

The Current

Green River Community College



Intensity hits Green River men's basketball

Four childhood friends travel across the country to play ball for Green River.

Sports page 16

November 13, 2012 | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GREENRIVERCURRENT

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 3

Technology dependency: Disconnecting the connected

Pages 8 and 9

CAMPUS page 2

**Ministry of Madness:
Attack of the
Rabbit Dragon**

Improv group brings skill and humor to the college's campus.

A&E page 7

**Bitten by the
acting bug**

Passion, art, drama: Inside the life of student actor Brandon Haddix.

OP-ED page 11

**Adjunct
educators
need full-time
respect**

Part-time teachers are not treated as equals in comparison to full-time

NEWS page 12

**Green River
faculty and a
student fall
victim to thefts**

Mr. Fred Creek stresses that maintaining a safe campus is a collective effort.



Jeremy Siregar | The Current

The Ministry of Madness pretend to be dead in one of their improvised acts.

Ministry of Madness: Attack of the Rabbit Dragon

The group takes a different approach in order to honor National Writing Month by collaboratively creating a chain-linked story

By: Rachel Sant
Senior Writer

Imagine what it would be like to go to a production that consists of no planning whatsoever. There are no props, no costumes, and no scripts; just the audience and the actors on stage. Green River's Ministry of Madness is a group dedicated to improv. The audience determines what that show will be about, using just a few words or maybe an idea, leaving the outcome of the show to the actors' imagination.

"It's live entertainment and it's different every time," said Jedd Bingham, the Ministry's founder. "The same person could come to every improv show and see a different thing every single time."

The Ministry of Madness is currently engaged in a continuing story called Attack of the Rabbit Dragons. This series developed in honor of National Novel Writing Month. Participants take on the challenge to write a 50,000 word novel by end of november, based on their own ideas. However, rather than writing a novel out,

the Ministry has taken a different approach during this annual event. Rather than having each member write a novel of their own, the Ministry decided to act out a continuing story, using their game "Typewriter."

"We do have a lot of games that involve a story," said Amanda Olsen, the Ministry member who is in charge of filming the story. "[But] we thought that it would be appropriate for a NaNoWriMo to have a story where we actually actively pretend to write."

The story is told by a combination of an author, an editor, and three actors (or more if needed). The author starts off by getting the title of their book from a member of the audience. Then, they make up a story using that title. However, as the story is told, the editor is allowed to intervene at any moment and change the story. This makes both the writer and the actors have to adapt to that alteration, adding to the entertaining unpredictability of the entire performance.

"The editor just gets to mess with everyone in a

really fun way that makes the audience love what's going on," says Bingham. "Because just watching the author is really boring, so the author-editor interaction, and messing with the actors; that's what makes the game fun to watch."

Attack of the Rabbit Dragons debuted with its first chapter, "Blue Diamonds," which came to be the name of the main character as well. Blue Diamonds was a young Native American girl living in the colonial era, when she was attacked by creatures called rabbit dragons. These beasts, featuring large wings, bunny ears and massive tails, swooped down upon her leaving her with no choice other than to use her flamethrower to defend herself. However, finding a weak spot on the dragons proves to be quite a challenge and she only manages to injure one.

RIGHT: Members of the Ministry of Madness play an acting game for improv practice.

But then the plot takes a twist: the dragon reveals that he is the father of Blue Diamonds, leaving the audience with a cliffhanger as the chapter ends.

"I feel like we did well for the first chapter," said Olsen. "The challenge is not advancing the story too far and keeping in mind that these are chapters instead of a whole story, which is

what we are used to doing in Typewriter."

The story is bound to change again due to the variance in author and editor with every chapter. If all goes as planned, the Ministry is hoping to fill each chapter and put it together after it is completed at the end of the month. Rehearsals occur on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and

Thursdays between 12:00-1:00pm in the theatre of the Performing Arts Center. Students are welcome to drop in and see the story in progress.

"We love having an audience and we have the theatre for an hour," said Bingham. "So please, come sit and watch us perform because every rehearsal is a performance."



Jeremy Siregar | The Current

FEATURE

Tutoring center: the way students ensure success

Through the eyes of tutors, students could be utilizing much more of the services available through the center

By: Ellice Estrada &
Shane Lange
Campus/News Editors

Hundreds of students filter in and out of the Holman Library every day. Amidst the constant array of chatter, the click of keyboards, and the turning of pages, Randy Howell waits patiently for a student in need of assistance. As a psychology tutor, Howell finds that idle time occupies a large portion of his day.

"I love helping the students, but I don't get as many students as the others. I average one student a day. Today, I've had none," Howell said.

Although the tutoring center has received over 10,000 visits this quarter, there are still very many students who are unaware of what the tutoring center has to offer. Rather than

scrambling to schedule appointments around professors' office hours, students can find the convenience of readily available tutors all throughout the day.

"Our goal is to give students the resources they need to be successful," said Kathy Andersen, director of the tutoring resource center.

Andersen finds that the academic success of students who regularly visit the tutoring center is greatly improved. Moreover, the benefits of the center do not stop at those being tutored. Most of the paid tutors are currently enrolled in classes at Green River and can use the money to help pay for tuition. At the end of the day, everybody wins.

"The more students utilize their resources, the more of a chance they have at being successful," Andersen



Dominic Yoxtheimer | *The Current*

Students work with tutors in the upper level of the Holman Library. The tutoring center is located in the far left corner, adjacent to the reference desk.

expressed.

Tutors recognize that a student's studies can become very overwhelming, especially at the time of exams. Tutors are very patient and encouraging with those who

come to the center, allowing a strong learning environment to flourish.

"We want [the tutoring center] to be a welcoming environment, somewhere [students] feel that they can

come to and not be judged," said Andersen.

When students arrive at the tutoring center, they are inspired by the passion tutors have. Howell, who is a volunteer, portrays that pas-

sion well.

Hundreds of students stream in and out of the library each day. Though Howell may only help one, that one student is all it takes to keep this passion alive.



Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest | WE'RE HERE.

You may qualify if you make
less than \$13.45/hour
(or less than \$28,000/year)



Call for eligibility in Washington's *Take Charge* program.

800.230.PLAN (7526)

Walk-ins welcome during regular business hours.

©2012 Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest.

www.ppgnw.org

KGRG hosts pledge drive

Green River's radio station strives to boost funds

By: Amelia Lim
Staff Writer

Green River's radio station, KGRG, held their semi-annual pledge drive from Oct. 26 to Nov. 12.

The station set up booths on campus where they handed out merchandise in exchange for donations.

Despite being a school funded non-profit organization, KGRG is responsible for raising a portion their funds.

Proceeds are contributed towards station expenses in order to maintain the high quality of their program.

"Many students can seamlessly transmit to the professional radio world through skills and experiences learned here," said Keith Bolender, the assistant program director.

Donations also help KGRG achieve their main goals. These include supporting local bands, hosting concerts, and holding

other community events.

There were some fun incentives for both members and donors. If the goal of \$3,000 was met by the end of the drive, Tom Krause, general manager of KGRG, agreed to get an outlandish haircut. Upon meeting \$5,000, Krause would have to get a tattoo.

Even though the pledge drive is over, you can still donate online, by mail, or in person. For more information, visit www.kgrg.com.



be the first to know

thecurrentonline.net

Teacher Spotlight: Robin Blais

Position: Physical Education Instructor
Time as a yoga instructor: 8 years

What is it about yoga that drew your attention?

I actually had a fairly serious back injury, probably from competitive bike racing. I was willing to do just about anything except surgery. I was willing to do anything except for drastic measures, so I started doing yoga because I was trying to fix my back. Then, when I got here, I thought, 'why don't we have a yoga program?' So, it was one of those perfect storms. I had been introduced to it, and it was getting really really popular in mainstream America. We didn't have yoga, and I thought this was silly.

In what ways is yoga different from a standard PE class?

If you just look at the physical part of it, how is yoga different than weight training? Or, something like that. For one thing, yoga is what they call functional exercise. So, instead of sitting, you're actually moving your body weight through space, you're balancing, you're using coordination.

Whenever you challenge those systems, they get stronger. You can have somebody who is incredibly strong when they're lying flat on their back pressing a bar bell. If you take them up and make them balance, then, all-of-a-sudden they're a complete basket case.

How did you learn about all the techniques to help different areas of your body?

If you have a basic knowledge of anatomy, it's easier to answer those questions, 'how do I stretch this muscle?'

I have a couple different certifications and that always helps. Then, you kind of become a lifelong student. For me, this is a class that is kind of



Michelle Spencer | The Current

After class, Blais performs one-foot bound pigeon pose to lengthen the spine.

personal. So, I am always reading and I am always taking classes.

I've written up a new yoga sequence almost every time we've had class for the last eight or nine years. It would be so much easier for me just to recycle the students would never know if it was the same one we did week number three, two years ago. I don't do that, partially because I would be bored. I'm always thinking 'oh that would be cool, we could do this!' And then, in the middle of class, I'll end up abandoning my plan saying 'lets do this!' It makes it interesting for me.

In what ways has your career choice influenced your life?

I get to work out almost too much. It's kind of funny because I was already really active, and I have an active job. So, it makes overtraining almost more of a problem.

I have sedentary friends who race bikes, and they are working and resting all day and then they go out and race bikes and I'm on my feet for the most of the day. Then, I go and do my own workout.

So, in some ways, I have to kind of make sure I don't over do it. I think, for the most part, it supports the

kinds of things that I'm interested in.

I get to work with people who know a lot about the things that I love and learn more about it. It's really rewarding to have students kind of discover that they do enjoy being active, when maybe they've had some really negative experiences (in high school PE in particular). People will say 'oh my god, it was just terrible, and this is so much fun.' In the walking fitness class, we go out and just play on the trails, and they're like 'oh, maybe I kind of like hiking, and it's not so bad to sweat.' So, that part's really nice.

What do you like about teaching your walking fitness class?

There are different people teaching it. So, of course we all teach it in our own way.

That's one of the nice things about academics; you have a lot of autonomy and kind of make it your own personal thing. I get out there, and no matter how crappy the weather is, I would much rather do something that is challenging and pretty. Everyone's chatting, and pretty soon you're done even though it was raining.

So, my classes are actually kind of more like hiking

than walking.

What are some of your favorite parts about being a yoga instructor?

I think it's really nice if you can create an atmosphere where people are having fun; I would like to turn people onto yoga. I don't try to take it too seriously. One of the nice things about yoga is that yoga is about acceptance and compassion, and there are a lot of these mind and spiritual things that you get out of it beyond just the physical.

It's nice if you can have atmosphere where it's acceptable for people to challenge themselves, and it's fun to have an atmosphere where everybody is comfortable.

If you're really doing yoga, then you're really concerned with acceptance. You're not looking around the room and judging people, and you're not being competitive. That's probably one of the more difficult things for people, but it's also one of the more rewarding aspects of it.

You have a lot of competition and judgment in everyday life, and a lot of stress. It's just a way to let that go. It's like a little vacation from the rest of your day.

Man on Street



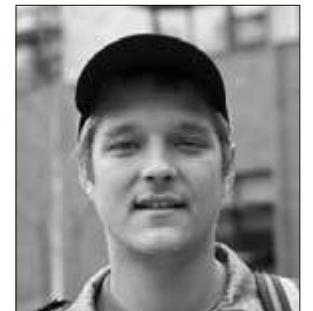
How do you relieve stress during midterms?

I go to McDonald's and buy a chocolate milk shake. I used to go to Subway a lot, but McDonald's is cheaper.



Hookisot Singh

I am usually calm, but if I have to relieve stress I would probably play guitar. I have found that a classic jazz ballad always calms me down after a long day.



Thomas Arbough

I am prepared for my tests this week. If you are in a stressful environment, it won't do you any good. No one thinks straight when they are stressed out. You can't stress out when you are prepared.



Sheharyar Khan

I don't worry about tests. I study what I need to now and then. I take the test; it's that simple. Only those that are not ready for the test are stressed out.



Yueer Pan

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

Stay Current

Stay in touch with the community by following The Current on Facebook and Twitter:
www.facebook.com/greenrivercurrent
www.twitter.com/thecurrentnet

Also on the Inside

"Although the tutoring center has received over 10,000 visits this quarter, there are still very many students who are unaware of what the tutoring center has to offer."

Shane Lange & Ellice Estrada Page 3

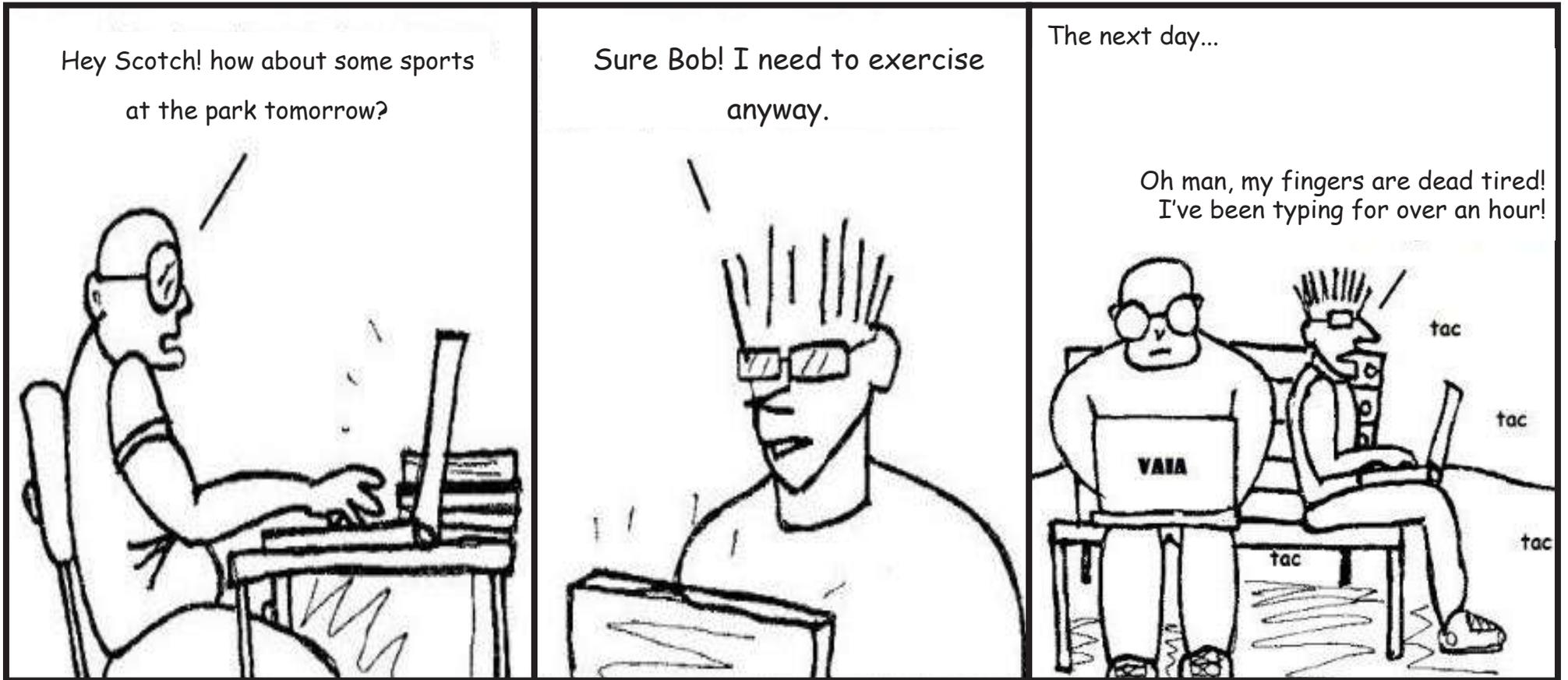
A&E

A&E Editor: Jeremy Siregar
ae.editor@mail.greenriver.edu

5

Nov 13,
2012

Bob & Scotch



Comic by: Marvin Jahya

Green River's 'got talent!'

CLEO seeks to promote students' talents

By: Jeremy Siregar
A&E Editor

Twenty years ago, Green River conducted a talent show for their students. In the month of May, 2013, Green River will attempt to conduct another talent show called Green River's Got Talent.

Samuel Huang, a member of CLEO, is the current coordinator for Green River's Got Talent.

Huang has been planning for the talent show since the year 2012. He knows that there are many students with hidden talents. Culture, Huang believes, plays a significant role as the reason why many of these talents have been undetected for so long.

"For example, I'm Chinese and I have always been taught not to boast. If we have something that we can do well, we should always be humble and not show it off. I want to give these people who are humble and maybe shy an excuse

to present their talents," Huang explained in the interview.

Originally, the talent show was scheduled to take place in the month of November, 2012. However, Huang made a decision to move the talent show to May, 2013. This decision was made to re-adjust the event with students' schedules.

Fall quarter is one of the busiest periods of the year for students. This is so for two reasons. The first is because it is the period where many second year students apply for universities. Secondly, there are already many events occurring in the fall. This fall 2012, students of Green River had the chance to participate in a Zombie Halloween Party, Laser Tag, and Dia de los Muertos. Still to come this fall are the Leavenworth Trip and Whistler Ski Trip. Huang didn't want to take too much of the student's time by putting the talent show in the same quarter.

The audition for the

talent show is conducted online. Students who are interested in participating will record their performance and upload them to Youtube or any other video sharing website. Later, their videos will be evaluated by the judges. With the talent show being moved to May, 2013, the audition is still open and will stay open until May, 2013.

Huang decided that the audition is conducted online because the four judges do not have the opportunity to meet and evaluate the audition. The judges for the talent show are professional campus instructors from the music, drama, communication and dance department.

Huang believes that the judges' diverse specialties will give the students fair evaluation of every talent; whether it be a play or a musical performance.

Huang hopes that the talent show will shine a light on the hidden talents of Green River students.

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
LYNNWOOD • DES MOINES • ELLENSBURG

Offering an affordable option for education, the College of Business provides a quality undergraduate experience that is thoroughly grounded in the practical and ethical aspects of business. **Outstanding business programs are available in accounting, supply chain management, sport business, and others.**

For more information scan the QR code or go to:
www.cwu.edu/business/transfer



NOW ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FROM TRANSFER STUDENTS

QUALITY • OPPORTUNITY • VALUE



CWU

Central
Washington
University

LEARN. DO. LIVE.

AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation: CDS@cwu.edu



The Best Business
Schools in the World

MOVIE REVIEW

Disney plays the game right with Wreck-It Ralph



By: Meghan Collins
Staff Writer

Disney and Pixar's highly anticipated animated movie *Wreck-It Ralph* has finally arrived. Director Rich Moore (*Simpsons* and *Futurama*) delivers humorous adventure, retro-gaming nostalgia and a focused storyline that both gamers and non-gamers of all ages can enjoy. This movie benefits from its 3D presentation that breathes energy into the video game characters and brings them to life.

Yielding a record-breaking \$49 million its opening weekend, executive producer John Lasseter gives high attention to detail, lessons on identity and morality and human touches to his newest Computer Generated Images animated film. The score, written by Henry Jackman, brings a youthful exuberance to the film which is shamefully hard to get out of your head.

Ralph (John Reilly) is a dopy, lumbering, 8-bit image bad guy who is tired of living the villain life and being overshadowed by Fix-It-Felix, Jr. (Jack McBrayer) who is the titular hero of their game. On the 30th anniversary of Fix-It-Felix, Jr. Ralph decided to prove that villains can also be heroes.

This sets Ralph on a game-hopping journey through the array of games in the arcade. The voyage is fast paced and is full of old school game references such as *Q-bert*, *Super Smash Bros.*, *Sonic the Hedgehog*, and *Pacman* just to name a few. Newer gamers will appreciate characters from *Metal Gear Solid*.

His journey takes Ralph to meet Vanellope von Schweetz (Sarah Silverman), a mouthy, candy-go-kart driving girl that he soon pairs with. As underdogs, the two set out to accomplish their goals.

Although predictable, the characterization of Ralph and the friendship



Courtesy Photo | womensenews.org

Ralph and Vanellope von Schweetz's relationship is key as they brave the arcade world.

he develops with Vanellope makes the film touching. Silverman's performance was what carried this film with her sugary name calling and snappy bubble gum comebacks. The bantering between Vanellope and Ralph was, although endearing, overdone. There were however some smartly written scenes, such as the

the Bad-Anon meeting. As a gamer, there were many fondly recognizable characters, but the movie missed a great opportunity to work with the "hidden world of gaming" that was promised by the advertising. It is actually more of a background story than it is a feature. However, the movie's plot succeeded.

Through smart writing, lovable animation and great vocalization work, *Wreck It Ralph* atoned for its shortcomings. Whether this film has enough merit to enter the Walt Disney vaults is yet to be determined. Children in the theatre did seem to enjoy this Disney innovation. The relationship between

the two misfits is well worth the time as it will leave you with the yearning for a local video arcade and a pocket full of quarters.

Rated: PG
Director: Rich Moore
Starring: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman

Concert Calendar

Nov 15	Red Hot Chili Peppers @ Key Arena (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$39.50-\$59.50)
	I Fight Dragons @ El Corazon (Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$12-\$14)
16	Richard Marx @ The Neptune (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$30-\$32)
	Pierce The Veil @ El Corazon (Doors open at 7:15 p.m. all ages, \$17)
18	Alice Cooper @ Emerald Queen Casino (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$35-\$70)
20	Asking Alexandria @ Showbox Sodo (Doors open at 5 p.m. all ages, \$28-\$30)
21	Woe, Is Me @ El Corazon (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$13.50-\$15)
27	Killswitch Engage @ Studio Seven (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$20-\$25)

The Current Picks

WEBSITE/APP

Cracked.com



By: Shane Lange

With articles like *Seven True Stories of Animals Rescuing People from Certain Death* or *The Four Most Impressively Weird Sex-Lives of U.S. Presidents*, Cracked provides humorous stories about things you never needed to know.

Spawning from a humble publication, it has grown to be the world's most visited humor site with over 300 million visits a month.

Cracked has understandably been labeled "addictive" and "well informed." You'll find yourself laughing at the hilarious truths. So, if you're looking for some laughs, or a way to put on your homework, check out cracked.com.

MOVIE

John Q



By: Dylan Whitcher

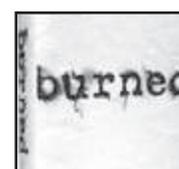
Denzel Washington plays John Quincy, a struggling father who will stop at nothing to support his family.

Quincy's son, Michael, finds himself in a dire situation: he needs a heart transplant in order to survive. When the family is notified that they are on the wrong end of the wait list, Quincy takes matters into his own hands by holding the entire emergency room hostage.

Washington gives another stellar performance as he blurs the line between right and wrong with a conclusion that will leave you heartbroken.

BOOK

Burned



By: Meghan Collins

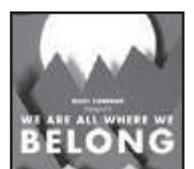
Burned is a heartbreaking coming of age story that starts out with Pattyn struggling to understand the world she has readily accepted for so long.

When she begins to question a woman's role, sex, and her religion, it is just the excuse her parents need to send her away to live at her aunt's house. The author, Ellen Hopkins brings the story to life from one dark exhilarating detail to the next with her poem style writing in many various forms.

Fall in love with the characters as this book takes you through one girl's pursuit for a better life, and an unanticipated ending you won't be able to forget.

MUSIC

We Are All Where We Belong



By: Benjamin Biernacki

Taylor Muse, the frontman of Quiet Company, describes his crisis of faith in the group's latest album. He may have lost confidence in religion, but he does not write the typical bitter ranting. The music is joyous, with a simple message that is echoed in the album's title: *We Are All Where We Belong*.

The band utilizes the typical instruments of an indie group, while adding flavor with a trombone and choir. However, the true star is Muse and his vocals paired with inspiring lyrics.

If you are after an album to lift your spirits, look no further.

FEATURE



Jeremy Siregar | The Current

A performance by Ministry of Madness during their practice session.

Bitten by the acting bug

Behind the curtains, Brandon Haddix expresses his adoration for acting

By: Michelle Spencer
Photography Editor

As a young boy in Rainier middle school, Brandon Haddix discovered his true passion for acting when he was asked to try out for the school play by his acting teacher. At that time he never knew this would play such a crucial role in his future. Now a full time Green River student, Haddix has continued his involvement with acting and developed his passion on a much larger scale.

"I think what I love about acting is the idea that you can be free to be somebody else. When you play a character, you want to live their life and act them out truthfully," Haddix said. "Portraying somebody and becoming somebody else is something that's not only an expression of emotion, but is putting a director or a writer's art into play. I love being a part of that."

Haddix has had plenty of time on stage doing plays. Now, he's looking for more of a challenge; improv to be exact, so he participates in the workshops with The Ministry of Madness, Green River's improv club.

Haddix explained, "I am in the transition to becoming part of the Ministry of Madness. I went there just to give it a shot, and I wound up really liking

improv. With improv it's completely different than a play, because with a play you have a script and you make up a character of the character that you're given. But with improv, you make up everything."

Although being an actor sounds like a dream, it is not always fun and games. Haddix has faced some struggles along the way, but instead of letting them get in the way of his goals, it helped shape his character.

Haddix expressed, "A lot of times when you do acting, you get called to do things that you're uncomfortable with as a normal person, whether that be removing articles of clothing in certain plays or doing dancing and singing for the first time.

"I was very uncomfortable with stuff like that when I first started, but I think through the uncomfortableness you become better. It helps you discover yourself, and helps you get over a lot of fears."

Looking back, Haddix has seen a lot of growth in himself as an actor. This development has allowed him to become more understanding and perceptive of the world around him. Ap-

preciation and respect for all plays no matter what his personal beliefs are regarding some of them.

"I think one of the biggest things I've learned through acting is coming to the understanding that even if a play is not something I agree with or even believe in, I still like doing it," Haddix explained. "It's an idea that is pushed into people, that's what art does, it takes an idea and it tries to portray it in a way people can understand. Whether or not I do or don't agree with it, I will still perform it because I think the char-

acters voice deserves to be heard. It's really fun for me to know that there's a passion, that there's a reason behind the script."

Acting is more than just an extracurricular for Haddix. It is something he plans on pursuing for the rest of his life. No matter what obstacles are thrown at him, he will never forget or forsake his love for the stage.

"I think once you fall in love with theatre you can't really get out of it and as long as theatres will be open I will try and act in them."



RIGHT: Brandon Haddix has attended green river for 2 years and has been working with the Ministry of Madness for 3 months

Jeremy Siregar | The Current

5 reasons to stay in on New Year's Eve



Nerd of the Night

Diandra Hassan

It's November and already New Year's Eve is rapidly approaching. Before the year ends, there are some long-awaited games that are essential to your daily dose of gaming.



1

Call of Duty: Black Ops 2

Call of Duty: Black Ops 2 will amaze you with more action and, not surprisingly, more zombies. The plot will take place in the near future, the year 2025. China and the U.S. are competing in a cold war for the rare and lucrative earth elements. War is imminent as Menendez, the main antagonist of the game, attempts to provoke the two countries into chaos.



2

Hitman: Absolution

More conspiracy and secrecy will be revealed in Hitman: Absolution as Agent 47, embarks on a journey to seek the truth. Things will be shadier as he confronts his agency, ICA. If you are a long-time Hitman player or just a fan of stealth games, this game should be on your must-have list.



3

Assassins Creed 3

Assassin's Creed 3 will bring you into the period of the American Revolution where you will experience battle in various settings: The dark streets of Boston, the crowded New York alleys, the snow-covered Appalachians and even on the high seas. The game will also leave you aghast at the realistic approach of the play and the various places you can explore.



4

Battlefield

Assassin's Creed 3 will bring you into the period of the American Revolution where you will experience battle in various settings: The dark streets of Boston, the crowded New York alleys, the snow-covered Appalachians and even on the high seas. The game will also leave you aghast at the realistic approach of the places you can explore.



5

Far Cry 3

Stranded and alone, players will find themselves stuck between a rock and a hard place as they struggle to survive the wrath of insane warlords and indigenous rebels. Players are stranded on a lawless island where bloodlust and dangers are horrifyingly unforgiving.

A loss in connection...

How being connected to everyone can disconnect you from everything else

By: Christin Peter
Staff Writer

Although he may have headphones on, Terry Thammawan is focusing hard on his studies, but it wasn't always this way for the ambitious communications student.

"I used to be a computer addict," admits Thammawan. "I used to be game obsessed. I used to be the kind of person who wakes up at six-o'clock in the morning and stays up until eleven at night on the computer."

Thammawan's story

is a common one. With Facebook, Twitter, email and texting allowing people to stay connected at all hours of the day, becoming a computer or phone addict is easy. Students may check their phones every five minutes and spend all of their waking hours on their devices.

All around campus, students stare blankly at laptop screens, are made deaf to the world by headphones and wander around with their eyes glued to

the screens of the latest iPhones. Modern electronics have changed the way we communicate, but can they also harm us?

Recent studies have shown that these electronic devices that have become so commonplace can have negative effects on our lives. Extended use has been shown to lead to depression, anxiety, sleep deprivation and even "phantom-vibration syndrome", a phenomenon where a person may feel his or

her phone vibrating when it is not.

Many students on campus report experiences with phantom-vibration syndrome and some even report texting-related accidents.

Zach Schilling, 18, a full-time student at Green River told of an incident where he tripped over his dog while texting, sending them both rolling down the stairs. The dog got injured and had to go to the veterinarian.

"It wasn't really my fault,"

says Schilling. "I didn't see [the dog]."

Another negative effect described by students is tired, weak eyes forcing users to bed earlier. Excessive use of these devices has reportedly led to weight loss and hindered some international students from progressing in their English-speaking skills.

Many people are unaware of not just the physical, but also the financial costs of this lifestyle. Several stu-

dents have a reduced rate as part of a family plan, or have parents that pay the bill.

As for those students who are like Thammawan, great amounts of Internet and device usage can prove to be costly. Time is the biggest cost, and money—whether it is spent on phone bills or online games—is second.

During his period of being "game obsessed", Thammawan

reported spending large amounts of money for special features on online games.

"I actually kind of regret it," he admits. "I don't know why I spent that much money when playing a game."

Many students report that texting and email have harmed their social skills because texting is easier than making a phone call, but oth-

ers say that these novelties have improved their social lives.

Based upon the students surveyed, a Green River student spends an average of just over three hours on the Internet each day, much less than one might expect. For many, schoolwork is considered to be of more importance than social media or text messages.

"I don't reply [to texts] if I don't

have time," says Yohanna Tania, a chemical engineering student here at Green River.

The most common use of the Internet by Green River students is for schoolwork, followed by watching movies and TV shows and then using social media.

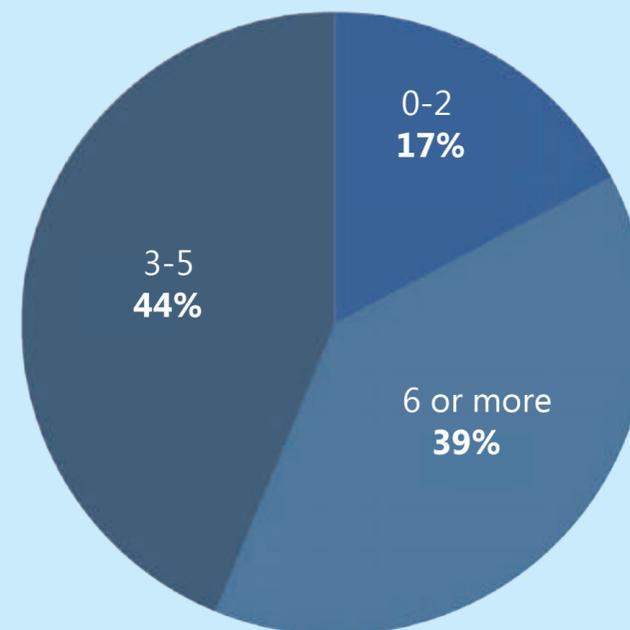
Surprisingly, many students on campus would be willing to give up the Internet and their devices. Some say

they could last without them for a few days while others are willing to give it up forever.

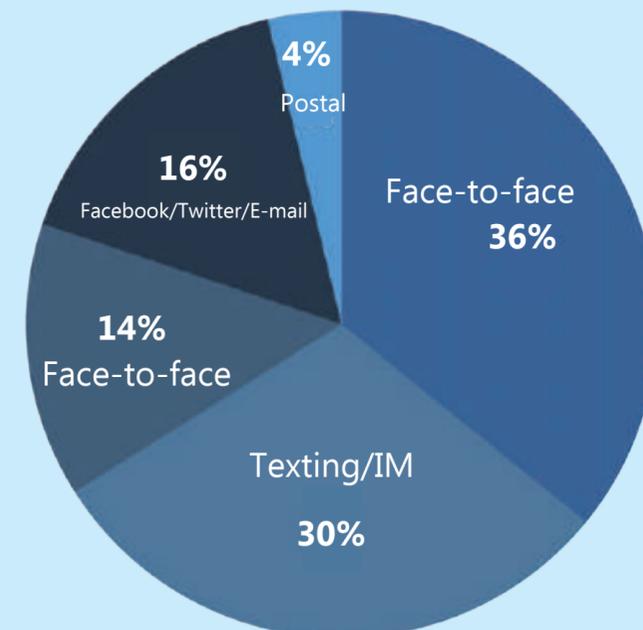
As for Terry Thammawan, he says that he would be willing to go without the Internet and electronic devices for a month.

"Now, I've become a person who is more about reading or practicing dancing or exercise," he says. "But I have to say, I would miss it."

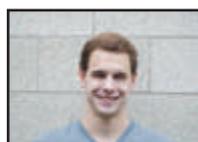
How many hours a day do you use a mobile electronic device?



How do you mainly communicate with your friends?



Staff

Dylan Whitcher
Editor-in-ChiefShane Lange
Managing Editor, Ad Manager
News EditorEllice Estrada
Campus EditorJeremy Siregar
Arts & Entertainment
EditorLogan Sychtysz
Op-Ed EditorThomas Peterson
Sports EditorMichelle Spencer
Photography EditorJohn Knowlton
Advisor

Assistant Editors:
Dominic Yoxtheimer
(Photography)
Benjamin Biernacki
(News)

Senior Writers:
Rachel Sant, Febby Mulia

Staff Writers:
Jonathan Sigrist, James Nguyen,
Meghan Collins, Christin Peter,
Diandra Hassan, Jérôme
Chevorlet

EDITORIAL

Holidays are not what they used to be

As time goes on, the importance of holidays begins to fade away as generations change

Editorial Board: Dylan Whitcher, Shane Lange, Ellice Estrada, Jeremy Siregar, Logan Sychtysz, Thomas Peterson, Michelle Spencer

Within America, the true importance of holidays seems to be fading away as our culture progresses over the years. Holidays are special days in which we can take a break from our lengthy everyday routines to stop and reflect upon the holiday currently taking place.

The true issue is that the meanings behind the holidays are slowly dying.

Today, time constraints fuel that uncaring attitude. It is no secret that as older generations are fading away, they are taking the importance and symbolic meaning of holidays with them.

If a person were to go up to a Vietnam veteran and ask them about the importance of Veteran's Day, one could expect a very heartfelt response as that individual can share their experiences and stories.

On the flip side, if one were to go ask a college student today about the same holiday, a response similar to "Veteran's Day is nice cause I can catch up on homework" is to be expected. The connection is lost.

Another issue is that holidays are being turned into shopping-spree days.

Shopping wise, we can hardly get through one holiday without having the next holiday already being advertised.

The classic example is the Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas trifecta.

Halloween comes and there are costumes and candy everywhere. Yet as soon as midnight hits on Halloween night, the costumes and candy are instantly on sale to make room for turkeys and stuffing for Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving will arrive and everyone is anxious and excited. Usually not for the idea of seeing family and relatives since, let's face it, we all have those relatives or family members we dread seeing, but instead because of events such as Black Friday.

Thanksgiving has become a fuel-up day. You eat and sleep to build up enough energy to make it through the next 48 hours that you will be shopping while on a coffee high.

As soon as Thanksgiving is over you might as well prepare for the non-stop Christmas music at every station.

All of this hectic crazy

shopping and frenzy spending comes down to Christmas. A holiday that has developed into a time where most people disappear into their homes to hibernate with their new presents and toys.

There is no meaning to these holidays anymore. We, the people, need to change how we look at these days.

Days such as Independence Day, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day should never fade away. Our ancestors fought for freedom and independence to allow us to be where we are today.

Imagine if they could see us in our time now. What would they think as someone walks up and says, "Happy Independence Day! Here is a coupon for your next purchase."

If we don't change, then prepare to watch holidays disappear as they become mere moments in a year dominated by shopping and partying.

Decades from now when your grandchildren ask what a holiday is, you will probably have to Google it since holidays will long be forgotten for their true meanings.

Editorial Policy

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

Theft Policy

A person commits the offense of publication theft when he or she willfully or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over more than three copies of The Current that is distributed on campus (with the intent to prevent other individuals from reading that edition of the publication). A "publication" includes any periodical that is distributed on a complimentary or compensatory basis. In addition to the imposition of other campus disciplinary penalties, a person who violates this provision is

responsible for compensating the publication for all reasonable costs incurred, including, where appropriate, the refund of advertising fees.

Letters to the Editor

The Current encourages all its readers to be involved and will publish letters. Anonymous letters are not accepted and the editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become property of The Current. Send letters to thecurrent@greenriver.edu.

Dylan's Letter

A message from the EIC

The Chief
Dylan Whitcher

Finally it is over.

The hypocritical ads telling you who to vote for and why. The madness is finished, we know who will be leading our country for the next four years and the American people (myself included) can all take a collective sigh, knowing we don't have to see these ridiculous ads for another four years.

But one good thing did come from these ads, our state took huge strides forward. From now on in the state of Washington, along with Maine and Maryland, same-sex couples can legally get married.

It has been an ugly battle, but a battle that needed to be won and now, finally it has been.

While you may not agree with gay marriage, we still have no right to criticize same-sex couples who choose to get married. It is now their legal right to get married and that is great.

Let's get one thing straight, and before I say anything further, I am comfortable letting people know that I am for gay marriage and voted to approve the bill on my ballot.

Let's settle one thing once and for all. Being homosexual is not a choice, at least not in my opinion. Who would choose to be constantly ridiculed and harassed for something they have no control of?

No one.

For religious people who say those who are homosexual will burn in hell for all eternity are just as hypocritical as those crazy presidential ads.

Why on earth would God allow for homosexuality to exist if those people were to be automatically

damned for all eternity? It just simply does not make sense.

But from now on, the moronic question on if being homosexual is a choice or not is irrelevant. All that matters is that in this state along with others, gays and lesbians alike can now become happily married.

Along with Washington, Maryland and Maine, Minnesota voters rejected a constitutional ban on gay marriage. While gay marriage is not legal in all 50 states I am still extremely proud to see that this great nation is making progress and that is something to be proud of.

In a world filled with hate and discrimination it feels good to be proud of something and it's a rare feeling these days.

The battle may have been won, but the war is far from over. People on a regular basis (myself included) have dropped the term "that's gay" over and over again. It needs to stop.

While it can never be illegal to use the phrase, we need to bring awareness to the term. A homosexual friend of mine who will remain nameless recently told me, "Someone said to me at work, 'It's so gay that I have to work late.'"

My friend responded beautifully, saying "Yes because us gay people just love to work late."

While the term "that's gay" may not be eliminated in our vocabulary in the foreseeable future, it's still positive to see how far we have come as a nation.

"I'm proud our same-sex couples will no longer be treated as separate but equal," said Washington Governor Christine Gregoire.

Congratulations to all who have poured so much time and money into legalizing gay marriage. It humbles me greatly to see how impactful the human spirit can be when determined.

You are all heroes.

Adjunct educators need full-time respect

It's time to stop and take a real good look at the 'inside-out sourcing' of college professors' jobs

By: Ron Swift
Adjunct CMST Professor

Outsourcing is used by corporate America to take advantage of cheap labor in other nations.

However, community colleges don't have to go outside our nation. They have simply used our own highly-educated want-to-be professors as part-time, temporary instructors.

They pay them as though teaching were piecemeal work.

If the adjunct professor teaches two three-credit classes, then he/she is paid for working ten hours a week, even though over forty hours are spent preparing lectures and tests, grading, meeting with students, etc.

This is a poverty wage!

Two-thirds of Green River Community College professors are adjuncts who earn only 60% of full-time salary for teaching the same

courses.

Even instructors with forty years of teaching are still treated as temporary employees, with no job security. Each and every quarter they are hired, laid off, then rehired (or not).

Many put up with these conditions to get a full-time, tenured position, but very few are made available although there are enough adjunct professors on GRCC campus to fill over 60 full-time positions!

Forty years ago, I was hired to teach an evening class in Public Speaking. I was the first part-time instructor in the speech department. Now there are 7 part-time instructors.

For four decades I have been helping to develop, expand, and improve the speech-communications offerings at GRCC. I have become a "permatemp" without full pay or career benefit.

I'm a "mistress" to Green River Community College; Green River is happy to take advantage of my cheap services, but has no intention of "marrying" me.

In the last hiring opportunity, I was told that I was "not worthy" of an interview!

But I was good enough to

"I have become a 'permatemp' without full pay or career benefits."

— Ron Swift

be re-hired "part-time" to teach three classes the next quarter, the same classes I had been teaching successfully for years, and the same classes that the newest full-time, tenure-track instructor was hired to teach.

While a full-time load is 3 classes a quarter, I have taught an average of almost four classes a quarter for the last 2 years!

But I'm not "worthy" of full-time employment, perhaps because the college would then have to double my salary and cut my workload in half.

I'm "CHEAP" labor! My potential career has been snuffed out by greedy, dishonest, unfair employment practices that I call "Inside-

Outsourcing."

What hypocrisy! We tell our students to get an education to get a better job. But three-fourths of all college teachers (one million in total) are now "temporary" workers, paid like Labor Ready jobbers, deprived of full salaries and professional careers.

It demeans teaching careers by showing our stu-

dents that college teaching does not pay.

Adjuncts are excellent teachers; research has shown they are better teachers than the tenure-track faculty.

Though students pay the same tuition whether their professor is tenured or an adjunct, the adjuncts are cheated out of the money, benefit, and job security they would receive if they were "full-time."

They are deprived of offices, making them hard to find, and there is little privacy to talk in their crowded cubicles.

Let's remove the "black-eye," the "Gross Deception" in our educational system.

We boast about freedom and opportunity through education, while most of your teachers are victims of "Inside-Outsourcing"

We want to create a world where talented people—perhaps you—will want to

become college teachers.

We need to find the "change agents" who will speak-up and join the righteous cause for honest employment practices in our colleges, to join with the abused part-time teachers and correct the employment patterns.

Form a union, you say? Alas, adjuncts by law must be represented by a union of full-time faculty that are responsible for the treatment of adjuncts as second class citizens and are pleased to keep it that way.

Let's use our intellect, compassion and strength of moral character to right this wrong. Can't we be an example of righteous problem-solving?

Find out more by contacting me (rswift@greenriver.edu) or Kathryn Re (kre@greenriver.edu) of the newly formed Green River Adjunct Faculty Association.

Be Seen



Advertise with The Current
ad.manager@mail.greenriver.edu

Oh yes. We've been waiting for you.



Let your voice be heard.
Get your letter published.

thecurrent@greenriver.edu

Stay Current

Stay in touch with the community by following
The Current on Facebook and Twitter:www.facebook.com/greenrivercurrentwww.twitter.com/thecurrentnet

Also on the Inside

"The freshmen have stepped up and made a huge impact; they define the team's mentality to win."

Jonathan Sigrist Page 15

NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY®NOW OPEN
AT WESTFIELD
SOUTHCENTERLEARN MORE AT THE
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
ONLINE INFORMATION
CENTER IN SEATTLEEARN YOUR DEGREE
WITH A LEADER IN
ONLINE EDUCATION

- Discover the benefits of a nonprofit university
- Explore the wide range of online associate's, bachelor's, and master's degrees
- Talk with an admissions advisor and create the right education plan to meet your goals
- Experience the flexibility of taking an online class
- Learn about financial aid options and scholarships

WESTFIELD SOUTHCENTER
152 SOUTHCENTER MALL
TUKWILA, WA 98188

© 2012 National University 11893



YOUR UNIVERSITY

206.248.6600

WWW.NU.EDU

Green River faculty and a student fall victim to thefts

Thieves leave a student without her laptop and a classroom without its projector

By: Jérôme Chevolet
Staff Writer

Two thefts were committed in the month of October on Green River's campus, resulting in the loss of a laptop, a document camera and a classroom projector.

On Oct. 23, between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., a Caucasian male in his mid-20s entered Salish Hall room 254 and stole both a document camera and the projector of the room. At 1:20 p.m. on Oct. 24, a student reported that she had been robbed of her laptop by a Caucasian male in a black hoodie in his early 20s.

As of now, neither of the thieves have been identified or caught.

"Both of these [thefts] were crimes of opportunity," said Fred Creek, director of campus safety and transportation. "The student who lost her laptop was carrying it in her hands and had it snatched by a stranger. Some crimes such as this can be avoided by being careful about displaying your property."

Creek urges students to

be aware of their surroundings, to be conscious of the people around them and to be very careful about the way they display their belongings.

"The theft from the classroom occurred when the room was unoccupied for a short period of time," Creek included. "Unfortunately, by making classroom access

"Better safety is in everyone's best interest and is really a community effort, not just the safety department,"

— Fred Creek

during business hours easy for students, it also allows for unwanted guests to come in."

Creek reassures that, despite these incidents, students can trust and rely on Green River's campus safety team. Campus safety's goal is to keep the college's campus a safe environment for both students and faculty. To ensure they can achieve this, they offer their services

24 hours a day and seven days a week.

"[Campus safety staff members] take their job seriously and each of them really cares about our customers," Creek said.

Along with the staff at campus safety, students play a crucial role in maintaining the student and faculty-friendly environment on campus.

"Report! Report! Report!" Creek exclaimed. "If you see something or someone suspicious, let us know right away. If you notice someone's behavior deteriorating, send a Red Flag. If you hear something that's wrong, tell someone."

Campus safety is located behind the Lindbloom Student Center on the east side of campus. If you were the victim of a theft or other crime, or witness to such an act, you can contact campus safety by calling 253-288-3350 or by sending a Red Flag on Green River's website.

"Better safety is in everyone's best interest and is really a community effort, not just the Safety department," Creek said.

Top three stolen items on campus

#1



Cellphones

#2



Laptops

#3



Tablets

Construction of Cedar Hall continues

The former SMT building is renamed and its renovation stays on track

By: Christin Peter
Staff Writer

As the construction continues on the newly named Cedar Hall, everything is right on schedule.

A great deal of progress has been made following the building's hollowing-out in the spring quarter. Soon, the roof and windows will be completely installed, making the building officially weather tight.

The wall frames have been erected, and the plumbing, mechanical and electrical systems are done.

"Once it is weather tight, they'll start sheetrocking,"

says Sam Ball, the director of capital projects.

Starting in mid-May, occupancy will be taken. Equipment such as furniture and computers will be installed in the building, and the temporarily displaced classes will be moved back.

When the renovation created an opportunity to rename the building, staff and students were asked for their opinions. They eventually decided upon the name Cedar Hall.

"Originally, SMT stood for science, math and technology because that's what was in the building,"

Ball informed. "There's no science classes in there now. So, the acronym doesn't make sense anymore."

During the late SMT's 1974 construction, a natural resource instructor contributed by planting cedar trees around the original building that are still standing tall today. The cedar tree is also very important in Native American culture as it is considered the tree of life. The new name pays homage to those who were on the land first.

"It's a nice compliment to Salish Hall," commented Ball. "We're continuing to say that we're honoring the

first people that were here."

Construction has been sticking to the original plan, with the exception of a few minor setbacks that were tended to as they made an appearance.

The renovation will make the building safer, modern, more energy efficient and better accessible for those with disabilities. The new floor plan will also provide a more practical use of space and add additional study areas for students.

If everything continues to go according to plan, Cedar Hall will be fully operational for classes Fall Quarter 2013.

Green River's website brings home bronze medal

National Council for Marketing and Public Relations awards college for exemplary website

By: Benjamin Biernacki
Assistant News Editor

The National Council for Marketing and Public Relations awarded Green River Community College the Bronze Medallion of Merit for the college's website this October.

The NCMPR gives out just three of the website awards per district each year. Judging is based on overall creativity and effectiveness in marketing and communications, use of hypertext links, use of graphics, and ability to solicit action or return visits from web browsers.

The NCMPR is an international organization with more than 1,550 members from over 650 different colleges across the United States and Canada. Green River belongs to the NCMPR's District 7.

According to the organization's Washington state representative, Barbara Kerr, "District 7 includes colleges in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Yukon Territory."

Portland Community College won the silver medal, while Clackamas Community College took home the gold award. Both institutions are located in Oregon.

"I can tell you that the level of work submitted this year was exceptional in every category," said Kerr, who personally attended the award's ceremony for District 7 this year in Salem, Ore.

"Green River can be very proud of earning that award," she added.

Receiving the medal-

lion continues an honored tradition for the Marketing and Communications department. They have won several awards in the past, both for print and electronic media.

After taking the bronze

"I think if you dedicate that much time on any project, it's nice to be validated. However, what is more important is whether Green River students like the site."

— Lansing Bryan

for website in 2008, the one decided to continue working on the site to improve it even further and perhaps win another of the coveted medallions.

Lansing Bryan, an information technology

specialist, was a member of the team that created Green River's website over the course of the last four years. One of the first steps was to choose a Content Management System, which is able to handle large amounts

of content in an efficient manner.

"Before we had a CMS it was a few web experts making updates to the website," Bryan recalled. "This made it difficult to keep content current and fresh."

The team decided to use a CMS developed by Ingeniux, a local company with a good reputation.

After the CMS was in place, a new design was created. Representatives from various departments on campus and from the student body all had a say in the final design.

Once approved, the design was implemented by the team, which had recently seen its web designer move on to another job.

"[It] was challenging as we had to maintain the current site at the same time and we had fewer hands on deck, so to speak," admitted Bryan.

After relocating, rewriting and reorganizing the content of the website, it was finally time to launch. July 1, 2012 saw the official release of the new Green River website.

"I think if you dedicate that much time on any project it's nice to be validated," said Bryan. "However, what is more important is whether Green River students like the site."

If you would like to submit feedback on the site, Bryan and her team urge you to do so by clicking the Website Feedback link at the bottom of the Green River homepage.

The team also plans to look closely at the Portland Community College and Clackamas Community College websites in the near future to glean any available knowledge from the other two winners.

Bryan is always working to improve the website in any way possible.

"It would be nice to break this bronze streak and win the gold," she said with a grin.

EXPERIENCE

Student life activities, recreational sports teams and organizations. Experience all UW Bothell has to offer.



Meet with an advisor today!

We have an outstanding team ready to help you choose from our exciting degree offerings.

W

Inspiring Innovation
and Creativity

425.352.5000 | www.uwb.edu



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | BOTHELL

Program holds open house

Technology program shows new equipment to community

By: Katie Rose
Asst. Director of Public Info.

The Manufacturing & Machining Technology program welcomed over 100 students, staff, faculty and community members Oct. 9 at an open house.

The event featured newly installed equipment that supports the college's industry-driven curriculum in aerospace training.

"Go to the leaders in advanced manufacturing and aerospace, and see what they are doing. Then, construct a learning environment that mirrors the industry to enter the high skill, high wage field" dean of professional technical and workforce education Josh Clearman instructed.

The college purchased new computer numerical controlled machines, pneumatic and hydraulic

training stations as part of a curriculum designed with input from Boeing and other companies that serve as aerospace suppliers. Funding for the purchase came from a grant from Governor Chris Gregoire.

"I'm proud of everyone at Green River to take this staggeringly difficult task and make it happen," Clearman said. "Our event demonstrated that we are a leader in machining, manufacturing and aerospace education."

Held in the Trades & Industry buildings, the manufacturing and machining students and faculty hosted tours of the redesigned lab. Representatives from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, local school districts, the aerospace and advanced manufacturing industry and the Workforce commu-

nity came to the event along with Green River students, staff and faculty.

Green River introduced three short-term certificates earlier this year as part of the state's effort Investment in Aerospace. The programs in precision machining, machine maintenance and quality assurance are designed for students to complete in 19 weeks. Green River is part of an 11 college consortium using shared grant-funded curriculum to teach essential job skills in two quarters or less.

Prospective students are invited to sign up for an information session held each Monday at noon through Dec. 3 at Green River's Kent Campus. For more information, contact Scott Schreiber at 253-833-9111, extension 4421 or visit the website at www.greenriver.edu/aerospace.



Follow us!
[@thecurrentnet](https://twitter.com/thecurrentnet)



Calendar

MEN'S BASKETBALL	
Nov 23	Wenatchee @ Mt Vernon, 4 p.m. *
Nov 24	Portland/Skagit Valley@Mt Vernon, 4 p.m.*
Nov 25	TBA @ Mt Vernon, TBA*
Nov 30	Umpqua @ Spokane, 6 p.m. *
Dec 1	Spokane or Grays Harb@Spokane, 7:30 or 5:30 p.m.*
Dec 2	TBA @ Spokane, TBA*
Dec 8	Olympic @ Bremerton, 4 p.m.
*Tournaments	
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	
Nov 24	Whatcom @ GRCC, 4 p.m.
Nov 30	Umpqua @ Bellevue, 4 p.m. *
Dec 1	Big Bend or Skagit@ Bellevue, 1 or 5 p.m. *
Dec 2	TBA @ Bellevue, TBA*
Dec 7	Lane @ Lakewood, 2 p.m. *
Dec 8	Wenatchee or Skagit @ Lakewood, 1 or 5 p.m. *
Dec 9	TBA @ Lakewood, TBA*

Go to www.greenriver.edu/athletics for home game locations.



Standings

VOLLEYBALL	
West Region	W L Pct. GB Streak
Z-Highline	10 2 .833 - 1L
X-Green River	9 2 .833 - 2W
X-Tacoma	8 4 .667 2 4W
X-Pierce	8 4 .667 2 1W
Clark	3 9 .250 7 1L
Lower Columbia	3 9 .250 7 1L
Centralia	0 12 .000 11 12L
WOMEN'S FASTPITCH	
North Region	W L T Pts Streak
Z-Everett	11 2 2 35 1W
X-Whatcom	8 3 4 28 1W
X-Shoreline	8 3 4 28 4W
Edmonds	7 3 5 26 2W
Skagit Valley	4 8 3 15 3L
Green River	2 12 1 7 5L

Z- Clinched region X- Clinched playoff berth

EXTRAMURAL SOCCER

Men's soccer finally arrives on campus

As an extramural sport, men's soccer gives opportunity to students

By: Thomas Petersen
Sports Editor

Soccer is broadening its horizons at Green River Community College with a new sports team for men to get involved in the competition.

Originally organized by activity manager Martha Koch, Green River takes a group of students to participate in a league over the course of two academic quarters. Competing at the Starfi e Sports Complex in Tukwila, the Green River group is split into two teams and plays a total of 8-10 games in one league season.

Zach Rude, assistant to the activity manager, took over the project and was put in charge of designing

the program and getting students involved. Basically, Rude was given the idea and asked to make it work.

This soccer project originated from the requests of international students who are in love with the sport and wanted more opportunities to play. Previously, international students were only given two hours of intramural play time in the gym each week.

"They wanted a more scheduled team playing against other groups," explained Rude. "Versus just a pickup game for an hour twice a week against each other."

A typical game day would start with our two teams of Green River students, totaling about 30 guys, traveling to the Starfi e Sports Com-

plex every Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. When they arrive, and after a quick warm up, the two Gator teams each play one game per week then get back to Green River around 9:45 p.m.

In the Starfi e men's soccer league, made up of Green River and 9 other local teams, the Gators play every team once over the course of Fall and Winter quarter. Although Green River doesn't compete against teams from other schools, it's a great way for students who love soccer to come and enjoy it together.

"... we do all the planning for you," said Rude. "We do all the legwork and you guys can participate."

The only legwork you have to do in order to join a team as a student is be an 18

year old guy, have medical insurance and bring your own equipment. If you meet those requirements all you have to do is send Zach Rude an email (zrude@greenriver.edu) and sign up at student life when Zach notifies you about the next tournament or upcoming league.

There are only 30 spots available and it's first come first serve so if you have any desire to play then make sure you email Zach Rude. Rude also mentioned that fans are welcome to come to any Tuesday games and just need to contact him to get a spot on the bus.

Rude was ecstatic to mention that the players would love to get some support from the stands to cheer on our Gators.

ATHLETE PROFILE

Duschel earns scholarship

Through grit and determination, Cassy Duschel will be playing DII softball this spring

By: Bob Kickner
Athletic Director

The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat epitomize the athletic experience of Green River's star student athlete Cassy Duschel.

For seven academic quarters, Duschel has put her body on the line in the dirt of the softball field and the tundra of the soccer pitch. The all-star infielder and goalkeeper will be leaving Green River with her AA in hand, a wall full of athletic decorations and memories and relationships that will last a lifetime.

While at Green River Duschel played in both the NWAACC soccer and softball championship playoff and also played on teams that missed the postseason. She played healthy and she played hurt. She had good days, and not so good days.

"Cassy made the most of her opportunity to play college sports while at GRCC,"

said softball coach Danielle McKay. "She worked hard, listened to the coaches, and got better."

A two time, first-team infield all-star and the 2011 North region all-star goalkeeper, Duschel was named the most inspirational student athlete at the 2012 Student Life banquet. Her willingness to do the little things necessary to win along with sacrificing her body in two physically demanding sports earned Duschel the honor.

At any point during her athletic career, the athletic trainer would have to provide support for her ankles, knees, shoulders and even head when she received a concussion in the quarter-final playoff soccer victory; the first such win in school history. Yet she came back to play every day.

"Cassy was one of my most driven, dedicated athletes I have coached," said GRCC soccer coach Stu

Snow. "She will be missed next fall on the soccer team."

The two sport standout from Fife, Wash. will be packing up her gear following final in Dec. and will be moving to Nampa, ID where she has accepted an NCAA Division II scholarship to Northwest Nazarene University. Their softball team will be waiting with

open arms for her arrival come January.

"Cassy has most certainly left her mark on Gator athletics," stated Director of Athletics Bob Kickner. "The great thing is she has been rewarded for her efforts in the classroom and on the field of play. We are thrilled for her success and look forward to following her career in Idaho."



Cassy Duschel, goalkeeper, poses for team picture.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Freshmen-led cross country team 'most impressive'

This year's cross country team is definitively the greatest Green River has ever seen

By: Jonathan Sigrist
Staff Writer

Despite being made up of almost entirely freshmen, this year's Men's Cross Country team is better than any in Green River's history.

When asked if she would consider this team the best Green River has had, Coach Tori Ammons replies, "I would say definitively yes. This is the most impressive team that I've had. The best top seven, they've run the fastest times. This is finally a team that's been put together to compete at this level."

A lifelong runner, Ammons has been coaching runners for 15 years. She's been competing since her high school career in Enumclaw, and ran track for the University of Washington. After over a decade coaching high school cross country and

track teams, she shifted towards coaching colleges in the mid-2000s. Ammons is now in her fourth year coaching both men's and women's cross country for the Gators.

Ammons' experience in cross country has brought nine freshmen and one sophomore to compete for Green River's men's cross country. They've raced through the ranks, currently hovering around fourth in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges.

The freshmen have stepped up and made a huge impact; they define the team's mentality with their desire to win. Nick Knoblich, Matt Link, Brandon Degarimore, and Luke Garcia, all freshmen, have created a solid core around which the rest of the team can rally. Cross Country is very much a team sport,



Dominic Yoxheimer | The Current

Freshman Brandon Degarimore leads Green River Men's Cross Country during practice.

and the strong core has created a valuable team dynamic. Coach Tori Ammons speaks of the freshman four proudly. "Because this group is so close together,

practices are much better, and they've really bonded as a team and as friends."

A team leader for the Gators, Luke Garcia was a top competitor for his

championship high school team. He's brought his valuable assets of experience and winning attitude to the table, despite being a freshman this year.

Ammons talks enthusiastically about all of her runners, "I really enjoy working with this level of

SEE **CROSS COUNTRY**, PAGE 16



Affordable, Flat-Rate Tuition

Our students love our flat-rate tuition because they only pay one low rate per six-month term and they can take as many courses as their schedules allow. It's just one of the many reasons WGU Washington is the right fit for motivated, busy adults.

WGU Washington is a state-endorsed, online university that offers accredited bachelor's and master's degree programs in business, IT, teacher education, and healthcare, including nursing.

washington.wgu.edu/grcc | 1-877-214-7004

WGU WASHINGTON



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Midwestern talent takes GRCC by storm

With solid returning players, four talented Chicago-born players are ready to lead Gators

By: Febby Mulia
Staff Writer

Green River's men's basketball team greets the upcoming 2012-2013 season with four recently added out-of-state players, expanding their already well-built team.

Sophomores Nate Jones and Kortney Darby, along with freshman Chris Daily and Johnny Roland lived in the inner city of Chicago, IL and have now found their way to Green River.

Even though they came all the way from the Midwestern United States, the players were not recruited. GRCC athletic director Bob Kickner emphasized that, "They got in just like everybody else."

"We took an interest in them because they have skills, and they took an interest in coach Malroy because he has an honorable reputation as a teacher of the game. They took a chance on us and we took a chance on them," Kickner

continued.

It's a long way from home but they all had a mutual intention to get out of the city. "All four of us grew up together in Chicago, but we wanted to get out of the city because of all the battles," said Darby, speaking on behalf of the four Chicago players.

"We all had one coach back home who had searched for schools for us, and he heard about the schools in Washington here, so he made some calls around here and had things set up."

"I was happy to welcome them out here," said Head Coach Tim Malroy. "...over the course of the summer we've worked out all of the kinks and got them out here."

The players seem to be progressing well, according to Coach Malroy. "I'm very glad about how they're doing here and I know that they seemed to be enjoying themselves out here, it's a little less violent, and they



Nate Jones, sophomore.



Kortney Darby, sophomore.



Chris Daily, freshman.



Johnny Roland, freshman.

don't seem as on edge as they might be at home."

As strangers to both the area and the team, all four players are finding their way into the community and seem like they're adjusting quite well to Green River life. "It's different than what we were used to," both Roland and Daily admitted.

College life might seem foreign to the two freshmen, but for sophomores Darby and Jones, adjusting is less of a burden. Since they've both spent a year in college already, they know the drill.

Basketball-wise Coach Malroy said, "All four of these players have the ability to play at a four year

level after they're done here." Malroy admitted they have improvements that need to be made, but developing skills and grades is what they're here for.

Besides their skill, the tenacity these Chicago players bring to the court is above and beyond what's usually seen. "Their combined intensity as four players and the way that their effort manifests on the court, is something I don't see very often," said Malroy.

"I think those four kids combined with all the other kids that we've brought in, I don't see any reason why we can't be right in the hunt for the NWAACC tournament in the western division."



Jeremy Siregar | The Current

Freshman Chris Daily shows off his athleticism by dunking during practice.

CROSS COUNTRY

FROM PAGE 15

athletes," she says. "They're a lot of fun; they're dedicated, hardworking, and good athletes as well."

The Gators are ranked 4th among the 12 competing teams as they prepare for the NWAACC Championships in mid-November, and Ammons hopes the team can place well enough to finish among the top three. "We can get a trophy this year, it's an outside shot. We're kind of the dark horse, we're not expected to win a trophy, but you never know."

With almost all of the runners returning, the team is set up strongly for the season next fall.

Ammons plans to place her athletes in more challenging meets and push them harder for a better finish, with the ultimate goal of an NWAACC championship always in sight. "We'll go after a trophy next year, top three, that's my goal."

The coach would tell everyone to get out and run, saying that it's the "best way to mentally and physically train your body to top performance." Ammons continued, "We run because we feel good afterwards. It's hard, but you look good, you feel good."

With a heart for cross country, Ammons encouraged all runners to get out and run on the roads and the trails. Not on the treadmill.

GET INVOLVED JOIN THE CURRENT

Sign up for the class:

3-5 activity credits

Journ100.1

Reporting & writing, photography & video