

# The Current

Green River Community College



## Volleyball player hits milestone

Star player Katelyn Nugent leaves Green River to go to New York and a District I university; a first at Green River

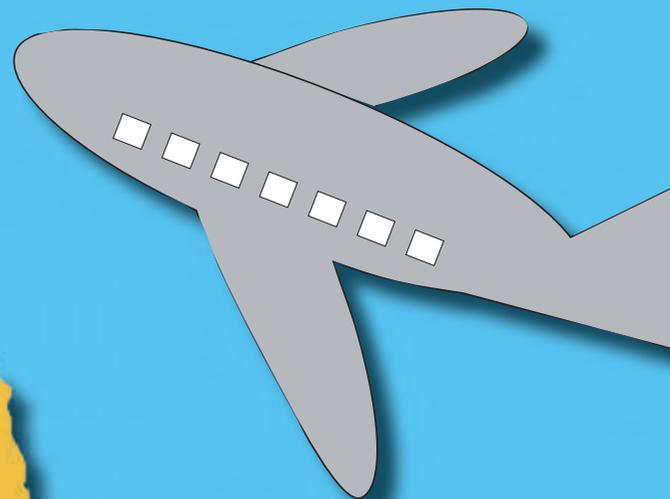
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June 4, 2012 | WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GREENRIVERCURRENT

**VOLUME 46, ISSUE 12**

## STUDY ABROAD

Everything you need to know about Green River's outstanding study abroad programs



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### CAMPUS page 2

#### Campus Forest Restoration Project grows strong

Root rot threatens the forest that surrounds campus - see who's fighting for the trees

### A&E page 7

#### Kings take over Lindbloom

Popular pop-rock band We The Kings play a concert on campus for stop on tour

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#### KGRG satisfies on a national level

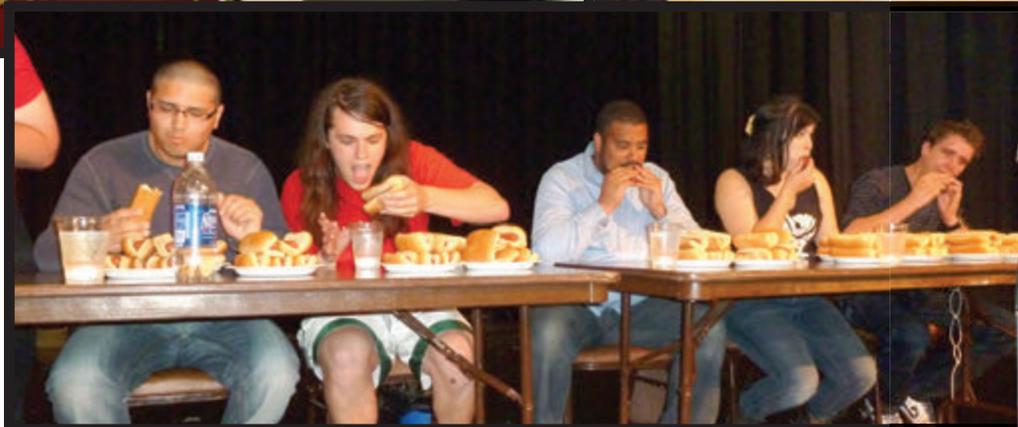
On iHeart.com, KGRG is the number one college station, beating out Stanford University's KZSU

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#### 3-dimensional movies are a tiring trend

With the aftermath of "Avatar", 3D has become the norm for the movie industry - see what one staff writer thinks about this

# Spring Fling 2012



The Spring Fling was held in the Lindbloom student center and occurred on May 21 - 24.

## Campus Forest Restoration Project grows strong

The school's surrounding forests are slowly receding due to root rot, but the Department of Natural Resources is fighting back

By: Rachel Sant  
Senior Writer

Green River's surrounding forest is a place full of life. Wild rabbits slip through the tall grasses, searching for food. The hoots of owls pass through the trees, during both day and night. Deer wander peacefully, pausing to take a nibble of the vegetation from time to time.

These creatures are only a few of the many that call the trees of our woods home. However, over the last several years, trees in these woods have fallen over the many trails and

died due to sickness.

Green River's Natural Resources Program and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced their combined progress on the Forest Restoration Project on Thursday, May 10.

Along the edges of the forest trails, one can easily spot many stumps of old trees. However, neither Green River or the DNR cut these trees down; they fell over after growing sick and dying.

This sickness is called 'root rot' and targets the tree's root system.

Unfortunately, Douglas-

fir trees, the tree most vulnerable to this root rot, primarily makes up the campus' 120 years old forest.

To add to this, new brush grows in without anything to block its way. In the future, this prevents seedlings from growing into newer, stronger trees.

In order to solve the issue, the first task involves clearing out the new brush, in order to make room for new saplings to grow. After this, new kinds of trees are planted.

According to Green River's Forest Manager, Paula Kaiser, this should

prevent the problem from surfacing again.

"If we put [Douglas-fir] back into the area, we're not helping the problem," Kaiser said. "We're putting in a tree that will get sick, and will not be able to mature. So we find trees that are supposed to be here."

These new trees that will be planted are resistant to the root rot and include alder, western red cedar, and Sitka spruce trees.

This project initially started several years ago with Dick Hopkins, a Natural Resources instructor. He worked with

the Department of Natural Resources to allow the college to manage 90 acres of the woods. However, only two years ago, the official restoration process began.

For now, the Project already did what it can do without the contract allowing the restoration to commence.

Removing about five acres of brush near the paved trail, the Natural Resources Program planted approximately 2100 saplings in the area.

The Project's remaining work currently waits on a contract before it can move forward with taking

down some of the dead trees. They hope to get fully underway with the rest of the project by summer.

There is still a large amount of work needed for the woods. According to Kaiser, the Forest Restoration Project is expected to take at least ten to fifteen years to reach completion.

However, when finally done, Kaiser plans to continue to maintain the forest for the long term. A long, healthy future awaits the forest of Green River, full of soaring hawks, skittering mice, and everything in-between.

# Thespian import from Norway

With full support from back home, Benedicte Andreassen shines on stage

By: Imana Gunawan  
Staff Writer

Adrenaline rushing. Heartbeat speeding. A thousand thoughts scuttling through the mind every second. The audience murmurs with anticipation. The lights go down. The stage manager cues. Standby. Go.

20-year-old Benedicte Andreassen is no stranger to this sequence of events. Originally from Bodoe, Norway, this youngest child of two has been performing since primary school.

"I went to a school that was very open [to] art," said Andreassen. "[My first play was] in fifth grade."

Since her first performance, Andreassen still has fervor for the dramatic arts. She is currently pursuing an Associate of Arts degree in Green River Community College and hoping to major in performing arts in a four-year university. However, performing wasn't part of her initial career path.

"I told my father when I was in high school that I wanted to be a veterinarian... he said 'what? No, you're gonna be on stage,'" she reminisced with a laugh, considering how with some parents, it is usually the other way around.

"They're really open about [my interests]...letting me do what I want I do," said Andreassen.

From then on, Andreassen

switched lanes and studied drama instead, aspiring to be in the industry.

"I really enjoy screen acting, so that's what I'm hoping for, but I'm really open [to theater too]," she said.

Although being a performer meant that scrutiny was never far behind, Andreassen never looked over her shoulder. She takes her teachers' critiques and doesn't get offended easily. Aside from judgment, Andreassen also maintains a positive attitude when dealing with nerves, making the 'picturing the audience in their underwear' method quite unnecessary.

"I've always been very good at dealing with nerves and stress," said Andreassen, who credited this trait to her extensive experience with horse riding that helped her develop a reflex mechanism.

"If something happens and you're out with a horse, you can't just freeze because both you and the horse are in danger," she explained. "You have to be able to think and move [at the same time]."

Aside from reflex mechanisms, Andreassen also has pre-performance rituals that help her stagecraft.

"I usually try to concentrate my energy from the inside, kind of a meditation thing," she said. "I [also] try to picture myself as the character instead of me acting [as the character]."

Rather than getting the jitters from the presence of an audience, Andreassen gets an



adrenaline rush. Along with the series of backstage mayhems, this surge of on-stage exhilaration is part of what attracts her to performing.

"Of course you're tense, like 'oh my god, I'm going to be on stage today!' [but] I think it's funny because I get such an adrenaline rush [when I'm on stage], in a good way," she explained, chuckling to herself.

Considering Andreassen's long-term involvement with the performing arts (and not just acting; she was also in a band called 'Consider the Options' back in Norway), one would think that the pressures would grow tiresome. On the contrary, she

never feels burdened because for her, performing has developed into a passion.

"If I know it's something I want to do, I don't do it for anything else... I just want to perform," she said. "It's [becoming] a lifestyle I guess."

Come June, Andreassen will be playing one of the roles in Green River Drama Department's production of *August: Osage County*, a dark comedic play directed by Andreassen's drama instructor Robin Bowles.

Upon being asked of career prospects, Bowles considers Andreassen to have the right assets for an on-screen career, but he also hopes for a stage career for her.

"I think she could be a good classical leading lady," Bowles continued. "She should do her native stuff... [Henrik] Ibsen and [August] Strindberg and all those Scandinavian [playwrights], she could do those very well."

With the myriad of options in the fine arts business, Andreassen strives to maintain an open mind about her career prospects.

"Studying drama, you always have to have a plan B, so I'm just going for it and if it doesn't happen I hope I can still be in the creative market," she said. "It's what I want to do, but the world is not meant for everyone to be able to pursue their dream and I accept that."

## Man on Street



### What is a summer memory that you would like to re-live?

Running along the beach with my friends, doing stupid things with my friends in Gili Trawangan in Lombok [Indonesia] a year ago. We went to the beach, we went snorkeling and played volleyball, but we lost to the foreigners!



**Diandra Hassan**

I wish I could go to New York with my friends again. [We were in a] homestay program with E.F. (English First) and then just walked around and went to Soho and met Leighton Meester and Blake Lively!



**Tika Diagnesty**

If I had a summer memory that I could do over again it would be going back and play baseball tournaments.

We always have one big tournament where we'd go to California or somewhere fun.



**Tony Reavis**

I would say going to Japan. I travelled a little bit in Tokyo and Osaka.

I just enjoyed it; I just enjoyed the cities and the cultures. I only went to the two cities so I kind of want to visit more and do more traveling around it.



**Jake Fairweather**

*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](mailto: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](http://www.thecurrentonline.net)**



**Top photo:** Benedicte Andreassen during one her scenes onstage for Green River's drama department. **Above photo:** Andreassen comforts a fellow actor during a separate scene. She has been performing since she was a child back in Norway.

## One on one: Student vice president

Find a little bit out about Yu Sato, who has been elected as our ASGRCC vice president

### When and where were you born?

I was born in Tokyo, Japan on December 11, 1991.

### How long have you been involved with student government?

I have been serving as a public relation senator in student government since February 22, 2012.

### Have you been involved before coming to Green River?

No, I haven't. However, I was serving as an active student in high school, and I always wanted to be involved in student government.

### How do you plan to involve more people in campus activities and the student government?

I would like to have more events that can promote student government. We had three open houses in this spring quarter encouraging more students to get involved in student government and to get more voters for the presidential election.

As a result, we had three hundred more voters than last year. I would like to continue to have open houses and other activities.

In addition, I would like to establish the system to inform student body weekly about the open houses and all other activities by emailing.

### What are some causes you want to work for in the upcoming school year?

I will keep working on student government promotion, smoking policy, and establishing a better relationship with student body.

### Do you think you will be able to balance the commitments as vice president with school and personal life?

Yes, I do. I am a very good time manager. I believe that getting things done as quickly as possible and as well as possible is extremely important in a successful life. I have worked in the

international program office as a marketing assistant for a year, and I have successfully balanced my work and study. I have gained the skills that I can make the right decisions at the right time.

### What are you looking most forward to doing in the student government?

I am looking forward to working with new senators and president next year. I would like to build a sustainable relation between us as a senate, and a stronger relation between us and student body.

### Is there one thing you'd like to tell students in order for them to trust student government more?

We think about the student body as our family. I would like to hear *your* voice more often, so I am working to develop a process that gives students the ability to communicate constructively, their ideas of improvement, suggestions, and concerns.

For we think student body is like our family, we will do our *best* and take all issues seriously to make our school a better and more comfortable place.

### What kinds of events would you like to see on campus?

I believe that diversity is one of the best things in Green River, so I would like to see all kinds of events, because all events are different.

### How well do you feel clubs and events are promoted on campus?

They are promoting their events, clubs, activities and organizations very well. However, there is always space to improve because we have such a huge student body. We are all working on it.

### What is your favorite place to be on campus?

LSC because it is one of the best places where I meet the most people on campus.



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## Trying to put racism down

American Minorities and Ethnics in Society teaches culture

By: Heidi Lyons  
Staff Writer

Racism. It's everywhere. And as much as people want to deny its presence, the fact remains that it can be found even in the midst of our own campus.

Culture and diversity within our country today is staggering and many people are not given the opportunity to notice the roots and cultures that surround them every day.

American Minorities and Ethnics in Society (AMES) is a unique class offered on the Green River campus. Not only is it designed to inform students about the history of America, but AMES 100 students also get the opportunity to delve deeper into history's textbooks and really see life accounts of the events that helped shape what our country is today.

A second course with no prerequisites and is only offered annually during Spring Quarter, AMES 150, focuses

specifically on the social and historical perspectives of people that occupy the Pacific Northwest today.

The outcome for the class is to consciously be aware of the society that students call their homes. "These issues of race, that we see on a national level, are in our backyards," said Carlos Adams, instructor of the AMES class. "They are happening to people right here, right now".

The main idea that Adams wanted to convey to students is that "We have a very racist history in the Pacific Northwest that we're not taught".

The course brings an awareness to how racism is unavoidable and that people cannot simply turn a blind eye to it. "If we want to put racism as a thing in the past, we have to acknowledge that it exists and confront it"

"On a personal level, [this course] allows us to understand how racism influences everyone in our society, and that there is no such thing as being color blind. Everybody sees races. And that aware-

ness is important if we're going to move beyond race."

Select guest speakers come to our campus and tell a personal example of diversity within the Pacific Northwest. Guest speakers include: Aaron Dixon, a Black Panther Party Member, Kenji Onishi, a WWII Nisei who was sent to a Minidoka Relocation Camp in 1942, and Cecilia Concepcion Alvarez, a self-taught Chicano artist, among others. These guests are local to the Pacific Northwest and are invited to the campus to give an accurate account for the events and history that they held a role in making. Classmates as well as other students on campus have the privilege to see a critical piece of history from each speaker's life.

Adams stated, "It's about creating awareness that race plays a role in people's lives that impacts us."

One step to defeating racism on campus is through gaining an awareness of it, and from there it can be eliminated all together.

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[www.twitter.com/thecurrentnet](http://www.twitter.com/thecurrentnet)

## Also on the Inside

"Removing about five acres of brush near the paved trail, the Natural Resources Program planted approximately 2100 saplings in the area."  
Rachel Sant **Page 2**

# A&E

A&E Editor: Jacob Jagodinski  
[ae.editor@mail.greenriver.edu](mailto:ae.editor@mail.greenriver.edu)

# 5

June 4,  
2012



Comic by: Hayden Scott

# Student art reaches a new creative height

Shown in the Helen S. Smith Gallery, student pieces reach within

By: Stirling Radliff  
Senior Writer

On an unusual afternoon in Munich, 1910, Wassily Kandinsky, looking through the dim light of his studio, failed to recognize one of his own canvases and was taken aback, finding great meaning and beauty in the seeming allusiveness and ambiguity of it.

Abstract art was then born and a new tradition of artistry, following the individualism of modern art since Manet's "The Luncheon on the Grass": art, not by natural appearances or human antiquity but the artist himself.

The Helen S. Smith Gallery (in Holman Library), home to the works of Green River's select art students, exhibits much in that tradition:

At once following rows of pensive, solitary black-and-white photos; photo deconstructions; a painting of a cow with human boobs and penis being strangled

by a rope; a woman screaming, not being able to make any noise; a woman with typographical hair; a statuette snake made of nails, a dragon made of white plastic fork pieces, a down-trodden fisherman holding his nets, and an owl made of paper clips; assortments of teapots and fine ceramics – and so on.

Though there are many works that are entertaining if not wholly insightful, some are too obvious. In one painting, showing the silhouette of a father and his baby to a dark blue background, it says in the branches of a tree, "He always catches me; he never lets me fall." Though a wonderful sentiment, takes away from what could easily be understood by the viewer.

Elsewhere, "Light among the darkness"; and the various sorrow/joy paintings – the words make the painting less engaging by telling the viewer what he should be feeling than letting him feel it of his own emotional

faculties.

We might say that this art is indeed modern and plays to the modern zeitgeist of "artistry," but it's fair to say that it is modern in the basest sense – that there's nothing to be seen, generally, that can't be seen in the extant works of the twentieth century, and no grand surprises.

But these are the works of artists in their "earlier periods"; the works of aspirant students – one after another we see maybe a Monet before his time, and others easily forgotten.

What we should say, though, and justifiably, is that in the run from novice to master, many of these works are of a quality not often seen in two-year colleges.

Not so much by the techniques which made them, but by their ability to figure the philosophical, psychological, and political realities of the artist to the viewer's mind – from the dark of a near indescribable surrealist painting, to the

humor of a sketch of a corn-dog (a dog made of corn).

Art is, after Kandinsky, individual, abstract; art has never stopped being political. And these artists fittingly touch our modern expectations. Only now, through the development of their artistic techniques, can we expect something beyond those expectations, touching a nerve to growth, to changed perception through new and newer artistic insights (as Kandinsky did).



Photos by: Stirling Radliff



# Concert Calendar

Jun 10	The Used @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$25+)
13	Maps & Atlases @ The Crocodile (Doors open at 8 p.m., all ages, \$12+)
14	Primus @ Concerts at Marymoor (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$57+)
15	Paul Revere & the Raiders @ Skagit Valley Casino (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$57+)
17	Collective Soul @ Neptune Theatre (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$26+)
	The Dandy Warhols @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$20+)
19	Scissor Sisters @ Paramount Theatre (Doors open at 7:30 p.m. all ages, \$31+)
21	The B-52's @ Concerts at Marymoor (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$58+)
22	Rhett Miller @ The Crocodile (Doors open at 8 p.m., 21+, \$18+)
23	Mountain Goats @ Columbia City Theater (Doors open at 8 p.m., 21+, \$23+)
26	Foster The People @ WaMu Theater (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$40+)
29	Aziz Ansari @ Paramount Theatre (Shows at 7:30 & 10:30 p.m., all ages, \$34+)
Jul 3	Joan Jett & The Blackhearts @ Snoqualmie Casino (Doors open at 7 p.m., 21+, \$69+)
	Mayhem Fest w/ Slipknot, Motörhead @ White River Amphitheatre (Doors open at 1:30 p.m., all ages, \$42+)
6	Justin Townes Earle @ Showbox at the Market (Doors open at 8 p.m., 21+, \$20)
17	Slash @ Paramount Theatre (Doors open at 8 p.m., all ages, \$34)
22	Snoop Dogg @ Showbox SODO (Doors open at 7 p.m., all ages, \$40)
24	Emmylou Harris & Steve Martin @ Chateau Ste Michelle Winery (Doors open at 7 p.m., 21+, \$42+)

## MOVIE REVIEW

# 'Dictator' follows Cohen formula

By: Reece Menzel  
Staff Writer



"The Dictator", a new film by Sacha Baron Cohen, is a fantastic comedy. The film features Cohen as the main character with Anna Faris as the love interest. Like other Cohen films, such as Borat and Bruno, "The Dictator" captures the audience with gut-busting laughs and crude themes.

From Alladeen's one night stand with Megan Fox to playing his own dop-pelganger, audiences are roaring this time at director Larry Charles' latest feat.

Haffaz Alladeen (Sacha Baren Cohen) is the leader of Wadiya, an oil-rich country in North Africa.

When the UN addresses concern about Wadiya's nuclear program, Alladeen goes on the offensive and struggles to keep democracy out of his country. Alladeen is a very narcissistic ruler that abuses his

power and when crossed the wrong way, he presents his "execution gesture", allowing his followers take them away. After he meets a vegan activist (Anna Faris), his ambitions soon change.

Cohen's performance in "The Dictator" was of his best. He delivered every joke and awkward moment perfectly in his own vintage humor. Mockery best suits Cohen style, and he really pulled through in this film.

Although this hilarious film has many strong points, it has a minor flaw. The movie has no informative knowledge on dictatorship and it misinterprets international relations.

This may seem important, but this film is meant to be a comedy, and in its nature, it does not need to be informative, just well... humorous. This being said, political accuracy is a small component that has been sacrificed for the sake of the comedic aspect. Despite the lack of accuracy, the film still maintained sufficient



Sacha Baron Cohen plays Dictator Haffaz Alladeen, in his third movie that features the eccentric actor as a character from the '90s program, "Da Ali G Show".  
Courtesy Photo | screenrant.com

depth to the story.

The biggest downfall of this film was the "Sacha Baron Cohen written cliché." The writing was solid and the lines and acting were strong, but going into the theater expecting anything more than a Cohen film, and viewers will be somewhat disappointed. Although the mock style comedy is still in full swing in today's arsenal of genres, Cohen's taste might soon come off as repetitive and fall short. The Larry Charles fan will be impatiently waiting for what's next in line

for Sacha Baron Cohen.

Like Cohen's previous films, "The Dictator" was created to make the viewer laugh. Successfully, this film is guaranteed a laugh in some way, whether it is a full-out, tears-down-the-face hoot or an uncomfortable chuckle. Viewers in the theater will even fall out of their seat!

**Rated: R**  
**Director:** Larry Charles  
**Starring:** Sacha Baron Cohen, Anna Faris

## The Current Picks

### WEBSITE/APP

Soulpancake.com



By: Jacob Jagodinski

If the name Rainn Wilson has never come to mind, then walk inside and turn on the television for once in your life.

This peculiar man happens to be the eccentric character Dwight Shrute on NBC's popular show "The Office."

On top of that, he happens to be one of the creators of soulpancake.com.

Soulpancake.com is a mash-up of modern activities, conversations, and perspectives that are all in-tuned to make people challenge their minds daily.

So please, create an account, and check it out. It is fun, iconic and even irrelevant to life as a whole, but still amusing.

### MOVIE

The Nightmare Before Christmas



By: Shane Lange

Many of us counted down the days until Christmas with accuracy parallel to a clock. Tim Burton's "Nightmare Before Christmas" tells the story of Jack Skellington, and his discovery and infatuation with Christmas Town.

This movie has you amused as Jack does all that he can to bring Christmas home with him to Halloween town.

Watching Christmas get twisted and mangled by ghouls and monsters proves to be both entertaining and hilariously horrifying. I applaud Tim Burton and Disney for their magical and heartwarming creation.

### BOOK

Beach Road



By: Dylan Whitcher

James Patterson's brilliance shines in the murder mystery novel, "Beach Road", where number one high school basketball prospect, Dante Halleyville, finds himself in a sticky situation after being pinned as the prime suspect in a triple homicide.

Pleading for innocence, Halleyville calls upon close friend and protagonist Tom Dunleavy who runs a struggling one-man law firm in the Hamptons.

With new clues and an anonymous mystery character, Patterson provides several twists and turns with a jaw dropping ending that will leave you shocked and begging for more.

### MUSIC

Masterpiece Theatre



By: Jeremy Siregar

This indie rock band thrives on creative lyrics like in "Celebrity Status" and "Good To You."

Marianas Trench's most memorable song of 2009's, "Masterpiece Theatre", is conveniently titled "Masterpiece Theatre part III." The piece is a collage of all the songs in the album, combined into a single medley.

"Masterpiece Theatre Part III" songs are exceptional, with a rather unique combination of orchestral instruments, acapella, and rock.

"Masterpiece Theatre part III" is a monumental conclusion that sums up the album in one word: epic.



Opened by The Famous Red Scarf and Imagine Dragons, We The Kings stop by Green River before an Australian tour and an upcoming spot on the Warped Tour.

# Kings take over Lindbloom

## Sounds systems replace lunch tables as We The Kings play their love

By: Jeremy Siregar  
Staff Writer

The pop/rock band We The Kings and opening band Imagine Dragons rocked Lindbloom Student Center's stage on Friday, May 25.

The concert was organized and managed by Green River's Leadership team, CLEO. Dani Chang, director of student services, personally led the team in organizing this special event.

Opening for Imagine Dragons was a Green River local band called The Famous Red Scarf. Their handle over the crowd was surprisingly well done. They were comically entertaining and musically capable. They performed five rather spontaneous cover songs before Imagine Dragons were finally ready to take the stage.

The young emerging group is an indie rock band that started in Las Vegas in 2008. On the stage, Imagine Dragons showed impressive skills and control over their music. Although their fame has not reached sky-high status, they received a rather positive response from the crowd.

Following Imagine Dragons' opening, Karel Adiwardoyo and Denn Hamilton took the stage and soothed the crowd while We The Kings prepared

themselves for the stage. The duo performed a cover of Coldplay's "Paradise" followed by a unique mash-up of "Wonderwall" by Oasis and "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" by Green Day.

Tension rose as technical difficulties prevented We The Kings from entering the stage. The crowd chanted and demanded for We The Kings, pressuring the sound system team to repair the problems immediately.

After 30 minutes of delay, life breathed through the speakers and signaled the arrival of We The Kings.

Over 500 fans and admirers welcomed the band with a sea of screams and cheers. Throughout the whole performance, friends and strangers unified their voices and sang along together.

We The Kings powered through the concert by opening with well known songs like "She Takes Me High" and "Skyway Avenue". The concert was a combination of 13 songs from different albums that lasted for two hours. Their performance was dynamic and energetic.

Their control over the crowd is worthy of recognition. Vocalist/guitarist Travis Clark is a natural when it comes to leading

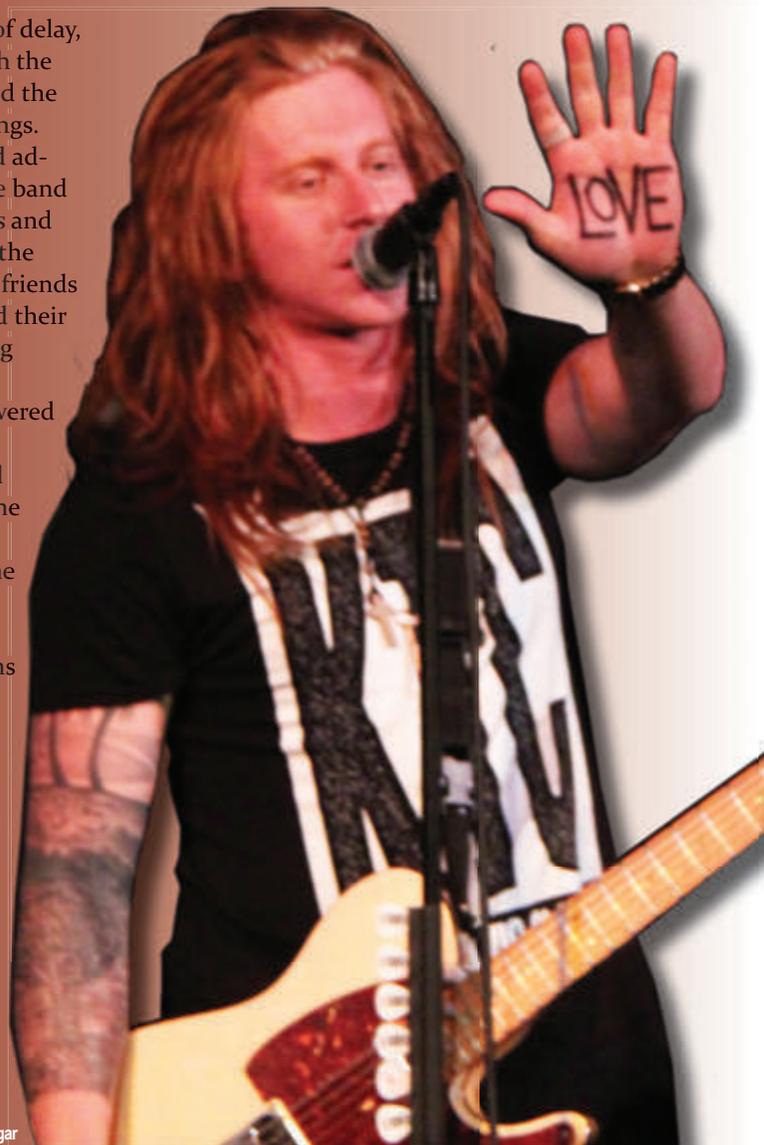
and interacting with the crowd.

During breaks, he would bring up a joke or an unusual experience the band encountered during tours, like how nervous they were performing on a stage where Nirvana once upon a time embraced. On some occasions, he would team up with his band-mates and entertain the audience, like when he joked that bassist Charles Trippy had an

unusual fetish with women screaming.

In the end of the concert, We The Kings opened a meet and greet session. All members of the band signed autographs and conversed with the crowd.

The concert was worth the money spent. For less than \$20, students and non-students enjoyed a wonderful and intense night with We The Kings.



Photos by: Jeremy Siregar

# TV drowns in the 'mainstream'



## Hail the hipster Jacob Jagodinski

Nostalgic feelings reminisce back through you while thinking back to the engrossing sense that recent television shows have given you. It would be understandable to assume that most of these shows have been from some sort of network channel.

Suddenly, ABC, Fox, NBC, CBS come to mind. Each of these channels are predicated upon the same tender banes: horrendous cliché-ridden plotlines, abysmal acting, raw set pieces, and unoriginality.

The first obvious complaint for network television shows is this: most of them draw a line between good and evil. "Law and Order," "NCIS" and the "CSI" series are all shows branded on the pragmatic idea that in order for an audience to find the show interesting, there must be a clear and decisive goal to reach: the eradication of "bad guys." However there are plenty of shows, even network shows that have done this successfully. One in particular was even humorous at times.

Running for five seasons, NBC's "Chuck" offered viewers a story about a typical young man who became a spy. As the tale of "Chuck" evolved, so did the desire to submerge its audience in ubiquitous corporate advertisements. I am not idly chatting about background props that even some of the higher-end shows have, no, I am talking about literally watching two of the lead characters bash out which one of the two has a better tasting Subway sandwich.

Unfortunately, most people have been spellbound by these two-thumbs-up shows in the past, which are typically about cops, doctors, lawyers, and even more cops. So look

back to all the times that you watched "Grey's Anatomy" or "Desperate Housewives", and think, is this the best on television?

The answer is possibly, but there is much more to see.

Actually, many shows present the clattering vibe that the quintessential drama has, while presenting a greater thematic side.

Look at ShowTime, where shows like "Dexter", "Weeds", and "Shameless" steal the limelight. One must wonder how it is that plots pertaining to methodical serial killers, pot-selling moms, and wretched, drunk families wane from mainstream while network shows breathe popularity.

Even AMC puts forward authentic series such as "Mad

*“Unfortunately, most people have been spellbound by these two-thumbs-up shows”*

Men", "Breaking Bad", and "The Walking Dead". Each of these titles are excellent examples of shows that can have just one plotline drive them forward, while having the backing of a prolific writing staff and a genuine cast. However greater these shows may seem in my mind, there have been exceptions to network television shows.

"House M.D." based itself off of the same, dull preface that most network shows have; meaning it happened to be about a doctor who plays by his own rules.

But House did something that most mainstream shows did not do: it let the hardcore viewers read between the lines of a truly psychotic man that had been written and portrayed to perfection. "House" is a case where the actors and writing make a show what it is really meant to be.

There is no need to contemplate over which show you should watch. There is only a need to find the ones of the best quality and one can rarely find those on network television channels.

# Japan

## What is included?

- Round trip group airfare on program dates: Seattle/Tokyo/Seattle.
- Group transfers to/from Narita airport.
- Student housing accommodations while at Kanagawa IT.
- \$400 Food Allowance.
- Arrival and farewell parties.
- Some cultural activities and excursions.
- Student basic medical insurance.

## What is not included?

- College tuition and books.
- Passport and visa fees.
- Meals not previously specified.
- Curriculum activities admissions.
- Local transportation.
- Personal and entertainment expenses/Independent travel expenses.
- US and Japanese airport fees and taxes (\$135).
- Anything not specified as included in the program.

# Australia & New Zealand

## What is included?

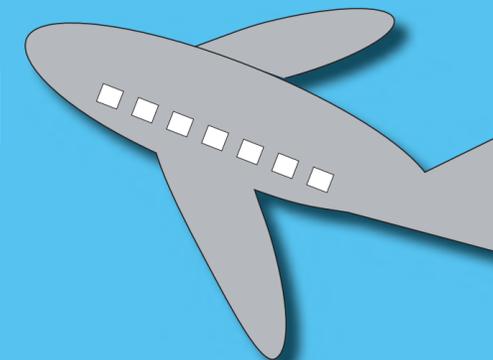
- Round trip group airfare on the program dates: Seattle/Melbourne/Auckland/Seattle.
- Transfers to and from Melbourne and Auckland airports.
- Housing accommodations at each of the locations.
- Many meals in Melbourne.
- Kitchen facilities in Auckland.
- Pre-departure and arrival orientations.
- Welcome BBQ lunch in Melbourne and farewell BBQ in Auckland.
- Basic student medical insurance.
- Tram pass while in Melbourne.
- Train pass in Auckland.

## What is not included?

- College tuition and books.
- Passport and visa fees.
- Fees for use of some sporting, telephone and Internet facilities.
- Telephone and internet facilities at other locations.
- Meals not specified.
- Personal and entertainment expenses.
- Independent travel and expenses during and after the program.
- Curriculum activities admissions.
- US, NZ and Australian airport fees and taxes.
- Anything not specified as included in the program.

# STUDY ABROAD

The time is now...



By: Jacob Jagodinski  
A&E Editor

Students from all around the world journey far distances in order to attend Green River. However, there are many students from the local area around Green River who have never traveled abroad. Every day, students wonder about the outside world. To break off from the normality of their own environments, many travel abroad.

Green River happens to offer two exceptionally well-received study abroad programs, one of which is to Japan during the fall of 2012 and another to Australia and New Zealand during the winter of 2013.

Up to 25 students from Green River and other community colleges will be traveling to Tokyo, Japan; one of Japan's largest cities.

In Tokyo, students will be attending a local university called the Jikei Language School. Commonly known for its fine arts and cultural programs, Jikei offers a grand amount of educational programs and activities. All students will take 15 Green River humanity credits. These classes include Art, Photography, and a conversational Japanese Language and Culture course.

While there is no prerequisite for language and culture, students will endure daily Japanese conversational courses that are at least two hours long. To exploit student's knowledge of the Japanese language even further, students will have a language partner from Japan that they can work with routinely.

"These [language partners] are students who are trying to improve their English skills," said Cindy Card, coordinator of the

study abroad programs at Green River. "We have set up ambassadorships and language partners so that students have someone that will help them with their Japanese." Card mentioned that while this will help both students improve their language proficiency, it will also help the Green River students become adaptable to the Japanese culture.

During the winter of 2013, Green River presents a stunning study abroad program that takes students to the majestic lands of Australia and New Zealand.

While taking 15 transfer credits in History, Biology and Australian and New Zealand Culture, students will spend the first five weeks in Melbourne, a grandiose city at the southeastern tip of Australia. There, students will take courses at Newman College, which happens to be 10 to 15 minutes from the center of downtown. During these first few weeks, the group will have the opportunity to visit many Aboriginal cultural sites and to see a variety of native animals.

After the first five weeks, the group will travel to Auckland, New Zealand, where they will continue to take classes at one of the country's most honorable schools; Unitec University. Unlike the Japanese program, most of the class time consists of outdoor activities.

Australia and New Zealand are two places that allow the student to more simply assimilate through their experiences within the two countries. But as Card said, students should still be somewhat familiar with the culture, for there still are barriers to leap.

As the familiarization of the dauntingly new cultures of Japan, Australia and New Zealand empower the students, they will

soon come to realize that there is much to do while immersed in the two programs. "There is a lot to see when you go to another country and you are not going to see it all," said Card, while talking about the different week-long breaks that each program offers. "Pick out the most important thing that you want to see, [for] once you get there, everything starts to go very fast."

Teaming with cultural activities and field trips, Japan's array of things to do is innumerable. Specifically, students can participate in school and sporting festivals, visit art galleries and museums, and traverse Yokohama and even climb the daring Mount Takao during the independent week.

In Australia, students can look forward to several amplified tours, some of which include going to Victoria Parliament, Cape Schanck, Lorne Surf Beach, Healsville Sanctuary and Bendigo Gold Fields.

However thrilling all of this may sound, students should know what is and what is not included.

Through both the Japanese and Australia & New Zealand programs, students can expect to receive a number of their expenditures already taken care of, such as round-trip airfare, student housing accommodations, transfers to and from the airport, and much more. On the other hand, students will have to separately manage their college tuition and books, passport and visa fees, and some local transportation, including tram passes in Australia and New Zealand.

For some reason or another, students from all around campus are being inspired to trek to new lands in search of audacious adventures. Now, during a person's first few years of college is the time to travel and experience life, so why not try one of Green River's eccentric study abroad programs?

How to Apply: Contact Cindy Card,  
Green River Community College (253)  
833-9111, ext 2160, ccard@greenriver.edu

Design by: Dylan Whitcher,  
Kally Bieber, and Jacob Jagodinski

## The Undercurrent

### New Green River website launches

By: Niclas Bergh  
Staff Writer

Green River's new website will be launched for campus review on June 4 after nearly three years of planning and designing. The new college website will replace the current site on July 2.

By incorporating new technology and software, the entire college website will be more intuitive, user- and mobile-friendly.

"The major changes are in how the website functions," said Katie Rose, assistant director of public information. "We wanted it to be a useful site for people to visit and learn more about GRCC."

The new website has also been designed for use on smart phones and tablets.

"We hope students will be very happy with the new design," Rose said. "We wanted to make sure the new website emphasized the things students want, look for and need."

Starting June 4, feedback from the campus' community will be collected to incorporate new ideas for the website, sort out broken links and correct inaccuracies.

### New director of diversity services

By: Jaspreet Deol  
Staff Writer

Michael Tuncap is Green River's new director of multicultural and diversity services.

Prior to coming here, Tuncap gained his experience as a TRiO advisor at the University of Washington, as well as an Upward Bound advisor at The Evergreen State College.

Recently, he has been serving as an adjunct faculty member at South Puget Sound Community College. Along with his teaching experience in history, sociology, political science and ethnic studies as a faculty member at UC Berkeley, he is well-prepared to work under a community college system.

"Michael presents a deep understanding of diversity, administrative, and leadership competencies," said Dani Chang of director of student life in a press release.

Tuncap is currently earning his PhD from UC Berkeley. He will be mentored by Chang and Joanne Martin, director of student services, to help his transition on campus.

### English division receives \$68k in grants

By: Niclas Bergh  
Staff Writer

Green River's English division recently received a grant from College Spark, a Seattle-based foundation, to fund a startup program for an effective English placement system for high school students.

College Spark is a foundation that funds programs to low-income prospective college students for community colleges, four-year universities and public agencies. This grant, along with the money given by the GRCC foundation totals over \$68,000 and will be distributed over a two-year period.

By creating a program that takes high school students' English grades into account when placing them into college-level English courses, GRCC strengthens their partnership with the Auburn and Kent school districts.

Green River's Math division implemented the same system in 2004.

Green River is one of the six community and technical colleges that is funded by College Spark.

# ANGEL Learning program is replaced with 'Canvas'

A change originally done out of necessity may better benefit elearning students

By: Shane Lange  
Assistant News Editor

Green River's learning management system (LMS), ANGEL Learning, is going to be replaced by Instruction Inc's Canvas, starting in the 2012-2013 school year.

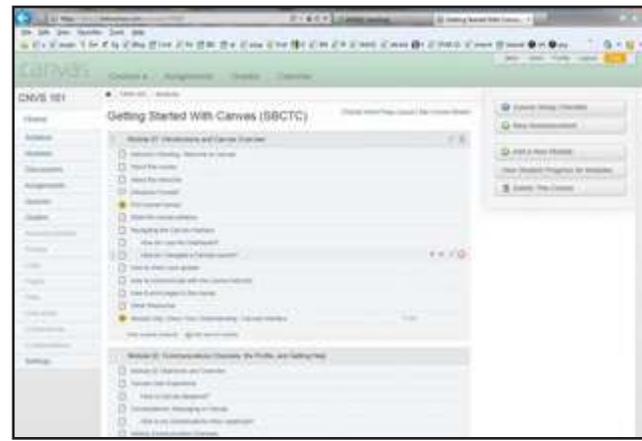
LMSs on campus such as eEducation and Blackboard, had been used since 1998. Green River, along with almost all other colleges, have continued to adopt to these systems.

Green River's faculty has used ANGEL for holding classes, delivering data to students, providing student forums and serving as a medium for students to turn in assignments and to take tests. Both faculty and students have found ANGEL to be very useful.

"[ANGEL] is mission critical to the college," said Dr. Jerry Marshall, eLearning Coordinator as well as a Psychology professor.

Due to how technologically dependent our society has become, LMS have found their place in many colleges and universities. Because of this, being an LMS provider has become a big business.

In May 2009, competing LMS company Blackboard Inc. bought the privately owned ANGEL, forcing all users to switch to another LMS provider. On June 30, 2014, ANGEL will no longer exist and its most favorable features will be integrated into the Blackboard LMS.



Above is a screenshot of what Canvas will look like once released in Fall 2012.

Because of ANGEL's impending termination, the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) sent out 20 Requests for Proposal, with a set of guidelines specifying what is needed in an LMS, to all of the LMS companies that the board was aware of.

The board then received eight proposals in return and a committee of college representatives, including

Marshall, narrowed the selection down to three. With these three as options, staff and faculty from all of the colleges and universities in the state put forth their opinions, and -- with that input -- Canvas was selected.

Apart from Green River,

many other colleges and universities within the state, such as the University of Washington, will be adopting Canvas as their institutional LMS.

Marshall, who has been able to briefly use Canvas, says that is it different from ANGEL Learning, but he believes that the system will work well.

"We called [Canvas's] customer base and said,

'tell us what you think,' and 'what have your experiences been?' and we have yet to hear anything bad," said Marshall. "[Washington] has colleges that are already using it and they love it."

The Canvas program, which was built on a more modern programming language, will provide a user-friendly interface and a better integration with social media to students and faculty alike.

Canvas has the capability to forward announcements to students' profiles on social networks like Facebook and Twitter, while it is also able to forward them through text message. To put that into perspective, ANGEL is only able to do so to students' email addresses.

Marshall will have full access to Canvas LMS on July 1, and the faculty will be trained accordingly some time during the summer quarter.

Due to current negotiations within the SBCTC, a date which Canvas will be available for faculty to use within their classes has not been established, but it will be made live during the 2012-2013 school year.

## The Current wins 25 state awards

The Current leaves the WCCJA with 21 individual awards and 4 staff awards

By: Asha Johnson  
Editor-in-Chief

The Current won more awards than any other college that attended the 2011-2012 Washington Community College Journalism Association luncheon, held at Bellevue College on May 19.

25 awards were received in total: 21 individual awards and four general staff awards, including second place for general excellence and first place for publication sweeps.

Among the individual

awards, five first place medals were awarded for the categories of feature reporting, personality profile, individual commentary, review and editorial illustration.

There were 21 categories available for submissions, for which a max of four or five were allowed per category. The Current submitted 77 pieces in total for this year's WCCJA.

Last year The Current won first place for general excellence, and honorable mention in the same category the year before.

Extended Coverage	1st - Gentry Seipert
2nd - Lacey Steward	Editorial Cartoon
3rd - Remco Zwetsloot & Lita Black	1st - Kelli Wyatt
Feature Reporting	HM - Hayden Scott
1st - Eric Bell	Feature Photo
3rd - Al Eufrazio	3rd - Matthew Montoya
Personality Profile	Portrait Photo
1st - Asha Johnson	2nd - Jean-Pierre Garcia
2nd - Jean-Pierre Garcia	Photo essay
Sports News	2nd - The Current staff
2nd - Dylan Whitcher	Illustration
Honorable mention (HM) - Zach Ghiem	HM - Remco Zwetsloot
Sports Feature	Headlines
HM - Remco Zwetsloot	3rd - Alexander Bevier
Editorial	Page Design
3rd - The Current staff	2nd - Remco Zwetsloot
Individual Commentary	HM - Asha Johnson & Remco Zwetsloot
1st - Brant Delarme	General Excellence
3rd - David Caldwell	2nd - The Current staff
HM - Sean Rockey	Publication Sweeps
Review	1st - The Current staff

## KGRG satisfies on a national level

As KGRG-FM continues to top iHeartRadio's streaming charts, they hope to expand

By: Olivia Mok  
News Editor

KGRG-FM tops the chart in streaming unique among the 14 nationwide colleges selected by Clear Channel's online college radio apps, iHeartRadio.

According to Clear Channel Media & Entertainment, KGRG had more than 21,000 listeners in April, doubling the numbers of streamers of the next university, Appalachian State in North Carolina.

Anthony Androsko, assistant program director of KGRG, acknowledged the expansion of the station's audience and the possibility of program expansion.

"We are the most well-known of iHeart," he said. "This means that we are definitely doing something right and it is a good indicator."

Being one of the two

college stations selected on the West Coast along with Stanford University's KZSU, KGRG was so successful that it brought the whole campus community well beyond its geographic boundaries.

"Now that we are on iHeart, we can actually broaden [the radio program], so everybody has a chance to know [us]," Androsko said.

Matt Mikolas, KGRG's program director, said that this all started with the great history KGRG obtains.

In the '80s and early '90s, KGRG was labeled as Today's Rock by being the pioneer to play local rock music like Green River, The Melvins, and Mudhoney, as well as the renowned Nirvana, known in the area as Aberdeen.

"Throughout the US, people who are music centric, they know what

KGRG represents, and that's a tradition that carried on through to today," said Mikolas. "With our brand Today's Rock, that's what we are trying to bring to our listeners."

Having been broadcasted for 22 years, KGRG is now approaching the path of an honored personality.

With the goal to have KGRG's brand to expand and obtain as many listeners as possible, iHeartRadio is a great tool to help the station succeed.

"As [KGRG] continues to grow and grow, you could almost see it's spreading just all over the United States," said Mikolas. "And pretty soon KGRG-FM could possibly become a household name for the Seattle Underground Rock, and for Today's Rock."

Tom Krause, director of broadcast operations, says the program's mission is to

reach out to the local and campus community and to provide students with real life skills and experience.

Along with the prestigious radio program on campus, iHeartRadio becomes a mean in telling people KGRG's achievements, and the benefits are not constrained to the increased amount of listeners, more is the student influx the program could attract from around the nation.

"There's a phrase that's been out there that I would like to use a lot," said Krause, "Which is 'if you are not getting better, you are getting worse because there is no staying the same.'"

The KGRG station is always looking for improvement, and the radio program has always looked up to professional stations, making it as a much of a real world to students as possible.

## Inspirational teacher

Janet Ash is honored by UW for work at GRCC

By: Kyuyoung Cho  
Staff Writer

Janet Ash, Green River's engineer instructor, was honored as a 2012 University of Washington inspirational teacher.

"It's lovely to be acknowledged and to be acknowledged by students," she said. "That's a really great honor."

Prior to becoming an instructor, Ash earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry engineering and master's degree in ceramic engineering from UW.

Ash started her career by teaching drafting courses at Highline Community College, as well as teaching chemical engineering at Tacoma Community College.

Ash has been teaching at Green River since 2000. She encourages students by developing a comfortable learning atmosphere. Out-

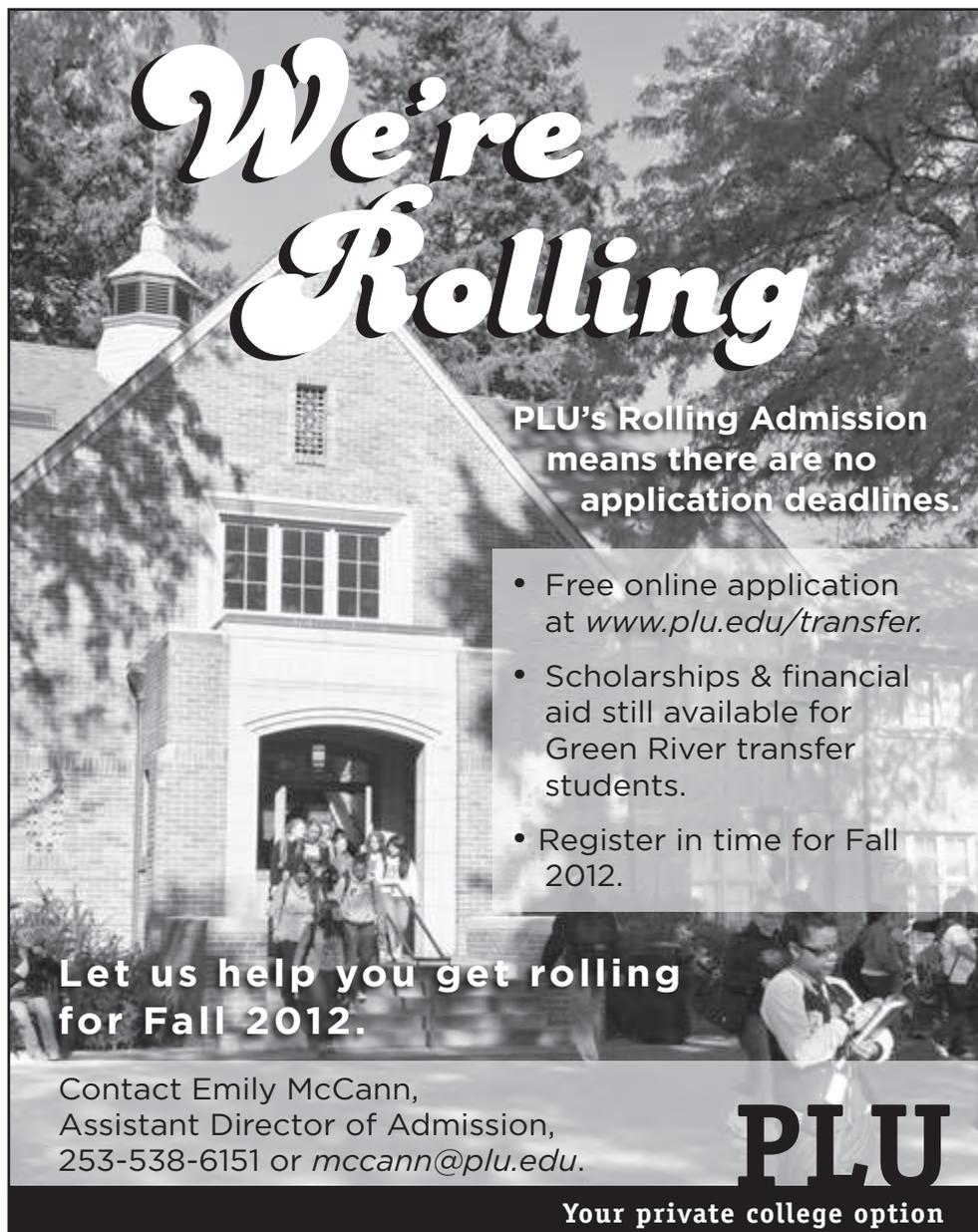
side of class, she asks her students to get tutorials at the library or to come to her office and to practice online quizzes.

Xiaoxia Jia, a former student of Ash, nominated her to be the inspirational instructor.

"Janet Ash was a really big influence in my decision to pursue a major in CSE," said Jia. "While at GRCC she was extremely helpful and showed me a lot of encouragement throughout my programming classes. The comfort I received from her made things much easier to learn."

With her strong passion towards education, Ash challenges herself to do a better job every day.

"Teaching is not about you, it's about your students," said Ash, revealing her teaching philosophy. "I think about what I can do for my students every day."



# We're Rolling

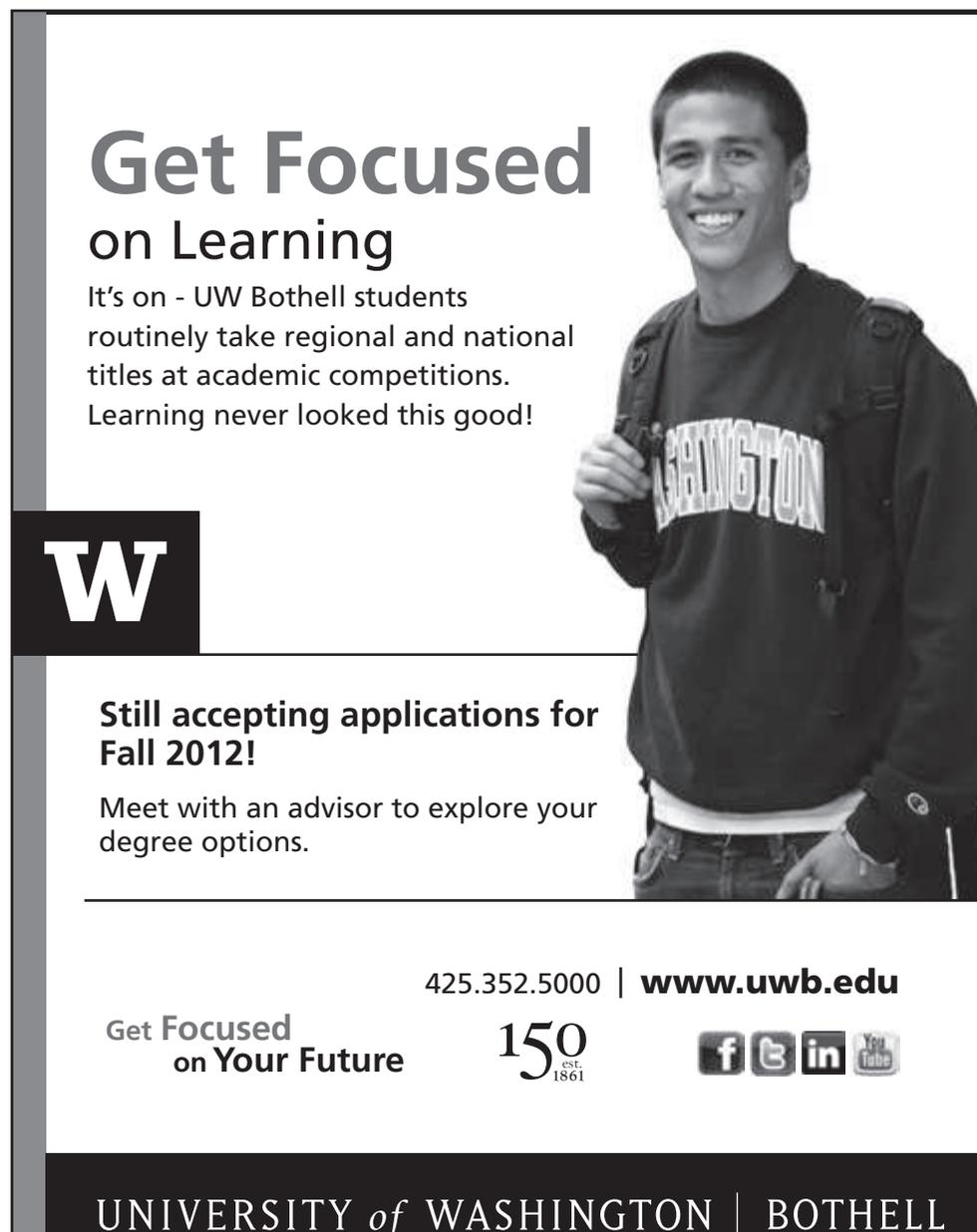
PLU's Rolling Admission means there are no application deadlines.

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### EDITORIAL

# Students today aren't lazy; we're really busy

The Current looks at a study that suggests today's college students are lazy, and see that this isn't so

**Editorial Board:** Sean Rockey, Asha Johnson, Bailey Jo Josie, Jacob Jagodinski, Kally Bieber, Olivia Mok, Dylan Whitcher, Thomas Sørenes, David Caldwell, Stirling Radliff

A recent article from the Washington Post news website brings up a study that the amount of hours that college students study for school has decreased from an average of 24 hours a week to 14 hours.

From this study, the article begs the question of whether or not college has become easier, or that perhaps students have become lazier.

We at The Current argue that neither is the case.

The study was analyzed by professors Philip Babcock of the University of California Santa Barbara and Mindy Marks of the University of California Riverside, two economics professors who found the roughly 42 percent drop in hours studied per week by comparing students from 1961 to the present.

The article asserts that the primary reason for why students are no longer studying so frequently is because teachers are no longer properly challenging students with their curriculum.

Philip Babcock asserted "... Other than the sheer love for knowledge and the desire to pass it on to the

next generation, there is no incentive in the system to encourage effort".

We at the Current don't believe that the decrease in studies is due to a decrease in difficulty in the classroom.

Rather, it is in the ease of information gathering thanks to the World Wide Web, combined with a rapid increase in students working while in college.

Think about it: In the 1960s, the only way one could really study for anything would be by perusing textbooks and by reading over hastily scrawled notes.

Since there is a need for design and an ease of reading that is a mainstay in today's society (just look at the evolution of newspapers) such a method would be extremely inefficient for learning, and would take hours to fully comprehend the proper material.

Nowadays, that same textbook can give you the same information online in an instant by typing keywords in the search bar. In that regard, the same amount of studying is still being done; the information is simply being found a lot quicker.

As for jobs, college in the '60s was mostly paid for by the government. As such, it was incredibly cheap, so students didn't need to earn money in order to stay enrolled.

With no need to find a job until they graduate, they had plenty of time to devote to reading about their respective subjects.

As tuition rates continue to rise and are expected to reach over 12 percent more than the already ridiculous prices, students in the modern day may have to hold down multiple jobs just to make it through a single quarter.

Obviously enough, such activities might leave a little less time for studying.

In other words, the trend of less time being devoted to studying is not an indicator of laziness; rather, it signifies an increase in efficiency during a time where students don't have time to spare.

After all, classes are graded on knowledge retention, not time devoted to learning it; and seeing as how graduation rates have steadily increased over the years, we say that 14 hours is more than plenty.

### 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.

### Theft Policy

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

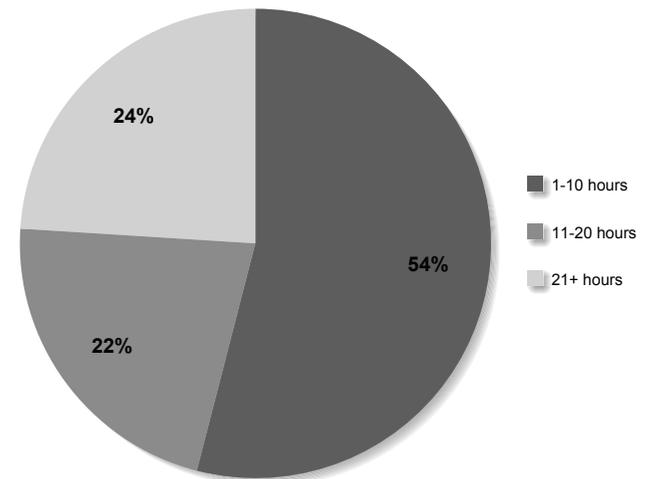
The Current encourages all its readers to be involved and will publish letters. Anonymous letters are not accepted and the editor reserves the right to reject or edit letters on the basis of length, libel, or propriety. All letters become property of The Current. Send letters to [thecurrent@greenriver.edu](mailto:thecurrent@greenriver.edu).

### EDITORIAL POLLS

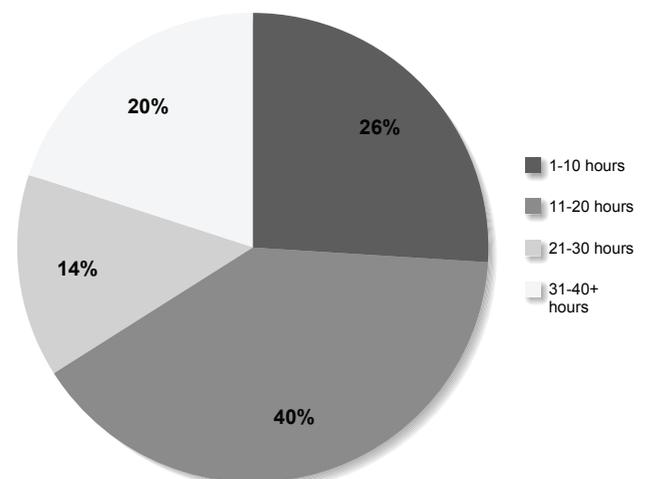
## GRCC Students:

50 students polled

How many hours do you study per week?



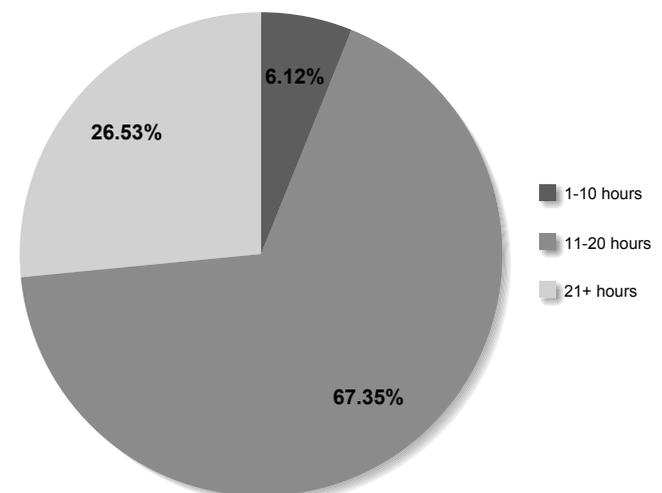
How many hours do you think you should study per week?



## GRCC Teachers:

15 teachers polled

How many hours did you study per week when you were in college?



# 3-dimensional movies are a tiring trend

Since its debut in the '50s, 3D had been a cheap novelty that has become a sensation. This must stop.



Commentary by:  
**Eli Stredicke**

3D has been around for a long time, with the first color movie in 3D coming out in 1952.

I remember seeing my first 3D movie, Disney's "Honey I Shrunk the Audience" in Disneyworld.

At the time, I thought it was cool. For those who haven't seen it, its pretty much the same idea as many of the first 3D movies to hit IMAX theaters.

It had the red and blue glasses, and the gratuitous scenes where things fly at you, or a paddle ball is bounced in your direction

(did anyone else watch "Journey to the Center of the Earth"?).

Later, 3D efforts incorporated the red and blue lenses as well, but improved on the definition of the picture. Glasses with no difference in coloring were then introduced, with slightly tilted lenses to help consolidate the picture.

Then "Avatar" came out. I have to say, I don't think I have ever been as impressed with visuals as I was with James Cameron's latest blockbuster. It became the highest grossing movie in history.

After "Avatar", many people felt 3D was going to be the next big thing.

More and more movies started coming out in three-dimensional formatting. Most however, were not nearly as impressive. Take for instance, "Up."

While it was a well made movie, and by no means low budget, the 3D did not add a whole lot to the overall enjoyment of the film.

The balloons floating up were pretty and fun to look at, but the glasses didn't add very much to the ex-

perience. Most movies now that are released with 3D have the extra D added as a secondary feature.

3D TVs are also being pushed in the home entertainment industry.

The technology is similar to the movies, using shutter

consumers that plan on purchasing a new HDTV within the next six months consider 3D technology a 'must have' feature. While 68 percent call 3D a 'nice feature to have they may use in the future,' it's not a motivating factor in their purchase decision."

While 3D ticket sales are still accounting for a large percentage of ticket sales, I think it is important to note that they are much more expensive than the standard tickets.

An IMAX 3D ticket will run you \$16.75, while a standard one would be around \$10.75.

So while statistics may show 2D and 3D sales being relatively equal, the numbers could be inflated. Just in talking with people, it seems that some are growing tired of the 3rd dimension.

Some complain of headaches, and others are beginning to not see the merit of paying considerably more for the 3D.

While 3D is still doing fairly well, it is not out of the woods yet. Three Dimensional movies have boosted the entertainment industry's profit margin, but it seems to me that the novelty is starting to wear off.

Unless movies start really utilizing the technology, people are going to start deciding to skip paying for the extra features.

The added depth can be impressive, but whenever you walk out of the theater without feeling satisfied with paying extra, it discourages you from going for 3D again.

If the industry isn't careful, it seems that 3D could become a passing fad.

---

*Some complain of headaches, and others are beginning to not see the merit of paying considerably more for the 3D."*

---

perience. "Avatar's" draw is that the 3D allows you to be immersed in the world created in the film, and it uses the technology to its fullest. This is due to the fact that "Avatar" was filmed for 3D. Cameron went into filming tailoring the scenes to be filmed in 3D.

glasses to sync alternating left and right images to create the illusion.

While sales are up, a recent study shows that the 3D is not really a factor. According to NPD, a leading market research company specializing in consumer trends, "only 14 percent of



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## GOLF

# Johnson wins individual championship

For the 2012 season, golfer Broc Johnson wins big, along with both men and women's golf teams

By: Dylan Whitcher  
Sports Editor

Steady rainfall was not enough to stop star freshman Broc Johnson from winning the individual NWAACC Golf Championships on Monday May 21.

Johnson, who never placed outside the top 10 in any tournament all season, won the event by an impressive four strokes, shooting a combined score of 142, defeating Graham Schmaltz from Spokane Community College.

Johnson trailed Schmaltz for most of the event, before taking advantage of a bogey on the fifteenth hole of day two.

All season long Johnson has taken the most pride in his short game and on the final three holes of the

tournament, it was Johnson who effortlessly made putt after putt, resulting in his comfortable four stroke victory. The victory brought the individual championship trophy back to Green River for the first time in

den death.

Johnson was used to playing under pressure, while at Todd Beamer High School he earned second place honors twice at the Washington State AAAA tournament.

*"Last couple of years I've mostly tried to improve my mental game [...] never thinking that you're out of it has been huge for me."*

over a decade when Steve Knoppi won the trophy back in 2000.

The first place finish proved Johnson had matured as a player, who earlier in the year was robbed three times of a first place finish, losing in sud-

Keeping a positive attitude was huge for Johnson this year, who credited his season long success to never staying negative and keeping a positive attitude.

"Last couple of years I've mostly tried to improve my mental game" Johnson

admitted. "Never thinking that you're out of it has been huge for me."

Not only did Green River experience individual success with Johnson's individual accolades, but The Gators golf program as a whole experienced team-wide success as well. The men's team finished second overall behind Spokane, which earned back-to-back first place finishes.

The Women's team ended the season with a fourth place finish.

With both teams success, the golf program is at an all time high, however Johnson may not be with the team next season, elaborating "it all depends if I get accepted somewhere."

Whether or not Johnson comes back next year, there is no doubt his season was one of the best Green



Courtesy Photo | GRCC Athletics

Broc Johnson does the improbable and wins an individual championship, a first in over 10 years for Green River's men's golf team.

River has ever seen, who as a freshman, earned two first place finishes and an individual championship. Johnson was also honored as an All-NWAACC first

team golf player.

There is no doubt the future is promising for this golf phenom, who hopes to be playing at Western sometime in the future.

## SOCCER

## Returning for more

Girls' soccer strive to surpass quarterfinals for next season

By: Thomas Peterson  
Staff Writer

After suffering a heart-breaking double overtime defeat in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) quarterfinals, the Lady Gators Soccer team is poised for the 2012 season.

Green River's expectations will remain high, with Karly Dedmond, coming off an impressive six goal season is expected to return for her sophomore campaign.

Cassy Duschel is another player to look out for come next fall. Her record breaking 12 shutouts will be needed next year if the Lady Gators want a chance at making the playoffs.

The recruiting process

is also going well for both Snow and the Lady Gators, who just heard that nine players signed their letters of intent and several other key freshmen are planning on returning. As of now Green River has a 19 person squad, however Snow admits he would like to see that number go up, but there are three important factors.

"We'd like to go with 20, if I can come up with a couple more who are interested, wanting to go to Green River and our talented enough to play."

Wanting to actually attend Green River is at the top of Snow's priority list when he recruits high school players, explaining that "the school has a lot to offer, it's a great place but if they don't want to be here

then it's not going to work."

Coach Snow's offseason training workouts will be brutal because his plan is to prime the players for soccer, not simply for running. Snow really stresses the importance of speed as the driving force behind a good soccer player.

"You can run two miles a day five days a week, come out here on my soccer field and die in about four minutes, because the game of soccer is not about distance endurance, it's about game endurance."

"I'll build my team to what my team tells me they can do."

The Green River soccer team will begin five day a week practices on August 13 and fire the season off with a jamboree later on that month.

## VOLLEYBALL

## Setting up for wins

Volleyball prepares for upcoming season with star player

By: Febby Mulia  
Staff Writer

The Lady Gators have failed to make the playoffs for three consecutive seasons, and will be taxed with trying to replace the best player the program has ever had.

For head coach Kyle Densley his goal is to recruit players that are capable of bringing the program back to glory, a feat once reached in 2006 when the team was a perfect 14-0 in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) West Region Play.

With recruiting well underway, athletic director Bob Kickner so far likes what he sees.

"I am confident in the coach's ability to find new recruits, and each year we try our best to make the team better." Kickner said.

After battling against rivals such as Tacoma, Pierce and Bellevue, Densley has managed to recruit seven talented girls, eager to contribute to the team this fall.

Densley's extensive recruiting trip has spanned beyond the borders of Washington, including many trips to as far as California.

Despite losing Katelyn Nugent, who signed a NCAA Division I letter of intent to play at Manhattan College next fall, excitement is spreading with returning sophomores.

"We have a lot of really good new recruits this year. I think it's going to be a promising season" returning sophomore Stephanie Sinclair said.

The recruits might need some time to adjust to the team's playing style, but once they're settled, they will be ready to begin their season with a head full of steam.

"I have a lot of confidence in this team, I'm just hoping that the freshmen who are coming in this year just stay strong and as their first college season that they keep working hard so that we can all work together as a team." Sinclair added.

"We had a lot of injuries [last year] and a lot of our key players were hurt, so I'm just hoping that we can stay healthy and stay fit and that everything is going to go well."



ATHLETE PROFILE

# Volleyball player hits milestone for Green River

Sophomore Katelyn Nugent becomes the first volleyball player in school history to sign D-1 scholarship

By: Megan Krzyzanowski  
Staff Writer

Battling through a horrific injury in high school and skipping out on playing at the select level, Katelyn Nugent has set volleyball history here at Green River.

For the first time in Green River women's volleyball history, a lady gator has signed a National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) letter of intent to continue her volleyball career at a Division I school next fall.

Nugent, 19, sophomore, middle-hitter for the Gators has signed with Manhattan College to play volleyball for the 2012-2013 season.

As a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School and star player for the Raiders volleyball team, Nugent was named the team's most valuable player and earned second-team all-SPSL (South Puget Sound League) honors in 2009.

In an instant, Nugent's volleyball career was put on hold after a devastating shoulder injury put her division I dream, temporarily,

on ice.

The injury was a major setback for Nugent, who contemplated throwing in the towel and to retire from the sport she loved all her life.

"I just played through school ball and I was going to be done playing volleyball forever, so I didn't play club and assumed my career was over at that point," said Nugent.

However, after missing the sport she loved, Nugent made arguably the best decision of her life, to play volleyball for the Green River Lady Gators in 2010.

"I was planning on just going to school for academics, but then I rehabbed my arm and rested and decided to give it another try; I missed it too much."

Nugent wowed her teammates during her freshman season, leading her team in both blocks and kills for the entire year.

Nugent's success continued into her sophomore year, becoming a first-team, All-NWAACC (Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges) Western Region performer



As Katelyn Nugent spikes a ball to the opposing team, teammates Amanda Mozzone (left) and Danielle Tanielu prepare for the worst. Nugent led the team in kills and blocks and is now signed to a Division I school in New York.

and once again leading the team in blocks and kills.

The junior college level gave Nugent a chance, a chance she remains forever thankful for.

"My experience at Green River has helped me realize who I want to be as a player and even as a person," said Nugent.

"This year I was captain

and I really had to put myself aside and focus on my team. There's a big difference between being six players on a court and being a team, and if you don't work together, you're not going to get anywhere. It can't be a one-person show, it's a team sport."

Green River's Athletic Director, Bob Kickner, be-

lieves Nugent's maturity and leadership abilities are only a part of what makes her such an accomplished athlete.

"Katelyn Nugent is a complete package," said Kickner.

"She is an outstanding volleyball player, an even better student and a really nice young lady.

"She's the type of person who will be a warrior on the floor and will be very coachable. She will be going from west coast to east coast, which will be a long ways from home, but she seems to be up for the challenge. I think Manhattan is getting the full package."

While the spotlight has definitely been on Nugent during her time at Green River, her humility is what makes her the player she is today.

She feels fortunate to have such a well-deserved opportunity and attributes her success thus far to a good work ethic, strong will and a determined attitude.

As the first female volleyball player at Green River to sign with a Division I school, she has certainly set

the precedent for her team and many Gator athletes to come.

"I'm very proud of Katelyn, and after seeing her play here for two years, I've seen the growth and development in her as a player, as a student and as a young woman," Kickner stated.

"Athletes like her are one of the reasons I do my job and I'm really happy for her and her family."

While the spotlight has definitely been on Nugent during her time at Green River, her humility is what makes her who she is today.

"It still doesn't feel like it's real, and it probably won't until I'm actually leaving for New York," she said.

"It's just too good to be true. When I was little I never dreamed of going somewhere like New York and becoming a totally different person, but now that it's actually happening I can't imagine doing anything else. I'm excited to finally reach my full potential playing for Manhattan. I never thought that I would get to this point, but now that I have, I want to be the best I can be."

TRACK AND FIELD

# Track team finds winner in Josh Melu

By a two-foot margin, Josh Melu takes the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championship

By: Thomas Peterson  
Staff Writer

Green River's Track and Field program is a mere two years old, and yet has already produced its first individual champion.

With a record breaking year now behind him and a coach with high hopes for him, Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) track champion Josh Melu is an accomplished athlete looking forward to a bright future.

Melu earned first place in the triple jump at the 2012 NWAACC championships

with an impressive jump of 47 feet.

Although he didn't break his personal record of 48.05 Melu still won the competition by a comfortable two foot margin.

"He went and did his job and brought home the championship medals," track coach Tori Ammons said. "He did exactly what he needed to do."

Despite winning the individual championship, Melu said what really made him happy was seeing his teammates do great.

He named Trayvon Webster and Cody Gilge as major contributors to the team's achievements at the

NWAACC championships.

Melu has an impressive track and field history that started in England while he was in the third grade.

"I ran cross country there in third grade then transferred to a new school in fourth grade and we ended up winning the title two years in a row," said Melu.

After a move to America during early adolescence, Melu continued his running at Auburn Mountainview High School and then at Green River.

Coach Ammons was acquainted with Melu while she coached the girls track team at Mountainview. She was influential in paving

the road to the Green River track program with Melu as a key component.

"I was lucky to have kids like Josh and Taylor," said Ammons. "They both went to Mountainview where I worked, so I had some relationship with them before they came."

Though he said running track is a part of him, Melu clarified that it doesn't define him.

Melu explained, "I want to be known for more than track, I want track to be my gateway to influence people in a positive way."

Melu emphasized the importance of being a positive, humble role model.

Melu tends to be a natural leader for the team. Coach Ammons described his ability to step up for the team by competing in back to back events.

Melu said he shares the leadership role with Gilge and Webster because of their different leadership skills.

"I'm not a leader in all aspects but in some areas I am," said Melu. "And I think that helps a lot with the team when we're not all leading in one area."

The next step for Melu will be competing against Division I talent.

Coach Ammons said that Melu is even out-jumping

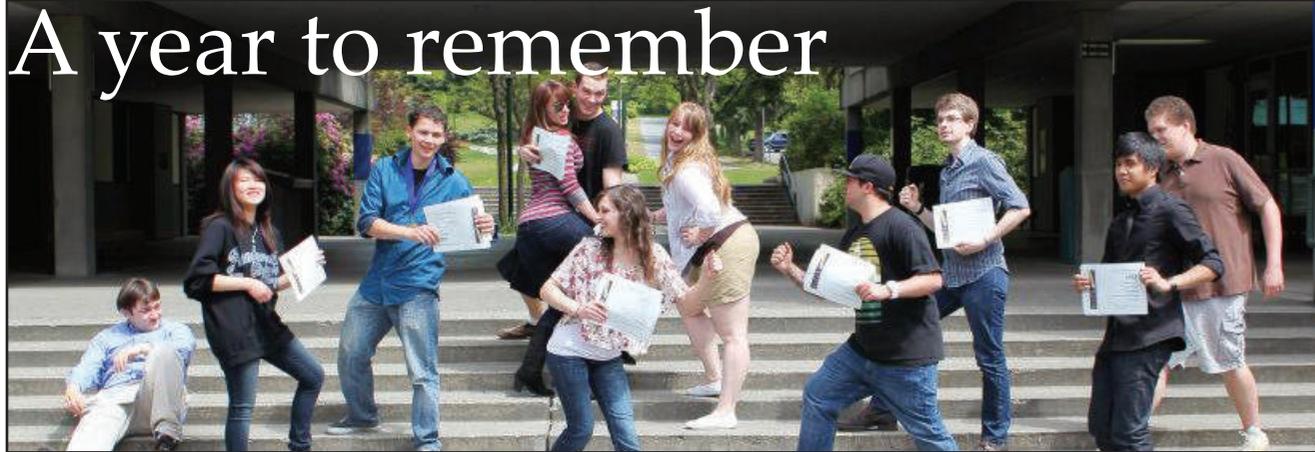
athletes from schools such as Washington State. Melu plans to walk-on at University of Oregon in the upcoming school year.

"He wants to go to the University of Oregon," said Ammons, "which is one of the best track schools in the nation."

When asked what advice he would give aspiring athletes, Melu said:

"That ambition, that motivation and that character you have is going to take you places. You may get discouraged but just keep going and keep pushing and at the end of the day you are going to be happy you stuck with it."

# A year to remember



**The Chief**  
Asha Johnson

There are few times when one can appropriately say that something or someone has changed their life. Though you might see claims like this all over your yearbook at the end of your senior year: "I can't imagine my life without you," "You're one of those few people who influenced my

life," "Never change," etc.

To be honest, I hated high school. It was a hard time for me because my home life wasn't the easiest thing to deal with and I felt lost in the attempts of "finding myself." Things didn't seem to matter and only a few people managed to sink underneath my skin. I wasn't really sure who I was to anybody or to myself for that matter.

It was at the end of my senior year (I was a running start student) when I took a journalism class spur of the moment, that things began changing. I felt like I was finally breathing fresh air when I was around my

fellow journalists and the excitement of a new story was reason enough to wake up in the morning.

It's not something I could explain in few words, but being a part of The Current gave me purpose and a drive that I'd been lacking for some time. And to boot, people thought I was good at it.

Being asked to return as The Current's EIC was definitely a shock, but if they thought I could do it, I must be able to, right?

Well, I did it. The year is coming to an end, and so is my time with The Current. This is the year that has changed my life. Each person

I've come into contact with, each time I've had to make a tough decision or even be told that I could have done things better, has imprinted my life forever. I would never say that I'm an example to live by -- because there are so many things I would have done differently -- but this has been some of the most valuable time of my life. The people here are my family and we've equally helped mold each other into people who can make a real difference in this world.

I have cherished every moment here, even the bad ones. So without due: thank you and good bye.

# A short 'hello' from the new editor



Introducing:  
**Dylan Whitcher**

Hello fellow Gators, my name is Dylan Whitcher and I have humbly accepted to be the Editor-In-Chief for The Current during the 2012-2013 academic school year.

From as far back as I can remember, my dream was to be a professional athlete. Sadly, when I realized I would not grow to be an inch over 5-foot-9-inches, I knew I would have to chase a new dream.

Writing has always been a passion of mine since my years as an adolescent. I figured aiming to be a professional sports journalist would

be the best way to combine my two passions: sports and writing.

As EIC, my dream is to turn The Current into something my friends, colleagues and classmates will be proud of. I want people to wake up every other Monday with excitement, knowing reading our paper will not leave them disappointed.

*"I want people to wake up every other Monday with excitement..."*

Through determination, hard work and a passion for the newspaper that will never die, there is no doubt in my mind that I can do just that.

I look forward to my future challenges as EIC. I know it will not be easy, but anything worth doing never is.

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