

The Current

Green River Community College



Men's basketball surges at Tournament

Gators walk off Skagit Valley courts with 2-1 record.

Sports page 16

December 3, 2012 | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GREENRIVERCURRENT

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 4

Revealing Green River's

sex life

Where do you fit in?

See sex survey results, pages 8 & 9

CAMPUS page 3

TRiO aims to be your ultimate academic advisor

TRiO Student Support Services guide students to educational success.

A&E page 7

KGRG FM's Red & Black Benefit Bash

Phoenix Jones, canned food, and rock'n'roll. Campus radio station puts on a show!

OP-ED page 11

Expensive tastes not always worth it

Students don't want wholesale prices, just a compromise.

NEWS page 12

College strives to increase wetland's rainwater capacity

Expansion will benefit both wildlife and students.

FEATURE

Ambition drives Chief Justice Nelička Voitešonoka

Name: Nelička Voitešonoka

Year: Sophomore

Age: 19

How long have you attended Green River?

I've been at GRCC for two years, I came to Washington because I wanted to go to the University of Washington, they have an intense and prestigious medical program and I'm studying medicine, but I needed to go to a two year college to help me prepare and gain experience. I had many friends that went here and they recommended Green River.

How did you get involved in student government?

Last year I knew the president of the student government and he always talked about how much fun he had and all the different conferences he went on

and the skills he gathered. Also I always wanted to be a leader.

What are your duties as Chief Justice?

I help the VP run the meetings, we put the schedule together and meet every week along with the president and talk about what's going on. Besides working together, I am also the head of the Judicial Board. When someone wants to create a club my board makes sure they have filled out the proper paperwork and makes sure that their cause is beneficial to the students of the college. We also help public relations properly run the elections in the spring.

What are your plans post Green River?

After Green River I plan on transferring to UW where I want to earn my



Chief Justice Nelička Voitešonoka loves what she does and is awesome at it.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing and then become a travel nurse.

Does anything exciting ever happen on the job?

You learn a lot about everything that happens on campus. You have so many great experiences and meet amazing new people. It's

just a great experience, every day something awesome happens.

Who are some people who have had a positive influence on your life?

There are a ton of people I look up to. My sister is a big influence on me. She raised me while we lived in Latvia, and we are so similar and she helps me get through days when I am stressed. My friend Koen Valks, who is also involved in student life, is someone I look up to as well. He helps me out when I am struggling. My best friend Lena Sirovinskaya is my favorite thing about this college; besides always working hard, she and I have many crazy and fun adventures to relieve stress for when things get too hard. And of course, my parents.

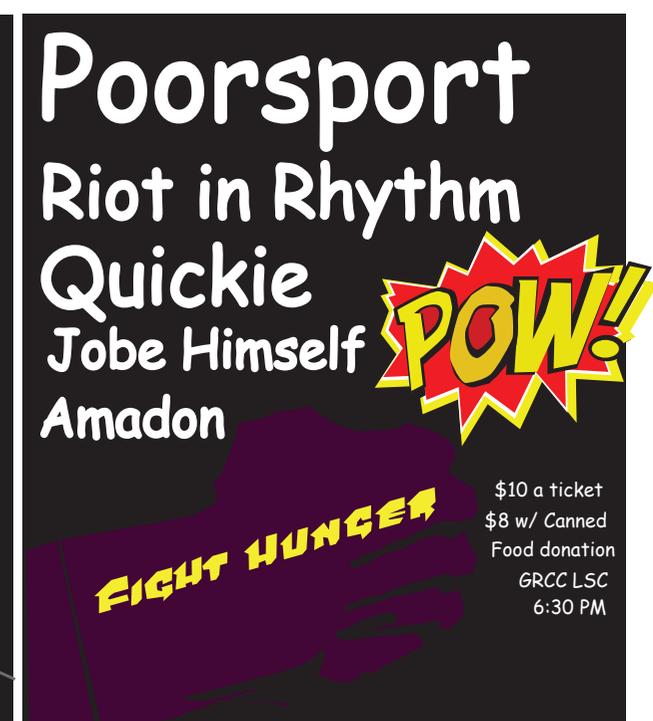
Why should the average

person get involved in student government?

Because it's something different than just going to class, doing your homework and studying in the library. There are so many skills you can learn such as, leadership, communication skills and problem solving. It's over all just a really great experience. I love it, it's my second year being in student government and I feel so privileged!

What changes would you like to see happen this school year?

I would love to have more domestic students involved in student government so their voices can be heard. I want to know how we (student government) can make their time spent at Green River not just a transitional period, but a time period they will remember forever.



FEATURE

TRiO aims to be your ultimate academic advisor

Group provides students with gateway to success by setting academic plans and assessing future goals

By: Rachel Sant
Campus Writer

When it comes to the balancing act of living one's everyday life and dealing with the trials of college, it can prove to be both difficult and frustrating. This is especially true when students don't have the answers and guidance they need.

Which classes should they take and when? When do they need to be filling out their financial aid and scholarships? What if they want to transfer and how do they go about that?

To free students from these questions, Green River has the TRiO student support service.

TRiO's purpose is to provide students with the assistance and the resources needed to graduate, or meet their university transfer

requirements. This group takes the time to meet with each student one-on-one and discuss their future. This includes setting up a detailed academic plan so students enroll in classes that are right for them.

"The TRiO students we work with are really motivated to do their best and to try to get it right the first time," said Christine McMullin, the director of TRiO. "They don't have time to figure everything out themselves or to make mistakes."

As for students who are unsure of future plans, TRiO provides these students with career advising, and holds visits to local four year universities. TRiO also assists its students with potentially overwhelming paperwork, such as for financial aid and scholarships.

"For students that don't



Michelle Spencer | The Current

TRiO takes a very personalized approach with the students that they help to ensure that the students succeed in obtaining their education.

have all the answers or aren't sure about what the next steps are," says McMullin. "TRiO can be a great resource to help them navigate, not just Green River's college system, but also that transfer

piece." TRiO connects students with private tutors, provides a student computer lab, and a textbook and calculator lending system. All of these opportunities combined can

be a great resource to the students involved in TRiO, especially those who are taking on a very challenging schedule.

"The sooner a student taps into our resources, the

more they can get out of them," says McMullin. "If they wait until their last year of Green River, they might get less benefit from being in the program. So, the sooner [they join], the better."

Transfer to PLU Spring 2013!



There is still time to be admitted, receive financial aid, and register for classes to start Spring Semester (beginning Feb. 6).

WHY TRANSFER TO PLU?

- PLU accepts the Direct Transfer Degree from Green River.
- Transfer Academic Scholarships begin at a 2.9 GPA and range from \$10,000-\$14,000 per year. There are no financial aid deadlines.
- 36 majors, and average class size is 20. You'll have the opportunities of a large university and the personal attention of a small school.

Now is the time to start your free online PLU application.

plu.edu/transfer

QUESTIONS?

Sean Lacy,
Director of Transfer Admission
253-535-7138
sean.lacy@choose.plu.edu

PLU Your private college option.

Nutrition guide for winter

Especially during winter, its easy to get sick. Here are some rules to keep in mind during the winter to build a stronger immune system, and keep the sniffles away naturally!

Drink water

Water helps regulate the body temperature, helps regulate the metabolism, and transports oxygen to your cells.

Fruits and veggies are your best friend

There is a lot of acidic food in your diets such as processed, bread, coffee and meats. A high acid diet makes it hard for your body to absorb nutrients, decreases energy production, and decreases your body's ability to naturally detoxify heavy metals. Fruits and vegetables are naturally alkaline, which balances the negative effects of acidic foods.

Sleep more than you think

The National Sleep Foundation says adults need 7-9 hours of sleep a night. Sleep helps your brain function more properly. As strange as it may seem, your brain is actually the most active when you're asleep. Sleep helps balance your hormone levels, and enhances your mood and overall mental health.

Cut the sugar out

Not only the obvious cake and candy, but also food high in carbohydrates that turn into sugar. Sugar suppresses the immune system, and slows your body's response to bacterial infections.

Sugar also counteracts your body's absorption of nutrients, so even if you are eating healthy, if you eat a lot of sugar, you're not doing much for your overall health.

If you feel sick....

- Eat a lot of garlic, there is an agent in garlic called allicin which helps prevent germs' ability to grow and reproduce.
- Temporarily eliminate grains, dairy, alcohol, and other drugs. (This includes high doses of caffeine).
- Eat a lot of Vitamin C and Zinc supplements.
- Add herbs to your diet such as Echinacea and Goldenseal.
- Drink plenty of tea, such as chamomile tea, ginger tea, and lemon jasmine green tea (use honey as sweetener.)

Teacher Spotlight: Marcie Sims

Position:
English Instructor
Years at Green River:
About 20 years

What English classes do you teach?

I teach all English classes ... I also teach a lot of literature classes such as Women's Literature, Shakespeare and Creative Writing. Next quarter, there will be a brand new class that I just created about film writing. It will be writing analysis essay about films that we study.

Were you set on teaching English the entire time you were in college?

Yes, in fact I went to college for 9 years full time with English as my major the whole time. And I even went to school in England for a while. So, I love English literature, American literature and I also love teaching how to write. On top of that, I am a professional writer; I write textbooks about writing.

What were some other career options you were considering before being a teacher?

I always wanted to be a writer too. I have been teaching here at Green River for about 18 years and in the last 10 years I have started to do more of my own writing. So, I have a second career where I am writing textbooks that are getting used all over the country, and some other countries too. I also write fiction and poetry. Besides having two careers, I am also a mom. Thus, I really have three careers.

Did you have any prior teaching experience before Green River?

Before I came to Green River as a full time tenure professor, I taught as an adjunct professor. I taught part-time at Seattle Central Community College and at Shoreline Community College in the Seattle area.



Michelle Spencer | The Current

English instructor, Marcie Sims, has taught English among other classes at Green River for two decades.

And then before that, I taught as a graduate student at San Diego State University. It is my alma mater besides Cal Poly.

In what ways is teaching different than you anticipated prior to your profession?

I did not realize how much teaching is not just about what I know, but helping students find confidence and find their own voice. Teaching is so much more like being a coach.

Besides just being a teacher, saying what you know, it's really about being a coach helping people to build their own skills. Thus, teaching surprises me and it's very rewarding because of that.

What are some things you have learned about students over the years?

So many things. I think the biggest thing I have learned is how I can always be surprised. I cannot just expect things to be a certain way or students to be a certain way. They are all unique, and I learn something from each group of students I teach. I have learned that when you are a teacher, you are really always a student.

How were you able to develop your teaching style?

Lots of practice certainly. After these years of teaching, I have gotten better and better, but I am still learning.

I think what makes a good teacher is someone who does not just stop, but continually makes it better. It took me years to learn to give more and more power to my students instead of myself. As far as how they are learning, I do not always feel that I have to make a particular agenda each day.

Sometimes, the best teaching happens when we get excited and learn about something that the students want to learn, and focus on it. I have learned to give more power to my students (as I am teaching), and to challenge them to challenge themselves.

What are some challenges you face as a teacher?

Having enough time to grade everything and giving as much feedback as possible. I want to have as much time as possible in class to do something.

For example, when we get really excited in discussion, and then run out of time. So I think the biggest challenge

is time and making sure I get enough sleep. Then remembering to always keep a sense of humor.

What is the best part of your job?

People are the best part. Both the students and my colleagues. We are like a family in my division. So much of a job is about doing what you like, and making money, that is what everybody wants to do. You do not know until you are really in a career for a long time, that the most important part of your job is the people that you work with. So, my colleagues and my students are what make my job very special to me.

What would you say to someone who is wanting to be a teacher?

I would say don't go into it for the money, but I would say that you are going to have the happiest career.

If you love teaching, than there is no job on the planet more fulfilling than teaching. It is rewarding both personally and intellectually.

I think it is much more important than making a whole bunch of money in the business, but you want to be a writer on the side like I am to help supplement your habit of being a teacher.

Man on the Street



What is your favorite holiday memory?

Well, I celebrate the Muslim holiday, Eid, and my favorite Eid memory is eating all of the great food my mom cooks. The traditional meal is a goat or lamb that is sacrificed earlier that day.



Nadira Rahman

When all of my family was able to get together for Christmas three years ago, which was the first time we were all together in eight years. We all got to enjoy each other's company which was really great.



Victoria Seim

Waking up on Christmas morning and seeing a stack of presents that wrapped around my seven foot tree. One of the presents I remember was a stuffed animal moose with a sled that I played on later that day.



Alex Hodgins

I remember one time I threw a snowball at this old man's car and he came out yelling that I almost killed his wife. He told me that I could have given her a heart attack.



Jeffrey Lecompte

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

"TRIO takes the time to meet with each student one-on-one and discuss their future."

Rachel Sant Page 3

A&E

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

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Dec 3,
2012



Name: Makena Carey Cayce

Years at Green River: 2+

Major: Psychology

Makena's Cooking Corner

Candy Cane Cookies



- ½ c. crushed peppermint candy
- ½ c. granulated sugar
- ½ c. shortening
- ½ c. butter, softened
- 1 c. sifted powdered sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 ½ tsp. almond extract
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 ½ c. sifted all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp. red food dye

- 1 Preheat oven to 375°F
- 2 Combine crushed peppermint candy and granulated sugar in a bowl and set aside
- 3 Beat together shortening, butter and powdered sugar until fluffy
- 4 Beat eggs and extracts into shortening/butter/sugar mixture

- 5 Sift together flour and salt into a large bowl
- 6 Beat flour/salt mixture into shortening/butter/sugar mixture until just combined.
- 7 Divide dough in half and place in separate bowl
- 8 Add ½ tsp. red food dye to one half and mix

Forming & Baking

- 1 Start with 2 tsp. each color dough and roll into a strip approximately 4 inches long.
- 2 Place strips side by side and press lightly together, twist like a rope and then gently curve top to resemble a candy cane.
- 3 Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake about 9 minutes
- 4 While still warm sprinkle with peppermint candy/sugar mixture

Candied Apples

4-6 Yellow Delicious apples
1-2 packages red hots
1 tbsp. water

- 1 Peel, core and cut apples into quarters
- 2 In a large saucepan or non-stick skillet, melt red hots with water
- 3 Place Apples cut side down on medium high until apples start to turn translucent. Turn apples over, reduce heat and put on life until apples are done cooking. The apples will make their own sauce and turn red.



Souffléed Sweet Potatoes

- 4 lbs. sweet potatoes, scrubbed well
- 1 head garlic, cloves separated, unpeeled
- ½ cup chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 ½ tsp. fresh rosemary leaves, chopped
- ½ tsp. salt
- Fresh ground pepper to taste
- 4 large egg whites
- ½ tsp. cream of tartar
- Olive oil cooking spray

- 1 Preheat 400. Using a fork, prick each potato 2-3 times. Place potatoes on baking sheet, transfer to oven and bake 45 minutes to 1 hour or until softened. Meanwhile loosely wrap garlic in foil, sealing tightly. Place on separate baking sheet, transfer to oven, and bake for 30 - 35 minutes, until softened but not browned.

- 2 Remove potatoes and garlic from oven and let cool. When cool enough to handle, peel potatoes and place in a large bowl. Squeeze garlic cloves from their skins and add to bowl. Add broth and use a potato masher to mash until smooth; stir in rosemary, salt and pepper.
- 3 In a separate bowl, combine egg whites and cream of tartar. Using an electric mixer, beat on high speed until stiff peaks form, 2-3 minutes. With a rubber spatula, gently fold half of egg whites into potato mixture until just a few white streaks are visible. Fold in remaining egg white mixture, allowing a few white streaks to remain visible.
- 4 Coat a 9x13 baking dish with cooking spray. Add potato mixture, using spatula to smooth top. Transfer to oven and bake for 30-35 minutes, until top is lightly browned. Serve hot.



MOVIE REVIEW

Guardians give rise to our ageless imagination

By: Michelle Spencer
Photography Editor



Rise of the Guardians is the must see computer animated movie this holiday season, it's an epic ride that will take you on a journey through the miracles of believing.

In this heartwarming adventure, the Immortal Guardians who serve and protect the children of earth are being threatened by an evil spirit named Pitch (Jude Law) who wants to invade childrens' dreams with nightmares and be feared by all. It's up to the Guardians to stop him from destroying all hope and happiness from the world.

The Guardians of Earth's children include a tough but jolly Santa Claus (Alec Baldwin), a cheery talkative Tooth Fairy (Isla Fisher), a sassy Easter Bunny (Hugh Jackman), a silent but sweet Sandman, and the newcomer to the group of

Guardians, the mischievous Jack Frost (Chris Pine).

Jack Frost has been chosen to join the Immortal Guardians by the all knowing moon in the sky to help save the children of the world from Pitch's demise.

The source of the Guardians' powers lies within the simple idea of children believing they exist. The more children that believe in the Guardians, the more power they have.

This movie was surprisingly well written and just downright adorable. You will fall in love with Santa's elves, who cause more problems than they fix, and the tooth fairy's lovable little baby helpers who help her collect teeth from all around the world. Even though the Sandman has no voice, he is one of the most lovable characters in the story.

You feel the magic of wonder and amazement at believing in something so far fetched it couldn't be real. It makes you remem-



Courtesy Photo | thesevenses.com

Jack Frost discovers his icy powers given by the man and moon

ber the times when you were little and waited up all night for the Tooth Fairy to leave you money under your pillow, or waiting for Santa to bring gifts on Christmas.

This movie will definitely bring back nostalgic memories and bring wonder to children. It will bring back the meaning of believing in something even when its

not the popular opinion. It you might even shed a tear or two.

This movie has some great humor and a touch of darkness with the very scary Pitch to provide some thrill to this adventurous colorful movie. The movie is one of the most visually stunning animated movies out there. The colors are brighter and

the characters are more detailed than ever. Part of the wonder and amazement in the movie is the visually stunning landscape and magical castles. The castles created for Santa's workshop, the Tooth Fairy's home, and the Easter Bunny's rabbit hole will amaze you with their detail and creativity.

This movie is a must see this holiday season for the whole family. You will find yourself reliving your childhood all over again.

Rated: PG
Director: Peter Ramsey
Starring: Chris Pine, Jude Law, Alec Baldwin

Concert Calendar

Dec	Event	Location	Time / Price
4	Deck The Hall Ball 2012	@Key Arena	(Doors open at 3 p.m. all ages, \$47.70-\$77.70)
	Sweet Honey In The Rock	@ The Triple Door	(Doors open at 7:00 p.m. all ages, \$35-\$40)
8	Dance Gavin Dance	@ El Corazon	(Doors open at 6:30 p.m. all ages, \$17-\$19)
16	106.1 KISS FM's Jingle Ball	@ WaMu Theater	(Doors open at 4 p.m. all ages, \$40)
	Lamb Of God	@ Showbox Sodo	(Doors open at 6 p.m. all ages, \$37.50-\$40)
	James Wood	@ Studio Seven	(Doors open at 6:30 p.m. all ages, \$8-\$10)
17	The Mountain Goats	@ Showbox at the Market	(Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$24)
18	David Lanz	@ Dimitriou's Jazz Alley	(Doors open at 5 p.m. all ages, \$29.50)

The Current Picks

WEBSITE/APP

shirts.woot.com



By: Thomas Petersen

If you enjoy variety, choices and a good laugh, shirts.woot.com will be your ultimate paradise.

The website is a branch from a larger electronic commerce website.

shirts.woot.com features art in the form of t-shirts. They have artists send in t-shirt designs and a winner is chosen daily. The best part about it, the winning shirt is sold with free shipping for \$12 if bought the day the shirt is declared triumphant.

For procrastinators, the shirts are available throughout the week except for the popular designs that get extra time on the shelf. Check it out, you won't regret it.

MOVIE

The Insider



By: Diandra Hassan

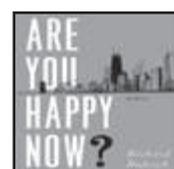
Jeffrey Wigand, a former research scientist in a major tobacco company, must decide whether he should spill the tobacco company's secret to the world.

With the help of a news producer, Lowell Bergman, Wigand must face threats from the corporation and his own former boss that is willing to risk anything to keep Wigand from revealing the bitter reality of tobacco companies.

The movie illustrates how truth and ethics coincide with each other and to what extent pain and pleasure can lead a person into the state of internal delusion and hallucination.

BOOK

Are You Happy Now?



By: Jeremy Siregar

Thirty-three year old book editor John Lincoln works at a publishing house in Chicago. Driven by his ambition to work for a more suitable publisher, Lincoln turns his attention to his assistant, Amy O'Malley.

Fresh out of college, O'Malley has a story to tell and Lincoln hopes that he can shape O'malley's story into the bestseller he needs to make it in the big time.

Lincoln's clever sense of humor is the main essence of the book. It is also delicately balanced by O'Malley's enthusiasm and honesty.

It is a coming of age story that proves people are never too old to learn.

MUSIC

If You Were A Movie Then This Would Be Your Soundtrack



By: Pierson Japit

Breaking through their post-hardcore atmosphere, Sleeping With Sirens rolled the dice and took their chances by releasing a five song acoustic extended play album, *If You Were A Movie Then This Would Be Your Soundtrack*. Recognizable by lead singer, Kellin Quinn's high-pitched voice, the band explored the softer side of music.

Putting aside their screaming, drumming and heavily distorted guitars, the band picked up acoustic guitars, cajons and maracas to bring a different vibe. Their catchy tone and lyrics are key ingredients to this rock makeover.



KGRG FM Staff Ian Hough and Emmalie Francis man a promotional booth hyping up the radio station's upcoming concert: "Red & Black Benefit Bash" in LSC.

KGRG FM's Red & Black Benefit Bash

KGRG to raise funds and promote local bands through benefit concert

By: Jeremy Siregar
A&E Editor

Once upon a time, KGRG hosted a concert where Nirvana once embraced Green River's Lindbloom Student Center. Following in their footsteps, five local bands are stepping into Lindbloom's spotlight.

Under the leadership of program director Jean-Pierre Garcia, Green River's radio station KGRG will conduct a concert on the Dec. 7, 2012 called KGRG FM's Red & Black Benefit Bash.

The concert will feature local bands Poorsport, Quickie, Riot in Rhythm, Amadon and returning to the stage, Jobe Himself. The benefit concert will also be emceed by KGRG's close friend, Phoenix Jones.

KGRG is and always has been supportive of Washington's local bands since their move to the today's rock genre. Their stationality demands it! KGRG, by

any means, is not a normal rock station. The station's playlist consist of less familiar bands and their main goal is to bring them to people's ears.

"Our main thing is not being the mainstream. We're not hipsters by any means, but we're not here to play the same bands everybody knows. Our job is to bring forth bands that nobody knows and put them on the scene." Garcia explained regarding the station's stationality.

This however, does not mean that their playlist has less variety in the songs they play. Diversity is key in their station. Except for a select few, KGRG plays all types of genre from indie/alternative to psychobilly to just plain rock.

Like many other radio stations, KGRG is also subject to the costs needed to keep the station running. KGRG is funded by the college, but there are some amount of funds that the

station still needs to raise itself. The concert is also a means to raise funds for the radio station.

"We are very fortunate with what we have. As far as the grants that we've earned, the donations we've received and the pledge drive ... we are listener and locally supported because that's how the radio works," Garcia explained briefly.

Money however, is not the focus of the concert. KGRG is also trying to give back to the community. The station is planning to work together with the Auburn Food Bank. The idea is to have the ticket prices at \$10 and have a two dollar discount for anyone who brings food for the bank.

The concert is a testament to the station's heart. When asked for the purpose of this benefit concert, Garcia answered, "Ultimately, it comes down to 'Are we having fun? Are we kicking ass?' That's measurements that we're going to have."

**RED &
BLACK
LINE-UP**

DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM

AMADON
7:00 – 7:30 PM

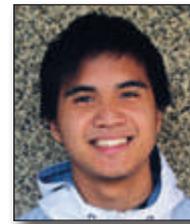
**JOBE
HIMSELF**
7:45 – 8:15 PM

QUICKIE
8:30 – 9:00 PM

**RIOT IN
RHYTHM**
9:15 – 9:55 PM

POORSPORT
10:10 – 11:10 PM

Christmas Classics



Movie Maverick

Jeremy Siregar

This holiday season came sooner than expected. We just passed the national turkey feasting day and already Christmas is around the corner.

In fact, it's passing by too fast. It's not Christmas. No, it's still just another cold week where I have to scrape the ice off my car's windshield. Sure some families are already decorating their houses with green, red and yellow lights, but I can't help but find something is still amiss.

Things took a turn when my close buddy from Minnesota took the weekend to visit me for Thanksgiving. We decided to spend Saturday morning watching Rise of the Guardians. Just for the sake of it of course, it was the only holiday themed movie we could find at the moment. That day, I walked out of the theater a different man.

How long has it been since I believed in the holiday spirit? Long enough to say that I've become numb to Christmas' benevolence. Somehow during the years I grew, I've lost the faith that I once had when I was a child, the same faith that kept me virtuous in my morals and ethics. Yes, this may be naive in a way. But in this life, some naivety can do some good.

Rise of the Guardians was only but a spark. From then on I embarked on a Christmas movie marathon to retrieve the faith I lost.

The following is a list of three Christmas movies that, if you're like me and lost in the cruel reality and mundane routines of everyday life, should take the time to watch the list.



1 A Christmas Carol (1951)

This is an original classic by Charles Dickens that no one can deny is one of the most inspiring Christmas movies of all time.

Alastair Sim's Scrooge will tell the tale as the most dark and adult adaptation of Dickens' novella.



2 The Grinch (2000)

I know, this one is a little far-fetched, but what's Christmas without some laughs? *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* is the perfect film for that purpose.

The plot can be mundane by the time you watch it a second time, but the Grinch! Oh, the Grinch! Jim Carrey carried the whole movie on his shoulders with his hilarious performance.



3 It's a Wonderful Life (1946)

Be careful what you wish for, because it might just come true.

It's a Wonderful Life tells the tale of George Bailey who wished he never existed. A visit from an angel, however, changed everything for Bailey.

Never have I watched a movie that inspired me to enjoy life to the fullest.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Name: Casey Miller
Class: ART 109 with Sara Dillon

"I really wanted the audience to think, to have a whiff of a deeper meaning that they can discern for themselves."



Sex by the numbers

*Not all questions were answered on all surveys

More than half of Green River Community College students say they have not had sexual intercourse. But nearly one-third of the 45 percent who say they have admit they rarely or never use any form of protection.

Those are some highlights in a survey of sexual habits and attitudes of college students. The survey, which was not scientific, included anonymous responses from 176 students answering seven questions.

Surveys were completed at the student center, the library and in several classes. Student ages ranged from 16-year-old Running Start students to anatomy and physiology students 23 and older.

1 Are you currently in a committed relationship?

Yes 43% No 57%

2 Have you ever had sexual intercourse?
Yes

45%

No 54%

3 Why have you not had sex?

Religious beliefs 44%

11% Lack of opportunity

Not ready 19%

3% Health concerns

Other 23%

Male Condoms



How it works: Since it's closed at one end, kind of like the finger of a glove, the male puts it over his penis and it stops the sperm from going inside a female's body.

Success rate: When used properly (98%), when used improperly (86%).

Advantage: Males can actively participate in using contraception, it's not just the female's responsibility.

Female Condoms



How it works: Worn similar to how a male condom would be worn, but a female condom is worn inside the vagina.

Success rate: When used properly (95%), when used improperly (79%).

Advantage: Can be useful when the male either will not or cannot use a male condom.

Injectable Hormonal Contraceptives



How it works: The female usually has one injection once every twelve weeks. The injection works the same way in the body as a pill would.

Success rate: When used properly (99%), when used improperly (94%).

Advantage: These injections have similar functions to the pills, but you don't need to take it as frequently, so you don't need to remember to take a pill everyday.

Spermicides



How it works: Spermicidal chemicals work by providing a film or barrier inside the vagina. Once in contact, they are designed to kill the sperm before they reach the uterus.

Success rate: When used properly (92%), when used improperly (74%).

Advantage: Cheaper than most contraceptives, even male condoms (25 cents per use), when combined with other barrier methods, has only a failure rate of 3-10%.

Birth Control Pills

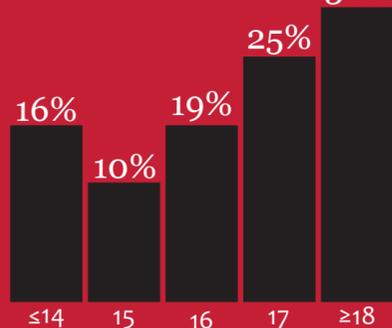


How it works: A female usually has to take one pill every day for three weeks at a time. The pill contains hormones which stop the release of an egg every month.

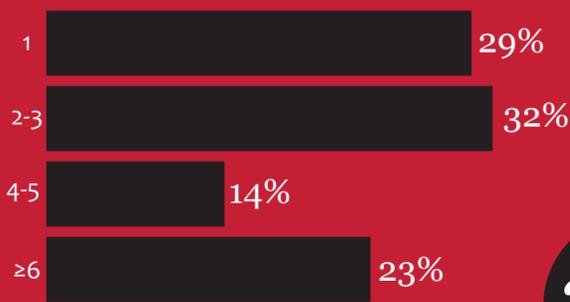
Success rate: When used properly (99%), when used improperly (95%).

Advantage: These pills can help females regulate their menstrual cycle and are safe for most women. It is a highly effective method of contraception if taken regularly.

4 How old were you when you first has sexual intercourse?



5 How many sexual partners have you had in your lifetime?



6 How frequently do you, on average, have sex?

Daily 7%

27% Several times a week

Once a week 20%

11% 2-3 times a month

Monthly 7%

25% Less than monthly

Q&A with Dr. Jerry Marshall, Ph.D*

* Dr. Jerry Marshall is an instructor who has taught psychology courses, including Human Sexuality, here at Green River Community College since 1998.

Q Why are people so fascinated with sex?

A Here's another way to look at the question: why not be fascinated? It's a biological drive. Everyone has biological drives. Everyone has sexual feelings. So, the question might be why not instead of why. You could ask the same question about other biological drives like food and drink. People are fascinated with food and drink, but there are no cultural prohibitions against openly discussing them as there are with sexuality.

Q During your time here, what evidence have you seen that shows Green River students fit into this greater fascination of sex?

A I can't answer that. I don't have the information to answer that question because I'm not tied into what's going on among students sexually. I could talk about data I've collected over the years in my [human sexuality] class, but that's probably not representative of the campus at large or, at least, we don't have reason to believe that it is. People don't discuss their sexual interests with me; they shouldn't; and I wouldn't let them if they wanted to. So there is no way for me to know what's happening on the campus.

Q How comfortable, do you believe, people are in talking about sex in our culture?

A I think your generation is more comfortable than generations that preceded you, but we still have a long way to go for there to be open discussion in our culture. Your generation is a little more relaxed about talking about [sex], about accepting people for who they are. For each generation it gets a little easier but there are still cultural prohibitions against open discussion.

Q Why, would you say, the current generation is more relaxed in talking about sex?

A That's a very good question, for which there is not an equally good answer. The research has yet to be done on your generation; your generation is too new. Those of us who came of age in the sixties thought we were [relaxed] too. Think about the hippies in the sixties, the "free-love" generation, and everyone having sex with everybody else. In the first place, that wasn't true. What people think of the sixties, the hippies, was a very small percentage of that generation. And most of the stories about them are exaggerated. The majority of that genera-

tion was very conservative, much like it is today. So while some in that generation were more open than their parents, it didn't change the overall culture much. What seemed like it would be a major cultural shift didn't quite turn out that way as people in that generation aged. For your generation, we won't be able to answer that question until you are in midlife and have your own families. Personality is still developing until one's late 20s and having children of your own changes many people's viewpoints. For most people, it's a lot easier to go against cultural norms when they are young. It becomes more difficult as you get older. So the big question is will your generation change the culture permanently and if so, how much? We won't know that until time passes.

Q If two students were dating, how would you suggest they approach the issue of sex?

A I don't know that you can give a prescription for that, because it really depends on who the people are. You can't say everybody should do "this", because "this" doesn't work for everybody. How people should talk about it has to be seen in the context of who they are. If you are to engage

in [sex], it should be a subject of discussion. How you approach it really depends on who you are as people.

Q Has this generation become more tolerant in the acceptance of sexual orientations aside from heterosexuality?

A Many of us have a lot of hope for your generation with respect to equal rights, acceptance of gay marriage, gay and lesbian issues and the like. The gay rights movement started in the late sixties and brought the issue to the forefront. The fight for civil rights is often a long and slow process. So, the gay rights movement started forty-plus years ago. It's been a long road and we still don't have equal rights or equal acceptance. As you keep bringing the issue before the public, and teaching the public, people start to understand. Younger generations are usually among the first people to get it. So, as they get it, they say, "Yeah! It makes perfect sense to me!" And, as the younger generations grow up, a portion of them keep that attitude. Then, another generation grows up and you get a bigger portion who [retain that attitude]. And eventually you see the cultural changes we're seeing today.

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EDITORIAL

Electronic entertainment
provides escapism for students

Many people feel that electronic entertainment can be harmful to your health; but is it really?

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

Many people believe that electronic entertainment has become an obsession among the current society, more specifically though, the younger upcoming generation.

This hardly comes as a shock given the way that the younger generations are being brought up.

50 years ago, a child growing up was often given a ball or bike and told to go play outside. Yet, compare that to the children of today and you see small children glued to their parents' iPhones and to video games and TV.

As we grow up, electronic entertainment becomes a part of our life; it's what we grew to know and to adapt to. We conform to it, learn it, and do all we can to know all about it.

The big issue that people have with electronic entertainment is that it was said that students, college students especially, are seen as addicted and obsessed to it.

Students are always seen with their cell phones in hand or iPod's beating away in the ears. Entire TV series are watched over weekends in one go, the newest video

games are beat within the first 6 hours of owning them, and movie theaters buckle under the weight of people trying to see the newest movie of the month.

Ok, so maybe our culture loves electronics. But do our intents deem it all to be bad?

Ladies and gentlemen, I propose the idea that electronic entertainment is NOT bad for you. What makes it bad is the over-usage of electronics and the fixated ways we go about constantly immersed in the virtual world.

Electronic entertainment itself is not bad for students. In fact, I say that everyone should have some form of electronic entertainment to play with, listen to, or watch.

Why? There is one single clear concept that explains it all.

Escapism.

Electronic entertainment allows for students and really all people to have a form of escapism. Students spend the whole day working through school, part-time jobs, and piles of homework.

To relieve stress, electronics provide a good

solution.

Music can relax a person or make them happy. A movie can help someone out with whatever mood they are in. Video games are often a "big hitter" since they allow for a person to, in a way, take a break from this world and get lost in another one for fun.

These forms of electronic entertainment allow us to keep our sanity despite all of the hectic mundane things that happen all the time.

It is true however that many people take escapism to an extreme and are often lost to reality and are then trapped in a fake world.

I believe that all people should reconsider how much time they spend in the electronic world. We can afford to give up a great deal of the time spent on movies and games.

However, let us not cut it away entirely, for it provides the escape we all need.

Without an avenue of escape, students would be crushed under the work loads and sizable tasks that pile onto life. Not to mention the addition of all the other forms of stress and time consuming issues.

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.

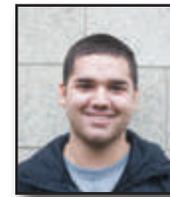
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The Current encourages all its readers to be involved and will publish letters. Anonymous letters are not accepted and the editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become property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

Dylan's Letter
A message from the EICThe Chief
Dylan Whitcher

In order to be great at any particular thing you need something, or someone, to motivate you.

For me, my motivation came just over two years ago when my son Mason Robert Whitcher was introduced into this world.

Before Mason, I was like many other 17 year olds; I would go to the occasional teen party, drink my ass off and wake up in the clothes I wore the night before with a headache I thought would never disappear.

Since Mason however, my life has taken a full 180. I'm focused, ambitious and now if you tell me I can't do something, I will do whatever it takes to prove you wrong.

I've taken this newfound maturity as a turning point in my life and I've brought that maturity to the newsroom.

The quarter is almost over and it is unfathomable that this is our last issue. There have been many nights where I just wanted to rip my hair out; from staying up until three in the morning or running around campus searching for a story. Now, looking back it was all worth it. Our paper was not perfect and will never be perfect, but our staff (myself included) has made great strides and each issue has been better than the previous.

We have covered important topics, from student government elections all the way to sex on campus. I have made friendships with so many students and faculty members in the short time that I have been Editor-in-Chief. It's very rare to say you love what you do, but to be honest I really do love what I

do. The stress will always be there, but the journey has taken me to heights unimaginable.

I know it is only the end of fall quarter and I still have two more left, but I feel as if time is moving too quickly, but I guess that's life. Life goes too slow during the rough times and then too fast when things are on the up-and-up.

For right now however, I wish I could freeze time and stay in this moment. Deadlines have been met and our hard work during this grueling 11 week quarter has finally paid off. It's nice being able to physically hold something, knowing you put your heart and soul into it.

We will never be perfect, but this is the time to make mistakes; if you cannot make mistakes in college, then where can you make them? In the professional world mistakes should be minimal, but in college life, mistakes are welcomed. Go out and make mistakes, they're inevitable.

Mason has changed my life in so many ways. I am not ashamed to admit that at first I thought my life was over. I am still me, just a different me. That 17 year old kid who wanted to do nothing other than party is now maturing into a 20 year old man and I'm not afraid to say that I still have a long way to go.

I was on Facebook the other day and there was a quote that caught my eye.

"There comes a point in life when fun no longer means clubbing, drinking, or being out until four a.m., or thinking about yourself!"

Continued: "Fun means Disney Movies, family dinners, bedtime stories, long cuddles, a messy house, sleeping by 10 p.m. and hearing little voices say 'I love you', becoming a parent doesn't change you, it makes you realize that the little people YOU created deserve the very best of your time."

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Expensive tastes not always worth it

Are the prices of food justified in the eye's of a college student?



Commentary by:
Benjamin Biernacki

Food prices at the Green River campus cafeteria are fairly reasonable, but what about beverages? Or food from the bookstore?

The cuisine offered by the cafeteria is certainly not fine dining, but it is served hot and fresh. (Unless it is a salad, then it is just fresh.)

As such, it is reasonable to expect students to pay five big ones for a good cheeseburger.

After all, we're not buying some fast food slop that's been sitting around all day, oftentimes the burger is prepared right before our very eyes.

The wait is negligible considering the quality.

The beef (no pun intended) that many students have with the cafeteria is the markup on beverages that can be purchased cheaper at a local convenience store.

While I may not be a business major, I understand that the college does not manufacture Pepsi or Gatorade, and that some markup must be made in order for the sale of these products to be logical.

The thing is, the gas station down the street also doesn't make these products, yet a bottle of iced tea there will cost you considerably less than at the college (by a college student's standards).

So what is there to stop students from going off campus for their consumption needs?

Convenience is the obvi-

ous stand out factor.

When the cafeteria is within walking distance of any classroom, it's a tough situation for a student to justify going somewhere else to get lunch.

That would consist of a lengthy process of getting in the car, driving through traffic, finding somewhere to eat, having lunch, driving back to campus, and then fighting for the last parking spot around.

No thank you.

The cafeteria should not be exploiting this fact.

Students are not asking to be provided beverages at wholesale; that would be ridiculous.

What they do want is some sort of compromise.

Lowering prices to equal those of other local businesses does not seem like an unreasonable request to this writer.

On a side note, the Paper

Tree bookstore should do the same with their beverages and food.

The same arguments apply to them as to the cafeteria, except ALL of the food and drink sold there is prepackaged.

Stop extorting hard-working students who are forced to either buy food on campus, skip class for food, or starve because they can't afford the high food prices.

Of course the cafeteria and the bookstore could argue that students are buying the products anyway, so why change?

Well, how about examining the morality of it?

Both of these stores are located on Green River's campus and are thus an integral part of our college.

Last I checked, the college is here to provide students with opportunities, not to turn a profit by whatever means necessary.

twitter.com



New laws mean new opinions

Should the new laws be accepted or denied?



Commentary by:
James Nguyen

As of just a few weeks ago, it seemed as though the main topics many people were talking about were the legalization of weed and same-sex marriage.

But, the large amount of chatter has dissipated, slowly shrinking these issues to a smaller side-topic.

What was it though that made them such big topics in the first place?

They were revolutionary and symbolized a time of great change!

In my opinion, the legalization of marijuana seems to be a really smart choice.

The decriminalization of it not only benefits the state as a whole, but many individuals as well.

The talk of marijuana

being a dangerous gateway drug may in part be true.

Ultimately, the abuse of marijuana or the switch to a dangerous drug is a choice that can only be made by one person: the user.

Education then becomes very important in insuring the safety of the people who would use it.

No one has been truly hurt by marijuana and as long as it is used consciously, nothing bad could come from it.

The topic of same-sex marriage has always been a little hushed and on the down-low.

All throughout history, same-sex marriage supporters have played parts in many revolutions concerning equality between one another to gain equal rights.

But it has never truly broken as many barriers as it could have, at least, not until now.

Treating someone differently or looking down upon them in any way is no different from being a racist,

sexist or monomaniac.

Everyone deserves to be with whoever they believe will make them truly happy in life.

All people deserve the right to be able to live their life the way they see fit so long as the style of life does not harm others.

The way I see it, these two great decisions do not in any way cause harm, nor should they offend any person.

In many ways, the effects and changes of these new laws will bring more people together resulting in many people being happier.

We all should be allowed to live the life we so please.

Realize that the choices we make are our own and the future we want to live in will be the results of those decisions.

If the choices we make decide the future we want, then there is no reason we should be prevented from making the choices we feel to be best for us as a people.

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The Undercurrent

Director Dani Chang wins award

By: Christin Peter
Staff Writer

Dani Chang, the director of student services at Green River, was awarded the Shelley K. Bannish Outstanding Advisor's Award in honor of her strong commitment to student development and leadership.

Shelley K. Bannish, the director of the student life and involvement center at Centralia College, presented the award at the annual meeting of the National Association of Campus Activities West region, held from Nov. 15 to Nov. 18 in Portland.

According to the NACA website, recipients must have participated in NACA activities, made a significant contribution to student life, presented commitment to excellent service to student leaders, is viewed as an educator by his or her colleagues, and shows genuine support and regard for students.

In addition to these criteria, at least three letters must be submitted to the NACA with at least one letter written by the nominee's advisor and another from a group of students.

I-502 does not affect college policy

By: Rachel Sant
Senior Writer

The approval of Initiative 502 will not hold any effect over Green River's drug and tobacco policies, including both current and future rules.

With the ratification of I-502, Washington State will allow people over 21 years of age to legally carry specific quantities of marijuana.

However, due to the fact that marijuana is still illegal on the federal level, Green River cannot allow it on campus grounds. The college receives and works with federal funding and therefore must follow federal law. According to the Green River website, students, faculty and visitors of the campus are to abide by these laws as well. Those who do not are subject to discipline.

Newsweek discontinues print

By: Dylan Whitcher
Editor-in-Chief

On Oct. 18, Newsweek Magazine announced that they will be discontinuing their weekly print publication on Dec. 31 of this year.

Newsweek was founded in 1933 and has run a print version for nearly 80 years.

The news was a shock to many, especially in the journalism world. However, during an interview with USA Today, Tina Brown, Editor-in-Chief of The Newsweek Daily Beast Company said the decision to cut the print presence was an easy decision to make.

"The journalism business has been increasingly affected by the challenging print advertisement environment," Brown said. She also added that, in a recent poll by Pew Research Study, "39% of Americans now get their news from an online source."

Along with Newsweek, the magazine SmartMoney will also be cancelling their print edition.

Despite the magazine's print edition being cancelled, Newsweek will continue to publish on their website and mobile application while implementing new ways to improve their digital voice.

College strives to increase wetland's rainwater capacity

Woodland Detention Program continues in the expansion Green River's wetland

By: Christin Peter
Staff Writer

Green River is continuing its mission to provide the best to its students, campus, and the environment through the Woodlands Detention Project.

The Woodlands Detention Project takes stormwater from developed sites and controls its release to prevent pollution, flooding and erosion. Green River's system, located near the walking trails on campus, is distinctive because it includes a wetland.

"It's taking an existing water system that has been in its current form since the sixties when the college was built and enhancing it," said Sam Ball, the director of Capital Projects.

The project is a collaboration between natural resource students and several agencies, including the Army Corp of Engineers, the Muckleshoot Tribe, the city of Auburn, the department of ecology, and the department of natural resources.

Construction is now complete and in early December, natural resource students will begin planting native species. There are hopes that some biology students will volunteer to help with the planting.

"This is very unique because normally agencies won't let you do anything around a wetland," Ball informed. "The main reason we were allowed to do it is because we have a



Michelle Spencer | The Current

The college's wetlands are located off of a pathway originating from parking lot 8, behind Cedar Hall.

very strong natural resource program."

The wetland has been expanded, enabling it to retain more water, benefiting plants, animals, and insects.

The natural resource program has made a commitment to monitor water levels and the impact on trees and plants for the next ten years. Reports are conducted by students under the supervision of a biologist and are sent to each endorsing agency.

Each year, faculty selects a student intern as a leader of the project. The current intern, Mary Starr, is in her last few quarters at Green River and is training Katie Hurlburt as her replacement. Next year, Hurlburt will train her own successor,

ensuring that a trained person will always be available to lead.

The Woodlands Detention Project was a dream that started seven years ago. On Jan. 1, 2008 the city of Auburn annexed the Lea Hill area and took an interest in the project.

"The city of Auburn is very progressive and innovative," Ball said. "They became an advocate for us."

The number of important agencies involved proves that this is a great opportunity for Green River and its students. Not only does the project help the environment, but it also provides a great educational opportunity.

"This is something that's at a level that you could

have a bachelor's or master's program and it would still be this intensive," commented Ball. "The students are getting some really high-level experience."

The last three years have been very crucial to the project. Intensive designing, construction, and monitoring began, providing a few years worth of records. However, since it is an ongoing project, there is always work to be done.

Currently, an instruction binder is being compiled for the project. It will tell what to record, how to record it, and how and where to write reports.

"To be able to do this is a great testament to our natural resource department," said Ball.

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College to be smoke-free

New policy bans all tobacco use from college campus

By: Jérôme Chevrolet
Staff Writer

Green River will be instituting a new tobacco policy on Jan. 1, 2013, resulting in an absolutely tobacco-free campus. Staff, students and visitors will not be allowed to use any kind of tobacco products on campus, and any person who violates the policy can be fined.

Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and even electronic cigarettes.

The policy applies to all people on Green River's sidewalks, parking lots, landscaped areas, recreational areas, in buildings and in all vehicles owned and leased by Green River Community College.

Non-compliance with the designated smoking areas and the constant littering on campus from tobacco products were the main reasons for Green River to propose and enter the new

policy. Furthermore, it is in the interest of Green River to protect the health of all the people on campus.

Because the policy's goal is to ensure a tobacco-free environment, people who don't abide can be subject to disciplinary action including suspension, restitution, probation or fines.

As for staff members, repeated use of tobacco on campus can also result in an informal discussion with their supervisor.

Green River encourages students and staff that catch people smoking to remind them that campus is tobacco-free. If the person continues to smoke or even becomes confrontational, students and staff are advised to walk away and call Campus Safety at extension #3350.

According to Green River's website, it is everybody's responsibility to support the policy. Employees are encouraged to politely

remind smokers to leave the property. The college reminds non-smokers to be respectful towards tobacco users and encourages them to support those who choose to quit.

Green River is not the first tobacco-free college in Washington. Examples of other smoke-free colleges in Washington are Seattle Pacific University, Everett Community College, Clark College, Lower Columbia College and Walla Walla University. In fact, Green River is the ninth smoke-free campus in the state.

Smokers who want to quit are encouraged to contact Julie French, the coordinator for prevention education. There are also resources outside of Green River. "Uniform Quit for Life Program", The Auburn Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Hospital or Auburn Valley YMCA are further resources that provide support groups.

Crime on campus

Liquor Law Violation

Date: November 2
Report time: 10 p.m.

Occupants in a unit of the Campus Corner Apartments were reported to have been partaking in underage drinking; not confirmed.

Burglary

Date: November 15
Report time: 2:50 a.m.

After hearing a noise, the occupants of a CCA unit walked down stairs and saw a black male, approximately 5'9", 180 pounds, with short hair and a beard, going through the fridge. He then ran out the door. The occupants found that a window screen had been taken down and only a wallet had been stolen.

Robbery

Date: November 13
Report time: 12 p.m.

A student was approached by a man at the Welcome Center and asked to borrow his phone. After the student gave him permission, the man claimed he was going to the parking lot to use the phone and never returned.

Personal Property Theft

Date: November 15
Report time: 1:45 p.m.

While waiting for a student to arrive, an instructor left her office to consult with a colleague and returned to find a brochure on "Careers in Education Preparation" on her desk and her wallet missing from her purse.



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Volleyball

Lady Gators Volleyball ends on a high note

Green River finishes seventh at NWAACC championships

By: Febby Mulia
Staff Writer

Game, set, and match! The Lady Gators wrapped up the volleyball season with flying colors after competing in the 2012 NWAACC Volleyball Conference Championships held in Mt. Hood, Ore.

Sixteen teams, four qualifying from every region, brought their best game to contend for the title of 2012 NWAACC Volleyball Champion.

The Gators qualified for the championship after completing the regular season tied for first place in the Western region with an astounding 25-8 record.

The outcome of the four-day weekend tournament is something the Lady Gators can be proud of; Green River tied with Highline for 7th place, the same team they tied with for first in the

regular season.

"For a team that hadn't been to the tournament in a couple of years, to finish 7th was a very good step in the right direction," said athletic director Bob Kickner.

In this year's tournament, the Gators played a total of four games, splitting the matches in half with two wins and two losses.

Day one - November 15, the Gators played against Shoreline and won in a three set game (25-19, 25-21, 25-16). The team was off to a great start and advanced to the next day.

Day two - On Friday night, they played Olympic College in a highly competitive match of three sets. The team managed to overcome Olympic with 25-22 on the first set, but lost on the second set 23-25. In the end, the Gators snatched the victory with a final score of 15-11.



Courtesy photo | greenriver.edu

The volleyball team at Green River finished with a strong record and looks forward to an improved team next year.

A few pivotal moments during the last set were decided by sophomore Erin Fisher. Fisher scored late in the game and had two key blocks and two key kills, spurring the Gators as a momentum shifter late in the third set.

After the short win streak, the Gators' second game on Friday was against the Blue Mountain Timberwolves. Unfortunately, the Lady Gators lost in all three

sets, with scores 25-16, 25-14, 25-18.

However, this loss wasn't the end of the road. Green River was given the opportunity to proceed to the losers' bracket, with hopes of finishing strong.

"When you get in the losers' bracket, it becomes very challenging because there's a lot of pressure for the teams," said Kickner.

Day three - On the Saturday morning, the Gators

played their first game in the losers bracket against the Umpqua Riverhawks.

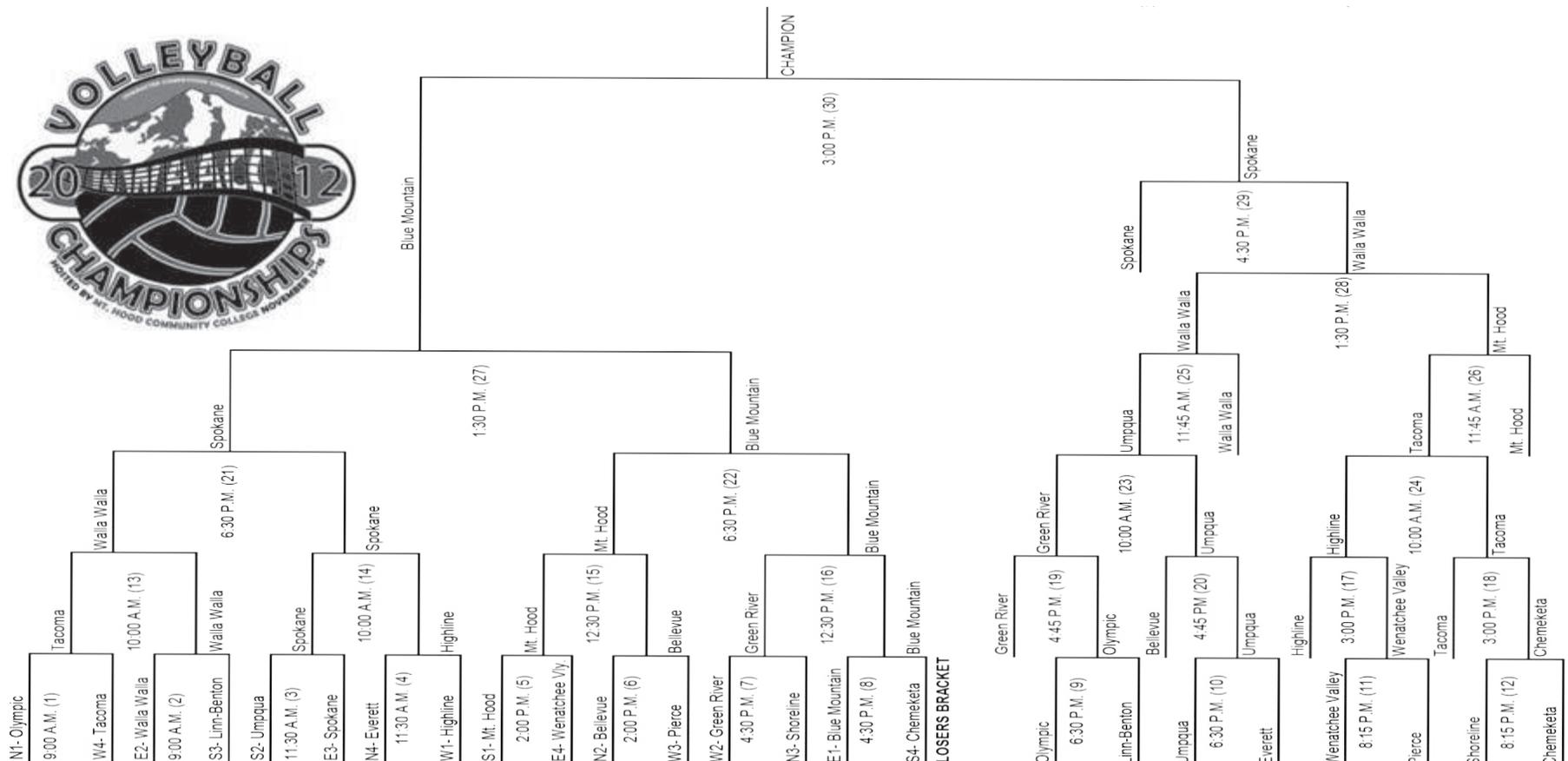
The two set game against Umpqua was the last for the Lady Gators, ending their last game with respectable scores of 25-22 and 25-18.

"Umpqua has given us fits in the past," Kickner mentioned. "They're just feisty! They've got an outside hitter that's very good, and they came out on Saturday morning with more

energy than we did."

Overall, Kickner was pleased with the results of the tournament. "The event was very solid for us, and I think that for the sophomores, Erin, Stephanie, and Gwen, it was very emotional coming to the end of the season."

As for the years to come, the Gators are aiming higher and have plans to return to the NWAACC Championship.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Gators storm into season with nail-biting loss

In Green River's first women's basketball game of the year, a hard fought battle came down to final minutes

By: Jonathan Sigrist
Staff Writer

In the opening game of the 2012 season, the Whatcom Orcas escaped with a 65-58 victory over the Gators, despite a late-game surge by Green River.

Although Green River had the first strike with a two-point jump shot, Whatcom answered with a vengeance, scoring eight unanswered points. But after Kelsey Morgan made the Gators' second shot of the day, Christie Kullberg kept momentum up by hitting consecutive three-pointers to regain the lead, 10-8.

The Orcas and Gators battled back and forth for the rest of the first period, ending with the Orcas leading 29-26.

The Gators again started strong, with sophomore Brittani Miller scoring the first four points of the pe-

riod to regain the lead. But midway through the period, with the Gators behind 41-44, the Orcas rallied with a devastating 10 point blitz, giving them a commanding 13 point advantage as time began to work against Green River.

Carley Kitzman spurred the team with back-to-back shots, and although the Gators outscored their opponents 17-11 in the final minutes, it wasn't enough to claw their way back.

The leading scorer, sophomore Miller, looked sharp with 12 points overall, contributing mostly in the first half of the game. In the second half, freshman Kitzman picked up the slack, putting up six of her nine points, as well as seven rebounds overall.

Although their first game wasn't everything they'd hoped, this is a Gator team with a lot of potential. Their



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Despite a loss against Whatcom, sights are set high for the Lady Gators.

strengths and weaknesses were both put on display against Whatcom, and although the team demonstrated room for improvement, they also showed

several stellar attributes.

One of the strengths cited by third-year Coach Tim Riles is the team's impressive depth. "I love our versatility. We've got a solid

nine, maybe even eleven. We've got a lot of moving parts, girls who can play multiple positions."

This flexibility was shown in full force as 10 different Gator players saw time on the court over the course of the game, eight of them putting points on the board.

Before the game, one aspect that Coach Riles emphasized was getting rebounds. "We've got to rebound. When it's all said and done, that's going to be our key statistic." Riles was dead on, as the Orcas out-rebounded the Gators 40-30 on their way to victory.

The rebound advantage turned out to be the difference on Saturday night, because it allowed Whatcom to take vastly more shots than Green River. Although the Gators had more accuracy, sinking 48% of their shots to the Orcas'

43%, Whatcom had a stunning 28 more attempts than Green River, 99-71.

Some of this difference was caused by free throws, which Whatcom took 17 of to Green River's seven. The Gators committed 11 fouls to the Orca's eight, and consequently got eight fewer points from free throws. In a game that was decided by a mere seven points, that's a significant amount.

There are certainly elements to work on, the Gators didn't look at all overmatched as they started the season. Coach Riles is excited about this team and considers postseason play a definite possibility.

Although he stressed that it's too early to be sure, Riles is very excited about his squad. "I think we can adjust to any team," said Riles. "And more importantly teams will have to adjust to us."



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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Gators impress at annual Turkey Tournament

Behind stellar performances by Kortney Darby, Gators win two of three games at Thanksgiving shootout

By: Dylan Whitcher
Editor-in-Chief

The Green River Men's Basketball team opened up their season in the 2012 Skagit Valley Turkey Tournament and left with a respectable 2-1 record.

In the first game against Wenatchee Valley, their defense was stifling, holding the Knights to a lousy 26 percent from the field.

Green River, on the other hand, came out on fire, shooting 40 percent from the field, in route to the 81-53 victory.

Unfortunately, the teams youth and inexperience haunted them in the second game.

Green River jumped to a 13 point halftime lead after shooting 54 percent from the three point stripe. They went a horrific 1-10 behind the arc in the second half, ultimately costing them the

game. The Gators lost 76-73 to Skagit Valley, who won the tournament.

Head coach Tim Malroy is entering his ninth season behind the helm for the Men's Basketball team and for a coach who's seen it all, the reason behind the loss was obvious. "We had a tendency to get individually focused when we felt comfortable with a lead, and that came back to haunt us."

There was no time for the Gators to feel sorry for themselves; their next test was against Clackamas and this time the script from the previous game was reversed.

Green River trailed by eight points at half but went on to outscore the Cougars by 14 in the final 20 minutes. The game was won at the free throw line. In the first half the Gators shot an embarrassing 38 percent



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After their 2-1 finish at the tournament, the men's Gators team gear up for their upcoming away game against Olympic College.

from the foul line. In the second half however, Green River made 16 of their 21 attempts, ending the tournament with a 75-69 victory and a final record of 2-1.

The Gators had plenty of reasons to leave the tournament with their heads held

high. First year player Kortney Darby was a constant force, averaging 23 points and seven rebounds in the teams three games.

At 6'5 Darby is a consistent low post threat who isn't afraid to stretch the floor with his ability to

knock down 15-17 footers with regularity. Something Green River lacked last season.

This team is different in many ways in comparison to teams of the past, but for Malroy, that's a good thing. "We compete, we were

able to elevate our game to places we haven't seen in practice yet," Malroy added. "This squad is a little more mature and tougher, they don't mind getting into a grinder game ... defensively we can hold some teams down."



Calendar

MEN'S BASKETBALL	
Dec 8	Olympic @ Bremerton, 7 p.m.
Dec 14	Portland @ GRCC, 4 p.m.*
Dec 15	Wenatchee or Everett @ GRCC, 7 or 2:30 p.m.*
Dec 16	Final Round @ GRCC, TBA *
Dec 19	NW Indian @ GRCC, 7 p.m.
Jan 2	Highline @ GRCC, 7 p.m.
*Tournaments	
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	
Dec 7	Lane @ Lakewood, 2 p.m.*
Dec 8	Wenatchee or Skagit @ Lakewood, 1 or 5 p.m.*
Dec 9	TBA @ Lakewood, TBA*
Dec 14	Columbia Basin @ Pasco, 6 p.m.*
Dec 15	Shorline or SW Oregon @ Pasco, 7 or 3 p.m.*
Dec 16	Final Round @ Pasco, TBA*
Dec 19	Edmonds @ GRCC, 5 p.m.

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

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