

The Current

Green River Community College



Swede invades the green

Swedish student, Madeleine Ottosson, breaks out as Green River's women's golf star.

SPORTS page 14

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VOLUME 46, ISSUE 3

Green River

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Basketball

... A New Season Begins ...

HOME	Period	GUEST
20	1	12
	2	
	3	
	4	
Fouls		Fouls
1		1

MEN

Not quite making it to the playoffs last season, the Green River men's basketball team are back and ready to out-do themselves and kill it out on the court.

WOMEN

With a little fine tuning, the women's basketball team prepare for a winning season never before seen.



CAMPUS

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Diversity Director leaves Green River

A brief insight into Jhon Valencia's life growing up in Colombia, to driving a cab in N.Y.C. to his time here on campus and beyond.

A&E

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GRCC welcomes Cornel West

The famed philosopher and civil rights activist is out of jail and coming to the our campus on November 16.

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Financial Aid struggles

Financial Aid office shuts down for two days every week to catch up on paperwork due to the high demands they face.

OP-ED

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Daylight savings time might need a little "daylight shavings time"

The absurdity of setting your clocks behind and ahead.

Sports, events, fire
alarms and teach-in's
Oh my!



Jhon Valencia Leaves Green River

By: Jean-Pierre Garcia
Campus Editor

The interview stopped three times as people rushed in to say their farewells. Why? The question hangs on the air and the once New York cabbie puts off the long story for his final day.

"We can sit down tomorrow and...debrief," Director of Diversity services and Multicultural Affairs, Jhon Valencia said minutes after leaving a crowded Rainier Room and receiving a hug.

After driving roughly 220 miles and 4.5 hours a day to get to work, the growing strain on Valencia's body told him it was time to quit.

The miles and travel time were never anything new. Originally from Colombia, Valencia fulfilled his childhood

dream of coming to the states with a group of friends in 1984. After a stint in a European clothing line out of France, that is.

The summer vacation in the Hamptons in New York was extended, indefinitely for Valencia. He was the only one of his friends who stayed behind.

"I stayed because I fell in love with America. At the time, in Colombia, there were no rights for anybody. In New York, people started talking about rights," Valencia said.

"I realized that this was really the place to be."

He worked in restaurants, and started driving a cab. It was one opportunity that scared him in the big city, but he learned to drive to get the job anyhow.

The hours were long, but he loved it. He'd study English

with a book and then would purposefully drive into neighborhoods where people didn't speak Spanish for practice. After three years, he was able to get his GED in Spanish. It

languages and assigned him to Italian and French saying that they'd just change it later if he didn't like it. He ended up with a double major in Sociology and Spanish Literature.

"The students were hungry for knowledge, and leadership. They were like sponges learning things and creativity, but they needed somebody to listen."

Jhon Valencia, former Director of Diversity Affairs

was then that he wanted to enter college.

Valencia's advisor in Hunter College asked him what his major would be. At the time, Valencia had no idea what she was talking about; he only wanted to work on language skills. She took his interest in

"They told me: You need to take a Spanish literature class, you have to, and you're the writer. You tell stories," Valencia said.

From there, he went into Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, now called New York Presbyterian Hospital in

association with Cornell University. While there Valencia created the first interpreter program. His volunteer staff of interpreted over 20,000 patients in 36 different languages over the course of three years.

Prior to that, non-English speakers could not communicate their medical needs to medical personnel.

After that, he moved to the sociology department of research at the University of Miami before moving back to New York. It was just in time for Valencia to meet his future husband, a traveling nurse from Washington.

The following year they moved to Tacoma, and Valencia joined the Seattle Red Cross' language bank. Then he decided to go back to school for his master's.

He was accepted into Georgetown and NYU, but

settled on Tulane University in New Orleans for their renowned Latin American literature program.

Pushing into the doctoral level three years and a master's degree later, Valencia came back to Washington to finish his dissertation at home. 2004, was when Katrina came into the picture.

Finished with class work, his seventh year to complete his dissertation and last chance to get a PhD expired this year.

"The whole process was so painful, that I decided that I didn't want to get into that, Valencia said.

"All I wanted to do is learn the technique, because I always wanted to be a writer."

He spent a year gathering

PLEASE SEE "Valencia Leaves" ON PAGE 4

Teacher Spotlight: Ron Riley

Full name: Ron Riley
Position: **Criminal Justice instructor, Criminal Justice club, and United Faculty executive board and on safety committee member**
Date of birth: March 6th, 1950
Year at Green River: 5 years full time.

What has been your favorite memory here at Green River?

There was one in '09 where I was actually very very ill and I missed a lot of the quarter and I was in the hospital and the students got together and made this wonderful get well card that they all signed and had sent up to me.

Did you teach anywhere before Green River?

No, I was a full time police officer before that.

Why did you become a teacher, then?

Teaching was actually my first love. I became a police officer to pay tuition so I could go to college to teach. And then I stayed being a police man for about 29 years.

How would you describe yourself as a teacher?

I'm pretty easy-going. I'm more about having students learn than having them fail. When I test, I like them to know what they are doing. Because I feel like I failed if they fail, but I'm getting over it and they should. But I really want to see the students succeed.

Is this what you want to do for the rest of your life?

Hopefully the rest of my life will be really long and I do want to play some towards the end.

This is my career choice until I no longer work. And it's not physically very demanding so I think I can do it for a long time. Police work I needed to get out of because it will break you physically and emotionally.

What's the craziest thing you've ever done?

I think probably the craziest thing I ever did was on my 18th birthday I got up and went downtown in Tacoma, where I lived, and signed up



Makena Cayce | The Current

for the draft and enlisted in the Army.

They had what they called the delayed entry program and so I got to graduate from High School in June. And then that June I went into basic training and by that December I was in Vietnam.

What about the weirdest student you've ever had?

Actually, a group of students. My very first quarter as an adjunct was summer time. It was a very early class: 7a.m.

They would keep showing up in their pajamas. Which I guess was in fashion at the time. Really? You'd really show up in your jammies.

What would you be doing if you weren't teaching?

I'm not sure what that would look like. I've got to stay busy all the time. So even teaching full time I still fish like crazy and I drag race. Build cars... I just joined Roadsters Northwest.

How do you like to connect with your students?

I usually try to eat lunch over at Lindbloom at least once a week. It's much less formal and I like to be approachable. So they just come down and have lunch with me and ask what they

want to ask. It doesn't have to be about class. I'll tell them anything I know.

So, you started a scholarship, can you tell me a bit about it?

The Manny Rvera Memorial. Manny was a police officer that I worked with, who was also a Green River student. And he died very early of cancer. But he would drive us nuts at briefing every day telling us what he learned at Green River. He was just so excited to be a student.

Is there anybody that inspired you to go into teaching?

I think my first Philosophy teacher really inspired me to get involved in education and stick with that and that's what made me want to be a teacher. So I think I'd pick him out of everybody.

Do you have a favorite speech?

You know, I was really moved by John F. Kennedy's assonate: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country".

What are you currently working on outside of teaching right now?

Actually I've been working on a lot because of that health thing. I'm just starting to get stronger and get strong enough to do things like that again. But I have several projects around the house. Many, of which, are car oriented.

If you could have one wish in the world, what would it be?

Actually, I'd go for something small, that's ultimately big. Maybe that's the philosopher thinking, but if I could have a wish, I'd wish that people would learn to communicate again. And to get along and to do what they can in their individual sphere of influence to make the whole world better.

Do you think Communication is a big issue now days?

Yeah, we do communicate differently. And it takes a while to figure that out. Now men and women think differently.

They communicate differently. And that's a big thing in criminal justice is a predominantly male dominated occupation where women are now in the work place and do an excellent job at it and the men have to learn how to deal with that.

And sometimes their wives need to learn how to deal with that. You might spend more time with a partner that happens to be another gender than you spend at home.

So you have to have a pretty strong communication in the relationship.

So you have a degree in Philosophy, how did you get involved in that field?

A combination of things. I had always been interested in that sort of thing. My very first class at a community college was a philosophy class. The professor so inspired me that first day because he asked a question and we actually had to think.

Find the complete interview and many other Teacher Spotlights at our website:
www.thecurrentonline.net/campus

Man on the Street



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

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

What did you wish for on 11/11/11?

If it could actually come true, somehow: I would actually wish for everyone to be happy. No more like world Famen. I mean, we have so many wars and stuff and sometimes it's over religion and sometimes it's just over this country is hungry, but there's only so much we can do to help.



Mel Kime

[I would wish for] a greater thinker, based upon Obama's proposition. I don't know if you have been paying attention, but Obama has been banking on thinkers to invent new things for America to save our economy; a great thinker to invent something new to save America's economy.



Leon Dapiaoen

I wish for enough money for my family to never have any financial problems again. I don't want to put a number on that because you never know. Just enough to be financially secure because the economy sucks right now. Because there are five of us and we all need to do something with our lives.



Zipporah Jarmon

I would wish for good enough grades to get into UW after I get my associates. I'm getting my science associates and I've got more of an English brain, so it's really difficult for me. So I have to work really hard to get good grades. So it'd be nice if I had like a smarter brain.



Carlyne Stevenson

Bro where art thou?



Let's Talk

Jean-Pierre Garcia

Romulus and Remus founded Rome, Gilgamesh and Enkidu fought in the name of Uruk, Mesopotamia, and Marvel's Brotherhood of Evil Mutants united under one magnetic banner of baditude.

The concept of fraternity or brotherhood has completely echoed throughout humanity, but particularly in literature, religion, and history. Let's talk about it.

I've experienced three kinds of relationships that I could chalk up to fraternity: between my immediate family, extended family and those outside of it.

For me I can't even look at a baseball mitt without thinking of my own brothers. There were long summer days where we'd push each other down hills in a wagon, after giving up on playing catch because I'd throw too hard.

As time progressed one grew taller and stronger than I, the other ten years my junior and the wildest of our bunch grew wackier. But it didn't matter, they were like me. We lived in the same house and had the same frustrations. That bond and connection is continually developing as it is with most siblings.

My uncle's relationship with my mother has matured if in time only. They still tease each other like I imagine they did when they were children.

Aside from that though, he granted me something valuable. Honestly, my most prized possession is a coupon he gave me when I was six. It was a free hour of 'Guy talk', carefree discussion on the important things in life, like Power Rangers or the villainous brethren in X-men led by master of magnetism himself, Magneto.

There was a strict 'no parents' allowed policy and the free ranging talking points stuck with me as we both grew up and had separate families of our own.

Mine just happened to be in

a newsroom. There's something else that happens when a group comes together. Fraternal bonds are just as strong, even if the people involved are unrelated.

Ultimately, it's the connection between people that matters. The people you associate with provide a sense of identity and belonging. It's fundamental to who we are. This need to affirm both who we are and where we fit into society is the very thing we've searched for in each myth, and grand piece of literature and religion. Without the stories, without the groups, we are at a loss.

It's why fraternities and sororities exist. We're still fascinated and struggling with this concept. Today, the culmination of fascination could be applied to its newest interpretation: Bro.

Perhaps it's from college fraternities that the word 'bro'

“Without the stories, without the groups, we are at a loss. It's why fraternities and sororities exist.”

Jean-Pierre Garcia

picked up traction, evolving into different interpretations like Brohan and Broseph. The suffix Rohan for Brohan is a throw-back to J.R.R. Tolkien's nation in middle earth and the implied suffix of Joseph could refer to the Bible and we know how his brothers were jealous of that multicolored coat.

They almost committed fratricide out of loss of identity, as they were seemingly invisible, and outcast from their father's grace. There are numerous stories in the Bible reflecting this concept, but Cain and Abel is the most prominent one that illustrates how jealousy can warp a fraternal bond into something deadly and violent.

But these issues of social context and identity are explored and manifested in one particular club on campus. It's called Brotherhood, where guys go to talk about anything. There you can talk about it.

research before working at his present home in Grays Harbor. Grays Harbor Latino Network, the first in the area, was born in 2005. One meeting Valencia held in the library was attended by the President of Grays Harbor Community College (GHCC).

Knowing Valencia's credentials, the President of GHCC signed on as one of the Latino Network's board of directors and started encouraging Valencia to visit the school.

They decided to offer and hire him with a title three grant as a transition services facilitator. As a facilitator, he helped everybody and anybody who wanted to transition into college. He even created an equity and diversity resource center at the college.

As the grant's allocation of funds was ending, Valencia made the jump into diversity services having already worked closely with the multicultural student services councilor in Washington.

Negotiating between Puget Sound and Green River, he set-

tled on the farther of the two because he had worked with South King County Outreach through his work with Seattle Red Cross. He didn't know about the school, it was the communities that Green River served that mattered.

There were many communities that needed to be integrated into the educational system. In 2001, there were 71 languages used in the schools and he was part of the refugee forum, it had the space and potential for growth.

Distance was never an issue in comparison to the potential for people and diversity. He didn't mind traveling the distance; he would power through until his doctor confirmed what his body was telling him.

Something needed to change otherwise the stiffness in his neck from driving would develop into a serious chronic problem. But what made his second to last day difficult was telling a crowd of well-wishers good bye.

He wasn't sure what he

was going to say. After looking at Cornel West quotes he remembered the book 'Diversity's Promise for Higher Education' by Daryl G. Smith.

Her book discussed how generations and mixed populations will require more of colleges. 'Like technology, diversity is a tool for success.'

From there he was able to go right into his wheelhouse, taking the time to talk to another student about the issues concerning diversity.

"We need to stop thinking of diversity in the context of the other. It starts here. Because, this is going to affect all of us, our communities, our country, our system of education, it has to be embraced," Valencia said.

"Usually, we think in terms of the other, that's why people have problems with it. 'Oh that doesn't concern me. It's those communities!'"

This kick started a new "philosophical journey" for Valencia. His last days in office allowed him to focus on questioning words, concepts

and practices.

"[Diversity] can be problematic because it has become very trendy. When it gets to be that trendy it loses some of its true meaning," Valencia said.

Some colleges think it's enough to have a week dedicated to diverse costumes and food. For Valencia, there's more to it. There are groups in danger, struggling in particular with educational access.

"Education is a right; it shouldn't be a luxury especially in the United States of America," Valencia said.

"The students were hungry for knowledge, and leadership. They were like sponges learning things and creativity, but they needed somebody to listen."

As he starts his own "new chapter" in a possible book in the near future, he admitted that he wouldn't miss this year's graduation as students start their own chapters.

For student memories with Jhon Valencia visit: www.thecurrentonline.net/campus

Valencia Leaves (cont. p.2)

STILL ON A WAITLIST?

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JOURNALISM

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MWF

12:00-12:50

(No wookiees suffered
razor burn during the
making of this ad)



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Also on the Inside

"Everybody should understand how their own political system, at a minimum, works. Taking Political Science is one good way to do that,"

Lloyd Jansen **Page 13**

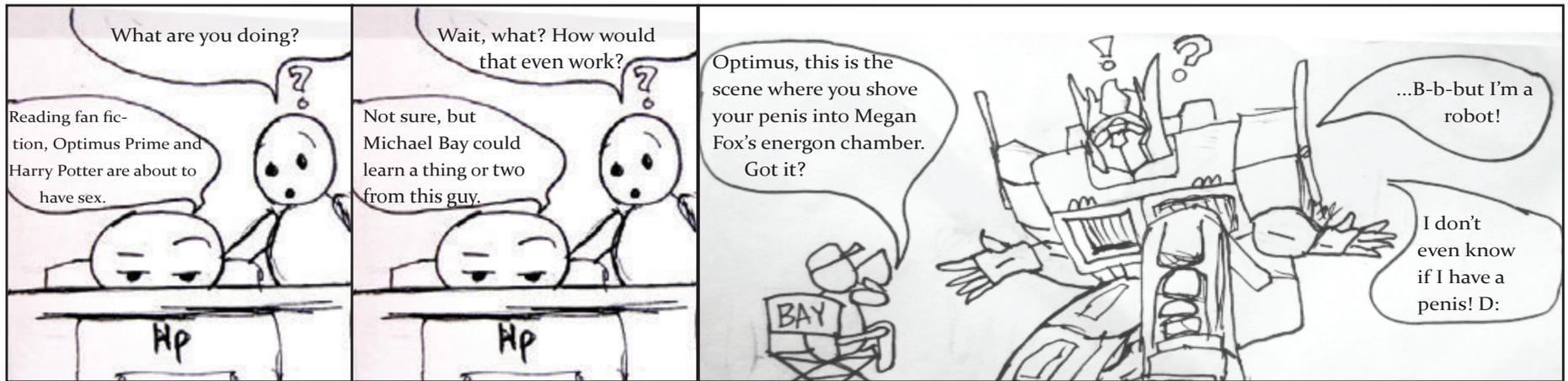
A&E

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Nov. 14,
2011

By Alexander Bevier and Bailey Jo Josie



By Bailey Jo Josie

The Honey Badger *Mellivora capensis*



The most fearsome mammal on earth, the honey badger is all kinds of badass. Their tough, loose skin protects against snake bites and their lack of fear makes them a formidable foe. Nothing can stop the Honey Badger!



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Carjacking the American Dream



Game Prose Alexander Bevier

Grand Theft Auto is one of the most innovative franchises in gaming ever since GTA III came to PlayStation 2 ten years ago. Critics have seen the innovation and satire in this “coming to America” parody and praised it as one of the most influential games of all time. Parents and prosecutors, however, have accused the game of being a murder simulator that corrupts children worse than rock and roll, comic books and drugs combined. Despite this, fans were eagerly awaiting the announcement of GTA V, whose debut trailer had fans frothing over on twitter and their favorite gaming sites.

GTA tells rags to riches, coming to America stories. The series has always been about players starting out with nothing and eventually becoming the most powerful person in the game, similar to films like Scarface and, to some extent, Gangs of New York. These stories are told in a bustling metropolis, and players are given the freedom to do whatever they want in this open world.

The open world emphasizes the rags to riches narrative by giving the players the world, and unlimited options from the get go. This is the American Dream in video game form, and this dream is rife with parody and satire. Radio Stations proclaim that Americans are only American when they own a gun, and the statue of liberty has replaced its torch with an ice cream cone. And, like the dream itself, when you die, you restart with nothing. Player's entire weapon stockpiles are gone, and they have to climb back up from the bottom; just like the early American settlers venturing into the strange new land.

Parents and prosecutors, however, have judged

the game's context for the last ten years and don't see the profoundly American metaphors. The game's mature themes and visuals aren't meant for children, and very few people enforced the game's “Mature” rating back in 2001. It was easy for a 12 year old (myself back in those days) to pick up the game, and beat up virtual hookers for hours on end.

Additionally, Rockstar Games had the content of a mini sex-game removed from one of the games in the series, but they didn't remove it from the disk. Clever players could input an elaborate code and see the reproduction of hardcore sex. Rockstar later lied about it and ended up paying millions of dollars in legal fees for this mistake.

“It was easy for a 12 year old (myself back in those days) to pick up the game and beat up virtual hookers for hours on end.”

Alexander Bevier

The mini sex-game was not intended to be in the final product, but it was hidden content that shouldn't have been shipped. The company dealt with years of legal issues, but the Grand Theft Auto name has prevailed and is still one of the best-selling series in video game history.

The game deserves its mature rating, but it's one of the few that stands firm on themes it lays down. GTA games have always taken players away to vibrant new cities to learn about the way the world works. It's a universal narrative that's been told more times than anyone could count, but the America Rockstar paints it truly unique. It's something only games can deliver, and the series deserves to be as revered as it is. Just don't let kids play it. Let them learn what the American Dream is before video games ruin it for them.

GRCC welcomes Dr. West

Famed activist and social democratic juggernaut, Cornel West, Ph.D., comes to Green River to speak to students, staff, and the community alike

By: Joyce Lee
& Bailey Jo Josie

Following the trend of civil rights activists speaking at Green River for the Artist & Speakers Series (such as famed poet Maya Angelou, who visited last March) the college has offered students a chance to listen to another passionate public figure known as Dr. Cornel West. He is an active truth-seeker in the fight against political and social injustice who recently was arrested at Occupy D.C. and also in Harlem for speaking out against racial discrimination.

West will be speaking on campus in the Lindbloom Center (LC) November 16 at 7:30 p.m. Students will have free admission, whereas people in the community will have to pay \$15.

There is little doubt that their money won't be well spent, considering West's staggering “legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice”

A professor for the Center for African American Studies at Princeton University, West is also an author of over 20 books,

“You can't lead the people if you don't love the people. You can't save the people if you don't serve the people.”

including “Race Matters,” “Jews and Blacks: A Dialogue on Race, Religion, and Culture in America” and the more recent “Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud”. He was senior advisor to Democratic presidential candidate, Bill Bradley in 2000 (Bradley lost to John Kerry) and has recently criticized president Obama, stating that the president is “a black mascot of Wall Street oligarchs and a black puppet of corporate plutocrats.”



Bailey Jo Josie | The Current

West is also a contributor and commentator; he has appeared on the Bill Maher Show, Colbert Report, Smiley and West, and CNN.

He appeared in “The Matrix Reloaded” and “The Matrix Revolutions” as Councilor West, of the council of Zion. Cornel has also appeared in a number of documentaries, such as “Examined Life”.

In the wake of Occupy Wall Street, West has been

a vocal rhythm of protest; he has been arrested twice for his involvement in protests and spoke out against critics of the “99 percenters” and their lack of demands: “It's impossible to translate the issue of the greed of Wall Street into one demand, or two demands. We're talking about a democratic awakening...”

There's little to no doubt that his visit will be monumental for students.

Classic theatre finds relevance in 99%

GRCC's Drama department takes on three one-act plays, all relevant to how students live and deal the concepts of privacy, free will and Occupy Wall Street

By: Rachel Sant
Staff Writer

With last year's imagining of “The Laramie Project”, a play that centers around the murder of a young gay man which changed the nation forever, Green River's Drama Department isn't afraid to push the envelope, be it culturally or production-wise, like performing three plays in one evening.

For two nights only, an ensemble of 26 students will perform three one-act plays: “Waiting for Lefty,” “The Tiny Closet,” and “People In The Wind” in a series called “Strike!!” with the taglines, “Protect Your Privacy!” and “Fight For What You Want!”

“Waiting For Lefty” takes place in the middle of a tense struggle between a taxi union and its boss, with a potential strike on the line. But while the majority of the play is occurring in the main union hall of said company, the play also takes the time to show you the lives of a variety of characters within the union. Each person must learn to handle their own problems, gravitating them toward the climactic finale.

When a man comes to fear that his private space is being invaded, the concept of general privacy is put to the test in “The Tiny Closet.” A man living in a boarding home is very protective of his closet, which is his own private area. But when

someone tries to break into this closet, the man seems fearful. This draws the attention of other people in the boarding house. What has this man to hide? And so the drama unfolds.

The power of free will is challenged in the story of “People In The Wind”. When a group of people stop at a diner after a long ride on the bus, everything seems as it should be. But when a man begins to insist on the attention of a woman from the bus, things change. He begs for her to come with him, even though she has other plans. This woman must now choose what is best for her to do and becomes a question of fighting for what one believes in.

Director Andrew Rice is the mastermind behind these one-acts, selecting them based on their relevance to events going on in today's society.

“I thought [Waiting For Lefty] was particularly relevant to today because we see a groundswell of the same type of thing going on,” says Rice. “If you look at the Occupy Wall Street movement, the ninety-nine percenters that's going on around the country, even up in Seattle.”

Dates: December 2 and 3
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Performing Arts (PA) Building
Ticket Prices: \$7 students
\$9 non-students

MOVIE REVIEW

Drunk with humor and 470 proof

By: Bailey Jo Josie
A&E Editor



There comes a time in every critic's life when they have to make a death deal over subjectivity and objectivity. Mainly, they must pick between their personal feelings towards something, and a completely unbiased consensus on whether or not something is good for the general public.

When it comes to "The Rum Diary", even as this is being written, there is still difficulty in finding an absolute, hard-nosed critique of it.

The movie is based on Hunter S. Thompson's novel of the same name, whose irrepressible persona is planted into Paul Kemp, a freelance journalist and obsessive-compulsive boozier.

Most fans of Thompson know that this isn't the first film based on his books or himself (there are two, along

with many documentaries); the most famous being "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" with Johnny Depp as Raoul Duke, Thompson's alias.

Luckily for 'Vegas' fans, Depp reprises his role as a product of Thompson's madness. Don't expect the over-the-top, drug-addled Thompson that we all know and love throughout; this is set in the 50's, roughly ten years before his Gonzo-style of writing became his drug of choice (among many others).

No, in 'Rum', Kemp is quiet and in a constant hang-over; an eager reporter who seeks the Truth, along with the affections of the impossibly gorgeous Chenault, the girlfriend of a powerful business man (played by Aaron Eckhart).

Of course, Depp has HST's mannerisms down - they are just more subtle and less caricature, such as Thompson's asymmetrical gait and cryptic poeticism. They're there, just not monstrous.

From a longtime gonzo fan's point of view, it is a great film. Everything is portrayed



Chenault and Paul Kemp sharing one of many moments together in 'Rum Diary'. Heard and Depp's chemistry, fueled by her youthful beauty and vibrance and his romanticism, gives the movie sexy spark.

in a similar style to the novel, which is modeled after the books of Hemingway and Fitzgerald, where the point of the story isn't what happens at the end of the road, but the journey there.

Unfortunately though, this won't necessarily translate to general audiences.

This brings about the objectivity that must be used. Objectively, the plot is thin (scrambling from drunken debauchery to losers striving for a revolution) and it's easy

to get lost in the swirl of the alarming amount of rum the characters inhale.

However, this film still holds its own with its lurid music, striking cinematography, and infectious humor.

Kemp blowing a 470 proof fireball on an enemy and then a cop (an accident, of course) isn't too bad either.

Rated: R
Director: Bruce Robinson
Starring: Johnny Depp, Amber Heard, Aaron Eckhart

Concert Calendar

Nov 11	Blitzen Trapper & Dawes @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$19+)
	Jason Webley @ Moore Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$16+)
	Minus the Bear @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$20+)
Nov 12	Kathy Boyd & Phoenix Rising @ Kenyon Hall (Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$5-\$14)
Nov 13	The Civil Wars @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$25+)
Nov 14	Devil Wears Prada @ Showbox SODO (Doors open at 6 p.m. all ages, \$20+)
Nov 15	We Were Promised Jetpacks @ Neumos (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$18+)
Nov 17	Noah & the Whale @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$16+)
	Feist @ Moore Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$33+)
Nov 18	Black Joe Lewis & the Honeybears @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$27+)
Nov 19	Rainn Wilson & Friends @ Paramount Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$31+)
Nov 21	The Sounds @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$20+)
Nov 22	Kyuss Lives! & The Sword @ ShowBox SODO (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$22.50+)
Nov 25	Wale & Friends @ Neumos (Doors open at 7 p.m. all ages, \$20+)
Nov 26	Rodney Carrington @ Snoqualmie Casion Ballroom (Shows at 7 p.m. & 10 p.m. 21+, \$46+)
Nov 30	Beady Eye @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, 40+)
Dec 2	The Kooks @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$25+)
	Blind Pilot @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 8 p.m. all ages, \$15+)

The Current Picks

WEBSITE/APP

TheOatmeal.com



By: Asha Johnson

Have you ever wondered how long you would last after kicking a bear in the balls, or the eight ways you can prepare your pet for war? Unlike many people, The Oatmeal is a website dedicated to answering your many curious questions, just like these.

On theoatmeal.com you'll find an array of corky guides, quizzes, and general comics clearing up the mysteries of life - or at least finding a way to make fun of them.

So, next time you realize that you're not sure of the six ways to fight a crack whore, or why it's better to pretend you know nothing about computers, get online and find out. The Oatmeal is here to help.

MOVIE

Death Becomes Her



By: Ryan Comer

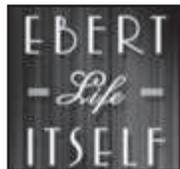
Confucius once said, "Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves." Nobody found this lesson out better than Helen Sharp (played by Goldie Hawn) in "Death Becomes Her."

Obsessed with exacting revenge on Madeline Ashton (Meryl Streep) for stealing and marrying her lover, Dr. Ernest Menville (Bruce Willis), Sharp devises a plot to steal him back and dispatch of Ashton.

As expected, things don't go as planned. But that's what makes the film so great. Who needs substance and character depth if you can't stop laughing?

BOOK

Life Itself



By: Alexander Bevier

Movie critic Roger Ebert's life is legendary. The man has been reviewing films for the Chicago Sun-Times almost his entire life; even after he lost his ability to speak and eat from thyroid cancer. Before then, he became one of the most powerful voices in film criticism on PBS with Gene Siskel in "At the Movies." Even today, he discusses his opinions on his blog and Twitter.

"Life Itself" is reflective, pure and true. His memoir details his life, legacy, and -most importantly- love; especially for his wife Chaz. Ebert may have lost his voice, but his impact can still be heard in this book.

MUSIC

The Warning



By: Gentry Seipert

British electro-soul outfit Hot Chip's "The Warning" abandons the more graceful, delicate melodies of their debut album for songs with a more frenetic pizzazz.

The track, "Careful", transports the group's mish-mash of preceding sounds to a resounding pinnacle; literally breaking the door down with a pulsating synthesized bass. The song's momentum and retraction is an overall metaphor for the record.

With a frenzied instrumental backdrop, not much is missing from Hot Chip's clever and often poignant lyrics. For a little cheeky creativity, give this a listen.

Schedule

Nov 25 - Cardinal Thanksgiving Tourney - Mt. Vernon, WA
 Dec 2-4 Spokane/ No. Idaho Invite - Spokane, WA
 Dec 16-17 Seattle crossover tournament - Seattle, WA
 Jan 4 - at Highline - Des Moines, WA
 Jan 7 - Centralia - GRCC
 Jan 9 - South Puget Sound - GRCC
 Jan 11 - at Clark - Vancouver, WA
 Jan 18 - Lower Columbia - Longview, WA
 Jan 21 - Pierce - GRCC
 Jan 25 - Grays Harbor - GRCC
 Jan 28 - at Tacoma - Tacoma, WA
 Feb 1 - Highline - GRCC
 Feb 4 - Centralia - Centralia, WA
 Feb 8 - South Puget Sound - Olympia, WA
 Feb 11 - Clark - GRCC
 Feb 15 - Lower Columbia - GRCC
 Feb 18 - at Pierce - Lakewood, WA
 Feb 22 - at Grays Harbor - Aberdeen, WA
 Feb 25 - Tacoma - GRCC

Coaches

Head Coach:
 Tim Malroy
 Assistant coaches:
 Ryan Blassingame, Roderick Mabry & Godfrey Drake

Gators: Return to the Swamp

Men's



Last year's men's basketball season ended in dismay as Green River missed the playoffs by a single game. The team is confident that won't happen again this year. The Gators finished the 2010-11 season with a winning overall record, but a mediocre 8-8 league record wasn't enough to get them into the playoffs. This year, Green River returns seven players back to 'The Swamp' to try and lead the Gators into the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) playoffs. Perhaps one sophomore most crucial to the team's success is captain Devin Willis. Willis, who averaged 6.2 points and 4.6 rebounds a season ago, has already noticed the difference in expectations from last year. "I've had to become more outspoken as a leader and more aggressive on the court, creating more opportunities to help us be successful and to be more verbal as a leader," Lanier said. Lanier averaged 3.8 points per game last season. Alongside the two captains is a returning player from Green River's past: 6'4" Chris Plooy. He left for the University of Alaska Anchorage two years ago but has now returned, feeling he can be an impactful player along with the other sophomores. "I feel like I can up the scoring and rebound percentage for the team," Plooy said. Plooy adds even more experience to a lineup that already includes experienced sophomores such as Anthony Brescia, Derek Eilertson, Bryce Phillip and Drew Nale. Despite all the returning players on the Gator squad, there are ten new players ready and eager to prove themselves as college basketball worthy. One of those new faces will be Chris Lone Bear, the tallest player on the team, standing at 6'7". Lone Bear plays post and comes out of Wind River High School in Salt Lake City, Utah. Another one of the younger faces on the team is Derek Roseboro, a local boy coming out of Renton's Lindberg High School. Roseboro stands 6'6" and plays post as well. Brandt Graybeal is an-

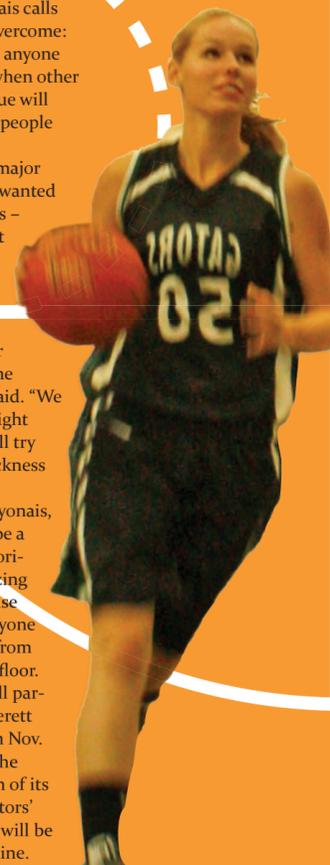
other local freshman who's ready to prove himself. "I feel like I could be a good asset to the team on the defensive side of the ball," Graybeal said. Green River held its first scrimmage against Pacific Lutheran University, and according to the players, it went well. "It got the team's feet wet and ready for what is to come," Plooy said. Willis and Lanier both stated that they saw potential with the new Gator team. With the right mix of returning talent and incoming freshmen, the Gators feel like they have the perfect combination to prove themselves this season. Head coach Tim Malroy, who is entering his ninth season as head coach, sees their potential. "This is a great team with a very high ceiling, but it's going to be hard work," Malroy said. "They take anything we throw at them though without complaint." Although last season ended with the team on the outside of the playoffs looking in, Malroy is confident in seeing a different outcome this year. "They have a lot of talent and they know what it takes to win," Malroy said. "We're looking forward to the [NWAACC] tournament [in March]."

Women's

When you lose a number of close games, success doesn't require a list of huge changes. That's the message Green River women's basketball coach Tim Riles is trying to send. At first glance, the 2010-2011 season was a disaster for the Gators, who finished their season with an 8-15 record. Of those 15 losses, however, six were by four points or fewer. A fact not lost on Riles. "When you lose by three, that's just a couple shots here and there," Riles said. When you get down to the nuts and bolts of what will allow the Gators to be more successful in Riles' second year as head coach, there's not a lot that needs to be said.

RELOAD ... NOT RE-BUILD
 A major hurdle facing Green River this season will be how it can replace point guard Rayssa Lira. Lira wasn't a fantastic scoring threat last year (averaging 5.7 points per game) but her ability to race the ball up and down the court will be sorely missed. "She was one of the fastest girls in the league and she had the ball in her hands most of the time," Riles said. According to Riles, the Gators will try and replace Lira with three different guards: Brittany Kennedy, McKenna Swanson, and Cecilly Phillips. He believes all three have great potential. Stepping in to fill the leadership void created by Lira's departure will be post-turned-guard Natosha Lyonais. "She's a natural leader and the girls follow her," Riles said. "We're a different team without her, even at

SPEED OVER STRENGTH
 Basketball, more than any other sport, requires size to be successful. And for the second straight year, Green River will be the shortest team in the league. An obstacle Lyonais calls the toughest to overcome: "We don't have anyone over six feet tall when other teams in the league will have at least four people over six feet tall." Thus, the one major reason why Riles wanted to convert Lyonais - who stands at just 5'7" - to a guard. "We've been doing more running this year so we can be quicker than the rest of the teams," Lyonais said. "We don't have the height advantage, so we'll try and have the quickness advantage." According to Lyonais, Green River will be a very three-point oriented team, utilizing a five-guard offense that allows for anyone playing to shoot from anywhere on the floor. Green River will participate in the Everett Tournament from Nov. 18-20 to kick off the preseason portion of its schedule. The Gators' first league game will be on Jan. 4 at Highline.



Schedule

Date - Opponent - Location
 Nov 18-20 - At Highline - Des Moines, WA
 Nov 26 - Whatcom - Bellingham, WA
 Nov 27 - NW Indian - Bellingham, WA
 Dec 24 - Bellevue Tournament - Bellevue, WA
 Dec 11 - Chemeketa - GRCC
 Dec 15 - Big Bend - GRCC
 Jan 4 - At Highline - Des Moines, WA
 Jan 7 - Centralia - GRCC
 Jan 9 - South Puget Sound - GRCC
 Jan 11 - at Clark - Vancouver, WA
 Jan 18 - At Lower Columbia - Longview, WA
 Jan 21 - Pierce - GRCC
 Jan 25 - Grays Harbor - GRCC
 Jan 28 - at Tacoma - Tacoma, WA
 Feb 1 - Highline - GRCC
 Feb 4 - at Centralia - Centralia, WA
 Feb 8 - at South Puget Sound - Olympia, WA
 Feb 11 - Clark - GRCC
 Feb 15 - Lower Columbia - GRCC
 Feb 18 - at Pierce - South Tacoma
 Feb 22 - at Grays Harbor - Aberdeen, WA
 Feb 25 - Tacoma - GRCC

Coaches

Head Coach:
 Tim Riles
 Assistant coaches:
 Mary Layton & Kalei Frank

Returning Players

Devin Willis



Position: Guard
 Height: 6 foot 5
 High School: Bothell

Justin Lanier



Position: Guard
 Height: 5 foot 7
 High School: Bonney Lake

Anthony Brescia



Position: Wing
 Height: 5 foot 10
 High School: Blooming Grove (Texas)

Chris Plooy



Position: Wing
 Height: 6 foot 4
 High School: Dimond (Alaska)

McKenna Swanson



Position: Guard
 Height: 5 foot 7
 High School: Auburn

Brittany Kennedy



Position: Guard
 Height: 5 foot 7
 High School: Bonney Lake

Cecilly Phillips



Position: Wing
 Height: 5 foot 10
 High School: Blooming Grove (Texas)

Natosha Lyonais



Position: Guard
 Height: 5 foot 7
 High School: Bonney Lake

The Undercurrent

Minimum wage increases January

By: Alexander Bevier
Senior Editor

President Barack Obama announced his intention to decrease annual student loan payments from 15 percent of their annual income to 10 percent at the beginning of 2012. The President hopes this will give students more money to start innovative businesses once they graduate, thereby boosting the economy.

"Because of this change, about 1.6 million Americans could see their payments go down by hundreds of dollars a month -- and that includes some of the students who are here today," Obama said as he made the announcement at the University of Colorado in Denver. He also mentioned that tuition has "nearly tripled" in the last three decades.

Additionally, Obama intends to consolidate all student loans. Instead of students writing multiple checks out to several places, they can now write one check containing the total amount they owe. He also intends to give incoming college students a fact sheet, entitled "Know Before you Owe", to inform incoming college students about paying for school.

Obama promises the fact sheet and consolidated student loans will be initiated on January 1, 2012. This change affects every college student, regardless of academic progress. Students, however, will still need to pay the full rate of their student loans; they'll just be able to pay it off in lower amounts.

First National EAS broadcast flops

By: Jean-Pierre Garcia
Campus Editor

The first scheduled national broadcasting test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) from the White House would have stopped all television and radio programming briefly while emergency tones would supercede all airwaves.

With sporadic technical difficulties the broadcast did not go as planned. Some tests did go through as planned. There are reports that Lady Gaga's Paparazzi or QVC were playing in place of or during the test. While the test was intended only to last thirty seconds there are other reports in Los Angeles listed that the tones continued for thirty minutes.

Green River's radio station 89.9 KGRG had two trainees scheduled during the test.

Alcohol initiative approved

By: Alexander Bevier
Senior Editor

Washington State voters have decided that liquor sales will no longer be run by the state, and can now be purchased in supermarkets. This decision was approved by 60 percent of Washington voters. Grocery and wholesale stores will begin selling hard liquor in June of next year.

Costco was a driving force in ending the prohibition-era law that ended privatized liquor. The wholesale retailer spent a record-breaking \$22.5 Million in campaign advertising. "We are very pleased and grateful to all of the coalition members across the state," said Joel Benoliel, Costco's chief legal officer to the Seattle Times.

Opponents of I-1183 believe that minors will have more access to liquor now that it's available outside of State and privately owned stores.

Additionally, an estimated 1,000 State employees will lose their job with the liqueur stores close down. The liqueur stores will begin closing on June 6, 2012.

Stop, drop and where should I go again?

Numerous Green River false fire alarms leave students unsure about proper response in the event of an actual emergencies



Jean-Pierre Garcia | The Current

Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) responded and investigated a reported fire alarm pulled in Salish Hall. Two firemen inspect the stairwell as students were allowed to re-enter the building. There was a collective groan as classes were told that they could resume their studies on Nov. 8.

By: Olivia Mok
Staff Writer

Where would you go if a real fire happened on campus? Do you know where the rally points are? What's next? Many college students don't know how to react to activated fire alarms due to the lack of general knowledge towards campus safety procedures. During the past several weeks, three incidents of activated fire alarms in campus buildings had occurred, two being

false alarms and one a real fire in the Technology Center. Still, students reacted the same regarding what's been happening.

If students pull the fire alarm without reason, the misuse of fire alarm systems will cause a higher rate of visits from the fire department, putting people in the community at risk. Students might also learn to ignore fire alarms due to its frequency.

Frederick A. Creek, the Director of Campus Safety,

said that these cases were not uncommon. Preventing false alarms is not a high priority for Campus Safety. Still Creek raised concern on how the frequency of false alarms can desensitize the Green River community.

"The worse thing it can do is to cause people to get into a false sense of security," said Creek. Aggressive actions will allegedly be taken for worsening situation. Students who are caught intentionally pulling the fire alarm can be prosecuted with criminal charges.

Moreover, the fire department needs to react immediately to all alarms just like any emergency cases. As a result, false alarms add extra costs to human resources and fuel costs for fire engines. While the campus is currently protected by the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) of station no. 34, if a false alarm incident occurs while a real fire is happening out of campus, it's going to cause a delay to the fire place and rescue.

"To cope with multiple cases, we need to call up the

next available unit down the valley," said Kelly Williams, the Public Information Officer of VRFA. "It's definitely going to take us longer to save people who are in real danger."

In case of real emergency on campus, the Safety Department has a plan in place called the Building Captain program. Employees are trained annually for specific areas in each building in different locations, and they are responsible to evacuate and move everyone to a rally point. At the same time, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activates and sends out well-trained workers to deal with the situation.

Even though there is an annual evacuation plan, students are not aware of any safety procedures on campus.

"I don't even know there's a safety procedure," said Yimei Xu, a student who has been studying in Green River for almost a year. "I will just follow the crowd if anything happens." Her voice echoed the lack of general safety knowledge of college students.



The Current | Jean-Pierre Garcia

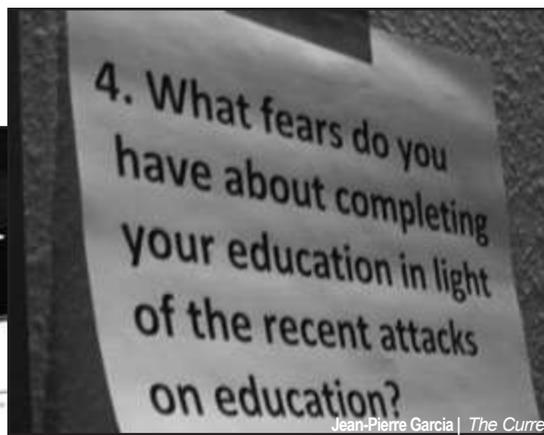
Station 34, the closest to GRCC, is the first to respond to our alarms.

“Show Me the Money”

The second of the Teach-In series played out much calmer than the first



Ryan Comer | The Current



Jean-Pierre Garcia | The Current

Left: Each group had a talking point that corresponded to a question on the walls of the LC. There, a sheet of butcher paper was made available for students and teachers to write out what was discussed within the group. The posters were then brought to Teach-In committee for their records.



Jean-Pierre Garcia | The Current

Above: (L-R) Lloyd Jansen, Jaeney Hoene, and Frank Primiani spoke at the second and final installment of the Teach-In Series this quarter called ‘Show Me the Money’. Right: Topics ranged from policies and the struggle with overloaded adjuncts. Students then discussed the issues in teacher led groups.

By: Makena Cayce
Staff Writer

The effort to encourage students to take control of their education continued with the second installment of the Teach-In series, entitled “Show Me the Money”.

For this event a panel of three teachers focused on many fiscal issues and the difference between full-time and adjunct teachers.

The session was held in the Main dining area of the Lindbloom Student Center. The panel of three consisted of Lloyd Jansen, a political science teacher; Jaeney Hoene, an English teacher; and Frank Primiani, a business administrator teacher and the only panelist who also spoke at the first Teach-In.

Each teacher only spoke about their topic for approximately 16 minutes.

Jansen, first of the panelist to speak, explained the relation between US government policies and the financial situation in the country, Washington state, and GRCC. Hoene then elaborated on the differences between a full time faculty member and an adjunct one. He discussed what roles they play at any community college, and how having a large adjunct population can affect the quality of education.

“They [adjunct faculty members] have very little resources, not only in terms of the authority, and resources that they’re given at a particular college, but even personal resources. Their job situations stretch them way too thin,” said Hoene.

It was Primiani who finished off the panel discussion, touching on many of the same topics Jansen brought up, while using various visual

aids for the audience’s benefit.

When the panel finished, the attention was turned to the audience. Attendees were asked to sit at tables in groups and discuss amongst themselves questions that were given to expand thoughts on finance issues and solutions. The teachers at the event

“I don’t think any one person has a handle on how all the pieces fit together, but I assure you that the stakes are very high.”

Vik Bahl, social studies instructor.

acted as “facilitators” to the table groups. Their sole purpose was to help discussion along.

The facilitators were a new addition to the Teach-In, in hopes of stirring up active questions for the panelists to respond to. The success

of this format, however, is undetermined; some students left the Teach-In dissatisfied, while others felt like the basic point was met.

“If that was their intention, [to] at the very least to make people think, then I’d say they

succeeded, for at least me,” said Chase Nutting, a Green River student.

Finances were also discussed at the first Teach-In, “The Attack on Higher Education”. Lynne Dodson, Secretary Treasurer of the Washington State Labor

Council, pointed out that that people today are smarter and working harder, but aren’t being paid an appropriate amount in comparison.

“...productivity has increased by eighty percent, but wages grew by about ten percent,” said Dodson.

There were more people involved with the production of the first Teach-In, than the second. It was comprised of three teachers (Vik Bahl, Frank Primiani, and Paul Haeder), a Green River student (Renata Bryant), and Dodson. The goal was to bring the GR student body’s attention to the issues our campus is facing, and let them know they have a voice and should act.

Though the first installment of the Teach-In was geared towards introducing the topics. Each topics will

allegedly be discussed in greater detail across the school year. The faculty intends to host Two Teach-Ins per quarter.

“I don’t think any one person has a handle on how all the pieces fit together, but I assure you that the stakes are very high, that we begin developing an analysis, and that we begin to develop strategies for action,” Said Bahl, while planning the first Teach-In.

No more Teach-Ins are scheduled for fall quarter 2011 but two more events are planned.

November 10 at 4 p.m. the movie “Sir, No Sir” will be playing in the Glacier room of the LC. Dr. Cornel West will speak at GRCC on Nov. 16 at 7:30 pm in the LC main dining area.

NOVEMBER HOLIDAYS

Nov 14 - Operating Room Nurse Day	Nov 18 - Occult Day	Nov 23 - National Cranberry Day	Nov 28 - Make Your Own Head Day
Nov 15 - Clean Your Refrigerator Day	Nov 19 - Have A Bad Day Day	Nov 24 - THANKSGIVING	Nov 29 - Square Dance Day
Nov 16 - Have A Party With Your Bear Day	Nov 20 - Absurdity Day	Nov 25 - Black Friday	Nov 30 - Stay At Home Because You
Nov 17 - Take A Hike Day	Nov 21 - False Confession Day	Nov 26 - Shopping Reminder Day	Are Well Day
	Nov 22 - Go For A Ride Day	Nov 27 - Pins and Needles Day	

Stay Current

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

Also on the Inside

"Without the stories, without the groups, we are at a loss. It's why fraternities and sororities exists."

Jean-Pierre Garcia Page 2

EDITORIAL

Planning on going to medical school? Try gaming sometime

Editorial Board: Makena Cayce, Alexander Bevier, Sean Rockey, Jean-Pierre Garcia

As the game industry expands, researchers and scientists are discovering positive effects from gaming. People are changing and improving themselves as games become more accessible and advanced. The good news is there are benefits to society that we can all gain from this expansion.

There's no denying the increasing popularity and impact of video games over the past four decades. There are more platforms than ever before to play games on. Not only do consoles provide quality experiences, but players can also enjoy games on social websites like Facebook or Google+. Games are more accessible now than ever, and

gaining popularity at that. What's interesting, though, is what's happening to the people playing them.

Studies show video games increase hand-eye coordination and special awareness. Research done in 2007 found that surgeons who were avid video game players completed laparoscopic surgery 33 percent faster and made 37 percent fewer mistakes than those who did not play video games. The study used a custom Wii remote designed to emulate tools used in laparoscopic surgery. Other studies show that mental skills can improve from gaming as well. The task set before a player in the Facebook game, Bejeweled Blitz, is to make rows of

jewels that match. Studies have yielded the results, stating that 23.9 percent of people over 60 were better at finding patterns after playing. Other studies, by Dr. Arthur Kramer, divided a group of 40 people over 60. One group was asked to play a game called, "Rise of Nations", a real-time strategy game. What Kramer found was that the group of "gamers" was not only faster but better at switching between tasks. Moreover, their working memory has significantly improved and reasoning abilities were strengthened.

Jane McGonigal, PhD, has worked with video games, and discovered they can help with real world problems.

In July 2010, 57 thousand gamers played Foldit, a game where players folded proteins in new ways that could help cure cancer or Alzheimer's. In 10 days, players figured out the structure of a protein called, "retroviral protease", a key enzyme in the manner HIV multiplies.

As students, it's important to see what studies are being done on this new medium. It's also worthwhile to hear that late-night Call of Duty sessions aren't going to waste. However, McGonigal states in her book, Reality is Broken, that the benefits of gaming ends after 27 hours a week. After that much gaming, it's best to sit down and study.

Why yes, I am EIC of The Current



The Chief
Asha Johnson

Sometimes, when you put so much effort into something, you forget about how other people will perceive your work or efforts. At the end of the day, the only person you're doing it for is yourself (or for the grade, whichever the case).

During registration week, for the first time since I had been announced as the new Editor-in-Chief of The Current last Spring, I was recognized by a stranger for my position.

Now, this might seem pretty uneventful considering the buckets of copies we print out each issue, but this honestly made my day. It was direct proof that people around campus are actually reading our paper.

I don't get a 'grade' for my work at The Current, but I do spend a great majority of my time dedicated to this paper. Our team is in the office so often that it even justifies saving up for a portable dish washer.

And even though I'm here to learn and I'm here for the wonderful people, I'm here for the campus as well. It's incredible knowing that what I live and breath isn't being thrown into the recycling. For that, I'm thankful.

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

Letters to the Editor

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

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.

Transfer to PLU Spring 2012!

There is still time to be admitted, receive financial aid, and register for classes for PLU's January Term (beginning Jan. 4) or Spring Semester (beginning Feb. 8).

Why Transfer to PLU?

- PLU accepts the Direct Transfer Degree from Green River Community College.
- With 36 majors and an average class size of 20, PLU transfer students have the opportunities of a large university and the personal attention of a small school.
- 96% of PLU graduates report full-time employment or enrollment in graduate school within 6 months of graduation.
- PLU is more affordable than you think. Fall 2011 PLU transfer students received an average of \$27,868 in total financial aid.

Now is the time to start your free PLU application online for a Spring 2012 or Fall 2012 start.

www.choose.plu.edu/transfer

Questions?

Emily McCann
Assistant Director of Admission

253-538-6151
mccann@plu.edu

PLU YOUR PRIVATE COLLEGE OPTION

Take charge of your vote - there's a class for that

Highlighting the reasons why every college student should take a political science class during their educational career



Commentary by:
Bagas Dunara

College students are experiencing the apex of their education. The things they learn post-high school will carry them through their careers, and into a life they can barely imagine. A lot will happen that will make them see the world differently, but it's important to learn from everything and form educated opinions on multifaceted concepts.

Take politics as an example. Understanding politics isn't easy. Every major political issue has layers upon layers of rules and

regulations, all the while everyone is forming a different opinion on the subject. It can be hard for young people to learn how to interpret these things, but it's paramount for understanding what's going on around the world. One can't simply discuss politics without the essential background knowledge and the ability to define the issues clearly.

As college students, we are able to learn and understand politics effectively in an academic environment. It is a privilege; we join class discussions and learn new things every day. It's easier for us to gain information and develop insights because we are closer to sources with different backgrounds, cultures, and languages that introduce us to varying political perspectives; helping us shape our mind.

Taking a political science class is one way to gain knowledge in politics.

"Everybody should understand how their own political system, at a minimum, works. Taking Political Science [classes] is one good way to do that," said Lloyd Jansen, a political science professor at Green River.

Jansen was active in an anti-Vietnam war movement when he was in college, and he always had an interest in politics.

"Anyone who is informed and educated can judge and decide" Jansen added. "Anyone should be able to let their views evolve at any age. We should all be open to more facts, more information, more education, and more experiences. Those things should influence us and we should form opinions that reflect that growth."

"It's relieving to learn about what liberalism and conservatism are in college. You always learn what your parents teach you growing up, and in college you feel that you can choose whichever suits you best" said Miranda Stieber, a running start student enrolled in one of GRCC's political science classes.

Parents are one of the influences that may limit your capability to judge and understand politics correctly. Their views are imprinted on their children almost from the get-go, but it's the child's duty later in life to question what they learned, and discover if that's the best choice for them. It may be that their experience brings them to the opposite conclusion their parents made.

Not everyone is going to agree on everyone else's po-

litical beliefs. As long as The United States of America is a free country, there will always be democrats arguing with republicans. Without understanding these issues, people aren't doing their civic duty to make informed decisions about the world.

Education is crucial to learning empathy and understanding of the other side. Everyone's point of view varies, and learning what creates other perspectives will help create a compromise and maintain a strong nation.

America grows stronger with every educated college student, and--if it's your opinion--should be fought for. Take the Teach-In sessions going on at Green River right now. Recent budget cuts are potentially threatening the quality of education, so the campus faculty have rallied together to ensure

that students are still being taught. Education is so important to a well-informed mind that teachers are willing to impress their knowledge upon students for the sake of the future; America's future.

"When you go through life, you meet new people, have new experiences and your political ideology might change," said Emerson Elsener, a Swiss international student. "But college students should choose for themselves. If they find the ideology that appeals to them right now, follow it, but if they change their minds later, then do it."

The world will improve through an understanding of politics, and an education is the first step towards that goal. Stay in school and prove that you're no fool.

Contributions by Alexander Bevier

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"I really wanted to experience a smaller campus with a lot of involvement."

—TYLER PEDERSON, senior

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Daylight savings might need a little "daylight shavings"

A short analysis on how useful daylight savings really is



Commentary by:
Sean Rockey

It's the reason why your car's dashboard clock is wrong for half the year. It's also why you hate one night in April, and magically get more sleep one night in November: daylight savings.

Since 1918, daylight savings causes us to endlessly fiddle with our clocks, forcing people to move them forward by one hour on April 4, then backwards by one hour on November 4. Since light-bulbs weren't a household necessity quite yet, businesses during WWI used the sun's light and heat to lower their need for lights and fires, so they could focus on more important tasks.

In this modern-day society where we no longer fear the

Nazi regime, and live with such mystical technologies like "street lights" and "indoor heating"-- is such a tradition even relevant, or are we still living in an archaic time where we sacrifice goats to make next year's crop prosper?

The only official reason that daylight savings is still in effect is due to the Uniform Time Act of 1966, which essentially says that every state had to follow daylight savings time so that businesses wouldn't have conflicting schedules with areas that follow different time frames.

In other words, daylight savings -- a system where the hours of the day are switched back and forth -- is primarily kept around so that people don't get confused about the time.

Now, after reading that, am I the only one who thinks the best system for avoiding time confusion is one that, you know, never changes?

Some assert that the lack of confusion isn't the only

reason it's kept around; there are arguments that say the extra hour of sunshine in the evening lowers car crash rates, since people have better visibility with the sun being out. Those people seem to forget that that very same hour will be rescinded when November hits.

Another justification given was that the extra sunlight allow businesses to use less artificial light, thus saving energy, to which I reply: why don't we just keep our clocks on the "spring forward" time all year? That way the sun would always be up during so-called "business hours" and everything would be hunky-dory. Well, except for those who like driving in the morning; but everyone else hates morning people, anyway.

At this point, using the current daylight savings system is almost as crazy as using a measurement system based off of people's feet.

Thank goodness we don't do that, right?

Calendar

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	
Everett Tournament, Everett WA	
Nov 18	Everett - Green River, 8 p.m.
Nov 19	Linn Benton/Tacoma - Green River, 4 or 8 p.m.
Nov 20	Final Round, TBA
Nov 26	
Whatcom- Green River, 3 p.m.	
Nov 27	NW Indian - Green River, 1 p.m.
Bellevue Tournament, Everett WA	
Dec 2	Bellevue - Green River, 8 p.m.
Dec 3	Mt. Hood/Big Bend - Green River, 3 or 7 p.m.
Dec 4	Final Round, TBA
Dec 11	
Green River - Chemeketa, 2 p.m.	
Dec 15	Green River - Big Bend, 6 p.m.
MEN'S BASKETBALL	
Nov 11	Bellevue Jamboree, Bellevue WA
Cardinal Thanksgiving Tournament, Mt. Vernon WA	
Nov 25	Skagit Valley - Green River, 6 p.m.
Nov 26	Walla Walla/Portland - Green River, 4 or 8 p.m.
Nov 27	Final Round, TBA
Spokane/ North Idaho Invite, Spokane WA	
Dec 2	North Idaho College - Green River, 7:30 p.m.
Dec 3	Yakima Valley/Salish Kootenai - Green River, 3 or 5 p.m.
Dec 4	Final Round, TBA
WOMEN'S SOCCER	
Nov 12	NWAACC Quarterfinals, Clackamas WA, 7 p.m.
Nov 19	NWAACC Championship, Starfire Sports, TBA

Scoreboard

MEN AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY	
Oct 28	North Regional Championship, Mt. Vernon WA
	Whitney Janicki - 19:52, 5K
	Cindy Ang - 21:48, 5K
	Ryan Pawloski - 28:18, 8K
	Fandy Cendrajaya - 28:42, 8K
WOMEN'S SOCCER (12-4-4)	
Oct 26	Green River vs. Skagit Valley (6-0)
Oct 29	Green River vs. Shoreline (1-0)
Nov 2	Green River vs. Edmonds (0-0)
Nov 5	Green River vs. Everett (2-1)
Nov 9	NWAACC Playoffs, Green River vs. Yakima (2-0)
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL (4-8, 9-16)	
Oct 26	Lower Columbia vs. Green River (L) 18-25, 25-18, 19-25, 22-25
Nov 2	Highline vs. Green River (L) 26-24, 25-23, 12-25, 26-28, 7-15
Nov 4	Pierce vs. Green River (L) 5-25, 25-18, 19-25, 20-25
Nov 9	Clark vs. Green River (L) 19-25, 20-25, 20-25

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

WOMEN'S GOLF

Swede invades the green

International student Madeleine Ottosson comes out on top in women's golf

By: Chris Beck
Staff Writer

Green River's golf program has received an international sensation this season.

Madeleine Ottosson, who comes to Green River from Sweden to earn an environmental study degree and to have her own experiences away from home, has shocked everyone with her impressive talent and patience on the green.

Ottosson has been playing for 11 years, yet has only played competitively for three. She graduated high school from Göteborgs Högre Samskola, which didn't have sports available. However, she did play for a school district championship and won the division she played in.

She has also won four golf cups as well as five other competitions. All in all, Ottosson has collected awards.

Not only is Ottosson talented, but she has the

unique opportunity to play the game she loves in two completely different cultures.

"I get the feeling that the sport is more appreciated here than in Sweden, which is a nice experience," Ottosson said.

She also believes that Green River has taught her to just relax and to simply enjoy the game.

"Every shot doesn't have to be perfect to be a good shot," she said. "Just take it one stroke at a time."

Ottosson's future plans are to transfer to a university, although she still has no particular school in mind. She says if there is a team at the university, she would consider continuing with the sport she loves. She also hasn't thought much about going pro.

Although Ottosson loves golf, it will always come second to her schooling.

"Golf a big part of my life but my studies are still more important," she said.



Courtesy Photo | Madeleine Ottosson

With two tournaments under her belt, Madeleine Ottosson leads the women's team with scores of 88 and a 176.

CHEERLEADING

Cheer team ups their ratio but still strive for more

Originally formed over four years ago, Green River's cheer squad is gaining some ground with a rising number of squad members and their male captain at the helm

By: Bailey Jo Josie
Managing Editor

Back in September, Green River held its annual Fall Fling; a mini-festival of sorts that helps kick off the new school year and allows students to get a first-hand view of all that different clubs, groups and organizations the college has to offer.

One booth in particular, with the help of impressive acrobatics and showmanship, held the attention of a fair amount of students: Green River's cheer squad.

Led by its captain BJ Gibson, 20, the team was gung-

ho on recruitment, pushing for both men and women to join. Gibson, a national champion cheerleader for his high school in 2009, was especially set on enlisting some men for the upcoming cheer season, since typical college cheer teams have an equal ratio of males and females. He explains that it is "so stronger stunts can be achieved."

Considering how new the cheer program is to the school (it was only formed about five years ago), and having only six cheerleaders last year (Gibson being the only male), it is on its way

towards becoming a more developed team.

As of right now, the only programs the team cheers for are men's and women's basketball, which mainly take place during winter quarter.

Coach Eileen Uson, who is in her second year as Green River's cheer coach, said, "Since it's such a new program, I'm really trying to build it up so we can cheer at other athletic events."

With a total of ten members on this year's squad (seven women and three men), the team will still only be able to cheer for basket-

ball. Nevertheless, it hopes that with the right amount of marketing and promotion, it can become a bigger team able to support more programs.

"This year we have a great group of kids who really want to make a difference," Uson said. "But I'd love to have at least 16 kids."

Along with James, her assistant coach/husband, Uson is still open to newcomers for the upcoming season "as long as they have the talent."

The team can be found in the gym on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.

SOCCER

Lady Gators win playoff, make school history

In their first playoff appearance since 2007, Green River's soccer team beat Yakima Valley Community College 2-0, bringing their record to twelve wins, four losses, and four ties and qualifying for the NWAACC Quarterfinals in Clackamas, WA

By: Ryan Comer
Sports Editor

For the first time in the 17-year history of the Green River Community College women's soccer program, the Gators have won a playoff game.

Alex Mueller and Lynze Utz each scored in the first 30 minutes as the Gators cruised to a 2-0 shutout victory over Yakima Valley Community College at Wilson Playfields on November 9.

"This is an amazing group of girls," head coach Stuart Snow said. "The records that they've set this year are just continuing to go. It feels good. I'm proud of them."

With the win, the Gators

advance to the quarterfinals against South Division winner Clackamas on November 12.

Mueller's goal, her fifth of the season and first since a two-goal performance on Oct. 1, came in the game's fourth minute to put Yakima Valley in an early hole.

Utz scored in the 27th minute, looping a Rayssa Lira pass just over the Yaks' goalkeeper and into the net. It was Utz's third goal of the season.

"We had discussed in practice that we were going to come out hard," Snow said. "We were going to touch, push through and try and hit them fast, get them on their heels and then try to hit them again. It worked both times."



Kally Bieber | The Current

Forward Michelle Gato (freshman) runs the ball down the field, helping Green River's women's soccer team win their first playoff game.

After that, it was all about maintaining the lead and making sure Yakima Valley didn't seize any momentum.

Green River's defense stifled Yakima Valley all afternoon, never allowing much of a threat as the Gators earned their 12th shutout of the season.

"Our strategy in the second half was just keep collected and not give up something cheap," Snow said. "They did what we asked them to do. We didn't really need to tally any more goals because we had a comfortable lead."

About the only thing that went wrong for the Gators came early in the second half when freshman Gator goalkeeper Cassy Duschel collided with a

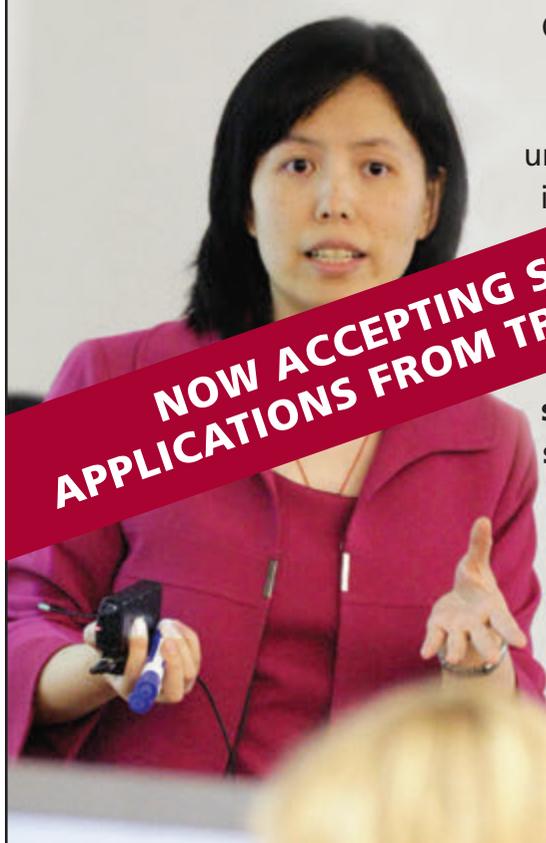
Yakima Valley player in the box. Duschel was upended on the play, going high into the air and landing on her back. Although Duschel was on the ground for several minutes, she was able to walk off the field.

Sophomore Leslie Cannon replaced Duschel and kept Yakima Valley off the scoreboard.

Not only was the victory the first in program history, it also marked the Gators' fifth ever playoff appearance and first since 2007.

Green River advanced to the playoffs thanks in part to a strong finish where the Gators won four of their final five matches, including a 2-1 victory over North Division-leading Everett on November 5.

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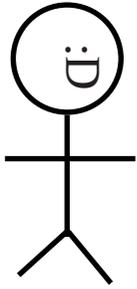


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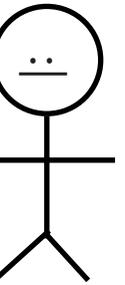
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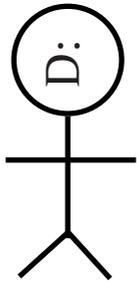
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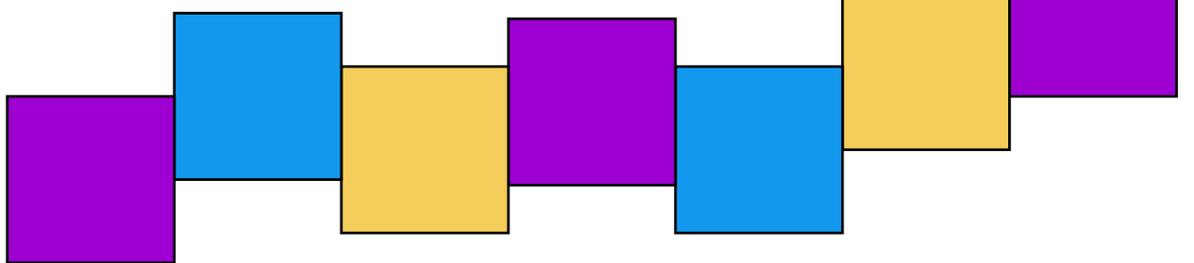
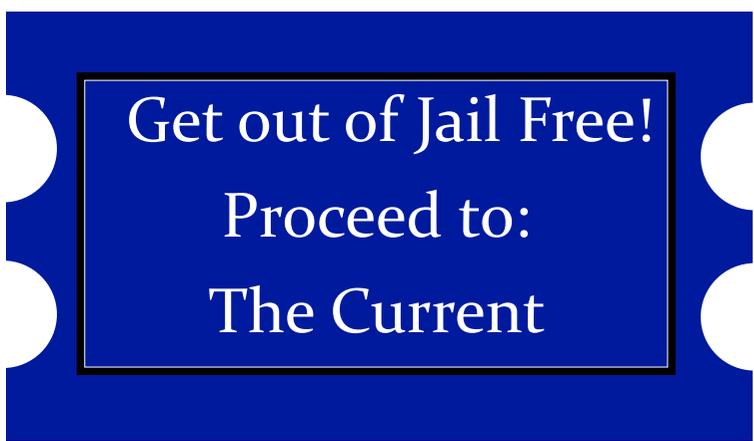
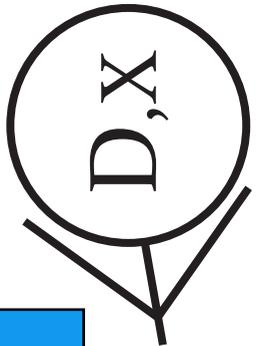


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The Current, Green River's student newspaper, was named **number 1 in the state** by the Washington Community College Journalism Association.

