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## Parking fines on GRCC campus decrease

By Karin Wallström

Winter quarter will bring many changes to the traffic regulations at Green River Community College. In accordance with a new citation policy, the parking fines on the GRCC campus will decrease.

Fred Creek, Director of Security and Parking at GRCC, explains that the changes will help to stop on campus traffic violaters at an early stage. Many of the violaters continue to accumulate traffic tickets and then have a hard time paying the large amount of money owed, Creek states.

The new citation collection policy will take effect starting the first day of winter quarter 1998. One of the changes is that instead of first issuing a citation, a warning will be issued instead. This is unless it is for ADA or unsafe parking, in these cases a citation will be issued on the first offense. When three citations have been issued, including a warning a wheel lock will be placed on the offenders vehicle. If a wheel lock is placed on the vehicle, fines must be paid within 24 hours.

Currently when a wheel lock is placed on a students car he/she is required to pay a \$40 removal fee. The new traffic regulations will

change it to a 50 percent fee of citations collected with a maximum cap of \$40.

Citations must be paid within 15 days as opposed to the currently 72 hours.

If the violater wishes to complain, a formal request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to the Security Office. If the citations are not paid the violater can be denied future registration and/or transcripts may be held until all the fines are paid.

The maximum speed at campus is still 10 miles per hour. Drivers and pedestrians must obey the directions given by campus security pertaining to traffic and parking.

Parking areas for staff are posted and are to be used only by assigned personnel.

Vehicles must park within one space or stall.

All motorcycles and motor scooters must park in designated ar-

reas.

Motorized bicycles and scooters are considered to be motor vehicles and are subject to motor vehicle regulations. Bicycles are subject to traffic and parking regulation.

Disabled or inoperative vehicles parked on campus for more than 72 hours, or those vehicles illegally parked, may be impounded at the owners expense and liability.

For temporary or unusual

Green River COMMUNITY COLLEGE 12401 SE 320th St., Auburn, WA 98002-3690					
CITATION					
DATE	TIME	LOCATION			
PERMIT NUMBER	SSN				
NAME: LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE			
ADDRESS:		CITY	STATE	ZIP	
PHONE NO.	STATE	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR	
<b>VIOLATIONS</b>		<b>FINE</b>			
DISABLED PARKING		\$10.00		SEE OTHER SIDE	
STAFF PARKING		\$20.00			
FIRE LANE		\$30.00			
NO PARKING		\$175.00			
CARPOOL		WARNING			
SPEEDING		OTHER			
OTHER					

permit problems and any questions contact Security Office AD 27 or Ext.3350

## College education is a reach for at-risk-students

By Karin Wallström

The Green River Community College Fall quarter is coming to an end but not all the students will be around to experience it.

According to the 1995- 96 Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) report, approximately 20 percent of GRCC students drop out early.

To illustrate the phenomena Erica Prager, Coordinator of Research and Planning at GRCC refers to the SBCTC report which tracks student progress at the State's community colleges and technical school. The report categorizes students as having made:

**Substantial progress:** Students with degree plans who graduate or attend four or more quarters over a two year period; or,

**Some progress:** Students with a degree plan who attend two or three quarters over a two year period; or,

**Early leavers:** Students with degree plans who attend only the first quarter and do not return within two years.

The latest report available cites statistics from 1994 showing that approximately 17 percent of full time students ( taking ten credits or more) at GRCC dropped out (early leavers). Of GRCC part time students (taking less than 10 credits), 28 percent dropped out.

As shown by the statistics, part time students are more likely to leave early. Prager pointed out that part time students are also often returning students and returning students

are the most likely to drop out early.

According to Prager, GRCCs statistics are comparable with those of other Washington State community colleges.

GRCC continues to take steps to assist returning and other at-risk students in completing their education. "What we are trying to do," Prager explains, "is to help students become more involved in

Program at GRCC says that they are currently being visited by three to four students per week who are at risk of dropping out. "I would say the main reasons are financial or family related problems" said Richardson..

One reason many students are seeking help, according to Richardson is that the welfare reform laws are having a dramatic effect on older returning students. Because of welfare reforms that went into effect in July of 1997, many welfare recipients are being advised by their case workers to drop out of school. New regulations also include increased work requirements for welfare recipients which make dedicating the time needed for education almost impossible.

However, Richardson said, "These are transition times, it takes time for a new rule to go through. The procedures are written later. There are ways to go around the rules."

Support services, such as the Women's Programs, located in the Lindbloom Student Center, assist students in reaching their academic, personal and career goals. Women's Programs services are available to both men and women. Although women are the most frequent visitors, Richardson explains.

Individual assistance from support services can help students meet the challenges of completing a degree. And in fact, Richardson pointed out, dropping out can create challenges as well. For example many students drop out because of financial difficulties, not being aware that the students loan used to pay for tuition is not reimbursed after the start of the school quarter.

## Learn in London

By Diana Hu

Here is an opportunity to travel to London and earn credits at the same time.

"Study in London" is sponsored by Puget Sound Consortium of Washington Community Colleges to Study Abroad and the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS). Green River Community College students can earn 15 credits from three of the following classes offered for this program: Humanity 194, English 110, 111, 240, Philosophy 104, Speech 110, 140 and 194. Students will be accompanied by faculty from Washington State Community Colleges and GRCC English faculty member Hank Galmish.

Besides studying, students can join social activities, such as three theater performances, day trips to Brighton, Canterbury, Stonehenge and Salisbury and a soccer league march.

Before starting the Spring quarter in London, one can join an optional eight-day, seven-night orientation. The tour visits sights such as Amsterdam, Brussels and Paris, for an extra fee of \$685, a side from the program fee of \$4,190. The program fee includes round trip airfare from Seattle to London, shared homestay accommodations, weekly program of subsidized cultural and social activities, membership of University of London, travel pass to study center, medical and fee-refund insurance. Other costs include \$600 GRCC course fees, personal expenses (about \$2,000), textbooks (about \$75) and a refundable damage deposit. More information about the study in London program is available by contacting Cindy Card at the Continuing Education ext.2536.



Students get to experience London.



## Editorial by Heather Meier

I wrote my obituary last night. No, I don't plan to die soon, it was for a class assignment. But, it made me think about who I would like to be when I die.

I hope to be working for a well-known newspaper soon after I graduate from college. Most of what I have done in my life for the past several years has been leading to that point. I don't know if I ever want to get married or have any children, but I do know that I want to work for a newspaper.

However, whether I end up as a reporter or a grave digger, I hope to have the same thought before I die, "I am proud of who I have been."

I want to be able to look back over my life without any regrets. I want to know that my life has touched someone else's life. I want to know that I have been capable of being loved and sharing love. I want to like who I have been.

Often, people get wrapped up in what life can provide for them, believing the world owes them something. We forget how lucky we each are. We are still alive. We still have the chance to be someone we can be proud of. We are not looking back over our lives without the time to change our mistakes, perhaps we can't take them back but we can learn from them.

There is a quotation, by an unknown author, which I have allowed to guide me through my life. "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Perhaps, if we concentrate on who we want to be instead of what we want to be, we will become a little kinder, more tolerant and more forgiving. And maybe, if we are lucky, we can become a culture which is understanding of one another.

And, perhaps, we will not need to write about our own deaths before we remember about our own lives.

## Clubs on campus keep busy

By Ingrid Polston

The activities programs and clubs at Green River have done many things this quarter and are currently planning many activities for winter quarter. Here's what's happening for some:

All clubs, organizations and departments on campus were involved in the "Giving From the Heart" program. Each club, organization or department adopted one of 45 needy families from GRCC. December 1st through 5th, members of the clubs, organizations and departments involved collected gifts to give to the families over the holiday season.

Outdoor Programs hosted a trip to Leavenworth on Saturday, December 6 for the annual tree lighting festival. They planned to take 135 people on the trip. For winter quarter, Outdoor Programs has already planned a skiing trip on January 24 to Crystal Mountain. Pray for snow! More information about Outdoor Programs is available by contacting Jenny or Ryan in Student Programs.

Circle K, associated and sponsored by the Kiwanis, hosts meetings every Tuesday in ST-62 from 12 to 1 p.m. Circle K is currently preparing for a convention in Victoria B.C. at the end of January. They are also raising funds to go to a national convention in Jamaica. Community service projects they are presently involved in include working at homeless shelters and elementary school skating parties. Circle K is always looking for new members and encourages everyone to join. They hope to have over 20 members so GRCC's branch of

Circle K can gain national recognition.

Judicial Board is in the process of reviewing and ratifying club constitutions. They are also making changes to Student Government bylaws. During finals week, December 9, 10 and 11, Judicial Board will be offering free coffee for exhausted students who need a pick-me-up.

Transportation Board is currently revising their transportation guide for winter quarter. Also, 69 new car pool spots have just been added to the campus parking lot in Lot B, for a grand total of 115 car pool spots on campus. According to Bonnie Fox, Coordinator of Transportation, the majority of the new spots were converted from old staff spots.

More information about clubs and activities is available by contacting Student Programs at 833-9111 extension 2400, or drop by the Student Programs office upstairs in the Lindbloom Student Center.

VICA's Fall Conference took place on November 22 at Clark College in Vancouver, Wash. At the conference, GRCC's VICA State Secretary, Misty Roethler took second place in the job skills demonstration. Larry Miller placed second in the job interview competition.

VICA is open to any students in technical, vocational and health programs. Meetings are held every Thursday in the carpentry classroom from 12-1 p.m. More information is available by contacting Richard King in the drafting department.

## Finals week: how to cope

By Ingrid Polston

It's that time of the quarter. Students wander around campus in a sort of trance, induced by too much stress, lack of sleep and way too much coffee. It's not uncommon to observe a poor soul in the middle of a breakdown or irrational outburst because, darn it, how can that instructor expect us to KNOW EVERYTHING? That's right, it's finals week.

For most students, even the very mention of a final exam makes them break out in a cold sweat. Dare to insert the word "comprehensive" and the situation is not going to be pretty.

There are ways, however, to lower stress levels during finals week.

First of all, stick to a regular sleep schedule. Avoid pulling an all-night cram session. Don't get up extra early to study before the exam, either. Go to bed and wake up at the same time as usual. Straying from normal sleeping hours is only going to cause fatigue, and make it harder to concentrate during the exam.

Second, eat breakfast! This may seem like a no-brainer, but hey, it's a stressful time of year, everyone gets a little kooky and may forget to do the obvious. Nobody wants a growling, empty stomach while trying to write an analytical essay on the causes and effects of the French Revolution. Unfortunately Mountain Dew and Cheetos don't count,

### Final Schedule

#### Tuesday, December 9

8-10a.m. All 8a.m. classes  
11a.m.-1p.m. All 11a.m. classes  
2-4p.m. All 3p.m. classes  
4-6p.m. Available test time for classes with conflicts\* and noon hour classes

#### Wednesday, December 10

8-10a.m. All 9a.m. classes  
11a.m.-1p.m. All 1p.m. classes  
2-4p.m. All 4p.m. classes  
4-6p.m. Available test time for classes with conflicts.\*

#### Thursday, December 11

7-9a.m. All 7a.m. classes  
9-11a.m. All 10a.m. classes  
11a.m.-1p.m. All noon classes  
2-4p.m. All 2p.m. classes  
4-6p.m. Tuesday-Thursday classes that do not fit regular schedule time. Available test time for classes with conflicts.\*

\*Exceptions to this schedule require arrangement with the appropriate Dean of Instruction.

avoidable, taking the exam might as well be exciting! Some suggestions on how to have fun during a final:

- If it is a math/science exam, answer in essay form. If it is long answer/essay form, answer with numbers and symbols. Be creative. Use the integral symbol.

- Get a copy of the exam, run out screaming "Andre, Andre, I've got the secret documents!"

- Fifteen minutes into the exam, stand up, rip up all the papers into very small pieces, throw them into the air and yell out "Merry Christmas." Ask for another copy of the exam. Say you lost the first one. Repeat this

process every fifteen minutes.

-Walk in, get the exam, sit down. About five minutes into it, loudly say to the instructor, "I don't understand ANY of this. I've been to every lecture all quarter long! And who the hell are you? Where's the regular guy?"

- Do the exam with crayons, paint or fluorescent markers.

-Bring some large, cumbersome, ugly idol. Put it right next to you. Pray to it often. Consider a small sacrifice.

- Talk the entire way through the exam. Read questions aloud, debate your answers with yourself out loud. If asked to stop, yell out, "I'm SOOO sure you can hear me thinking." Then start talking about what a jerk the

## Ski club hits the slopes

This year, ski club plans to spend more time on the slopes and less time at home with nothing to do. This goal will be achieved by creating carpools and by qualifying for group discounts at the local ski resorts. All skiers and snowboarders are welcome to join. More information is available by contacting Ryan at ext. 2423.

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Commentary

## Smoking is a person a problem, not for the courts

By Kristin Moore

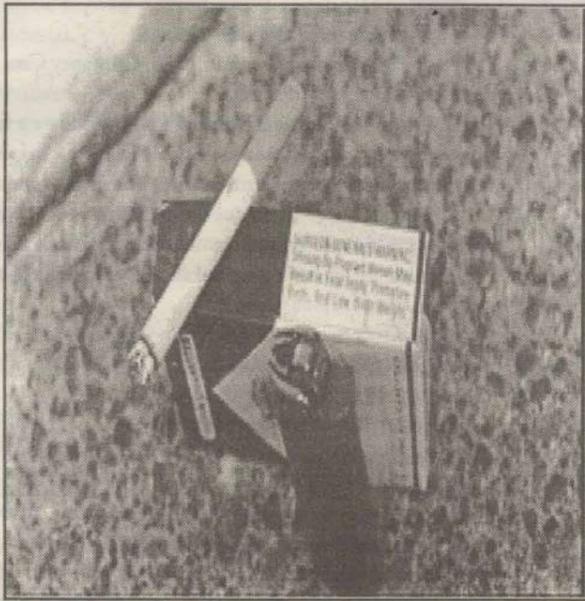
Smoking: the issue is growing more and more each day. The controversy about where to lay the blame is heated, but my question is, why we are even debating about who to blame. Tying up the court system with these foolish cases against cigarette companies just makes me cringe.

People pick up a cigarette, there's a variety of reasons as to why they do, but then they keep picking them up, and before they know it they're addicted. There's no denying that cigarettes are addictive. If people are using the addiction as an excuse, I would have to argue about that too. There are so many programs and medical aids that can be used to help a person quit smoking, that if someone truly wants to quit, they can.

It is beyond me how people can blame others for their problems related to smoking. It's fairly obvious that when you take a foreign substance like smoke into your lungs every day, there are going to be negative effects on the body.

America is based on the idea of people having something

called free will, the ability to make your own choices. Now, that people are realizing they didn't make the best choices they try and seek compensation from others for their mistakes. The current trend is to blame the source of the cigarettes and sue cigarette companies. This act ties up the courts and is a waste of our



money, only to gain some monetary compensation. I personally feel the money would be better spent on cigarette related cancer research rather than in court battles, but maybe that's just too logical for some.

People attack the cigarette companies for not making a "healthier" cigarette. Unfortunately this is not the case, recent studies indicate the companies did offer a healthier substitute for the cigarettes currently on the market.

Some of these big bad companies did offer these, and for free, but

smokers still said that they would not switch. All of the consequences are plain as day and yet most smokers say that they would still rather smoke the fully potent and fully dangerous cigarettes.

In all of this confusion I'm not trying to say that cigarette companies are saints for selling cigarettes, but they have a right to free enterprise just like everyone else. Candy isn't good for us and our children are given free reign to buy it, we even have a holiday that revolves around it. Alcohol isn't good for us and is potentially very dangerous, even deadly in the effects it can have on our body. But people aren't suing breweries or distilleries when someone drinks too much and wrecks their car, hurting or killing someone else. To me, these are all one in the same.

People are making these bad choices that potentially harm their health and yet they try to place the blame elsewhere for their mistakes. Again I must ask myself if I'm missing something vital in their argument, but last I checked cigarette companies weren't forcing people to pick up their product and smoke it. So come on, lets quit arguing about whose fault it is that a person chooses to smoke and lets focus on how to eliminate smoking and cure cancer.

## A gift list for those in the holiday spirit

The holidays are here and now the big delima begins: Where to find that perfect holiday gift for that special someone(s)? Well, the following is a list of suggestions compiled by The Current to give you a good start on that shopping list:

bake something: ie: fudge, cookies, pumpkin bread  
scented candles

kitten or puppy or fish or caterpillar  
virtual pet for those who can't have the real thing

The Little Mermaid movie

cookie cutters

rain - X

donate time or money to a favorite charity in thier name

any cheap computer game involving shooting for the guys

picture frame with a picture of you inside

gift certificate for a manicure or massage

a trip snowshoeing

fake tatoos

pine scent air fresheners

draw a picture or paint something

poetry

Sleep n' Snore Ernie

condom wreaths

chrismas boxers or briefs

any cheap euro flick for the girls

sponsor a whale or plant a tree in their name

gift certificate for dance lessons

1998 calendar: homemade or store bought

give them the world ( or just a gift certificate to an internet server

like AOL or WebTV)

magazine subscriptions

have a star named after them

holiday story book

scented bath stuff

natural sound CD or noise maker

body pillow



## GRCC student helps after Oklahoma City bombing

By Gene Lee

Who can forget the horror of April 19, 1995, when the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City was instantly devastated by a home grown terrorist bomb?

"This is your nightmare come true," said the chaplain at Oklahoma City's Children's Hospital, speaking of the children who were eating breakfast and playing in a day care center one floor above the street where the bomb, planted in a U-Haul truck, exploded.

President Clinton called the terrorists "evil cowards."

Frank Keating, the governor of Oklahoma, said, "These people will never walk the face of the earth again, if I have anything to do with it."

"It can't happen here, in the Heartland of America," reverberated through the nation.

Just at that moment, about 100 miles away at the U.S. Army

Base, Fort Sills, Tony Swanson, 20, from Buckley, Wash., was carrying out his morning routine at the 164th Maintenance Company, when his friend, Specialist Gottwald, burst in upon the small group announcing he had just heard and explosion.

At first they laughed it off. Not so unusual when one is assigned to an artillery unit and were used to hearing constant practice rounds of artillery going off. But Gottwald insisted that this one didn't sound like an artillery explosion.

Someone turned on a radio and the room filled with the unimaginable news flash.

Suddenly the base went on alert and all nonmilitary personnel were escorted off the premises. Sergeant Harris, Swanson's group leader, assembled everyone and told them to climb into the back of his pick-up. Two hours later they in Oklahoma City.

Swanson explained that thoughts were racing through everyone's mind. How bad was it? Who could have done this? How many deaths? Is my hometown next?

Swanson will never forget his first look at the Federal Building.

"As we pulled around the corner to the front of the building, I could see that half of it was gone..just gone! And there wasn't a trace of the U-Haul vehicle left either," said Swanson. Most of the visible surface emergencies had been dealt with by Fort Sill's search and rescue teams, the police and dozens of other professional units.

"I didn't really see anybody as far as wounded or dead," Swanson recalled, "but I saw people who were scratched and scraped up. There was no real horrifying factor behind it because we had missed the initial explosion."

Some memories will never

seem to go away for Swanson. "It was just the devastation of it," Swanson said. "To think about someone being able to do that to another human being, that's something that bothers me."

He wasn't allowed to venture inside the rubble at the core of the bomb site, only the professionals were doing that, but he heard the murmurs of the buried sounds of children crying and saw the blank look of grief permeating through the crowds.

"It was quite an explosion," Swanson continued. "Even before the dust had cleared the air, there were people helping from all over in whatever capacity they could; going through the debris, trying to pick up pieces of what was left."

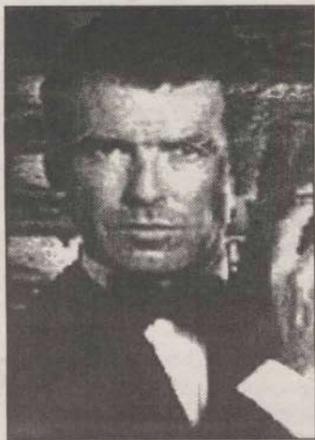
For the next six hours, Swanson and his group assisted the search and rescue teams, police and fire departments. Swanson greatly remembered how ordinary people

can react in an emergency situation.

"What was most amazing to me was how people just stopped what they were doing, just dropped everything and came running to help. People from surrounding buildings, businessmen, everyone, they all joined in to help, working side by side with the rescue workers."

"And it makes me wonder sometimes if something like this were to happen in Seattle, would people here respond in the same way?" Swanson added.

It was dark when Swanson's group arrived back at Fort Sill. For the next several weeks, the bases' search and rescue teams and other emergency units worked night and day at the Federal Building. Swanson's group was ordered by their commanding officer to stay on base to complete their own special missions, but their hearts were 100 miles away.



## Ryan's Picks

### ALIEN RESURRECTION

November 26

Directed by: Jean-Pierre Jeunet

Starring: Sigourney Weaver, Winona Ryder

By the time this review goes out, hopefully you've had a chance to see this sequel to the Alien Trilogy. It's going to be everything a sequel usually never is—GOOD. I am not saying that without any backing. *RESURRECTION* is directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet, the brilliant artist who brought us *DELICATESSEN*, and *CITY OF LOST CHILDREN*. Jeunet is known for his cinematic vision, and the ability to tell a story well. Along with his vision and creativity, he also took a few stars from *CITY* with him. Look for them fighting the aliens along side veteran Sigourney Weaver, back as the immortal Ripley and new comer Winona Ryder.

*RESURRECTION* is set some 200 years after Ripley's death, when a bunch of silly scientist clone her and the aliens. What do you think will happen? Hopefully what comes out is a good ride, with a story, amazing effects and unexpected surprises. With the help of Jeunet, the talented writers, special-effects wizards and able actors should pull it off.

### BENT

November 26

Directed by: Sean Mathias

Starring: Clive Owen, Lathaire Bluteau, Mick Jagger

If you ever wanted to know why the pink triangle is a symbol of gay pride, then go see this movie. *BENT* is based on Martin Sherman's award winning 1979 Broadway play. It's the story of Max (Clive Owen), who is exposed as a homosexual in pre-WWII fascist Berlin. His lover and him are sent to Dachau concentration camp. Before they get there, Max's lover is brutally beaten to death, and Max ends up concealing his homosexuality (wearing the Star of David patch instead of the pink triangle). His salvation comes in the form of Horst (Lathaire Bluteau). The two become friends and eventually fall in love. In the course, Horst teaches Max about pride and self-acceptance.

I am dying to see this flick. It has an NC-17 rating, but don't let that fool you, the sex in hetero-R movies are more graphic than this.

Open your mind and heart to this flick. There are universal themes that everyone can relate to. It's also a great history lesson—plus you get to see Mick Jagger in drag...sexy as ever.

### TITANIC

December 19

Directed by: James Cameron

Starring: Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio

I have been waiting for this movie ever since it was suppose to have been released during the summer. However, perfectionist James Cameron had to do some last minute detail. Cameron spent an estimated 285 million dollars making this movie. He reconstructed an almost full-sized replica of Titanic, and made sure every detail was put into every inch of the ship. He built a man-made ocean in the California desert for filming and spent many months editing.

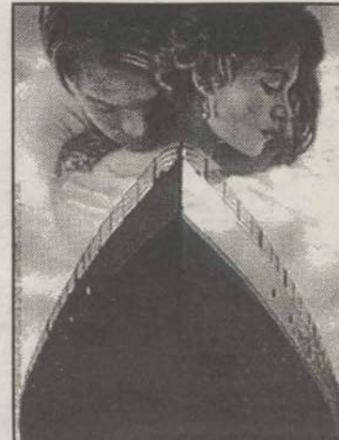
There have been earlier films about the ill-fated ship, but all have dealt with the actual disaster rather than focus on the characters. In the words of Cameron "I wanted to do a story about the 20 minutes after all the lifeboats have been launched and the people still inside."

Two of those people are Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio. DiCaprio plays a third-class-Bohemian who falls in love with first class passenger played by Winslet. There is conflict, and like the ship, their relationship is star-crossed.

*TITANIC* is part romance, part disaster epic, and part documentary. It's three movies for the price of one.

# GOIN' TO THE MOVIES!!!

Winter is Hollywood's top season, when all the Oscar hopefuls and anticipated blockbusters hit theaters across the country. There are going to be a lot of films out there and the process of choosing could be as difficult as searching for that perfect gift. To help out in deciding, Ingrid and I each chose our Top Flicks to watch for this winter. Some of them blockbusters, others for those wanting to watch something out of the mainstream.



## Ingrid's Picks

### SCREAM 2

December 12

Directed By: Wes Craven

Starring: Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox, David Arquette, Jerry O'Connell and Jada Pinkett.

I'm usually not a big sequel fan, but I have a feeling that this flick is going to be good. Those wacky kids from the original film are back, and their obsession with horror movies, and their *sequels*, is the driving force behind this sequel. If it's anything like the first *Scream*, the dark humor and all star cast are going to make *Scream 2* another huge box office success. There's no resisting a good slasher movie, just in time for the holiday season!

### TOMORROW NEVER DIES

December 19

Directed By: Roger Spottinswoode

Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Michelle Yeoh, Jonathan Pryce and Teri Hatcher.

It's a Bond movie, no doubt it's going to be great. Pierce Brosnan was awesome in *Goldeneye*, and I'm looking forward to seeing him play Bond again. The new Bond girl, Michelle Yeoh of Jackie Chan's *Supercop* and queen of the Hong-Kong action movie scene, is going to whup some butt. She's gorgeous and tough, but not the usual Bond sex kitten. She's beyond the stereotype.

### JACKIE BROWN

December 25

Directed By: Quentin Tarrantino

Starring: Pam Grier, Denise Crosby, Robert DeNiro, Bridget Fonda, Samuel L. Jackson and Michael Keaton.

Finally! A new film by Tarrantino. Based on the novel "Rum Punch" by Elmore Leonard, this film is a crime caper about a stewardess, Jackie Brown (played by Pam Grier), who smuggles cash into the country for an illegal arms dealer. She is caught by the feds and the only way to stay out of jail is to set up a sting operation to bring down the gun runner.

Typical of Tarrantino films, *Jackie Brown* is sure to have great dialogue and lots of action. It will also feature a soundtrack on Maverick records with tracks by The Guess Who, The Delfonics, Bobby Womack, The Supremes, Little Feat and The Grass Roots.

### GREAT EXPECTATIONS

December 31

Directed By: Alfonso Cuaron

Starring: Ethan Hawke, Gwyneth Paltrow and Anne Bancroft.

Like last year's *Romeo and Juliet* with Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio, this version of *Great Expectations* is a modern-day spin on an old classic. (*Great Expectations* is a novel written by Charles Dickens for those who don't know.) It's a great story, and Ethan and Gwyneth are both just so darn cute.

This movie also has a great soundtrack, with songs by Tori Amos, Duncan Shiek, Mono, Scott Weiland, Poe, Chris Cornell, Pulp, The Verve, Reef, Iggy Pop and The Grateful Dead.

### THE MOUSE HUNT

December 19

Directed By: Gore Verbinski

Starring: Nathan Lang, Vicki Lewis and Lee Evans.

This is going to be one of the best family movies of the season. This comedy pits the two main characters against the world's smartest, meanest and most sadistic mouse for residential rights to a valuable, historical mansion. Described as a cross between *Dumb and Dumber* and *Jumanji*, it features great animation (of the mischievous mouse) and special effects. It's kind of like a *Home Alone* with a mouse. But at least the mouse is cuter than that Culkin kid.



## Other Winter Movie Picks

Ma Vie En Rose (My Life in Pink)

The Boxer

Kundun

An American Werewolf in Paris.

Amistad



## Staying home tonight?

For those who would prefer to stay within the confines of their home; avoiding the long lines, sticky floors, loud people in the back and tall people in the front, here are a few recommendations. Some at your local video stores, others require a little searching but definitely worth the effort.

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## Editorial:

## The Showbiz Gods are dying

By Matt Phelps

On November 21<sup>st</sup> singer Michael Hutchence of INXS committed suicide in a Melbourne hotel room. Hutchence was 37 years old and a part of one of the most successful bands to ever come out of Australia.

But why is it that when a high profile musician or celebrity commits suicide, people can't accept it?

Die hard fans always want a killer.

If the truth of the matter were to be spoken the killer is really those die hard fans that put these human beings on a god like pedestal.

Hutchence was going through a hard time personally, the album sales of their last two releases were no where near the sales of previous albums, and the stress of being an icon of music in Australia and not being able to live up to his fans expectations finally took Hutchence down psychologically.

When Kurt Cobain committed suicide his diehard fans were so

quick to start laying blame and wanting a killer. They couldn't even see or remember the fact that he fought chronic depression his whole life, and the truth behind his death was that his depression finally came to a head. Even a public access show was born from this blatant disregard for the facts and denial of some of the blame. Even in Cobain's suicide note he stated that the stresses of being a rock star were just too much for him to take and that he could no longer live up to what his fans wanted him to be.

When are people going to learn that just because famous people are in the spotlight they are not indestructible?

Take for instance the death of Princess Diana. The media itself had a field day pointing fingers of who was to blame for the accident. When in all actuality it was the tabloid photographers who caused the accident, or at least had a hand in it.

A high profile celebrity's every move is always critiqued and evaluated by the media and people

who have no life of their own and have to live vicariously through these celebrities. Even a professional athlete's every move is marked and critiqued. Granted these famous people are our society's source for entertainment, but in reality if I came up to a complete stranger and asked them how much money they make it would be considered rude. Yet, the media and fans consider a celebrity's salary, especially an athlete, to be a matter of public knowledge and get upset that they are making so much money.

Personally I feel if you have to put these people on a level with god and worship them and critique their every move, if you can't separate what you see on t.v. and read in the paper from the fact that the people you see are human beings capable of having flaws, and essentially forcing these people to be larger than life, then you should take some of the responsibility when the stress that the fans put on celebrities takes its toll psychologically.



DISCLAIMER: I WATCH TOO MUCH TV.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

X-Files

You are Mulder or Scully depending not on your sex but rather on what you believe, either a firm one or a skeptic. Regardless of your conviction, you are on a mission to seek the truth. My piece of advice: "The truth is out there," not in these words. Wait.....did I just contradict myself?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Buffy: The Vampire Slayer

Lay off the wooden stake this holiday. Try not killing anyone (that's a metaphor) especially yourself. You have other demons to take care of first, and these demons cannot be rid simply by comic murder.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20)

The Real World

My one advice.....change the channel. This show is getting really plastic, pretentious, insulting, and embarrassing.....ahhhh!! and it's happening in Seattle next season. Protest silently by trying something that even looks real with genuine people and genuine solutions.

ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19)

The Simpsons

You're Bart, or Homer, or Lisa, maybe Maggie. For years you've stayed pretty much the same. One suggestion, grow up, and change your clothes this winter. Unlike cartoons, humans can grow up and become adults.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 20)

National Geographic Explorer

Life is an adventure, filled with wild animals and exotic places. That's your emotional state right now. One advice is to take all that energy and use it to help the environment this winter; carpool, recycle, join Green Peace...etc. This project should prove worthwhile, making you feel happy, fulfilled and useful.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

C-SPAN

In my entire life I've watched maybe 10 minutes of this channel, if that. It's always the same show, some conference room filled with reporters, flashes from cameras, and some guy on a podium boring you. Change the channel this break and go out and enjoy it with friends and family you like.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)

Saved By The Bell

Screech and Mr. Belding should move on and so should you. This break, go and change the world for the better. Fill it with love, peace, and meaningful plots. Some advice, and this goes for everyone: keep your sense of humor. Holidays require this in abundance.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Ellen

Come out, and if you're not in the "Closet" closet, you're still hiding something. Come out with it, after all it is the 90's. What better way to end the millennium than with a clean honest spirit. The truth "no matter how much you lose, or how bad you die," liberates the heart and soul.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sep. 22)

Wheel of Fortune

It's beyond your control right now so here's some advice: 1. Just spin the wheel (take chances). 2. Don't buy any vowels when you already know where they go (don't be stupid). Happy Holidays.

LIBRA (Sep. 23 - Oct. 22)

Jeopardy

Life is about seeking answers, but sometimes and this goes especially for you, you need to find the question first. Then, you will have the right answer. You have to ask yourself "What do I really want?" and "What am I asking?" And you get more than 30 seconds, you get the entire winter break.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

ER

You're in good hands. There people know what they are doing. Hopefully you are inspired to really go out there and save lives. Do good for living kind. Volunteer at a food bank, a soup kitchen, or at the hospital. Maybe you'll meet your very own George Clooney there. That's a metaphor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

"Where's the remote....Abhhhh"

You're horoscope is not really a TV show, more like a TV tragedy. You can't find the remote to control your set...and you're getting all huffy, and puffy. Remember, there is a classic method of changing the volume, channel, picture, etc. There are buttons right on the set. Don't be too dependent on that clicker...and you can always count on the controls right on the set.

## "The Devlins.... Waiting" For good lyrics maybe?



The Devlins

By Lynn Nevill

What an awesome arrangement of music, until The Devlins start singing anyway. This would be a very good album if Colin and Peter Devlin would just keep their mouths closed.

In the title track "Waiting," the music is exciting, up-beat and original. Then they start to sing and the entire song goes down the drain. There is no point in the entire song.

In the song these two guys are "waiting at the station, waiting for the right moves, waiting in the basement," etc., etc. Can they please wait outside until they learn how to write a song? "Waiting with the orphans, waiting for the bee stings," blah, blah, blah. This is the worst excuse for singers in the 90's.

"Where Are You Tonight?" Where were they when they wrote this blasé song? The mood through-

out the album is one of blatant confusion. "Kill With Me Tonight," the lyrics could cause anyone to commit a murder, maybe that's the effect they were going for when they wrote this song.

Finally one good song on the entire album. Now these are lyrics, "From the mountain top. We'll see the fire's glow. Where everything you are, is everything you know.....Take my hand, we'll rise above it all, and we can meet as planned, outside of Heaven's Wall." "Heaven's Wall," is a beautifully arranged song with wonderful electric guitar. This song is the only song on the entire album with good lyrics to go along with the great music. Finally some meaning for this drab and dull album. If the single comes out be sure to buy it, but it would be a waste of money to buy the whole album.

The exciting part of this release is the electric, acoustic, and bass guitar, blended with other instruments to make exciting and alive sounding beats. If this was just an instrumental album it would be absolutely perfect; but when the lyrics are blended, the songs fall apart leaving nothing appealing to listen to.

The music tries to regain the listeners attention, but it is a difficult task for the music to try to carry the song. As for the Devlins maybe they should wait a little longer, and learn how to write before they try another album.

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# Sports

## Men's Soccer



## Women's Basketball



### Gators blast Tritons

Douglas A. Cöcké  
The Women Gators blasted the Edmonds Tritons 71 to 45 on Saturday, Nov. 29.

The Gators were led by Jamie Smith's 20 points. Smith said, "Our teamwork, execution, and conditioning was the difference." Melissa O'Connell added 18 points. The Gators had a third player in double figures. Heidi Deford rounded out the scoring with 15 points. The Gators are now 1-0 for the season. The Gators played tough defense holding the Tritons to 45 points. The loss dropped Edmonds to 0-2 for the season.

Deford said, "Our press killed



Assistant coach Brian Kaiser.

them." The Gators next home game will be Olympic on Dec. 23 at 6:00p.m.

Correction from previous issue: LaDella Crumble is from Winnfield, LA.

Upcoming Games	Date	Location	Time
Skagit Valley	Dec. 10	Skagit Valley	6:00pm
Peninsula	Dec. 13	Peninsula	6:00pm
Crossover Tourney	Dec. 18,19, 20	Skagit Valley	TBA
Olympic	Dec. 23	GRCC	6:00pm
Edmonds	Dec. 27	GRCC	6:00pm
Skagit Valley	Dec. 30	GRCC	6:00pm
Portland	Jan. 5	Portland	6:00pm
Lower Columbia	Jan. 7	GRCC	6:00pm
South Puget Sound	Jan. 10	GRCC	6:00pm
Clark	Jan. 14	Vancouver	6:00pm

### Durham signs at Texas Tech

By Aaron Morlock

Jason Durham, a shortstop on the Green River Men's Baseball team, will continue his baseball career at Texas Tech University following this season with the Gators.

Durham was awarded a scholarship by Texas Tech on Nov. 19. He will become the next in a long line of Gators baseball players to move on to a NCAA Division One program.

Green River has produced 39 baseball players in the past five years who either signed with Division One programs or be drafted by the major leagues. Coach Billy Jones said, "I can't think of another pro-

gram (community or junior college) that can say that." Jones expects several other players from this year's squad will be offered a scholarship by Division One programs.

Durham played baseball at Ft. Vancouver High School in Vancouver, Wash. before coming to Green River. He considered other offers including ones by Arkansas, Brigham Young, California, Nebraska, and San Francisco. However, he decided to follow the path of other Gators who attended Texas Tech. Dion Rueker and Jamie Bowman both played for the Red Raiders after attending Green River.

### Gators finish in third place

Douglas A. Cöcké  
The Gator men defeated Spokane 2-1 to take third place at the NWAACC Soccer championships in Bothell on Nov. 22.

On Nov. 20, the Gators got to the semi-finals with the best record in the NWAACC. They had a bye on Nov. 16 because they had the best win, loss, and tie record in the NWAAC. They played Clark and led 1-0 at halftime. Reid Roberts scored to lift the dominant Gators to the early lead. However, the Gators gave up two second half goals to the Penguins. Coach Dan Keane said, "We controlled the game and had more shots on goal." But, the difference according to Keane was the Clark goalie, Felipe Fuenmayor.

"He was the most valuable player of the tournament," stated Keane. The Gators came out with a lot of intensity and fire. However, the counter attacking Penguins took advantage of two mistakes by the Gators. The Penguins only had three chances to score, and converted two of them to defeat the Gators 2-1.

Dave Vestal voiced his frustration, "It is disappointing to lose, because we were intense and played well. But, we weren't smart. They defended well and countered well."

The Gators said Clark defended their goal area very well and didn't make any defensive mistakes. Bryan Cunningham said, "I don't know what happened. We came out fired up and played so well. We just made some mistakes that cost us."

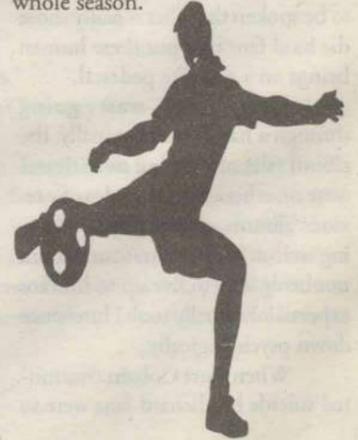
The loss to Clark sent the Gators to a match for third place against Spokane. The Gators came out fired and led 2-0 at halftime. Cory Armstrong and Reid Roberts both tallied goals for the Gators. This time the Gators held their composure in the second half and won 2-1. Vestal said, "We played aggressive and smart." The victory lifted Green River to third place overall in the NWAACC.

Clark played the same style of game against Edmonds in the championship as they did against Green River in the semifinal game. Their defensive poise led to a 2-0 victory to win the NWAACC championship.

The Gators now look to next year as unfinished business. Keane said, "We have a lot of returnees and we need to fill some holes such as center-midfield." Keane added the Gators are can't wait for next year. The Gators would like thank everyone for their support this year. The Gators will lose five sophomores to graduation. Yan Saechao, Reid Rob-

erts, Will Edwards, Stas Kutzel, and Bryan Cunningham went out winners in their last game as Gators.

Cory Armstrong led the NWAACC in league scoring with 17 goals. The Gators had six shut-outs and only gave up 22 goals the whole season.



#### NWAACC Championship

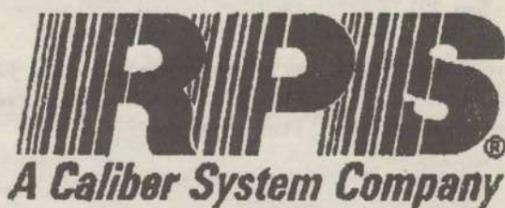
- 1st place: Clark
- 2nd place: Edmonds
- 3rd place: Green River
- 4th place: Spokane

#### Final Standings

Eastern Division	W-L-T
Green River	11-2-5
Spokane	11-6-1
Highline	11-7-0
Belluvue	9-9-0
Wenatchee Valley	8-9-1

## VOLUNTEER!!!

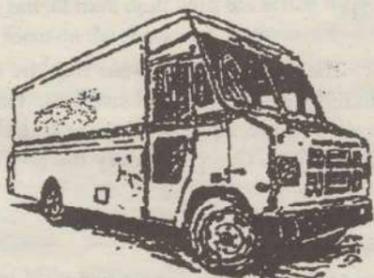
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# Sports

## Men's Basketball Hoopers come up short



By Douglas A. Cöcké

The Gators lost twice at the Columbia Basin Tournament in Pasco.

On Friday, Nov. 28, the Gators were defeated by the Walla Walla Warriors 75 to 73. Coach Micheal McGraw said, "We led Walla Walla most of the way. But,

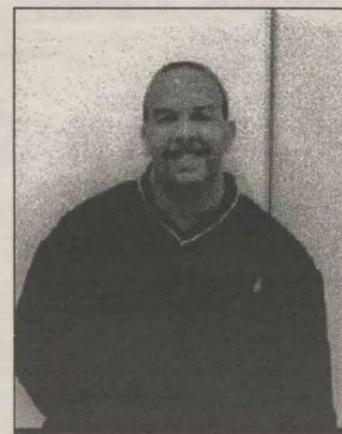
we could not hold on." The Gators only went to the line five times and the Warriors went to the line 18 times. In fact, the Warriors went to the line six times in a row with one minute and four seconds to play. McGraw added, "Even though the officiating was poor, we need to play through the calls."

The Gators were led by Craig Looney's 20 points. Lonyatta Alexander added 14 points. The Gators shot 34-69 from the field. They went to the free throw line five times and converted two times. Walla Walla was led by Hansen who scored 22 points. Metz added 18 points in the victory. Walla Walla shot 24-72 from the field and 15-18 from the line.

On Saturday, Nov. 29, the Gators were turned away by Columbia Basin 89 to 80. McGraw said, "We led most of the game. We need to learn to play with a lead." Also, the Gators struggled on defense according to McGraw. "We need to step it up," added McGraw. Against Columbia Basin, Lonyatta Alexander scored 23 points and

Craig Looney scored 18 points for the Gators. The Gators shot 30-83 from the field and they shot 13-20 from the free throw line. Derek Jones added 12 points and Corey McDonald scored 11 points.

Columbia Basin was led by Collins who scored 22 points. Morgan added 17 points for the Hawks. The victory put Columbia Basin at 2-0 for the season. The defeat put the Gators at 0-2 for the season. McGraw stated, "We played well and we came up short. It was a good learning experience for us." The Gators will play Olympic Dec. 9 at Bremerton. The tip-off will be at 8:00pm.



Head coach Mike McGraw

Photograph by Douglas A. Cöcké

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## Womens Soccer



### Gators look toward next year

By Douglas A. Cöcké

The Women Gators ended the soccer season with a victory 2-1 over Shoreline.

Holley Runnels and Tina Berggren each scored for the Gators. The Gators finished the season in fourth place with a 6-9-1 record and three shut-outs for the season. The Gators now point to next year with most of their young team returning. Holley Runnels, Rebecca Mauk, and Jennifer Peters played their last game as Gators.

Wendy Wells said, "We didn't do as well as we should have. We need to work on our attitude." She added the Gators need to improve on putting the ball in the net, becoming more aggressive, and getting

more players.

Amber Brooks said, "We need to score more and be more aggressive on offense." She added the Gators need to work on their attitude, they need more forwards, and team unity.

Lynn Nevill also added, "We need more unity next year." According to many coaches, next year Green River will be one of the teams to beat in their division based because all the returning players they will have.

The Gators were led in scoring by Wendy Wells with six goals. Kristin Nass was named to the Northeast Division All-Star team. The Gators had three shut-outs for the season.

Both Brooks and Wells said they were excited about the coaching of Bryan Yorke. They stated the first year coach was the best coach they have ever had.

#### Final Standings

Northeast Division	W-L-T
Spokane	11-1-4
Walla Walla	9-2-5
Columbia Basin	10-4-2
Highline	5-4-7
Green River	6-9-1
Wenatchee Valley	1-13-2

#### NWAAACC Championships

- 1st place: Tacoma
- 2nd place: Spokane
- 3rd place: Lower Columbia
- 4th place: Walla Walla

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