

Sara Olson/Staff Photo

Dan Cronk, campus safety officer, models the new look of campus safety, formerly known as campus security. The new wardrobe is just one of the changes in the department this fall.

## Extreme Makeover: Campus Edition

Campus safety adopts new look, policy to bring in new year

**Bimla Thapa**  
Staff Writer

Campus security, formally known as parking security, now has officially been rebranded as Campus Safety.

Perhaps it has not quite been noticed yet, but the name on the security car also has been amended, along with the staffs' uniforms. The once distinguishable bright blue button-up shirts no longer are in service, being replaced by army green polo shirts.

However, the new name and uniform aren't the only changes to campus safety. It actually is one of the final touches to the evolution of the Green River Community College (GRCC) security system, elaborating over the last few years.

One interesting change amidst the campus safety is the role of the safety officers.

"Our campus safety staff is focusing more on providing customer service and less on ticketing," John Ramsey, director of campus information, said.

In other words, campus safety officers are focusing on more assistance to the students and employees of GRCC.

For instance, the security booth, which nearly every student and staff member passes on their

way to school now is called the Welcome Booth.

It is a place where staff is expected to provide "detailed information on where to park and the common problems to avoid," Ramsey said.

Campus safety also is working on providing training opportunities, especially for international students on how to be safe and to protect themselves. Students also are being trained on taking precautions in trusting others in the community.

Campus safety is going to extensive lengths by not only providing escorts day and night but also by adding a "Safety Drive" service for students residing within the Campus Corner Apartments (CCA).

GRCC students are given the liberty of a safe lift by a campus safety staff to the neighboring convenient stores like the Circle K and the Chevron between the hours of dusk to dawn. All the students have to do is dial the campus safety number and request a quick lift, and they'll be there, no questions asked.

If students have any questions or concerns, they are encouraged to contact the campus safety office, which is located in AD-28. Students also can call the office if they have an emergency at 253-833-9111, ext. 2250.

## University shooting causes concern around campus

*Attacks forces students to consider safety*

**Tammie Tamara**  
Staff Writer

Two shootings occurred on campuses in the United States the past two weeks. One happened at Delaware State University, causing two students to be injured, and most recently at the University of

Memphis, killing one student.

This is the fourth case of a shooting on campuses in the United States this year. Some people still viciously remember the Virginia Tech shooting that took place on April 16. College students who spend most of their time on campus may start to wonder if their campus is safe.

Green River Community College is a very big, open campus with many students with various

cultural backgrounds. With the recent attacks on campuses, it's not unusual for students to worry.

However, many students say that these incidents do not affect them that much.

Tom Bui, an international student from Vietnam, said that although he and his family do have a little concern about this, it isn't a big issue. So far Bui feels that Green River is a safe campus

with a good environment, and there is no reason to be worried. Nonetheless, he admits that it's hard to control a campus site the size of GRCC.

There are many factors why students don't feel any concern prior to these incidents.

Art student, Joe Kallman, 18, said that he thinks these incidents have become a common place in our society. He also said that for some students, these events

might seem so far away that it doesn't feel real.

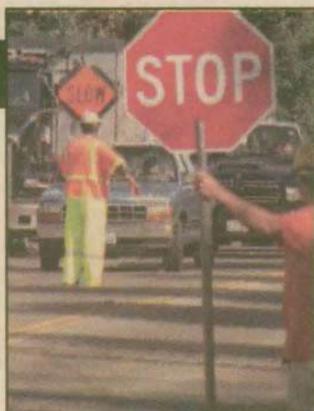
"Most of us think that these incidents are in other places, not here, not now. So why should we worry?" Kallman said.

Kallman thinks that so far GRCC is not an unsafe place. He thinks that students should just leave it to the safety officers.

**University shooting,**  
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### Campus:

**Commuting frenzy**  
Students hit traffic as construction slows down commute.  
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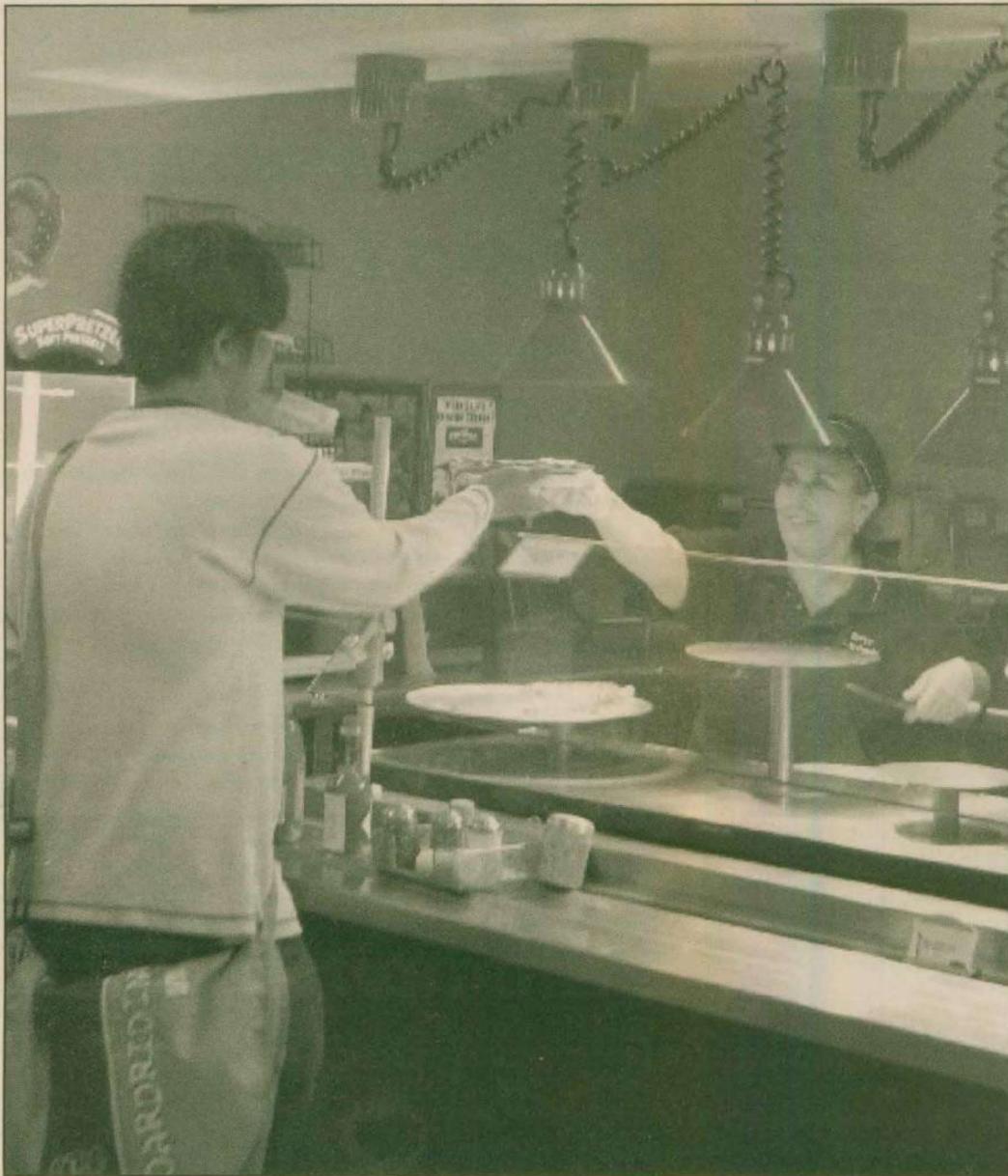
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## Students, staff exempt from tax at Gator Grille



Sara Olson/ Staff Photo

Cafeteria worker, Kymat Mursalova, serves student Standley Limaita at the Gator Grille, Green River's cafeteria. As of Sept. 1, all students and staff are exempt from sales tax on their food.

*No tax deal saves students, staff 9.4 percent at cafeteria*

**Katie Barr**  
Staff Writer

During a recent investigation conducted by the legal and tax departments, it was learned that sales of meals by an educational institution are exempt from Washington sales tax.

This affects the Gator Grille, Green River Community College's cafeteria, as prices to students and employees of Green River Community College are exempt from taxes. Guests however are not exempt.

Campus related banquets and catering are also now exempt from sales tax. The no tax deal went into effect on Sept. 1.

Kathy Johnson, director of scheduling and conference, said, "I am very happy about the no tax deal. Anytime we can save the students, staff and faculty money, I am in favor of it."

Students can now get their lunch 9.4 percent cheaper on campus than they can off campus.

Johnson also said, "Cafeteria prices are very comparable to downtown, and now if you don't have to leave your parking space, spend money for gas and save the tax, it is a better deal to stay here and use the cafeteria."

Mckenna Reagan, cashier at Gator Grille, is "happy her customers are happy" about the no tax deal. Reagan isn't the

only one who's happy about the changes in the sales tax. So are the students.

Many students haven't heard about the new tax deal yet, such as Scott Hudson, running start student, who doesn't buy lunch at the cafeteria very often because he doesn't have time.

"Some of the stuff is overpriced like the juices and vitamin waters," Hudson said.

When asked if he would buy lunch at the gator grille more often because of the new tax deal, he answered, "Fo'sho, if I have time."

Lonnie Willey, a second year student in school for court reporting, also hadn't heard of the new tax deal. Willey only buys snacks at the grille, "to avoid standing in two lines."

She thinks food is fairly priced and the new tax deal isn't going to make her eat at the cafeteria more often.

Mike Fish, a third year student has never bought food there before, but after being asked if the tax deal makes a difference in how often he'd buy food there, he said, "Hell yeah, it does. Cheap is my favorite number."

The new tax deal is improving the campus already by making food more accessible and affordable to more students and it has just started.

GRCC is sure to see many more improvements on campus as the community grows, including less traffic congestion as students are trying to leave campus to get food and then returning for the remainder of their day.

## Fake e-mail sends student into financial trouble

*International students involved in scandal by receiving false scholarship notices*

Fake e-mail sends GRCC student into financial trouble

Eager international students received a Green River Community College (GRCC) Foundation scholarship, only to find that it was all a scandal.

International student Baris Cirak, 18, was back home in Turkey for the summer after a long year at Green River Community College (GRCC).

He, along with his friend Ipek Egmen, 17, applied for a scholarship to the GRCC Foundation hoping their financial burdens of paying college tuition would be alleviated.

One morning, Cirak checked his e-mail to find that he had received his long awaited e-mail. The e-mail read that he had been awarded the full scholarship. He didn't bother to check the sender address and raced off to tell his family the exciting news. He later found out that his friend also had received the scholarship.

Two days later, both students received another e-mail from the GRCC Foundation, stating that they had not been awarded the scholarship.

Upon re-checking both e-mails, they realized that the first e-mail was a Yahoo based sender, not a GRCC address. They immediately notified the college and the administrator of the Foundation, Beth Gatzke, only to find out they were victims of a scandal.

The IT Department at GRCC has been notified, but no information can be released until the crime is dealt with.

"All she told me was that it wasn't a big crime, and they can't do too much," Cirak said.

The foundation was unavailable for comment.

Egmen had cancelled her loan when she thought she had been awarded the scholarship. She could not reestablish the loan after she realized it was a scandal and had to stay in Turkey.

Cirak warns students that they should be cautious about their e-mail and whom they give their address to.

"Teenagers in the tech age tend to do illegal stuff like pirating music, hacking, and sending fake e-mails. It's all because they are curious," Cirak said.

## Students still feel safe, despite recent attacks

**University Shooting,**  
Continued from Page 1

"Let them deal with it; they know what they are doing," Kallman said.

However, some still might wonder if our campus is ready should an attack occur at Green River. After Virginia Tech massacre, many campuses tightened their campus security. So did Green River.

John Ramsey, director of public information, said that they did increase the number of security officers on campus right after Virginia Tech incident.

Other than that, campus safety is trying to get contact informations of all GRCC students so that if something happens they can contact them right away. Students can do this by signing up on schoolreport.org where they can get notifications anytime there's an emergency.

There also are security procedures in every class that explain what to do in emergencies.

Campus safety is trying to redo these safety procedures and try to get students attention by putting them in the newspaper, flyers, and improve the informations.

"Our challenge is that it's hard to help people who aren't concern," Fred Creek, director of campus safety said.

However, some students notice the changes that are happening around

campus.

Tu Lien, a pre med student from Vietnam, said, "There are more security officers. The policies are more strict and tighter."

Lien said that all the changes helped her feel safe around campus.

However, Creek said that some improvements still need to be done.

"We're more ready than we were before Virginia Tech, but we haven't got to the point where we want us to be," Creek said.

He also said that they're trying to educate the faculty and staff, so the process will be easier.

Ramsey said that right now, the state is trying to propose \$10 million to the legislature for colleges so they can send instant notifications for students.

Ramsey said that so far, Green River is a very safe place and it has a very good record in the last 41 years.

"The thing is, here, people keep each other safe," Ramsey said.

Nevertheless in case of emergencies, students can always reach campus safety.

Creek said that if such incident occurs, students can find a room and lock themselves in the room. However, every situation is different.

Creek encourages students to "practice safety, understands procedures, ask and address their concerns to the campus safety, and engage."

# Road construction to cause traffic headache

*Roadwork will continue to cause delays till end of January*

**Brandon Hunt, Amy Lipko, and Sara Olson**  
Staff Writers

Construction along a main road leading to the Green River Community College campus caused headaches and delays for many of the college's students during the first week of class.

As if gas prices and parking availability weren't trouble enough, many of the college's attendees suffered from the messy gridlocks caused by a new housing development project. The main source of delays was preparation for road widening and repaving, for the purpose of providing a future housing development with a new turn lane.

132nd Street, the road of choice for many students was reduced to one lane of traffic, creating backups and delays for drivers, particularly on the morning commute. For the students who choose to travel to class via Highway 18, there were few alternatives to taking 132nd.

Student Matt Prichard said that construction "had an adverse affect on traffic flow, and affected my arrival time."

J.R. Walker, a member of the KGRG staff said that timely arrival during the first week of class has been difficult due to the project, and that he had "been late every day to some degree."

Many students found that 124th street offered the easiest way around the traffic, while others simply dealt with the delays by adjusting their departure time.

However starting Oct. 15, projects will begin on 124th Ave. and 304th Street, greatly affecting students' commute to school. The projects are expected to last till

Jan. 31, 2008.

"The City of Auburn are going to put a round-a-bout at that intersection, but prior to doing the roadwork they need to put in sewers and move utilities," John Ramsey, director of public information, said. "We really only have three ways to campus, and two of them now are going to have some major road construction on them."

Roadwork will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day and 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. every night.

"They're going to be doing night work, which is a little unusual so we need to get the word out to our night students that from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., there's going to be closures there as well," Ramsey said.

Ramsey also said that there is very little that students and staff can do to avoid the problem.

"There's really no way around it," Ramsey said.

The bus system and shuttle also will not be able to avoid the roadwork.

"You're still going to be pinched in traffic coming on a bus," Ramsey said. "Taking

the shuttle's not going to help, because they have to come through either route."

However, Ramsey said that the shuttle might have a slight advantage because of ongoing communication as to which route may be faster.

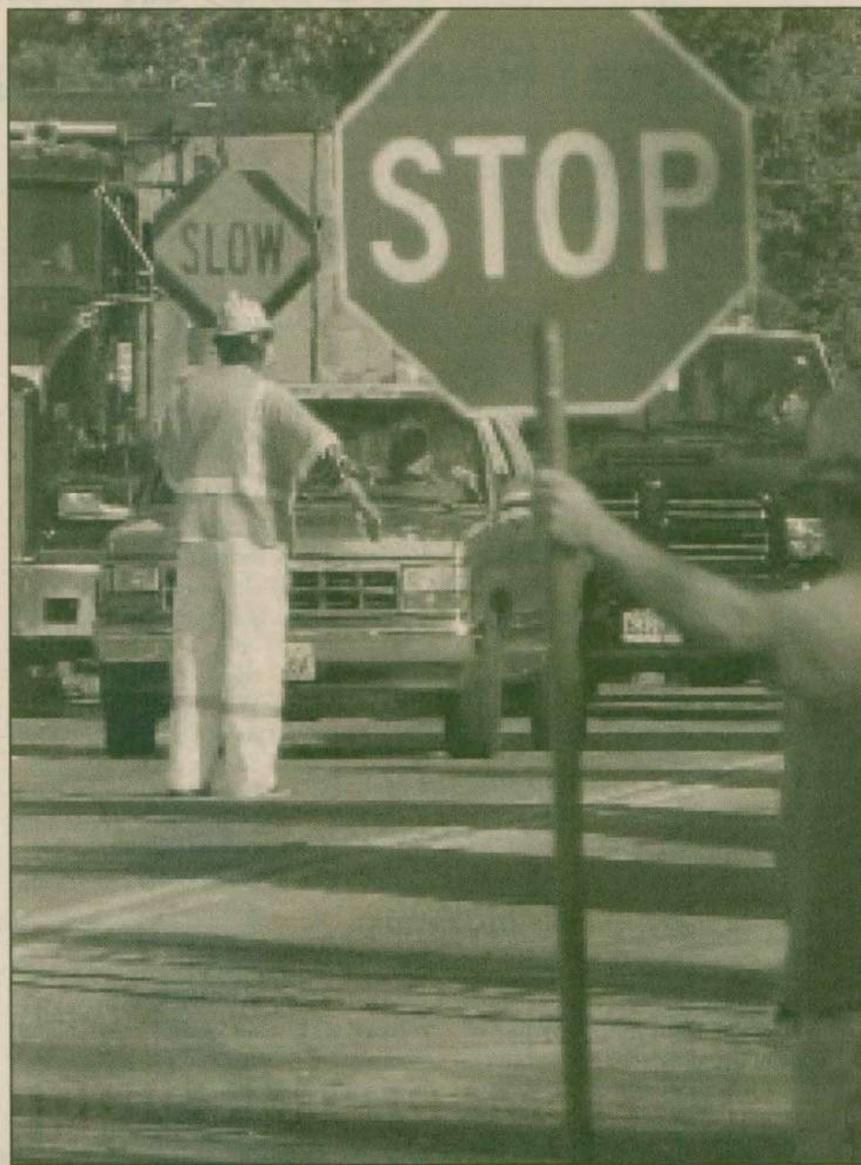
More information about the delays is posted on the GRCC website, including a map with the exact construction locations.

Ramsey encourages students to budget their time carefully and plan their commute with the expected delay in mind.

"I think students are just going to have to allow more time, especially if you're coming at some of these peak hours. You just flat out need to give yourself more time," Ramsey said. "I would tell students if you allow yourself an extra half hour, just for road construction, on top of when you would normally leave."

*"I think students are just going to have to allow more time, especially if you're coming at some of these peak hours. You just flat out need to need to give yourself more time."*

— John Ramsey,  
director of campus  
information



Sara Olson/ Staff Photo

During the first week of school, students were stuck in traffic due to construction on 312th Street. Construction will continue on 124th and 304th through January.

## City of Auburn Notice of Road Work\*

- Night work will occur in and near the intersection of 124th Ave. SE and SE 304th St. on weeknights between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. from Monday, Oct. 22 to Friday, Nov. 2 to avoid conflicts with heavy intersection traffic.
- Daytime lane closures at SE 304th St., 124th Ave. SE and 118th Ave. SE from Oct. 15 to Jan. 31, 2008 will be restricted between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to accommodate commuting schedules.

\*Posted on the City of Auburn's notice of road work.

# Administration educates staff on sex offender procedures

*Workshop held to prepare staff, faculty for registered sex offender students*

**Sara Olson**  
Staff Writer

Green River Community College (GRCC) administration recently took steps to educate staff and faculty about the procedures that surround enrolled registered sexual offenders.

GRCC does have students on campus who are registered Level I and Level II sex offenders.

Deb Casey, executive dean of student services, and Fred Creek, director of campus safety, held a presentation for staff and faculty about how to handle a student who is a registered sex offender.

"The purpose of presenting the topic was to educate the community on the procedures administered when a student who is designated as a registered sex offender attends GRCC," Casey said. "The presentation provides a professional

development opportunity to better understand how to serve students on our campus and educate the community on what policies and procedures are in place to promote a safe environment and public awareness."

According to Casey and Creek, each community college and university campus handles enrolled sex offenders differently.

While some campuses choose to notify students if a Level I sex offender is in their class, others don't, and state law does not require them to.

At GRCC, Casey and Creek, who are responsible for working with the registered sex offenders, will notify student and staff based on their level.

Level I sex offenders are considered a low risk of re-offending, Level II sex offenders

are considered a medium risk of re-offending, and Level III sex offenders are considered a high risk of re-offending.

By law, a community college can not turn any student away who wishes to apply for admission.

"Community colleges cannot refuse any students," Casey said in the presentation.

However, there are steps required by law and GRCC policy that must be taken when a registered sex offender applies for admission.

The person seeking enrollment must notify the police within 10 days of enrolling to GRCC. The police department then will notify the campus safety department. From there, both Creek and Casey will alert appropriate staff, according to the level of the registered sex offender and GRCC policy.

However, both Creek and Casey said they handle each case on an

individual basis.

Creek also assured staff in the presentation that he and Casey work very closely with the student, and every conversation is documented.

According to GRCC policy, Casey will not notify students that a registered sex offender is in their class unless the student is a Level III.

If the student is a Level II, staff and faculty in whose program the student is enrolled will be notified, in addition to other locations that the student may utilize while at GRCC, including the writing center and the library.

If students or staff have concerns regarding a student, Creek and Casey said that they should notify campus safety.

Casey also encourages students and staff to become familiar with the policies, located on the school website.

"Students, faculty, and staff should review the policies and procedures on the website," Casey said. "If individuals or departments have questions or concerns they should contact the Director of Campus Safety Fred Creek or the Assistant Dean of Student Services Dr. Deb Casey."

*"The presentation provides a professional development opportunity to better understand how to serve students on our campus and educate the community on what policies and procedures are in place to promote a safe environment and public awareness."*

— Deb Casey, executive dean of student services

## News around campus

### National Resources department receives honor

*Department wins first place in national competition*

**Sara Olson**  
Staff Writer

With their motto "performance counts" in the forefront, the Natural Resources Program won the Outstanding Student Chapter Award for the second year in a row.

"The Natural Resources Program has a mission paragraph modeled after the mission statement of GRCC.

However, the motto of the Natural Resources Program better summarizes what is important," Dick Hopkins, natural resources instructor, said.

Last year, the program tied with Mississippi State University for the honor.

"Last year, we tied for No. 1; this year, straight up No. 1," Hopkins said.

The award is based on a possibility of ten points in ten categories. The categories included membership, service to members,

service to the Society of American Foresters (S.A.F.), service to the forestry school, involvement with other natural resource organizations, service to the community, outside recognition, chapter management, letter from chair and presentation of entry, and other.

The Natural Resources Program at Green River is familiar with awards, however, as its faculty also has been recognized in the past.

Hopkins was awarded the Carl Alwin Schenck Award in 2005 by the S.A.F. for his excellence in instruction.

The Natural Resources Program is unique in the Northwest, as it is only one of two natural resources programs in Washington to offer an Associates in Applied Science degree in Natural Resources recognized by the S.A.F. There only are 26 programs like Green River's in North America.

Green River also offers degree programs in wildland fire, park management, water quality, geographical information systems, and pre-professional in natural resources.

*"Last year, we tied for No. 1; this year, straight up No. 1."*

*—Dick Hopkins, Natural Resources Instructor*



Sara Olson/Staff Photo

Former Natural Resources student, Eric Sievers, plants a tree at GRCC's Pat Cummins Mangaged Forest. The Natural Resources Program received top national honors.

With the recent national recognition the Natural Resources Program has earned, Hopkins believes that the program's biggest accomplishment is achieved closer to home.

"I personally believe the biggest accomplishment of the Natural Resources Program is the emphasis the students put on helping each other succeed," Hopkins said.

### Intramural sports give students break at lunch

*Several sports available to all students, staff during lunch hour*

**Baris Cirak**  
Staff Writer

Green River Community College Student Programs department offers a wide range of intramural sports options this quarter which are taking place in the main Gym, between 12 p.m.-1 p.m. daily.

This is a perfect opportunity for the students who want to stay fit and for those

who wants to get into tryouts for varsity sports.

"Everybody is welcome to come any day they want. We are here for them," Khoi Phy Pham, intramural sports coordinator, said. "Students are afraid that they will not play good but that's pointless. They can learn how to play those sports in here, too. We have all the equipment they would need, and all they should do is wear gym shoes and show up."

There are several sports that student can participate in or learn how to play. The schedule is volleyball and pickleball on Mondays, dodgeball on Tuesdays, basketball on Wednesdays, badminton on

Thursdays, and indoor soccer on Fridays.

There also is a weight room and fitness center open during 12 p.m.-1 p.m. too.

All the students, faculty and staff are welcome to participate.

Trying to build a competitive atmosphere, the student programs department is organizing some tournaments too. A dodgeball tournament, basketball tournament and badminton tournament still are available for students to sign up. Tournament dates are between October 25<sup>th</sup> and November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

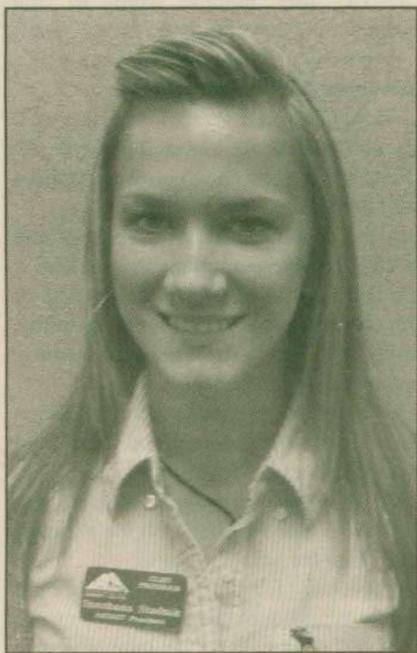
For detailed information, students can contact Pham in student programs office or in the gym from 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

#### Intramural schedule

- *Monday:* volleyball, pickleball
- *Tuesday:* dodgeball
- *Wednesday:* basketball
- *Thursday:* badminton
- *Friday:* indoor soccer

Contact Khoi Phy Pham in the Lindbloom Center, 204, for more information.

### Student body president sends welcome to students



**Snezhana "Shauna" Stadnik**  
ASGRCC President

Hello Gators,

Welcome to Green River Community College! As the Student Body President, it is my honor to greet you on behalf of all the staff in Student Programs, and the ASGRCC (Associated Students of Green River Community College) Student Government. We are here to help you engage in your Green River experience, and help make it memorable.

Although this might sound cliché, I ran for the position of Student Body President in the spring of 2007 in order to make a difference.

My first two quarters at Green River, I didn't get involved. I didn't know how, and another thing, I felt like getting involved was not for the Running Start students. This is actually quite ironic, since about 10% of the students at Green River, are Running Start students.

I realized something as I was walking to my car on the last day of winter quarter. I was slowly adapting to my life, even though it was boring. I was able to admit to myself that I was being lazy and careless. Right then and there, I decided to get out of my

shell, and do something! And I did. After being elected President, I decided that my primary focus for the year was to reach out to all the uninvolved students, and show them, that there is more to college than books.

It doesn't matter what sort of student you are. Maybe you're international, or maybe you take evening classes.

Here at Green River, all students have the opportunity to meet diverse people and establish meaningful relationships. Integrate yourself into the college life, and you will see not only your character flourish, but your awareness as well.

Too many students are not getting the full college experience because they just don't care, or are too busy studying. Even though your number one goal here should be academic success, there is no reason why you have to solely concentrate your time on studies.

I believe that students grow and develop by challenging themselves not only through academics, but also through campus programs, activities and other co-curricular experiences. At GRCC, you will

find an array of opportunities to broaden and deepen your experience, including participation in CLEO (Community Leadership, Education and Outreach Program), Student Government, athletics, intramural sports, professional societies, cultural organizations and more.

Maybe you're interested in serving as a Student Representative on a campus committee, let me know! Or maybe you want to be a Senator. Your task is to simply get interested, ask questions, and get involved! The opportunity for you to make this the best time of your life is out there. It is essential that you reach out and grab it.

If there is anything you need, or any concerns that you have, I am always willing to hear what you have to say. Please feel free to stop by the office located in the Student Programs office on the 2nd floor of the Lindbloom Student Center. Together, we can make this an unforgettable year!

Good Luck!  
Sincerely,  
Snezhana "Shauna" Stadnik  
ASGRCC President

## Editorials

### Administration takes appropriate steps in protecting campus community

In the week prior to the start of classes, a presentation was held to educate staff and faculty about procedures and principles regarding registered sex offenders attending classes at Green River Community College (GRCC).

Although the idea of having registered sex offenders on campus might rub some the wrong way, it is a truth that the law makes unavoidable. By law, every person who desires to attend a community college cannot be denied the opportunity to enroll.

However the fact that administration at GRCC is attempting to set procedures in place should offer some comfort to worrying students. Although the law does require the registered sex offender to notify the police within 10 days of enrolling to a community college, it does not provide requirements of who on campus should be notified.

The policies and procedures at GRCC put in place guidelines that do all that is possible to keep the campus community safe.

Deb Casey, executive dean of student instruction, and Fred Creek, director of campus safety, also promise that they are in constant communication with the students who are registered sex offenders, so as to keep an eye on them.

Of course it is unnerving to think that the person sitting next to you in class could be a registered sex offender. However, the fact that administration and campus safety is aware of the situation and ready to act if any warning signs go off is almost all that one can ask for.

### Students, staff will benefit from No Tax Deal at Gator Grille

With the financial burden of tuition often on the minds of college students, something as simple as paying for lunch can be a troublesome idea.

And for some time, the prices at the Gator Grille, Green River's cafeteria, have been a part of that burden. The prices thus far have been much more than local fast food restaurants, charging as much as \$6 dollars for a hamburger, fries, and drink.

However, state law now allows students and staff to pay for their lunch without paying the 9.4 percent sales tax.

This cut is a welcome change to the cafeteria that students hopefully will embrace. With the price of gas and books rising at what seems to be an incredible rate, spare change in one's pocket is something to smile about.

### Students should exercise caution in response to recent school shootings

The sense of fear and concern might have heightened on campuses around the United States and at Green River, in response to the tragic events that occurred at Delaware State University on Sept. 21 and the University of Memphis on Oct. 1.

The shootings, involving a total of three victims, may seem less severe than the Virginia Tech shooting that occurred in April. However, students at GRCC should take necessary precautions as they go about their daily class schedule on campus.

Green River has been fortunate in avoiding similar tragedies, but the recent incidents in Memphis and Delaware should prove that no school is exempt.

Hopefully, in response to the events, students will report suspicious behavior and any other concerns that they might have to campus safety immediately.

Since the Virginia Tech incident, security on campuses around the United States has tightened significantly. As improvements continue to be made, students should be compliant with procedures and help make GRCC as safe as possible.

#### Editorial Policy

The Current considers itself 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 Current will not publish letters which demean any person because of race, class or sexual orientation. 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.

## University makes mockery of school by inviting Iranian president

*Mahmoud Ahmadinejad represents what America shouldn't be*



Commentary by Will Brown

Some might think inviting a man considered by some to be a world wide terrorist to give a speech at a university is wrong. But that didn't stop Columbia University, one of the nation's most respected universities in inviting the Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to speak to students on campus.

Despite the complete outcry of protest in the streets of the campus, Ahmadinejad came and spoke to students on Sept. 24.

Why he was invited and finally accepted to speak at the prestigious college, is an ear opening, jaw dropping shock that has me in confusion of why he was invited in the first place.

I support the accusations that he is very well known as the man who is helping finance Al Quada, the terror network that is exercising its publicity by terrorism and also giving them weapons. Defense Secretary Robert Gates also has supported this accusation and has connected Iran with Improvised Explosive Device

(IED). Mortar Shell's, rocket-propelled grenades and a powerful cylindrical bomb also are weapons used against the U.S. military that have been said to possibly been developed in Iran.

With the U.S. officials' investigation of Ahmadinejad's connection, I believe he can be held partially responsible for the deaths of the troops fighting in Iraq. So the conclusion of allowing him to step foot in our land must be a mistake.

He is a man who has been quoted as saying "Israel should be wiped off the map." Yet the exact same man said at Columbia University said that Iran "will not attack any country."

Isn't that an interesting combination of words from a man who has shown us what kind of ally he is with the rest of the world.

Inviting a man of that nature, to a university that rejected the ROTC, Reserved Officer Training Core, which is the military training for officers of the military, shows me a lack of respect for our own nation portrayed by Columbia University.

Some people can believe Ahmadinejad's words, and that is there own decision to do so. But with his contradiction of words in the past to the words in this speech, how can anything he says be considered truth?

This furthers my beliefs against supporting the man who has denied the Holocaust, insulted our democracy founding government, and questioned our integrity.

Considering his words in the past and his recent speech, I have come to this conclusion: He should not have been invited in the first place.

#### The Current Staff

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



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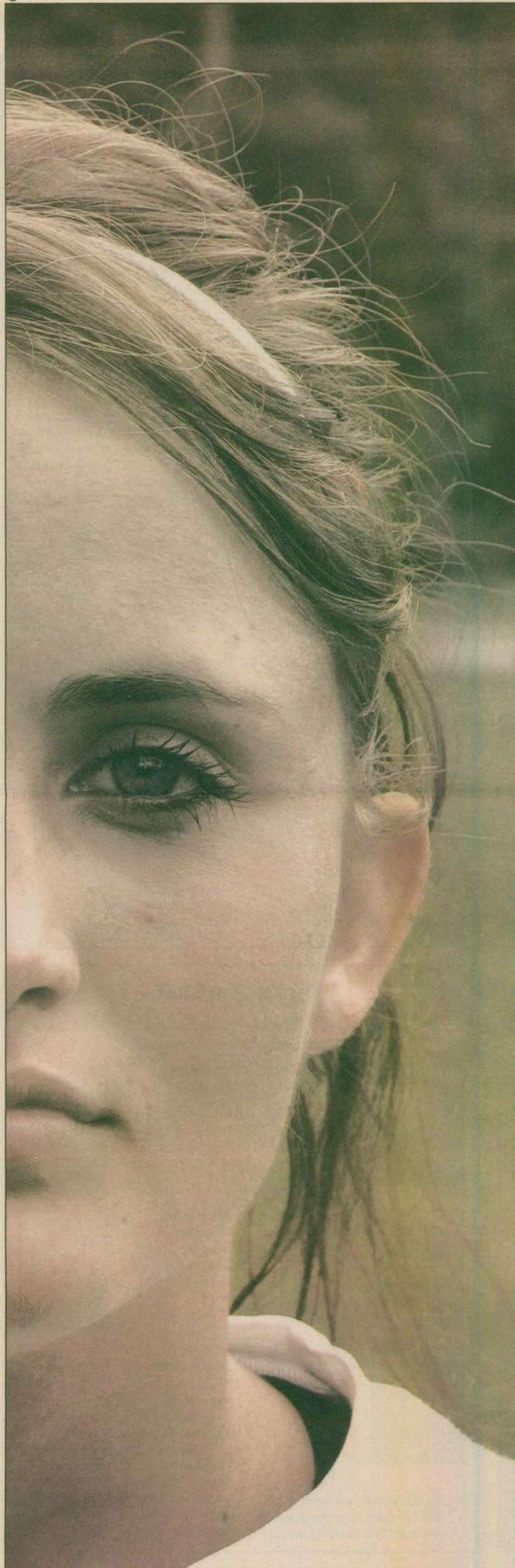


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# Taking Over

*Women's sports outnumber men's teams at Green River, giving Gator athletics a different face*

**Greg Washington and Sara Olson**  
Staff Writer

Fall athletics have arrived once again, bringing all of the men and women athletes at Green River Community College (GRCC) to the center of attention.

However a new face of sports is taking over, as the women in Gator athletics now outnumber the men.

"Last year we finished with 55 male athletes and 58 female," Bob Kickner, Gator athletic director, said.

With this statistic, the number of sports offered for women at GRCC also outnumbers the sports offered for men.

During fall, women compete in golf, soccer, and volleyball, while men only compete in golf. Soccer once was offered for men, but was cut two years ago.

According to Title IX, the federal law that prohibits gender discrimination at schools, the athletic activities offered at a school must be proportionate to the number of men and women enrolled.

As the majority of students are women at GRCC, there are more sports offered to women than men.

"It is not about the number of sports offered, but the number of people served when compared to the demographic data of the school as a whole," Kickner said. "We have more females attending GRCC - approximately 60 percent - and should therefore have more female athletes as well."

However, it still might surprise some that there is such a strong presence of women in Gator athletics.

Gator basketball player, Megan Borjesson, doesn't think that in general, female sports receive as much attention or

respect as male sports do.

"I've talked to a person before who said that women's basketball is a joke," Borjesson said.

Borjesson said that although women don't perform the same caliber of athletic stunts as men do in basketball, she believes that female sporting events should attract fans for a different reason.

"I think women care more overall," Borjesson said.

Kelsy Fedak, Gator basketball player, thinks that the tendency of men's sports to overshadow women's sports casts a negative portrayal of female athletes.

"It can be taken as women aren't as competitive as men," Fedak said.

However, Fedak believes that female athletes have the ability to be just as outstanding as male athletes.

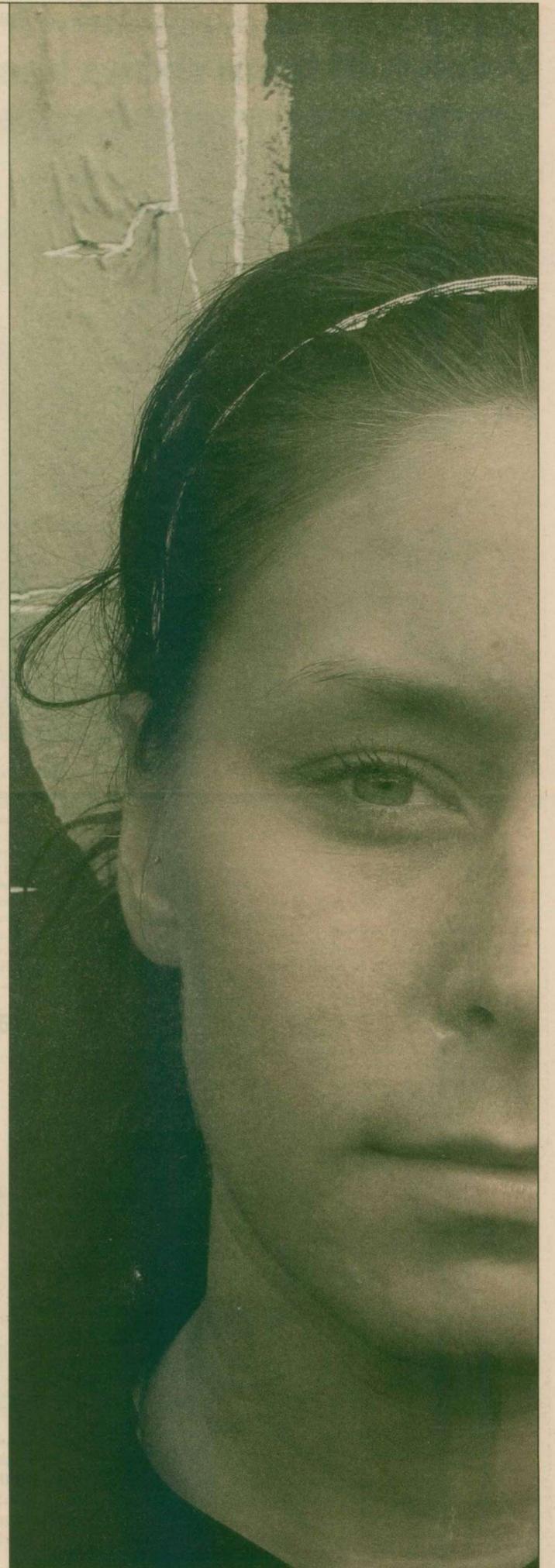
"There's Lisa Leslie. She's a perfect example of a woman who's made it just as big as any male athlete," Fedak said.

The women representatives of Gator athletics already are making a name for themselves throughout NWAACC this fall.

As of Oct. 9, the women's volleyball team has an overall record of 3-2 in league play. Brianne Gregory was named NWAACC player of the week, collecting 83 kills throughout the week.

The women's golf program also has taken a commanding lead in league play by winning seven of their last eight individual matches and finishing third in the Centralia Invitational.

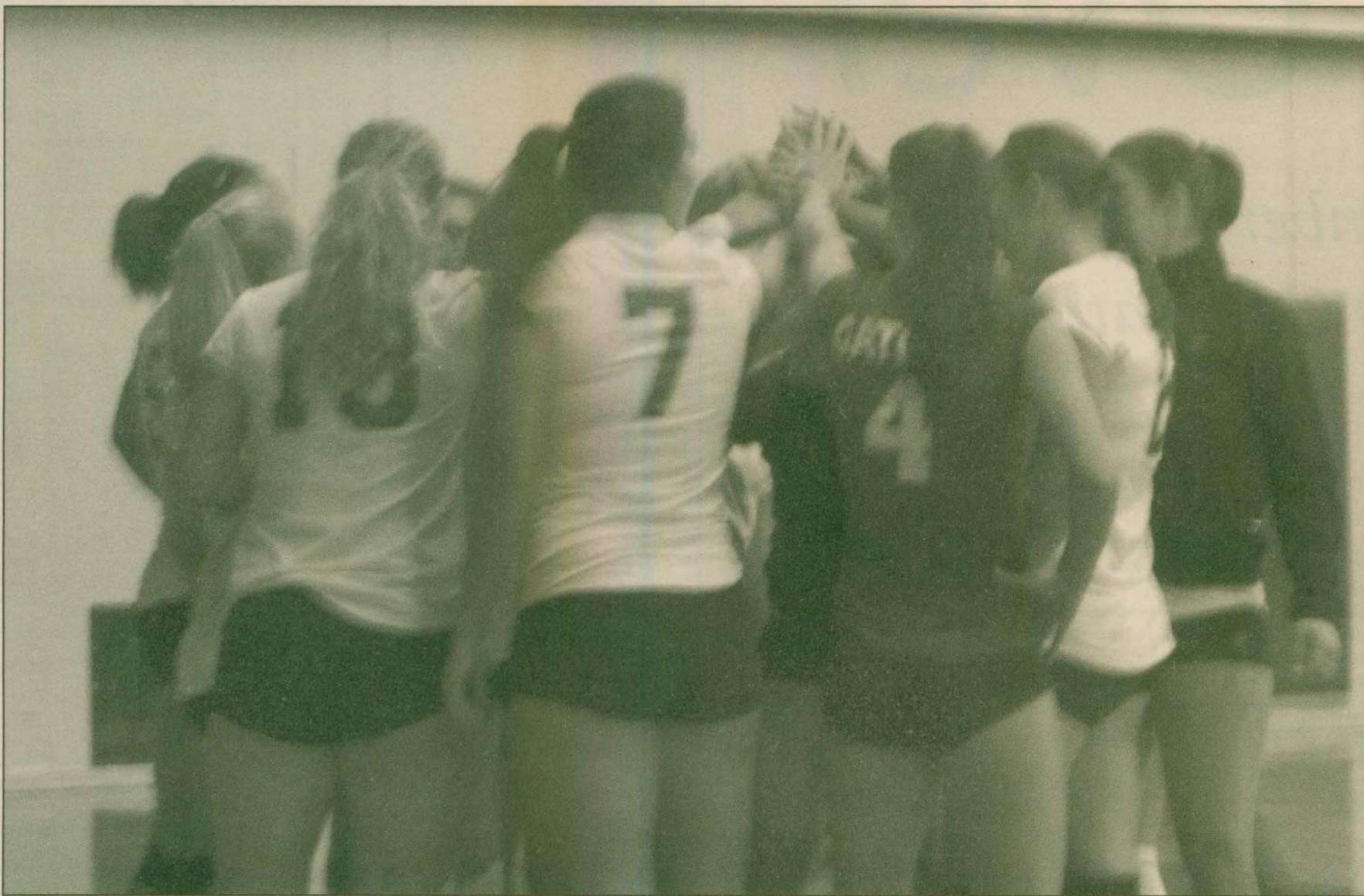
As the year progresses, the female athletes at GRCC will continue play their game in hopes of earning respect for Gator athletics as a whole.



Captains Azure Bartron (right) and Rikki Long (left) hope to lead the women's soccer team to a championship this season.

Photos by Sara Olson

## Volleyball team shows heart in quest of playoffs



Jamie Page/Staff Photo

The women's Gator volleyball team is seeking to prove themselves to the rest of NWAACC this fall. The team is under the leadership of Kyle Densley for the second year.

### Gators hope to advance to playoffs with mostly freshman team

**Jamie Page**  
Staff Writer

The girls of the Green River Community College volleyball team are in the middle of an exciting season, with the NWAACC championship just around the corner.

Having already played 13 games, the team has a record of 6 wins and 7 losses, with 9 games, 2 tournaments, and the Championship competition left to play.

"I see very good things happening in the very near future," Coach Kyle Densley said, referring to the rest of the season. "Talent-wise I have a better team this year, even though I have 9 new players."

Densley said that the girls have their sights set high this season.

"The girls want to show the other teams in the NWAACC that this year's team is as good as last year's," Densley said.

Densley doesn't think this goal is out of reach for his high-spirited team.

"There's no real dominant team in the NWAACC this year," Densley said.

Last year's volleyball team placed fifth in the NWAACC Championship, and the previous year the Gators placed third.

Hopefully, with much determination and teamwork on the team's part, the Gators will place in the Championship this year too.

Though they have a legitimate chance at the championship, this team will definitely be put to the test.

With nine new team members and an injured player that may have to sit out for the rest of the season, the women will have to find a way to pull together and play their best, consistently, despite the aforementioned obstacles.

Fortunately for the team, Densley has experience with newly formed teams.

"It's almost like you have to rebuild a team each year," Densley said.

It has been agreed that the game against Skagit Valley has been the best of the season so far.

"The girls actually realized how good they were and how well they could play," Densley said. "It was a sign of how good we can be to the girls."

And they truly can play well. Although they lost, the Gators fought gallantly to the end at the home game against Tacoma Community College on Oct. 3.

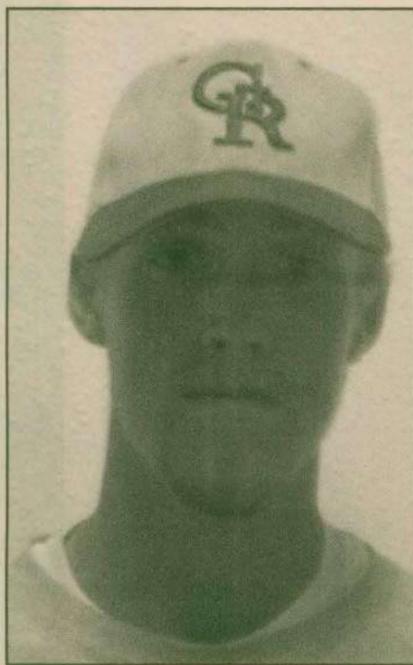
Winning the first two games 30-24 and 30-18, the team had momentum on their side. However, their enthusiasm came in

waves, and Tacoma was able to come back and win the next three games.

When asked about this year's team dynamics and attitude, Densley said, "Great attitude - a bunch of very hardworking kids. I'd say the team is on the verge of very good things."

Come out and support the GRCC volleyball team and watch as they pass the threshold, and show "very good things" through the rest of the season.

### Gator Profile: Jordan Shadle



**Name:** Jordan Shadle  
**Height:** 6'3"  
**Position:** Shortstop  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Business Management  
**High School:** Bethel High

*Q: What's your favorite food?*

A: Steak.

*Q: Who's your favorite musical artist?*

A: Tom Petty.

*Q: What's your favorite movie?*

A: 300.

*Q: Who is your favorite athlete?*

A: Alex Rodriguez.

*Q: If you weren't a baseball player, what would you be?*

A: I'd be in college, working to get my degree to start my career off.

*Q: What is your favorite part of playing for the Gators?*

A: Our team, my coaches, and knowing we're competing for a championship.

*Q: What do you do to get pumped up for a game?*

A: I listen to heavy rock, and get the other guys going on the team as well.

*Q: What is one thing you want to improve on this season?*

A: Staying healthy first of all; then, just being a good leader.

*Q: Do you have any words of advice for young baseball players?*

A: Work harder than the next guy; stick with it; it's a great sport.

### Gator Schedules

#### Women's Volleyball

- Oct. 12, 7 p.m. against Clark.
- Oct. 17, 7 p.m. against Lower Columbia.
- Oct. 19, 7 p.m. against Highline.
- Oct. 24, 7 p.m. against Grays Harbor.
- Oct. 26, 4 p.m. against Edmonds.

#### Women's Golf

- Oct. 21-22, Cardinal Classic at Avalon Golf Course

#### Women's Soccer

- Oct. 12, 2 p.m. against Walla Walla.
- Oct. 13, 4 p.m. against Treasure Valley.
- Oct. 17, 5:30 p.m. against Edmonds.
- Oct. 20, 12 p.m. against Shoreline.

#### Men's Golf

- Oct. 21-22, Cardinal Classic at Avalon Golf Course

# Volleyball coach receives Coach of the Year Award

*Kyle Densley's love for the game, excellence in coaching leads to recognition around league*

**Tricia Mowatt**  
Contributing Writer

At the age of 11, volleyball was more than a sport to Kyle Densley. It was a life of love, passion, and new friendships.

Born in American Fork, Utah on September 24, 1959, Densley has been coaching volleyball for 30 years and playing for 37.

At the end of the 2007 school year, he was named the 2006 NWAACC (Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges) Western Region coach of the year award for his work as head volleyball coach at Green River Community College.

"I felt very honored to get this award, but what was more of an honor was because I got this through the accomplishments of my team," Densley said.

Densley grew up with three sisters and one brother. His sister, April, and brother, Norman, also played volleyball for several years.

Volleyball has been apart of the Densley family for many years.

April has been very dedicated to volleyball as she has traveled all over the world to watch.

To the Densley family, volleyball has become more than a sport but a way of life.

Densley had many accomplishments growing up. He was MVP of Junior Far Western Regional's at the age of 17.

He played in three Junior National Olympic Championships. He also was his high school MVP.

Densley has been a member of the USAV Junior National Selection Committee, and assistant coach of the USAV youth select National teams.

He has just entered his second year of coaching at GRCC with the start of the fall season.

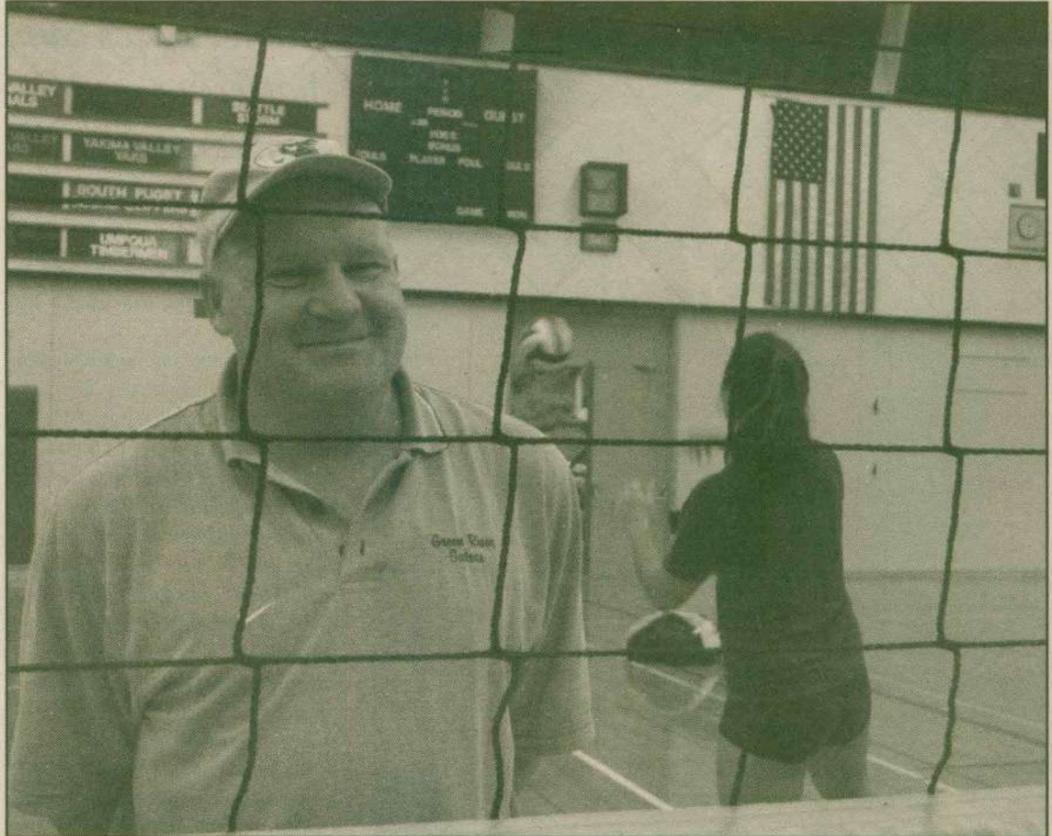
Densley also has been the head coach and co-director for the Saturday's Warriors volleyball club team for five years now.

Densley now has the 2006 NWAACC Western Region Coach of the Year Award now under his belt and led the Gators to a 14-0 undefeated league championship in 2006.

Densley is excited to get the 2007 season ready, with four returning sophomores and eight new freshmen.

Densley not only is looking for another amazing season but is ready to take the NWAACC championship and add it to the record books.

"I thought it was really great, to know that are coach was the



Sara Olson/Staff Photo

Gator volleyball coach, Kyle Densley, was named 2006 NWAACC Coach of the Year. Densley, who played for 37 years, is beginning his second year of coaching at Green River Community College.

best coach in the western region." Middle blocker Taryn Baker said.

Densley said that his love for the game only grows more and more over the years.

He talked about how he loved what an ultimate team sport it was, as no individuals can

dominate or win by themselves.

He also said that volleyball is a game that generates more friendships than any other sport he has ever played.

"I chose volleyball to coach because it has given me so much joy and

accomplishments," Densley said. The entire community can be proud of Densley's dedication and involvement and can look forward to many more achievements from him.

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# THE CURRENT

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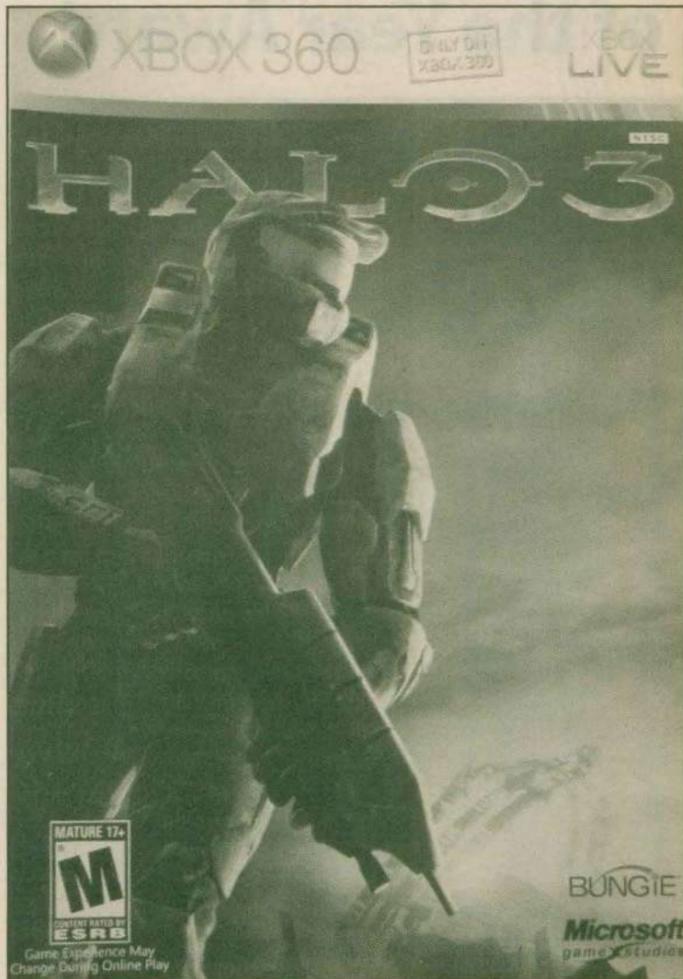
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**Legislator tours, speaks on campus**  
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Randy Wohlhueter/Staff Photo

"Halo 3" hit stores on Sept. 25, to rave reviews, closing the book on the "Halo" series that began six years ago.

## 'Halo 3' blasts onto shelves

*Final chapter completes 6-year battle, shattering records in opening week*

**Randy Wohlhueter**  
Staff Writer

It has been three years in the making, but the final chapter in the "Halo" series has finally hit the shelves.

"Halo 3" became available for purchase at midnight on Sept. 25. Many of the passionate "Halo" fans lined up as early as 5 p.m. at the EB Games in Auburn the day before to be the first to get their hands on the first few copies.

"Halo 3" has been breaking numerous records left and right. Even before the game was released, "Halo 3" set the record for the highest pre-ordered video game with more than 1.5 million pre-orders worldwide.

Students such as Jacob Melvin, a sophomore at Green River Community College said, "I have had my copy of 'Halo 3' reserved for three years and stood in line for the midnight release."

"Halo 3" now holds the record for the highest grossing opening

day in entertainment history, making \$170 million in its first 24 hours.

Everyone that was left with a sudden cliffhanger ending in the "Halo 2" finally can be put at ease. In "Halo 3," one will finally get to finish the fight that has been six years in the making.

The campaign in "Halo 3" is relatively short when compared to most first person shooter games.

"I felt that it was short, but perfect. It was a great story, and I felt satisfied after the last level and going out with a bang," Melvin said.

Those who play the campaign by themselves can go from start to finish in less than 10 hours. While that does seem a little short, the campaign is something that people will be able to play over again by themselves and with friends with the available co-op option.

While the campaign is amazing in its own right, the real beauty of

all the "Halo" video games is the online multiplayer.

In the end, players will feel complete knowing they were able to finish the battle between good and evil. The campaign may not be as perfect as people were expecting, but what "Halo 3" lacks in single player, it makes up in multiplayer.

Players will spend hours upon hours of their free time battling other players from around the globe in the countless array of multiplayer modes and battles, working to get their multiplayer ranking up to battle with players of a similar skill level.

While this may be the end of the "Halo" first person shooter games, the people at Bungie already are back at their desks working on "Halo Wars," a first person shooter game exclusively designed for the Xbox 360.

This game will be in the similar format of "Command and Conquer" and "Warcraft," but with the aspects found in the three "Halo" games. This will be the next step for Bungie as they continue to develop bigger and better games.

## Amazon attempts to take bite out of Apple's iTunes

*Online company tries to dethrone Apple in downloading music kingdom*

**Joseph Chouery**  
Staff Writer

The ambitious Seattle based Amazon.com is taking a stab at iTunes, the big apple in the sky.

Commonly known for its books and CDs, Amazon has emerged as the largest online retailer in the world. Now the company is diving into the depths of digital downloading.

The market, currently dominated by Apple's iTunes, has diminished customer purchasing power by regulating their downloaded files with digital rights management encoding (DRM).

Apple maintains that the four largest music companies that clutch 70 percent of the global distribution of music had required them to put DRM on their files.

DRM prohibits files from being downloaded on unauthorized devices and limits the storing of files on hard drives. In effect, it forces iTunes customers to use Apple's iPod.

Amazon has convinced Universal Music Group and EMI Music to dump the DRM requirements. The major reason for the sudden openhanded act by the music industry is because DRM is not working.

Piracy has not been hampered, consumers think it is annoying, and the possibility for other retailers to sell their music is extinguished. It appears that the

only thing that DRM has stopped is the flow of money into the music industry's pockets.

For now, iTunes has a hold on the market, but pressure from Amazon has put Apple on guard. Amazon announced that they too will be delivering music with a click of a mouse, and will undercut iTunes price by 10 cents per song.

Amazon does not stop at lower prices. It has agreements with many independent record companies that are not available through iTunes, but what will most likely catch the public's attention is that it offers all music DRM free.

It is unclear how iTunes will respond to Amazon's revolutionary downloads, but they clearly still have a greater supply of music.

They not only utilize Universal and EMI, but they also have access to Warner and Sony BMG's music as well.

By using all four of the big names in music, they have an inconceivable number of songs making them the forerunner in the digital music world.

To Students at Green River Community College, the importance of DRM free music was only bested by one other demand.

Many wanted free music, and some are willing to take the risks involved in acquiring them.

When asked, a portion of Green River students claim that they get their music from file sharing sites such as the scrutinized Limewire.

While Limewire does not charge for songs, it does have security risks. Early in September a man allegedly used Limewire as a portal to personal information

and was arrested and charged with identity theft.

Kristin Seely, a student who is self admittedly non-savvy with digital downloading does not use Limewire. Lured by easy access and other marketing strategies,

her business belongs to iTunes.

"I choose iTunes over other sources, because I can use gift cards rather than my credit card," Seely said.

Now that Amazon has surfaced as a serious competitor, everyone

seems to have the same question. How big of a bite will Amazon take out of Apple? But another question is, whether or not any online music business can withstand the force of free music sites.

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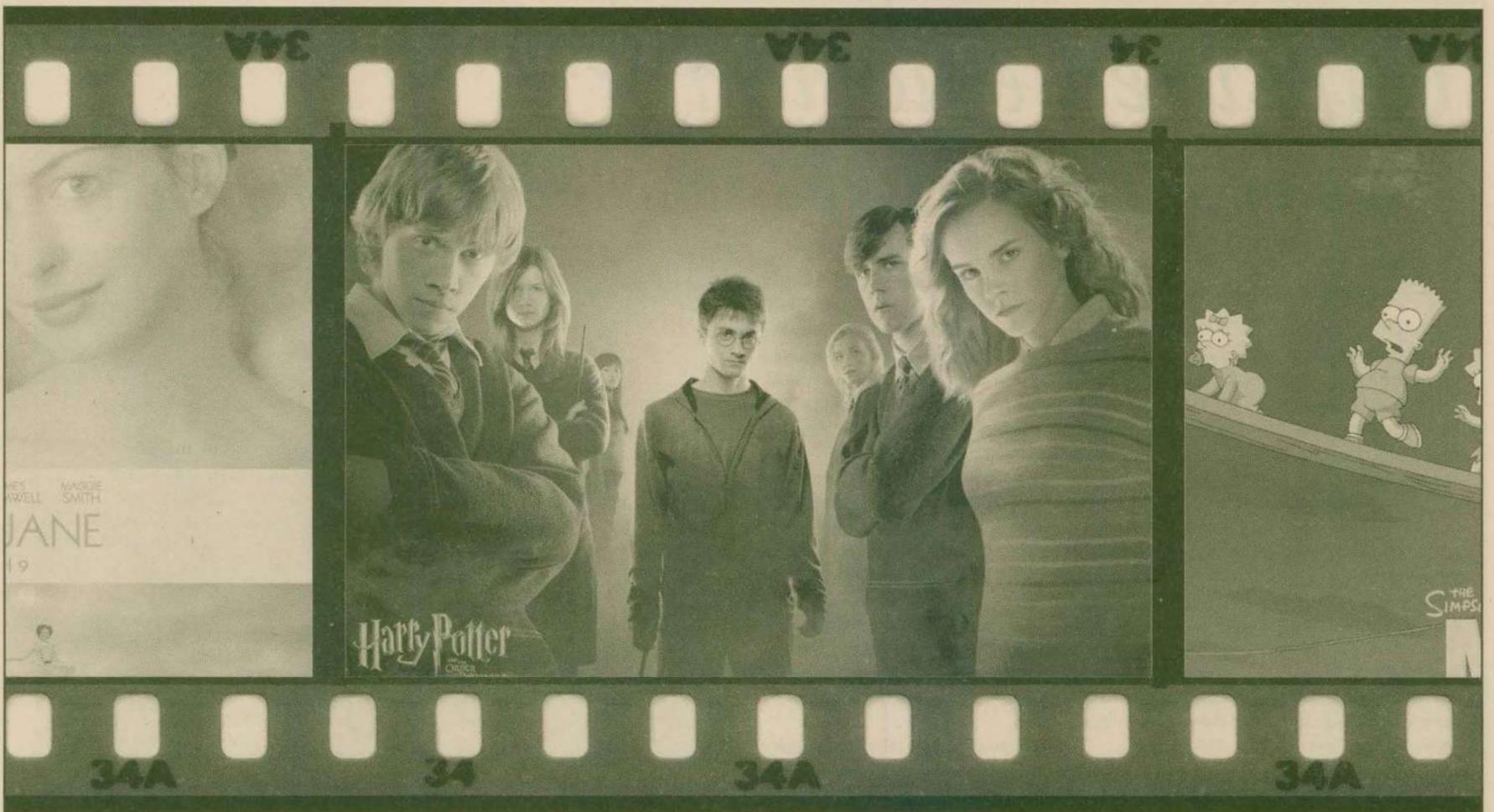
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Sara Olson/Photo Illustration

Some students at Green River Community College enjoyed seeing summer hits such as "Becoming Jane," starring Anne Hathaway, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," starring Daniel Radcliffe, and "The Simpsons Movie." Other movies students enjoyed were "Live Free or Die Hard," starring Bruce Willis, and "Ratatouille."

## Summer blockbusters catch student's attention

*Students express favorite summer hits, anticipated new releases*

**Elizabeth Diachenko**  
Staff Writer

Finding the best movie to see with friends is difficult. While some like action, others prefer romance, and some like frightening films.

However there are movies everyone will love.

After talking to nearly 200 students at Green River, it turned out that the majority of women said they liked "Becoming Jane," "Hairspray," and "Ratatouille."

It also turned out that "Rush Hour 3" is not just for men. It also was among the top four picks by girls. "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" was in the top four as well.

Men on campus liked "The Simpson's Movie," "Resident Evil," "Live Free or Die Hard," and the newly released "The Kingdom." "The Simpson's Movie" was most

popular with guys, receiving the most votes.

Knowing what movies men and women like is important, but what about the ever important question, "What should you see for date night?"

For the most part "Superbad" was loved by both genders.

*"Superbad" is more than just super bad; it's super awesome."*

— *Latasha Lutz, student*

Student Latasha Lutz said, "Superbad" is more than super bad; it's super awesome."

"Transformers" and "Bourne Ultimatum" also were among the top picks for both genders.

Students also said what they are looking forward to seeing in upcoming months.

**"Feast of Love" rated R. Starring: Morgan Freeman, Greg Kinnear, Radha Mitchell**

In this film, after a coffee shop owner is divorced from his wife, his friend encourages him to find someone new. During his

search, he is plagued with fear of leaving himself open to being hurt again.

**"The Darjeeling Limited" rated R. Starring: Owen Wilson, Adrien Brody, Jason Schwartzman, Natalie Portman, Anjelica Huston.**

This sad tale follows three brothers on a train trip across India. While on the trip, the depressing family history of the men and how they got where they are now unfolds. With a failed suicide attempt, death of a close relative, and not knowing their brothers very well, they journey together and try to work out their problems.

**"The Seeker: The Dark is Rising" rated PG. Starring: Alexander Ludwig.**

This movie is based on a book by Susan Cooper. The main character, Will Stanton, is the last from a group of warriors who fight against the forces of evil. In the end, Will must save the world or all will be lost.

**"Michael Clayton" rated R. Starring: George Clooney, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton, Sydney Pollack.**

Michael Clayton is a "fixer" at a law firm in New York. He handles the hard cases while struggling with his divorce. When he gets a very important case, someone attempts to sabotage it.

**"Elizabeth: The Golden Age" rated PG-13. Starring: Cate Blanchett, Geoffrey Rush, Clive Owen.**

"Elizabeth: The Golden Age" tells a historical story from the predestine point of view. It's loosely based on a portion of the life of Queen Elizabeth I.

**"We Own The Night" rated R. Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Eva Mendes, Mark Wahlberg.** This is a movie about three

brothers trying to reconnect. The film involves New York cops fighting the Russian Mafia, and a family forced to pick sides. This is expected to be an exciting movie for people who like old fashion films.

**"Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married?" rated PG-13. Starring: Tyler Perry, Janet Jackson, Malik Yoba, Jill Scott.**

This movie is based on a play by Tyler Perry. Eight married couples who where friends in college, have a weekend get-away. One couple is cheating, and the truth about much comes out over the seven days they all spend together.

### Upcoming movie releases

#### Opening Oct. 12:

- "Lars and the Real Girl" rated PG-13; Starring: Ryan Gosling, Emily Mortimer, Paul Schneider.
- "Control" rated R; Starring: Sam Riley, Samantha Morton, Craig Parkinson.
- "The Final Season" rated PG; Starring: Sam Astin, Powers Booth, Rachel Leigh Cook.
- "We Own the Night" rated R; Starring: Eva Mendes, Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix.

#### Opening Oct. 19:

- "Rendition" not yet rated; Starring: Reese Witherspoon, Jake Gyllenhaal, Meryl Streep.
- "The Things We Lost in the Fire" rated R; Starring: Halle Berry, Benicio Del Toro.
- "Reservation Road" not yet rated; Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Mark Ruffalo, Jennifer Connelly.
- "Gone Baby Gone" rated R; Starring: Casey Affleck, Ed Harris, Morgan Freeman.

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# Captured emotion

## Featured artist portrays passion through photography

Amy Lipko  
Staff Writer

It has long been believed that art is a personal experience. Now Green River Community College students can discover art themselves at the Helen S. Smith gallery located in the Holman library.

The gallery has been host to several art exhibits throughout 2007, displaying numerous forms of media from photography to ceramics to paintings.

Currently on exhibit is the photographic works of former Spokane Art School instructor, Shelly Murney.

The exhibit, titled "Hinterland," demonstrates a great juxtaposition between the beauties of nature with the virus of technology. As the modern world continues to expand, rural areas that used to evoke images of a time gone by are now sprinkled with tools of "The Machine."

One of Murney's most powerful images is of a cell phone tower standing tall and solitary in a flat, farmed wheat field. A farm house stands cozily nearby, looking oddly out of place next to the foretelling spire. While most of her photographic stories are told in black and white, Murney explains in her artist statement, "I alter my film based images with paint using color subjectively, referencing nostalgia, atmosphere, and memory."

The soft detailing of blues, reds, and yellows allows the landscape, as well as certain objects, to come alive through the thought provoking images of each

photo.

Growing up in Lompoc, California among the richness of nut and plum orchards, Murney developed a love for the natural world. But when progress started to steamroll over those surroundings, Murney found a way to capture the preciousness of what was left through more than just photography.

Becoming part of Tolstoy Farm in 2002, an intentional community in Eastern Washington, she became a part of a community consisting of farmers and people who believe in living a truly organic life.

On the website [www.tolstoyfarm.org](http://www.tolstoyfarm.org), one can view a 300TD Mercedes Benz that has been converted to what is called a "Greasecar" that runs on a vegetable fuel system.

The website also shows the possibilities of alternative power sources (the community building on Tolstoy farm is run off solar panels) by checking out the links page for more information.

Not content to keep her art to herself, Murney graciously shares it with her fellow man by teaching at Eastern Washington University. Having herself studied under Norman Locks (once an assistant to Ansel Adams) at the University of California Santa Cruz, she understands the importance of encouraging others to pursue what moves them.

"I don't see the camera as a tool to create an objective view of the world. Rather, the camera is a means to express a



This photograph by Shelley Murney is displayed in the Helen S. Smith Gallery on campus. It is just one of many in Murney's "Hinterland Portfolio."

subjective, personal relationship with my environment," Murney said in a recent interview.

Whether she's teaching, taking a photo, or helping the environment by living organically, Shelly Murney definitely is motivated by caring for the world around her. She will be continuing to spread her message through her moving

photography until October 26 at GRCC.

A solo exhibit also is in the works at Tinman Artworks in Spokane, Wash. in February 2008. Her other works, "Veil of Hate and Botanical Studies 2004," are featured at [www.ShellyLand.com](http://www.ShellyLand.com).

### Helen S. Smith Gallery hours

- Monday-Thursday:  
7 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Friday: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Saturday: Closed
- Sunday: 1 p.m.-7 p.m.

Photos by Amy Lipko

