

The Current

Green River Community College



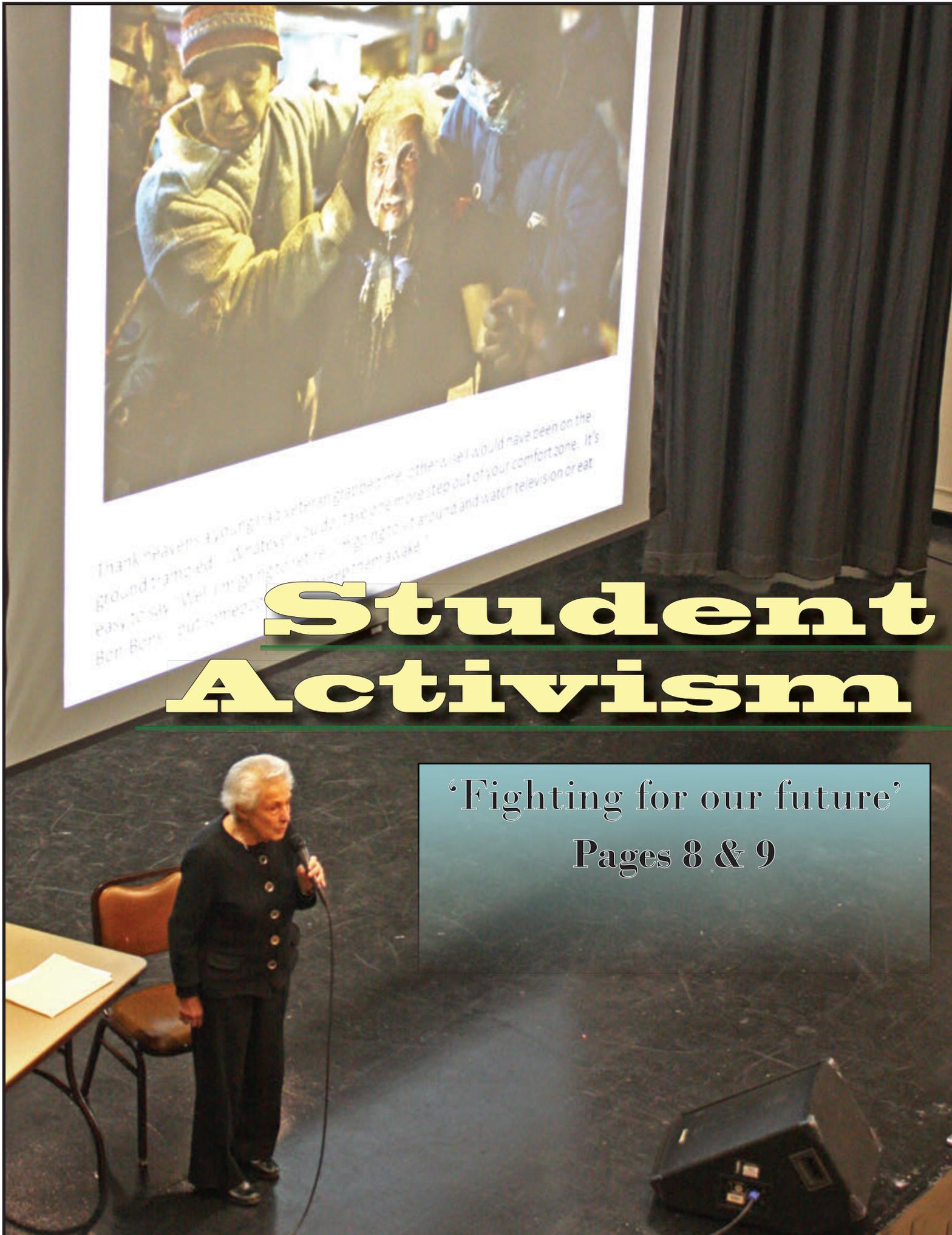
A glimmer of hope at 6-foot-1

Sierra Haverfield's basketball skills and athleticism have made her star scorer for the Lady Gators

Sports page 16

Feb. 27, 2012 | WWW.THECURRENTONLINE.NET

VOLUME 46, ISSUE 7



Student Activism

‘Fighting for our future’
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Courageous, bold women: That takes ovaries!

An open mike workshop for women's empowerment shows the difficulties women still go through today.

A&E page 7

All viewers of art welcomed

How the Seattle Art Museum isn't just for artists; it's for anyone with a love for creativity and beauty.

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Gators carry on without a home field

After vandalism, destruction and general neglect, Green River's sports programs lose their home field.

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Lunar Lunacy: who's paying?

Exploration of space is an important step for humanity to take, but who will fit the bill?

Courageous, bold women: that takes ovaries!

Both women and men gather in the Lindbloom Center for women's empowerment through storytelling

By: Bailey Jo Josie
Campus Editor

The Glacier Room of Green River Community College's Lindbloom Student Center had never seemed as inviting as it was this last February 13; cookies and coffee flanked the hall as a projector played a slideshow and a few rows of chairs seated women of all shapes and physical aspects, each one different from the last.

Everyone attending was waiting in anticipation for the upcoming event that was designed just for them, known as "That Takes Ovaries!"

Based on a book of the same name (to be more specific, "That Takes Ovaries!: Bold Females and their Brazen Acts") the event was an "open mike" or an "interactive reading of leading a bold life".

It is a world-wide phenomenon, with over 700 workshops just like it being done, where women come together to read select stories from the text, share their own experiences, and also discuss women's empowerment.

There was a definite theme of boldness throughout that hour and a half, and the one to set the example for all to follow gracefully placed her to the front of the room, as if she was born to speak about the benefits of being a strong, bold female.

Zoe Sameth, the guest presenter (a woman who did not write or edit the book, but knows enough about it to lead a workshop) greeted the room with a bright, "Hello, gutsy women and men of Green River Community College! It's time to take off our academic hats; this event is not about scholarship, it is about inspiration. Inspiring each other with our own life stories and today we celebrate women."

She was met with applause

and revelry, and continued on by explaining what exactly the book the event was based on is about.

"It's a book with 60 estrogen-powered true stories; some playful and some political. It is also a play and an open mike movement, which we are going to have today. It is an empowerment tool for girls and women internationally, with over 700 events already held around the globe, so today we're a part of this movement."

Sameth proclaimed that she is passionate about help-

someone simply saying, "That takes balls."

There was a bit of laughter and, in good humor, Sameth agreed with the statement and responded by reading straight from the book.

"By adapting the phrase 'that takes balls' to 'that takes ovaries,' we end the myth that equates only the male sex organ with innate power and fearlessness.

"By adapting the phrase, we claim our inherent strength and courage too. Hell, we've been acting on our strength all along. The only new thing is

father dealt upon her; the relationship was tumultuous and the environment so hostile that Buckley feared for her life.

She said that she found the strength to leave her abuser and took her first-born son (she was pregnant with her second child at the time) and left early one morning on a bus from Louisiana to Washington with some money her mother had sent her.

She ended the story by describing the generosity people gave her on the ride back home, which was just enough to feed herself, her unborn

anything about it, so I went up to the man and said, 'you're a grown man, this is a little girl; you need to stop doing this'.

"And when I got to him I noticed that he was drunk and he began to turn his attention on me and get angry with me. Which I didn't mind because I know I was capable of defending myself and it was better than him having his attention on this young girl."

He said that the man eventually got off the bus and nothing happened, though the young man was not satisfied with the situation.

than men; women are treated unfairly in the penal system and in prisons, and – the big one – sexual assault.

Everyone in the room agreed that rape and assault of women is not only wrong and needs to be stopped, but a student named Kelsey Brown made the point that "we live in a society where we are taught 'don't get raped' instead of 'don't rape.'"

This led to the last written story from the book of the day (three stories were read in all), which was presented by a woman named Shukri Del.

She read the story "Documenting it", which chronicles a documentary director and the struggles she faced while filming about under-aged brothels in Bombay, the young and heartbreaking girls she had met, and the horrible truths about the sex trade in poor, third-world countries.

The story was very brutal, and at times Del is overcome by emotion, forced to occasionally pause and collect herself, such as when she read aloud about the horrifying acts committed to a 12-year-old prostitute.

It was a moving passage, and everyone learned the horrifying truth that each year four million girls as young as 10 are sold into brothels and sex trafficking.

It was then that the message of "That Takes Ovaries!" finally sunk in completely. Sexism, injustice and much worse is still happening to many women today, and it only takes one person to start making things right; one person to be "bold and brazen" enough to help not only themselves, but also others.

This is why "That Takes Ovaries!" and empowerment is vital for all women, be they old, young, from a broken home or good family, living in a third world country or here at Green River.

“By adapting the phrase ‘that takes balls’ to ‘that takes ovaries,’ we end the myth that equates only the male sex organ with innate power and fearlessness.”

excerpt from **“That Takes Ovaries!: Bold Females and their Brazen Acts”**

ing women and girls find their voice and becoming empowered, which she explained is about women standing up for themselves and others.

"This means to me that we can stand up for ourselves and our needs, our desires, our rights, our safety, for other's desires, rights and safety, and we can step through our fears about what [women] want to pursue or create in [their] lives, and this is what "That Takes Ovaries!" is all about."

Sameth continued on by asking what comes to mind when one hears the phrase 'that takes ovaries.' Some suggestions were thrown out, but the one that caught everyone's attention was the lone voice of

we have a cool expression used to brag about it."

The program shifted into an "open mike" phase and there was an alteration of people reading stories from the book (like one about an old woman who helped another woman who was being beaten up by her boyfriend), quiet discussions among groups, and women sharing their stories of when they were the most bold in their lives or when they stood up for themselves and for others, because "courage is contagious."

Geneva Buckley, a former student and current employee for the Women's Programs here on campus, told the story of the abuse her children's

child and her young baby.

With tears in her eyes, she met with Salmeth, who commended her for being so brave, and told her and the audience that her story would undoubtedly save other women's lives.

Other people shared their stories as well. Dani Chang told of how she "came out" to her conservative family just last summer, and a young man named Shaan spoke about how he stood up for a young teenage girl on a subway.

"There was this older guy who kept making comments and trying to touch on her and stuff," he recalls.

"And I noticed that none of her friends were saying

"It really upset me that she was with a couple of her male friends who were much bigger than me, and they didn't do or say anything."

He was greeted by a round of applause for his courage and Salmeth then took the opportunity to tell the audience that, despite all of the milestones women have overcome, there are still many more challenges, and the story of the young girl on the bus only proves her word's truth.

Sameth asked the crowd what they think women still have to overcome in today's day and age. Her question was met with an array of responses. The leading ones were: women are still paid less



Teacher Spotlight: Anthony Ferrucci

Position: Philosophy Adjunct Instructor
Date of birth: August 17, 1984
Years at Green River: First year

Sounders tickets came out recently, are you planning to attend any games?

I already have tickets actually. I'm going to the Champions League game and I'm going to the season opener. I am a soccer referee, so I was able to get tickets through that.

You have an Italian last name, how much of a connection do you have to Italy?

Actually, I'm in the process of getting my Italian citizenship, a process that I've been in for the last several years. It's definitely a big part of my life. I still have family there. I'm from a town where there weren't too many Italian families, so it was interesting how many ways someone could make fun of your last name. I was called everything from "Fettuccini" to "Alfredo," that was always fun.

What got you into teaching philosophy?

I've always loved philosophy. I got into philosophy because I think there's some value to teaching it to other kids and the discussions are interesting. I always liked my philosophy instructors. I thought that hopefully if I can follow in their footsteps I'd be happy by the end of the day.

My philosophy professors impacted my life so much for the better that I hope to have that kind of influence on my students. I'm very proud to be a teacher.

How long have you been teaching and where?

I started teaching in the fall of 2009 at San Francisco State University teaching Critical Thinking and I taught there for a year.

Then last summer I taught in Berkeley City College and this is my first semester teaching at Green River.

How did you end up at GRCC?

Well, I just moved back



Thomas Sørensen | The Current

from California. When I saw this job opening I got really excited because it was a chance to come back home and be closer to my family. Also, I had never been to the campus before. It was very different from the campuses I was used to. It's no mega campus. It seemed very peaceful, kind of like a close family. I like the close-knit structure of the campus and the classes they offered here, so I packed my stuff and drove up here.

Where do you see yourself in 20 years?

Still in philosophy, with any luck. I say that because being in academia is hard. I would still like to be involved with philosophy, whether it is teaching or writing, anything like that. Hopefully, if all goes well, I'll start writing more.

Have you had any of your written work published?

I've published one paper, coauthored another paper and I was the editor of one journal. I've given talks and presentations at different universities, which has been very flattering. For better or worse, philosophy is one of those

subjects where it's a "publish or perish" type of deal, so it's always good to write and have other people appreciate your work. I've been very fortunate in that regard.

What do you do when you're not at work?

Well, I read a lot, I love soccer, and I love being a referee. I love cycling and I ride my bike a lot, mostly because I despise cars. I hike and I also have a budding interest in rock climbing.

Why the dislike of cars?

I'm not an extreme environmentalist, but at the same time cars seem like more of a burden than they are a viable mode of transportation. Walking and bicycling have always been more economical for me. I really dislike the car culture that we have here in western Washington. I've lived in places where cars are really a burden, like San Francisco and Paris. Living in those cities and seeing what fewer cars can do for people and how much it can save time, money and the environment, I just haven't felt like buying a car in a really long

time. And it's good exercise.

What brought you to Paris?

I did my first semester of college in Paris. That was probably one of the best experiences of my life.

I love Paris, it was really wonderful and I met a lot of great people. I really got interested in philosophy when I went to Europe. That was definitely a life changing experience for me.

On to the big question of the day, what do you want to see changed in the world?

I guess a lot of things. As it's connected to education, I would want to see a renewed interest in public education. On the political level I see non-educational goals being put in front of education, especially at the federal level.

Would you ever work in politics?

I don't think I would interact well in politics. I don't think politics is like Plato's notion of the republic. I don't think that's how politics actually work. There's too much money and greed in politics.

I wouldn't interact well in an environment like that. It's just not for me. I should stick to my day job, [which is] teaching philosophy.

Do you have a favorite philosophical question to discuss?

The ones that have been driving me the last couple of years are questions in philosophy of science such as "what makes a scientific explanation a good one?" Those have been interesting to me.

My students usually love questions with respect to ethics. They usually love "Does God exist?" questions.

And also, both for my students and me, I find that the animal rights topics are popular. "Do animals have the same rights as people," "How should we treat animals?"

It is really fun to take up those questions in class. Being put in front of education, especially at the federal level. It doesn't seem that our federal government has put education at the top of the priority list for the last 20 years or so, as much as I would want to see it.

Man on the Street



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.

Here is a selection of this issue's answers. For more, plus an archive of old questions, visit our website: www.thecurrentonline.net.

Are there clubs or organizations you wish were provided at Green River?

"I was actually thinking about this just the other day... that if there was some sort of, this is going to sound weird, but Buddhist club? Because the Seattle area doesn't have a very strong Buddhist presence. There are not a lot of places to meet up and do the activities. So it would be awesome if there was one here."



Ryan Watson

"I would like to see more theater [because] I'm really interested in that, but if you want to do any of the plays here you have to take a class, which is kind of annoying, because I have to take all my other classes and I can't be a part of the theater program here 'cause it's a class."



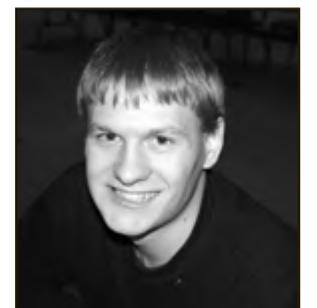
"Biebz" Rhodes

"I have not actually looked at any of the clubs hardly. A lot of the time I am either in the LSC [and] I hang out with some friends or I am in classes. Haven't really looked into campus activities or anything very much."



Jake Suhovernik

"Not anything I can think of on the top of my head right now; I like tennis, badminton, things like that." (After being told that the tennis team was cut last year): "I wish I knew about that [...] I've been here three years! A lot of things that go on around here, like, I barely know about half the stuff." *



Tait Olson

* Mr. Olson would have known if he read THE CURRENT more. Stay in the loop. Read THE CURRENT.

Writing Center welcomes new director

Former teacher Jamie Fitzgerald returns to Green River with big plans for the school's writing center, with students in mind

By: Nicole Spaulding
Staff writer

Lately, talk of a new director in the writing center has been going around the Auburn campus. Jamie Fitzgerald was welcomed as the new writing center director six weeks ago. He was an adjunct English professor at GRCC from 2004-07, then taught at Pierce Community College and was the writing director there until his recent return.

Coming back was always in the plans, and the transition was easy with the writing center's staff of instructors, mentors and tutors.

Learning how the writing center operates is only the beginning. He has many ideas on how to improve the experiences for students and tutors.

Fitzgerald stated, "First, I want to make sure to clear the

misconceptions people have about what goes on in the writing center. We do not fix papers for students, our goal is to improve their writing abilities to make them stronger writers."

Any written assignment can be taken into the center for advice on how to improve what the student has already written. He has future plans on what needs to be done to improve an already amazing system.

Fitzgerald goes on to say that "The staff and administration have always supported the writing center, and everyone who is involved makes it a great place to receive help."

One idea he has is to use the space provided more efficiently. Fitzgerald explains: "Organization could be better... I would like it to be more welcoming and comfortable so students keep returning."



Bailey Jo Josie | The Current

Another idea is to provide the tutors with training which can be available on Angel. Right now, the staff only has a meeting once a week and by utilizing Angel, the tutors would be able to get more training that they might need. Fitzgerald believes "A great

tool which can be helpful for both mentors and students is using a filing system to monitor what students are coming in for."

Students as of now walk into the center, sign in, and take a seat; waiting for a tutor to come help. If the tutor is

aware of what the student has already been helped with, they can check in with students on their progress and are able to assist them better.

Using a system like this will utilize time, and overall be beneficial for students and tutors.

The Writing Center is located on the main campus, in the Rutkowski Learning Center (RLC) in RLC 173

Hours of Operation:

January 4 - March 22

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday
CLOSED

"The tutors are very talented and eager to help, they believe in the work that we do."

With all of the efforts Fitzgerald is making to the writing center, students can rest assured that they are in good hands with him as the new director.

Indonesians unite

With the Indonesian Students Organization bustling around campus, its president reflects on the club's origins and future

By: Kine Røssland &
Bailey Jo Josie

When 19-year-old Tienneke Tijang came to Green River two years ago from Malaysia, she felt there was something missing on campus. Though she was raised in Malaysia, Tijang was born in Indonesia, and felt that the Indonesian organizations on campus needed to come together and be united as a whole.

She set out to do just that, and is now founder and President of Green River's official Indonesian Students Organization (ISO).

She saw that there were many Indonesian students at Green River and wanted to unite them into one group, so she started the process of building up the ISO back in December 2010.

Tijang confesses that it was not easy for her. She was fairly new at the school and felt it would be a challenge since she herself hadn't lived in Indonesia for a long time. She had

a personal drive to connect with her culture again, as well as let others see the beautiful culture Indonesia has to offer:

"If you want to start a club, you need a strong passion about it."

Today the organization has 86 members, with seven officers who help Tijang with all the planning that goes into their events.

Despite being a club for Indonesian students, Tijang stresses that the club is for anyone who is interested in Indonesian culture.

She explains, "we not only want to unite Indonesian people, we also want to promote Indonesian culture [...] promote our friendship."

In fact, on March 2 the ISO will hold a Singing Contest Finals in the Lindbloom Student Center and everyone is open to audition (auditions were held on February 24) and come to the show.

Tijang is an International business major, and says that taking charge of getting the

club started - as well as being the president - has helped her leadership skills tremendously, and that it has been a great experience.

Tijang is moving on from Green River after spring quarter, and will then have elected a new president for her club. She has big hopes that the club will do well without her, have more members, and have bigger horizons. She is also grateful to the current club members who have made the hard work worth it:

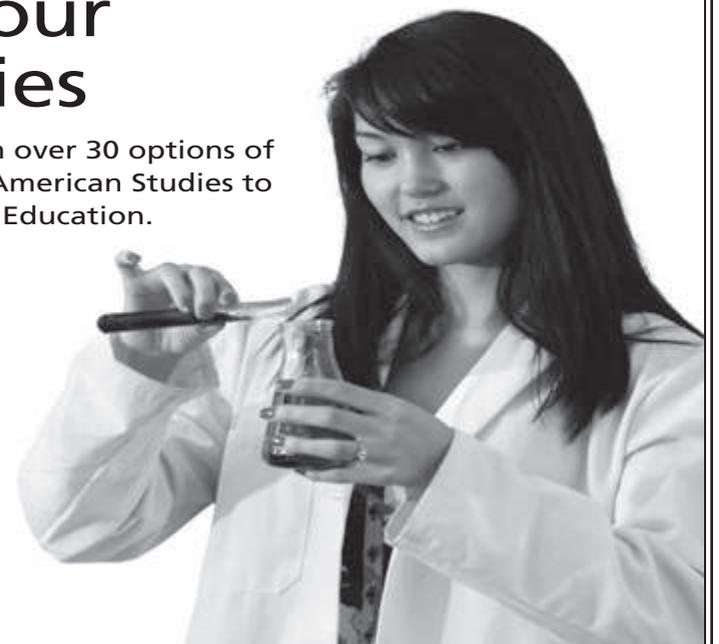
"I want to say thank you to my members for being so passionate and very enthusiastic, doing their work [...] to maintain the club, I can't do it by myself [or] without them, so I really appreciate that."

The Indonesian Students Organization meets every Friday from 3-4 p.m., in BI-13 on the main campus.

For more information, call the Student Life Office, ext. 2400

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Concert Calendar

| | |
|------------|--|
| Feb. 28 | ATLAS SOUND @ Neumos (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$15+) |
| | The Fray @ Paramount Theatre (Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$36+) |
| Mar. 1 | SOJA @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$20+) |
| | Keller Williams @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$20+) |
| | The Lonely Forest @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$15+) |
| | Punch Brothers @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$20+) |
| | Javier Colon @ Neumos (Show starts at 7 p.m. all ages, \$25+) |
| | Love Me Some Townes Van Zandt @ Tractor Tavern (Doors open at 7:30 p.m. 21+, \$12+) |
| | Grime Time @ Neumos (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$15+) |
| | Steve Aoki & Datsik @ Paramount Theatre (Show starts at 7 p.m. all ages, \$25+) |
| | Memoryhouse @ The Crocodile (Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, \$10+) |
| | Woody Guthrie Project @ ShowBox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$22.50+) |
| | Feed Me With Teeth @ ShowBox at the Market (Show starts at 7 p.m. all ages, \$22.50+) |
| | Guster (Acoustic set) @ Neptune (Show starts at 7 p.m. all ages, \$28+) |
| | Flogging Molly @ Paramount Theatre (Show starts at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$29.25+) |
| | George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic @ ShowBox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, \$25) |
| | NEEDTOBREATHE @ Moore Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$22.50) |
| | Friends and Family @ Tractor Tavern (Doors open at 8 p.m. 21+, \$6+) |

MOVIE REVIEW

Much more than a typical romance

By: Dilichi Chiedu
Staff Writer



Rachel McAdams is officially the queen of romantic drama films. Seriously, who says lighting can't strike twice? Not only is "The Vow" the ideal date night film, it is the perfect representation of what true love should look like. Before watching "The Vow", it is easy to write it off as just another "The Notebook" wannabe; McAdams plays a similar role in both films. To be honest, that may be the only negative point because the screenplay was nearly flawless.

The film begins when a car accident puts Paige (McAdams) in a coma. She wakes up with severe memory loss. Because of this, her husband Leo (Channing Tatum) begins

his journey to try to win her heart back.

The balance of highs and lows in this film catapult each scene to new heights. On parts where Paige may be able to remember her past, you're quickly reminded that the chances of that are still slim.

There are no shortcuts in this film. The cliché magical moment that happens in most romantic dramas where everything turns out perfect in the end was nowhere to be found.

Tatum displays another side to his acting repertoire. He showcases a much more vulnerable side that hasn't been seen. Like it was in "Dear John" his character is sensitive, but extremely cold towards the ones he loves. Throughout "The Vow" he holds on to the small possibility of Paige's memory recovering. He is persistent in showing her how much he loves her and never gives up on this



Courtesy photo | online.movieshut.com

Channing Tatum and Rachael McAdams show obvious chemistry between the two characters, as they fall in love all over again.

true love. He's a fighter in the ring, facing the world champion.

One of the film's flaws is its lack of detail at the very end. Though the story is told well, it ends too quickly. It lacks parts that show how Paige and Leo's relationship has progressed after everything transpired.

Overall, "The Vow" showcases an extremely colorful and unorthodox tale. The chemistry Tatum and McAdams show on screen is also something

missing from a lot of films of today. There's a genuine comfort and honesty that can be felt from both actors in this film, leaving viewers satisfied.

In the end, "The Vow" is an honest film that will resonate well with most fans of romantic dramas.

Rated: PG-13
Director: Michael Sucsy
Starring: Rachael McAdams and Channing Tatum

The Current Picks

WEBSITE/APP

Totaljerkface.com



By: Sean Rockey

At first glance, this site may just appear to be a blog from some random guy named Jim Bonacci, but the flash games that lie further in are what make this website shine.

Happy Wheels, arguably Bonacci's most popular flash game, looks like a simple obstacle course, but after a minute or so you realize it's far more than that; featuring hilarious amounts of violence and a vast array of characters ranging from a wildly obese shopper to a senior citizen in a rocket-wheelchair.

With the capability to make and play your own levels, this game might be the next reason you forget to finish your work.

MOVIE

The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou



By: Gentry Seipert

"The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou" bears Wes Anderson's trademark warm, pastel colors - yet the film often takes its dry and sardonic humor with a smooth glass of alcohol.

While oceanographer and documentary filmmaker Zissou is working on a project, his friend is eaten by a creature called a "Jaguar shark." He is then determined to document the shark's destruction.

Amidst a star riddled cast and David Bowie's songs beautifully sung in Portuguese, this story of self-validation through conquest, close friends, and family has become a cult classic.

BOOK

Beautiful Creatures



By: Kally Bieber

Taking science fiction in a different direction, "Beautiful Creatures" follows the life of Ethan Wate, an average teenage boy who lives in what is believed to be "the middle of nowhere": Gatlin, South Carolina.

The new girl in town, Lena Duchannes, is an instant outcast and carries her own deep secret. She captures the interest of Wate, and together they reveal secrets about each family's past, as other mysteries and secrets continue to appear.

Kami Garcia and Margret Stohl have crafted what is said to be the offspring of Harry Potter and Twilight; sure to please fans of either.

MUSIC

The Complexity of Light



By: Bailey Jo Josie

Children of Nova is a neo-prog rock San Diego band that you should definitely know about.

With graceful vocals that caress the eardrums like a seductive assassin, backed by a tight-knit sound that seems to evolve from a cosmic star, you'll be in awe of their musical talent and aural beauty.

Check out their album "Complexity of Light" and give in to the temptation of Freddie Mercury-esque falsettos on the title track, and "We Collide," a song that incorporates complex drumming with harp-like guitar tones.

Trust me, you will love it.

Live young and grow old

Indie-pop band, Tennis, kicks it up a notch in its latest LP, "Young & Old"

By: Gentry Seipert
Senior Writer

It's been nearly three years since Camera Obscura released an album, which probably seems like an intolerably long time to the-cardigan-and-Ray-Ban-obsessive in your life; and sadly, since last year marked Trish Keenan of Broadcast's unfortunate passing, the low-fi and smooth finishing indie-pop genre has been craving a little something for its sweet tooth. Tennis has stepped in to fill that void with their own blend of bubble gum romance, nostalgia, and a rather low-key loveliness.

When the duo of Alaina Moore and Patrick Riley (aka Tennis) concocted their debut album, "Cape Dory", they certainly didn't predict its widely favorable acceptance.

Although "Cape Dory" was likeable for its sixties shimmer and breezy

shuffle, it was just too sickly sweet and over-familiar to fall in love with.

On their follow-up album, "Young & Old", Tennis is as happy-go-lucky and referential before, but with The Black Keys' drummer Patrick Carney behind the helm of this sophomore efforts' production, a slightly rougher edge has begun to emerge. This is



very apparent on tracks such as "Origins", with a delightful blend of hard drums and bass backing the harmonious-yet-simple guitar and piano riffs which spill over with Moore's aching vocals offering the

listener a smooth finish on each note. After repeated listens, the song is a fitting hallmark on the album as a whole.

At first, "Young & Old" seems as pretty-but-plain as "Cape Dory", but eventually you start to appreciate the little tricks that Tennis plays throughout their music, which turn their jangly rock and pop standards into something far more seductive and unique. This new sound comes from the rising and falling piano pattern that gives this album its tender air of grandeur - the sweet yet disconnected overtones of a love-lost and bored relationship found in "It All Feels The Same", and the cozy yet haunting backing vocals that cushion Moore's yelping and yearning on "Origins". These are what turn simple songs into smart, memorable ones, and that's just the first two tracks.

Truly, Moore's voice may

be the great unifier that holds this work together so well. Her coos have grown in intensity in places from which its often precocious and lovey-dovey warmth on Cape Dory did not possess. Her voice is what brings the band's sound and potential to a resounding height.

The whole album "Young and Old" is nostalgic, which is expected from a pair of retro-romantics like Tennis. Just as the written romances in their songs imitate the ones portrayed in perhaps an Audrey Hepburn movie, the songs themselves hark back to a time when pop music was a wholesome medium filled with simple melodies - and not something too noisy and overbearing to keep up with. "On Young & Old", Tennis has built from the default indie-pop repertoire they performed on "Cape Dory". It's still retro in nature, but it's starting to sound retro in a way that only Tennis can achieve.

All viewers of art welcomed

The Seattle Art Museum doesn't receive the general attention it deserves even though the creativity throughout is suited for people of all ages, not just artists

By: Jacob Jadodinski
Assistant A&E Editor

Every painting, every sculpture, even every other peculiar postmodern piece has a story to tell. Unfortunately, these stories seem to lack the altruistic audience that they deserve. Particularly, in museums.

So please, start by pushing aside any former theories, and walk straight through the front door of an art museum to buy a ticket. A perfect example would be a local exhibit such as The Seattle Art Museum.

The Seattle Art Museum hosts a number of eclectic art pieces, which range from classical oil paintings to bizarre statues that evoke political themes of past historical eras. The museum is a peaceful, multi-storied building full of wondrous works of art that are waiting to be critiqued

by no fastidious mind in particular.

A complex yet comfortable feeling of aesthetics positively fills oneself with optimism and imagination as they reach the second floor. There is enough room to breathe comfortably, a section for the children to play, and a bench for that certain someone in the family who does not wish to walk any farther without having to hit the bathroom.

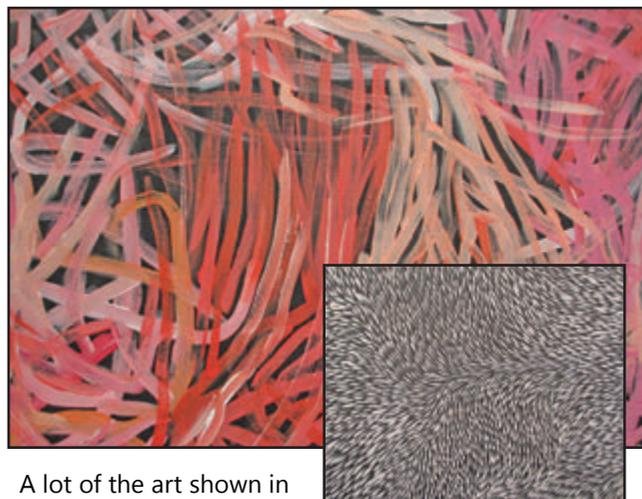
Each wall is occupied by a number of well suited pieces of art. Even the flooring holds sculptures and other physical works; such as a black mouse that stands atop a man in his sleep, or cars hanging from the ceiling. These are only the quintessential art pieces that the museum uses to fashion its several rooms. Sometimes, the rooms are filled with honorably distinctive art exhibits from

faraway places.

In fact, as an honor, the Seattle art Museum is holding the rarely seen works of Paul Gauguin and an assortment of Polynesia's finest art for a quick, faddish time. The exhibit is called "Gauguin & Polynesia," and is available from the ninth of February to the twenty-ninth of

April.

In this modern time, everyone should be able to experience the beauty of art in a fun and inventive manner. This is promising to any viewer that wishes to experience the infinite forms of fine art at the Seattle Art Museum and its singular Gauguin & Polynesia art exhibit.



A lot of the art shown in the Seattle Art Museum is from other cultures, such as the aboriginal art above.

Guys, dolls and Pokémon



Game Prose
Alexander Bevier

Video games are one of the fastest growing mediums of all time. Right now, video games are about 60 years old, and are facing as many growing pains as they mature. People often talk about how games are a lot like movies, especially in regards to their cinematic flair. However, I'd argue that games have plenty more to learn from comic books, or -- in many other cases -- musical theater.

Comics, musicals and video games are all hybrid mediums. Each one is an art form that was created from other art forms.

Musical Theater, starting with Roger and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma," was the first time audiences went to a show and saw the script integrated with the music they were listening to.

Comic books are also hybrid media because they take images with a similar scenario and post them sequentially -- supplemented with text -- to tell a unique story that could only be told with comics. Video games are something very similar.

Video games take the game mechanics the developers created and use them to create a world for the player to interact in. This combines game design seen in board games with, of all things, architecture. Video games are designed with interactive entertainment in mind. It's sort of like Disneyland with a controller.

The development of these art forms is some of the most important in the last few hundred years, while things like the written narrative and music have had eons to mature. They are all new mediums that are being used to tell even more compelling stories.

The exciting thing about new art is that it challenges nerdy people to study and find the untapped potential of the medium. Games are still trying to find legitimacy in the scholarly world. Comic books are too, but people have slowly accepted that works like "Watchmen" are worth collegiate study. Games are slowly getting to this point. There are currently more schools dedicated to game design than there ever were for comics. Wabash University, a college in Indiana, had every student play the game "Portal" last academic year for the entire campus to discuss its literary merit.

The game industry needs to keep working on getting their medium in

"The exciting thing about new art is that it challenges nerdy people to study and find the untapped potential of the medium."

-Alexander Bevier

to schools because they deserve the same attention musicals get. Countless schools put on musicals every year. Games need to work towards having play festivals and similar things to encourage the growth of the medium.

Things like the International Game Developer Association's Global Game Jam is a great start. It's a great community event that challenges people to make a game over one weekend. My Twitter feed is filled with the eager (and later exhausted) buzz of developers and students making a game in the short time span. It's more fun than a high school production of "Cabaret."

Besides, I can't be the only one who wants to see a video game based on Meredith Wilson's classic "The Music Man." It'll probably be better than the Spider-man musical.

Student Activism:

-Fighting For Our Future-

education
tuition
budget cuts
student leaders
career



All Sketches by: Bailey Jo Josie
Design by: Asha Johnson & Kally Bieber

By: Asha Johnson
Editor-In-Chief

"No" is a powerful word. It's what Frederick Douglass said to slave owners when they told him he wasn't allowed to read and write because of his skin color; it's what Susan B. Anthony said when she was denied the right to vote because of her gender; it's what Louise Braille said when doctors told him the blind would never be able to read; it's what students all over the country are beginning to say in response to budget cuts and tuition increases for education.

Students are responding to the ongoing attacks against higher education. Green River's Teach-In Series has aspired to educate students about what is going on and what they can do to respond. Over winter quarter, this series has given special attention to 'student activism'.

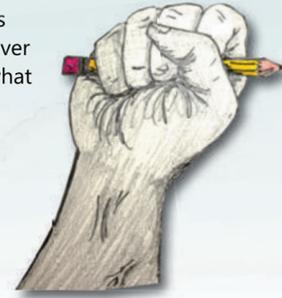
Activism is the practice of vigorous action or involvement as a means of achieving political or other goals, according to Dictionary.com. Social change has always been born through activism. And, despite the struggles through it all, activists stand strong to support their ideals.

PROGRESSIVE PROGRAMS

People often think that they can't make a difference individually, but considering how many great programs emerged because one person said that things should be different, it's a misjudgement.

A few of these programs were highlighted at 'Access, Curriculum Change, and Campus Climate', the second activism-themed event of the quarter. Held on Feb.

8, four individuals came to Green River to speak about what their specialized programs do for others, how they wouldn't exist without student activism, and what the



continuous budget cuts hold for these beneficial programs.

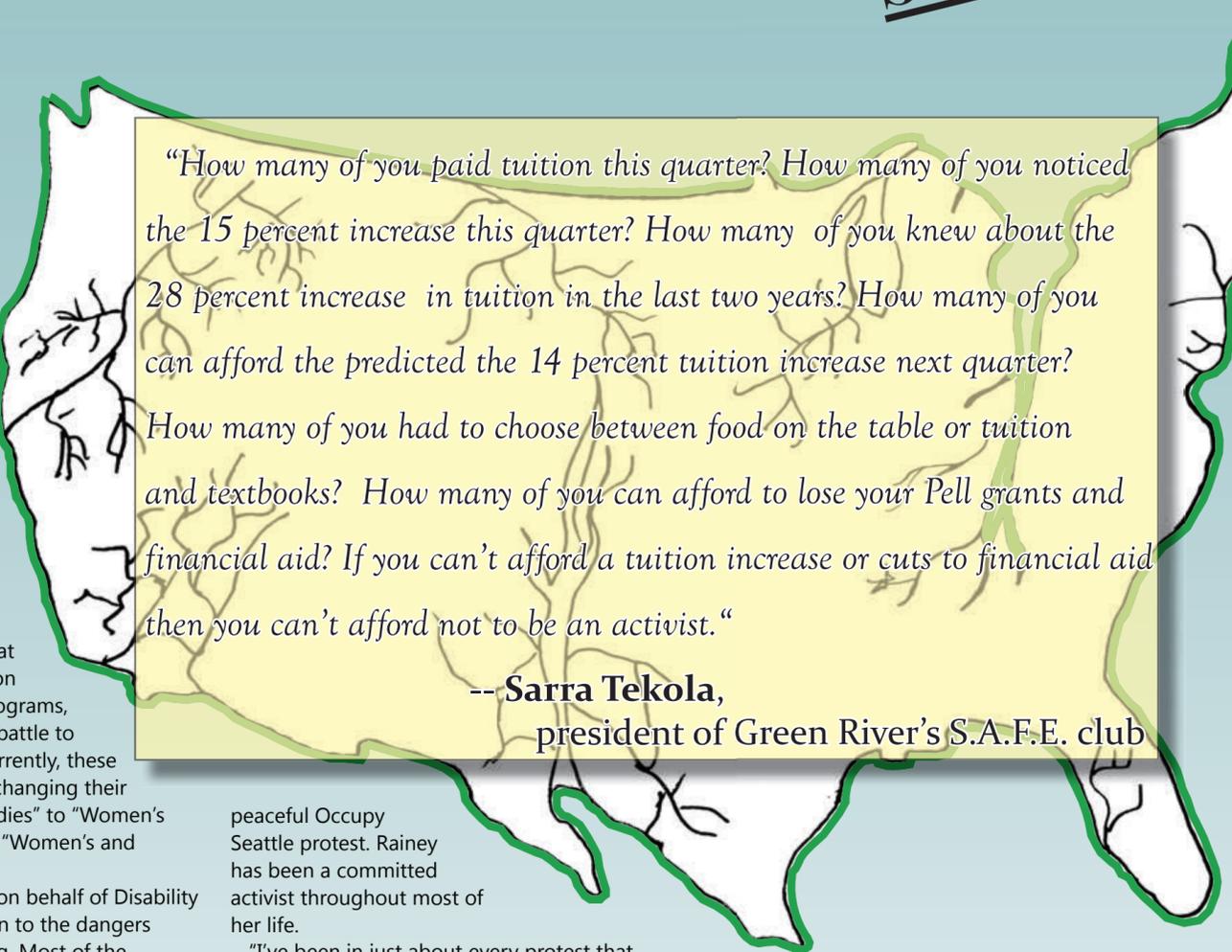
Representing the Black Student Union, Aaron Dixon started the event off with reminding the audience that education is a right, and how not too long ago men and women of colored skin were not allowed to attend school.

Kai Kohlsdorf, representing women's and sexuality studies, enforced Dixon's point by mentioning how long women had to fight to get people to even consider a women's studies program. Now that colleges all over the nation have women's studies programs, people are in a constant battle to expand the program. Currently, these departments have been changing their titles from "Women's Studies" to "Women's and Sexuality Studies" or "Women's and Gender Studies."

Noah Seidal, speaking on behalf of Disability Studies, brought attention to the dangers these programs are facing. Most of the assistance disability departments offer are paid for with grant money so that all students in need of assistance can receive it, regardless of their financial standing. With funds being pulled in all directions, these programs are then forced to either shut down or turn away students who cannot afford their services.

OCCUPY MOVEMENT: DORLI RAINEY'S INSIGHT

Green River was recently graced by the presence of an internationally famous Occupy Seattle player. Dorli Rainey, an 84-year-old Austrian woman, was sling-shot into the media after being pepper sprayed in the face at a



"How many of you paid tuition this quarter? How many of you noticed the 15 percent increase this quarter? How many of you knew about the 28 percent increase in tuition in the last two years? How many of you can afford the predicted the 14 percent tuition increase next quarter? How many of you had to choose between food on the table or tuition and textbooks? How many of you can afford to lose your Pell grants and financial aid? If you can't afford a tuition increase or cuts to financial aid then you can't afford not to be an activist."

-- Sarra Tekola,
president of Green River's S.A.F.E. club

peaceful Occupy Seattle protest. Rainey has been a committed activist throughout most of her life.

"I've been in just about every protest that ever came down," Rainey said to the audience.

Rainey shared advice on how to start safely protesting and what you can do if you have something to fight for but don't necessarily want to join a march. Her wisdom and spunk made conversation between her and the audience effortless; she is not afraid to speak her mind.

"I believe in justice," said Rainey. "We have a world just full of injustice. We've spent more money on war and less money on things like education."

STUDENT ACTIVISTS FOR EDUCATION

The Student Activists for Education (S.A.F.E.)

club is a new organization to Green River. S.A.F.E. was created as a place for students to group together and speak about how the economic crisis has affected education, and hopefully begin to discuss and act upon possible solutions. The club was created by Sarra Tekola, a GRCC sophomore who has been inspired by the Teach-In discussions of fall quarter and with her family.

"I wasn't trying to start it, I was waiting for it to start. Then I realized, as Ghandi says, 'Be the change you want to see in the world.' So instead of just waiting for one to start that I could jump onto and help out, I made the club that I was looking for."

Tekola's main focus for the club has been to educate students of the current economic status, and to offer students safe opportunities of action. She is met with a lot of resistance in her mission.

"I go into the cafeteria at least once a week and I tell people about the upcoming events and how they can join, and they always tell me that they don't have time. You don't have time? Because I volunteer at four different organizations, I'm the president of a club, I

work, and I'm a full-time student; you're telling me that you don't have time?"

Tekola hopes that, through example and determination, she can be the kind of leader her peers need and that S.A.F.E. will eventually carry on to be the driving force to many good changes.

"The thing [that people] don't realize is that this is helping themselves. That this is our education, it's at stake here and if we don't protect it, it's going to be inaccessible to all of us."

S.A.F.E. has been actively encouraged by the Teach-In committee to take over the Teach-In sessions during spring quarter. They have also been in talks to have a student activism fair. The booths at this fair would help section off and showcase the reasons students would want to defend their own right for education.

"The thing about our generation is that... they don't think it's going to make a difference. But, if you pay attention in history class, the reason we're able to go to school together is because of the sit-ins, it's because of the civil rights movement. So it does make a difference."



Thomas Sorenes | The Current

Guest speaker Dorli Rainey shares with Green River her famous Occupy experience.



Thomas Sorenes | The Current

GR teacher Louise Hull (left) assists S.A.F.E. leader Sarra Tekola (right) create protest art.



Asha Johnson | The Current

Guests present at 'Access, Curriculum Change & Campus Climate' about social programs.

Stay Current

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

Also on the Inside

*"I was called everything from 'Fettucini' to 'Alfredo',
that was always fun."*

Anthony Ferrucci Page 3

The Undercurrent

President Obama visits Washington

By: Olivia Mok
News Editor

President Barack Obama visited the Puget Sound area and spoke about America's economy at the Boeing's Everett Plant on Feb 17. This was the last day of his re-election campaign tour.

The president's first stop was Everett as he landed in Washington State. He toured the Boeing production facility then delivered a speech in front of the Boeing workforce, promising to boost U.S. exports. The President acknowledged Boeing as one of the most successful manufacturers, and that no other companies can compare. The President also pointed out that Boeing strengthens American manufacturers by doing business overseas.

"Everett, it is time to stop rewarding companies that ship jobs overseas," he said. "Reward companies that are creating jobs right here in the United States of America."

The President ended his speech by asserting the need for unity with American workers and that the American workforce will always win against overseas competition with their productivity.

Adele wins big at 2012 Grammys

By: Rachel Sant
Senior Writer

The 54th Grammys ceremony completed itself and announced the winners for 2011 on Feb 12 with 39.9 million home viewers. This is approximately 2 million more viewers than the 2011 Oscar ceremony, and the most the Grammys have seen since 1984.

Despite Whitney Houston's passing that same day, the ceremony continued with their original schedule with the exception of adding Jennifer Hudson's rendition of Houston's song, "I Will Always Love You," in memory of the famous singer.

This year, Adele had great success in the award ceremony, picking up six Grammys throughout the evening. Her album, *21*, was awarded as the Album of The Year. Bon Iver also received recognition and was granted the Best New Artist of the Year award.

Gregoire approves gay marriage

By: Aaron Kaneshiro
Staff Writer

Governor Christine Gregoire signed Washington State's same sex legalization bill, making Washington State the seventh state to legalize the same-sex marriage.

The bill, signed on Feb. 13, allows people of the same sex to get married starting on June 7 this year. If the referendum is signed by enough voters, the law will be passed in November.

"Our same-sex couples will no longer be treated as separate but equal," said the governor. "They will be equal in the great state of Washington."

Although the signing was followed by cheers, conservative voters filed referendum 73 later in the day, attempting to stop the law from coming into effect.

Still, this doesn't deter the Governor's happiness. "This is a very proud moment," she said.

More recently, Maryland Senate has approved a same sex marriage bill. Gov. Martin O'Malley has already promised to sign it.

New aerospace programs

Green River introduces three new aerospace programs to teach entry-level skills for any student interested in flight training

By: Rachel Holley
Staff Writer

Green River's new condensed aerospace certificate programs prepare students for entrance into the field of aerospace technology. The program lasts 19 weeks.

In response to the fueling industry demanding entry-level workers, three specific programs are offered, each teaching the particular skills necessary for areas within the aerospace technology field.

The three specific programs include: Principles of Precision Machining, Machine Maintenance and Quality Assurance.

The Principles of Precision Machining program is designed to teach the skills needed to be a Computer Numerical Control operator. Students will also be introduced to computer programming. The Machine Maintenance program focuses on performing general maintenance and routine services on machines. The Quality Assurance program teaches students to monitor and assure the consistent quality of products manufactured.

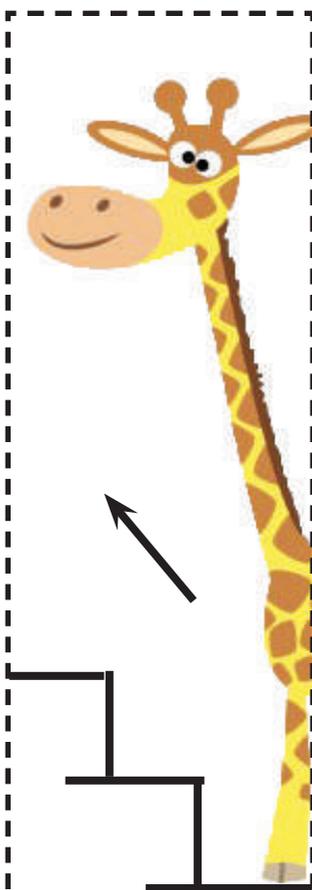
Each training program cost \$2,100 per quarter. It will begin on March 19 and run until the first week of August, with 15 to 20 hours of in-class time per week.

The programs will run twice a year with one series in fall and one in spring. The Principles of Precision Machining program will run daily from 8 a.m. to noon, while the Machine Maintenance class will run from 1 pm to 5 p.m., and the Quality Control class will take place in the evenings and on weekends.

Together with Boeing and Washington's other 650-800 aerospace companies, these programs train entry-level employees to compensate the soaring demand. Labor supply, recognized as 30 percent of Boeing's current workforce, is due to retire at any time and new workers are needed to replace them.

Boeing has been communicating with Washington's community colleges to create programs that could train college students so that they can fill entry-level positions as employees retire.

For every job created in Boeing, there are another two or three created along the supply chain. "Everybody in the supply chain has to ramp up their production too," said Bob Embrey, director of Corporate & Continuing Education, "so there's this perfect storm of opportunity happening." Boeing also recently received the largest amount of orders for planes in the history of the company.



We'll take you higher.

The Current

Journalism 100.1

3 credits - # 5679
5 credits - # 5675

STILL ON A WAITLIST?

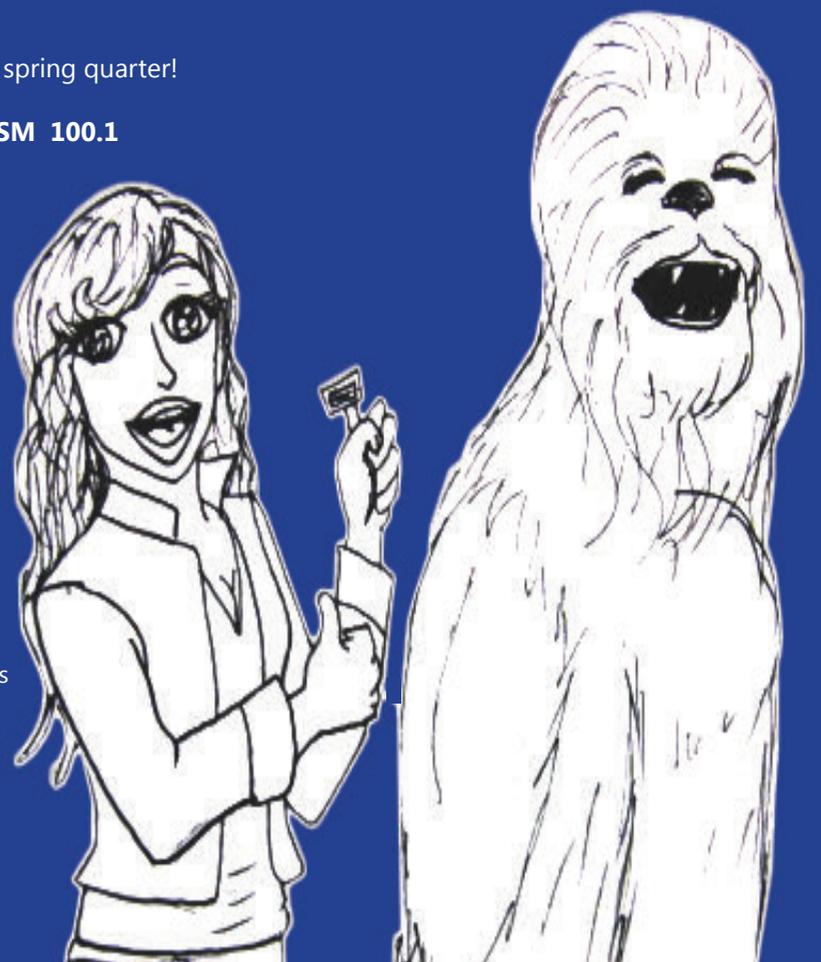
Don't worry about it -
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Sign up for spring quarter!

JOURNALISM 100.1

MWF

12:00-12:50

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this ad)



Thomas Sorenes | The Current



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Thomas Sorenes | The Current

Above: damage to field by natural causes have yet to be cleaned up
To the right: Graffiti riddles Green River Gators scoreboard

"We have been told that we have these four to six years and nobody wants it to go to waste," said Athletic Director Bob Kickner.

Gators carry on without a home field

Poor management and vandalism has forced GRCC's baseball teams to field-hop for the past three years, without hope of stopping

By: Aaron Kaneshiro & Alexander Bevier

The Green River Baseball team stands homeless. Three years ago, the Gators lost their baseball field due to vandalism and a lack of field maintenance. GRCC is currently in talks to acquire new land with the City of Auburn; giving the team a playing field and the space for a brand new building.

Once the talks with the city are settled, the space can be used as a home for the gators while the campus looks for funds for a new building, but they will be looking for another place once the money is available.

The field had been abandoned because vandalism

and waste. Drug paraphernalia was found on the field, which got to the point where the dugouts had to be gutted. It was unfit for a baseball team and the plans began to build a new Trades building over the field. The baseball team then started looking for a new place to play.

"At the time when it was decided that a building was going there, the city stopped maintaining it, we stopped using it at the athletic program, and we have been looking for a field ever since," said Athletic Director Bob Kickner.

The new building will feature the latest technology available for auto body, welding and construction work. The old Trades

building, built in the 60s, is in need of replacement, according to Director of Capitol Projects Sam Ball.

"It's a shame that we don't have the new trades building because we need

"...the city stopped maintaining it, we stopped using it at the athletic program, and we have been looking for a field ever since."

Bob Kickner, athletic director

it now," he said. "The new building will be all state of the art with new technology."

GRCC hopes to maintain the field, which, because of land damage and future plans for the land, will not

be used as a home field for the baseball team. This plan includes making basketball hoops and a soccer field.

"I don't think anyone is talking about significant investment in the property

because in a few years it will all be multi-million dollar buildings," said Kickner.

"Were not going to put thousands of dollars in grass that's going to become cement."

The baseball team has

been field-hopping for the last three years. The Gators have held practices at Puyallup High School, Auburn Mountainview High School and most recently Auburn High School. However, the college has only been able to use the field when it isn't in use, often forcing them to abandon potential practice time.

"We have a plan to hopefully make Auburn High School our game field but we don't have first right of use of that," said Kickner. "Auburn High School may be getting a new High School and there will be construction, and elimination of their baseball field in the short term too."

The building project is still several years away.

There's speculation that planning could last until 2016. This will give the baseball team plenty of time to practice on the field. "We have been told that we have these four to six years and nobody wants it to go to waste," said Kickner.

Once those years are up, however, the Green River baseball team will once again be looking for a new field to call home. There are currently no plans to create one for the Gators and it's unlikely it will happen until the trades building is built.

"We know the building won't be done by 2013," said Ball. "We think that it's unlikely that it could happen in 2015, it could be as late as 2017, but again we don't know, it's all speculation."

Foundation scholarships applications now online

A new online system has been created in order to help busy students apply for any of Green River's 200 Foundation scholarships

By: Rachel Sant
Senior Writer

Applying for one of Green River's Foundation Scholarships has become easier with a new online application system. This system will encourage students to fill out the application and potentially receive one of Green River's 200 available scholarships.

This new system is designed to be secure and accessible. Aside from transcripts and letters of recommendation, students are now able to submit their Foundation Scholarship applications online. The new submission system was created by the combined efforts of Development Specialist Beth Gatzke and two GRCC IT members, Kevin Dickie and Anthony White.

"We already have almost 200 people who have signed up and twenty of those have actually submitted their application," said Gatzke.

To assist in teaching students how to use this system, Green River Diversity Services will help students with logging in and proof-reading their applications. Workshops will be held in TC-208 on Feb. 27 and 29, as well as March 1 and 2.

Computers will be available for use during these events.

"We have a lot of different scholarships available, so your job is to give us as much information as you can on that application," said Gatzke. "And our job is to figure out, based on that application, who is the best fit for that scholarship."

Hopefully, the scholarship submission system becomes more automated

in the near future. Additions include submitting of letters of recommendation.

Applications are due on April 30 and the winners will be announced early this summer. Turning in hard copies of the application is still acceptable.

The Green River Foundation gave students over \$70 thousand last year. The average student was awarded an average \$1419.

The online Foundation Scholarship application can be found at Green River's website. Other scholarship opportunities for community college students can be found online as well. A list of resources for students can also be found at Green River's website. Individual organizations that give out specialized scholarships for those who apply are also out there as well.

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EDITORIAL

Green River needs a debate team

The Current argues that having a debate team on campus can greatly benefit both individual students and the college itself, resulting in prestige and opportunities

Editorial Board: David Caldwell, Asha Johnson, Sean Rockey, Bailey Jo Josie, Kally Bieber, Olivia Mok

Imagine two friends from Green River making satisfactory arguments over whether or not your outfit is "totally you" or not. Now, picture the exact same scenario, but with one of those friends offhandedly mentioning that they are on the debate team. Their argument immediately becomes the stronger of the two, as we can infer that debate has made them inherently better at arguing points successfully. You must resign to the fact that your outfit, while being totally something, is not particularly, much less totally, you.

There are many problems with the above hypothetical scenario, the foremost of which is that it will always remain hypothetical for as long as Green River has no debate team. Numerous fallacies exist alongside this

assumed impossibility, yet it would be very difficult to distinguish and present them correctly, because there is no debate team to instruct us on how to do so effectively. Organized debate teams are an important, educational, and prestige-earning element of many universities and community colleges, and establishing a competitive debate community for Green River will benefit the college greatly.

As an institute of learning, Green River takes great strides to offer authentic and worthwhile higher education experiences; it's odd that debate has thus far not been part of the many popular clubs and organizations the student body has access to. There's a reason that debate teams are often a cornerstone of student

activities at other colleges; debate has the potential to educate its members in ways no class or club currently covers. Allowing students to hone these skill-sets through a debate team will improve their ability to operate as intellectuals inside and outside of classrooms.

College debate teams don't just help the students, they help the schools themselves. Many universities proudly display their debate teams as a shining demonstration of the hard work and intellectual prowess of their students. With enough devotion given to founding a debate team, Green River can make a name for itself through the talent of its students.

The school's reputation can only benefit from a debate team, and having an

established debate program will also draw in potential new students who may otherwise pass GRCC for a community college which already has an extracurricular debate program such as Highline.

Green River Community College already has many notable programs and clubs and it is time to usher in a new age of credibility for the school by working to found a debate team. It is easy enough to start a new club, but specific attention must be given to this effort in order to proliferate an air of professionalism and intellect from the outset. The chance to benefit from a Debate Team has never been higher, and it will remain one of the most obvious holes in Green River's repertoire until it becomes a reality.

Bad habits

The Chief
Asha Johnson

My mother always told me that it takes 21 days to break a habit. So, by this theory, after 21 days of practicing arriving to events on time, I should no longer be pinned with the tendency of always being "fashionably late."

This is just not true.

I've tried kicking my bad habit of constant tardiness, but it's not time that will cement me into punctuality. I've gotten increasingly better with time management during college, but because I knew I had to be on time in order to excel at all.

I believe that if someone needs to change, it will only happen if they want it to. People don't change over time, they change out of necessity.

That's what
he said she said

"Life is rarely about what happened; it's mostly about what we think happened."

- Chuck Klosterman

"The nicest thing is to open the newspapers and not to find yourself in them."

- George Harrison

"Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."

- Albert Einstein

"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

- Nelson Mandela

"In passing, also, I would like to say that the first time Adam had a chance he laid the blame on woman."

- Nancy Astor

"Hollywood is a place where they'll pay you a thousand dollars for a kiss and fifty cents for your soul."

- Marilyn Monroe

"I am not a vegetarian because I love animals. I am a vegetarian because I hate plants."

- Whitney Brown

"I think most of the people involved in any art always secretly wonder whether they are really there because they're good or because they're lucky."

- Katherine Hepburn

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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A person commits the offense of publication theft when he or she willfully or knowingly obtains or exerts unauthorized control over more than three copies of The Current that is distributed on campus [with the intent to prevent other individuals from reading that edition of the publication]. A "publication" includes any periodical that is distributed on a complimentary or compensatory basis. In addition to the imposition of other campus disciplinary penalties, a person who violates this provision is responsible for compensating the publication for all reasonable costs incurred, including, where appropriate, the refund of advertising fees.

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

The moon: copyright USA



Commentary by:
Sean Rocky

Space: As it was stated on the popular television show "Star Trek", it's the final frontier. It literally goes on forever, and contains an infinite amount of undiscovered wonders. In our solar system alone there are multitudes of unexplored areas, be it simply empty space or a possible colonization zone on a nearby planet.

There are bountiful untapped possibilities when it comes to the moon that orbits above us every night... So why is it that the government cut funding to the only major program that studies it?

Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich has recently been proposing a moon base by the year 2020, along with using 10 percent of the National Aeronautics and Space

Administration (NASA) budget on prize money for space technology competitions.

Although Gingrich is definitely a step forward in comparison to other candidates when it comes to space exploration, he might be taking it the wrong way. He's proposing that rather than having NASA do most of the research, private industries should develop and research new technologies in regards to space exploration; the government should only provide incentives for others to do so.

Personally, I think that, yes, private industry can help, but the vast majority of the research and exploration should be by the government itself. The United States is essentially in a new 'space race' with Russia and China, and significant effort from its government needs to be placed in it.

I'm not saying that the government needs to pool the entirety of our nation's budget into it, just enough to get a shuttle or two out every year or so. Shuttle launches cost approxi-

mately \$1.6 billion to build, fuel, and launch. That may seem like a rather hefty sum to most people (seeing as it is probably more than you will make in your life), but in comparison to the \$663.4 billion spent in 2010 on the military alone, that's barely a blip to the government's available expenditure.

Not only would the claim of having the first extra-terrestrial colony be an enormous boost for our country, imagine the revenue it would bring if, during one of the shuttle flights, it was discovered that a mineral or gas on a planet could be a more efficient fuel or building material? There are as many possibilities for gain in the space race as there are stars in the sky.

Industries can and should help our government figuratively gain ground when it comes to space travel, but the government should still carry most of the burden. If we do finally get to live on the moon, I'd far prefer it to be an American territory rather than "brought to you by Carl's Junior."

Lunar lunacy: who will pay for our future space endeavors?

If you want something done right, do it yourself



Commentary by:
David Caldwell

While America should certainly aim to expand its accomplishments in space, the emphasis on government involvement needs to shift to the private sector if we want to compete with other nations. President Obama's scaling back of NASA was a mostly necessary measure; at the height of a massive recession and facing record deficits, spending billions of taxpayer dollars on something as detached from the average American's life as space seems insulting to anyone following local and national budget shortfalls. Yet I believe there would be no better exemplification of the American spirit than a space program reignited by the ingenuity and drive of America's best corporations.

The national space programs of China, India, and Russia have exploded

over the last several years, causing new concerns over the USA's ability to stay at the forefront of space exploration and technology. This issue is perhaps best demonstrated by the fact that NASA currently relies on Russian-built-and-owned rockets and launch sites to get US astronauts to the International Space Station. Such conditions are embarrassing, and have served only to underline the US government's failure to handle national space programs by themselves.

As our economy begins to recover from the recession, we as a nation must push scientific boundaries while remaining fiscally responsible. The best way to do this is to offer incentives for private companies who accomplish milestones in the field of space technology and research. In the past, our country's desire for pushing innovation in the free market resulted in the proliferation of railroads across the country, as government incentives allowed successful railroad companies to thrive and produce numerous jobs. Space should be treated in a similar manner, with a focus on providing Ameri-

cans jobs and keeping the country competitive.

Ingenuity of the private sector has been able to keep American business competitive on an international level. The government needs to acknowledge that it cannot continue to lead the field when so many budgetary issues afflict them elsewhere, and must let other research and manufacturing companies such as Boeing inject new life into American space efforts.

America's desire for space exploration has always been fueled by its ego. In the 60s this meant proving ourselves superior to the Soviets, whose initial advances in space technology drove John F Kennedy to declare America would put a man on the moon both before the USSR could, and before the decade ended. Since achieving that goal, many have wondered what the next big step in space exploration will be. Whether it turns out to be men on Mars or colonies on the moon, the race to do so should inspire great things from American companies. So far, NASA has given us little reason to believe they can do it themselves.



Calendar

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Mar 3-6 | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NWAACC Championship, TBA |
| Mar 3-6 | MEN'S BASKETBALL NWAACC Championships, TBA |
| Mar 1 | MEN'S BASEBALL Edmonds @ Edmonds, 4 p.m. |
| Mar 3 | Skagit Valley @ Yakima, 10 a.m. Yakima Valley @ Yakima, 4 p.m. |
| Mar 4 | Grays Harbor @ Yakima, 9 a.m. SVC or YVC - @ Yakima, 3 p.m. or 6 p.m. |
| Mar 10 | Everett @ Wenatchee, 1 p.m. Skagit Valley @ Wenatchee, 4 p.m. |
| Mar 11 | Skagit Valley @ Wenatchee, noon Wenatchee Valley @ Wenatchee, 6 p.m. |
| Mar 1 | WOMEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL Shoreline @ Shoreline, 1 p.m./3 p.m. |
| Mar 9 | Big Bend @ Service Playfield (Home game), 1:30 p.m./3:30 p.m. |
| Mar 17-18 | Clark Inter Region @ Vancouver, TBA |

Scoreboard

| | |
|--------|---|
| Dec 21 | MEN'S BASKETBALL (7-8, 13-13) Green River vs. North Seattle (63-85) |
| Jan 4 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Highline (48-59) |
| Jan 7 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Centralia (54-40) |
| Jan 9 | <i>Green River</i> vs. South Puget Sound (85-82) |
| Jan 11 | Green River vs. Clark (65-73) |
| Jan 23 | Green River vs. Lower Columbia (57-65) |
| Jan 25 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Grays Harbor (76-46) |
| Jan 28 | Green River vs. Tacoma (72-86) |
| Jan 30 | Green River vs. Pierce (61-64) |
| Feb 1 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Highline (90-77) |
| Feb 4 | Green River vs. Centralia (62-67) |
| Feb 8 | Green River vs. South Puget Sound (66-67) |
| Feb 11 | Green River vs. Clark (87-95) |
| Feb 15 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Lower Columbia (64-61) |
| Feb 18 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Pierce (63-55) |
| Feb 22 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Grays Harbor (67-51) |
| Dec 15 | WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (4-11, 5-18) Green River vs. Big Bend (36-94) |
| Jan 4 | Green River vs. Highline (51-57) |
| Jan 7 | Green River vs. Centralia (31-70) |
| Jan 9 | Green River vs. South Puget Sound (54-50) |
| Jan 11 | Green River vs. Clark (57-75) |
| Jan 23 | Green River vs. Lower Columbia (59-64) |
| Jan 25 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Grays Harbor (75-62) |
| Jan 28 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Tacoma (66-63) |
| Jan 30 | Green River vs. Pierce (51-58) |
| Feb 1 | Green River vs. Highline (54-58) |
| Feb 4 | Green River vs. Centralia (34-73) |
| Feb 8 | Green River vs. South Puget Sound (67-69) |
| Feb 11 | Green River vs. Clark (60-64) |
| Feb 15 | Green River vs. Lower Columbia (61-72) |
| Feb 18 | Green River vs. Pierce (61-71) |
| Feb 22 | <i>Green River</i> vs. Grays Harbor (83-68) |

Find full league standings, stats and more at www.nwaacc.org

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Overtime decides fate

Sophomore Anthony Brescia propels Gators into overtime victory

By: Dyaln Whitcher
Assistant Sports Editor

Needing to overcome a hostile crowd, a buzzer beater and the loss of its team captain, an unexpected player stepped up to lead the Green River men's basketball team.

Anthony Brescia, who has averaged three points per game all year, erupted. Brescia single-handedly went on an 8-0 run in overtime to lead the Gators to a 63-55 victory at Pierce on Feb. 18.

In the previous meeting against Pierce on Jan. 30, the Gators were stunned after losing a double-digit lead and eventually losing in overtime.

The victory this time around was monumental for Green River, which closed to within a half-

game of Pierce for the fourth and final playoff spot in the west division of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC).

The Gators started the game white-hot from beyond the arc, shooting

Devin Willis.

As Willis made his move his feet tangled with a Pierce player and Willis fell hard to the ground, resulting in a travel. Willis was injured on the play and did not return.

With only 16 seconds

"It feels great, I just came out and wanted to win, wanted the win for our team."

Anthony Brescia, power forward

57.1 percent from three, to propel the team to an early 31-30 halftime advantage.

For the majority of the second half, both teams swapped baskets with neither team being able to take control of the game.

Nevertheless, with under a minute to play, Green River was up by one with the ball in the hands of its captain, sophomore

left, a perfectly designed play by the Raiders coaching staff gave John Palmer an open look. His shot rolled around for what seemed like forever before eventually rimming out.

Brescia rebounded the missed jumper and was immediately fouled with 4.7 seconds left to play.

Needing to race down the court for a quick three

after Brescia made both free throws, Marquise Doss drained a corner triple at the buzzer to send the game to overtime.

"They responded a little better than I did," head coach Tim Malroy said of his team after the buzzer beater. "I knew they could get a good look, I just didn't know it would be that good."

Heading into overtime, the Gators showed no loss of focus as Brescia went on his run to seal the victory.

"They took the game into their own hands and went," Malroy said. "Brescia just didn't care, he was great."

After the game Brescia was overjoyed.

"It feels great, I just came out and wanted to win, wanted the win for our team," Brescia said. "We got the win."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Season of mishaps nears finish

Turnover-filled season leaves Lady Gators with un-answered questions

By: Dyaln Whitcher
Assistant Sports Editor

A year in which the Green River women's basketball team has been haunted all season by turnovers, lack of rebounding and an inability to stay consistent, is finally coming to a close.

As of Feb. 18 the Gators are riding a seven-game losing streak, however, in those seven games the average point differential has only been five.

Turnovers and a lack of intensity appears to be the main problem for this year's squad.

"It's been the same thing all year," head coach Tim Riles said. "Turnovers. We just turn the ball over too much."

On average, Green River has turned the ball over an atrocious 25 times per ball game, including back-to-back games in mid January in which the team turned the ball over a season high 37 times.

The reason for the teams turnover woes seems simple when explained by Riles.

"We really don't have a true point guard," Riles said. "(Sophomore) Brittany Kennedy's a great player, don't get me wrong, but she's really a shooting guard. We are playing her out of position, out of necessity."

Mixed in with the turnovers, a lack of defensive rebounding as well, has really hampered the team all season long.

"Those two things,

(turnovers and defensive rebounding) have kind of bit us," Riles said.

A brief bright spot provided the Gators with some hope midway through the season when freshman Sierra Haverfield, a six-foot-one center, transferred from Central Washington University.

Haverfield generated a great boost for the players, averaging a team-high 13 points and seven rebounds per game.

"She's a good player, tremendous athlete," Riles said. "There's not a more athletic girl in the league than her."

While Haverfield has been a great addition, it appears to be too little too late for Green River to make any kind of playoff push.

"She didn't come in until December," Riles said. "It would have been nice to get her in October. Her athleticism and size gave us a real nice presence."

As for the rest of the season, Riles refuses to acknowledge the team will lay down with the playoffs out of reach. "There is no quit in us," he said. "Just keep chopping wood and keep moving forward."

Despite the bad taste that has been left in Riles' mouth this season, his optimism for next year continues to grow.

"I like our returners," Riles said. "We have three really key ones in Kelsey Morgan, Brittani Miller and Keryn Knight. I really believe we can build around those three."

Upcoming men's baseball season begins to take flight

With stiff competition from Lower Columbia and Pierce, Green River's baseball team prepares for glory

By: Dylan Whitcher
Assistant Sports Editor

As the steady rain from winter slowly evolves into warm spring days, you know a new baseball season is upon us.

Head coach Brian Embery, who last year led the women's fastpitch team to the playoffs, will look to do the same for the men's baseball team.

This year, Embery can focus on what he loves most: transforming boys into young men both on and off the diamond. So far, the boys are buying into what Embery is selling.

"The baseball team is responding very well," Embery said. "I am enjoying the challenge of preparing this team for competition in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC)."

A playoff birth will be

hard to come by, as Lower Columbia and Pierce are both ranked in the pre-season top eight.

Last season, Lower Columbia went all the way to the NWAACC championships, before ultimately falling to Bellevue.

Coach Embery knows the road to success is steep.

"Lower Columbia has been, is, and will continue to be one of the top teams in junior college baseball," Embery said. "Add Pierce, who is doing a great job, and Tacoma, and it is a very competitive division. It is a challenging scenario and I look forward to it."

Regardless of how tough the league appears to be, Green River's goal of making the playoffs will not change.

"To match up with that level of play is our goal and what these players are working very hard to ac-



Kine Røssland | The Current

Green River Community College's baseball team this season break for the outfield as they gear up for what promises to be a great season.

complish," Embery said.

Due to the heavy northwest air, out-hitting these teams will be difficult. So in order to consistently win, the Gators will there-

fore rely on their pitching and defense, a strategy Embery thinks can be a successful one.

"Our goal is to be the best two-strike hitting

team," Embery said. "If we accomplish that we will score enough runs to win."

Whether Green River can pitch well enough to compete with the upper-

echelon teams in the NWAACC remains to be seen, but Embery knows one thing for certain.

"Pitching and defense wins at all levels."

New coach starts season with high expectations

First-year fastpitch coach Danielle McKay anticipates to bring experience and wisdom to this year's team

By: Ryan Comer
Sports Editor

The Green River fastpitch team has made the playoffs the last two seasons.

With better team chemistry and new head coach Danielle McKay in the fold, the Gators are hoping this year to actually do some damage once they get there.

OFFENSE ORIENTED

Green River was defined a season ago a lot by its offense. Over the course of 31 games, the Gators averaged 6.9 runs and 8.3 hits per game. The Gators batted .325 as a team with returners Danielle Sanow and Cassy Duschel hitting .362 and .356, respectively.

Sophomores Sharidan Snider and Jessica Simmons also had decent

freshman campaigns a season ago with Snider hitting .309 and Simmons hitting .301.

With Sanow, Duschel, Snider and Simmons all returning this year, along with Washington State University transfer Jen Sweet and power hitter Kahani Palmer, the offensive potential is incredibly high.

"We've got a good core group of very talented players, and new players that came in that have a lot of talent," McKay said.

Making things difficult for Green River this season will be the losses of Alexa Derrick and Samantha Beckler. Derrick and Beckler were the team's two leading hitters a season ago at .412 and .400, respectively. Beckler was even more dangerous because of her team-high .546 on-base percentage.

Nevertheless, the Ga-

tors aren't letting those critical losses be used as an excuse.

"Everybody can whack the crap out of the ball," Duschel said. "That's what we're about is hitting."

RETOOLING THE PITCHING STAFF

Not only was Derrick the best hitter on the team a season ago, she was also the team's No. 1 pitcher. Derrick finished the season with 17 wins, tied for third in the entire Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC). She was third in innings pitched (148.2) and third in strikeouts (142) as well.

The loss of Derrick can't be understated because no other Gator pitched more than 36 innings. If Green River is to be successful in 2012, it will need a freshman to step up. Madison

Mainard and Abby Conners are the main options at this point, with both offering different strengths, and McKay thinks they can both be very effective.

"Madison and Abby are going to do really well," McKay said. "They've developed really well. It's a big difference. Abby's got a bit more velocity and Madison's a little bit more junk so it should turn out pretty nicely."

AN ACTUAL FASTPITCH COACH

When you look back at how the 2011 season went for Green River, you might be surprised that the team played so well despite not having a true fastpitch coach. The Gators were led by current Green River baseball coach Brian Embery, and while the players don't have anything bad to say about him, there were

some undeniable challenges playing for someone who hasn't actually played the sport.

"It was pretty rocky to start the season off," Simmons said. "We had to grow in trust with (Embery). Our team connection wasn't that strong so we had to get together more as a team."

In 2012, the Gators are fortunate to be led by McKay. McKay played on two Cal-Pac league championship teams for Dominican University in San Rafael, Calif. before going into coaching in 2005. Since moving to the northwest in 2007, McKay has coached at Saint Martin's University as well as South Puget Sound Community College and brings a unique knowledge of the game that the team feels will be incredibly beneficial.

"It's definitely very

important," Simmons said about having a coach who has played the sport.

"She knows the whole game. She knows what can happen in different situations. She's got everything planned out, different strategies."

For the last two seasons, just making the NWAACC playoffs seems to have been enough for the Gators. This is a team, after all, that went a combined 1-75 in 2006 and 2007. But this year, expectations are higher. Simply making the playoffs is no longer acceptable enough and the bar has been raised. It's time to do some damage once they get there.

"I think they all have the same goal in mind to get back to (the playoffs) and win some games," McKay said. "That's all I can ask for."

The fastpitch season starts Thursday, March 1.

A glimmer of hope at 6-foot-1

Sierra Haverfield's basketball skills and athleticism have made her star scorer for the Lady Gators

By: Amy Brons
Staff Writer

Central Washington University transfer Sierra Haverfield has given the Green River women's basketball team a glimmer of hope.

Even with coming in and being the new leading scorer, Haverfield is just happy to be a part of a team and is grateful to be given an opportunity to play.

"I'm more focused on how we play as a team," Haverfield said. "I could have had a terrible scoring game, but if the team played well together then I think it was a successful night."

Continued Haverfield: "I would have to say I feel blessed. "To not only be

playing basketball at a level I can compete at, but to have such great teammates that give me awesome assists. I wouldn't have half of those points if my teammates didn't do such a great job of passing

"...this girl has been so successful on our team."

Tim Riles, head coach

the ball inside."

The reason Haverfield has been able to come in and have such a big impact for the Gators is for a couple reasons, according to her head coach, Tim Riles.

"Her height being 6'1", her athleticism and the



Thomas Sørensen | The Current

One advantage Haverfield has over other players is her unique height.

fact that she can run and jump so well is the reason that this girl has been so successful on our team," Riles said.

Haverfield also revealed that she ran track at Central, which not only kept

"...to play at college level was something I could not pass up"

Sierra Haverfield

her in shape, but kept her quick.

As crucial as her skills have been, more importantly, she fits well with the team and hasn't negatively impacted team chemistry.

"She fits in with our girls and style of play very

well," Riles said. "She is a great girl with an awesome personality. All of the girls loved and accepted her very well."

Haverfield agreed.

"I believe I fit into the team quite well," Haverfield said. "They are a great group of girls and are all super sweet."

While some players might have found it difficult to be part of a team not playing particularly well, that wasn't a problem for Haverfield.

"I joined this team because I love the game of basketball, and to be given an opportunity to play at the college level was something I could not pass up, regardless of their record," Haverfield said. "I came to practice ready to compete, and also ready to get the Gators a few wins."

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