Broken pipe leaves man hospitalized

By Christina Morano
Staff Reporter

Highline maintenance employee LaToya Hall suffered first and second degree burns over 20 percent of his body after a coupling on a hot water pipe burst in the Library last Thursday.

Students wrestle with welfare reform

By Teresa 20 percent of his body after a flank.

Washington state's welfare reform won't let her get enough schooling to stay off welfare for forever.

Recipient to go to school, how-ever.

Liah Walker says she wants to work. I can't get a good job without knowing how to use a computer. I can't get a good job without knowing how to use a computer. Buck said.

If we don't have an education where are we going to get it? I don't condone laws but it is a necessity. I can't get a good job without knowing how to use a computer. Buck said.

For the last several months, Buck has been working over-night a.m. to go to school. She got up at 4 a.m. and returned to school until 9

Candidate make no promises at forum

By Heather Baker
Student candidates pregant everything from a shuttle to donor to the highline library to a need center center without a student center without a student center without a student center without a student center without a student center.

Walter cited numerous family issues as the reason she had to quit. Her daughter, a chronic asthma sufferer, forced her to leave for three weeks during Winter Quarter 1999 after she came down with pneumonia.

She then suffered two deaths in her family in early April, and she then had to leave school.

Walter blamed much of the criticism on the reason she had to quit. Her daughter, a chronic asthma sufferer, forced her to leave for three weeks during Winter Quarter 1999, after she came down with pneumonia. Walter blamed much of the criticism on this decision.

They said to me to stop thinking about myself," said Walter. "I was made to feel I made the wrong choice."

Senator resigns position

By Tyler Hurst
Staff Reporter

Evening Student Senator Liah Walker resigned her position Tuesday May 11.

Walker cited numerous family issues as the reason she had to quit. Her daughter, a chronic asthma sufferer, forced her to leave for three weeks during Winter Quarter 1999 after she came down with pneumonia.

She then suffered two deaths in her family in early April, and she then had to leave school.

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Proctor shines in her first year

Proctor builds relationships with students

By Dru White
Staff Reporter

Shannon Proctor is one of the youngest professors here on the Highline campus, but she is wise beyond her years. Though she is only in her first year here, she has already begun to make her mark here at Highline, and has been very influential in the learning growth of several of her students.

"Shannon may be young, but I really feel that she identifies well with her students because of that youth. She's just awesome," said student Nicole Urich.

Coming to Highline and Washington was a homecoming for Proctor as he had been born here but later moved to the Chicago area with her family. "I was on break from one of my classes when I taught in Chicago when I picked up a Seattle Times classified ad. In the middle of the page in bold type it said speech instructor wanted at Highline Community College," said Proctor. "I couldn't believe it. I had thought about coming back here to teach, but I was waiting for an open position somewhere. Just like her students and even before her, Proctor also began at the community college level and then transferred to a four-year institution. Proctor received her associate of arts degree at the College of DuPage, and then transferred to Arizona State where she earned her bachelor's degree in broadcasting. It wasn't until she transferred to the University of Illinois that she got her master's degree in speech.

"Nothing that you do in life will involve one type of communication skill or another," said Proctor.

Before teaching speech, she was a Fox news broadcaster in Phoenix. Not liking the job much, she taught speech at various colleges in Chicago before coming to Highline.

Proctor's teaching style differs from other professors. She teaches through example rather than lecture. She tries to create a safe environment in her classroom for her students to feel comfortable expressing themselves, and learning from one another. So far, she has done just that, and as her classes are some of the first to fill up the past two quarters.

When I was told that I needed to take Speech 100 this quarter to transfer to the UW, all of my friends told me to take Shannon, and I'm glad I did!" said sophomore Andrew Russell.

Proctor is a very energetic teacher. She has taken learning to a new level in the eyes of many of her students. "I just infuse creativity," she said.

Current hours are Monday to Thursday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Full Quarter 1999 registration will start June 14.

Correction

Pictures of Joe Nalley and Matthew Renner were inadvertently switched in last week's voter's guide.

The photos are correctly identified at right.

Voting will run through Friday, May 20.

Students can vote online in Bldg. 8.
Campus prepared for millenium

By Dale V. Bird
Staff Reporter

Y2K will cause computer system problems, experts say. But the King County Office of Emergency Management is more concerned over the social problems that the hysteria over Y2K may cause, said Eric Holdeman, manager of the King County Office of Emergency Management.

A Y2K forum sponsored by the Interactive Media Program and Team Highline was held on May 10. The forum included an interactive media presentation and a panel discussion. The panel also included Angie Parsons, assistant director for planning and development for Highline; and Carol Randall, vice president of Win Services Technologies.

Y2K refers to the year 2000, when computers programmed to read two-digit dates may interpret the year 19 and 99 as 1900 and 1999. Doomsayers have predicted a catastrophe as everything from banking to electricity will be falling in a computer crash.

People who actually work on such problems are a lot less exicted.

"As of March 31, 1999, King County is prepared," said Holdeman. Included in these preparations is a contingency to deal with social problems. The State Patrol and King County Police have canceled all vacation and leave for the night of Dec. 31, 1999.

"Highline Community College will be prepared," said Parsons. Holdeman and Parsons were quick to say that there are no waitlists for any of the courses.

Of special concern for the Office of Emergency Management in a portion of the population that has not made any preparations.

"About 90 percent of the faculty and student body do not know anything about it," said Holdeman. The uncertainty of what will happen has caused a variety of reactions.

"It would be prudent to prepare as you would for a winter storm," said Randall. "Many people have been labeled wacky by the press for gathering supplies to protect against the expected ice and snow. I have been using empty one-liter bottles of pop to store water and I don't consider myself a wacko." Bad press may have kept people from preparing.

"If we are not prepared, it may cause a panic," said a Highline student.

The Interactive Media Program has put together a newsletter and a web page to distribute information about Y2K.

There is more detailed list of preparation on the Internet at http://www.metrokc.gov/prep. You can also contact the American Red Cross at 206-323-2345, or the Office of Emergency Management at 206-206-3830.

Welsh professor speaks

By Takehito Fukui
Staff Reporter

Students in the United Kingdom get a head start in a college.

Highline's exchange professor Bernie Hayward from Wales introduced the British system in education in a presentation here on Tuesday.

Hayward talked about the students, faculty, academic and grading system, and costs of college in the UK. Hayward said in the United Kingdom, there are no pre-schools for 3-year-olds and up, and they will be free for every 4-year-olds by the year of 2000. Then students start the first grade of full time education at age 6. In primary education, students focus on mathematics, English, and science. Secondary school starts from seventh grade and runs through 11th grade.

By the age 16, students have some options to choose from. One of the options gives the opportunity to students to earn credits by working. Free tuition is provided for the full time students who are ages 16-19, which also includes materials such as textbooks.

Barry College offers more instructional formatted classes for students to prepare for their future jobs.

"Many people with degrees apply for the job, but they do not have real skills that they can use at work," said Hayward.

Barry College focuses on developing students' key skills such as communication, applied math, information technology, team work skills, and students learn and development. These important skills are identified by employers for students to have when they apply for jobs.

For grading students, the college uses criteria instead of numbers or percentages. Hayward said it is very difficult to distinguish the difference between a student who achieved 76 percent and other student achieved 72 percent in their grade. Therefore, on the students record, the instructor gives written criteria based on the student's performance on the assignment.

Hayward said he would bring the idea of the quarter system to his college in Wales from Highline. On the other hand, he would forward the idea of inexpensive school material to Highline for students. He also likes Highline's campus, faculty, and staff. He will be staying at Highline until the end of this quarter.
Editorials

Make sure to get out and vote in today's election

The ASHCC spring election is taking place. Today is the final day of the election, which decides not only student government offices, but also bylaw changes, as well as the ever-controversial student center plan. It is important that students get out to vote today. The people who make up Student Government next year will make decisions that will affect everyone on campus.

Student government officers need to have certain qualities to be successful. Most importantly, prospective officers need to be proven, capable students. If they are not already successful students, with the added stress of their positions, they may create instability within the government.

Beside getting it done in the classroom, officers need to be responsible so they can do well in the day-to-day functions of their positions.

Having an outgoing personality also helps. That will allow students to feel comfortable in going to their elected representatives and will allow representatives to connect better with other students.

While all of the candidates present strengths, some stand out as best able to serve the students of Highline:

• For president, Drew White should be considered. White is a member of the school's women's basketball team, so she is already well connected on campus. With a full year of going to Highline under her belt, plus prior experience attending Bellevue CC, White's background will allow her to view ASHCC through different eyes than most students. But one of White's most important strengths is her outgoing personality. She has no problems talking with any student on campus, which is vital, given Highline's remarkable diversity.

Her opponent, Renee Jovet, is also a solid candidate, but doesn't seem to have White's energy and passion.

• For vice-president of legislation, John Fox needs to do his homework on just what his job will entail. But his credentials are otherwise impressive, and unlike his opponent, George Kelley Jr., he attended Tuesday's candidate forum. Despite being a pole-vaulter on the college's track team, working full time, and taking a 20-credit course load, he maintains a 3.4 GPA. Much like White, Fox's experience as an athlete has made him connected on campus and thus more able to get the job done.

In the vice-president of administration election, Stewart Waimana is a very strong candidate. An extremely bright individual, he has the highest GPA of any student involved in the election. Waimana is likely to lend a needed practical focus to Student Government. In a position like vice-president of administration, that is one of the most necessary traits. His opponent, Matthew Renner, is a worthy candidate, but his constant protests that he's not in it for the popularity makes us wonder.

• For club diplomat/treasurer, The Thunderword is not endorsing any candidate. Kitty Richimie has some fine qualities -- a positive attitude and experience at planning events. Unfortunately, she displays a lack of knowledge of First Amendment issues. Freedom of speech is the fundamental source of American political freedom, and her suggestion that student government members have the right to edit Thunderword stories before they are published is not only illegal, it's wrong. Nor is it entirely clear that she has the diplomatic skills to be a liaison between ASHCC and clubs. Meanwhile, her opponent, Janice Valdez, didn't show up to the forum and has waged a stealth campaign.

In the race for the two student senator positions, Kyle Maschhoff and Evan Keck are the two best candidates. Maschhoff was involved in leadership positions throughout his junior high and high school years, and such a background surely will help him out in student government work.

Despite the strengths of Joe Neiley's candidacy, Keck shows an excellent knowledge of many student government issues and understands what it takes to get the job done. His performance at the candidate forum was one of the best.

The editorial staff also supports the new Student Center -- discussed in last week's Thunderword -- and the proposed changes to the bylaws. Most of the changes are merely procedural, and in one case, officially recognizes the office of student senator, since the office was previously called student at-large.

Team Highline puts it together

Team Highline has finally done something worth recognition.

In this past week, they have hosted three successful events, beginning with a hypnotist and ending with karaoke in the cafeteria.

By far the most successful event was the Mardi Gras Cruise around Lake Union. It had dancing, sights, and food. I didn't figure out the Mardi Gras theme thing, save the few plastic masks they set on the tables. If they are going to have a theme, they need to go all out. More beads would be my first suggestion, because I'm sure a boat full of college students could figure out what to do with them. A different theme could have worked better, maybe a costume ball or a hula. Or no theme at all, because most students were happy just dressed up in their old high school dance outfits.

The cruise was well advertised. Team Highline actually planned this one well, with multiple fliers and advertisements in the paper well ahead of the date of the cruise.

I don't understand why Team Highline doesn't plan more big events. It seems easy, just call the place, rent it out, and that's it. Cruises aren't exactly fun in the winter, but I'm sure there are other places that could be rented out by the hour.

Why not ice skating? Or something like roller skating? It's cheap, simple to plan and easy to participate in.

The Thunderword

It's state property. You can't just cut things.

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The one thing that Team Highline is slow to improve on is advertising. Very few people knew of these events, except for the athletes that frequent Building 8. The students getting lunch are always a captive audience, but they don't participate because they're eating.

Team Highline is doing better, but I have a message for next year's members.

events more. Call the paper. Set up banners. Talk to people. If more students show up, Team Highline looks that much better. Good luck.

Tyler went to Mardi Gras dressed as a traffic accident.
Dear Editor,

Thank you for coverage on athletic events this year. You and I will miss our 20-minute interviews that ended before I had a chance to make all my points.

While the bombing of the Chinese embassy could be unintentional, the Chinese have good reasons to believe otherwise. A look at Chinese modern history which is marked by a series of humiliations inflicted by Western powers including the U.S. and a tireless Chinese government responsible for this act but that they did hold the American government responsible.

The protest is not about the Chinese government. It is about the Chinese people. They were clearly brave and dedicated people to have risked their own lives to fight for democracy in the midst of the violent struggle in that distant part of the world. Their deaths are a great loss to the world.

I have looked into the situation in Kosovo through the American media as "vicious" and "violent". What is more vicious and more violent than the bombing of another country's embassy? Can't the American people still discern the difference between throwing rocks and throwing bombs?

Tianyi Tang
Highline faculty member

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Letters to the Editor

Thank you for coverage on athletic events this year.

Dear Editor,

Just wanted to thank you for the coverage this year. You and the Thunderword office, room 106, Building 10. Or call at ext. 3318 or e-mail thunderword@hccmail.com.

We will not accept letters over 300 words. Deadline for Thursday's issue is Monday, 12:30 p.m.

Ed Commando

The Phantom Dancer

I have foreseen this meeting, the circle will soon be complete.

Meanwhile, upon occasion...

I have foreseen this meeting, the circle will soon be complete.

I feel a great responsability in the coming days.

Ed Van in sight of shadow land.

I am not the only one, the walls will not be broken.

If I have foreseen this thing, and I am afraid you and too many of your colleagues are doomed commando.

American should apologize for bombing

SHANGHAI, China — It has been over a week now since the tragic bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Yugoslavia. Strong feelings run deep among the Chinese people and the people of the world. Americans in China, like Americans everywhere, were shocked and horrified at the news of this incident.

I am personally distressed and saddened that such a tragedy has occurred and that innocent people doing good work have lost their lives.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy to the families of the journalists who died in Belgrade. They were clearly brave and dedicated people who held to their responsibilities in the midst of the violent struggle in that distant part of the world. Their deaths are a great loss to the world.

I have looked into the situation in Kosovo through the American media as "vicious" and "violent". What is more vicious and more violent than the bombing of another country's embassy? Can't the American people still discern the difference between throwing rocks and throwing bombs?

Tianyi Tang
Highline faculty member

Commentary

Most of them have been careful to make it clear that they do not hold individual Americans responsible for its act but that they do hold the American government responsible.

And the American government must take responsibility. It is about the Chinese government. It must hold individuals accountable for their actions. It must compensate for the destruction of the Embassy. It must make every effort to pay its respects and provide for the needs of the families of the deceased journalists. And it must continue to find ways to apologize to the families and to the Chinese people until it is clear that the apologies are sincere and unqualified. China deserves no less, and Americans expect no less from their government.

As we all know, China and America's histories and cultures are extremely different. We have different views of the world and our places in it. Yet when we come together as individuals, we are usually rewarded with the knowledge that as human beings we still have much in common. Underneath all of our differences, we still grieve over the loss of loved ones, take joy in our times with family and friends, and dream of a better future of peace and harmony among the people of the world. It is my sincerest hope that, in spite of our international tensions, we can continue to see each other as individuals who can be trusted and valued as friends.

Rosemary Adang
Highline Writing Instructor currently involved in an exchange program, teaching in China.

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TV's next big thing: 'The Family Guy'

The Family Guy is one great show. I don't know when this show started, but I've only been aware of it for four weeks. My oldest brother Art was trying to convince me to watch a cartoon with him. This is the guy who still watches Beavis and Butthead, so needless to say I was less than enthusiastic about watching anything with him.

Eventually he won me over, and we settled in to watch a little show called The Family Guy. I didn't even make it through the opening sequence. I was laughing so hard and rewinding it so much that I couldn't laugh at it again.

The Family Guy is something of an animated Married... with Children, except with less crude humor and more innovative stories.

The show is about the Griffin family. This clan is headed by Peter and Lois Griffin, your typical middle-class suburban folks. Peter and Lois have three kids: oldest son Chris, middle daughter Meg, and baby Stewie, the genius in the family.

And then there's Brian, the Griffin's dog.

If you're wondering why he doesn't have a more canine moniker like Spot or Lassie, that's because Brian is more like an all-knowing grandfather than a pet. Brian walks upright, sits at the dinner table in a chair, offers parenting advice to Peter and Lois, and is rarely seen at the dinner table in a chair, offering parenting advice to Peter and Lois.

Brian walks upright, sits at the dinner table in a chair, offers parenting advice to Peter and Lois, and is rarely seen at the dinner table in a chair, offering parenting advice to Peter and Lois.

This is classic entertainment folks, be sure to catch it Sunday night before X-Files.

A cartoon based on Marta's life. The Artzy Girl, will be premiering next fall on Fox.

Students feel hypnotic effects at Highline

By Maple Medina
Staff Reporter

Several students were getting drunk and trying to strip down to their last layer of clothing in Toad Hall last week. The only response these actions produced from college officials and students alike was laughter. The students in question were hypnotized.

They were guided by the voice of Robert Mach. Mach has been guiding the minds of people for more than 23 years. "Anybody could be hypnotized and anybody could be a hypnotist," said Mach. "The easiest way to hypnotize people is to think of a past pleasant experience and make yourself different."

Mach managed to hypnotize five out of 11 people who came to the front of the stage. The other people failed to fall under hypnotism, due to their lack of concentration. Hypnosis is a mind game that demands the participant to remain focused. Mach made five participants think that they had birds stuck on their fingers, which they had to get off. "That dumb bird," said Serena Hector while nodding her head.

That is all that Hector remembered. Mach also made volunteers pretend that they were at the beach. He told them it was 98 degrees outside. The volunteers began taking off their clothes layer by layer.

People in the audience wondered how many layers were being stripped off by the volunteers. "Remember this is a public beach," said Mach. "Partying is not in the booze, it is what you put of it."

Mach sent a message to the audience that all it takes to have fun is to put your own mind. "All routines are done in a spirit of fun and respect for the audience on both sides of the stage," said Mach.

Mason lecture relaxes, inspires

By Eileen Lambert
Staff Reporter

Picture Woody Allen, a foot and a half taller, wearing Airwalks and jeans, charismatic in place, but sans the annoying whiny voice and horn-rimmed glasses. Alden Mason, renown artist and former art professor at the UW for 33 years, visited Highline in Building 7, Wednesday, May 19, and presented a lecture and slide show.

A reflection on his life and art, the event was included in the Spring Fine Arts Festival.

He opened his show with light-hearted flattery. Looking out at the crowd of students and faculty, he said, "You're the most beautiful people I've ever seen at Highline, does everyone look like you?" The crowd seemed to ease into their seats a bit, relieved that this artist's lecture was not going to be a dull affair.

"The lecture hall echoed with laughter throughout his slide show; the reaction in part to some of the paintings and photographs, in part to some of the deadpan comments Mason made throughout the show. Mason encouraged the audience to participate more by allowing themselves to laugh freely. He also invited any questions or comments after the show. Mason's images were a visual feast; the bright colors in both the photographs and paintings captivated the crowd.

The slide show started at the beginning of his life in the Skagit Valley, and then moved to his campus days at the UW. A majority of the photos and paintings were taken on or inspired by his many travels around the world. An avid traveler who just two months ago returned from Kenya, he talked excitedly about his trips to Thailand, Mexico, Guatemala, Australia, New Guinea, of the natives he met in various villages, of the aboriginal art he admired and the impressive pyramids and architecture that he encountered.

In Mexico, in a village square, he saw a huge bust of an animal figure that inspired paintings that would later make up his most recent exhibit, aptly titled "Heads." He has such a passion for art, he once sold his house to travel Europe and experience it firsthand.

"I've always painted not to please people, but because I felt I needed to paint," he said. Mason's desire and drive has led to great success in the art community. He has had 30 exhibitions across the United States, countless group exhibitions, and has been featured in corporate collections, including Nordstrom, the Sea-Tac Airport, King 5 Broadcasting, SeaFirst Bank, and Swedish Hospital. His public collections have been seen in libraries, university museums, art institutions, private collections and in the state Senate chambers in Olympia.

He remains active in his art, and constantly renews himself, keeping current with new ideas and visions. "Everyone has to have an obsession. I'm obsessed creating art."
'Love Letter' delivers

By Marta D. Pelayo
Staff Reporter

Based on the best-selling novel by Cathleen Schine, The Love Letter is a movie that challenges people to lose their inhibitions and follow their heart.

A charming and romantic tale set in the New England town of Loblolly on the Sea, The Love Letter is about an "emotionally celibate" book-store owner (Kate Capshaw) - who comes across an anonymous love letter that turns her world upside down.

The beautifully written letter, "Do you know how in love with you I am? Did I trip? Did I stumble? Lose my balance, graze my knee . . . graze my heart?" makes her obsess over the author of the letter.

Helen soon decides that her 20-year-old assistant Johnny (Tomm Everett Scott) wrote the letter, and the two begin an affair.

The letter also falls into the hands of many citizens of Loblolly, each time making the reader see their peers in a new, romantic, light.

Also starring Gloria Stuart, the film also stars Ellen DeGeneres as Helen's best friend. It's good to see that DeGeneres was not pigeonholed into playing her usual self-deprecating characters.

Also starring Blythe Danner, and Tom Selleck, The Love Letter is a great movie to take a date to.

Cruise doesn't mask the fun

By Tyler Hurst
Staff Reporter

Some swayed to the music and some to the waves, but fun was had by all on the Mardi Gras Cruise.

Last Friday was Team Highline's Mardi Gras cruise around Lake Union.

"I had a great time," said one student attending. "It was the best event that Team Highline and Student Government have ever put on." The boat was decorated with glittery masks and beads, as the boat tried to bring New Orleans to Seattle.

The ship sailed its way out of the harbor near the freeway, through the Montlake Cut, and then turned around.

Bill Gates' mansion was passed on the cruise, with many students snapping away as the ship slowly moved by.

"The Argosy cruise ship had two levels, with the bottom offering a dance floor and the top offering free chips, pretzels and food from Subway. I think that the school should have paid for the drinks," said another student. "But at least we got two pictures for our money."

Romance was in the air.

"It was the funnest date I have been on," said student Nikki Woodhouse.

A group of Mardi Gras revelers pose for a picture.

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Star Reporter
By Amy K. Cords
Highline Fine Arts Festival display.
ied cvcnt designed work in the Library.
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their range of art. 
 on the talent and also to promote this event to showcase charcoal portrait of a woman ing pieces on display there.
...In turn holds an immense amount of talent.
soring this event to showcase the talent and also to promote awareness of the department.
To celebrate, Studio Brazil is holding an open house on Sunday, May 23.
The exhibit itself is small but in turn holds an immense amount of talent. There are some truly amazing pieces on display there.
Art Department is sponsoring this event to showcase the talent and also to promote awareness of the department.
One impressive piece was a charcoal portrait of a woman drawn by artist Marilyn Rowl. Rowl has two charcoal sketches on display. Some of the pieces in the show share a theme such as still life of kitchen utensils and another of clothes pins. The artists experimenting with different types of photography styles yielded pieces that were vibrant and elegant. Two that stand out are "Campus Poppies" by Gigi Bower, a hand colored photo, and an untitled infrared print piece by Karen Hickey. The exhibit itself is small but in turn holds an immense amount of talent. There are some truly amazing pieces on display there.
The Art Department is sponsoring this event to showcase the talent and also to promote awareness of the department.
One impressive piece was a charcoal portrait of a woman drawn by artist Marilyn Rowl. Rowl has two charcoal sketch-es on display. Some of the pieces in the show share a theme such as still life of kitchen utensils and another of clothes pins. The artists experimenting with different types of photography styles yielded pieces that were vibrant and elegant. Two that stand out are "Campus Poppies" by Gigi Bower, a hand colored photo, and an untitled infrared print piece by Karen Hickey.

By Marta D. Pelayo
Weekend Thesaurus
Brazilian culture will soon be coming to a studio near you. Studio Brazil teaches samba, Brazilian percussion.
From the Formerly the Capoeira Oxala Academy, Studio Brazil has relocated to Burien in a new 2000 square foot studio.
To celebrate, Studio Brazil is holding an open house on Sunday, May 23. They offer free workshops from 1 to 5 p.m., followed by a samba party (all ages, no alcohol) with live Brazilian music from 7 to 10 p.m.
Visitors will also get a chance to meet with the instructors of Studio Brazil.
With a full program in Brazilian cultural arts for all ages, there are courses in capoeira, a rhythmic and acrobatic martial art that is traditionally performed to Brazilian rhythms.
Escaped African slaves in 17th century Brazil first developed Capoeira. Samba, the fast-tempo Brazilian dance, is also taught at Studio Brazil.
Studio Brazil will also be performing at the University of Washington’s Student Union Building (HUB) on Saturday, May 22, from 1 to 4 p.m.
Admission is $2 for the general public and free for UW students with ID and children under 12.
The performance will feature capoeristas from Berkeley, Calif., Vancouver, BC, and Minas Gerais, Brazil.
Many of these world-class artists will also be at the open house on Sunday.
While most are unfamiliar with Capoeira, the style of múti- 
al arts has grown in popularity in recent years.
Many received their first taste of capoeira in the movie Only the Strong, in which a mestre (Mark Dacascos) taught inner-city kids capoeira.
So if you’re looking for a different form of exercise, or even some new dance moves, check out Studio Brazil’s open house on Sunday.
Studio Brazil is located at 406 SW 153rd Street in Burien.

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Commencement
If you have completed or are planning to complete your degree requirements by the end of Summer Quarter, 1999, you are invited to take part in commencement June 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Pavilion

NO CHARGE!
Caps/gowns may be picked up at the Bookstore starting May 26th.
For special arrangements call Joanne Jordan, graduation evaluator at 878-3710 extension 3244
In a truly ambitious collaboration, the Arts, Drama, and Music departments have teamed up to sponsor the Fine Arts Festival, which began Monday, May 17, and will conclude on Friday, May 21.

The week, being touted as a Celebration of the Arts, consists of several visual and performing arts oriented events, and has been advertised to more than 3,000 people on and off campus, including various local high schools.

The opening reception, featuring the Annual Juried Student Fine Arts Exhibition, ran from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Library (Building 25). The display, which covered much of the fourth floor, showcased various pieces from artists around the community. It witnessed a healthy turnout, and the art work varied from painting to sculptures. The exhibition will be running through June 4 and everyone is welcome to attend.

Throughout this week, in The Little Theater (Building 4), the Drama Department presents its annual offering of student-directed one-act plays. Tuesday's noon offering was The Family Continues. This one humorously chronicles several phases (from childhood to old age and senility) in the tumultuous life of one man played by Adam Sanders.

The show's director, Vinnie Tula, is tremendously pleased with the outcome and couldn't offer more praise to his fellow drama students, cast and crew.

"It took about four or five weeks to prepare. I'm so proud of each and everyone who worked on this. They give their all, day in and day out and they are so committed. They're workaholics," said Tula.

The one-acts are being performed in their entirety 8 p.m. nightly through Saturday, with another sampling today at 11 a.m.

Also on Tuesday, Highline's very own vocal jazz ensemble displayed their musical prowess from 1-2 p.m., with a stirring live performance outside of Building 2.

Today's events consist of a choir performance in Building 2 at noon, and then again at 7 p.m.

Friday, the festival's final day, will have Butch Nordin, a gifted jazz pianist, and a jazz trio playing the Central Sidewalk at noon.
**Sports**

**T-Birds soar into tournament**

*By Charlie Steele Staff Reporter*

Dawns to their final three outs, Highline’s fastpitch team pulled out a victory in extra innings Saturday afternoon in a game played at Delta Park, with the teams as evenly matched as any in recent memory.

"It’s our win," said Highline’s Cara Hoyt.

Highline and Big Bend tied for fourth place in the Northwest Division after Saturday’s game. The T-Birds have about making the final three outs in the NWAACC playoffs.

"I’m glad to see people out supporting the team," said Hoyt.

And with the extra game to determine the final Northeast Division playoff spot, Highline and Big Bend played scoreless through seven innings while Highline’s league-leading hitters managed to collect only five hits, two of which came from the bat of Meghan Hall.

The T-Birds struggled to hold Big Bend scoreless throughout the game. Bend had runners on base in six of the first seven innings and at least one in scoring position three different times.

In the top of the third, Bend loaded the bases after an error on Hall at shortstop and two walks by pitcher Tai Mansigh. The Lady Thunderbirds managed to survive that scare when the runner on third broke a little too far toward home on a pitch.

The game moved into extra innings with the score still knotted at zero.

Big Bend started the top of the eighth with two straight outs then started a rally with an infield hit by Lee, followed by two straight singles that scored the first run of the game.

The game moved into their final three outs, showed the fight of a team that could have been leading the division.

"We really stepped up and showed our potential," said Hoyt.

The team’s league leading hitting showed up and took over. The inning started with two straight singles up the middle by Melissa MacFarlane and Michele Lee. Then, Hall came to the plate and belted a line drive into the left-centerfield gap that rolled all the way to the fence. MacFarlane scored easily from second and Lee, hustling all the way from first, scored without a play at the plate ending the game 2-1.

"I was thinking just run, it’s through (the hole)," said Lee rather modestly after scoring the game-winner.

Hall’s hit, scoring for her two errors earlier in the game, made her 3-4 with the team’s only two RBI and the star of the game.

The game ended with con-gratulations by her teammates, friends and family.

"Are you gonna give me money for that?" Hall asked her dad.

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**What Highline can expect in Portland**

*By Charlie Steele Staff Reporter*

A Viking connects with a Tai Mansigh pitch on Saturday.

A Viking leads off the plate and belted a line drive into the left-centerfield gap that rolled all the way to the fence. MacFarlane scored easily from second and Lee, hustling all the way from first, scored without a play at the plate ending the game 2-1.

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"Are you gonna give me money for that?" Hall asked her dad.

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**The Score Card**

By Stephanie Allen

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**The Thunderbird**

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**Mansigh throws to win**

God must have been listening to Tai Mansigh’s prayers for a second chance on Saturday, because she got one.

As of Tuesday, the T-Birds thought they were through, until Big Bend lost two games. They tied for fourth place in the Northeast Division, the last playoff spot. Highline and Big Bend battled it out last Saturday in extra innings and the T-Birds won, 2-1.

If that was me competing unover the kind of pressure, I would have probably tripped over my feet and landed face first on my way up to bat.

The shows not over yet for Mansigh. "I never gave up," said Mansigh. "I just knew something was going to happen."

Mansigh was glad to see people out supporting the team. I would be too; it always makes an athlete’s hard work so much more rewarding when it’s recognized by the public.

This is Mansigh and the other nonreturning sophomores’ last season playing for Highline. This, besides being in the championships, makes the games all the more special.

The team has had a season full of ups and downs with the loss of a coach, players, and injuries plaguing them. As a result the team has grown really close.

"This is probably one of the best teams I’ve played on," she said.

How exciting it must be to be competing in NWAACCOs, but how sad it must be for this tight-knit team to be playing their last games of the season. At least Mansigh has a few more games to play with the team when she anticipated a week ago.

If the team can come together and envision themselves winning, they have a good chance at capturing the title. It’s like a self-fulfilling prophecy. To be successful you have to imagine your success, not your failure.

"The only team that can beat us is ourselves, and we don’t want that to happen," said Mansigh.

It would be awesome if Mansigh could remember her fast-pitch days at Highline with a big, fat, trophy to show for it.

"I want to go out with a bang," said Mansigh.
NWAACC tournament contenders and pretenders

**SPOKANE, 28-10, first place, Northeast Division:** Spokane has a very solid pitching staff and has great overall team speed. The team is led by a strong group of sophomores, including the league's leading hitter, Janessa Kanoria and pitcher Kylee Curry. No real weakness have been exposed this season, but the team has had trouble controlling the damage after errors and walks. Head Coach Janet Staake says her team and Clackamas are the co-favorites.

**CENTRALIA, 20-8, fifth place, Southwest Division:** Centralia has a very versatile team and when the team is on, everyone contributes. The team has no real stars so every player's game has been essential to their success. The pitching staff as a whole has been excellent this season. Head Coach Pat Hunt picks Clackamas, Lower Columbia, or Spokane to take it all.

**WENATCHEE VALLEY, 23-19, fourth place, Northwest Division:** Wenatchee's team is very good and has great overall strength. Their offense has also been a major contributor to their success this season. Their star players include pitchers Jackie Swindell and Crystal Malson. Wenatchee's team is very young and inexperienced, and a lack of team unity hurts them. Head Coach Tammi Ellerbroek picks Lower Columbia as the favorite.

**CLACKAMAS, 26-10, first place, Southwest Division:** Clackamas's main strength is their pitching. Hicks was unavailable for comment. They have put up great numbers this season. Their team is led by pitcher Andrea Tomey, and Crystal Malsom. Wenatchee second baseman Jacque Swindell and Crystal Malson. Wenatchee's team is very good and has great overall strength. Their offense has also been a major contributor to their success this season. Their star players include pitchers Jackie Swindell and Crystal Malson. Wenatchee's team is very young and inexperienced, and a lack of team unity hurts them. Head Coach Tammi Ellerbroek picks Lower Columbia as the favorite.

**MT. HOOD, 28-7, second place, Southwest Division:** MT. HOOD, 28-7, second place, Southwest Division: MT. HOOD is the most uneven team in the tournament. The pitching staff has been outstanding all year long, but they are by far the worst-hitting team that made the playoffs this season. The leaders of the team are pitchers Andree Toney, Meadow McWhorter and Amber Blum. MT. Hood comes into the tournament with a disappointing final few games this season despite finishing in a three-way tie for first place in the Southwest Division. Head Coach Lonny Sargent was unavailable for comment.

**LOWER COLUMBIA, 38-12, second place, Southwest Division:** Lower Columbia put up the best numbers of anyone in the conference this season. Head Coach Tim Maskin's says his team is a favorite along with Spokane and Clackamas.

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By Maple Medina
Staff Reporter

Highline fastpitch catcher Jody Case loves the mental aspect of the game. Case has been playing ball since the age of 6 in Okanagan Canada, where she was born. The Canadian's first real game was when she was in the first grade and her position back then was a pitcher, but soon realized that pitching wasn't her thing.

"I didn't like pitching because I felt like I couldn't see the whole game," said Case.

Case attended A.L. Fortune High School and went on to Langara College in Canada. She played softball in the summer-time because fastpitch was not that popular among the Canadians. Her personal best in Canada was at the provincial tournament and her batting average at the game was .431 and no one stole any bases while she was behind the plate.

"The difference between America and Canada is that there is no ball in high schools, just summer ball," said Case. "There is so much more opportunity here too.

This is when Case decided to go a little south to Highline. Case is dedicated to the Thunderbird squad and has done really well juggling school and fastpitch. She maintains a 3.3 GPA and has been playing with a sore shoulder. This Lady Thunderbird wants to work on her arm and might have surgery on her shoulder this summer to strengthen it.

Her devotion to the team has made her teammates appreciate what Case has brought to the game. "She has such intensity and love for the game," said shortstop Mighlaan Hall. "She is a silent motivator," said third baseman Heather Saw. "She adjusts so well when calling pitches for all of the pitchers," said left fielder Michelle Lee.

Highline has brought many good memories for this Canadian.

"I have made such good friends here and I will be really sad when we all go our separate ways," said Case. "I have never been on a team who was so dedicated and I am finally on a team that knows how to play college ball.

After Case finishes Highline, she wants to attend St. Cloud State in Minnesota where she plans to study sports psychology.

"I didn't like pitching because I felt like I couldn't see the whole game."

"Can't wait to go home for the summer and see my family and go water-skiing," Case says with a smile.

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Canadian catcher makes a Case for Highline

Jody Case

"I didn't like pitching because I felt like I couldn't see the whole game."

"Can't wait to go home for the summer and see my family and go water-skiing," Case says with a smile.

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Sports

May 29, 1999

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Voice of the students

All games will be at Delta Park in Portland, Ore.
Tough meet brings out best in T-Birds

By Jewanna Carver
Staff Reporter

The competition was incredibly tough for the Thunderbirds at their last track meet of the season.

Last weekend's meet against Seattle Pacific University sent the men home empty handed with no first place finishes.

"There were some really good athletes competing in every event," said distance runner Dagen Bendixen.

Though it was the best outing for the 'Birds as a whole, there were some outstanding individual performances.

Andrew Russell received his best time for the year at 800m with 1:55, a huge two-second improvement over his previous personal record.

"I was satisfied, but disappointed that I wasn't running in the faster heats," said Russell.

Andy Hanson had his best meet ever, gaining three personal records in the 100m, 200m and the long jump.

Justin Clark came in fourth in the 400m run with a time of 49.7; taking the highest placing out of all the men.

"I'm satisfied with my performance, but I feel that I could have done better if I'd taken a different approach to the race," said Clark. "I came out too hard."

"I'm looking forward to improving for the NWAACCs," said Clark.

Teammate Tim Richart took seventh in the 400m intermediate hurdles.

"I didn't appreciate running with one other person in my heat," said Richart.

Highline's hurdlers were prominent in their races with Frank Walton placing seventh in the 110 high hurdles, and Dominique Demouchet placing fifth in the 400m intermediate hurdles.

Chris Hall was on his way to winning first place in the same event, but mistakenly stopped at the wrong finish line and was passed up by seven other runners before he could recover to finish the race.

Even with the mishap he ran his best time of the year with a 55.85.

Demouchet also had a personal best in the 100 and placed seventh in the 200m.

Bendixen competed in the 800m and blasted his way to a PR of 14:59.05, a 15-second improvement.

"I've been training hard all year and it's finally paid off," said Bendixen. "I hit a time barrier, but I thought I would."

The T-Bird 4x100m relay team best out Portland State for the seventh place spot and with a season-best 42.40.

Sean Steele high jumped his way to fifth place at a height of 6'06.75".

Pole-vaulter Micah Adams was able to overcome an illness and pulled hamstrings to place sixth with a vault of 15'01½.

"I was doing great until I hurt myself," Adams said. "I was also battling the flu."

Javelin throwers Eric Simonson and Vedran Radacic (also coming back from an injury) placed seventh and 15th in their event.

David Dehond tossed the discus 107'07" to finish 17th.

In all, the 'Birds had 13 personal records set at this meet.

The intense competition from the four-year colleges may have shut the 'Birds out, but it also made them work harder and prepare for the upcoming NWAACCs one week from today.

"It was kind of cool being the only community college in a big meet," said Demouchet.

To prepare for the next week's showdown in Eugene, Ore. the men plan to taper off on their workouts and get rested.

"Instead of running 60 miles a week, I plan on running 30," said Bendixen.

To date the men's team has qualified 16 members of its team for the championship involving community colleges from Washington and Oregon.

"We should have a good showing," said Head Coach Tracy Brigham.

"I'm not thinking about NWAACCs," said Russell. "I'm thinking about the gold in the Olympics."

Paton gets physical when it comes to education

By Dagen Bendixen
Staff Reporter

Keith Paul has been promoted to Coordinator of the Physical Education Department at Highline.

With the new title comes new responsibilities. Along with teaching a full load, Paton will be in charge of deciding what physical education classes will be offered and what teachers will teach what classes.

Paton also will be in charge of evaluating full- and part-time teachers.

"This is an exciting time for the Physical Education and Athletic departments with the upcoming upgraded facilities," said Paton.

A new athletic field, trails, and a possible driving range will be some new upgrades in the facilities.

Not only is Paton a full time instructor and the physical education coordinator, but he is also the assistant coach of the Highline men's soccer team.

"He is a great trainer. He is very supportive and knowledgeable about injuries and what to do when you're injured," said soccer player Paul Lawer.

Paton's fellow PE instructors have confidence and respect for him.

"I am very confident that he will do a wonderful job as coordinator and I am looking forward to working with him," said physical education instructor and track coach Tracy Brigham.

"He is definitely the person for the job; he is very intelligent, organized, and is a great person to work with. I am also excited to work for him," said new Athletic Director John Dunn.

Born and raised in Kansas, Paton graduated from the University of Kansas with a bachelor's degree in physical education and a master's in exercise physiology. Paton taught physical education and was the head soccer coach at a high school in Kansas City and ran the fitness center at a community college in Illinois.

Paton competed in soccer at the University of Kansas and played tennis and soccer at a junior college in Kansas. Adding to his athletic background Paton started running and entered into a number of local road races after college.

Paton came and applied to a number of jobs here in the Northwest. He had vacationed here a number of times and really enjoyed the weather and environment.

"I have always liked the Northwest," said Paton.
The Lady T-Birds have strong legs in the 4x400m relay. They will have a full team despite losing two competitors, Jamie Kirk and Vickie Upchurch. Kirk joined the team late and despite her vast improvement from meet to meet, she barely missed the qualifying mark in the shot put.

Vickie Upchurch qualified in the 800 and 4x400m relay. But despite her good times, she has bad timing, managing to contract both mono and tonsillitis at the same time.

After going through surgery for removing her tonsils, she should still be recovering when the championships occur.

Highline will be represented well in almost each event. In the jumps, Potter will contend for NWAACC champion in the high jump. Harper will compete tough in the triple jump and run a strong leg in the 4x400m relay.

Schwartz will also be entered and place high in the pole vault, unfortunately the pole vault is an unsecured event until next year due to the recent participation of women in this event.

"It should be scored as a regular event. We work as hard as everybody else does and we don’t get as much recognition as we should," said Schwartz.

The Lady T-Birds have a work of practice before championships and are looking to show what they can do.

"If we all compete at the level we know we can, than we should turn some heads at championships,” said Harper.
Bennett arrests teaching career

By Kim Nichols  
Staff Reporter

Michelle Bennett is young and humorous, but she has a world of experience.

Bennett has been teaching in the Administration of Justice Program since Spring Quarter 1998. She has taught classes including Human Relations and Police Work, Juvenile Justice, Crisis Management, Communication and Criminal Investigation.

This will be Bennett's last quarter teaching at Highline. She maintains two jobs and feels it is too much at this time.

"I've had some great experiences at Highline, mostly with helping students to learn and reach toward their ultimate potentials," Bennett said.

"It's been a real blessing to be able to teach real life experiences. I truly enjoy watching helping students to learn and motivate if I have gotten to help someone and make a difference in the system may not give them a second chance to succeed in this future, however.

"I have really enjoyed meeting the staff and working with some great people, especially Gary Wegner who is just a gem," Bennett said. "I have also learned a lot from interacting with the students and will take so much knowledge from that experience. I am very fortunate indeed."

Bennett will leave Highline with many more experiences. Some bad experiences she's had at Highline have to do with students not being able to achieve their goals.

"Some students have a past history of their lives and they have tried to move on from their past. It can be frustrating that the system may not give them a second chance to succeed in this field, when someone may really deserve it," Bennett said. "The best is when you really truly help someone and make a difference in their lives. I love that, I live for that! The worst is when a child is hurt or affected, everything else is pretty manmade."

photo by Dale Y. Hirsh

Bennett speaks to her class last week. She hopes to write a book about her experiences as a cop.

"We have a lot of fun doing this."

--Joy Smucker

Joy Smucker

Students to play judge, jury in mock trial

By Nikki Woodhouse  
Staff Reporter

Highline students, faculty, and guests will be participating in a mock trial on Tuesday, June 1. The trial will be held on campus in Building 23-108, from noon-2:15 p.m.

Joy Smucker, paralegal program coordinator and instructor of Criminal Law and Procedures, is conducting the mock trial for this quarter. Each quarter, the class comes up with a new mock case based on real-life cases. This quarter’s class will be trying an assault of justice and criminal trespassing case.

Last quarter, the trial was based on a case involving shoplifting and possession of marihuana. The defendant in the actual case was caught at the Midway OFC.

The class will choose students and other volunteers to play the roles of actual participants involved Smucker’s model trial.

The judge and the bailiff will be doing some preliminary research in related areas of law. Juror deliberations will be videotaped so that they may be reviewed later as the class reflects on how the trial went.

The past, all verdicts have been split, meaning each charge was looked over thoroughly. A split verdict is when the defendant is guilty of one charge and not guilty of another. "We have a lot of fun doing this," said Smucker.

We have a lot of fun doing this.

--Joy Smucker

Most foreign students satisfied with Highline

By Takehito Fukui  
Staff Reporter

Highline has 246 international students this quarter.

"The number of international students grows each quarter," said Marko Fujinara, assistant director of International Student Programs.

In a survey of international students, they seem to satisfy with Highline’s campus, programs and environment.

"Highline’s campus is beautiful," said Quyen Anh Nguyen, a student from Vietnam.

Raymond Lam, from Hong Kong, believes the best thing about Highline is that there are many bus stops around the area.

"Highline has good Travel and Transportation Program," said Linda Amundsen, a student from Norway.

Amundsen is one of many international students who are working on Travel and Transportation degrees. It is a very popular program for international students.

Nguyen likes the engineering program, and Hyung Sik Kim, a student from Korea, likes the business programs. Kim also said that international student advisors at Highline help those who need it.

A big complaint is the cost of education. Many international students agree that $2,000 per quarter is too expensive.

"It is really infeasible to make a schedule at Highline, especially when I only need a few credits for a quarter. There is huge difference between tuition for five credits and 10 credits," said Lam.

In fact, the difference is about $1,000. All the international students have to be in school full-time to stay in the United States. Their last quarter they are allowed to take fewer credits, but if they do fewer, they might have trouble with their visa status.

"I wish Highline had a more flexible tuition policy," said Nguyen.

Some students miss things from their home countries. Hyung Sik Kim sometimes misses his favorite food and the cinema.

"I miss the food and the cinema. I sometimes doesn't feel safe on campus. He said the crime rate on campus has increased compared to before.

"My car has a bump on the body, but I am not going to fix it to keep robbers away from my car. Otherwise they will be attracted by my car," said Takayuki Yamamoto, a student from Japan.
Music offends some in Building 8

By Teresa C. Moreau
Staff Reporter

Some students are fed up with music that is being played in the student center.
"It annoys me, because I come here to relax," said Lynne Hawryl.
Hawryl, along with several other students, find it hard to relax, study, or talk with friends when music is blasting.
Another student, who asked to remain anonymous, does not want to complain about the music being so loud, because she feels they'll tell her to go to the Library.
Some students like the idea of studying in an environment that is more laid back than a library. In community college the rules are not strict. Actually, at times they barely exist.
"One should be careful and find a balance when exercising their rights," said Student Senator Eric Worden.
The Students Rights and Responsibilities Code WAC 1321-120, under WAC 1321-120-100 Student Responsibilities (2) ii reads: "Disorderly, abusive or boisterous conduct which interferes with the rights of others is prohibited."
Loud music with profane and violent lyrics on campus is a specific complaint about the student center.
"It is a fact that students should come to college to learn, not to listen to music, that bothers me," said Nahila Janohari.
Marin Horitsuchi, an avid music listener, feels the music makes the student center fun.
"Hung Kim, who plays music in Building 8, feels the student center is a free place, and would not mind if there were rules pertaining to the violent lyrics, or volume of the music. He does admit that his music might bother students.
"Don't be scared to approach us to turn the music down," said Kim.
Ray Brown, a 25-year-old student, is upset because he has asked to have the music turned down, and has not been listened to.
Brown feels that the center needs structure, along with specific rules for music volume.
"They need to keep the music low so people can still talk," said Brown.

Constitution revision up for vote today

By Heather Baker
Staff Reporter

Proposed changes to the Associated Students of Highline (ASHCC) Constitution will need a simple majority vote by students and then be approved by the Board of Trustees to become effective.

Today is the last day of voting. Voting is taking place in the upper half of Building 8 on a computer next to the student government office. Students can vote at home on the Internet at www.flightline.highline.edu/election.

Along with student government elections and the self imposed student tax on the ballot, Highline students need to take a look at the proposed changes in the Constitution and vote on them.

The Constitution governs the student body and the Bylaws that govern Student Government.

For the past couple of weeks the Constitution/Bylaws committee reviewed the constitution and bylaws to eliminate redundancy and add clarification where needed.

Worden, chairman of the Constitution/Bylaws committee, posted the changes in a informational memo on May 10. The official posting that is required 10 instructional days before the election was made at a ASHCC meeting on May 5.

A change that was made in the bylaws last year was to add that when a student government official dropped below the required cumulative grade point average of 2.5, one of the following actions can be taken: probationary period of one quarter, immediate removal of office, or any action that the judiciary committee deems fit for the given situation.

Worden said that the change is contradictory to current constitution. In the constitution it says, "If the student should drop below 2.5 any time, they shall be automatically removed from their position."

"The main thing is that the Constitution is the general rules ASHCC has to live by and the order of operation. The Bylaws are supposed to decide how to enforce these rules and what the specific penalties are," said Worden.

"So, that (2.5 rule in the constitution) didn't belong in the constitution anyway," Worden said.

The proposed change is to remove that section from the constitution (Article VII, Section 3, parts A and B) and keep the bylaw change from last year.

To eliminate confusion for future student government members a proposed change is to remove Robert's Rules of Order to Parliamentary Procedure.

Another change is to remove administrative council and add executive council that also includes the four senators. The administrative council included all government officials except for the senators.

"Originally it looks like that Senators were not a paid position, therefore not an important part of the government," said Worden.

The executive council will include everybody on student government.

Another proposed change is to add a section to Article X designing procedures for filling vacancies as it will be outlined in the bylaws.

Copies of the original constitution and a complete list of changes can be found in the student government and student program offices in Bldg 8.

Happiness is full of ups and downs

By Christina Morano
Staff Reporter

Director of Providence Heart Institute, Dr. Peter Mansfield, believes that the pursuit of happiness is a complex idea which has its successes and downsfalls.
"Happiness is a journey not necessarily a destination," said Mansfield. As a journey, happiness occurs along the way but may or may not be the end result.

Mansfield's lecture last week focused on how science and technology effect the pursuit of happiness. The lecture was hosted by Barbara Clinton's Contemporary Voices class as they continue to rediscover the pursuit of happiness through lectures, discussions and readings.

Mansfield opened his lecture by asking what seemed to be a simple question, "Does every individual have the unalienable right to pursue happiness?"

Many people raised their hands in agreement.

Mansfield was going to ask that question once more but not before turning the tables and allowing people to see another side of life. He showed slides of child abuse victims. One of the slides presented was a picture of a child who had been beaten with a lamp cord. Another slide showed a child's hand badly burned after being held over an open fire as punishment for thumb sucking.

Mansfield asked the question again. This time fewer hands were raised as people realized the complexity of the question.

One example he gave was in regard to children born with congenital heart diseases. Ultimately one would think it would be best to save the child; however, Mansfield provided some interesting facts which makes that decision questionable.

Today's technology gives a child with a congenital heart defect a good chance of surviving. By saving these children they will go on to live their lives and possibly have children of their own, but these children are at a higher risk of having even more serious heart defects.

"Side effects don't relate just to medications but to people's actions as well," said Mansfield. Even though we all like to pursue happiness, do we pursue only ourselves, the side effects for others can be dramatic," said Mansfield.

Photo Illustration by Jordan Whitney
Welfare

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WorkFirst program says they are not.

They say they want to make a change, but they're not sure how. Many are feeling overwhelmed and unsure about the resources that are available to them.

Former WorkFirst client and current coordinator of the Welfare Reform, says they are though. "It's a rough time to be an adult, but we're just making it through," he says. "I won't make it without the WorkFirst program." He mentions that the WorkFirst clients learn how to adapt to these new resources. Miller adds, "It's not easy, but it's worth it."

According to the WorkFirst program, many people are seeking the help they need. Miller says, "It's all about adapting to the new resources. Statistics show fewer individuals are going back to the WorkFirst program. More people are finding job opportunities and are no longer relying on the program."

Miller also says that the WorkFirst program is successful. Statistics show fewer people are going back to the program, which is a positive change. The WorkFirst program is working to keep individuals on track and help them find employment.

WorkFirst clients are able to find employment and are not calculated as income. Half of their job earnings are not counted as income, which allows them to save money. According to the WorkFirst program, the majority of parents are working 20 hours a week, and many of them earn more money by working than being on welfare.

Rebecca Rhodes, a former client, agrees that the WorkFirst program has helped her. She says, "I needed a change and the WorkFirst program helped me find one."

Prior to WorkFirst welfare recipients only had to supply their information and their case would be reviewed in a week. The client is also allowed to have a vehicular worth $10,000 and keep $5,000 in furniture.

As of May 1, WorkFirst clients are able to find employment, but they are required to earn income. Many people are making the transition and are still faced with difficulties. Evans, a former WorkFirst client, says, "It's not easy, but it's worth it."

WorkFirst clients are free to choose their own career path, and the WorkFirst program supports this decision. "Being able to choose your own path is very important," says Miller.

The WorkFirst program has seen many WorkFirst clients come out of the system by working their way up. The majority of parents are working 20 hours a week, and many of them earn more money by working than being on welfare.

The WorkFirst program is not the only program helping individuals find employment. The Olympic Mountains Range, and Eastern Washington, are working on coordinated study. The class will focus on the Olympic Mountains Range, and Eastern Washington.

The class will also allow students to work in the field, which Miller says is very important. "The WorkFirst program is working to keep individuals on track and help them find employment," he says. "This is an important program, and we are happy to support it."