the best gift, I have interviewed several of the girls on campus to find the best gift. These are only suggestions. Women are almost never predictable, so be careful when you look for gifts.

1. Clothes

Stay away from this gift unless you got balls. If you don't get this gift down perfect all hell could break loose. If you are set on getting this gift then you need to do your homework. Pay attention when you go shopping

with her. Find out exactly what size she wears. I mean it, EXACTLY what size. Steal a shirt, ask one of her friends, what ever you have to because if you are even one digit off she will think you are saying she is fat or too thin.

2. Music

Not as risky as clothes, but still important for you to research before you buy. Don't get her something you would like. Make sure she likes the album before you buy it. Go through her CD collection.

3. Jewelry

Pricey, but it always earns points. The more expensive the more points you earn, just don't get gaudy. Stay away from the rings, unless you plan on getting hitched stick with a necklace or earrings.

4. Flowers

Risky, she could like them, or she could look at them as being an easy out a

think you didn't put any thought into the gift.

5. Spa Gift Certificate

Few girls can refuse the option of being pampered for a day. Even gift certificate for a manicure, hands, or pedicure, feet, will be welcomed with joy.

6. Stuffed Animals

Stuffed animals are excellent gifts. For some reason girls love fabric sewn together to make an animal. If you want to earn some bonus points try personalizing it. Go to Build-a-Bear and incorporate something about your girlfriend into the bear. Don't try making it on your own. That could be disastrous.

7. Coffee

Starbucks, memorize that word. Try gift cards for it.

8. Chocolate

Another good word to memorize.

9. Poetry or a song

If it's good you could earn massive points, if not you could quickly lose all the points you had and some you never had. Don't try it unless you're good at it.

10. Electronics

Digital Cameras are a hot item. If you give her this gift avoid mentioning any "ideas" that you might have.

Now that I have given you a few pointers, go and get the gift. But beware, different girls have different tastes. Some girls like to be lavished with gifts, while others like the small things. Find out what she likes. If you don't hit the gift right on the nail, instead of earning points, you could quickly lose points. Ask her friends for good ideas. Pay attention to what she is interested in. Good luck with the hunt.

What every guy needs for the holidays this year

Tim Perry
Reporter

The Holiday Season is here and with it comes the big search for the perfect gift. What are you going to get that special man in your life? Maybe you've tried to find the right gift, but something keeps screwing it up. Maybe you just can't decide what to get him. Maybe you've found the perfect gift and before you buy it, you discover that he's already bought it for himself. Probably the top gift most guys want is sex, but if you are unwilling to give him that, or just want to give him something else for once, here's a list. After interviewing several guys on campus, I have come up with a pretty good list of what are excellent Christmas gifts.

1. Money: The gift that was most adamantly asked for was money. Now, money isn't that fun a gift to give, it looks like you didn't think about the gift at all. To remedy that get gift cards to different stores that he likes. Gift cards to automobile parts stores are perfect choices, help him beef up his ride.

2. Music Find out what type of music he likes, snoop through his CD collection and find out what bands he likes and what albums he's missing. You could even give him a mix CD, just make sure it's a good one.

3. Electronics This has a broad range of options to choose from. Get him a new stereo system for his car or a new television. You might try giving him a digital camera, but beware of

the ideas you might be placing in his head. Video game consoles are especially good choices for most guys.

4. Make him dinner. Okay, so this isn't a gift he can "cherish forever." But it is always a big plus when your girlfriend can cook you an awesome meal. Let them brag to all their friends about how great a cook you are.

5. Sports Tickets. Definitely a good gift. There are not many guys that can resist seats to a football game. With the way that the Seahawks are playing this season, what kind of guy can turn down tickets to see them play.

6. Movies on DVD BEWARE. These are a great gift, but be careful which ones you get. Nothing bums a guy out more than when he gets a lame DVD from his girl-

friend.
7. Video Games Action, cool graphics, violence and mind dulling fun are right up there with excellent gifts. Look for games that have sports, guns, cars and a good music soundtrack. Stocking Stuffers:

There aren't very many of these. Give him things that make you happier. Try cologne, shaving accessories, a picture of you; just get him something small but meaningful.

The most important thing to remember about finding the "perfect" gift. There is no one perfect gift. Different guys have different tastes. Discover what your man likes, then try to get as close to that as you can. Well, good luck and good hunting.

How to save some money this season for the guys

Renada Arens
Reporter

It's not as hard as you think to get great gifts for guys this season. And even better, you don't have to spend a fortune doing it.

When a reporter from The Current asked male students at Green River for gift suggestions, answers ranged from Seahawks tickets to new cars. If gift wrapping a new Ferrari doesn't excite your budget, there is good news. Inexpensive gifts can be both meaningful and fun.

Even if your budget is limited, don't give up on bigger ticket items like electronics. Searching eBay can reveal hot gifts like a Sony Cyber Shot digital camera with 2.0 - 2.9 megapixels for around \$70.

Holding out till later in the shopping season can mean better deals even at mainstream stores.

Music is a perpetual crowd-pleaser that is selling for less than ever through online retailers. Popular CDs like Coldplay's X&Y can be purchased for less than \$1 on eBay. Half.com, a division of eBay, also has great deals without the hassle of bidding. On Amazon.com, other top-selling CDs are available for more than 29% off the list price. And don't forget stores like Best Buy and Borders, especially if you're in a rush and can't wait for online orders to ship.

When it comes to gifts, don't underestimate the power of something simple. One Green River guy suggested making him dinner. Unique gifts like this can say something special and made great new holiday memories. You can't ask much more of a Christmas gift.

gifts FOR guys



Program director moves on Eric Paul coming to a country station near you

Kevin Diers
Radio Editor

This January, KGRG's program director for the last year, Eric Lutz, will be making the coveted transition from college radio into the world of commercial radio. Lutz, better known as Eric Paul, has worked hard as the program director for KGRG for almost a year now, which he deemed "2005; The Year of the listener."

To go along with this he implemented much more all request hours of the day, as well as giving the listeners much more input on what they want to hear from the station.

Lutz, much like many KGRG DJ's before him, became active with other radio stations to further his knowledge of the radio industry during his stay here at GRCC. His experience with KGRG was very helpful in this process, for he was able to impress Shelley Hart of Clear Channel enough to get an internship. Now with his foot in the door, Lutz was able to show his hard work ethic and dedication to radio.

Working hard to get a good name with Clear Channel, Lutz continued to hone his on air radio skills by hosting Afternoon Delight, a radio program that runs from 3-7 PM Wednesday-Thursday. Like other DJ's eager to make a name for themselves, he began giving air check tapes to Clear Channel to show his talent and efforts.

Clear Channel must have thought great things of Lutz's tapes, because starting February of 2006, Lutz has been given the opportunity of a lifetime, he will be hired on as a full time on air personality for new country radio station Q Country 102.9.

This opportunity even surprised Lutz, who said, "I'm extremely in awe that I am able to jump this far in advance. It usually takes people 2-3 years of experience for the position I will be starting at."

Lutz's eclectic taste in music helped him also land a very coveted gig in this new station, for his knowledge of country music helped score him the opportunity to take over for music director.

With Clear Channel laying out big plans for Lutz's future, he cannot help but be eager and excited to start his foray into this new world of radio.

Lutz will be moving on from KGRG in January, and will leave behind much responsibility and a management role that has helped mold his responsibility and work ethic, as well as gain him much more life experience and some great memories.



Andrew Gardner/Editor

News and notes

-There are two brand new morning shows on KGRG from 6-9 am every morning. Starting off the week is "That F-In Show," hosted by DJ BJ, Producer Matt, and King, which is on every Monday and Tuesday. Rounding out the rest of the week is "Morning Sickness," hosted by Nick Hollywood and The Pope, which you can tune into Wednesday- Friday. "That F-In Show" has a lot of promise, with very humorous hosts and "Morning Sickness" being more

of a classic specialty show, complete with special guests and all kinds of news stories.

-New music specialty show Sound check, hosted by Abbey Still, is moving times. Instead of the normal time slot that is has filled in the past of Tuesdays from 10-12, it will be from Sunday Night from 9-10 PM. Tune in for everything new in the music scene!

-Sign-up for winter quarter is

well underway, and if you're interested in becoming involved, sign up for Journalism 110- radio lab. In the first week of this class you will be thrown right into the mix of things by being assigned a training shift and learning how to run the main board of KGRG.

-KGRG now has 89 minutes during the middle of the day devoted to the listeners requests! From 5-6:30 PM every weekday, Ian or Eric Paul will be taking your requests and playing nonstop music to get you through that hectic afternoon drive.

-Every Thursday night KGRG will be sponsoring Skate Night at Skatebarn West. With discounted prices and girls getting in for free, you will definitely want to check this out for a night of skateboarding and punk rock!

-No longer will you have to hear the weak sounds of analog 8 track slowing down and often times making for a heinous radio listening experience, KGRG is jumping into a whole new digital radio system. Expect crystal clear radio from now on!

shows

A QUICK RUN DOWN OF THE
HEART AND SOUL OF KGRG

SPECIALTY SHOWS

SOUNDCHECK

TIME: SUNDAY 9-10 PM

HOSTS: ABBEY STILL AND TIFFANIE

SPECIALTY: EVERYTHING NEW IN THE MUSIC SCENE

SYSTEM OVERLOAD

TIME: MONDAY 10-12 PM

HOST: DERRICK

SPECIALTY: INDUSTRIAL

KICK YOUR BRASS

TIME: TUESDAY 10-12 PM

HOST: PAT MANTIS

SPECIALTY: TONS OF SKA! EVERYTHING FROM 2 TONE TO THIRD WAVE.

DEAD AIR

TIME: WEDNESDAY 7-10 PM

HOSTS: GARBO KEVIN, AXIS OF IAN AND FEASLEY

SPECIALTY: THE BEST IN HARDCORE

THE UNDERBELLY

TIME: WEDNESDAY 10-12 PM

HOSTS: BIG COOP AND LEBOWSKI

SPECIALTY: THE ILLEST IN UNDERGROUND HIP HOP

PERILS OF EXCESS

TIME: THURSDAY 10-12 PM

HOSTS: DIRTY D AND LIVID GARNER

SPECIALTY: MIND BENDING PROGRESSIVE ROCK

LATE NIGHT DEATH

TIME: SATURDAY 10-12 PM

HOST: KILLING SPREE

SPECIALTY: METAL!

MORNING SHOWS

THAT F'IN SHOW

TIME: MONDAY-TUESDAY 6-9 AM

HOSTS: DJ BJ, PRODUCER MATT AND KING

MORNING SICKNESS

TIME: WEDNESDAY- FRIDAY 6-9 AM

HOSTS: NICK HOLLYWOOD AND THE POPE

Spotlight on

punk 101

Sunday Nights 10-12

Kevin Diers
Radio Editor

Hosted by Steve Jansen, better known as Plaid Lad, this two hour dose of classic punk shows KGRG listeners the roots of the punk rock sound. From Iggy & The Stooges and the Velvet Underground, to today's favorites that are keeping the movement alive, like Toxic Narcotic and A Global Threat.

Every Sunday night, Plaid Lad and his intern/co host Morgan Social take over the airwaves to educate the listeners on what made the sound what it is today.

With a solid knowledge of the music, Plaid Lad is the perfect host for this show, not only playing everything punk under the sun, but also very much embodying the very care free- do it yourself ethic that made punk rocks uprising so attractive to alienated youth.

For Plaid Lad though, punk rock is more than just a 10-12 radio shift for him. This mohawked gutter punk can be spotted at any local or classic punk rock show in the middle of it all- the circle pit. The thing that makes his radio show so attractive is when he is able to muster up all of his experiences and passion in this punk rock scene and display it for the community on a weekly basis.

So if you're eager for a history lesson of punk from A-Z, make sure to tune in to Punk 101 every Sunday Night from 10-12.

Next issue: The Underbelly



Audition Call!

The Hi-Liners will be holding
auditions for their production of:



Auditions: 1st week of January

Detailed information will be posted on our
website December 1st.

www.hi-liners.org

206-617-2152



Free Birth Control

for 1 Year at
Planned Parenthood

Services include:

- Annual exam and counseling
- Birth control pills, IUD, DepoProvera, foam, vaginal ring, cervical cap, condoms, diaphragm
- Emergency contraception

Call for an appointment today.
Everything is confidential.

 Planned Parenthood®
1-800-230-PLAN
(rings in health center near you)
www.ppwww.org

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

Pulse1330.com

Tuesdays

6 | 9 PM

The Non-Linear Parfait
w/ Graz and Kanoshee

Thursdays

5 | 7 PM

DJ Danger: funky house & breaks LIVE

7 | 9 PM

DJ Stoney Steve: Jungle

Fridays

5 | 7 PM:

Zero Street Crew
Live DJs Drum'n'Bass



need credits?

want to have fun?



Take Journalism 120

digital radio lab

Learn how to be a real radio DJ while
working for Green River's own
Pulse1330

For more information go to Pulse1330.com
or call 253.288.3388

George Clooney takes a stand on oil issues in the new *Syriana*Tyler Foster
A & E Editor**Q: What political message is being conveyed in *Syriana*?**

George Clooney: I think it's sort of important, although I've certainly been outspoken at times politically, I thought it was important between *Good Night, and Good Luck* and *Syriana*, both films, that the idea was not to be political necessarily. Obviously, it's a political film, but we showed this to a lot of neocons who liked it and agreed with it. Our argument, of course, is to raise a debate, not to tell people what the answers are, because clearly we don't have any answers for this, the issues or the problems.

Q: What did they do?

GC: I think the debates in general are what are we going to do with some of the situations like if you're going to have a war against an idea, which is terror, then you have to understand the elements. You can't just say they're evil. You have to understand what makes them do evil things – so to be able to have those open conversations, as opposed to just sort of categorizing things and then understanding that nothing is absolute. It's the same discussion we had when we were making *Good Night, and Good Luck* too, which was the basic idea is the only thing that we were saying was we weren't going to be told that we can't dissent or

ask questions. We're not going to be called unpatriotic for asking questions. That was the one element of that that we thought was important. We've had some success with that. In terms of politically, this is as much an attack on – this is going after 50 or 60 years of flawed policies in the Middle East. This isn't something that happened in the last four and a half years. So in general, we certainly weren't making this as a go get Bush thing. It was much more of a let's talk about some real problems, some fundamental problems with our addiction to oil.

Q: Many of the films that you've made like *Syriana*, *Good Night, and Good Luck* and *Three Kings* all have politically charged plot lines with different executions. When you are choosing your projects, are you more interested in the style or the politics of the movie?

GC: I don't really look at politics necessarily. I don't look at it per se for politics, and style, you're just trying to find the proper style for the story you're telling. *Good Night, and Good Luck* we tried to shoot like a Pennebaker documentary, because I felt that was the right style to do it. *Syriana* we felt should look a little more realistic, and we didn't want it to look like *Three Kings*, which was a very extreme, blown out – it was the first of the digital blow outs, where you could use digital intermediate and really make it black and blue and sandy colored and stuff. Those aren't nearly the elements. What I look for as an actor, or a director for that matter, is the script first. That's what you need more than anything, a good script, whether it's a comedy or whatever it is, because you can make a really

bad movie out of a good script, but you just cannot make a good movie out of a bad script, period. So it's the script first, and that's what I usually look for.

Q: With films like *Good Night, and Good Luck* and *Syriana*, among others like *North Country* and films with Participant Productions, there seems to be a new wave of socially conscious filmmaking, such as the films that were being made in the '70s. Do you feel there's going to be a backlash from that in the political community or in Hollywood, or do you feel that it's just to be in the public eye?

GC: I think the backlash has long since past. The backlash was coming a couple years ago, when anyone who said anything that was against the idea of going to war was suddenly un-American. That wasn't just actors; there were a lot of people, the Pope, Bob Novak. There were a lot of people that were actually talking about that. What it will come down to is whether or not these films make money, because ultimately, in Hollywood, that's the only answer. If these films make money, like *Good Night, and Good Luck* has almost tripled what it cost to make, so we'll get to make another film like that again. Hollywood ultimately responds to money, because it is still a corporation and it is still done as a business. If you make a lot of movies that don't make any money and nobody wants to go see them, then Hollywood changes its ways and does something different. My feeling is Hollywood has had sort of a tougher time of it lately, because they haven't done very challenging films. My thought is that if you make some challenging films then maybe some people will show up.

Warner Bros. Pictures/Syriana

George Clooney plays FBI agent Bob Barnes in the new political thriller *Syriana*, from the Academy Award-winning writer of *Traffic*, Stephen Gaghan. *Syriana* expands into wider release today.

Tartan's 'Asia Extreme' label brings great films to the U.S.

Tyler Foster
A & E Editor

With the recent launch of Tartan's new Asia Extreme label this year, all sorts of great films are slowly coming across the Pacific to American shores. Here, we will take a look at some of the best (and worst) films that the label has produced so far.

Oldboy
Editor's Choice

Park Chan-Wook's revenge drama is not only the best film on the label since its introduction, it's one of the best films ever made. Starring Choi Min-Sik as Oldboy, the story follows his character (also known as Oh Dae Su) as he is kidnapped, held captive by a mystery oppressor for 15 years, and then released and given five days to figure out why he was captured in the first place. The film's direction and performances are all brilliant, building to a killer finale that will surprise and shock even the most hardened viewers.

The DVD features are not as good, however. While the picture and audio are fine, and the subtitle track free of errors, the bonus features don't fare so well. First up is an interview with director Park Chan-Wook, which is subtitled so badly the names of characters and actors in the movie are misspelled. Much better is a feature-length audio commentary with Chan-

Wook and the cinematographer, which, despite being rather technical, is still interesting. The best extra is the reel of deleted scenes, especially the opening scene of the film in its full 12-minute glory. Lastly, there is the US theatrical trailer (the picture quality is terrible), and the winner of a contest to edit a new trailer for the movie (the winning entry bears a striking similarity to the US trailer).

The biggest problem with the DVD is that there is a full-blown 2-disc special edition in Europe, with four commentaries and an entire second disc packed with behind-the-scenes interviews and video clips. It's a disappointment Tartan

has decided not to release that version here. Still, don't let that sway you from checking the film out -- it's fantastic.

Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance
Editor's Choice

Seems unfair, maybe, that both of my picks are by the same director, Park Chan-Wook, but what can I say? He's a great filmmaker. *Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance* is not as good as *Oldboy*, but it's pretty damn good, featuring brilliant performances and more of Chan-Wook's incredible cinematography.

This time, the story is more of a tragedy, as one after another,

little things go wrong in three connected storylines involving a kidnapping, a police investigation, and the life of a businessman. As time ticks away, the tension rises, building to an incredible, cold-blooded conclusion.

The bonus features on *Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance* are thinner than *Oldboy*, although most irritating is the promise on the back of the box of a "Behind-the-Scenes" piece that is nowhere to be found on the disc. Once again, a superior special edition DVD is available in other countries, why it wasn't ported to the US is a mystery. Still, the audio commentary by Park Chan-Wook is worthwhile,

as is the sneak preview of the sequel, *Lady Vengeance*.

Tetsuo: The Iron Man

Never before have I seen a film that seems so sure to offend and horrify everyone who watches it. *Tetsuo* is a truly unhinged journey into the macabre, as a man slowly turns himself into a monster. The direction by Shinya Tsukamoto is unnerving and highly stylized; a chase sequence is done in what's basically stop-motion. *Tetsuo* is hard to recommend to anyone -- it's extremely graphic, disturbing, and unusual -- the best thing I can say is that you will never see anything like it (except possibly the sequel).

Tetsuo gets the least special features of all of the DVDs, with only trailers included here. One of them is advertised as a sneak peak at Tsukamoto's upcoming film *Vital*, but it's also really just a trailer. Also included is the trailer for *Tetsuo II*, but I don't want to go there.

Tetsuo is the least recommendable film I've seen from Tartan yet, but it would be hard to argue that it doesn't deserve to be released. Certainly there's someone out there somewhere who will like this film, but it wasn't me.

With more Tartan Films releases on the way every day, hopefully Tartan starts porting foreign editions with all the features and continues to bring over great films.



Tartan Films/Oldboy

Oh Dae Su (Choi Min-Sik) is out for revenge in Park Chan-Wook's revenge drama *Oldboy*, now available on DVD from Tartan Films USA.

The iPod leads students into the world of digital music

Apple's handheld media center gains popularity with the ability to take your music anywhere

Kevin Diers
Reporter

You can't walk around the campus of GRCC without spotting a tiny compact product, with its cute little white headphones that attach to the ears of the head bobbing students who delicately stroll along to class to the soundtrack of their choice.

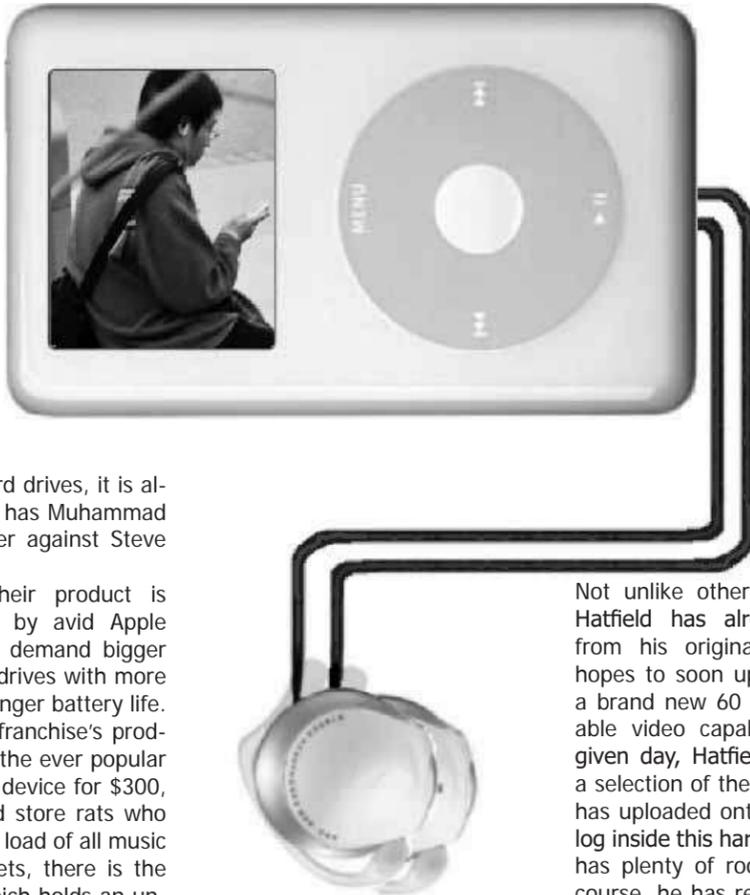
The onlookers passing by these hip, trendy individuals have no idea what kind of tunes are blaring from these compact white machines. The listener is in their own little world, why they could be nonchalantly passing by while enjoying everyone's favorite shoe gazing Seattle band Death Cab for Cutie, slaughtering their ears with the guttural grind core assault of Cattle Decapitation, or entering into the psychedelic world of Pink Floyd and no one could ever know the difference.

In 2001, Apple introduced a new and groundbreaking device into the world of portable music hard drives. Up until this product was released, many companies made excursions into the world of upload able mini mp3 hard drives, but the size, accessibility, ease, and style of this new product was unheard of. The iPod, Apple's new sleek, all white hand held music device was introduced and put on the market at a staggering \$400. Always inventive and working to create a much more advanced product, Apple released the second iPod, which had a total of 10 gigabytes of hard drive space in 2002, and the 20 gig four months

after this.

With sales at a high point, Apple expanded their iPod upstart by creating new generations of these devices about once a year. Today, the word iPod represents almost an empire. Ruling the MP3 market with staggering sales of more than 30 million of these mini-hard drives, it is almost as if Apple has Muhammad Ali in their corner against Steve Urkel.

Expansion of their product is now anticipated by avid Apple consumers, who demand bigger and better hard drives with more features and a longer battery life. Today, the iPod franchise's product line includes the ever popular 30 gig handheld device for \$300, or for the record store rats who carry the mother load of all music in their CD wallets, there is the sixty gig iPod which holds an ungodly 15,000 songs at a staggering \$400. Both of these products are in color and include the ability to upload video and digital photos onto them. For someone looking for a thinner, sleeker, and less daunting iPod, Apple released the Nano. For this line, you can choose between a two gigabyte hard drive for \$200, and a four gig hard drive for \$250. And for the non selective music lover Apple has the iPod Shuffle, a very



small device which shuffles the music you upload on it automatically, available for an affordable \$100 to \$130.

A quick glance at the different music uploaded onto the many handheld MP3 players of GRCC truly shows the ever-so-apparent diversity in the students here on campus. The variety of music is all encompassing from many students filling up their gigabytes with the newest in hip hop and

dance, and others choosing indie rock and alternative.

First-year GRCC student Morgan Hatfield is currently in the process of filling his dauntingly powerful 60 gig photo iPod with everything from classic punk rock to all of today's underground hardcore music.

Not unlike other Apple addicts, Hatfield has already upgraded from his original 40 gig, and hopes to soon upgrade again to a brand new 60 gig with upload able video capabilities. On any given day, Hatfield can listen to a selection of the 7,960 songs he has uploaded onto his vast catalog inside this hard drive. Hatfield has plenty of room for more of course, he has really only tipped the scale, his nearly 8,000 song library only fills up about a third of the hard drive space, using up a mere 21 gigs of the enormous 60 gigs available.

Some GRCC students, like Kevin Frees, opt for a more compact version of the iPod. To satisfy this type of taste, Apple released a line of iPod's that are now discontinued called the iPod Mini. These devices are colorful, compact, affordable, and hold up to 4 gigs of

music on its hard drive. Frees was given the iPod as a present last Christmas from his Grandma, and at first he thought it was a huge waste of money. After uploading all of his favorite music, Frees now sings a different tune. "It's just so convenient. I listen to this thing every time I'm on the go," commented Frees.

Ten years ago, the ability to keep your entire CD collection in the palm of your hand was an inconceivable dream, enough to make any music lover weak at the knees. But now, with devices like Apple's iPod, and many more new competing products, the music lover in all of us can fill our day with the perfect soundtrack.

Anti-iPod students strike back

"It's not that I hate the iPod itself," says Green River student Dane Penovich. "It really is a fine piece of hardware that does everything you expect it to, and it does it fairly well, but what truly gets to me is all of the hype surrounding it. Nowadays, everyone and their mother needs to have a new little iPod, whether it be an original model or one of it's freakishly small, trendy cousins, while there are many other, lesser known MP3 players out there for a fraction of the price. Simply put, the iPod has become the 'iFad.' Another lesser known company, Archos, designs amazing MP3 players and portable media devices, which can access many more types of media than just music, like video and photos."

*All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered;
the point is to discover them.* Galileo Galilei

Come to **Alaska Pacific University** and *Discover Active Learning.*



Alaska Pacific is best known for studies in:

- Environmental Science**
- Outdoor Studies**
- Marine Biology**
- Environmental Policy and Planning**

We also have excellent programs in:

Psychology
Education K-8

Liberal Studies
Business Administration

Mention this ad when you apply and we'll waive your application fee.

APU offers **January and February** start dates for the Spring so there is plenty of time to enroll.

Enroll in classes this Spring and we'll cover your airfare!

Apply online at www.alaskapacific.edu

Alaska Pacific University
Office of Admissions
4101 University Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

800 252 7528 / 907 564 8248
admissions@alaskapacific.edu
www.alaskapacific.edu





The return to Longhorn

The Current takes another look at the most popular bar in Auburn



Andy Gardner Editor in Chief

Practically hidden on C st. SW down by the Supermall in the far corner of Auburn, WA, Longhorn barbeque is still the pinnacle weekend night life for south King county.

Surrounded by a plenthra of bad karaoke bars and moldy dives, Longhorn stands out like Disneyland for the alcohol consumer.

The entertainment is an all request piano duel, traveling and shifting around anything the crowd requests. One minute you'll here Nine Inch Nails, the next country. The overall performance for the evening is similar to a live cover version of jack FM.

All ages and walks of life in habit Longhorn. At some tables as many as three generations drank in company, jovial, screaming at the top of their lungs in unison.

The audiences energy fueled the tireless performers. They took shot after shot as the night burned on, yet they never missed a beat.

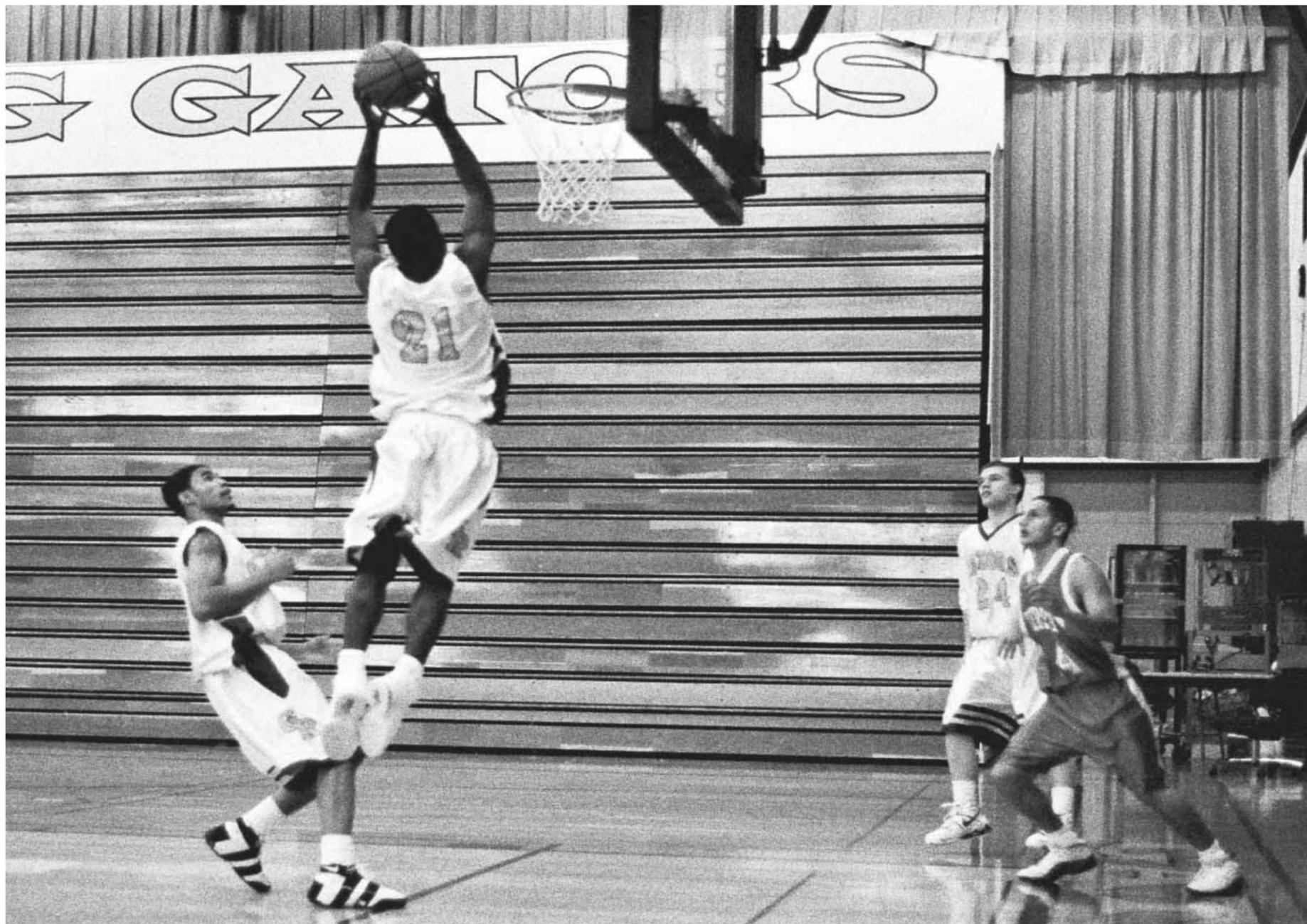
As the energy climaxed, people would get up and dance by the pianos, some would sing. Everyone was having a great time.

Often the Longhorn reaches dangerously close to filling to capacity during their un-advertised weekend mayhm, but the sevice is always good, the management friendly, the watresses super hot. Good ol' fashion fun of course, is on the house.



(photo set) **Andy Gardner**/Editor in Chief
Clockwise from top left: Partiers make their request. The main performers, Jon Oswald, Carl Dees and Grant Stott. A lady from the crowd voices her part with the mic.

Men's basketball soars to new heights



Andrew Gardener/Editor-in-Chief

Green River's Anwar Asadi, a freshman guard from Federal Way High School, soars to the hoop to put down an easy dunk here vs Everett in a home game, the Gators got there only win of the year, 85-67

Jeffrey Jones
Reporter

As the men's basketball programs at Washington's four year institutions have great starts to their respective seasons, the opposite is happening unfortunately here at Green River Community College.

Here at GRCC the men's team has had a start filled with offense. Over the first 5 games this season the Gators are averaging 75 points. The only problem is that is one side of the statistic the gators are giving up a staggering 81 points per game. All this offense has not been a conduit for success.

The gators have slipped to 1-4 overall and toward the bottom of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC).

The Gators opened up their season with a game here against the vaunted rivals of Bellevue CC. This was thankfully the worst the team has played all year scoring only 62 points while allowing 79.

Zach Madren, a returning sophomore from Alaska, led the team in scoring with 17. Anwar Asadi, and Antonio Simms also both dumped in 11 in this losing effort. The team struggled with turnovers turning the ball over 21 times and giving up 34 points off those turnovers. The team shot just 34 percent from the field and allowed

Bellevue to shoot 46 percent not the usual way to win.

Next on the docket for the Gators was the Pierce CC thanksgiving Classic. This was not the best tournament the team has ever played as the Gators were swept out of the tournament with 2 losses. In the first game the Gators lost to Club Seattle again, by the same score as before, 62-79. In this low scoring borefest the Gators shot abysmally again with a team field goal percentage of 33 percent.

In the next game the Gators sealed their bus tickets home with a 78-89 loss to Lane. The Gators finally shot the ball well by pouring in 78 as a team. We were led by Marcellus Williams' 24 points

and seven steals. Struggling to play defense has been our achilles heel so far this season and we have not been able to stop teams from scoring on us.

The team finally put up a number in the left side of the column when they beat Everett 85-67 here at home on Nov. 30. They were led again by their leading scorer Marcellus Williams with 18 and he was accompanied by Asadi and Simms with double digit performances as well. The Gators were finally able to dictate the game defensively holding Everett to 31 percent from the field and shutting down the paint scoring, allowing only 16.

As it is in life, every up has a down, and that was seen no more

truly than when the Gators returned to the court last Saturday and when the squad threw up another stinker. Defense was nonexistent as Seattle CC dumped in 89 while beating the Gators by 11. Williams led the team again with 24 and the squad is beginning to score but defense wins games.

Next up for coach Mallory's Bunch is a trip to play Portland in Portland followed by the Bellevue crossover tournament next weekend. The games on the schedule present a very winnable stretch but going on the road is always hard for any team, on any level. This next week should be a true test and a good example of what we can expect from the men's team this year.

Gator Volleyball A Season to Remember

Ryan Comer
Reporter

For the first time in five years the Green River Gators women's volleyball team won a match at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) tournament.

The Gators ended up doing much more than just winning a match. In fact, they took third place in the tournament, which was held at Bellevue Community College from Nov. 17-19.

Heading into the tournament as the number one seed from the western division with a record of 27-9, the Gators had high ex-

pectations. But after dropping the first match of the tournament to number eight seeded Chemeketa (27-20), it looked as if the Gators might be on their way to another early tournament exit without a victory.

With their backs against the wall the Gators surged through the loser's bracket with victories against Edmonds (15-34), fifth seeded Linn-Benton (30-13), second seeded Southwestern Oregon (30-10), Chemeketa, and finally sixth seeded Whatcom (36-17) all in straight sets. Then, in an intense battle in the third and final set against third seeded Mt. Hood (31-16), the Gators came up just short, losing the match 21-30, 30-26, 13-15.

By defeating Green River, Mt. Hood advanced to the championship match where Walla Walla (36-4) defeated them in four sets.

Despite losing to Mt. Hood, Anna Gorman, who just finished her second year coaching the Gators, told the team that she had never been more proud of a team.

"That meant a lot," Sophomore Erin Moore said. "Because she's coached a lot of teams."

To climb their way from the jaws of defeat and take third place the Gators relied heavily on ambition and team work.

"We fought the whole weekend," Moore said. "We didn't want to end fighting on the floor, or not winning. We wanted to go all out."

"We pulled together as a team," sophomore Jordyn Riley said. "We had bruised knees...no lunch. We were going off powerbars and adrenaline."

Moore also admitted that there was quite a bit of pleasure taken

from sending teams home like Chemeketa, who sent them to the loser's bracket in the first place, as well as Southwestern Oregon, who defeated the Gators twice to win the Green River Crossover.

"It's fun to send teams home that beat us before," she said with a slight grin.

Despite the loss to Mt. Hood, Moore said that she was very satisfied with the tournament and their season as a whole.

The Gators started out the 2005 season with ten straight division wins and went on to win the western division, something they haven't achieved since 2000, with a league record of 13-1. They also placed within the top four in the NWAACC tournament, something they haven't done since 1988 when they took second.

Moore, Lindsay Rice and Jessica

Burkhart were all selected to the All-tournament team. Riley was also selected to the sophomore all star team.

Heading into the 2006 season the Gators are going to undergo many changes that will provide a huge challenge for them to repeat their success.

It appears that only Jordyn's sister, Kimiko Riley, who was the team's starting setter this year, is a lock for returning next season.

However, because of their success this season Gorman may be able to have quite a bit of recruiting success.

Freshman Michaela Hall, who has said that she will not play next year because of shoulder problems, admitted that it was because of the college's solid volleyball program that she decided to play for Green River.

Justin Jamieson
Reporter

Back on the grind

Slopes are open for ski season

Snow has arrived in the Cascade Mountains. After a very disappointing snow season last year, the white stuff has fallen early on the mountains.

Last year was a disappointing snow season for the owners of the resorts as well as the skiers and snowboarders in the state. The resorts had experienced early snowfall, much as this year, allowing them to dream big on the season, but then the snow stopped falling, the temperatures rose and the mountains became bare.

The owners of the ski resorts had already been suffering from slightly worse than normal snow in the past few seasons. The season before had been putting them in a pinch financially. It was no wonder then this season that Crystal Mountain and Stevens Pass opened up at practically the first sign of snow for this year.

While it was a limited opening, Crystal only had Green Valley open, and Stevens had limited lift service as well, it was a relief to skiers and boarders alike who were starved for some action out on the slopes.

Many skiers and snowboarders are overjoyed about the possibility of finally having a full season on the slopes. "Of course I'm excited," said snowboarder Cam Phillips, "after last year, any snow is good snow."

This year the snow didn't melt off though after the initial snowfall. Now with the storm that has brought snow down to Western Washington, the mountains are rolling in the white stuff.

Crystal Mountain is fully operational, with 50 inches of snow at the base, and 63 inches of snow at the top of the mountain



Compliments of www.summitatsnoqualmie.com

Kevin Turner, terrain park manager at the Summit of Snoqualmie West, is seen here testing his work with a 50/50 grind

as of December 2. Snow coverage is said to be very good at Crystal as of the second.

Stevens Pass is open, and as of December 2 is fully operational with the exception of the Seventh Heaven lift. At Stevens there is 52 inches of snow at the base, with 53 inches at the top, but the coverage on the non-groomed runs is said to be minimal in many spots.

The Summit at Snoqualmie is a different story than the other two major ski resorts in the Cascades. The Summit has not been blessed with as much snow as Stevens or Crystal. At the Summit at Snoqualmie itself, Summit West is the only place that has been open yet this ski season.

Snow coverage at Summit West is said to be decent, but it is recommended to stay on the groomed trails. Summit Central is scheduled to open December 9, and the opening date of Summit East is still yet to be decided.

Alpentel, part of the Summit at Snoqualmie family of ski areas, is open as of December 2, but only the lower half.

Nordic skiing is also open at both Snoqualmie and Stevens, with Snoqualmie also open for tubing on the weekends.

The ski areas are looking for a good season this year, and with the way things are starting to shape up, they appear to be getting their wish. Long range fore-

casts show more snow falling in the mountains, which if they hold true, mean that the mountains may be not only fully open by the holidays, but that conditions will be very good.

One skier, Steve Larson said "Last year, the conditions in the mountains kept me away, this year they don't matter. I'm going no matter what."

The snow is plentiful so if you are excited to get out there for some shredding you no-longer have to knock on wood for the snow to stay because it appears we are in it for the long haul now. All over the state parks are opening up so have a great season.

Ticket Prices

*day pass only, no specials

Alpentel	\$47
Crystal Mt.	\$50
Mt. Baker	\$38
Snoqualmie	\$47
Stevens Pass	\$46

Hours of Operation

*Night skiing not offered every-day, only certain runs are open

Alpentel
9am-4pm

Crystal Mt.
9am-4pm

Mt. Baker
9am-4pm

Snoqualmie
9am-10pm

Stevens Pass
9am-10pm



Compliments of www.summitatsnoqualmie.com

Ski Report

Resort Snow Base

Alpentel	42/46
Crystal Mt.	50/63
Mt. Baker	54/62
Snoqualmie	42/42
Stevens Pass	52/53

Over winter break

Mt. Bachelor	55/69
Mt. Hood Ski Bowl	33/33
Mt. Hood Meadow	61/94
Timberline Lodge	48/48
Whistler, BC	34/46