

*Bowled over*  
Green River's intramural Cricket team gets a second look in an immersive report.

Pages 10-11

## Is 'No' attitude effective in preventing teens from drinking?

National Alcohol Screening Day and the Health Fair at Green River Community College raise questions among students and faculty drinking age

Tim De Groot and Eline Hutter  
Staff Writers

It seems nearly impossible to prevent teenagers from experimenting with alcohol. Does a lack of alcohol education in combination with an out-loud 'NO' provoke irresponsible drinking behavior? What would be the best way to prepare teenagers to make sure they're drinking within their boundaries?

Most teenagers have their first major exposure to alcohol in their college years. It would be naïve to assume that under aged students don't experiment with drinking. Although total abstinence for people under the legal drinking age has been the message for years now, it seems like a movement is taking place.

Some even think that lowering the legal drinking age to 18 would be helpful in decreasing irresponsible drinking behavior.

Since July 2008 over 135 college presidents signed the Amethyst Initiative, a proposal to legislators to reconsider the drinking age. They have experienced through the years that prohibition isn't working and see current students' drinking behavior as being dangerous.

The Amethyst Initiative especially focuses on so-called binge-drinking. Binge-drinking is defined as having five or more drinks within two hours for males and four or more drinks for females. Although most college students haven't reached the legal drinking age, binge-drinking is very popular among them.

Julie French, working at Health Services at the college, doesn't think drinking itself is the problem. She worries about students drinking continually out of habit. To give students the opportunity to get an idea of their drinking patterns, French invited two counselors on May 6th.

This fitted in with both the yearly Na-

tional Alcohol Screening Day and the Health Fair at GRCC. The two counselors of mental health, Liz McKinney and Linh Ngo, offered students information about alcohol use and self-assessment forms to test their drinking behavior.

The main goal of National Alcohol Screening Day is informing students rather than inspecting them.

That's why the self-assessment tests are done anonymous, keeping in mind that underage students also drink.

Counselor McKinney however thinks that people under the age of 21 shouldn't drink alcohol at all. She believes that the legal age of drinking should remain at 21, because compared to the age of 18 people have "a deeper level of understanding of responsibilities."

20-year-old Tyler Gordon, majoring in Business, agrees with McKinney. "21 is the best age, because when you're 18 you're still developing your mind," he says. He thinks the best way to learn about responsible alcohol use is through influence and seeing how people control themselves.

McKinney also likes the idea of an educational experience rather than a physical one. Through talking with others who have experienced what kinds of consequences drinking can have, people will learn to make cognitive decisions. If it was up to her she would educate students as early as possible, starting in junior high school.

Raymond Lader, Assistant Director of Judicial Programs, oversees the student code of conduct at Green River. He estimates that there are about 50 cases each year of students caught drinking at the campus. Some of them are directly handed over to the police, while others face their disciplinary actions by getting into an education based process.

Although Lader thinks people should obey the law, his biggest concern is not



Eline Hutter/Staff Photo

From left to right: Erin Butcher, 18, Jeff Moller-Hanson, 18, Teresa Mahoney, 33., at GRCC's Health Fair during National Alcohol Screening Day at the Lindbloom Student Center

the fact that underage students sometimes drink. He thinks that even at the legal age of drinking people should moderate consuming alcoholic beverages. "I consider it to be a pretty impactful drug," he says. "It can cause addiction and also fear in life and goals."

Many agree that alcohol doesn't have to be bad as long as it is within the boundaries. To prevent alcohol addiction it's important that people know their personal limits. But what's the best way to reach this? French thinks "people should learn to drink responsibly and have 'a' glass of something with food."

America enforces 21 as the minimum drinking age, but most countries allow people to drink when they're 18. Jessica Blair, 19 years old and majoring in pre-nursing, would like America to lower the drinking

age and be more like Europe concerning alcohol. "In Europe they don't make alcohol seem like a big deal," says Blair.

Lader thinks this wouldn't work here, because people in America don't know how to be responsible.

He thinks other countries look at alcohol use in a different way. "In America we don't have respect and understanding for alcohol yet," he explains, "there needs to be better education."

Educational programs about alcohol on high schools would be a good start. Lowering the minimum drinking age to 18 could also work out positive.

18 year-olds are considered to be old enough to vote, marry, drive or sign contracts. Why aren't they old enough to drink alcohol? They should get the chance to make educated choices themselves.

## Diversity Course to become requirement for AA degree

Nicole Swapp  
Staff Writer

Over 82 percent of full-time Green River Community College (GRCC) faculty voted yes to a new diversity course requirement for the A.A. transfer student degree On Monday, April 27, 2009.

With a 66.39 percent vote yes, this new course will take effect for students starting Fall 2011, a new catalog year for the college. This new course will now require students to take a diversity class along with the 90 credits required to transfer to a 4-year with the A.A. degree.

GRCC faculty expressed that this has

been an in-demand requirement by staff and students for years.

"Lots of people [staff and students] want this" said Dr. Vik Bahl, an English teacher at GRCC. "This doesn't have any guarantee, but gives [students] tools to understand diversity and apply them to other classes."

The hope for this class is not to stress students out with additional requirements, but to open their minds up to new ideas.

"This gives students a chance to take something that they never would have," said Jennifer Whetham, and English teacher at GRCC.

"This is a really rich, really fascinating area, really fascinating. It's so exciting!

Were bringing new ideas to a class setting. We need diversity," said Whetham.

Faculty is hoping that this will be a positive change

"We don't want to force students to believe anything, just be more informed," said Brad Johnson, an English teacher at Green River.

"Our goal as educators is to take [students] to a new place of learning," said Johnson.

Johnson and other faculty members also expressed that the new requirement is great for students going into the workforce as many companies prefer to see a diversity course in their interviewees. A diversity

course requirement is not a new thing to Washington, according to Bahl, half of Washington State Colleges have this requirement now.

Not only will it give students a chance to learn something new, but it will also help with other classes on campus.

"I do group activities in my classes so hopefully it will help students to relate to one another. This is a good idea to get people to think about things from different perspectives," said David Nelson, math division chair at GRCC.

Illustrating different people perspectives is the goal for this new requirement.

See Diversity Course, Page 3

Back

Center



See how some moms spent mothers day working on their own homework for a change with five profiles of mother's on campus



Get a first look at select artists and poets that have been chosen for the prestigious campus art and literary journal Espial 2009

Campus - Pages 2-4  
Opinion - Page 5  
Art and Comics - Page 6  
Satire - Page 7  
Feature - Pages 8-11  
Sports - Page 12  
A&E - Pages 13-15

# Students have trouble with CCA contracts

*Additional fees and surcharges catch student-residents off guard and require a second look*



**Shaodan Chan**  
Staff Writer

Green River Campus Corner Apartment (CCA) is often a first choice for several international students and some Americans from other states to live. Lately though, there have been trouble with some students and their contracts.

Owned by Capstone Company, CCA is an organization run by a property management group separate from GRCC. It is vital for all parties involved to agree upon reasonable contract terms to limit and discourage property damaging behavior of student-residents, which can include fines and extra fees.

Currently CCA charges \$100 non-refundable for application fee, fees for overused electricity, fines for damages and loss. Plus the \$1800 or \$1999 quarterly

rent, additional fees can be daunting for a college student.

So are people clear about the contract?

"When I received a remainder of an additional charge bill, I had no idea about it. It says we have gone over the \$136.00 allowance of our electricity, and when I checked for this contract term it is almost at the last page," said Korean student Sunny Park.

Debbie Daniels, the Director of Student Housing and Residence Life, explained that the overwhelming situation on the first day can make students pay less attention to the actual contract. Besides being rushed into the contract, Park mentioned that a language barrier could also interrupt their communication.

There are different types of contracts. Options include quarterly, academic year, and full year residency.

In many cases people who lived in CCA had to break the contract when they tried to move out from CCA.

"I tried to move after the first quarter, but they tried to charge me seventy percent of the following two quarters, so I would rather stay until then," said Chinese student Lillian Yu.

Apart from breaking a contract, there could be additional charges. There is a \$25 charge to unlock the door, a \$50 charge if people lose a key and \$150 for lock replacement.

Where are these charges going?

"Campus Corner Apartment is actually a non-benefit department. This fee goes to fixing items in the room that are broken, and to improve the ground," Daniels said.

The mission of CCA is to "Provide a safe, respectful, and diverse community that promotes each student's personal and academic growth through outstanding student service, staff expertise, and strong partnerships with Green River Community College."

Some students felt disappointed about the reality of this "mission" and think that it has a long way to go.

"We were told that we would have many opportunities to live with students from around the world. However, our group was almost arranged by each other," exclaimed Chao Li, a Chinese student who is now doing home share. The students around him agreed.

Different from outside apartment

renting, there is not a limit on student behavior. This makes it a much greater possibility that students can become runaway horses.

"They allow [parties] at CCA, which may be a temptation for many young people. I heard this before, but I didn't realize it was that serious until I [moved] in," said Vivian Jing.

Jing lived in CCA for a quarter but decided to move after that.

CCA allows residents to ask a student who is not currently living in CCA to take the remaining contract.

But this is not stated in the contract terms, which made it ambiguous when dealing with people trying to break their contracts.

"I signed for an academic contract, so I have to pay \$199 fee for breaking the contract, which means my friend, who took my academic year contract, only need to pay \$1800 per quarter, but they still charged her for \$1999 every quarter," Jing said.

To really be a "home away from home", the Resident assistant and Resident Council organization are trying hard to promote the quality of the activities in CCA community.

"The Resident Council is working on a parking proposal, smoking proposal, RC Store, Laundry Room Cleaning Day and Cooking class this quarter," said Tiffany Hayes, assistant director of community development.

## "A ribbon of wilderness"

*24th annual Green River Clean Up reflects on origins*

**Kim Burberry**  
Staff Writer

Students from Green River Community College gathered together on Saturday May 2nd and joined forces with the Veteran Conservation Corp and volunteers to help clean up the Green River Gorge area.

Green River Community College student Lacy O'Grady was responsible for organizing ground crew Saturday.

The ground crew was split up to pick up garbage in fifteen different areas along the Green River Gorge in efforts to keep the river clean and preserve the surrounding area.

This was her first year working alongside, The Middle Green River Coalition, Friends of the Green, groups and organizations that have all come together for one purpose of preserving the Green River Gorge.

Her previous efforts in cleaning up the Green River done in August gained her recognition, which is part of the reason she was part of the Green River Clean Up on May 2nd.

In O'Grady's personal experience she has realized, "People aren't very respectful to the river."

This is part of the passion that drives her to be an active participant in cleaning the beauty around her.

Sven Soholt, a student from Green River Community College was one of the approximately 250 volunteers present at the Green River Clean Up May 2nd.

Soholt is also part of the Veteran Conservation Corp which was involved in ground crew work Saturday that assisted

in collecting two to three truck loads of garbage that was hauled away. Soholt has had previous desire to clean up the Green River and Saturday May 2nd gave him the opportunity to help with the Annual Green River Clean Up.

The Green River Clean Up also attracted boaters and kayakers. Regular water adventure seekers, sought to clean the river they use.

Patricia Sumpton has been a part of the Green River Clean Up for 24 years from the beginning. Sumpton participated in the event Saturday and said that there was a good turnout of boaters and ground crew.

Many boaters and kayakers began their trip at The Green River Headworks located in the city of Tacoma and traveled the river. Those who participated in clean up gather trash on their way down the river.

The Green River Clean Up was held for the 24th year bringing the theme, "A Ribbon of Wilderness in Our Midst".

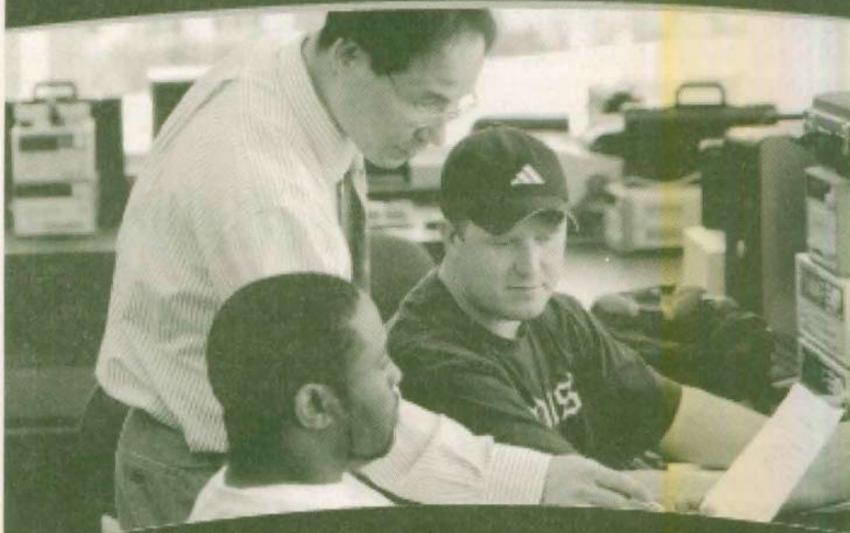
Wolf Bauer who is the Father behind the Green River Clean Up began a campaign in the 1960's to preserve the Green River Gorge after realizing it was too late to help save the Cowlitz River.

Wolf Bauer aggressively and successfully sparked passion from the people to see the beauty near them and work towards the preserving what they could. In an article In, The Seattle Times, Bauer called the Green River Gorge, "A Ribbon of Wilderness in our Midst".

May 2nd marked the 24th annual Green River Clean Up. The clean up is now recognized as the longest running river cleanup in Washington State.

### School of Computing & Engineering Sciences

#### Announces the High Demand Program Tuition Discount



**\$2,000**

tuition reduction for newly declared majors in these high demand fields:

Computer Science	Computer Engineering Technology
Electrical Engineering	Construction Management
Mechanical Engineering Technology	Visual Communication Design

For a complete list of eligible majors, and eligibility requirements please visit [ewu.edu/sces](http://ewu.edu/sces)

For transfer advising contact [scesadviing@ewu.edu](mailto:scesadviing@ewu.edu)



## Crime and ninja prevention techniques taught on campus

*Criminal justice concepts are illustrated by humorous experiences in Ron Riley's classroom. In this circumstance, ninjas play the starring role.*

**Brent Nelson**  
Staff Writer

Ron Riley, a retired Auburn police officer and Criminal Justice Professor at Green River Community College has plenty of interesting stories to tell his students.

From his years as a policeman, he's collected a number of experiences that have ranged from dangerous and dreadful, to surprisingly humorous ones.

These hilarious real-life situations, amplified by Riley's jovial delivery, ease the mood of the sometimes shocking subject matter associated with Criminal Justice.

Riley recalled one of his most amusing anecdotes: the first time he assisted a narcotics search warrant.

"Raid teams and drug enforcement were new to the area. We used SWAT as the suspects were considered armed and dangerous," Riley explained, setting up an unexpectedly amusing story.

"The team used flash bangs in initiating the raid and brought the suspects outside in handcuffs.

They were placed on the ground face down and I was guarding them so they did not escape," Riley continued.

"After a few minutes one turned his face toward the other and exclaimed, 'Ninjas! We have been attacked by freakin' ninjas!'"

In his confused state, the suspect mistook the black-clad SWAT members for stealthy ninjas.

This made Riley and his fellow officers burst with laughter, a well deserved reward for a successful drug raid.

This story has the same potency when told by Riley to his Criminal Justice class at Green River. Students simply can't get enough.

Jared Walsh, a former student of Riley's even said, "Ron Riley should be the dean

of this college."

According to Walsh, this enthusiasm comes from how much he understands the consequences for certain actions as explained through Riley's storytelling.

Another odd experience from Riley's officer day was the removal of a giant pet snake from a hotel room. The occupying couple found it nestled in the shower.

Another case involved domestic issues between a large woman and a dwarf trying to avoid her while on top of a car. It's finding the humor in unusual situations that helped Riley cope with traumas officers see on a regular basis.

This sense of humor makes Criminal Justice with Ron Riley as fun as it is educational.

*"After a few minutes one turned his face toward the other and exclaimed, 'Ninjas! We have been attacked by freakin' ninjas!'"*  
- Ron Riley

*Students learn safe conduct during second crime prevention week workshops and from Campus Corner Apartment warning letters.*

**Eline Hutter**  
Staff Writer

From May 4th until May 8th all kinds of gatherings were set up by Campus Safety to inform students on how to stay safe during the spring. These workshops were a part of Green River's second installment of Crime Prevention Week. Each quarter there will be different safety themes to be learned depending on each season.

Frederick Creek, Director of Campus Safety, wants to prepare people to be safe when they go out and about. With summer coming up the latest workshop took into account the probable increase of outdoor activities like attending concerts. At such big events it's easy to get robbed. That's why "it's very important to be aware of your surroundings," Creek said.

Another thing Creek finds important is that students are confident that their stuff is safe at home. Apartment safety

was another crime prevention week topic. Lately several things have been stolen out of apartments at GRCC's Student Housing: Campus Corner Apartments (CCA), including a Sony Playstation and a TV. These incidents made the topic even more relevant.

CCA is a small community in itself, with a lot of social control and trust. It's probably why lots of residents don't feel like locking their front doors.

Their reasoning is that their stuff is not going to be stolen, which was pretty much the case up until now.

Debbie Daniels, Director of Housing and Residence Life, thinks students should make it a habit to lock their doors when they leave or enter their apartment.

"If a thief comes along and gets one lucky day, there's a chance he'll come back," said Daniels. Locking doors could prevent potential thieves from coming back.

Although the two reported incidents of theft at CCA were next door, they took place four days apart.

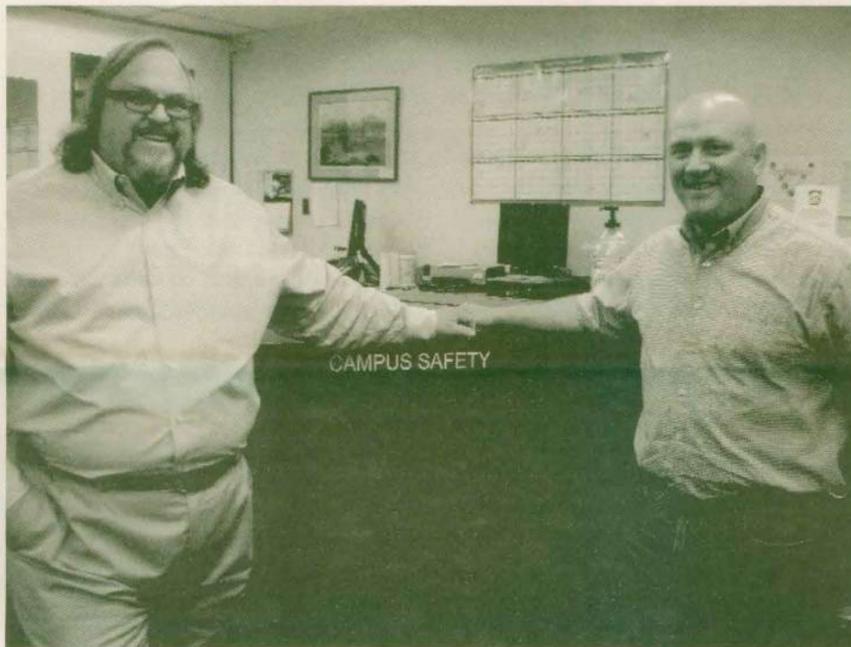
The thief is still unknown. CCA's Office Staff immediately sent out an e-mail to all its residents to inform them and emphasize the importance of locking front doors.

On May 7th, a week after the digital warning, the CCA Staff checked how many front doors were actually unlocked by just trying to open it and walk in. To warn residents that could have been robbed, they left a note inside.

Although there have been some incidents students, shouldn't feel unsafe at the Green River campus, thinks Creek. Campus Safety is always available for whoever is in need, students only need to call. At CCA there are even special blue phones at each corner that directly connect to Campus Safety.

However, there will always be incidents of crime. As long as there are criminals, you can't totally prevent it.

The reason of coming up with a quarterly crime prevention week is to help people reducing their chance of being a victim. Sometimes opportunity makes the thief.



Eline Hutter/Staff Photo

Criminal Justice instructor Ron Riley (left) and Director of Campus Safety Fred Creek (right) use different methods of instruction and action to protect students.

## Diversity course required class of 2011

**Diversity Course Requirements**  
Continued from Page 1

A diversity course requirement is not a new thing to Washington, according to Bahl, half of Washington State Colleges have this requirement.

Not only will it give students a chance to learn something new, but it will also help with other classes on campus.

"I do group activities in my classes so hopefully it will help students to relate to one another. This is a good idea to get people to think about things from different perspectives," said David Nelson, Math division chair at GRCC.

Illustrating different people perspectives is the goal for this requirement.

"I am hopeful that this will make a difference, it cannot hurt from my perspective. The ultimate goal is going to improve the atmosphere at GRCC in reaction to people who are

different," said Donnie Hallstone, a Math teacher at GRCC.

Students don't need to worry about this now. Although this is a new requirement for the A.A. transfer degree it is not an extra class students will have to take.

Right now there are 31 courses already approved, and more are to come as teachers are changing their Course Adoption Revision (CAR) to fit the new requirement.

A CAR is then approved from the Instructional Diversity Committee (IDC).

This new class can count in the additional credits, fine arts/humanities, social sciences and more.

The diversity-designated course criteria must consist of at least one aspect of groups historically excluded on the basis of culture, race, immigration, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, class, disability, religion, age and/or geopolitical power.

These groups can be within the United

States, outside the U.S. or across U.S. national borders.

The aspect of the historically excluded group or groups can vary from topics like literature, history, culture, art, and profession/labor.

Critical approaches to the study of culture, power, stratification or oppression like, racism, sexism, homophobia, poverty, ageism, persecution, and imperialism are also required in these classes.

The course must also substantively address at least two of the following: recognizing individual's social position and geopolitical location, along with the consequences of both.

An examination of economic, political, and social relations, along with their impact on communities, systems of interdependence, inequalities, and/or process of transformation is another diversity course component possibility.

An analysis of multiple identities, histories, cultures, perspectives, contributions, knowledges, struggles and/or strategies of historically excluded group(s).

A working knowledge of the operations and effects of institutional oppression and domination of group privilege; prejudice,

stereotyping and discrimination; and/or the construction of dominant perspectives and disciplinary knowledge.

Development of skills and concepts related to conflict resolution, intercultural communication, cultural competencies, confronting inequitable treatment, and/or advocacy for social justice; and or learn to collaborate and interact effectively, equitably and respectfully in diverse groups within the classroom or campus-related workplaces and practice areas is a primary goal for these courses.

This may sound like a lot for students to have to learn but there are already classes in place that cover these areas of study.

In the school years 2005-2006, 784 GRCC students graduated earning their A.A. degree, 335 (43%) of those graduating met the diversity course requirement.

Of 2006-2007 graduates, 764 graduated students earning the A.A. degree, 275 (36%) met the diversity course requirement.

The class of 2007-2008, 790 students graduated earning the A.A. degree and 301 (38%) already met the requirement.

The new course is needed at the GRCC campus and will have hopes to be a positive influence on the campus; to students and staff.

## Online PE an oxymoron or digital lifesaver?

PE is now accessible to students plugged in with 50 credits of online classes and are in pursuit of an A.A. degree

**Kate Jorgenson**  
Staff Writer

Green River PE goes national, providing students an opportunity to complete their AA degree online.

"Online PE classes? I've never heard of such a thing...but I think of online PE classes as a joke because you are really not getting the workout you would get when you partake in a PE class in the gym. Online PE classes just seem to be a waste of technology use" Green River student, Jackie Kaneshiro said.

Anita Behrbaum briefly said what these classes mean in a nut shell.

"The physical education classes that we offer online are for students who are seeking their degrees from Green River Community College online and cannot come to campus. For example, we have students in Eastern Washington, North Seattle, Bellevue, South Dakota, Hawaii, Montana, and locations outside the U.S. So most, if not all, online students won't be working out on campus or in the fitness center because they are not taking classes on campus or coming to campus. If they can come to campus, we have them take our classes here, on campus."

Two physical education classes are offered through distance learning at the college. Currently, Behrbaum and Tom Jackson teach the two physical education classes being offered.

The two offered online for physical education are both three credits.

They are PE 160 entitled Exercise and Nutrition taught by Behrbaum and Jackson teaches PE 103, which is Total Physical Fitness.

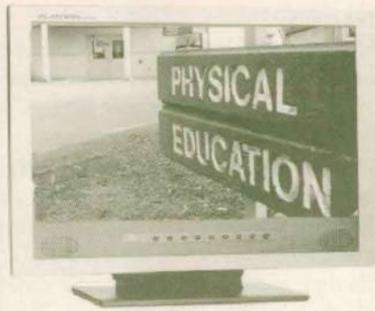
Both courses also require written tests, as well as a weekly exercise log.

Behrbaum summarized that both of these courses require pre and post fitness and body composition tests.

"The pre and post aerobic fitness assessments and body composition assessments must be conducted on campus, or by other professionals in the field at sports medicine clinics, other colleges or universities, or qualified professionals at athletic clubs and centers," Behrbaum said.

Exercise and Nutrition has a required project to conduct a dietary analysis during the quarter; this is where students compare what they eat to a healthy diet and look for personal improvement. Therefore, the requirements are lengthy and time-consuming just like any other physical education class. However, the concept of PE classes online has some students confused.

"I think that is something pointless, "PE" the name itself says Physical education nothing online does it? So classes should be physically related (i.e. walking, jogging, weight lifting, etc.). When it comes to doing it online how



Jean-Pierre Garcia/Staff Photo and Illustration

**Green River PE classes on campus has been expanded to the web**

does one keep track on what the person is doing? I don't mind that people do it, I just don't think that is a good idea" International student, Rommel Gonzalez said. The assignments and work-out load are similar for the online and on-campus versions of the class.

The on-campus lifetime fitness/wellness requirements for the AA degree the only differences are the instructional methods, as mentioned in the syllabus.

Behrbaum says GRCC wanted to offer a full Associates of Arts degree online and they were missing some elements like lab science and PE, so that is when the idea was thought of to add these two lifetime fitness/wellness courses.

"I think of laziness, honestly. But I can understand that some people need to do PE on their own time" Green River student Amanda Allen said.

Although the idea of online physical education classes may sound easy; there

are a few challenging requirements to those interested in taking them.

"The people that this affects include students seeking their AA degree online. Students can enroll if they live out of the area. Or if they have a busy schedule and can't make time to exercise at school," Behrbaum said.

Some students support the idea. Running Start student, Jordan Bartholomew thinks the idea of online PE is really cool.

Students interested in taking these classes have to get prior permission from the instructor.

Students need to have experience with online classes prior to gaining entrance into these classes. Behrbaum said students with over 50 credits in online classes have the highest priority for enrollment. Students contemplating PE online should consult their advisor.

### KGRG 1 Corner

THE ALTERNATIVE PAST

KGRG1 Program Director Mark Burkhart weighs in on state budget cuts, Clover Park Technical College cutting radio program



**Mark Burkhart**  
KGRG-1 P.D.

As our economy continues its nose dive into the heart of America politicians have a tedious task deciding which programs to cut, convincing other agencies to take leave without pay or even suggesting pay freezes or cuts. However these same politicians can rest their weary heads assured their economy is well intact, Not so for the struggling student.

Many Green River classes have been cut as part of reducing costs. This and the rising of tuition cause me to question our elected officials with one simple question, "Are you setting the future of America up for success or failure?"

My observations say failure.

Politicians are interested in only their own future. I challenge you the reader, to find any instance where any Politician has suggested salary cuts of their wage for the holding of public office in lieu of making cuts to the infrastructure such as medical benefits to the needy or our public education.

I find it offensive that our politicians will cut classes, raise tuition, and expect

America to just ride out the recession but they themselves continue life as normal with no financial burdens of their own.

Fortunately both KGRG1 and KGRG-FM have survived the budget crunch cuts. Not so fortunate was Clover Park Technical College's radio program. I-91 FM as it is known which has been operating out of Lakewood, WA since 1955. Come summer quarter and beyond, no longer will KVTI accept new students, falling victim to the State Budget shortfall

What does this mean to this Green River broadcasting program? For starters GRCC will be the only two-year college in Western Washington where one can obtain a certificate or degree.

*The mere potential of such a vast broadcasting area is extremely exciting.*

The opportunity for new students in the program is overwhelming and an excellent opportunity to ensure the survival of the broadcasting program.

Additionally the possibility of KGRG being rebroadcasting on 90.9FM is being studied. This would give KGRG broadcasting range over nearly all the Puget Sound. The mere potential of such a vast broadcasting area is an extremely exciting.

What could the Green River radio program accomplish is overwhelming when one considers what we already have.

Celebrating 20 years and counting, you can count on KGRG1 to continue playing "The Alternative Past". Thank you for supporting KGRG1 and KGRG-FM.

### Electrical Engineering @ North Seattle Community College

Eastern Washington University's ABET accredited Electrical Engineering Bachelor of Science Degree offered at North Seattle Community College

**Classes begin fall 2009**

For more information visit [ewu.edu/sces](http://ewu.edu/sces)

## Why the Republican Party is failing

An inability to change with the times is bringing the Republicans to their demise



Commentary by  
Stirling Radliff

The Grand Old Party has faltered in a perpetual political war against the Democratic Party, and is being overcome by the dreaded evolution of its people.

Recently, Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania converted from the Republican Party to the Democratic Party.

Specter noticed something about his mother-party that most Republicans have yet to understand: any government that doesn't follow suit with its people's social, political, and scientific progressions will certainly fail.

Sen. Specter, while reading statistics and reviewing his own party and its beliefs, realized that it is falling apart.

One of the cancers internally threatening the Republican Party is the fundamental religious right.

They tend to believe in: no gay marriage, no abortions, guns everywhere, capital punishment express-lanes; economic plans which benefit the rich, namely other Republicans; acting as "agnostic" environmentalists in order to preserve corporation revenue and low tax; pro war plans which benefit military corporations; and the list persists in selfishness.

As John Baden of High County News expresses, "[S]ince Reagan, the Republican Party has become more concerned with power and privilege than principle."

On one social issue, there should be no reason why a man should not be allowed to marry another man, or a woman another woman. The only reason why this "issue" has come to a front is that apparently the Christian God says no. It seems that two ideally separate portions of society have fused together - church and state.

But while the Republicans refuse to allow any gay marriage, the Democratic Party offers a blind eye to the "situation" and more than often Democratic Congressmen vote for gay marriage. Because of this, most gays vote Democrat.

In recent years, since African American and Hispanic peoples tend to inhabit poorer communities, they vote for the Democratic Party as well.

The Democratic Party believes in lowering middle and low income household taxes while raising upper class and corporation/business taxes.

The Republican Party is just the opposite. Since even before "Reaganomics" came into the economic/political arena, the Republican Party has been the "Rich Man's" party; the party which lowers the rich, upper class' taxes, who are often also Republicans, and raises middle and lower class' taxes.

The gay, African American and Hispanic votes are for the most part, lost to the Republican Party.

Many other people, not necessarily gays, Africans, or Hispanics, are turned off by the Republican gun lobby.

In homicides of 2005, roughly two-thirds of all murders were by gun shot.

It is clear that guns are one of the leading causes of death in America, yet Republicans are afraid they'll lose their guns, or the profits they make from gun sales. Perhaps they should lose their guns.

In wanting to continue to sell weapons like this, and on another, older issue, cigarettes, it seems that Republicans don't really care about safety, and they probably care

more so about the game of capturing and killing "terrorists" and "pagans."

The topic of abortion is a fragile one. Both parties have trouble figuring out what the right choice should be. Though, for the religious right of the Republican Party,

Illustration by Tom Bui

abortion is a sin, murder in its most disgusting form. Democrats, on the other hand, seem to be more up for debate on the issue. Democrats bring up arguments like, "How can we possibly know what the mother is going through?"

As to the environment, the Republican Party seems to still be undecided about whether the event of global warming is a real occurrence. From the incredible weather we've had recently, all around the world, and the evidence which the majority of the scientific community has offered them, it is obviously real. The evidence for the event itself and its causes are there.

All these beliefs, and many that I haven't mentioned or touched upon, are regressive, slowing the rate of development and growth for our nation in the attempt to reach a former social, political, and economic glory.

In the place of the former Republican Party, the party closest to it will most likely take control - the Libertarian Party.

Sen. Specter came to the apparent realization that his party is now gasping for air, and is not likely to breathe easy for a very long time. And in the attempt to revive the American economic landscape, he defected to the party which will most likely bring it back to standing health - the Democratic Party.



## Letters to the editor

Email letters to [thecurrent@greenriver.edu](mailto:thecurrent@greenriver.edu)

### Being 'Green' should not be limited to one week

According to the front page article "Putting the 'Green' back in Green River" the Forestry Club participated in a 'keeping it green week' from April 20-24. This is not an acceptable amount of time for being green.

Being environmentally conscious is a great thing, but it always surprises and upsets me when people limit themselves to acting on this ideal for merely a day, week, or month. The problems human beings have caused for the environment require much more action to solve than simply a week of picking up litter and selling and planting trees.

What also upsets is me is that so few people make an active attempt to be green.

The article said 20 students volunteered, out of a student population of approximately 10,000. That is just the student population. What about the teacher population? Did any teachers volunteer as well?

We face these environmental issues together because there is only ever going to be one planet Earth. There are not many planets like this one in the universe, and certainly none close enough for us to travel to in the next several hundred or several thousand years. This means that everybody, not just 20 out of 10,000 students, should and must contribute to helping solve our environmental issues.

The Forestry Club has won awards at the Society of American Foresters Convention for three years in a row, and hopefully a fourth next time they go. I would love to see the Forestry Club come to Tahoma High School and talk to the students.

Part of the problem with going green is that not everybody knows how to do so and not everybody has incentive for making the change.

The typical high school student does not care much about recycling, planting trees, or picking up litter, but if people hear and read about a club at GRCC that does just that and loves it, that attitude may very well change.

Even better, how about having a few of the Forestry Club members work with high school clubs, such as Tahoma's Environmental Club, to promote each other and try to convince those outside the clubs to either join or at least make the effort to contribute?

Going green is necessary to keeping the planet clean and healthy, and since humanity lives on and pollutes the planet collectively, it makes sense that we should be cleaning the planet collectively.

Justin Moore  
GRCC Student

### The Current Staff

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



**Editor in Chief:**  
Casey Greer

**Sports Editor:**  
Sean Kramer



**Campus Editor:**  
Tammie Tamara

**A&E Editor:**  
Kelcie Fingarson



**News/Opinion Editor:**  
Justin Runquist

**Webmaster:**  
Jean-Pierre Garcia



**Ad Manager:**  
Nicole Swapp



**Reporters:** Michelle Bednarski, Tom Bui, Shaodan Chen, Brad Colyer, Nick Gutierrez, Brett Hagreen, Ariel Holman, Kate Jorgenson, Tae Eun Kim, Michelle Kuhn, Randall Miller, Brent Nelson, Kento Ogai, Michelle Praast, Stirling Radliff, Tim Woodburn, Tuan Coa, Hye Jin Han, Nhi Ngo, Kay Nguyen, Samantha Shockley, Kelli Wyatt, Kenta Yamamoto, Kai Po Yeung, Allison Helander, Lindsey Williams, Kim Burberry, Tim de Groot, Cody Huard, Eline Hutter, Ryan Young, Andrew Honea, and Jacqui Rogers.

**Journalism advisor:**  
John Knowlton

The Current office is located in SMT 134 and can be contacted by phone at (253) 833-9111, ext. 2375.

### 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.

### Letters to the editor

We encourage all students and staff to have their voices heard. The Current will publish letters to the editor, provided they are signed, include the author's name, and submitted in a timely manner. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Letters should be sent to [thecurrent@greenriver.edu](mailto:thecurrent@greenriver.edu). The editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become the property of The Current.

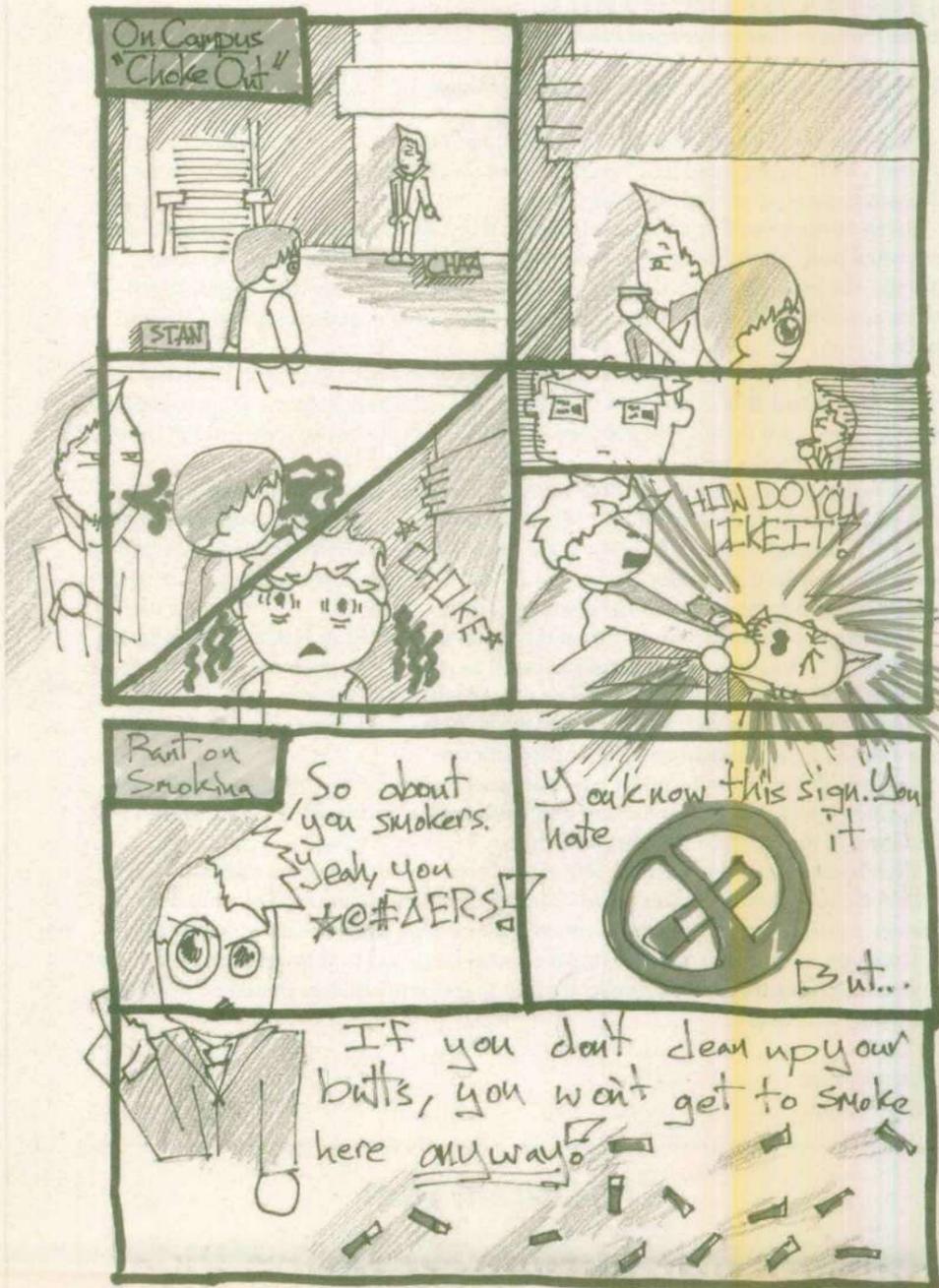


Illustration by Nick Gutierrez



Illustration by Nick Gutierrez

"You know what I like about the middle ages? They didn't blame us, violent video games for *their* violence"

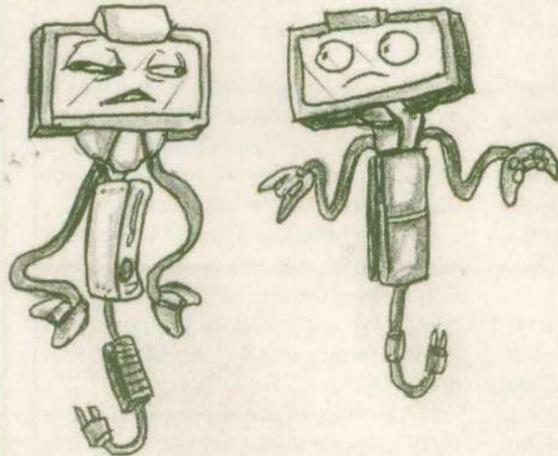


Illustration by Tom Bui

## Love Carefully

Annual check-ups, birth control, emergency contraception, early abortion, HPV vaccine, testing for pregnancy and STIs, education and treatment.

Ask if you qualify for reduced fee services. We'll bill most major insurance companies.

Planned Parenthood® is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. © 2008 Planned Parenthood® of Western Washington.

**Planned Parenthood**  
of Western Washington

800.230.PLAN | [www.pppww.org](http://www.pppww.org)

Editor's note: This page does not contain news. The events described on this page are fictional, and not intended to offend, but rather to entertain. The descriptions, opinions, and stories on this page do not reflect the opinions of The Current, its collective staff, but are those of the writers.

## AC/DC drummer Phil Rudd sues local 5th grader for plagiarism

*Band claims Jake Littleton's Youtube video threatened their lack of originality, pushes case to Supreme Court*

**Michael Espinosa**  
Staff Writer

AC/DC, a musical group founded in the 1970's, has sued a local 5th grader for plagiarism.

Jake Littleton, a student from Sawyer Lake Elementary School, started learning how to play the drums as a part of the school's music program.

Jake thought he was learning a simple rock beat. Proud of himself, Jake videotaped himself playing the beat on his father's drum set and posted it on YouTube.

Phil Rudd, drummer from AC/DC watched the video and saw that it was the beat that he plays in every AC/DC song ever. Rudd called his attorney and sued Littleton for plagiarism.

In a press release from AC/DC: "This is a very serious matter. And we will make sure that full extent of the law is enforced. Plagiarism is as bad as piracy, and with the minimal effort we put into our song, we need as much money as possible in order to keep our pacemakers running."

Many fans are supportive of the band's effort to correct this grave injustice.

"Kids these days; they're always ripping off the greats. Why can't they do something original? Like Frank Sinatra! There was a musician! Nowadays, every popular song has already been written by Bob

Dylan!" exclaimed Bill Oldman. "I followed AC/DC back in '84. I was sure that it was the best use of my pension. Now I have to work at a Hot Topic just to pay for my medication."

In an interview, Littleton said, "Stranger danger! Stranger danger!"

The trial was held in the Supreme Court on March 5th. With the overwhelming evidence supported by AC/DC; including, all their CD's, a signed t-shirt for each person in the jury, and a bloody leather glove; Littleton was found guilty.

Littleton was tried as an adult, and was sentenced to be a roadie for AC/DC for 2 years, and he must listen to every song that the band performs.

Some people find this sentence a cruel and unusual punishment.

"Littleton's punishment is a bit weird," said local college student, Greg Jonesinberg. "I mean, I think we should just give him the death penalty. It's the only way he's going to learn what's right."

"I can't believe that they would do that to Jake," professor of Music at the University of Washington, Beth Oven said. "Have you ever tried to listen to an entire AC/DC song? I tried last year for lent, and I lasted about thirty seconds. I was proud of myself; many of my colleagues didn't even make it that long."

"I actually lost a friend to AC/DC," said



thegauntlet.com/Courtesy Photo

Bob Commonname, a running start student at Green River Community College. "He tried to listen to Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap and after the first chorus he stabbed his ear drums and bled to death."

Not everyone thinks that the punishment is cruel.

When asked, Tyler Roksout said, "AC/DC RULES!! WOOOO!! DAHDAHDAH-

-DAH DAH DAH--" He then dropped his tall boy of beer and allegedly passed out on the sidewalk.

After the trial, Rudd said, "I'm so glad to see that everyone can see the skills that it takes to play my drum beats; and especially that we, as Americans, will not stand for plagiarism and piracy."

## Banana brutality rocks Green River

*Untimely death of Mr. Time demands answers*

**Kelli Wyatt**  
Staff Writer

You're in the cafeteria. All around you, saliva is dripping onto the tables. Greedy mouths pulling around the food...

Suddenly, a scream. Someone runs through the doors and points an appalled finger at another sitting only three seats from you.

"Cannibal!"

A terrifying situation not unlike this occurred Wednesday morning in the Lindbloom Center cafeteria. The brutal murder of the infamous singer-songwriter Peanut Butter and Jelly Time sent an unnerving shockwave throughout campus.

Students fled the building when they found the remnants of Mr. Time. Few stopped until they reached their cars, but one paused to update the confused.

"I don't understand why anyone would do this!" Laura Ironstone said, tears streaming down her face. "He's never done anything to anyone! He didn't deserve this..."

Detectives and forensics have been frantically investigating the site since Wednesday. Mr. Time's peel was reportedly found, torn in two, inside a nearby dumpster.

Police are still looking for suspects, as everybody reportedly had their faces stuffed with food and thus didn't see the culprit.

Since banana trees were discovered, man has been mindlessly ripping the fruit from their homes. Yet, while not many know it, bananas share 70% of their DNA with the all-powerful human race.

Advocates against banana brutality have been working tirelessly since the

discovery.

"From banana splits to banana bread, we have been slowly destroying these significant beings," stated Anna Shirley after hearing of the incident. "We've been robbing the potential of the banana race for far too long. It has to stop. Now."

Shirley is a member of the renowned organization, PETB, or People for the Ethical Treatment of Bananas. PETB's activity has recently skyrocketed - especially after Mr. Time's unfortunate accident. Until now, however, efforts have generally been unsuccessful.

"Now, with increased awareness and protest, we should start seeing results," said Dan Pearl, banana rights specialist, during a press conference. "We will soon see bananas disappearing from produce shelves. They may finally be allowed to live their own lives without constant oppression and threat."

Pearl later stated that he always believed bananas were something more than meets the eye.

"As a child, I was constantly ridiculed for my beliefs," he stated.

Back in December, animal rights activists in King County pushed for chimpanzees to be given the same rights as humans. Recently the bill was passed, and within two months we should expect to see chimps behind the wheel, working cash registers, and even teaching classrooms - namely classes focusing on Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

"Chimps share just under 98% of their DNA with humans anyway," Pearl added, "and with the passing of this legislation, we have hope that bananas will not be overlooked because of their so-called 'meager' 70% match with human DNA."

Numbers aside, the main difference between bananas and chimpanzees is that the humans of Western Culture don't eat chimps.

Pizza

BOASTING NEW YORK STYLE  
PIZZA AND CALZONES:  
Cheese, Pepperoni, or "Paradize".

BUFFALO WINGS:  
Mild, Medium, Hot, Extra Hot, Buffalo and BBQ.

---

**Pizza from Paradize is authentic New York Style pizza at the top of Lea Hill.**

**Located in new Season's shopping center.**

**12722 SE 312h St.**

**(253) 929-8783**

---

**Special for GRCC students every day!**

**A slice of Pepperoni or Cheese pizza and a small drink for only \$2.00!**



# Green River Community College Cricket Club

Story and page design by Casey Greer, Photos by Justin Runquist

Green River has an intramural cricket club.

On a sunny Saturday afternoon, I walked onto the Green River baseball field, to see a game from which baseball got its roots being played. The scene I encountered was very different than the sport I grew up playing.

The team was practicing. Instead of playing from the pitchers mound to home plate, they had set up what I'd later learn were called wickets about 120 feet down the first base line.

The pitch, where the ball is bowled (cricket's equivalent to pitching in baseball) is a little longer than the distance between the rubber and home plate on a baseball field.

The bowler (cricket's pitcher) runs into the crease, and hurls the ball, with a straight-armed motion toward the wicket, where a batsman is waiting to hit the ball. Rather than sending the ball the entire distance of the pitch in the air, the ball is bounced somewhere between the bowler and batsman.

It was then that I realized that the game I'd always assumed was something similar to baseball was actually a very different, very complicated sport, a sport I'd been decidedly ignorant to for my entire life.

Watching a handful of batsman step up to the wickets, Justin Runquist, *The Current's* news editor, and I began to circle the perimeter of players fielding the batted balls.

I played baseball throughout my entire youth, year-round towards the end, and assumed that what was going on was some type of batting practice.

We made our way around to what would have been right-center field on a baseball field, and Runquist began to snap some pictures. A bowl later, a hard line drive was hit our way.

I've always assumed that intramural sports were low-intensity, moderately-competitive club sports. I was soon let know that my assumption was wrong.

I fielded the line drive on a hop, being a creature of habit, and threw it to Fez Khan, a 28-year-old student from Pakistan.

"Don't touch the ball, come on man," came bellowing from the pitch. Usman Mohammad, 24-year-old student and team captain was unhappy that I'd interfered with what I then realized was a scrimmage.

Intensity, check.

Khan caught my throw, smiled, and turned to the pitch and yelled "It's ok, it was four."

When a batsman hits a ball beyond a certain point in the air, his team is awarded four runs. Like baseball, runs are the means by which the game is scored.

Khan's tolerance of my mistake wouldn't go unpunished however. Three bowls later, the batsman at the time hit a pop fly to the right side of the pitch. Khan and Gurcharan Singh, an 18-year-old student from India converged on the ball at full speed.

In a collision that conjured memories of the intensity of Mike Cameron's collision with Carlos Beltran in 2005, when the two played for the New York Mets, Khan and Singh collided, the ball hit the grass, and both went down in a heap.

The field was silent, and everyone, Runquist and I included, rushed to the two players still lying on the ground. As the necessary checks were made, Singh arose dazed, and Khan sat up, mouth bloodied, and began to spit out streams of blood while looking for his glasses.

"See, this game isn't all that safe either," Mohammad said to me, laughing, between obvious jokes told in Hindi to the other players, all met with laughter.

Another player came with water, and as Khan was rinsing his mouth out, Rupinder Singh, a 32-year-old student started speaking in Hindi about the care Khan needed. I was able to make out "Hydrogen Peroxide," which was met with laughter, as the team continued to rib Khan, and Mohammad retorted with "José Cuervo."

The crowd around the players erupted with laughter, Khan left the field laughing to repair his cut-open, still-bleeding lip, and practice continued as though it had never stopped.



Pictured in background: Left-Usman Mohammad, Right-Tarun Kumar



Gurcharan Singh bowls the ball to the wickets. Singh is one of the team's hardest throwing bowlers.



Pulkit Kaur, and 18-year-old student from India takes a swing at a ball during the team's practice.

Niripjit Singh, a 19-year-old student from India takes a swing that would result in a sharply hit ball.



Top: Ankit Panchal and Rupinder Singh instruct me on how to bat.  
Middle: The bowler, Usman Mohammad hits the wickets. I was bold out, much like being struck out in baseball.  
Bottom: One of few swings that resulted in contact.

On another Saturday, less sunny, Runquist, Jean-Pierre Garcia, *The Current's* webmaster and I attended a match between Green River's intramural cricket team and another local intramural team.

The game I'd seen on the college's baseball field only became more complex, as I realized that cricket was a game of 360 degrees.

Essentially, when compared to baseball, all of the foul territory behind home plate and down the foul lines was in play. There were cones set up to designate four and six run hits, cones we'd soon be told exit in an effort to take pictures of the live cricket match.

The setting was very similar to a baseball tournament. There were multiple teams assembled, sitting around talking amongst themselves.

When facing the field, to the left, there was a Seattle-based team who apparently knew some of the Green River players.

One of the players from the other team had a megaphone, and was playing Hindi music from his cell phone as each new batsman took the field. As plays happened, he'd do play-by-play and color commentary, and as each batsman left the field, he'd give the player a parting shot, invariably met with raucous laughter.

The Green River team was sitting next to the scoreboard, operated by Ankit Panchal, 19-year-old student from India and club president. Some were seated on the grass; others on a log barrier that separated the converted baseball field from the parking lot, and others were standing and putting on pads.

There was various equipment scattered around. Pads, bats, balls and about a dozen water bottles, and the players were having animated conversations in Hindi around the team.

One of Green River's players walked backed to the group, having been put out, and I saw the day's first butt pat.

In a normal setting, a butt pat between two adult men may be met with awkward looks, but here, on a baseball field, I understood. Suddenly, cricket was no longer baseball's forgotten step brother, but its parallel.

There was chatter around the field. Baseball's chatter is decidedly, and intentionally obnoxious. The chatter this day, on the cricket field, was much more polite, at least the chatter spoken in English. "Good bowling," and "Good batting," replaced the less-positive chants I grew up with.

Niripjit Singh, a 19-year-old student from India was even wearing a Yankees hat.

We walked around the back side of the backstop, and there was a child who couldn't have been more than five-years-old whose dad was bowling to him. As we walked by, he hit a line drive directly at us.

I mishandled the ball, picked it up off the ground, and tossed it back to the dad. Both of us were wearing big smiles, he because his young son had just hit the ball squarely with a full-size bat, and I because for the first time since high school, had returned to a place of competition and comradery.

As the team assembled for a picture, Khan put on his glasses, and told Runquist, Garcia and myself that he could finally see us, "One, two, three," he counted, pointing to each of us.

The team started to look for Siddarth Saini, an 18-year-old student from India. When they finally spotted him, he was across the parking lot, looking into the passenger-side mirror of an SUV, fixing his hair for the picture. "Ok, you can take my picture now," said Saini as he returned to the group, receiving elbows and taunts from his teammates.

Visions of grandeur had me seeing cricket as my new sport of choice. Not only was it a cultural experience, as the team was made up of entirely non-US-born players, but it was something I may be able to succeed at given my baseball background.

Then reality set in.



Amaninder Singh, a 21 year old student from India, throws the ball back to the pitch.

Fez Khan receives a ball from the opposing team's bowler. Behind Khan is a fielder from the opposing team. Cricket is a 360 degree sport.

Khan makes solid contact during Green River's cricket club match

I asked Panchal if I could participate in the next practice, and Panchal obliged.

He explained that the team can carry extra players, and that if I wanted to join the team I'd be welcome to.

I explained to Panchal, that before he let me embarrass the team, he should probably see me do something on the field.

I was given a brief tutorial on how to bowl legally, and Panchal stepped to the wickets.

Bowling is done with a motion similar to the reverse of softball pitching. The bowler's arm remains straight, and performs an overhand circle. The ball, similar in size and weight to a baseball, has only one set of threads which runs down the center of the ball like an equator.

"Can I make this thing curve?" I asked Nitish Duggal, an 18-year-old student from India.

Duggal explained a few different ways to bowl the ball that cause it to change directions when it bounces.

My first attempt hit the ground about four feet in front of me, and four feet to my left. It ended up nowhere near the wickets I was aiming at.

I decided to ditch any thoughts of changing the ball's trajectory, and simply tried to make it to the wickets with my next bowl.

"Just watch me, I'll show you how to do it," said Saini.

My next bowl was more successful, as it went straight, but I bent my elbow and the rules of bowling were reiterated. Also, my second bowl didn't bounce, but sailed all the way past the keeper (cricket's catcher), and hit the fence behind the wickets on the fly.

My next, and best attempt bounced about halfway between Panchal and I. It was on a path about a foot left of

the wicket when Panchal hit it. "Perfect," said Saini.

Then, my final attempt nearly hit Panchal in the head.

"You were crowding the wickets," I told Panchal, drawing a parallel to a brushback pitch in baseball.

By coincidence, the next three bowlers each threw the ball in a similar location, and I began to wonder if I'd cursed the ball.

Then I picked up the bat, and the embarrassment continued.

After watching a match, and seeing the ease with which the Green River players hit the ball, I would have never thought that batting was so difficult.

I was once a very good contact hitter, and a baseball bat has a much smaller face than a cricket bat. I assumed it would be an easy transition from baseball to cricket.

I was wrong.

After another brief tutorial Rupinder Singh started me off with some slow bowls. I managed to make contact with a few, but not the solid contact I'd expected. Then Singh, Mohammad, and Tarun Kumar took turns bowling at full speed to me.

I've had classes with Kumar, and I must have made him mad, because he seemed to bowl me nothing but unhittable balls.

Singh, a tall lefty, gave me the same problems that left-handed pitchers gave me in baseball. The problem of course, was that I couldn't hit him either.

Then Mohammad began bowling to me. He gave me a handful of relatively easy bowls, and finally, by some stroke of luck, I hit what would amount to a soft line drive to shortstop. Success.

The success was short-lived, as Mohammad began to

bowl more slowly, but positioned the laces so that when the ball hit the ground, it darted quickly to my right, and I made a fool of myself with each empty swing.

Finally, drawing from baseball knowledge, I stepped up in the crease (cricket's batter's box). The next offering hit my foot as I attempted to swing at it, bounced up, and landed on the back of my neck as I looked toward the ground.

An adequate mockery made, I decided to end my day of cricket. I had an awesome time, and left with a greater appreciation for a sport I may have never tried were it not for Green River's intramural club.



The ball bouncing off my neck, while the keeper Jugraj Singh, a 19-year old student from India cringes. For more pictures from cricket matches and practices, as well as my own embarrassing outtakes visit [thecurrentonline.net](http://thecurrentonline.net)

For more information about GRCC's cricket club contact Barry Bannister, coach, [bbannister@greenriver.edu](mailto:bbannister@greenriver.edu) or Ankit Panchal, club president, [apanchal@greenriver.edu](mailto:apanchal@greenriver.edu).

Or visit the team's website at [nwcl.org/NwclT20Web/](http://nwcl.org/NwclT20Web/)

## GATOR SPORTS SPRING UPDATE

NWAACC championships on the horizon for Green River's spring programs

**Sean Kramer**  
Staff Writer

The weekend of May 15, 16 and 17 will be a busy one for Green River Community College. That's when the NWAACC championships begin to get underway for many of Green River's sports.

Athletic Director Bob Kickner will be in Portland during the Gator's exciting championship weekend for the fastpitch NWAACC championships, Green River's first appearance in Portland in five years. Despite battling early adversities with roster issues, the Gators have battled to third place in the NWAACC West. The Gators are led by freshman phenom pitcher Caitlyn Dougan, who has posted a 4-1 record and a 1.29 ERA with 41 strikeouts, and hitters such as Sarah King and Marijo Fraser who have hit consistently over .400 all season. Head coach Scott Dillinger is excited about just being there, but is hoping his team has what it takes to pull an upset or two.

The baseball team will be in action on May 16 at Lea Hill park hosting a West region playoff, after finishing second in the NWAACC West to Lower Columbia. On May 21 the team will head down to Longview to

compete in the NWAACC Championships, hoping to have as good of a showing as they did last time they went in 2007, when the Gators were third overall in the NWAACC.

The Men's and Women's tennis team will be in action on May 14-17 in Spokane. The men's team is led by Matt Huynh, whose led the Gators to an undefeated regular season, and looking to bring home the Steve Sauers trophy to Green River, named after the former Green River coach who won 35 championships (men's and women's) at the school. The trophy is currently held by Spokane Community College who won it last year.

The women are a solid second in the NWAACC only behind powerhouse Bellevue, who handed the Gators their only loss of the season. The Bellevue women have won four straight NWAACC titles.

On the Golf course the Gator women are looking to close out a great season, with two All NWAACC first team performers, Annie Viola and recently married Jenna Rouchelle, formally Jenna Witmer, who got married on May 2 and teed off the day after at Washington National Golf course and placing first. As a team, the Gators finished second

overall behind Spokane.

The Men's Golf team has been a steady 6th place all season, with Brady White as their most consistent performer. They placed 8th at the NWAACC event on May 2 at Washington National golf course.

Spring sports have proven to be the most successful for the Gators. The fall got off to a slow start with women's soccer struggling and the cross country season going through its inaugural season. In the winter, men's and women's basketball struggled, but the Volleyball program was able to grab 7th at the NWAACC championships.



Newly married Jenna Rouchelle was the medalist at the NWAACC tournament at Washington National course on May 2nd

### Gator NWAACC Championship schedule

*Baseball*  
**May 16th**

West region playoff  
Lea Hill Park  
Opponent TBA

**May 21-25**

NWAACC Championships  
Longview, WA

*Fastpitch*  
**May 15-18**

NWAACC Championships  
Portland, OR  
vs. Spokane

*Men's and Women's*  
*Tennis*

**May 14-17**

NWAACC Championships  
Spokane, WA

*Women's Golf*

**May 17-18**

NWAACC Championships  
Walla Walla, WA



The Men's and Women's Tennis team poses for a picture in Eastern Washington on their way back from an early season match in Spokane. The Gators will be heading back to Spokane with their eyes on sweeping the championships.

The Gator baseball team leans against the dugout railing in an early season out of conference match-up. The Gators will head to Longview with their eyes on another top three finish in the NWAACC after finishing second in the West division



Gator shortstop Sarah King has been a consistent performer for coach Scott Dillinger's fastpitch squad, hitting over .500 for most of the spring. The Gators will be in Portland for the first time in five years after notching third in the NWAACC West



## Battle of the blends: Jamba or Emerald City?

Your favorite smoothie's battle to the death for bragging rights, find out who takes the crown

**Michelle Praast**  
Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, it's time for the boxing gloves to come flying off because it is the final match up between smoothie blends. It's an on-going battle, so it's finally time to see who comes out on top: Jamba Juice or Emerald City Smoothie. Almost everyone knows about these two popular smoothie places and how each battles for bragging rights. Popularity is measured with the contents in the smoothies, the store itself, and how healthy each place is. All of these ingredients need to be perfectly blended in order to be the best smoothie place around.

Round One: Let's start off with what is put in the drink, what makes them taste so good?! Jamba Juice uses frozen fruit stored in what they call a "dip box".

Those fruits are strawberries, bananas, blueberries, raspberries, mangoes, and peaches. They also use frozen yogurt and an assortment of sherbets, which consist of lime, raspberry, orange, and pineapple. Besides smoothies, Jamba Juice sells fresh squeezed orange and carrot juices, wheat-

grass shots, oatmeal in the mornings, and baked goods that are warmed to tasty perfection. Getting hungry yet?!

You can choose from blueberry lemon loaves, chocolate or oatmeal cookies, apple cinnamon or parmesan pretzels, or even zucchini walnut bread! They use real fruit juice and no added sugar when mixing their heavenly smoothies. Emerald City Smoothie also uses frozen fruits, but they use syrup with an artificial sweetener to make their drinks extra sweet.

"You can actually taste the fruit in Jamba drinks, but with Emerald City you can totally taste the syrup in it," explained Nagda Bednarski, a 20-year-old Green River student. There are no breads served on the side either.

"Would you like a free boost with that?" is what every customer hears when ordering at Jamba Juice.

They have over ten different boosts to add in your drink and vary from an immunity booster to getting your free boost of protein.

Emerald City also has boosts to add in their drink like protein, and customers can



Michelle Praast/Staff Photo

Erin Curtis from Covington Jamba flashes a smile for the customers as she punches in their orders. Jamba Juice is known for always having friendly and attentive customer service.

also buy tubs of protein mix and Muscle Milk to bring home.

The winner of round one would have to go to Jamba with their wide variety of beverages and meals on the side. Even though Emerald City sells supplements, Jamba still sells more products with all the different add-ins.

Round Two: Now we have to go about judging the store. With this, we will look at things like the what type of environment each place has, how attention-grabbing is the outside (their sign for example), and what is located in the lobby area. Jamba Juice has tons of tables located in the lobby along with an outside waiting area with umbrellas and tables to sit at. There is even an area for the kids to play or sit and read while their parents are waiting for their order. They also have a music system in the store so the customers feel more upbeat and relaxed right when they walk through the door. The bright green Jamba sign is the perfect way to pull in customers!

Emerald City has tons of supplements

and protein powder around every corner of the establishment. They also have a table to sit at while indulging in your drink. There isn't really a lobby to wait in because it is a rather small store.

The winner of this round would also have to go to Jamba due to the fact that it is, overall, more attention-grabbing. But, on the bright side, both stores have amazing customer service!

Final Round: Which establishment is healthier? Health is a big deal now a days with everyone counting calories and watching their waste line.

Even though Emerald City Smoothie is sweeter tasting than Jamba, Jamba is better for you considering it is all real fruit with no added sugar.

There are plenty of options like the low-cal smoothies and fresh squeezed juices to choose from as well. It all depends on how much of a sweet tooth you have, but if you're looking for a healthy option that will still satisfy your taste buds, then Jamba is the way to go.



Michelle Praast/Staff Photo

The difference between the two smoothie makers is quite obvious. Jamba Juice is known for being the healthier choice, whereas Emerald City Smoothie has a much sweeter taste.

## Xbox 360, Playstation 3, Wii: Which one is right for you?

The war has begun! Find out which turn of the century video game console best fits your taste, budget and interest

**Tuan (Tom) Bui**  
Staff Writer

Even though it has been about four years since the gaming consoles were released on the market, but surprisingly, the discussion of their utilities hasn't come to an end yet.

Many gaming experts in the industry have been trying to explore the powers, disadvantages, and advantages of Xbox 360, Playstation 3 (PS3) and Wii.

First, experts go over the graphical capabilities of these consoles.

Both 360 and PS3 are considered to have powerful graphical presentation. However, the 360 particularly has more advantages in high details, anti aliasing and anisotropic filtering (which offer higher resolution and better texture mapping in further distance).

On the contrary, the PS3 are capable of expressing smoother lighting effects, and larger scales of environments and polygons, yet textures in the PS3's games may look blurrier than the 360's.

In this comparison, the Wii's graphical hardware is way behind its opponents.

Game developers like working on the 360, for it is easy to create games. The only problem with the 360 is it's also easy to overheat itself and broken down.

Many people call it "The Red Ring of Death," (RRoD) meaning the console stop working entirely.

There are only three years of warranty for this issue, and after three years, it will require 100 bucks for the repair. Many people have experienced their 360s still got RRoDs after having their consoles fixed.

With technical advances, the PS3 seems

to dominate the others by its blu-ray DVD player. The 360 just carries a DVD player, and the Wii can't even be used for reading any normal DVDs for it uses a different size of disc.

Internet service of the PS3 offers free Playstation Network while people have to pay about 50 dollars per year if they want to play online with their 360s.

In addition, with a PS3, you can go online to surf any website you want. You can not do it with a 360.

Nevertheless, the Internet service of the Xbox 360 is better than the rest with more choices of renting movies, downloading music, and easy communications with friends. The Wii's internet service is a little different, but it still provides a basic comfort for its gamers.

Since the 360 came out earlier than the other two consoles, it obviously has more games on the market.

Most of multi-platform games look better on the 360, such as Assassin Creed, Fallout 3, and Assault on Dark Athena.

Himmerick, a producer working for Midway Corporation, says, "Anyone making a game, if you're going to make it for both, just lead on the PS3 because if it works on the PS3, it'll work on 360. We had to play catch-up on the PS3 because of the memory constraints and how it renders; how it processes is just different. And it's harder on the PS3."

Though the complexity of the PS3's hardware makes it difficult to develop games, it has amazing looking products, like Ratchet and Clank, Resistance 2, Little Big Planet, and Killzone 2. While the 360 and PS3 have every genre in their game

lists, the Wii focuses a lot on games for the entire family.

The next issue is prices. This is what many customers are the most concerned about. With 20GB of hard drive, a DVD player and no Wi-Fi, a 360 costs about 300 dollars (not including 50 dollars per year for online plays,).

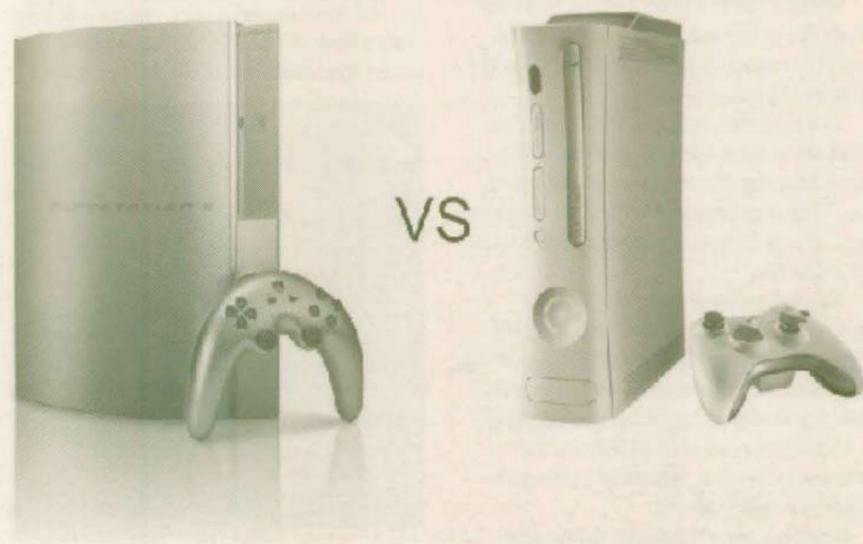
A PS3, however, offers a blu-ray DVD player, 80GB of hard drive, Wi-Fi, free internet for only 400 bucks. The Wii with Wi-Fi costs only 250 bucks and it is the cheapest console on the market.

Indeed, its cheapness and fun motion controls have made it the top sale so far.

Hardcore gamers, however, may not find any satisfaction from this console due to the weakness of Wii's graphical hardware, and the limitation of the internet service.

It depends on what customers value the most to make their own decisions. If you like better looking multi-platform games, internet service and are willing to deal with the risk of RRoD, go for the 360.

If you want to have a new experience in high-def movies, Wi-Fi, free internet, and a stable system, go for the PS3. Or if you simply want it to be "cheap and fun" for your family, Wii is your best choice.



<http://jeremyvonhoff.com/Courtesy Photo>

Play Station 3 consoles includes a blu-ray/DVD player, Wi-Fi, and free internet access for 400 dollars. Xbox 360's are equipped with a DVD player and no Wi-Fi costs about 300 bucks.

# Sasquatch! Music Festival: Snag your tickets now!

*The Gorge is putting on a show of intense music, crazy comedy and yummy food*

**Michelle Kuhn**  
Staff Writer

The 2009 Sasquatch! Music Festival on May 23-25 is sure to be a hit.

Located at The Gorge, the festival is a three day long event which includes unique music, outrageous comedy and delicious food!

Headlining the festival are: Kings of Leon, Jane's Addiction, Nine Inch Nails, and Ben Harper & Relentless 7.

Kings of Leon, now on their fourth album, originated from Tennessee. The band is made up of three brothers and their cousin. Kings of Leon's first single "Sex on Fire" from their fourth album, "Only By the Night" was an instant success.

The foursome of Jane's Addiction has an iconic alternative rock sound and has been dubbed a sensation by just about any rock fan. Jane's second album *Ritual De Lo Habitual* made the band sky rocket to instant celebrity status.

Nine Inch Nails have a wide audience due to their raw and intense sound. Trent Reznor is the main man in this band. He writes, performs and produces all NIN's music. They are sure to please!

Ben Harper of Ben Harper & Relentless 7, will be performing at Sasquatch! for the third year this year. The band's cohesive collection of songs on their album "White Lies for Dark Times" made the album a timeless classic.

Among these four immensely different bands, Sasquatch! will also be loaded

with other indie and alternative bands including: The Decemberists, Fleet Foxes, The Yeah Yeah Yeah's, Explosions in the Sky, and Owl City, among 80 or so other bands that will drive the crowd wild.

The festival also includes comedy acts which this year include well known and hilarious comedians Demetri Martin and Zach Galifiankas. The comedy duo Tim and Eric can also be seen at the festival, being known for their hit show, "Tim and Eric Awesome Show Great Job" as well as "Tom Goes to the Mayor" on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim. There's no doubt that you will be on the floor laughing after watching them.

Christina Clausen, a 19-year-old Green River student, filled me in on a little bit of what she likes about Sasquatch! "I liked it because you get to see all your favorite bands in one day and also you get to hear a lot of new music. Plus the Gorge is a pretty cool place."

She said the people there are all very friendly and they're just out to have a good time. She also recommends bringing your own food, as food at the event can be a little bit on the "spendy" side.

Clausen warns that, "going all three days was really draining and expensive. I recommend just going the day that your favorite bands are playing." She also added, "I'm looking forward to seeing Animal Collective and Passion Pit the most, but I'm also looking forward to seeing Tim and Eric." Sounds like a blast!

Sasquatch! is a fairly new event and was founded in 2002 by Adam Zacks. In 2002 it only included seven bands, headlined by an interestingly named folk band: The String Cheese Incident. The artist's who

performed that year were, Blackalicious, Galactic, Ben Harper, Jack Johnson, Maktub, Soulive, and of course The String Cheese Incident. The event has added more and more artist's each year.

This year's Sasquatch! Festival can be expected to be a very entertaining and fun experience for kids and adults of all ages! Start saving now because tickets are on sale for \$66.50 per day.

Don't wait because the week of the festival tickets is \$76.50 per day if still available.

All ages are welcome, children under 5 get in for free, and parking is free! Be sure to bring your photo ID to pick up will call or guest list tickets. With plenty of food you can enjoy kicking back on the grass with friends while listening to some great rock music



<http://on.yakimablogs.com/Courtesy Photo>

For \$66.50 you can see over 80 bands, including Kings of Leon, Jane's Addiction, Nine Inch Nails, and famous comedian Demetri Martin will be performing live.

## Buzzing coffee vs. calm tea

*Chocolatey mocha or minty hot tea? Employees and students have strong opinions*

**Kenta Yamamoto**  
Staff Writer

At Green River, many students often bring coffee in the class; however, tea is getting popular for the students who like less caffeine.

Having a beverage in a class or at lunch is necessary for many students, so they often buy a cup of coffee, whether it is black coffee, or maybe a fancier mocha swirled with whipped cream! Others choose to buy a cup of tea, they always form a line, awaiting their favorite drink.

At the cafeteria, the cheapest price of coffee is a single Espresso, \$1.35, and double Espresso is \$1.75. Students can also choose to order a "Coffee of The Day," at \$1.30 for tall cup.

Students have the options of ordering Tazo Tea at the cafeteria. The price of a tall (12 ounces) is \$1.35, and \$1.60 for the grande (16 ounces).

"For students, coffee is more popular than tea at Green River," explained Diane Murphy, the manager at the cafeteria. "The most popular coffee for students is a "White Chocolate Mocha," it's \$3.25 for a grande.

"Having coffee is necessary in the morning, because it wakes me up," said Japanese 20-year-old, Jun Hirokawa, taking IESL classes. "Coffee gives me energy to study, and makes me sharp during class."

Hirokawa read an article from the internet news that explained coffee aids digestion and loses fat.

However, not everybody thinks that coffee is a good beverage for their health. The employees at the college often enjoy sipping on tea while they work.

"I prefer tea to coffee, because coffee has too much caffeine, and the taste is

bad," says Ana Murlrn, an employee who has worked as a cashier for two years.

"I think tea has a better taste than coffee," Murlrn confessed.

Some people prefer more wholesome drinks to coffee, and some students think coffee is unhealthy. They also think tea relaxes them while coffee makes them sharp, most have a particular kind of tea for their own favorite drink.

"I usually bring just water in the class, but if I have either coffee or tea, I choose tea," said Bonnie Faye, who has been here for two years and is majoring art. "I don't want to drink coffee because it's bitter."

"I choose Passion Tea since it's healthier," Faye said.

According to the package on Lipton, "Coffee has three times as much caffeine as tea has." Today, tea and coffee are popular all over the world however; many people choose only either tea or coffee.

Which do you prefer? A less caffeinated, but soothing beverage: tea, or a drink with a bite: coffee? Or do you simply prefer the healthiest of all drinks: water?



Kenta Yamamoto/Staff Photo

Comforting, awakening coffee or relaxing, soothing tea? Students offer their opinions.

Apply all of  
your qualifying  
Associate Degree  
credits to a  
Bachelor's Degree.

Apply your qualifying associate degree credits and earn a bachelor's degree at DeVry University. We offer bachelor's degree programs that can lead to rewarding careers in Business, Information Systems, Healthcare Technology and more.

Students who have completed their associate degree can earn their bachelor's degree in as few as 1 1/2 years. So think about completing your education in an accelerated degree program that's just right for you.

To get started, visit [DeVryCompletion.com/GRCC](http://DeVryCompletion.com/GRCC) or call 866.215.3846

DeVry University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, [www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org).  
Program availability varies by location.  
© 2009 DeVry University. All rights reserved.

DeVry  
University  
We major in careers:

3600 S. 344th Way  
Federal Way, WA 98003

# How do you like to shop: Online or in person?

*Surfing the internet and purchasing items at the same time is popular at GRCC*

**Kai Po Yeung**  
Staff Writer

Nowadays, people can choose the most appropriate way to go shopping. They just need to follow a few steps and have a few minutes to buy a product online, or they can choose to spend a little more time to go shopping in the store.

Since the tight competition between different stores and customers seek a more convenient way to go shopping, the demand of online store is getting greater and greater. Online shopping is a new trend for people to purchase items over the internet instead of shopping on a street. But these two ways of shopping have their own advantages and disadvantages.

While some GRCC students like online shopping, as well as checking out their favorite stores in person, most of them prefer online shopping. Many find that online shopping is more convenient and the prices are better too. Yuka Kato, a 20-year-old Japanese student, said that she likes online shopping more since she can relax at home and find cheap products

online instead of going outside and walking from shop to shop to find low-priced products. "If I go shopping on the street, it's tiresome to find an inexpensive book. It's easier to get a very cheap book in the online store," said Kato. But sometimes unexpected accident happens when buying things online. One time, Kato accidentally mistyped her address when she bought a book online. Unfortunately, it took a lot longer than she'd planned to receive the book, "I tried to cancel the order, but I couldn't," explained Kato.

Another 16-year-old American student, Daniel McCafferty, said that online is more convenient and there are no gas costs, which every college students could appreciate! The only complaint McCafferty had was, "Online shopping doesn't display items as conveniently and there are no hot cashier-tenders online." He prefers to go shopping in malls because it provides a much larger selection of goods typically, "I enjoy browsing stores!" McCafferty explained happily.

However, some students said online stores provide more selection than usual stores. David Nichols, a 19-year-old American student, said that online shopping has larger range of products, "It's cleaner and faster with more items for sale." But he noticed some disadvantages of online shopping. He said he needs to pay

shipping fees if he buys products online. Also, sometimes he feels confused because he is lack of contact with the seller, but he still likes shopping online since it is easier to order items.

Students like Nichols do not think online shopping could replace conventional street shopping. "There will always be people who prefer shopping in person or shopping online," explained Nichols.

An 18-year-old American student, Caleb Prodmore, said that it depends on purchasing choices of products and delivery. "For most choices, online shopping can replace normal shopping, but it will never be able to deliver as fast as normal shopping," said Prodmore.

So, which style of shopping is better? It depends on the individual. For example, there are always big sales in stores during holidays, such as Christmas, or Valentines Day. Some customers love to be able to choose gifts in the store rather than just look at the product picture online. Also, going shopping in person or with friends or family is much more amiable. On the other hand, there malls are always so crowded during the holidays, so some people may not like go shopping under that environment. Also, it's possible that customers may be disappointed about receiving an unexpected item which is different from the pictures they saw in the



<http://blog.rssapplied.com/Courtesy Photo>

The trend for online purchasing compared to traditional shopping has some students clicking away for the the latest trends and best buys.

online store. In this case, it may be smarter to purchase an item in the customary store and check it carefully.

Online shopping really brings convenience to our lives. However, the merriment of shopping on the street still can't be replaced by online shopping. Summer is coming, it is the time to take off our jacket and purchase new clothes for summer season!

## 'College Life' is intense stuff

*MTV's latest reality show lets college students film their own experiences*

**Ariel Holman**  
Staff Writer

Reality television has become a staple in American entertainment and MTV is changing the game. Most reality television claims to be authentic and unscripted, but none can truly claim the type of authenticity "College Life" presents.

The show documents the lives of several freshmen and one sophomore at the University of Wisconsin, Madison who deal with different struggles relating to life in college. It sounds like another lame reality show, yet this show has a twist. Instead of being followed around by camera crews, the stars of the show actually video tape themselves.

While there are plenty of college students on YouTube and all over the internet who document and blog about their lives in college, this show is a little more bearable because the students have a powerhouse cable network sponsoring their productions. This means that they are using big, expensive video cameras and have an editing crew that is able to cut the tapes in a way that makes the show have somewhat of a plot. Although they are not particularly intertwined, the individuals struggles faced are reminiscent of most people's university experiences and make for good reality television.

There are eight cast/crew members in the show who all come from different backgrounds and have various lifestyles.

Alex is an outgoing freshman who is on an academic scholarship and is struggling

to keep her grades up while making friends and meeting guys. She already had her heart broken in the first episode.

Andrea is a 19-year-old Christian virgin. Andrea's plot revolves around trying to date and meet different guys while maintaining a friendly relationship with her ex-boyfriend Josh, who happens to still be in love with her.

Josh is a sophomore and is determined to win Andrea back. Also, Josh admitted in an episode that he, because of Andrea, is also a virgin.

Kevin is the most interesting of all the cast members. He is the stereotypical college guy who loves to party and hates to study. He was proud to get a D on his math midterm and got kicked out of the university's resident halls for possession of alcohol on more than one occasion.

Jordan is a bi-racial student who grew up very conservative in Illinois. However, he decided to get a tattoo on his arm that was very expensive. He made his mom cry when she found out because she works two jobs to pay for his tuition at the university.

Lindsay is an exceptional student who claims to study an obscene amount of six hours a day and has problems getting along with her roommate.

There are two more expectant cast members, Anna and Dan, who have not yet appeared on an episode but are featured on the "College Life" website.

MTV is trying to present this show as the most realistic show on television even giving it the tagline, "This is not reality. This is real." However, even with the cast filming themselves, it is impossible for it to show the complete truth of college life because the students edit out the parts of their lives that are most private or embarrassing. Even though the show does not portray the entirety of a university experience, it is very entertaining and fairly realistic too.

## 'Sexting' is a negative new trend

*Regret, embarrassment, and even suicide can result from sexting: think twice!*

**Michelle Bednarski**  
Staff Writer

On average, teens text up to 300 text messages per day, but now CBS News reports over 20 percent of teens admit to practicing Sexting.

Sexting: teenagers send nude or partially nude photos to one another or texting sexual conversations. For the past five years while cell phones have become the new "must need" in everyday life, sexting has become the new trend for most teens.

Why do people send sexual pictures of themselves? Many may believe that this is a fun, flirty activity. This mostly goes for girls, which like to send nude pictures to their boyfriends, but now-a-days pictures are sent everywhere to anyone.

The fact is that they do not understand the consequences that can come around from such an act. After you take a nude picture, you are manufacturing pornography and if you send it, you are distributing pornography. You can be dealt with pornography charges.

Sexting can be dangerous too. Once you take a nude photo, and send it, you won't have control over it. It could spread everywhere. For some teens, sending a nude picture of themselves will soon realize it's a mistake that they will most likely regret.

The picture could eventually spread through the internet and the picture will face criticism. The person who took the picture will most likely hear about what people said about the picture, which will lead to embarrassment and regret. Then the thought of suicide comes to play. For some, suicide happens, overdosing on pills, hanging themselves, etc.

"I wouldn't risk the embarrassment," admits Jessica Wilson. "I don't want to hear people criticizing my body or the way I look. Plus, I don't want to be known as a slut or a show-off."

There have already been a few students charged. A 13 year-old girl from Pennsylvania faced Porn Charges. The girl and her

close friends were goofing around and her friend took a picture of her. The picture was semi-nude. A few days later classmates got a hold of the picture and the picture was spreading all over the area. Finally, the administration got a hold of the picture. While battling the Porn Charge, the District attorney filed that the charge should be dropped due to the picture was distributed without the 13-year-old's consent.

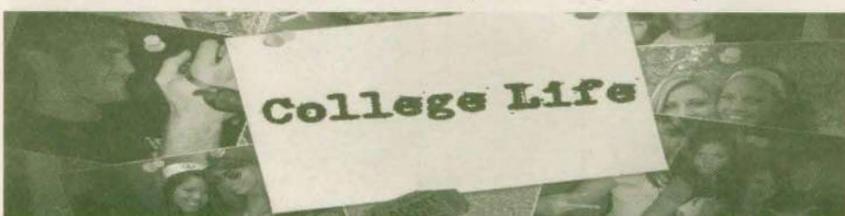
Even if you are under age, you still can be charged with Pornography. Why would you want to risk it? Why would you want to have a nude photo of yourself on the internet? Many people do not understand, but once something is uploaded onto the internet, it will never leave. The same is true for sending a nude picture through a cell phone. You start a never ending chain.

"I think that Sexting is really dumb. I don't understand why you would want to send naked pictures of yourself. I wouldn't want to get critiqued or known as a slut. Whenever I hear about someone sending nude pictures, I just laugh and think it is so stupid; people trying to get their 15 minutes of fame, but what fame? Slutty fame?!" says Melissa Johnson, an 18-year-old freshman at Green River Community College. "I just think this is wrong for people to do. It's just plain nasty."



<http://www.inlander.com/Courtesy Photo>

Sending nude photos or texting sexual conversations can lead to pornography charges in court.



<http://welovesoaps.com/Courtesy Photo>

Be sure to tune in for new episodes of "College Life" every monday night at 10:30.

# Mother's Day: Moms on GRCC Campus

*Like many community colleges, Green River has many mothers attending school and preparing for new careers.*

**Samantha Shockley**  
Staff Writer

It's about sacrifice. Most mothers will say that being a mom is all about sacrifice, giving up your life to raise, support, and guide another person through theirs. It's a time when a woman is not their own person, but someone who gives up everything for someone else. It's selfless love.

Many mothers attend Green River, whether they have little ones at home, or out of the house. The reasons why they have come back to school may differ, but there are always similarities.

Five mothers in particular that attend Green River undergo hardship, and life struggle everyday, yet through every difficulty they still make time for school, and their children. Gabrielle Wilkerson, Robin Lane, Mominah Khan, Sarah and Leticia Drummond, are all mothers with different stories about sacrifice, hardship, and endurance.

"First and foremost I'm a mother," Gabrielle Wilkerson remarks. She has no children at home, but after 24 years went back to Green River as a last resort. "This was probably the last place I wanted to go, I wouldn't have thought about going back to school if my husband hadn't passed two years ago." Gabrielle has found a family in Woman's Programs at GRCC.

Woman's Programs is a place that female women can go for the help and support they need to succeed in college. "I don't now how they do it," Colleen Neubert, the Director of Woman's Programs, exclaims. "It's amazing that they can

balance work, school, and children." Colleen Neubert and Marsha Medgard work to help the women of GRCC through Woman's Programs.

It's a struggle, and it's hard, but it has made these women who they are. Many women are on financial aid, borrow books, and pay rent as much as they can.

"I have a young child and she has nobody, it's just me. I won't see her from 8am to 10pm, and I only get to spend half an hour with her. But I always give her time." Because she is going to school she is giving up her time with her child. "I am a full time student, full time mom, and working a part time job, and English is not my language," Sarah Drummond explains. "But, I have to do it, so I do."

School isn't a child's activity of choice, according to National Center For Education Statistics, dropout rates for students in Washington from 9th to 12th grade was 34.9 percent in 2004.

"My daughter quit school, my son wants to quit school, my ex-husband didn't finish school. And even though I had my accident I'm still able to maintain a high GPA," said Robin Lane. Fall Quarter of 2008, Lane had a stroke and still attends Green River. "When I first contacted Woman's Programs I was broken, I had just ended an abusive 13 year marriage. But the staff in Woman's Programs has given me hope for self improvement." Robin is graduating this June from GRCC.

The mothers of Green River have gone through trials and tribulations. There was agreement between the five mothers that they never have time

to themselves.

"I have had to give up time with my kid, and cooking," Leticia Drummond explains. "When I have down time I'm always with my kid, whether it's playing twister, or video games with him."

Mothers day was announced a national holiday in 1914, when President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill that recognized it as such. Ever since many people have romanticized Mother's Day with cards from Hallmark, candies, and flowers. There is a day dedicated to mothers in nearly every country in the world, even if it isn't on the second Sunday of every May. However, many mothers aren't recognized for what they have given society, and how much they haven't gotten back for their sacrifice.

These women went back to college for others, not for themselves. "It's for my kids, and my grandkids, it's not for me." Momindah Khan states. "And if I can do it, anyone can do it." The women are investing in a future they don't see, they believe that what they are giving up now will benefit their children and grandchildren in the long run.

All five women agree that even though going to school is complicated, they wouldn't go back. "I don't know what will happen," Sarah explains. "But I know that it's worth everything."

"Mother's day plans anyone?" Neubert asked the group.

"Homework," was the overall reply.

These mothers demonstrate the importance of Mother's Day; all their hard work and sacrifice just to bless future generations.



Mothers on campus: Gabriel Wilkerson (Left), Robin Lane (Center) and Colleen Neubert (Right) were a few of the many women on campus who celebrated Mother's Day last Sunday.

Samantha Shockley/Staff Photo