Green River Community College
The Current

Lady gators bounce back

After a seven-game losing streak, the Lady Gators defeat the South Puget Sound Clippers.

SPORTS page 14

February 13, 2013 | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GREENRIVERCURRENT VOLUME 47, ISSUE 6

Valentine's Day survival guide

Photo illustration by Dominic Yoxtheimer

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I can't take it anymore!

Everybody knows that stress breaks us down, but can it also be beneficial?

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Feminism in art

The Elles:Sam art exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum showcases feminist art constructed by women.

NEWS page 10

Students storm state capital

Green River students travel to Olympia, Wash. to have their voices heard in regard to budget cuts on higher education.

OP-ED page 13

The existence of pleasure reading is slowly fading away

Students don't find the time to read for pleasure today, and that is a major issue.

Stay Current

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Also on the Inside

"Yes, we are in the midst of some hard economic times, but Washington's legislature needs to realize that cutting funding to education is going to have some very long term effects.

The Current **Page 10**

A couple rides one of the lifts up the mountain. There are a total of 10 different top of the line chair lifts that span all over the mountain range. Providing easy access to any of Crystal's numerous trails.

Photographs by: Michelle Spencer

SNOW DAY

By: Michelle Spencer
Photography Editor

At Crystal Mountain, there are 2,600 acres and an average of 486 inches of snowfall annually, making the Green River snowboard trip a guaranteed success. On Jan. 26th, a bus full of excited Green River students headed off to Crystal for a day in the snow. The ascension to Crystal Summit took about 2 hours and the students arrived at the staggering mountain around 9 a.m. Some students had to rent gear but most brought their own, well prepared for the slopes. Looking for more of a challenge than the bunny hill, experience led some students to the steeps, chutes, and bowls while others took it slow, learning at the beginner runs. After the students had their fun, the bus departed at 4 p.m. and everyone headed back to Green River with stories about the adventurous day.

LEFT: A skiier makes his way down one of the slopes. There are several different places to have a good time at Crystal Mountain which range from gentle groomed runs for beginners, to challenging steeps, glades, chutes, bowls and expansive backcountry for the more experienced.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Lezlie Hall

Position:
English Instructor
Years at Green River:
7 years

Lezlie Hall has been dedicated to the English program at Green River for years.

What intrigues you about teaching English?

I've always had a passion for literature and learned to read at a fairly early age. And I've always wanted to teach so I combined those two passions into an academic career, eventually pursuing a PhD. I got my PhD at the University of Iowa in English literature and I came to research writing because at the University of Iowa I helped start the writing center there at the college of engineering.

Through meeting engineering students and professors I learned how to write for a scientific audience which a lot of other professors don't have. If I had to do it over again and I had a chance to combine the right and left sides of my brain better, I would be an architect because I think it mixes science and art in the best possible way.

What is the biggest misconception people have about English?

That somehow people are gifted writers, there are gifted writers, but writing is like anything else, it's a skill that's developed. Yo-Yo Ma is a gifted cellist, but he practices his craft every day. A writer has certain guidelines to follow that improve their writing so it's a skill like anything else, you practice your craft and you work at what you do. Good writers are disciplined and work at their profession.

Hemingway, as drunk as he might have gotten, got up at five o'clock every morning and wrote. He was a superb, but also disciplined writer.

People are not necessarily born brilliant writers, you learn to become a better writer as you practice writing. Anyone can be a writer.

From a teaching perspective, what is the most important aspect to convey to students about writing?

I think one of the things that's important to get across to students is to show a passion for your field of writing because that passion can become infectious and everyone else is drawn in. And in that passion to help students create their own avenues of creativity and come to the experience of writing in their own way and with their own personal style.

And patience. Writing is a laborious and sometimes tedious discipline. It takes patience to be both a writer a work with other people's writings.

What are the benefits of teaching English here at Green River?

Well, among other things I have such a diverse mix of students it's just a delight. I'm embarrassed to admit this, but I sometimes think I walk into a class and learn as much from students as they learn from me. So I feel there's a real reciprocity between my students and me which is one of the reasons I love to teach. I never walk away from a class feeling like that's all I can learn, each class teaches me something.

That's my great joy teaching here at Green River is I have so many different students and such a diversity of population. I take something from all of them in some way.

Have you had any interesting experiences in writing that have helped you as a teacher?

I was very lucky to have done my graduate work at the University of Iowa because it's a school dedicated to writing, it has the premier and world famous writing workshop.

So my process of writing and my teaching process are informed by listening to other writers. Amy Tan, Sherman Alexie, John Erving and Terry Tempest Williams, the list goes on and on.

What's your favorite part about teaching?

The ah-ha moment, the eureka moment when a student says to me "I have discovered something different about the world I didn't know through something you've taught." That, to me, reinforces my desire to teach because I've opened the world to them in a different way. I'm delighted when a student offers me the great gift of saying they've learned something that has revolutionized the way they see the world.

MAN ON THE STREET

What's the worst Valentine's Day experience you've ever had?

"Well, I spent it with my mom and it was a kind of sad day. I love my mom but it's not that kind of love you're looking for in life."

James Goodgion

"I didn't get any candy, yeah that was probably the worst Valentine's Day. Probably back in elementary school no one got me any candy."

David Michalek

"We went out to dinner, it was very romantic, but on the drive home a tire went flat. She, thinking me to be a very manly man, was like, 'can you do this?' and from there it went all downhill."

Tyler Bain

"One time on Valentine's Day I was set up on a blind date and it was really, really, really awkward. He couldn't lead a conversation and I was the only one talking the whole time."

Anastasiya Dezhnyuk

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

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campus.editor@mail.greenriver.edu

Dominic Yoxtheimer | *The Current*

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Name: **Jaime Samtani**
Home country: **China**
Years in US: **1.5**

From the crowded streets of Beijing to the small King County community of Auburn, Jaime Samtani is one of Green River's many international students eager for American culture.

Samtani's main purpose for coming to America is to get an American education. Although China's educational system is ranked as one of the highest in the world it is flawed according to Jaime.

"The [Chinese education system] is very narrow minded, whatever the book says, it is correct, not as much room for questioning ... American education gives you more room for creativity and critical thinking."

An American degree is looked on with distinction in China as a highly valuable asset to have. With that in mind, Samtani plans to go on and get his bachelor's degree in marketing here in America and then go back to China for his career.

On the cultural side of his experience here, Samtani has seen a detailed snapshot of the American way of life.

"America is very diverse obviously, and everyone is very independent, but it is very contradictory because at the same time you form as a community," said Samtani.

This community way of thinking is also obvious to Samtani when it comes to America's foreign policy.

"America has the highest standards of living for the most minimum price."

Samtani also views America as a big brother, controlling parts of the world that don't necessarily need to be controlled.

"America, no offence, likes to boss around things ... I am sure a lot of the presidents want to stop this interventionism, but I think it has gone too far and you can't hold it back."

In addition to a big brother, Samtani also sees America as having too much pride in a sense. He made it clear he supported nationalism but when America gets louder than the voice of reason, Samtani claims it becomes too much.

"When it comes to 9/11 or when Bin Laden died it is just 'USA, USA!' it can be a good thing because these events are where people come together but it can really be too much."

The sun never sets on American soil, militarily. America in Samtani's eyes is an unofficial mediator, and has done a lot of great things in the past but has also been in a lot of places where it shouldn't be.

In the same way, the sun also never sets on Chinese soil, economically. It is very hard to find anything not either made in China or passed through the Chinese economic system.

Despite the educational, social and economic differences, Samtani still holds respect for both America and China. He believes America can be overbearing in some aspects, but is beneficial to the world in it's own unique way. When asked what the best part of America was Samtani replied, "the sense of individuality."

By: Carlos Tablit III

I can't take it anymore!

The effects of stress at Green River and how to manage it

By: Rachel Sant
Senior Writer

Stress is all around us. It lurks in our everyday lives, comes from every direction and in most cases, drowns us in an endless sea of to-do lists.

The point is that stress is extremely hard to avoid, even impossible at times. However, this doesn't mean it's a bad thing; stress can be a source of prosperity for the life of a student.

"Stress [can be] a positive thing because sometimes it motivates you," said Julie French, a health educator at Green River. "Just knowing that you have that test in five days... if you break it down and you study with your friends and you quiz yourself and you're all prepared ... that's out of the motivation for the stressor of knowing that that test is coming."

Green River Community College held the Stress Management Workshop on Jan. 25 in order to educate students on how to handle their daily stress.

Though we do need stress, it can cause a range of effects in both mental and physical ways. In minor amounts, these effects might not be as noticeable, such as leaving an individual tired and sore or unable to focus as well as they might under normal circumstances. But if your stress isn't managed, it can become overwhelming and push people into depression.

"Having that stress ... it can come out physically in the form of colds or sickness. We can literally make ourselves sick," said Liz Becker, a mental health counselor here at Green River.

"And then, psychologically, if we're super stressed out, worse case scenarios can be that sometimes students just reach a point where they just can't take it anymore and they just stop and break down in a way."

Fortunately, there are many outlets to handle the stress that we're assaulted with daily.

Taking the time to relax is crucial to fighting the negative effects of stress. Watching TV, reading a book or enjoying a long nap are all good ways to calm your mind. Even playing video games for a few hours can help eliminate stress.

Removing oneself from a tension filled situation is another effective way to harness stress. Whether it's done through working on something else for a while or taking a walk, getting away from the stress is essential.

If taking a five from the stress isn't an option, at least take the time to breathe deeply and try to just ease the tension in your bodies.

"One of the things that I work with students on, especially if they have a lot of stress and they feel it physically [...], is called 'Progressive Muscle Relaxation," Becker said.

"Next to getting a massage by somebody else, this is one of the best things you can do for yourself," Becker said. "It's a technique where you tense and release your muscles on a timed basis. And you do that throughout your whole body."

The lifestyle that people live is also important to handling stress. It's essential to make a point of getting 7-9 hours of sleep every night and to eat regularly. Skipping sleep and meals can hurt the ability to concentrate which leads to even more problems.

It is also good to try to get out and exercise when possible, as it helps relieve stored up stress. And, of course, take some time to spend with family and friends: laughter is a wonderful cure to stress!

Stress doesn't ever have to be handled alone either. Green River has many different resources just waiting to help when it all seems to be too much. Most of these services can be found in the upper level of the Lindbloom Student Center.

"Find what applies to you and go there," said French. "And even if it doesn't apply to you, find out about that department and you might find about another resource while you're there."

Also on the Inside

"As far as the future goes, we still have six games ahead of us, and all we can do is hope for the best."

Febby Mulia **Page 14**

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Gari Watkins | *Courtesy Photo*

Feminism in art

The Elles:Sam exhibit deprives sexism in arts

By: Laylav Rasheed
Staff Writer

Fifty years ago a museum exhibition dedicated to female artists would have been nearly impossible to fathom.

Fortunately, the Elles:Sam exhibit, located in the Seattle Art Museum, emphasizes moving beyond showcasing simply feminist artworks made by women. Instead, the exhibit promotes women working in an array of media and within various artistic movements such as cubism, video installation, surrealism, feminism, and many more.

The exhibition space is laid out nicely allowing the viewer to seamlessly walk from room to room. The space itself is minimal and standard as to not take away from the captivating artworks. The lighting was indeed bright as to show the theatrical element to the work, yet, it was subtle enough as to not distract.

Also, the director of the exhibit did a magnificent job of categorizing genres while simultaneously juxtaposing various themes within those genres.

The exhibit is a collection of superb artists who just happen to all be women, not "women artists." The show strives to dismantle that stereotype and let the art simply exist as art.

It is difficult deciding if each of the individual pieces are fascinating by themselves or if the intrigue is a result of being in a room with so many great artists' works at one moment. The space exhibits an astounding unity between each female artist, even though each work of art differs from the other.

Works by Georgia O Keefe, Maude Irvine Kerns, Alice Mason, Jo Baer, and Ellen Gallagher are just a few examples of the great pieces or art on display.

The collage created by Mary Beth (1972) titled: "Some Living American Women Artists/Last Supper" (top) provides insight into the generation-spanning communion of female artists.

Black Series: Couleurs Noires (2000) by Egyptian artist Ghada Amer (center right), uses acrylic, embroidery, and gel as a medium on canvas. If one looks closely, each thread is sewn into the canvas creating the silhouette of a naked woman.

Overall, the exhibit deserves five stars and recognition for its brilliant and captivating artworks. Each art piece represents a milestone of international progress for gender equality.

It is highly recommend for art admirers to visit the exhibit to catch a glimpse of what seemed nearly impossible just years ago.

Campus brings back the music

By: Jackson Ross-Lyons
Staff Writer

After years of silence, Green River Community College's musical performance finally takes shape with classes Drama 111 (Rehearsal and Performance) and Music 124 (Musical Rehearsal and Performance). These classes are a great new way for any student to meet the requirements for their Associates Degree and is a great way to fulfill five credits of fine arts, humanities or distribution of English, as well as to perform in front of hundreds of audience members.

The drama class will be taught by drama director, Robin Bowles. The music class will be taught by Ron Bayer. Both classes are worth five credits and are available during the Spring quarter. They will take place on Monday through Friday, from 11:00 a.m. until 12:50 p.m. with a two dollar class fee to cover the costs of make-up.

Essentially, the class puts you through the process of rehearsing and eventually performing a play. When asked about what the class content would be like, Bowles said, "Everything that you would do in a musical rehearsal, they will do here." It includes being members onstage like actors and offstage members like stage crew. Vocal, acting, and dance auditions will be held to determine where students will be placed.

Above all, the class teaches responsibility and real live experience working in the entertainment business. Students will need to attend the class because attendance is key. Students will need to be prepared, punctual and be willing to contribute. "It's a huge commitment, and some students underestimate it," Bowles explains.

The play that the students will be participating in is called "110 In The Shade". It is a play, set in the Southwest, where small farming town girl Lizzie Curry's future with local sheriff, File, is not looking so bright. Both Curry's and the town's lives take a turn when the elusive and mysterious Bill Starbucks enters their lifes.

The musical itself will run through the first two weekends in June, including May 31 and June 1 at 7:30 p.m., June 8 at 7:30 p.m. and June 9 as a matinée.

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In person: OEB 17

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ARTIST of the MONTH

Jenny Newman

artist statement

For me, I'm inspired by the world around me, whether it's the people and what they wear, where they go, how they live or the animals and the plants that creep out of the sidewalk cracks. Just living life inspires me. Whether it's a particularly beautiful sunset, or a street cluttered with telephone poles, I strive to take everything in.

Honestly, I am still discovering who I am as an artist. When I sit down to draw I don't always have a particular image or themes in mind, so I start putting lines down and see what I can make of it. I try to capture childhood imagination and whimsy in my work, taking things a little beyond what I usually see. Keeping my mind open to any possibility and not being afraid to make mistakes. Sometimes things don't work out and that's alright; I take what I can from those ideas and move on. Art is about discovering myself and sharing my world.

My work has always included my characters; they're one of the biggest reasons I've kept drawing. I enjoy sitting down and doodling something and watching how that doodle slowly begins to breathe. Before I know it I've given them a name, a history, their favorite food, and I know the name of their first pet.

As a primarily self-taught artist I feel it is important for me to get an education in art. More than that, I think I need to be around more artists to grow. Green River has been an amazing opportunity to take art classes and discover more about myself. I have met so many great teachers and students who have been so encouraging. Seeing other people's work and being around such amazing artists has been the biggest inspiration and encouragement for me.

Whether I like it or not, I do not know what fate has in store for me. In the future, I plan on attending an art school and hopefully major in illustration. My dream is to illustrate children's books and juvenile fiction while being able to create my own comics on the side.

Book and comics have always been an interest of mine. Their artists and writers are great inspirations to me. If I could inspire someone with my creations like those people have inspired me, I would be a very happy artist.

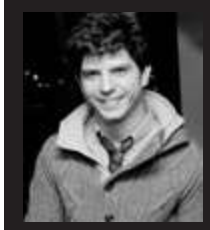
MOVIE REVIEW

Warm Bodies

Eating brains: how zombies get the girl

FILMFACTS

DIRECTOR

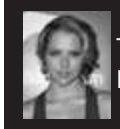


Jonathan Levine age 36

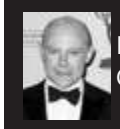
RATED
PG13

MAIN CAST

Nicholas Hoult



Teresa Palmer



Rob Corddry

BUDGET
$30,000,000

RUN TIME
1 hrs. 37 min.

By: Laura Gray
Staff Writer

★★★★

THE GOOD

Warm Bodies has a feeling of being a modern day John Hughes film.

It is difficult to make a creature that is typically cast as the bad guy likable, but Nicholas Hoult was able to pull it off with his performance as the zombie, R. Part of his likability comes from his inner monologue that the viewers hear throughout the film. These type of voice overs have a tendency to go wrong in films but it worked for Warm Bodies. Some of the best lines of the film were from R's monologue.

The film moved at a bit of a slower pace that made it feel like the story was moving at R's zombie pace instead of a more normal human pace. As the story is being told from R's point of view, this felt like a smart decision on the part of the director, Jonathan Levine. The writers did a good job at keeping the film from having overly cheesy lines. It had just the right amount of cheesiness for a story about zombie love.

THE BAD

This movie does not have the widest demographic for viewers. Older people will not enjoy it as it does not have much that will appeal to people that do not fit within the target group of mostly high school and college students. Warm Bodies will not be enjoyable to the entirety of its target range even because not everyone will see the appeal of a zombie romantic comedy.

There are some cheesy elements to Warm Bodies, but this was inevitable. It was not overly cheesy as it could have been. However if one does not desire cheesy in films, they might not like this movie. The ending of the film was the cheesiest part of the film and is a reminiscent of the answer to most problems in fairy tales.

Be warned, the movie has some elements of Shakespeare's most overrated play, Romeo and Juliet. Do not write it off because of this as it does not feel like it is the exact same story just with zombies instead.

THE VERDICT

Warm Bodies greatly exceeded the expectations of being a fun and cheesy movie but not good as film.

The film feels like cast and crew had fun making it which almost always results in a more enjoyable movie. Warm Bodies is a nice change from the raunchy comedies that are so prevalent right now. This is a romantic comedy that guys can enjoy as well for it is not solely a mushy love story but has some bigger issues at play as well as zombies and some action.

Do not listen to anyone that tries to say that Warm Bodies is the zombie version of Twilight, as this is simply not true. If one goes into this film thinking it will be anything like Twilight they would be completely wrong and probably unable to fully enjoy the movie. The only similarity to Twilight is that Palmer looks a bit like Kristen Stewart but she can actually act.

Warm Bodies is a must see for people who enjoy quirky love stories and John Hughes films.

Makena's Cooking Corner

By: Makena Cayce

Cheesecake Bars

Michelle Spencer | *The Current*

Crust:
7 whole graham crackers
6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and cooled
3 tablespoons light brown sugar
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/8 teaspoon salt

Filling:
2 8 oz packages of cream cheese, softened
2/3 cup (4 2/3 ounces) granulated sugar
1/4 sour cream
2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon vanilla

Topping:
1 1/4 cup coarsely chopped strawberries
2 tablespoons warm apricot jam

1 Heat oven to 325 degrees. Line an 8-inch square baking pan with foil and grease the foil.

2 For the Crust: Process the graham cracker pieces in a food processor to fine, even crumbs, about 30 seconds. Sprinkle the butter, brown sugar, flour, and salt over the crumbs and pulse to incorporate. Sprinkle the mixture into the prepared pan and press into an even layer with the bottom of a measuring cup. Bake the crust until fragrant and beginning to brown, 12 to 15 minutes.

3 For the Filling: Beat the cream cheese until smooth in a large bowl with an electric mixer on medium speed, 1 to 3 minutes, scraping down the bowl and beaters as needed. Gradually beat the granulated sugar until incorporated, about 1 minute. Beat in the eggs, one at a time, until combined, about 30 seconds. Beat in the sour cream, lemon juice, and vanilla until incorporated, about 30 seconds.

4 Pour the filling over the crust. Bake the bars until the edges are set but the center still jiggles slightly, 35 to 40 minutes.

5 Toss 1 1/4 cups coarsely chopped strawberries, 2 tablespoons warm apricot jam, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, 1 teaspoon sugar, and a pinch of salt together in a medium bowl.

6 Let the bars cool completely in the pan, about 2 hours, then cover with foil and refrigerate until thoroughly chilled, at least 3 hours or up to 24 hours. Spoon the strawberry mixture over the top of the chilled cheesecake bars and let set for at least 15 minutes before cutting and serving. Remove the bars from the pan using the foil.

The Current Picks

WEBSITE/APP

Don't Starve

By: Benjamin Biernacki

This new survival game from Klei Entertainment features 2-D characters in a 3-D world with an art style reminiscent of Tim Burton.

In it, players are transported to a strange world under mysterious circumstances. Once there, they must build shelter and tools, fight bizarre creatures, light the night with fire, and prevent starvation. All while trying to get home and without any sort of tutorial.

Downloadable for PC via Steam, Don't Starve is set to release next month. Purchasing the game before then provides access to beta play and an additional free copy of the game.

MOVIE

Once

By: Febby Mulia

For a movie that was shot in only 17 days, Once might be the best modern-day musical romantic movie. Once is a love story of boy meets girl, in which both of the characters remain unnamed throughout the movie.

The Guy is a street musician from Dublin and the Girl an immigrant from Czech and a pianist. Their relationship developed when the Girl helped the Guy produce a demo in the hopes of tackling a music contract in London.

Bottom line is, if you're a sucker for romantic movies, then this is for you.

BOOK

Bellwether

By: Thomas Petersen

Mixing the study of how trends start and why people aimlessly follow them, Bellwether converges these two subjects in the fictional story of Sandra Foster and Bennet O'Rielly. The two both work for a science research company and their areas of expertise are intertwined as the search for their answers begins.

Nebula winning author Connie Willis sets the stage for a story that makes you think but is also an easy read, making the book irresistible for anyone with a few hours of time. As soon as the story grabs ahold of you, you won't be able to put it down.

MUSIC

1619 Broadway: The Brill Building Project

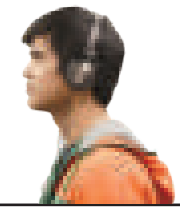
By: Dominic Yoxtheimer

The newest album of the American jazz vocalist Kurt Elling pays tribute to the Jazz Mecca, The Brill Building, and all of the great artists that have walked through its doors.

On the album, there is a healthy arrangement of standards and original compositions that will bring listeners a little closer to the crowded streets of New York and the famous "Brill Building Sound".

1619 Broadway would be a great addition to your thriving jazz collection, or would be a great place to start for a new genre to love.

MUSIC MAVERICK



JEREMY SIREGAR

Falling out of hiatus to save rock and roll

It is a misconception to believe that Fall Out Boy were disbanded. The band was merely on a hiatus only to return four years later to save rock and roll, or so they claim.

In November 20, 2009, Fall Out Boy announced the band's hiatus to pursue their individual ambitions. Lead singer/guitarist Patrick Stump went on and produced his solo album "Soul Punk". Guitarist Joe Trohman and drummer Andy Hurley connected with their hardcore roots and formed a heavy metal band called The Damned Things. Pete Wentz formed the electropop band Black Cards with singer Bebe Rexha. This partnership however did not last as Rexha soon left the band after failed attempts to produce albums.

On February 4, 2013, four years after their hiatus began, Fall Out Boy officially announced the end of their hiatus with the release of their newest single, "My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark" (2013). Their album "Save Rock and Roll" will be released later on May 6, 2013 followed with their North American spring tour from May 14 to June 30, 2013.

As a band they are an individualist. Yes they write pop songs. It's a popular genre and is relatively easy to write. But what separates them from typical pop sub-genres is their hardcore punk roots. If you ever wondered what would happen if a hardcore punk musician wrote pop songs, then Fall Out Boy is probably your best case.

With a history of bold and courageous albums, Fall Out Boy's soon to come album, "Save Rock and Roll" fascinates me. Rock and roll? The first few things that came to mind were Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, and Jerry Lewis. It was about time someone brought rock and roll back in action. 2012 has been filled with a growing number of DJs adopting the dubstep and electro house genre like Skrillex, Klaypex, and Alex Claire.

But can Fall Out Boy really save rock and roll like their album title suggests? Sadly, I find this very unlikely. First of all, the single they released tells a story completely different from what is expected from a rock and roll album. "My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark" is not a rock and roll song, in fact it's far from it. The song has elements of alternative rock and hints of R&B. This puzzled me for a while as there were no relations whatsoever to rock and roll. Some clues can be found in the lyrics as to why Fall Out Boy decided to feature with 2 Chainz, whom prefers a booty hoe for his birthday according to his song, "Birthday" (2012), on their single instead of an actual rock and roll band/artist. The verse to the song talks about being careful what you wish for. This may be a way for Fall Out Boy to communicate that fans should be careful what they wish for because after years of hiatus, they may have ultimately changed.

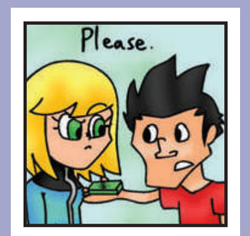
Until their album is released and I can finally make a full review, one can only ask, "Can Fall Out Boy really save rock and roll?"

Valentine's Day survival guide

How to get a date

By Carlos Tablit III & Jackson Ross-Lyons

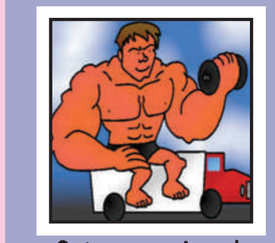
Go by a sexier name.



Pay them.

Eat a banana while maintaining eye contact.

Establish alpha status.



Get super ripped.

Be John Mayer.

This section is purely for satirical purposes only.

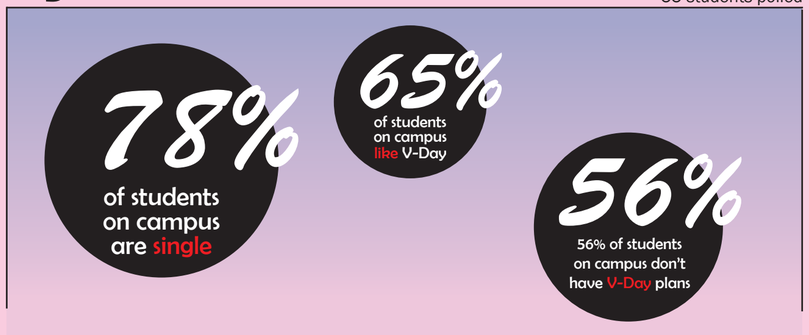
Facts of love

1. The term "love" is from the Sanskrit *lubhyati*, meaning "desire."
2. The word "lesbian" is derived from the Greek island Lesbos, where the poetess Sappho composed her famous poems to her famous female lovers.
3. When someone looks at a new love, the neural circuits that are usually associated with social judgment are suppressed.
4. The urge to fall in love is, like sex and hunger, a primitive, biological drive.
5. Men and women with highly symmetrical faces tend to have more lovers to choose from.
6. Roses are a traditional symbol of love and, depending on their color, can suggest different nuances of love.
7. Women often feel loved when talking face to face with their partner; men, on the other hand, often feel emotionally close when they work, play, or talk side by side.
8. People are more likely to tilt their heads to the right when kissing instead of the left.
9. Love can also exert the same stress on your body as deep fear. You see the same physiological responses—pupil dilation, sweaty palms, and increased heart rate.
10. Falling in love can induce a calming effect on the body and mind and raises levels of nerve growth factor for about a year, which helps to restore the nervous system and improves the lover's memory.

Source: randomhistory.com

by the number

*55 students polled



The Current Valentine

Green River Community College

poem contest winner

You are mine, I am yours

By: Casey Holmberg

When your eyes interlock with mine
Many urges arise that I cannot decline
A single card would be hard pressed
To compete with the love I can express

When we're not in public, loving from afar
We're close, unwrapping each other like a chocolate bar
When tangle together our hearts and minds
Only then do I realize you are truly mine

I am yours, resolutely attached
To no one else do I feel more perfectly matched
Mutual perfection I hope you feel
So you might say yes when I finally kneel

What to do ...

Every great date has a plan. So, don't walk out the door without having your date mapped out.

Go to the movies

Les Miserables - This tale of love, passion and sacrafice will not only bring you to tears, but it will also give you a reason to leave the theater singing.

Warm Bodies - This unusual love story shows viewers that love can be found in any situation. With a zombie who finds himself in love with a living girl, this movie is not only heart warming, but drop-dead hilarious.

Mama - This terrible terror of a movie will evoke every emotion that you are capable of showing, along with giving you a reason to cling to your date. Rated R.

Eat at a restaurant

Trappers Sushi
16908 296th Place
Covington, WA 98042

Banyan Tree
504 Ramsay Way Suite 105
Kent, WA, 98032

Johnny Rocket's
418 Ramsey Way
Kent, WA 98032

Athens Pizza
959 E Main St
Auburn, WA 98002

The Rock
1408 Lake Tapps Pkwy E
Auburn, WA 98092

Give a gift

Chocolates - Sweets are a great way to show your affection to your date or your partner. Besides, if they're nice, they might just give some to you.

A mix tape - Okay ... so, maybe a tape might be a little retro, but some kind of mix or playlist created just for them can say exactly what you can't find the words to.

Flowers - They may be a bit cliche, but if they're presented right, they are the perfect way to woo your date.

Anything you make yourself - Be it a poem, song, a picture, or some cookies, making something for your partner or date is the ultimate way to show to them that you care.

By Shane Lange

Stay Current

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Also on the Inside

"I've always had a passion for literature and learned to read at a fairly early age."
Lezlie Hall **Page 2**

the Undercurrent news briefs

Upcoming 522 budget meetings open to public

By: Shane Lange
Managing Editor

Green River will be holding 522 budget meetings on Friday Feb. 22 and Wednesday Feb. 27.

The first budget meeting will be from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., while the second is from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Both meetings will be held in the Lindbloom Student Center's Rainier Room.

The 522 budget meetings will be open to the public.

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Jeremy Siregar | *The Current*

President Tyrone Sommerville builds the energy of the hundereds of community and technical college students that filled the Capital Rotunda in Olympia, Wash.

Students storm state capitol

Students gathered in Olympia to protest against cuts in the higher education budget

By: Shane Lange
Managing Editor

Hundreds of community and technical college students from Washington State gathered to rally against rising tuition prices at the Legislative building in Olympia, Wash. on Friday, Feb. 1.

Many students attended the 2013 Community College Student Legislative Rally for various reasons; to learn about the financial issues that cause the rise in tuition cost, to fight for future students, and to protect their own accessibility to an education. Richard Williams, a student from Green River who attended the rally, is one who is concerned that he may not have the funding to attend school if prices keep rising.

"I have $124 dollars less each quarter to survive on because I'm only allotted a certain amount to be able to live on. That $124 is basically a textbook," said Williams.

"When I can't afford to go to school anymore, I don't know what I'll do."

According to the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, between the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years, tuition for an in-state fulltime student has risen by approximately 5%.

Many students reacted passionately to the numerous government officials and students that spoke at the rally. Chris Reykdal, Washington State's 22nd Legislative District representative, justified the screams and cheers of the audience by letting them know that, even though the rally may not set anything in stone, it will make an impact.

"It's not an accident that being the representative of [the 22nd legislative district] ... that I've come to appreciate one fundamental thing about [Olympia]: those who speak loudest win," Reykdal roared into the microphone.

33rd Legislative District Representative Dave Upthegrove, whose district includes Green River's Kent campus, informed students in a post rally meeting that, due to Washington State's budget problems, tuitions will most likely continue to rise.

"It's unfortunate," said Upthegrove.

"The cruel irony is that, in bad economic times, [people] have higher needs."

According to Upthegrove, Washington State's annual budget is about $30 billion and, because of the budget issue, they have to cut about $2.5 billion in services to make up for the lack of new revenue.

Despite the probable rise in tuition costs across the state, ASGRCC President Tyrone Sommerville does not allow himself to be discouraged.

Jeremy Siregar | *The Current*

Student Leah Robbins sits and listens to speakers at the rally.

"I think we all know that [tuition will rise] because we didn't get hit too hard in the last legislation," President Sommerville said.

"We just want to let them know that, even though [the budget cut] is inevitable, the cut doesn't have to be so deep."

President Sommerville also made it clear that he and the rest of the ASGRCC government were not going to stop putting pressure on Washington's legislature by encouraging students from both Green River and other schools to contact their representatives to present their concerns. Sommerville also said that he and the ASGRCC will be presenting their concerns directly to the WSBCTC. Even then, they plan on continuing forward with their mission.

"[Friday's] rally was just that one," Sommerville said.

"We have a long way to go, but we're moving in the right direction.

College prepares for accreditation visit

NWCCU returns to Green River to evaluate quality of college's programs

By: Mathew Dalos
Staff Writer

Green River is preparing for an accreditation renewal visit from the Northwest Commision on Colleges and Universities which will happen from April 22 to April 24. Everything about the campus and its satellite campuses in Enumclaw, Kent and online will be evaluated and reviewed.

Accreditation is an important way to make sure that the college can compare to or exceed other colleges, and a way to verify to other colleges, students and employers of students that GRCC provides a good education to its graduates.

"Accreditation is a nationally recognized, formal process of institutional self-study and peer evaluation. This process, which allows input from all college members, focuses on continuous institutional improvement," said Green River's president, Dr. Eileen Ely.

"Green River is committed to maintaining high quality learning opportunities and support services for all students, and accreditation is a means of gauging our success."

This potential accreditation will last until the year 2020, giving assurance to the faculty and the students. The college is accredited now, and has reaffirmed that many times in the past with similar evaluations going all the way back to 1967 when Green River were first granted accreditation by the NWCCU.

The NWCCU gives out a seven year accreditation over a progression of smaller evaluations of standards that build harder and more in depth as the previous accreditations are attained. These standards that are checked upon by the organization include: Mission, Core Themes, Expectations, Resources, Capacity, Planning, Implementation, Effectiveness, Improvement, Mission Fulfillment, Adaption, and Sustainability.

A college must meet all of the these standards and demonstrate them all at the same time to receive accreditation. Otherwise, the school is shown through self-reflection that it needs improvement.

If you are a student or teacher at Green River, or a concerned member of the public and wish to voice your opinion about the college's accreditation, you are welcomed to submit comments to the NWCCU before March 22. The mailing address can be found online.

Students to volunteer with Treehouse for Kids

By: Emily Braun
Staff Writer

Student Life's upcoming volunteering event, sorting clothing and other supplies for Treehouse for Kids, an organization that supports foster children, is Sat. March 2.

Treehouse for Kids helps thousands of foster kids a year with services they might not otherwise have, including its 'Wearhouse' where the event will take place which supplies clothing, toys, books, and more to foster children for free.

"We provide transportation, and we also give out t-shirts. We give them out only once, so if you volunteer you get to keep it," said Christ Ponderosa, the Volunteer/Student Outreach Coordinator. The cost to sign up is $3 for students and $8 for non-students.

Among other things, Student Life is constantly coordinating volunteer activities, allowing students who might not otherwise have transportation to serve in their community. One problem, however, is that the signups fill up very quickly, sometimes within 10 minutes of the Student Life office opening up in the morning.

"They used to just fill up in the first day, but I have the eight o'clock phone shift when I open the office up in the morning, and we had students waiting out there from 7:45 to come in and get these spots because they know that they fill up so fast," said Natalie Mohn, last year's Volunteer/Student Outreach Coordinator.

If spots fill up too quickly, and if students have their own transportation, students can contact the organization directly. Any student can participate, and at the end of the day they're given a certificate as proof that they volunteered.

"I found that [volunteering] is really enjoyable and when you can help somebody, when you can see somebody smiling and being happy, the feeling is just so wonderful," said Ponderosa.

Signups to participate start on Feb. 15, and the event runs from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 2.

Treehouse

Treehouse is uniquely committed to improving the lives of our kids living in foster care. No other agency in our region responds to the needs of our foster children like Treehouse.

CONTACT
tel: (206) 767-7000
www.treehouseforkids.com

Instructor Ajay Narayanan wins national advisor award

Jeremy Siregar | *The Current*

By: Sophia Wei
Staff Writer

Physics instructor Ajay Narayanan won the Outstanding Advisor Award of the National Society of Physics Students for showing his abundant passion and energy to the subject

"There is no specific reason that inspires me to like the subject," said Narayanan when addressing his passion for physics.

"It's difficult to say which part of physics is most interesting because they are all linked together."

Narayanan went on to say that his fascination stretched from small atoms to giant stars.

"If I were to pick my favorite part, particle physics and astronomy would be the choices," Narayanan said.

Not only does he show his energy in the classroom, but he also extends it into the community.

According to Narayanan, he is not the only one who devotes time into the community; the whole department of physics has been putting forth effort for years. Physics students have been demonstrating experiments in local elementary schools and the elementary school students watching have been able to participate in the experiments.

"It's good to be recognized, but everybody helps with the work," Narayanan stated upon winning the award.

Narayanan pointed out that the award does not only go to him, but to all of the department and students involved.

Scholarship for students in job-training classes now available

By: Laylav Rasheed
Staff Writer

The Green River Community College Foundation has a brand new scholarship that covers up to 50% of a class fee.

The Continuing Education scholarship is for Green River Community College students who are attending non-credit job training classes, and is also geared toward low-income people who do not qualify for assistance from the Workforce Office.

The Continuing Education program had set this up through the GRCC Employee Campaign last year, and so far they have helped three people with their job training needs.

The process of applying for the Continuing Education scholarship is fairly simple. Students will need to provide basic information and proof that they are ineligible of funding from the Workforce Office, or a copy of their 2011 income tax return.

Application deadlines are three weeks before the start of a non-credit job training class; deadlines may vary since classes begin at different times.

If you are interested in this scholarship, applications are available in the Foundation Office or at the Continuing Education office.

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OP-ED

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oped.editor@mail.greenriver.edu

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Also on the Inside

"This is a romantic comedy that guys can enjoy as well for it is not solely a mushy love story but has some bigger issues at play as well as zombies and some action."

Laura Gray **Page 6**

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OEB room 17

(253) 833 9111 x2375

thecurrent@greenriver.edu

Cuts leave scars

Legislatures need to realize that cutting from the higher education budget will only cause future problems.

Washington State is facing some severe financial issues.

Due to our nation's economic state, Washington finds itself having to cut funds from its services. In times of economic turmoil, demand for services go up and, in our case, tax revenue is staying the same.

'Why not raise taxes?' one might ask.

In November of 2012, Washington's citizens pushed to pass Initiative 1185, requiring proposed tax laws in Washington State to receive a two-thirds vote in legislation to be placed into law. Due to many representatives' campaign promises to not allow taxes to be raised, the option for gain more tax revenue is a stretch.

This is where the budget cuts come in.

One of the reasons we are seeing tuition rates slowly creeping up is because one of the areas the state government is cutting from is higher education.

Our community college tuition rate, unlike taxes, is controlled by an unelected board called the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

Yes, we are in the midst of some hard economic times, but Washington's legislature needs to realize that cutting funding to education is going to have some very long term effects. With a climbing tuition rate, we will find ourselves in a vicious cycle.

Less educated people means a smaller work force. A smaller work force means less tax revenue and less consumer goods being purchased. This will cause for less stimulation to our state's economy and more people could lose jobs. Demand for certain services will go up and voters won't allow for taxes to rise. Due to higher demand for services and an unmoving tax rate, we will end up having to cut from services.

This sounds familiar.

On the other hand, this issue is very push-pull. While legislature needs to find other ways to supplement the lack of tax revenue, students need to push for it to happen.

Legislatures need to have a reason to take action, and as Washington's 22nd Legislative District Representative Chris Reykdal said at the 2013 Community College Student Legislative Rally, "those who speak loudest, win."

To keep tomorrow's workforce educated and thriving, we need to keep education accessible today.

A word from the *chief*

Dylan Whitcher
Editor-in-Chief

A mere two inches

In the sports world they say outcomes are determined by inches. For me, on Feb 6., my life was determined by a mere two inches.

It was late at night and I was driving westbound on highway 18 at 11:30 p.m. when the car in front of me veered fiercely to the right. All I fully remember was seeing headlights.

A driver was headed in the wrong direction and hit me nearly head on, then left the scene. Despite my car being totaled, I was able to walk away from the emergency room with minor scratches to the face and a sore neck.

I don't remember much about the accident, but something the King County Sheriff said rang in my head and continues to do so.

"Two more inches to the right and you probably wouldn't be here."

According to the sheriff, he has seen 12 head on accidents and in every case, there has been a fatality.

Life is short, hug the ones you never want to lose and let them know how much they mean to you, forget the silly arguments with your friends, trust me they aren't important. Enjoy the little things and never underestimate the importance of an inch, it may save your life one day.

That's what **HE** said | **SHE** said

Shane Lange:
"If music be the food of love, play on."
- William Shakespeare

Jeremy Siregar:
"One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain."
- Bob Marley

Dominic Yoxtheimer:
"No problem can be solved from the same level of consiousness that is created."
- Albert Einstein

Thomas Petersen:
"You can tell more about a person by what he says about others, than you can by what others say about him."
- Audrey Hepburn

Febby Mulia:
"It isn't where you came from, it's where you're going that counts."
- Ella Fitzgerald

Benjamin Biernacki:
"Let them eat cake."
- Marie Antionette

Note: The quotations featured here in no way represent The Current or the student body's opinion, but rather that of the individual editors.

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The existence of pleasure reading is slowly fading away

What people often read today is usually required for school or work, rarely is it for fun

Commentary by: **Josh Krebsbach**

I often like to walk around the school library when I have time.

I find it a calm and relaxed setting and I will often bring a novel to read if I have the time.

It was on one of these walks that it occurred to me that most of the students were reading textbooks, on their computers or working on homework.

It made me wonder; how many students actually read when not required as part of class work?

More often than not, the youth of my generation choose more immediate forms of entertainment, like TV, the internet or movies. Busy young students have to balance giant amounts of school work, possibly a job, keep themselves entertained, and still find time for sleep.

They can hardly be expected to fit time into their hectic schedules to read, unless it is a textbook or novel they are using in class. But I beg people to take the time and enjoy this ancient entertainment of pleasure reading.

Being a better student requires a mastery of reading and writing skills, both of which can be refined and improved with regular doses of reading the written word.

Skills you use throughout school, including visualization, understanding of language and comprehension can all be improved with simple daily practice.

I went out and interviewed several students about their reading habits. My results were rather interesting.

The vast majority of the interviewees reported that they usually fit in about 3-5 hours a week to read.

Initially this sounds like a great deal of time spent with a nose in a book, but when asked what it was they were reading, I found that a great deal of their reading was spent with a textbook or other piece of schoolwork.

This is still very admirable.

It shows that students are indeed reading, but only because most are required to by their class. In some cases students did not read at all, even when required to do so by their class.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, I spoke to Jordan Palmer who puts in a great deal of reading each week which in his case is about 14-15 hours each week.

That is an astounding number, especially seeing that he puts in time reading fiction as well as academic subjects like psychology.

This is a highly ideal number, reading in spare time instead of zoning out at a TV or video game for hours on end. Palmer can keep himself entertained and still use the same reading skills to study for class.

Now I enjoy TV and video games as much as the next guy, I can only say that it might be best to turn them off every once in a while and let out a little stress with a calm relaxing book.

Not only will this help with your academics, but you might find that you will enjoy it as well.

> **“More often than not, the youth of my generation choose more immediate forms of entertainment, like TV, the internet or movies.”**
>
> **- Josh Krebsbach**

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"Green River is committed to maintaining high quality learning opportunities and support services for all students, and accreditation is a means of gauging our success."
Eileen Ely **Page 13**

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Gators bounce back

After a seven game losing streak, Gators break trend

By: Febby Mulia
Assistant Editor

After multiple losses, the Lady Gators finally stepped it up and won their second game in this season.

The game against the South Puget Sound Clippers was held at GRCC last Wednesday night, February 6. What was at stake was the opportunity to not be at the very bottom of the Western region rankings.

Aside from coming into the game as the lowest ranked team in the Western region, they came with almost half of the team injured and unable to play.

"Right now, pain is the right word," said Bob Kickner, GRCC Athletics Director, worried about the team.

Two starters, Carley Kitzman and Puja Taya, are out with a foot injury and a sprained ankle. While three other players, Jessica Wiest, Taylor Woods, and Shelby Wason, are also injured and won't be playing any time soon.

"Tonight should be a good game but for our team, it's a struggle right now," said Kickner.

Earlier in the season, the Gators had beaten the Clippers in an away game, with an ending score of 59-46.

The first half took off with the Clippers scoring the first few points, after constantly racing back and forth, the Gators had the lead with 28-26.

By the second half, things really heated up, it was a race for points. Girls from both teams were showing their aggressive side and numerous fouls were called out. The crowd was anxious, every attack and point the Gators scored led to a counter-attack by the Clippers.

The nail biting game finally ended with a victory awarded to our Lady Gators, with the final scores 57-53.

An updated record of 2-9 for the Gators moved Green River up in the rankings, and pushing the Clippers to the bottom of the barrel, last amongst the Western region.

As far as the future goes, we still have six games ahead of us, and all we can do is hope for the best.

"Every game we're going to have to play our best game and they've got to keep coming to work, and getting better and trying to improve," said Kickner.

"There's always a chance [of winning]," said Kickner. "That's why you've got to play the game."

BASKETBALL CALENDER

MENS	WOMENS
Wed. Feb. 13, 8:00 PM Lower Colombia @ Longview, WA	Wed. Feb. 13, 6:00 PM Lower Colombia @ Longview, WA
Sat. Feb. 16, 5:00 PM **Pierce @ Green River, WA**	**Sat. Feb. 16, 3:00 PM** **Pierce @ Green River, WA**
Wed. Feb. 20, 8:00 PM **Grays Harbor @ Green River, WA**	**Wed. Feb. 20, 6:00 PM** **Grays Harbor @ Green River, WA**
Sat. Feb. 23, 5:00 PM Tacoma @ Tacoma, WA	Sat. Feb. 23, 3:00 PM Tacoma @ Tacoma, WA
Mar. 1-4 NWAACC Championships Toyota Center Kennewick, WA	Mar. 1-4 NWAACC Championships Toyota Center Kennewick, WA

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Nate Jones, guard, co-leads the defense with Emmanuel Carter for the Gators

BEATING THE BUZZER

A dramatic weekend gives the Gators hope as they pull off a close victory over the South Puget Sound Clippers

By: Kidane Menker & Dylan Whitcher

After an intense weekend of basketball, Green River finds themselves three games out of the playoffs with only four games left to play.

A tough task got a little tougher, after heartbreaking news came out that leading scorer Kortney Darby is out for the rest of the season with a torn meniscus. Darby has been a walking double-double, averaging 14.4 points and seven rebounds in the 19 games Darby has played this season.

"It's a big deal missing him because he was our leading scorer, but without him we just have to play team basketball," sophomore point guard Nate Jones said.

On Wednesday Feb 6, the Gators learned how difficult life without Darby can be. They hosted the South Puget Sound Clippers, a team GRCC handled with ease in early January winning by a score of 79-59.

This time would be different. The struggling Clippers came eager for a win and with Darby out, the Gators would need help from other role players in order to send S. Puget Sound home disappointed. Freshman forward Marquis Miles provided scoring, with 20 points on 10-15 shooting from the field. Senior captain Manny Carter dished out six assists while Nate Jones added 12 points.

The game was close throughout and up by seven with only two minutes remaining, victory was in sight for the Gators. However, after a fierce comeback, the Clippers were able to tie up the game at 72 with only seconds remaining. Freshman guard Justin Pedersen was sent to the line after being fouled hard with just one second left. After both freethrows clanked off the rim, the game was headed to overtime.

> *"Coach just kept saying to keep our head up, the game isn't over, there's still a lot of time."*
> – Nate Jones

"Coach just kept saying to keep our head up, the game isn't over, there's still a lot of time," sophomore Jones said.

Late in overtime, Green River was up two with just 20 seconds remaining, Clippers ball. A South Puget Sound player drove hard to the lane, made the layup and was fouled. With

SEE **BUZZER**, PAGE 16

WEST DIVISION STANDINGS — BASKETBALL

MENS

Pierce	11-1	.917
Tacoma	8-3	.727
Centralia	8-4	.667
Lower Columbia	8-4	.667
Clark	6-5	.545
Green River	**5-7**	**.417**
Highline	4-8	.333
South Puget Sound	1-10	.091
Grays Harbor	1-10	.091

WOMENS

Centralia	11-1	.917
Clark	9-2	.818
Lower Columbia	8-4	.667
Tacoma	7-4	.636
Highline	7-5	.583
Pierce	5-7	.417
Grays Harbor	2-9	.182
Green River	**2-10**	**.167**
South Puget Sound	1-10	.091

WORLD Sports BRIEFS

After a killer halftime performance by Beyonce, a 30 minute power outage and an almost epic comeback, the Baltimore Ravens were able to hold off the San Francisco 49ers 34-31 to win Super Bowl XLVII. The game had many interesting headlines, from two brothers coaching against each other in the worlds biggest sporting event, to Ravens linebacker, soon to be hall of famer, Ray Lewis' last game. CBS estimated that 108.4 million viewers watched the Ravens victory,making Super Bowl XLVII the third most watched event in U.S. TV history.

On Tuesday Feb. 6 Forbes.com released their annual top 10 most disliked athletes of the year. Topping the list was seven time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong, who has since been stripped of his awards and is now banned from professional racing after admitting to using performance enhancing drugs. A close second was former Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o, who apparently was "hoaxed" after finding out his girlfriend of one year, Lennay Kekua who supposedly died of leukemia, never even existed. Te'o went from being one of the most inspirational athletes to one of the most despised, in a matter of days. Rounding out the list in order is, Tiger Woods, Jay Cutler, Metta World Peace (Ron Artest), Alex Rodriguez, Michael Vick, Kurt Busch, Kobe Bryant and Tony Romo.

For the Seattle Mariners, pitchers and catchers will report to Peoria, Ariz. tomorrow, with their full squad coming down Feb. 16 to start the 2013 Spring Training. First game of Spring Training will be on Feb. 22 against the San Diego Padres. With many new faces, tomorrow marks day one of what will hopefully be a glamorous 2013 season. Finally it is time to ... PLAY BALL!

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Pregame rituals revealed on Green River basketball courts

Some athletes at Green River sacrafice their time and energy to get every step just right before games

By: Keyana Angove
Staff Writer

Before the Gators even set foot on the court, our athletes have a system: they eat, put their gear on and get ready to play, but what's unknown to many is the attention athletes have to the details.

Green River basketball player, Kendal Brown is not very superstitious when it comes to preparing for basketball games but has a few rituals in order to perform his best.

One of Brown's first preparations before a game is to "sit down, put my headphones on, zone out and just listen to music," said Brown.

Other than listening to music, Brown prepares himself mentally by running through scenario after scenario.

"I try to think about what I'm going to do in the game, like what I see myself doing," said Brown.

Although he isn't as superstitious as other players on the Basketball team, Brown still has a tradition he does to get ready.

"I always tie my right shoe before my left shoe."

Devon Loy, another basketball player for Green River, performs best on a full stomach as well as when he sharpens his focus mentally.

For Loy's pregame meal, unless he's feeling adventurous, pizza is most often on the menu.

As for warming up, Loy is casual and likes to ease the pregame tension.

"I get the ball, I dribble around, I go make fun of my other teammates, to make myself feel better and I practice my shot," said Loy.

Loy jokes around with his teammates before games but also mentally prepares himself, visualizing the game and running through plays.

Loy has the mental, social and physical preparation down but also has a superstitious checklist he does before games.

"I always have to put my socks on left foot first. I started it in High School; I had a really good game after I did it once and kind of just stuck with it," said Loy.

Green River Basketball player, Nate Jones' pregame ritual is focused on mental preparation. But just like any college athlete, food comes first and for Jones, it starts by eating at Subway.

"Sandwich, chips, lemonade," said Jones.

Instead of something superstitious or a type of tradition, Jones' way of getting in his best state for a game is by getting his mind focused and determined so he can give his absolute best on game day.

"I think about life," said Jones. "I just think about my family, I think about basketball, basketball and school is all I got."

The team as a unit also has a ritual they never forget to do before any game begins.

"Pray before every game," said Brown. "Have God protect us and make sure nobody gets hurt."

Kendal Brown, Freshman

Devon Loy, Freshman

Courtesy Photo | *Bob Kickner*
Nate Jones, Sophomore

BUZZER
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the game tied at 81, with only 13 seconds left the Clippers would have a chance to take the lead, but when a missed freethrow landed in the hands of Jones, their fate was decided.

Jones dribbled the length of the court and as time expired he rose up for a 10 foot jumpshot as the buzzer sounded. The final score; Gators 83, Clippers 81.

"[Winning in this fashion] shows the heart of this team, we were up and we got down, so to comeback and get that win, it shows we can fight through adversity" Carter said. "We're treating every game like it's a playoff game; we still have something to fight for."

After the dramatic victory, Green River traveled to Clark to take on the Penguins, a team the Gators beat by three earlier in the year.

From the start of the game it was evident that the Penguins were the aggressors. The Gators shot an abysmal 0-7 from the beyond the arc and were down by 21 at halftime.

A dramatic comeback came up just short as the Gators fell to the Penguins, 70-69, drastically hurting their playoff chances.