

# THE CURRENT

Domestic violence  
Campus provides  
resources for victims.  
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## Construction projects begin on campus

### Projects take off, preparing for new, improved campus

Sara Olson  
Staff Writer

Green River Community College (GRCC) has a new soundtrack this fall. However, instead of a fight song, the familiar sounds on campus are the pounding of hammers and the buzzing of skill saws.

GRCC has become a full fledged construction zone, as the campus undergoes a makeover that includes several renovation and replacement projects.

The recent opening of the Marv T. Nelson Science Learning Center is just the beginning of new and improved buildings – all of which could take many more years of construction.

“If we continue to be successful getting state funds, all of that will be going on for several years,” Sam Ball, dean of instruction and capital projects, said.

Ball said that the need for renovation and replacement was recognized due to the older buildings on campus exceeding

their life cycle. This, however, was a trend in community colleges across the state.

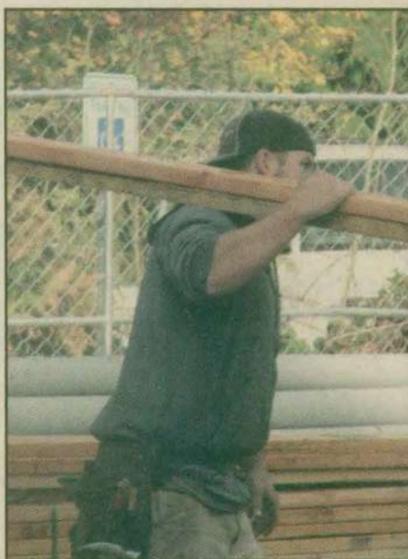
“Across the community college system, many of these old buildings were built in the late ‘60s and built on the cheap,” Ball said. “The focus was to build as much square footage for the least expensive.”

As a result, schools requested funds from the state to help update these buildings.

“The state looked around and said our buildings are starting to deteriorate. They’re going beyond life cycle,” Ball said.

The construction of a new student success center, which is expected to fully replace the Lindbloom Student Center, is underway across from the new science building. According to the college website, this building will be home to several services, such as the welcome center, testing center, admissions, advising, counseling, career guidance, and resource referral.

This project is expected to be completed in spring of 2008, just in time for two new projects to begin on campus.



Sara Olson/Staff Photos

Work on the new student success center began in fall of 2007.

Two buildings are scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2008.

“One is an addition to the IVD building that will house offices and conference rooms for the International Programs faculty and staff,” Ball said.

The other is a renovation of the PE Building. It is expected to be completed around 2009. The building was built

in 1967, and design teams hope the renovations will maintain the building’s functionality for the next 30 years.

One building that has lapsed in its usefulness, according to Ball, is the HS Complex. The new building will replace the old HS Building, SS Building, and BI Building. The project currently in the design stage, and construction is expected to take place from 2009-2011.

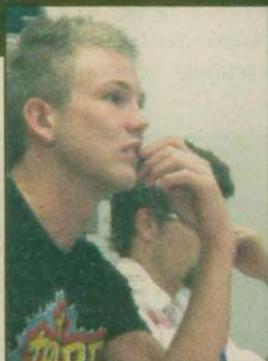
If the college receives all the funding needed, capital projects has renovation and replacement projects scheduled through 2018.

However, Ball said that the projects strategically are planned to cause the least amount of inconvenience for students.

“It is laid out very methodically for a couple of reasons,” Ball said. “We don’t want too much construction going on at the same time. It’s very disruptive. But, we can’t eliminate the construction, because we have to do the work.”

Students can find more information about what parts of campus are being affected by visiting the capital projects page on GRCC’s website.

Below: The construction of the student success center is expected to be done in the spring of 2008.



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**Campus plays host**  
Danish students spending fall quarter at Green River.  
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West stays on top with latest album.  
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## Campus puts in effort to eliminate discrimination

*GRCC takes stand against discrimination, hoping to see improvement*

**Tammie Guevara**  
Staff Writer

As students walk through Green River Community College (GRCC), they can see many yellow flyers glued to the wall.

If they choose to stop to read those flyers, they'll read the "Nondiscrimination Statement," a declaration saying that GRCC does not discriminate against anyone based on their cultural backgrounds, physical appearance, or social status.

GRCC is a campus rich in diversity. It has students from various backgrounds. With that condition, it's a big task to unite all these differences and create a friendly community.

GRCC still is facing many discrimination problems that are happening around campus.

Veronica Garaycoa, director of diversity services, said that the condition in GRCC isn't safe for students of color, and that the college doesn't have a system to face this problem yet.

A few big discrimination related incidents have happened and still are happening on campus. The biggest one took place last year when a student drew a comic with a passage that made a few students of a certain race feel insulted.

Moreover, small incidents happen almost everyday on campus.

"There is not a single day where students don't come to me and say that something happens to them," Garaycoa said.

Garaycoa's role also is to talk to students.

Discrimination comes in various ways, from insults towards a certain race, to the inequality of chances because of language barriers.

GRCC has a large international program, with students from many countries coming to the college. Other than that, there also are local students with different heritages.

"The biggest challenge is to keep them in here," Garaycoa said.

She also said that GRCC has to be able to make these students feel at home when they're on campus.

The college is working on this.

GRCC has many diversity programs to help students, faculties, or staff members, who face or are interested in this problem.

### GRCC's Nondiscrimination Statement

Green River Community College does not discriminate against anyone based on race, ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or status as a disabled person or veteran of war, in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Sara Olson/ Staff Photo

The Nondiscrimination flyers posted on bulletin boards around campus is an effort made by GRCC to reduce all discrimination. However, the campus plans on taking further steps to encourage students and staff to stand up against discrimination.

These programs vary, including trainings that give not only students, but also faculties and staff members' information to address this problem.

Other than that, GRCC has many clubs such as Black Student Union and Gay/Straight Alliance that accept students from many backgrounds and help them understand each other.

The college also has diversity services to arrange programs for this issue and serve as a place for anyone on campus who feels that they have experienced discrimination.

Many departments on campus are taking part on this movement.

The Human Resources department, for example, is planning to add more multi-color faculties. They also arranged nondiscrimination training from Oct. 25 to Nov. 8.

Kirk Walker, human resource generalist, said that this training is held due to the new nondiscrimination policy.

On this training, they will talk about

variety of discriminations, complaint procedures, and how to prevent discriminations in communication. Walker said that this training is made as a legal responsibility of the college.

"We want people to come to work and have a safe environment," Walker said.

Walker expects that this training will help to create an environment free of discrimination on campus and also let people know that discrimination is not acceptable at GRCC.

Nevertheless, most students feel safe enough in GRCC.

Brian Akpan, a student of color, said that personally, he feels relatively safe, although he does have to try harder to fit in with his friends.

However, Akpan also experiences and notices that discrimination is a pretty big issue on campus.

"Sometime, people just say something without thinking of how other people may feel about it," Akpan said.

The reality is that discrimination still is a problem at GRCC. It may not publish, and people may not talk about it, but it is happening.

Many times it happens on the smallest scale that people don't realize that it is discrimination.

"Most people know discrimination only about race and colors, not others," Walker said.

However, Walker said that changes also are happening. He said that since the training was held, more people are talking about it.

Garaycoa said that people have to see themselves as someone who plays an important role to make a difference.

"We still have a long way to go, but there are people who care," Garaycoa said.

To make this happens, Garaycoa said, "don't be afraid to open your heart to change."

## Research still being done to try to prevent breast cancer

*Doctors seek to predict likely candidates of disease*

**Greg Washington**  
Staff Writer

The month of October has been dedicated to increasing the awareness of breast cancer issues around the world, especially the importance of early detection.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a nationwide campaign that is aimed toward the general public, health care providers, state and federal governments, and women of all ages and ethnic groups.

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers found in women throughout the United States.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) stated on its website, "It's estimated that about 178,480 women in the United States

will be found to have breast cancer in 2007. About 40,460 will die from the disease this year."

Reports also show that there currently are around 2 million women living in the United States that have contracted and have been treated for breast cancer.

Breast cancer, right behind lung cancer is the leading cause of death in women. African-American women are found to have a slightly lower chance of contracting breast cancer after the age of 40 than Caucasian women, although African-American women are more likely to contract the disease before the age of 40.

Nevertheless men are not to be left out of the likelihood of contracting breast cancer.

The ACS also estimated on its website, "that in 2007 some 2,030 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed among men in the United States."

Breast cancer is a disease that is very

difficult to predict, although medical doctors and scientists are working, diligently looking for clues in order to determine whom breast cancer is more likely to strike. Doctors have labeled these clues as "risk factors."

Scientists not only are examining the physical health of women but also are making predictions based on the individuals reproductive history, medical history, marital and economic status, along with others. These all are factors that are being evaluated in the science and medical fields in order to determine who might contract the disease.

The three most common risk factors of breast cancer contractors are one's age, personal history, and family history. The chance of breast cancer increases in women as women become older.

About 82 percent of breast cancers are found in women that are 60 and older, leaving them at high risk to contract, while the disease has been very uncommon in women that are younger than 35.

A women's personal history also is a predictor of breast cancer. Women who have had or contracted breast cancer also are at risk to contract the disease again.

### Correction

In Issue One of The Current, the article, titled "Fake e-mail sends student into financial trouble" was missing a byline. It was written by staff writer, Angelica Asiesukiewicz. The Current apologizes for its mistake.

# Green River host students from Denmark for quarter

*Students enjoy cultural experience in United States*

**Bimla Thapa**  
Staff Writer

It is a well known fact that Green River Community College (GRCC) has a steady influx on international students every quarter, giving the college a touch of vibrancy, with their unique cultural traits.

Similarly, every year, GRCC also plays a host to a group of foreign students from Denmark.

Each year, about 30 students from Roskilde Business Study in Denmark spends a quarter at GRCC as a part of their business study program.

This year, 28 students arrived during the first week of college.

Thus far, the students have liked the natural surroundings at GRCC.

"Really great with a beautiful surrounding nature," Katrine Nygaard, 18, a Danish exchange student said.

However, the students have noticed a difference in the education systems of Denmark and the United States.

In Denmark, all the classes are located in one huge building whereas majority of schools in America have several different buildings, each usually assigned for a particular subject field, such as the science building for instance.

"Unlike America, we don't change classes. It's the teachers who do the changing," Camilla Eriksen said.

The students have been impressed with the teaching, however.

"Teachers here are great. They get us involved in their discussion," Jonas Vogel said.



Sara Olson/ Staff Photos

Danish students actively engage in class discussion in Hank Galmish's English class. One of their goals of being in the United States is to brush up on their English.

Student Jeppe Sorgentri also noted that class manners are different in the United States.

"In Denmark, we have to raise our hands for everything and teachers there get irritated when we don't," Sorgentri said.

For Ansan Rahmani and Patrick Olah, it's the "colorful and creative way" the instructors at GRCC teach that captures their attention. Such methods help their mind from straying away from the topic.

Another thing these Danish students like about the education system is the amount of homework assigned.

"It is not as much as we are used to, and yet we still get the result," Hasling said.

In contrast to the hour long breaks domestic students are used



Jonas Vogel, Danish student, listens during Galmish's class.

to, breaks in Denmark schools only last 25 minutes and with a "no eating in class rule."

"But we still do eat in class, when the teachers aren't aware of

it though," Vogel said.

The attendance and tardiness policies in the United States also have been different for the Danish students.

"If someone misses the class for 40 hours, a warning is issued. But once someone misses the class for 100 hours, they are expelled," Eriksen said.

This is one of the reasons why they like GRCC, as it gives them a "sense of responsibility," by giving them the choice of either attending class or not.

The students also say they are enjoying America because of the people.

"They just came to say 'hi,' and it's not uncomfortable at all," Sorgentri said.

According to the students, this is different in Denmark.

"In Denmark, people just think you're weird when you do that," Koller added.

Americans in general are not at all what the Danish students thought they would be or how the media in Denmark portrayed them.

As a matter of fact, to Olah and Vogel, Americans are "really strict and not at all wild."

"When I first came here, I expected people to be patriotic and with guns all over the place, but they turned out to be not bad at all," Vogel said.

Apart from the good natured and amiable characteristics of the people in America, Koller loves the fact that the prices here on most of the things are so affordable.

Not too long ago he bought a pair of Nike shoes for about a \$100, which would have cost him \$300 in Denmark.

"It's that cheap," Koller said.

And for these Danish students, studying isn't their only goal of being in America. They hope to attain personal goals as well.

"We'd like to improve our English while we're here" Eriksen said.

They also said that they have every intention of learning to be a part of the American culture, participating in both Halloween and Thanksgiving.

"I'd like to get fat with all the thanksgiving turkey possible," Koller said.

Nygaard said that he wants to "watch and understand American football."

With all these eager intentions of adapting to American and the flavors of culture it has to offer, leaving America certainly won't be easy for them.

When asked what they were going to miss the most when they leave, most of them mentioned instructors and their host families, and Koller said "brownies."

## Al Gore raises controversy with Nobel Peace Prize win

*Unlikely candidate arouses criticism following win, questioning Nobel Peace Prize Legacy*

**Joseph Chouery**  
Staff Writer

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Al Gore are being criticized by some for being awarded the latest Nobel Peace Prize.

The prize has been awarded to 95 individuals and 20 different organizations for over a century. Since then, only a few groups have condemned the prize winners' causes.

The challenge that seems to repeatedly form is whether the issue is the most significant for the time.

The debates revolving around the prizes awardees stem from the difficult decision that the committee has to face.

Generally the worthiness of an issue is not cause for debate. It would take a great deal of audacity to challenge such issues as economic development, human rights, and the willingness to feed the starving.

But on rare occasions a few have been impudent enough to do so. For instance, Hitler conceived the 1935 prize as a direct

insult.

Alfred Nobel left nine million dollars to the world and a legacy of optimism that still honors the elite individuals of the world. Before he died in 1896, he gave guidelines that included giving the award annually, "to the person who shall have done the most or the best work for the fraternity between nations, for the abolition of standing armies and for the holding and promotion of peace congresses."

The prize widely is known by humanitarians as the greatest honor one can receive. It is not bested by Olympic gold medals or super bowl rings.

To win a Nobel Prize, is to win the gratitude of the world for making it a better place. But this gratitude seems to fall short for recent American awardees.

*"I respect that he is a good person. Being a prior president may have given the impression that he was acting in joined effort with America."*

— Kathy Shaw,  
math instructor

The last two Americans to receive the award were bashed by political rivals. In the polarizing politics that America offers to its citizens, not even the Nobel is safe.

In 2002, Jimmy Carter won the peace prize. His honor was diluted by various groups, claiming that he did not win for what he had done but what positions he had taken on President Bush's policies.

Kathy Shaw, math instructor, did not have a concern with Carter's issue or that he had won.

"I respect that he is a good person," Shaw said. "Being a prior president may have given the impression that he was acting in a joined effort with America."

Not nearly as polite as Shaw, The City Journal wrote an article titled "Peace at Any Prize."

In the article, it said, "President George W. Bush is lining up international support for an attack on Saddam Hussein's Iraq. Carter stands adamantly opposed to such action. What better way to politicize the

prize and criticize the 43rd President than to use the 39th as a marionette - particularly since Carter would respond to the slightest twitch of the strings?"

Five years later, contempt for Gore's prize rang the same recognizable bitter tone.

Fox and Friends Brian Kilmeade said, "There's the last five winners - see Mohamed El Baradei. What do they have in common? I don't know about the 2006 winner, but I will say 2005 and 2007, both anti-Bush."

A large amount of the world populace is in fact anti-Bush, and it will be even harder to find a pro-Bush candidate for the prize in following years. Rush Limbaugh, who was an actual candidate for the prize this year and known for his pro-Bush sentiments probably excused himself from following years with his comment.

He said after Gore won the award, "The Norwegian committee has rendered themselves a pure 100 percent joke."

When asked about the Nobel Prize, Mike Pahlow responded with a question of his own that he thought was more imperative, "Why is there not a math Nobel Prize?"

Needless to say he also teaches mathematics at Green River Community College.

## The 'Who's Who' in Student Programs



**Shezhana  
"Shauna"  
Stadnik**  
ASGRCC  
President



**Christopher Small**  
Artist and Speakers  
Series Coordinator



**Dani Chang**  
Director of  
Student Life



**Donicha  
Daniels**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants



**Megan  
Borjesson**  
ASGRCC  
Vice President



**Marco  
Becerra-Nunez**  
Diversity Services  
Student  
Coordinator



**Christina Broat**  
Assistant Director  
of Student Life



**Jonathan  
Williams**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants



**Jibril Leigh**  
ASGRCC  
Chief Justice



**Rachanee  
Wysgoll**  
Student Outreach  
Coordinator



**Wing-Yu  
"Winnie" So**  
International  
Student  
Ambassadors



**Alxys Hjembo**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants



**Shayah Fox**  
International  
Activities  
Programmer



**Khoi Phu Pham**  
Intramurals  
Coordinator



**Margarita  
Atanasova**  
International  
Student  
Ambassadors



**Rommel  
Gonzalez**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants



**Kristen McWain**  
Special Events  
Coordinator



**Eric Januar**  
Outdoor Programs  
Coordinator



**Hsiu-Yen "Jack"  
Hsiao**  
International  
Student  
Ambassadors



**Samantha  
Tonasket**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants



**Jonathan  
Eckard**  
Music and  
Entertainment  
Coordinator



**Martha Koch**  
Director of  
Events



**Anand  
Tumurtogoo**  
International  
Student  
Ambassadors



**Wanga  
Mpakateni**  
CCA Resident  
Assistants

\*Information gathered by Baris Cirak

Not pictured: Marie Dunning, clubs and organizations coordinator.

## Numerous positions filled by new senators

### Student body senate hired to serve campus

**Jamie Page**  
Staff Writer

The positions of all but two of the new Senators for the 2007-2008 school year have been finalized and divided into four committees.

The Green River Community College (GRCC) Senate now includes 24 students and encompasses the finance committee, the judicial committee, the by-laws committee, and the public relations committee.

As decided upon by the current president

and other student body delegates, the four committees each handle unique responsibilities.

The 24 new senators were able to obtain their positions without a great deal of difficulty.

"They first had to pick up an application in student programs, and then schedule an interview, which were 10 minutes long," Shezhana "Shauna" Stadnik, ASGRCC President, said about the process involved in becoming a senator.

An application and a 10-minute interview later, these students are able to walk about campus knowing they now have power to make changes on campus.

The senate holds unique powers in the whole of the student government.

"For the school constitution to be

changed, senate needs to vote on it, and the rest of the student government has to be involved too, but the By-Laws Senate has the power on their own to make changes," Stadnik said. "Senators are the ones making important decisions that affect everyone. They're the people you can talk to if you have a concern."

Being a Senator has its benefits.

"You get to be involved in making decisions across campus," Stadnik said. "We have a budget to work with, and we have a lot of fun together."

However, all senators have to adhere to the rules, responsibilities, and roles they are presented with as well.

"The senator is required to adhere to the strict attendance policy and go to Wednesday and Thursday meetings where

he or she voices their opinions, votes on bills, and completes delegated tasks. The senator has to do whatever his or her committee requirements are," Stadnik said.

Not everyone on campus can be an actively participating senator or involved with the Student Government, but if any student has questions or concerns for the senate or the student body, they are invited to seek out the attention of one of the senators, or visit student programs and talk to Stadnik.

*For more information about student programs, visit the student programs office in the Lindbloom Center, Room 204.*

## Editorials

### Students, staff need to take lead in stopping discrimination on campus

In the corner of nearly every classroom on campus is a sign that prohibits discrimination at Green River Community College (GRCC). This sign is passed hundreds of times a day by students of all cultural backgrounds and ethnicities, but it is a rare occasion that a student stops to read it.

However, the message is no less important. Even in today's society, discrimination is an ever prevalent poison all around the country and at GRCC.

For this reason, the college has posted that sign in classrooms.

The sign reads, "Green River Community College does not discriminate against anyone based on race, ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or status as a disabled person or veteran of war, in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973."

Prejudices and stereotypes have no place at an American college and should not be tolerated by students, staff, or faculty. Although some students may feel unaffected by discrimination, refusal to recognize the problem is ignorance and counterproductive to improvement.

The goal of eliminating all forms of discrimination at GRCC may seem lofty, but it is impossible if people refuse to do their part. Change starts with an individual – a student, or a faculty, or a staff member. That change is contagious and will ignite a spark that eventually will become a fire.

The Current, therefore, is committed to doing their part by being culturally sensitive and leading by example with accurate and objective articles.

### Swirling controversy makes Al Gore poor candidate for Nobel Peace Prize

What do Martin Luther King, Mother Teresa, and Al Gore have in common? As of Oct. 12, they all are recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Yes, Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change received one of the most respected awards in the world for their work in raising awareness on global warming.

Gore has grown in popularity since he released his documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" in 2006. His film was well received by many, especially with an Oscar win, and Gore became a prominent figure once again, with talk show appearances.

However, with that publicity has come controversy regarding whether Gore's personal life is congruent with his efforts in slowing down global warming. Despite his encouragement to Americans to "go green," Gore has been accused of failing to walk the walk in these efforts.

The Nobel Committee does not release the names of the nominees; however, some of the possible candidates for this year's award were Irena Sendler, a woman from Poland who saved 2,500 Jewish children during World War II, as well as Martti Ahtisaari, the former Finnish president who was instrumental in peace efforts in the Aceh Conflict in Indonesia.

The Salvation Army also has been rumored to have been a candidate this year, as well as several other years in the past. However, out of 181 candidates fighting for peace and human rights, Gore received the prize.

Although Gore's efforts have not hurt but rather have brought awareness to the issue, in light of the surrounding controversy and debate regarding global warming, he wasn't the best candidate for the award.

Gore's popularity took the limelight away from other candidates who were just as if not more deserving of this award.

#### Editorial Policy

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

#### Letters to the editor

We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard. The Current will publish **letters to the editor**, provided they are signed, include the author's name, and submitted in a timely manner. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Letters should be sent to [thecurrent@greenriver.edu](mailto:thecurrent@greenriver.edu). The Current will not publish letters which demean any person because of race, class or sexual orientation. The editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become the property of The Current.

## Conflict of sex offenders living near university was handled poorly from start

### Landlord fights governor to keep steady renters living in housing



Commentary by Angelica Asiesukiewicz

The University of Washington is known for its academic achievements and grand prestige. But recently, the University District has been known as a home for convicted sex offenders, and the governor wants them out of there.

I'm curious as to why the government allowed these convicts to even go near the U district, let alone live there. If the governor wants them out now, I wonder how they got there in the first place.

The government is the organization paying for the offenders to live there. What made them choose the U district?

Carol Clarke is the owner of the houses that are now home to these sex offenders. She is a sweet old lady with a little kick in her. She doesn't want these men to move out, and I can think of one really good reason why.

The government is who is paying

rent for these convicts, and they are constantly keeping a watchful eye. That means no late payments and no problems for Clarke.

It also means a hefty paycheck. Who wouldn't want to have a grandma who's loaded with cash?

Clarke does not want the convicts to move out because she has the best renters in town. And since there haven't been any repeats, she sees no harm in them being near the University. That's easy for a 69 year-old-lady to say. No man is scamming on her as she walks to her English class.

However, no one can stay mad at a grandma forever. Clarke might just be the motherly type and thinks that she might have some responsibility to turn these men around. The programs for these sex offenders seem to be working since there have been no repeats.

Living so close to the university can be a test for some of these men not to harass people, men or woman. It could be that Clarke thinks that if these men are uprooted, they can change back to the convicts that they were before. Convicts are humans too, I suppose.

If I were the governor of Washington, this situation would be different. I wouldn't have released these convicts in the first place. They are the ones who did the crime, so they should pay the time. They have houses to stay where they would be safe and under control. I'm referring to jail houses, of course.

#### The Current Staff

The Current is a public forum for student expression at Green River Community College, since 1965.



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# TRICK OR TREAT?

*The gradual transformation of Halloween from fun to frightening leaves some asking whether paranoia surrounding the day should be considered fact or fiction*

Jamie Page  
Staff Writer

Witches and goblins and ghosts oh my. Halloween is approaching fast, and so is the increase in excitement, candy sales, and paranoia.

Halloween originated from an ancient Druidic fire festival celebrated by the Celts in Wales, Ireland, and Scotland where it was called "Hallowe'en."

Nowadays the holiday is modernized and tainted by the desensitization of Americans. The celebration has become more of a horror fest, involving massive amounts of candy, than a public holiday.

Fright and paranoia have so thoroughly ingrained themselves into the tradition of Halloween that some people do not feel safe anymore.

"If I were alone, it would be really scary," student Theresa Daumit, 17, said.

Some people take extra precautions to stay safe.

When questioned about whether she feared for her safety upon going

out on Halloween, Rebecca Cavalieri, 18, said, "No, because my dad gave me pepper spray."

Over the years, urban legends, books, and movies have made Halloween more frightening than ever. By setting a slanted, scary scene and bringing gory, emphatically frightening scenarios and situations to the imagination of the public, the way Halloween used to be perceived has changed, and with it the holiday itself.

With all of the dramatic horror involved, some might question whether Halloween is still the safe family holiday it used to be.

M. Burris of the Auburn Police Department said that it's not.

"It is unfortunately becoming less and less of a family event and is causing problems. With all of the vandalism and what-not now, it just doesn't seem as safe anymore," Burris said.

As for the activity level of the police on Halloween night, Burris said, "It is busier because there are so many

people out."

Nevertheless, Burris denied the common legend of the increased crime and murder on Halloween night.

"That's an urban legend," Burris said.

One controversial way to stay safe is to get Halloween candy screened at medical clinics and hospitals to check for razors, needles, and other dangerous objects.

"I think nowadays it's important to check candy or even get it screened, because people are less trustworthy now than they used to be," Daumit said.

In light of the new focus of Halloween, some may ask whether it is worth it nowadays to go through the extra effort to protect children from becoming frightened.

Cavalieri doesn't think so.

"They're going to be watching scary movies anyway," Cavalieri said.

So should people even bother trying to treat them with more care, or is that going against the ideals of

Halloween?

Daumit brought up a point about scaring younger, and usually therefore more vulnerable children.

"It's kind of like 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf' in the sense that you don't want to scare kids too much, because then they might think it's just a trick or a joke if someone came after them for real," Daumit said.

So have people forgotten the meaning of Halloween?

"I think it's about the fun and the excitement of being scared," Daumit said.

Cavalieri thinks the joy of Halloween is after it's all over.

"It's just about knowing that after you're scared and cold and alone, you have a warm comfy place to go back to for comfort," Cavalieri said.

For an article on local Halloween events, see page 14.

Designed by Sara Olson

FRANK CARLSEN  
NOV 10 1865  
MAY 19 1926

THEA CARLSEN  
FEB 13 1864  
JUN 1 1885

JAMES D. REAFIN

## Cheerleading team springs into new season

*Squad tumbles into year with revamped team*

**Elizabeth Diachenko**  
Staff Writer

At Green River Community College (GRCC), a new cheer team is being formed. Last year, there was a team of about six or seven women.

Bob Kickner, athletic director, said that he is recreating the team.

The former coach of the squad may be unable to attend the team's schedule, so Kickner is looking for a new coach.

For now, Barb Hansen and Jennifer Kickner will be coaching and leading the first couple of weeks.

Kickner said that he is looking for women who have experience in cheerleading.

"I am looking for a clean, crisp, and classy look for the team," Kickner said.

There were 21 women who were invited back after the first round of tryouts.

However, a team of 12 is what Kickner is trying to get, so cuts will be made.

It is hoped that the final team will be set by Nov. 1. It most likely will be an all



Sara Olson/Staff Photos

The tryouts for the Green River cheerleading team were held on Oct. 19. After calling 21 women back, Bob Kickner, athletic director, hopes to narrow the squad down to 12 women by Nov. 1.

women team, as Kickner said that only women tried out.

The team has no current plans to attend competitions soon, but hopes to someday be ready for one.

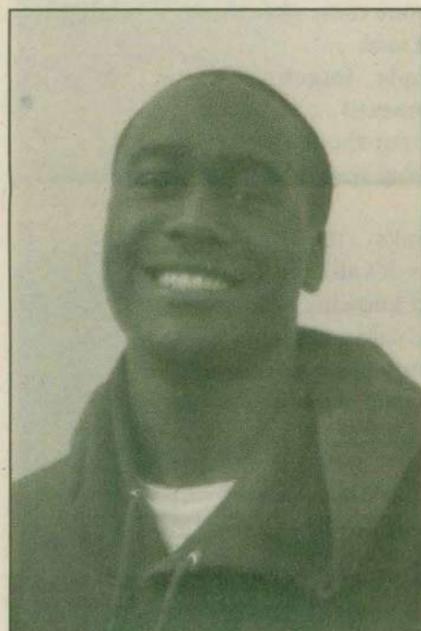
The team will be performing at men's and women's basketball games.

When asked, some students were unaware of the existence of a cheer team from either this year or last year, which

may have led to a smaller turnout for tryouts.

However, if things go as planned, the team will be much more heard of this year.

## Gator Profiles: Basketball players, Giovanni Lee and Isiah Brooks



**Name:** Giovanni Lee  
**Position:** Forward/Guard  
**Height:** 6'4

*Q: What's your favorite food?*  
A: Gumbo.  
*Q: Who's your favorite musical artist?*  
A: Lil Boosie.  
*Q: What's your favorite movie?*  
A: "He Got Game."  
*Q: Who is your favorite athlete?*  
A: LeBron James.  
*Q: If you weren't a baseball player, what would you be?*  
A: I'd still be a college athlete, at least.  
*Q: What is your favorite part of playing for the Gators?*  
A: Playing with a lot of basketball talent.  
*Q: What do you do to get pumped up for a game?*  
A: I daydream about the game.  
*Q: What is one thing you want to improve on this season?*  
A: My killer instinct on the court.  
*Q: Do you have any words of advice for young baseball players?*  
A: Never ever ever get up and follow my lead.



**Name:** Isiah Brooks  
**Position:** Point guard  
**Height:** 6'0

*Q: What's your favorite food?*  
A: Gumbo.  
*Q: Who's your favorite musical artist?*  
A: Lil Wayne and Jay Z.  
*Q: What's your favorite movie?*  
A: "Style Wars," "Three Ninjas," and "Little Rascals."  
*Q: Who is your favorite athlete?*  
A: Dewayne Wade.  
*Q: If you weren't a baseball player, what would you be?*  
A: International soccer or karate master.  
*Q: What is your favorite part of playing for the Gators?*  
A: The teamwork.  
*Q: What do you do to get pumped up for a game?*  
A: I listen to music and dance.  
*Q: What is one thing you want to improve on this season?*  
A: My leadership skills.  
*Q: Do you have any words of advice for young baseball players?*  
A: Keep your head up and stay positive.

### Gator Results

#### Women's Volleyball

Date	Results	Record
10/6	Linn Benton d. Green River	7-10
10/6	Highline d. Green River	7-11
10/10	Green River d. Centralia	8-11
10/12	Clark d. Green River	8-12
10/17	Green River d. Lower Columbia	9-12
10/19	Highline d. Green River	9-13

#### Women's Soccer

Date	Results	Record
10/12	Walla Walla, 3 d. Green River, 0	3-8
10/13	Treasure Valley, 3 d. Green River, 0	3-9
10/17	Green River, 1 d. Edmonds, 0	4-9
10/20	Shoreline, 3 d. Green River, 0	4-10

### Gator Schedules

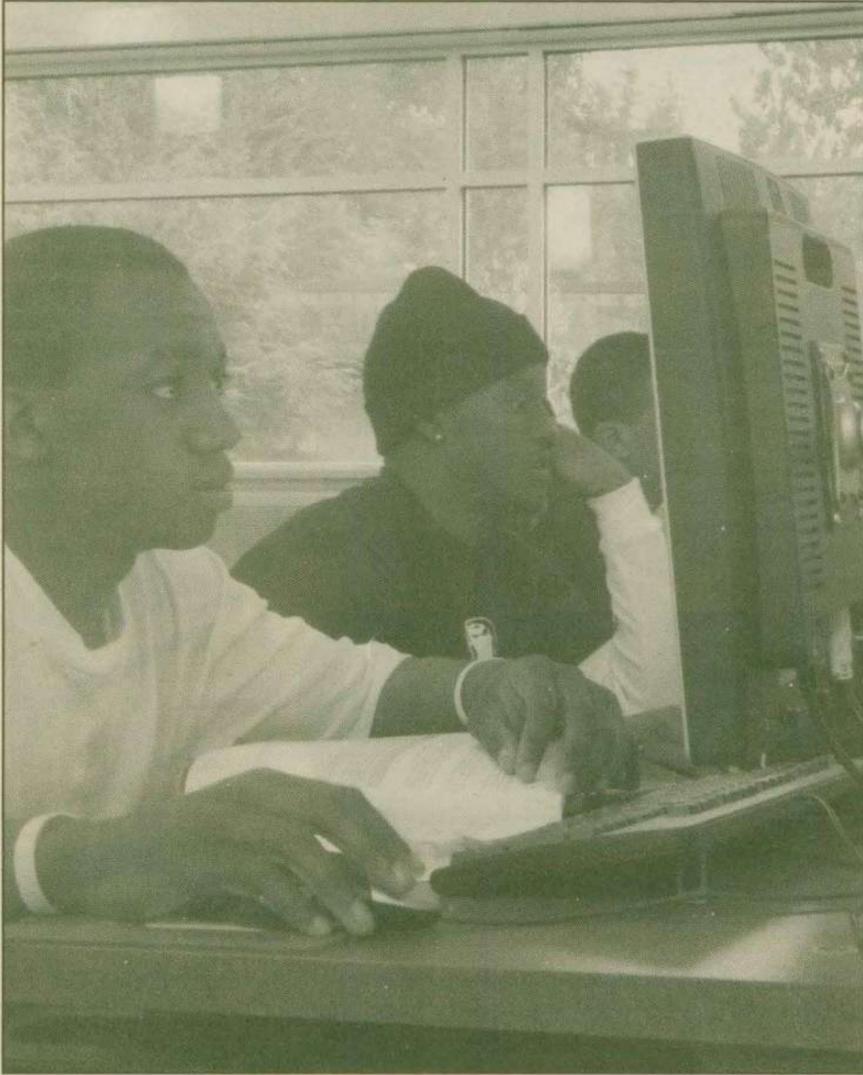
#### Women's Volleyball

Date	Opponent/Location	Time
10/26	Edmonds/Mt. Hood	4 p.m.
10/26	Mt. Hood/Mt. Hood	6 p.m.
10/29	Pierce/Green River	7 p.m.
11/2	Tacoma/Tacoma	7 p.m.
11/5	Centralia/Green River	7 p.m.
11/7	Clark/Clark	7 p.m.

#### Women's Soccer

Date	Opponent/Location	Time
10/26	Spokane/Spokane	2 p.m.
10/27	Columbia Basin/Columbia Basin	12 p.m.
10/31	Skagit Valley/Green River	2 p.m.
11/3	Everett/Everett	12 p.m.

# Study hall brings mixed emotions for student athletes



Sara Olson/Staff Photo

Basketball players study diligently in mandatory study hall as do all Gator athletes. Some athletes support the program while others feel their study time can be managed more effectively.

*Athletes dedicate quality time in and out of classroom in order to be successful*

**Tessa Cosand**  
Staff Writer

At the beginning of any Green River sports orientation, athletes sign a document claiming that they will maintain grades and follow the college's regulations.

One rule that Gators promise to abide by is to attend supervised study halls.

According to the Green River Athletic Preparation Program, "First quarter, athletes are responsible for participating in three hours of supervised study table per week."

It further states that Gators with a quarterly grade point average of 2.7 and above in 12 or more credits have the option to skip study table all together after a certain amount of time.

According to Bob Kickner, Gator athletic director, study table is a way for students to maintain or raise their grades.

He also claimed that athletes should be held to a higher standard since they are using school funds and representing Green River Community College as a whole.

"The term student-athlete means something very special to me. Too often community college athletes are labeled as 'dumb jocks.' I don't believe that for an instant," Kickner said. "However, I have a responsibility to ensure that the large amount of resources being spent by athletes are spent putting a quality product on the field and in the classroom. Study table is one method for raising that quality."

Some students have a differing viewpoint regarding supervised study hall.

Some said that athletes spend much of their time talking to other teammates or checking their myspace or e-mail accounts rather than preparing for their classes.

Some don't think that it is a helpful requirement.

Michelle Malacon, Gator soccer player, for instance, spent her freshman year attending mandatory study hall. She said that her schedule was crammed with work and college assignments and that adding another three hour school related activity was a burden.

Other athletes said that study table is a successful approach to motivate and prepare Gator athletes.

Some said this system enabled them to bring up their grades, because it forced them to focus and complete college duties.

Some students have mixed thoughts regarding an athlete's requirement to spend three supervised hours studying.

Michelle Stauffer said that those who have a successful academic career should not have to attend study table, and that it is unfair for diligent working students to have this responsibility.

However, she also said that it is helpful for athletes who struggle to focus on school because they are forced into an environment that directs their attention on their academics.

Kayla Preiss, soccer player, has mixed feelings regarding the mandatory study halls.

She thinks that study table is a great idea for students overall, but personally would rather prepare for classes on her own time because of her busy schedule.

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**Instructor Paycheck**  
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see inside | 8-9

Manning for June ceremony now under way  
Over 2,000 expected for commencement

**Legislator tours, speaks on campus**  
Upthegrove to support new construction at Green River

# Kanye West brings more hits with new album

Controversial rapper manages to stay on top with latest release, 'Graduation'

Alex Hoggard  
Staff Writer

"Does anybody make real shit anymore?" That's the big question that Kanye West keeps asking.

Some may call it arrogance, or some might say that he is allowed to be arrogant when he sells over one thousand albums and sells out seven stores in one week.

West has stepped over the lines and boundaries to be able to be a unique and confident artist, which some times is mistaken for being a cocky individual.

West has such a swagger about him from the way he dresses with his Ralph Lauren polo's and his Louis Vuitton duffle bag to the way he walks across the stage with his head held high and that million dollar smirk.

When fans look from all his old albums ("The College Dropout" and "Late Registration") to his latest release, "Graduation," listeners gain West as a fully developed artist.

This for most fans has been a well followed road. The "College Dropout" (2004) had a lot to offer the music listeners, from the long list of skits to the hard core eye-opening lyrics that some times got yelled. The song "Never Let Me Down," was a very bold song to write in the year 2004.

The song asked the listeners to think about how far we really have come as a country.

In "Jesus Walks," West states that racism still is alive and makes another bold remark about God.

West's second album, "Late Registration," (2005) was exactly what fans had been waiting to here from West. The lyrical word play to the off the chart singles, including "Gold Digger," "Diamonds From Sierra Leone," and "Touch the Sky," brought this album home.

From "Gold Digger" to "Crack Music," it showed the diversity of West and his ability to become chameleon.

The different kinds of subjects portrayed on his album from "being so high you could touch the sky" to "being so greedy like a Gold digger," is why this album was another slam dunk for West.

His latest album, "Graduation," couldn't have come any sooner for the anticipating listeners. This well anticipated album stole the show from any other hip hop artist the day it came out. West sure didn't let anyone down with this one.

"Graduation" has three singles ("Stronger," "Good Life," and "Cant Tell Me Nothing") on it that make this album come alive.

West also was not scared to share the love with having a large group of cameos from the deejaying to the sampling of songs.

West has learned how to share the stage with other artists to



Mercury Records/Courtesy Photo

Kanye West released his latest album, "Graduation," this September. West has become quite familiar with chart-topping albums with previous releases "College Dropout" and "Late Registration."

create head bangers such as "Barry Bonds," that features Lil Wayne and "Good life," with the creative voice of T-pain.

This mix and match of new and old music with a great talent list, not to forget the lyrical content, was awesome, making the latest album by West truly one for the

books.

There might be some minor problems as with any album, but nothing too major to take away from the greatness of it.

West has out done himself again after four years of putting out great music and unlimited smash hits.

West is still slam dunking and putting the rest of the game to sleep with every new single.

West, you are an idol and inspiration to what can happen when you don't give up and keep striving to succeed.

Kanye West, you make real shit.

# Indie band deserves recognition with third release

The Spill Canvas demonstrates pure rock sound in new album

Sara Olson  
Staff Writer

Once upon a time, top 40 radio didn't dictate what good music was, and rock was still pure.

However, times have changed, and rock music must now be accompanied by the word "pop" in order to climb the charts.

For this reason, rock bands unwilling to compromise and adapt to radio standards often go unnoticed.

The Spill Canvas is one such band.

The Spill Canvas, an indie band out of Sioux Falls, S.D., recently released their third album, "No Really, I'm Fine." Although limited in its release, the album was much anticipated by loyal fans, expecting yet another album consistently good from the first to last track.

The Spill Canvas's first album, "Sunsets and Car Crashes," put the band's writing on display, as lead singer, Nick Thomas, sang each



www.111records.com/Courtesy Photo

The Spill Canvas, consisting of Nick Thomas, Dan Ludeman, Landon Heil, and Joe Beck, released their album, "No Really, I'm Fine," on Oct. 3. This was the bands third album.

lyric as if telling a story. Although each melody managed to stay in listeners' heads, the lyrics were what kept people listening to the tracks over and over.

Songs such as "The Tide" epitomized the band's deep emotional writing, making the six-minute song feel more like three.

In their second album, "One Fell Swoop," the tunes became more snappy and upbeat, but maintained an honest rock vibe.

With the third album, one only could hope that The Spill Canvas managed to combine their two strengths and produce an album even better than the first two.

Fans will not be disappointed

with "No Really, I'm Fine," as The Spill Canvas perfects their art and succeeds in staying true to their style of rock.

Each song contains the characteristic heartfelt lyrics and emotional vocals from Thomas.

The first song on the album, "Reckless Abandonment," is quite reminiscent of the band's first

two albums, particularly "One Fell Swoop."

However, the combination of all the tracks on the album bring just enough new material, while still maintaining the sound that fans have grown to love.

The first single, "Hush Hush," contains the necessary beat to captivate listeners, enticing them to listen to the rest of the CD.

The band finishes the album with "Lullaby," a love song that every girl will wish their boyfriends sang to them.

With lyrics such as "If you need anything, just the say the word; I mean anything, rest assured. If you start to doze, then I'll tuck you in; plant my lips where your necklace is close," the song will be replayed on car stereos countless times over.

With "No Really, I'm Fine," The Spill Canvas makes its third bid to gain recognition across the country without conforming to generic pop music.

However, in a place called the kingdom of rock, The Spill Canvas has earned the right to live happily ever after.

"No Really, I'm Fine" can be found on iTunes or at Best Buy.

## 'We Own the Night' brings new flare to crime-drama

*New star-studded movie takes typical story line, brings heart-stopping action to screen*

**Randy Wohlhueter**  
Staff Writer

Drugs, cops, shootings, and an intense car chase are just a small taste of what this crime drama brings to the table.

"We Own The Night," directed by James Gray, tells the story of two brothers who are on different sides of the spectrum and must overcome their differences to slow the drug trafficking in New York City.

The story follows decorated Brooklyn police officers Joseph and Burt Grusinsky, a father and son team, played by Robert Duvall and Mark Wahlberg, who approach Bobby Green, played by Joaquin Phoenix, a manager of a Russian owned nightclub that has been known for being a base of many of the drug operations within the city.

They ask Bobby to help them take down the Russian drug dealers in the club, and he is some what torn on the issue because Bobby Green is not exactly Bobby Green.

His real name is Bobby Grusinsky, the other son and brother to Joseph and Burt. Bobby is looked upon as the black sheep. He is a member of the family, but the family does not look kindly to his lifestyle.

After the police raid Bobby's nightclub, and he has some uneasy altercations with his brother Joseph, he begins to turn toward the police to help them try and take down the Russian drug traffickers. The once well-known club manager and

connoisseur of drugs and drinking has turned his back to his nightclub patrons and takes the side of the police.

The overall theme to this movie is very similar to past crime style movies. There is a family or close group of friends, one is in favor of one side, and the other in favor of another, or is on the fence about both issues.

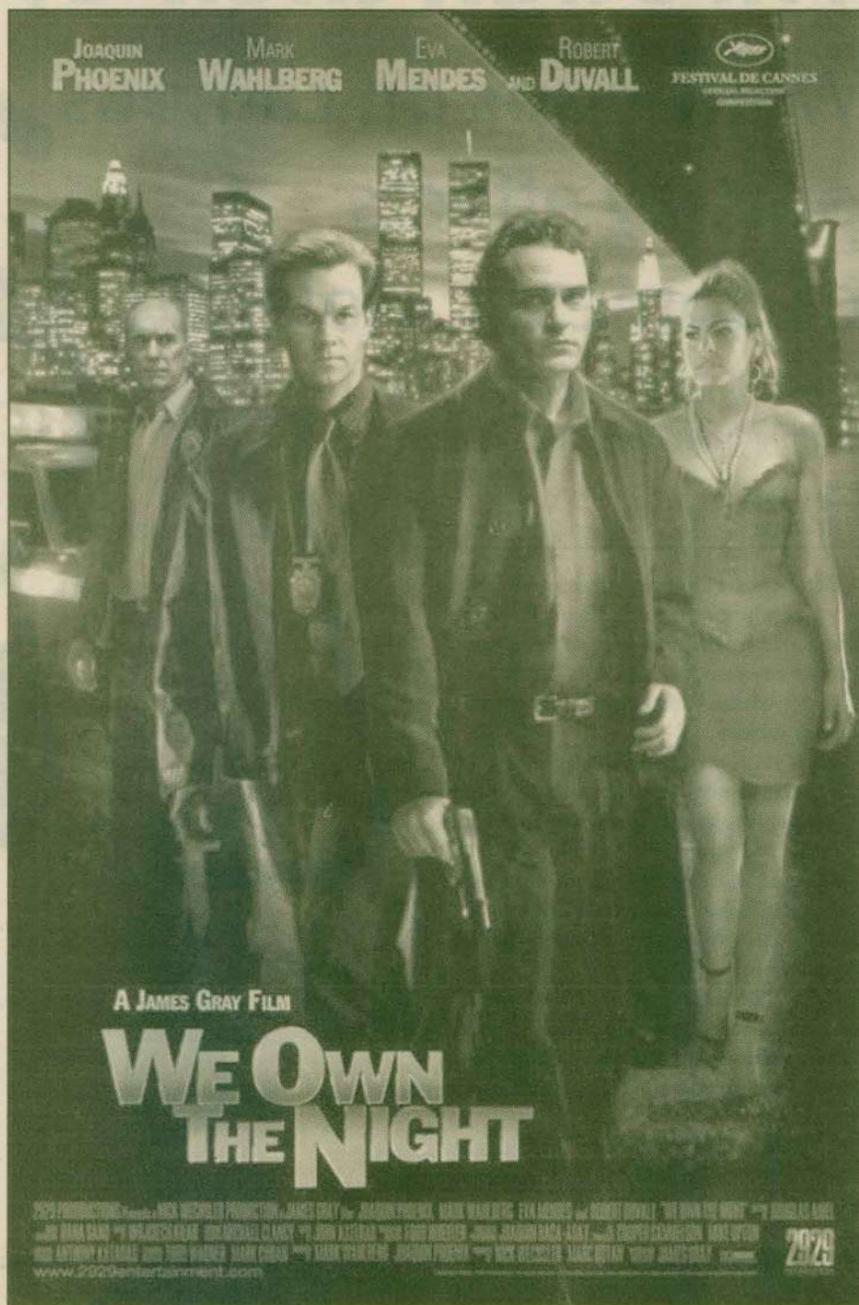
Nevertheless, there are plenty of new and creative elements to this film that help to make it stand out amongst its predecessors. The idea for the car chase that is quite unique is the fact that you only see the chase from one vehicles perspective.

There is no back and forth between the good and bad cars involved. This is a creative style that Gray successfully implemented in his film to give it a stand out appeal.

All in all, this is a solid and well-developed crime drama movie. "We Own The Night" is loaded with big Hollywood icons and that only adds to the overall quality of the film. This is a good drama movie with a handful of twists and turns that will keep you alert and focused the entire show time.

*"We Own the Night' is loaded with big Hollywood icons, and that only adds to the overall quality of the film."*

Right: "We Own the Night" stars, from left, Robert Duvall, Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix, and Eva Mendes. The much anticipated film blasted onto the big screen on Oct. 12.



www.vizyonmax.com/Courtesy Photo

## Halloween events scheduled for campus, community

*Campus hosts Psycho's Eve this Halloween*

**William Brown**  
Staff Writer

Halloween is known by students at Green River Community College (GRCC) as a day for kids to go trick or treating.

However, the highlights of this holiday do not end there, as activities celebrating this holiday continue for GRCC students of all ages.

"Psycho's Eve," the holiday fiesta that will be displayed at GRCC, will open its doors on Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. with the show starting at 6:30 p.m.

It is best to get tickets early to guarantee a spot at this years Halloween school party.

The price of tickets are \$8 at the door.

Dressing up in a costume is a way to get \$3 knocked off the \$8 admission, and it will add to the meaning of the evening.

It will be held in the Lindbloom Student Center, with the assistance of campus radio station KGRG.

There will be four bands, Devilwalk, Hard Money Saints,

Season of Nightmares, and Dead Vampires performing.

The theme music of the night is psychobilly, the type of music that must be seen rather than just heard in order to get a feel for the rock sensation.

Also with DJ-X doing his performance at the show, it truly will be a night to remember for all who attend.

"It's going to be totally new," Shaya Fox, the student in charge of putting this show together, said.

However, most students on campus said that they are spending Halloween doing "nothing" or work.

There are more to Halloween events around the area for all ages than some might think, however.

In the city of Auburn, there is going to be a Halloween Harvest Festival. Some of the excitement involves games, crafts, face painting, scary cookies, caldrons of punch, and trick or treating.

It will be held at Washington Elementary. Admission to the event is free.

Wild Waves and Enchanted

Village are being opened on Friday, Oct. 26, Saturday, Oct. 27 from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., and on Oct. 29 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m..

They are having activities such as a magic show, live performances with large area names such as Telemus the Magician and Bloodsquad Presents the Improv Team Slashers ready to display their acting talents.

The students who have children do not need worry, because there are Halloween parties for children too.

Kent Parks Halloween Party is one that is designed for children from the age of two and older.

The Kube 93 Haunted House will start at noon and end at 3 p.m. on Oct. 27-31 for children and adults.

On Halloween, it would be odd to skip trick-or-treating, or "Trick or Truck," the show that will be put on by the Maple Valley Community Center on Oct. 31.

Various semi trucks, or "rigs," will be available for all ages to tour and check out.

There will be a spaghetti dinner, but pre-registration is required.

### Halloween events

- *Psycho's Eve* - Oct. 26, 6 p.m.; Lindbloom Student Center.
- *Halloween Harvest Festival* - Oct. 27, Washington Elementary.
- *Fright Fest at Enchanted Village* - Oct. 26, 27, 5 p.m.-11 p.m.; Oct. 29, 5 p.m.-9 p.m.
- *Kube 93 Haunted House* - Oct. 27-31.
- *Trick or Truck* - Oct. 31; Maple Valley Community Center.

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# Through their eyes

## Workshops on campus portray effects of domestic violence

*YWCA provides resources to aid healing from domestic violence*

**Amy Lipko**  
Staff Writer

October is national domestic violence awareness month and through some interactive male and female programs offered on campus, students have been able to educate themselves about this volatile subject.

The YWCA presented "In Her Shoes," an interactive simulation seminar that allowed participants to understand a woman living in an abusive situation.

It seems easy to ask, "Why wouldn't she just leave?" but through educating the public, the YWCA provides a simplistic explanation.

Celia Forrest, director of domestic violence services at the YWCA, said, "There's always something not always very good about all the choices people have to make."

A grant provided by the Washington State Coalition against domestic violence has allowed the YWCA to develop a stronger children's program.

The program, as explained in "Through Their Eyes: Domestic Violence and Its Impact on Children," is dedicated to helping children in these situations be able to "understand and heal from the effects of witnessing domestic violence."

Forrest said, "The YWCA is a social service agency, private, non-profit, non-religious, non-faith based organization that provides housing, domestic violence services, child care, youth leadership, and a lot of different services for the people who really need the basics."

But the YWCA is more than just a communal outreach program. It's a place full of people who put their heart into their work.

Josephine Karanja, a community advocate at the YWCA said, "I believe in the cause. For women to get out of abuse takes a lot of courage. I want to be there, to tell them that I believe in them."

GRCC students also have an ally of the heart in Paul Mueller, educational planner at GRCC.

"I work with numerous people from numerous walks of life, and if I can gather an inkling of understanding of what they've possibly gone through, then hopefully I can be a better advisor," Mueller said.

Another unique and educational seminar offered this month to students was a Men's Violence Prevention workshop, hosted by Todd Denny, author of "Unexpected Allies: Men Who Stop Rape."

Denny, who volunteered while an undergraduate at Safe Place, a rape relief and domestic violence shelter, was inspired to begin his unique program and book by what he saw there.

"I was stunned and surprised," Denny said. "It moved beyond abstract numbers, no faces and generic statistics."

For twenty years, Denny has been working to educate men and women to stop the violence.

"I believe that telling is in teaching,"



Amy Lipko/Staff Photo

This illustration was drawn by a child and is featured on the cover of the YWCA's publication on how to help children who are victims of domestic violence. The YWCA offers several domestic violence services and can be reached at (425) 226-1266.

Denny said.

Through his interactive, non-lecture type teaching, Denny was able to reach out to the men of GRCC.

One of his most powerful messages is giving men the tools to stop domestic and sexual violence when they encounter it.

"If we engage men and position them as leaders in stopping domestic violence and sexual violence, they will respond enthusiastically," Denny said.

Looking at what factors can contribute to domestic and sexual violence to educate men further only is part of the foundation.

The attendees also obtained means to handle a potentially dangerous situation.

When faced with a peer who demonstrates unacceptable behavior, many don't know what to do.

But Denny walked through different examples of engaging that peer and helping to diffuse the situation, or avoid one altogether.

Domestic violence still is a common and disturbing issue plaguing our society, but through education and awareness, we all can hold the keys to stopping it.

Women's Programs is located on the second floor of the Lindbloom Student Center, Room 230. It can be reached at (253) 833-9111, ext. 2547.

### Take action against domestic violence

- Give time or money to a local domestic violence agency.
- Support laws that address domestic violence.
- Teach children to be nonviolent.
- Encourage schools to talk about domestic violence in classes.
- Organize an educational event about domestic violence in your faith, work, or community group.
- Display domestic violence brochures in private places such as women's restrooms.
- Challenge violent behavior and language.
- Ask your doctor to talk to patients about domestic violence.

\*Information received from King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (253-568-5454).