



**Orientation Week snares
unwary freshmen.**
See page 14



**'American Beauty' more than
skin deep.**
See page 7

The Thunderword

Volume 39, Issue 1

Highline Community College

Sept. 20, 1999

Trustees begin search for new president

By K.M. Petersen
and Teresa C. Moreau
Staff Reporters

Faculty and students should be involved in choosing a new president for Highline, administrators and faculty told the Board of Trustees last week. But the campus may be divided over whether to hire a consultant to help the process of replacing Ed Command.

The board took comments in three meetings last week, soliciting advice for what Command

called "the most important thing they will do."

Command announced his retirement in June. It will take effect on July 31, 2000, to give the college time to search for and select a replacement.

At the first meeting, which was attended by 15 people, the board approved the college's 1999-2000 budget, before moving on to public discussion of the presidential search.

While no specific candidates were suggested, speakers shared ideas on the search and hiring

processes.

Former President Pat Allen urged the board to remember its authority.

"When you've got it down to the last few, it is time for the trustees to decide," he said, adding that state law "says the trustees have this power and no one else."

Allen also suggested that the board meet with the various committees thinning out the candidate pool so the trustees could better understand the thought processes behind the

committees' decisions.

He finished by joking that Command's retirement is "the best thing he could do for the college."

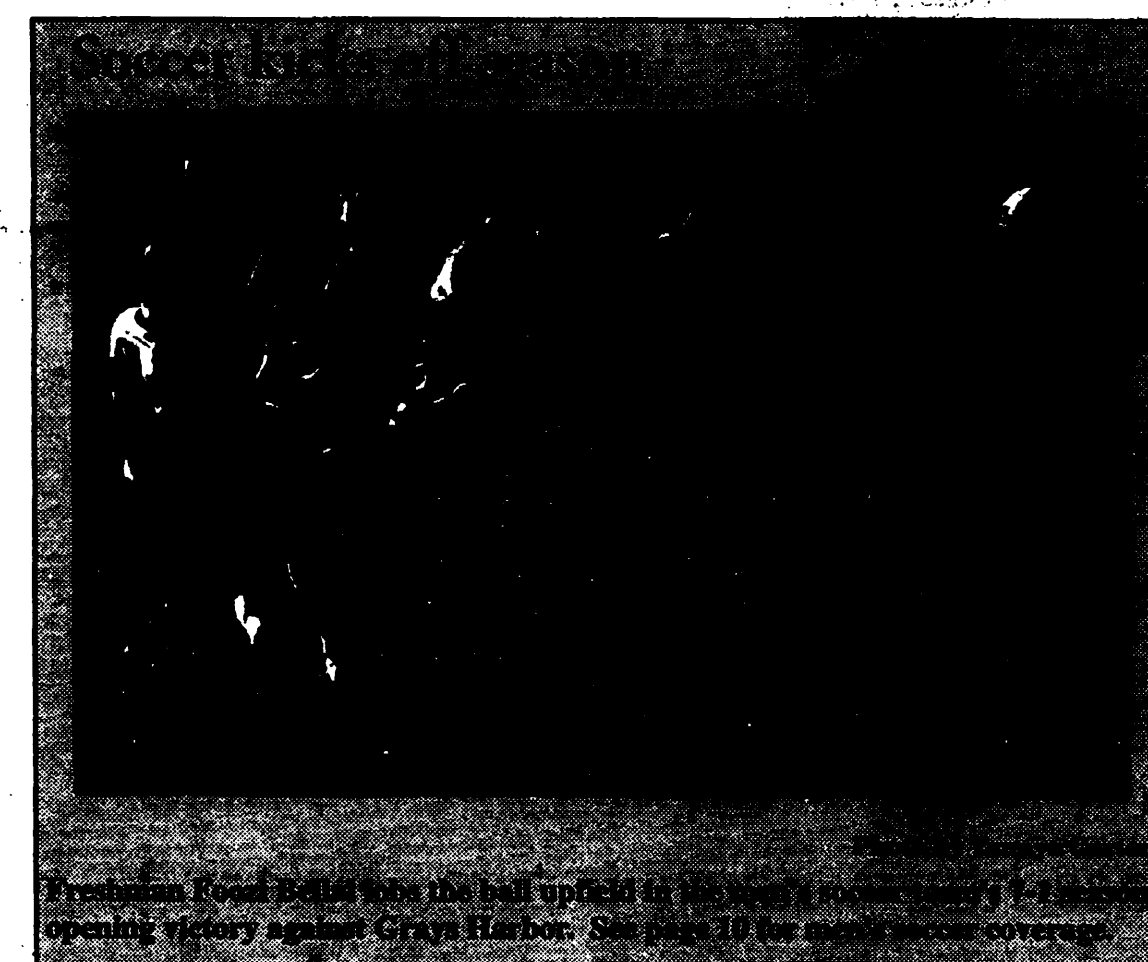
Social Science Division Chairman Bruce Roberts, who was involved in the process of hiring Command, said that some things needed to be changed from Command's selection.

"While the end result was fine, the process was flawed," Roberts said. "There must be significant involvement from faculty."

Roberts also urged the board to have committee members visit candidates' campuses, which he said is a simple, but important step in the process. A visit to a candidate's campus 10 years ago eliminated that person from the short list; the visitors from Highline weren't impressed by what they saw.

The board took comments again last Thursday and Friday. Thursday's meeting drew more

See Search, page 16



Freshman Roni Balle takes the ball upfield in the team's season-opening victory against Grays Harbor. See page 10 for more season coverage.

College enrollment drops slightly for fall

By Marta D. Pelayo
Staff Reporter

Enrollment is down slightly for fall, but college officials believe it will soon pick up.

With about 9,500 students enrolled, or about 4,820 full-time equivalents, Highline is currently falling short of its goal of 5,300 full-time state-funded students.

This goal does not include those enrolled in special programs such as Running Start or Worker Retraining.

Jim Sorensen, vice president

of students, believes that the low numbers are more indicative of the accessibility students have to registration rather than a lack of interest in the college.

Enrollment is easy due to access to Highline's Internet web site, so people seem to be procrastinating, Sorensen said.

Sorensen added that the enrollment for this past Summer Quarter was high, so it covers the decrease in fall enrollment.

Another factor is the high level of employment in the Highline area.

Competitive wages are being offered, so students may be more willing to hit the job market than the books.

Despite the competition, the college has made an extensive

See Drop, page 16

College explores off campus office space expansion

By K.M. Petersen
Staff Reporter

Highline's campus is short on office space, causing administration to move more offices across Pacific Highway to the Omni Building.

The college has rented half of

the third floor since April and is exploring the possibility of renting the other half, Vice President of Administration Laura Saunders said.

"Office space is at a premium on campus," said Saunders.

The Center for Learning Connections, Assistant Vice

President of Academic Affairs for international students, and some community service groups currently occupy Highline's section of the Omni.

Saunders declined to comment on who would be moved to the Omni, but rumors persist that it will be the business of

fice.

Saunders also declined to discuss the possible cost of the added space, due to continued negotiations.

She said the deal should be wrapped up by the end of December.

Although the new building

planned at the current site of the pool and the new student union building will both have offices, it is not clear if the Omni is being looked at as a temporary or permanent solution by the administration.

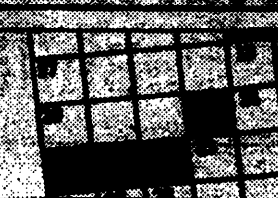
"We're looking at it as useful office space," Saunders said.

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Inside

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Crossword puzzle makes Thunderword debut.
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Crime Blotter for weeks of Sept. 1-20

Car Problems

The month started off with a student needing a battery assistance on the east lot.

Visa cards and moolah lost

A student left a yellow wallet at the bus stop in the south lot. The wallet contained two credit card, \$80 U.S. and \$40 Canadian. It was reported on Sept. 8.

An officer found a Visa card and it was later returned to its owner.

Purses found in men's bathroom

A maintenance person found a brown and a black purse with its contents strewn about the floor. It happened in Building 26, third floor men's bathroom. The purses were later returned to the owner, on the same day.

Student government has head start on fall

By Heather Baker
Staff Reporter

The student government is off and running this fall, with many projects planned and underway.

Elected last spring, the student government trained during the summer. One can see that from the training they have become a close knit group.

The student government is currently focused on organizing the election for international student senator and evening student senator. John Fox, Legislative vice president and Kyle Maschhoff, student senator will be organizing the election.

Applications can be picked up at the student government office on the upper half of Building 8 and are due Oct. 1. Fox and Maschhoff are planning to hold a forum similar to the one held in spring for the candidates.

Besides coordinating the elections Fox said, "I would like to raise voter turnout."

In the past years voter turnout to elections has been low ranging from one percent to three and half percent of the student body. The student body usually consists of 8,000 stu-

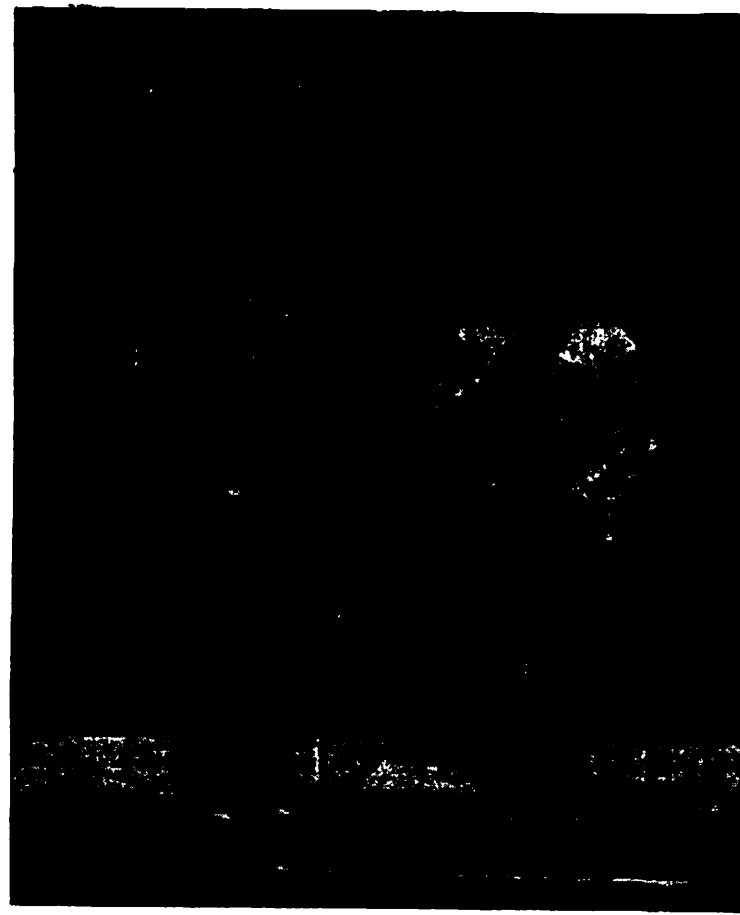


Photo by Heather Baker
Kyle Maschhoff and John Fox serenades the crowd with a rendition of George Michaels' "Faith," at the leadership conference.

dents. In the spring elections only 2.2 percent of the student body voted even with hot issue

of the student tax fee on the ballot. Last year only 160 students

out of 8,585 students voted in the Fall election.

It is not only Highline that has a low voter turnout, but other community colleges in Washington as well. North Seattle Community College reported to have around 300 students vote in the spring elections.

Fox and the student government's goal for the spring election is a 10 percent increase.

Another agenda for Fox and Renee Jovet, student body president is to try to change when international and evening student senators are elected.

They want to change it from fall to spring so they (senators) are able to train with the rest of the student government during the summer.

Kitty Richmire, club diplomat/treasurer is currently working on plans that she developed during her spring campaign. She is organizing the club fair, that will be held September 23 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

"My main goal is for people to fill out forms for clubs and to connect people to clubs," said Richmire.

Jovet's main focus for the year is "more campus involvement."

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Summer is gone, but the memories will last

By Marta D. Pelayo
Staff Reporter

The dog days of summer weren't as quiet as one would expect. Many events happened that will significantly effect Highline students. Here's a run-down of what went down.

The summer got off to a jumpstart when Highline President Ed Command announced his retirement, effective in July 2000.

"It is a good time for a new leader," said Command, who has been president since 1990. The search for a replacement was launched this month, after the Board of Trustees spent the summer researching successful hiring processes. Command hopes his replacement will be in place by May 2000.

Seafirst, which operates the on-campus ATM machine, will be charging \$1.50 per transaction for all non-Seafirst/Bank of America users. The college is currently trying to get other banks to put ATMs on campus that will not charge user fees.

Parking rates have increased to \$16 for main campus parking



Photo by Dale V. Bird

Randy Neumann gives new meaning to the phrase, "service with a smile."

and \$8 for Midway-only parking. Fines for parking violations also rose from \$5 to \$20, with illegally parking in a handicapped spot increasing from \$25 to \$175.

The computer lab received a sad surprise when 11 memory storage chips were stolen from sometime between the end of Spring Quarter and beginning of Summer Quarter. The chips,

worth \$65 each, were discovered missing during a routine computer check. The thefts have resulted in increased security in the computing lab.

Lee Hall, maintenance mechanic at Highline, made strides in his recovery from third degree burns he received last May. Hall spent six weeks at Harborview Medical Center being treated for the burns that

covered 30 percent of his body. Hall returned home in late June, and is making strong progress in his recovery.

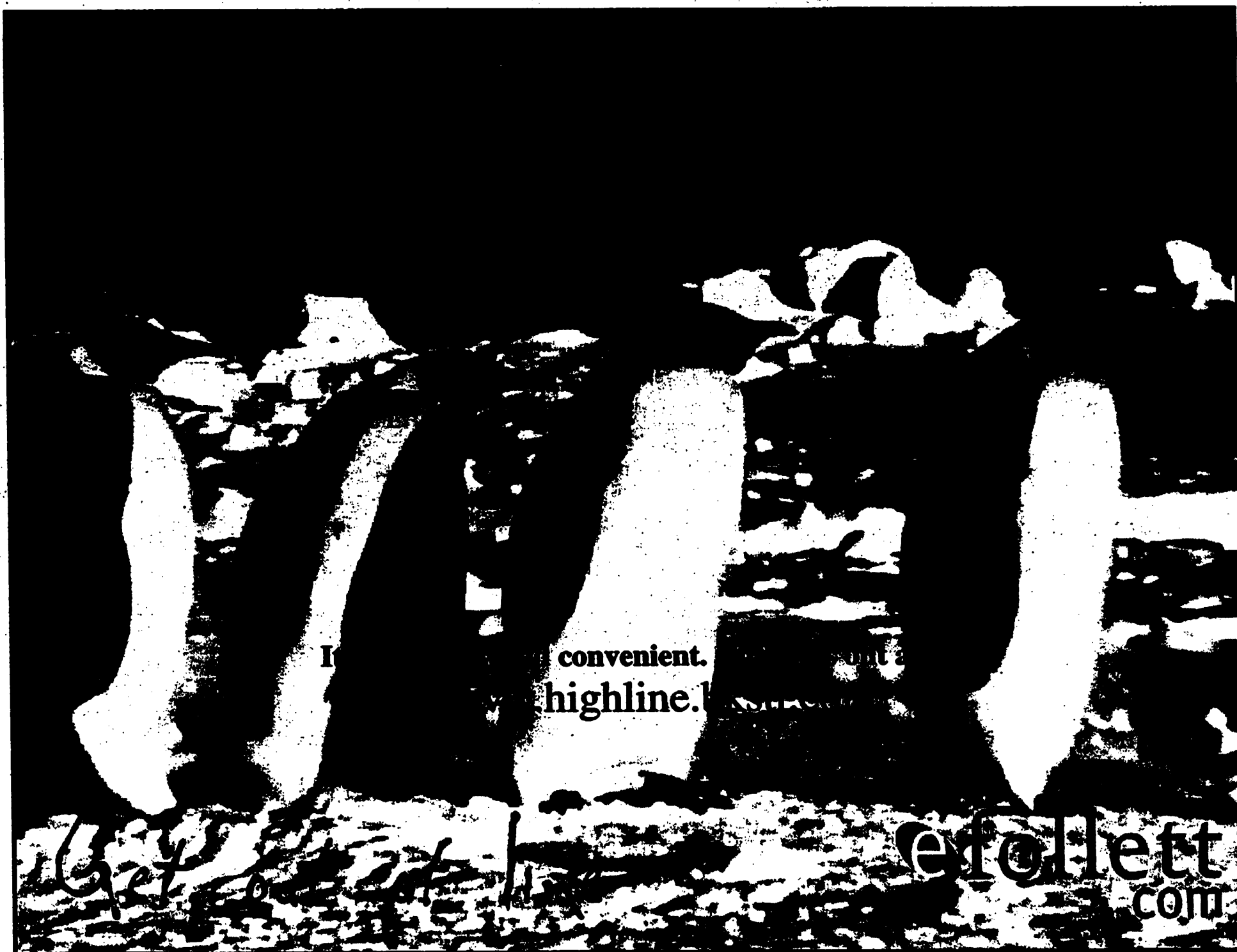
Nine Highline professors spent a month in South Africa and Namibia to study the changed government in order to incorporate newly acquired knowledge into their courses. Vice President of Academic Affairs Jack Bermingham was di-

rector of the trip. Bermingham was joined by faculty members Davidson Dodd, Phil Droke, Susan Landgraf, Kathy Dunn, Jennifer Jones, Bob Maplestone, and Bruce Roberts.

Tazza, Highline's popular espresso bar, is now under new ownership. Founders Pam and Jim Scott sold the business to family friend (and former employee) Randy Neumann.

Highline also became involved in a community initiative called Vision 2000, which hopes to bring together the six Highline area cities (Des Moines, Burien, Federal Way, Seatac, Normandy Park, and Tukwila) for a dialogue on community issues. The group hopes to improve the community in education, housing, transportation, environment, and economic development. Representatives from Highline, county government, and the six target cities met on June 17 at a symposium.

Reporters Elaine Murphy, Teresa C. Moreau, Matthew Ussery, Jenn Burris, and Jennifer Pierce-Malave contributed to this story.



Editorials

College will be
what you make of it

Every year a new wave of students arrives at Highline. Because the first day of school can be intimidating, here are a few tips that might ease your transition into college life.

This is not high school and it never will be. You and you alone are responsible for what you do and do not learn. This freedom is one of the greatest benefits of college.

Don't hang yourself with the freedom you have by letting your performance slide.

Show up for class! It is much easier to learn a subject from your instructor than by reading the textbook on your own. It is your instructor's job to teach you.

Likewise, read the textbook.

Test material will come both from lectures and the book. Many times it will come from only one of the two so pay attention in class and to your books.

Meet with your instructors after class. This might be intimidating at first, but instructors are eager to help students outside of class. If you meet with your instructors, not only will you learn more, but you will also do better in class.

Meeting with instructors shows them that you are serious about the class and want to learn. Knowing that you want to learn makes instructors want to help.

Concentrate on learning instead of grades. Trying to just pass may get you a degree, but won't give you the knowledge and understanding that you need in life.

If you learn the subject matter, good grades will follow.

Most of all - stick with it. College is not easy.

If you need help with your studies, go to the Tutoring Center in Building 19. The Tutoring Center is free to current Highline students and covers a variety of topics.

If you just need to talk to someone, you might want to use the Counseling Center. The Counseling Center has many counselors who can assist with career and personal issues.

College is what you make of it - make it a strong foundation for your life.

Board must take
care in replacing Ed

With the recent announcement of Highline President Ed Command's retirement, the Board of Trustees has begun the lengthy search for a new president.

Command has stated that the presidential selection process is the most important task the board is in charge of.

Unfortunately, however, none of the current members served on the board during the last search for a president.

While none of the board members were there, many staff and faculty members who took part in the process still work at the college, or are easily accessible in the surrounding community.

The board should seek out the opinion of those with experience in this field, and, in turn, the staff, faculty, and students should make themselves available for this process.

During the selection process, the criteria for choosing the new president should be openly debated.

In the end, it will not be necessary for the new president to come in and unleash a series of reforms, because Command has served the college very well during his tenure - as evidenced by the extended standing ovation he received at a recent faculty meeting.

Instead, the board should hire somebody with vision, who will continue the successes of Command's tenure, while serving student, staff and faculty interests, rather than his or her own.

The next president should be someone who understands the importance of the community college system's role, and makes sure the opportunities it presents continue to grow.

With the current trend of veteran instructors retiring and giving way to new instructors, the hiring is even more important that it would otherwise be. Together, the new faculty and new president must lead Highline into the new millennium.

New College Buddies!



Teresa's tips for surviving school

I started college without direction. I did not have an adviser, nor did I know what a blue sheet was. The consequence of my ignorance landed me an extra year at Highline. But through my own dumbfounding experience, I taught myself the discipline I needed to become a good student. I want to share with you my strategy.

Tip No. 1: Manage your time wisely. Your best bet is to use a calendar. When you get class syllabi write down all the dates for projects, tests, midterms and finals. Next write down any of your commitments: sports, work, family, or spending time with friends. Doing this will enable you to see exactly how much spare time you have.

Tip No. 2: If you don't get here before 9 a.m. park at Midway. It isn't worth the hassle of finding a space. People waste tons of time sitting at the ends of the parking lot desperately awaiting a spot.

Tip No. 3: Find an adviser. If you don't have one, my suggestion is to pick a teacher that you like and ask them to be your adviser. If you have not filled out a blue sheet, do it. It is important to have an idea of what classes you need to take.

Tip No. 4: Now that you're in college it is important to get your money's worth. It costs students \$30 to \$70 an hour to sit in class. This figure includes salary you could be earning if you weren't in school and all of the various expenses you pay to be in school. So each day of

The
Island
of Dr.
Moreau

By Teresa Moreau



class that you miss is money that you are wasting.

Tip No. 5: If you want to get an excellent G.P.A. be prepared to study everyday. Half of the battle is actually sitting down to study. Experts say that one should study two hours for every one hour in class. That can be demanding for parents, ath-

letes and full-time workers, but there are no excuses. One should make the conscious effort to sit down and study at least an hour a day.

Tip No. 6: If you need help get it A.S.A.P. Refuse to stand by if you do not understand something.

It is your choice whether to learn. Each professor has office hours and is willing to help you digest their subject matter.

You might be surprised about the impact going to see a teacher may have on your grade. You can get questions answered. And above all, it lets them know that you care.

Teresa secretly likes school.

The Thunderword

It wouldn't do any good to throw the mouse through the screen, but I really, really want to.

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President's welcome '99: School's in!

By Dr. Edward M. Command
Special to the Thunderword

For professional educators there is no more exciting time than the opening of a new school year whether it is meeting first graders or welcoming new and returning college students. This is an especially exciting year for me because this begins my 30th and last year here at Highline. My service to the college has been very rewarding because our college makes a powerful difference in people's lives every day. We ask that students bring the motivation and the willingness to work hard and we will provide the knowledge and skills. Together we will develop a plan to meet your goals, achieve your dreams, and, for many, to discover even higher expectations.

It was a community college, actually Grays Harbor College,

that gave me my start in higher education and helped me realize that I could achieve higher goals than most of my friends and neighbors thought I could. I worked hard on my studies because my parents believed and repeatedly emphasized that success in life requires a college education. I was the first in my family to go to college. I went from Grays Harbor to Western Washington University for a BA, to Central Washington University for a master's and to the University of Washington for a doctorate. Continuing my education was a wise investment for me, both in financial terms and in quality of life.

A lot has changed since I made the decision to attend college. In the mid-'50s, it was possible for a high school graduate to get a good paying job with excellent benefits and security for a working lifetime. Today that is unlikely and to-



File photo

President Ed Command says he will retire in July 2000. Command, himself a community college graduate, has served 30 years at Highline, the last 10 as president. The search for his successor is underway.

morrow it will be impossible. The future will require higher and higher levels of education to be successful in the workplace and in life. Success will require a commitment to continuous learning.

The old phrase "Life Long Learning" takes on a more important meaning in today's world. To remain competitive and sustain a chosen lifestyle, it is imperative for one to continually assess one's current knowledge and skills and compare them to those that will be needed for future success. What are you doing today to be prepared for tomorrow?

Education is the key to earning a living and the secret to learning how to live. Good luck and make the best of your opportunities here at Highline and in your future educational endeavors.

Edward M. Command is president of Highline.

Government aims to help all students

By Renee C. Jovet
Special to the Thunderword

Hello, and welcome to Highline. I'm Renee C. Jovet, this year's ASHCC (Associated Students of Highline Community College) president and this is my second year here at Highline as a full-time student. I am currently pursuing a transfer degree and I hope to major in communications at any out-of-state university that can provide me with at least a reasonable amount of consistent sunshine.

Over the next couple of weeks you will probably have many questions. Unfortunately, no matter how hard I try, I can not begin to answer all the questions that will arise over the next quarter let alone the whole year. However, that is why I have five competent individuals to help me meet your needs over this next school year.

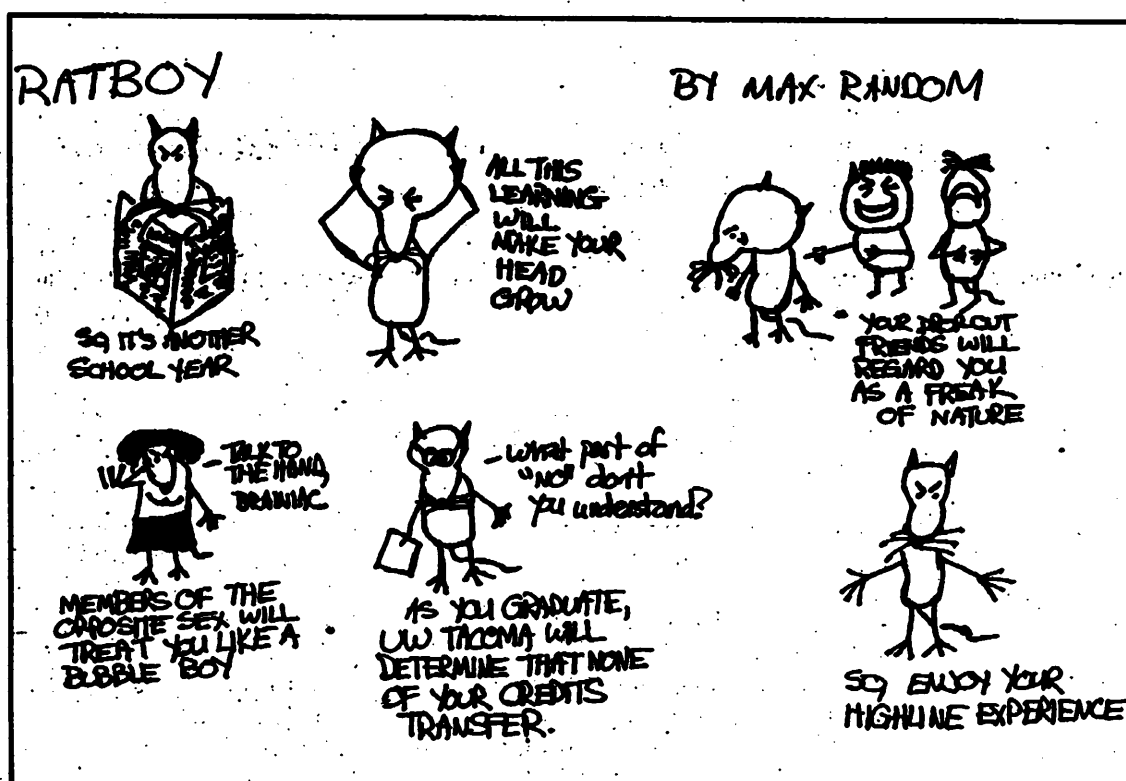
In order of position, Stewart Wainaina, Vice President of Administration, is an international student from Kenya. Stewart has a great sense of humor and a wonderful smile. He's guaranteed to make you laugh.

John Fox, Vice President of Legislation, is a great guy who knows how to balance school and fun. John is also a member of Highline's track team. John's goal this year is to see an increase in voter turnout. This

year's Student Club Diplomat/Treasurer is Kitty Richmire. Kitty, the creative genius of the bunch, is a second year Running Start student who also participates in Student Leadership on her high school campus.

Our two student senators are Joe Nalley and Kyle Maschoff. Like Kitty, Joe was a Running Start student last year, but is returning as an official Decatur graduate this quarter. Joe is a D.J., so if you have some musical needs he's the man to call on. Last, but definitely not least, is Kyle. If you're having a bad day Kyle will bring a smile to your face. Kyle is convinced his job description includes giving hugs and reading stories, which he does with style. Kyle has already completed his first project this year which was to replace the old jukebox located in Building 8.

With current full-time enrollment at 7,600, I cannot possibly hope to meet everyone here on campus but I hope that many of you will take the time to come and introduce yourself to me and my fellow student officers. Our office is located on the upper floor of the Student Center, Building 8, which is strategically located in the heart of campus. We would love to answer your questions, whether it be as simple as where are the nearest restrooms or more complicated



issues such as how do I communicate with staff or faculty on campus?

Student Government is currently accepting applications for two open positions, international student senator and evening student senator. Both positions require a year-long commitment from the student, a 2.5 G.P.A., attendance of eight credit hours on Highline's campus, and regular office hours (which are dependent on the position). There is a direct correlation between student involvement in their education and the student's overall enjoyment of their education, so we encourage anyone and everyone interested to stop in and pick up and election packet. We are also looking for students who may not have the ability to participate in student government but would like to get involved with different committees on campus.

I know I speak for all of Student Government when I say we look forward to working with you and for you over the next year. Please stop in, introduce

yourself, get to know us and let us get to know you.

Renee Jovet is president of the Associated Students of Highline Community College.

Letters Policy

- The Thunderword gladly accepts letters and guest commentary from the campus community. Deadline is Monday of each week.
- Letters should be no more than 300 words. They must include full names as well as signatures, addresses and telephone numbers for verification during daytime business hours. All letters are subject to editing for style and length.
- Mail stuff to: Letters to the Editor, The Thunderword, Highline Community College, mail stop 10-3, P.O. Box 9800, Des Moines, WA 98198. Submissions can also be dropped off in the Thunderword office in Building 10, room 106.

Arts

'New Kids' Tinsletown blindsided by Summer box-office cloned

By Derek Roche
Staff Reporter

I Once, before reaching age of reason, attended a New Kids on The Block concert. Chart topping singles such as the immortal *Hangin' Tough*, and *The Right Stuff*, to cite two of their catchy titles, are forever imbedded as childhood pleasures.

The
Roche
Motel

by Derek Roche



Their album was chock full of timeless musical gems. Like the Beatles who came before them, their songs possessed brilliant lyrical construction; "Whoa, oh, oh, oh, oh ... just hangin' tough," and perfectly delivered harmony. And must we not forget those flowing raps from Marky Marks big brother.

O.K., so they weren't terribly talented. It was mindless, bubblegum pop, but so what? The recent resurgence of this upbeat, sappy, but genuinely inoffensive musical genre, and the immutable criticism that comes with it, led me to a few fascinating, if unimportant conclusions.

Britney Spears is a mediocre singer, a below average dancer, and a chest on loan from Pamela Anderson.

Which brings me to my next point. I can't, if my life depended on it, tell the difference between The Backstreet Boys, N Sync, 98 degrees, and Five (god, I know them all). Isn't their a Justin and a Nick in, like, three of those groups.

Egyptian Hieroglyphic experts are not even capable of deciphering the meaning of the following lyrics; "I never want to hear you say...I want it that way...tell me why? Why don't you want to hear her say that she wants it that way? And what way is that exactly?"

The New Kids are back. What's the deal with this? Jordan Knight and Joey McIntire (sounds countryish) have shot up the billboards with their respective albums.

I think we need a NKOTB (remember that comeback gimmick) Reunion Tour. But what in boy band hell, ever happened to the New Kid who uncannily looked like Curious George. Joey and Jordan and John are accounted for, Donnie was the naked guy in the *Sixth Sense*, but where's Danny, or as I so fittingly dubbed, the forgotten New Kid? Your reply perhaps; "who cares?"

Hollywood's unofficial but, by all means, merited theme of this past summer was unpredictability. No one short of Nostradamus could have foreseen a spooky little student film, carved from a diminutive 40,000 dollar budget of taking Tinsletown and audiences alike by storm.

The Blair Witch Project, effectively utilized stellar reviews and an ingenious marketing strategy via the Internet, coupled with tantalizing theatrical teasers to, well...create hype. Whether or not one views the film as an overrated, hack job home video in which the acting and shoddy, headache inducing camera work were the only things remotely frightening, or as a thriller of Hitchkokian proportions, its astonishing 120 million dollar gross, nonetheless, has made it the most profitable film of all time.

"It promised the audience that they would see something that they had never seen before. It began with sold out limited small venue runs which totaled up to \$63,812 per screen. Then it opened wide and raked in \$29 million that weekend," said Harry Knowles, of Aint it cool.com,



Courtesy of Buena Vista Pictures

Haley Joel Osment in M. Night Shyamalan's *Sixth Sense*

And who would have guessed that Big Willy (Will Smith) Weekend, also known by some as the Fourth of July, would, in the form of the critically loathed *Wild Wild West*, see its explosive power climax at the level of a safe and sane sparkler?

"The film had some interesting qualities going for it," said Knowles. "But in the end people wanted more than that special effects and one liners."

Although few summer films completely sank at the box office, not all dog-day releases created vases. Case in point; *The Iron Giant*, probably the best reviewed and best received

film of the season, wound up with a measly twenty million dollar domestic gross. A major step backwards for Warner Bros., a studio already hassled with financial turmoil

So *Inspector Gadget* made money. *Tarzan* flexed its box office muscle. *The Haunting* scared up some easy cash (despite not being scary) No surprises there. The unanticipated, however, came in the form of a twelve year-old scene stealer who just happens to see dead people

The Sixth Sense, brain child and sophomore effort of writer/director M. Night Shyamalan was (in the mind of several ma-

jor critics) not only one of the years best films, but has easily become the season's defining piece of cinema.

"It's a film that succeeded because the trailer raised hairs on your neck and told you why they were standing there. Because that kid looked scared, because Bruce Willis look concerned... and it wasn't being played hokey," said Knowles.

Sure, with *The Phantom Menace*, George Lucas inched closer to Pill Gate's status, as the biggest geek with the biggest bank account — in a season of varied box office upsets and "B" movie sleepers, the power of the Force is practically the only safe bet — but safe, my friends, grows tired.

Evidently gross out, juvenile bathroom humor, as audiences proved yet again this summer, are hardly antiquated. The Austin Powers sequel, the surprisingly original American Pie, and, of course, the foul-mouthed third graders from *South Park* (the bane of the MPAA's existence) had little problem luring teenage boys to the Cineplex. Forget Julia Roberts and Richard Gere in *Runaway 'Bore*, the bona fide chemistry this summer sizzled by way of Saddam Hussein and Satan. As Cartman would so eloquently declare, "sweet."

Team Highline readying for event packed season

By Derek Roche
Staff Reporter

The seven enthusiastic representatives of Team Highline are looking forward to an event laden year, and are hoping to kick start the 1999-2000 year with an emphatic bang.

Amy Studley and Esther Kihuga, the clubs two returning members, welcome five fresh faces to their respected roster, which includes former Student Government participant Miyoung Tran, Josh Siebenaler, Sarah Hollowell, Richard MacLean, and Kim Nichols.

"We really hope to put on and

accomplish events that everyone here at Highline will enjoy," said Nichols, Team Highline rookie.

Nichols, a sophomore at Highline, hopes to thrive in this socially interactive setting and definitely has some intriguing ideas, including a college Homecoming for the first quarter end, remaining true to theme, and the year with a college prom.

"I think it would be fun. We can wear our old Highschool dress," Nichols jokes.

Among the events scheduled this fall include the Fall Carnival on September 23 from 1-2

in the plaza. A DJ, various contests, big boxing, and dancing are included within the four hour show. On tap for September 27 is Music at Lunch, from 12-1 in Building 8, an event in which Nichols will act as coordinator.

"We are going to have live music in the cafeteria. Playing there will be jazz music teacher, Ellen Finn. She's worked in Womans Programs for six years,

She wants to do a fundraiser to raise money for Woman's Programs," Nichols said.

The month concludes with a BBQ on September 29, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in front of building 7 and a Blood Drive on September 30 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and 12 p.m.- 3 p.m. in building 2.

Team Highline, in conjunction

See Team, page 8

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A standard Well-Acted 'Beauty' an American masterpiece 'fair'

By Derek Roche
Staff Reporter

If you can tolerate the long lines, overpriced concessions, hordes of screaming tykes, and crowded parking, then the Puyallup Fair, taking place from September 12-24, is your cup of tea.

The annual festival, which is its ninety-ninth observance, has become a Western Washington staple; a traditional celebration of melt-in-your-mouth scones, farm animals, entertaining events, and more recently, hair raising amusement park rides.

Aptly titled *Extreme Scream*, the fair's brand new ride, which has been modeled after the similar construction at Knott's Berry Farm and atop the Las Vegas Stratosphere is easily (evidenced by the extremely long lines) the park's most glamorous attraction. Located on the south side of the Restaurant Building, the ride shoots twelve people, at the force of +3G, up a

See Fair, page 8

By Marta D. Pelayo
Staff Reporter

American Beauty stars Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening as Lester and Carolyn Burnham, two suburbanites who have lost their passions to the rut of life.

Moviegoers may not feel bad for suburbanites, but the lack of joy in their lives make them sympathetic characters.

The ad campaign for *American Beauty* focuses on Lester's attraction to his daughter Jane's (Thora Birch) friend Angela, played by Mena Suvari.

This is a misleading marketing, because *American Beauty* isn't some perverted look at a sexual deviant.

Instead, it's an intense look at how a family's obsession with career, material possessions, and appearances can rob them of their soul and lead them to do things they normally wouldn't do.

All the performances are top-notch. From Bening's career-obsessed Carolyn to Suvari's vain Angela. It's Spacey, however, who owns the show. The academy award winner once again delivers an impressive and multi-layered performance.



Courtesy of Dreamworks

Kevin Spacey and Annette Bening in *American Beauty*.

As Lester goes from an *Office Space*-like zombie to a laid-back lothario, Spacey creates a likable loser you can't help but appreciate.

While the movie may not appeal to the masses, it deserves to be praised for a brilliant story.

American Beauty is that good.

It's incredibly entertaining,

with subtle comedy throughout. It's an intelligent story told beautifully.

Critics will have trouble pigeonholing it into a category.

"Is it a drama? Is it a comedy? Is it a black comedy?" The answer is all of the above.

It takes a humorous look at the serious problems a family has. It also takes a dramatic

tone when the funny moments of life occur.

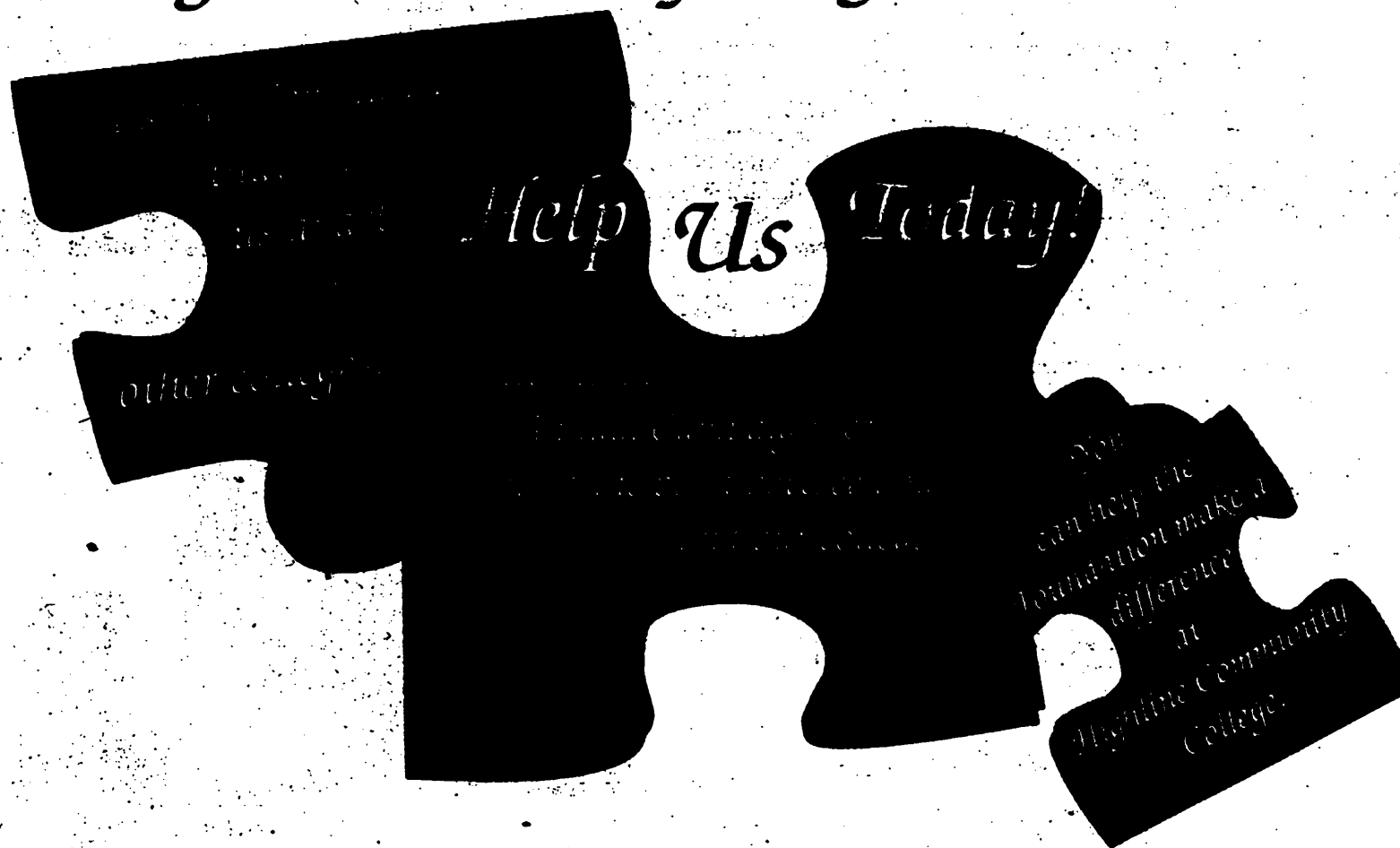
The movie features the directorial debut of Sam Mendes, who previously directed theater plays such as *The Blue Room*.

It also includes the first produced screenplay by TV writer Alan Ball.

American Beauty opens nationwide on October 1.

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Team

continued from page 6

with Woman's Programs, are also planning some activities concerning Domestic Violence Awareness Month, in which October officially recognizes.

Among the other events scheduled for October include: Diversity Dance Troupe on Thursday, October 7, the always enjoyable Comedy Cafe that Friday, Movie Night on the fourteenth, Faculty Speak on the nineteenth, Professional Faculty Day on October 22, and Family Fest on Saturday, October 23.

On tap for November: Los de Rio on November 2, a Native American performance on Tuesday the ninth, a Fashion Show on November 12, and the Really Big Art Show on November 22 and 23.

Team Highline's Fall calendar concludes with the annual Tickle Tune Typhoon, an always lively family oriented performance on Friday, December 10.

Nichols says she's optimistic regarding the busy school year and hopes to include everyone in on the action.

"I would like to get families and kids more involved on campus, work with Women's Programs and things like that. We're hoping for a very good year" Nichols says.

"We really hope to put on and accomplish events that everyone here at Highline will enjoy."

--Kim Nichols

Fair

continued from page 7

twenty story tower. Upon reaching the top, the participants return to the ground at a rate of -1G.

Other rides, which range from one to five tickets, includes the *Antique Merry Go Round*, *Dual Loops*, *El Nino*, *Enterprise*, *The Monster* and, of course, nearly every child's favorite, *The Haunted House*. A sheet of twenty tickets (coupons) which goes surprisingly fast costs thirteen dollars and individual coupons are priced at eighty cents each.

The Puyallup Fair also means music -- rather large scale concerts, with moderately big name headliners. As with any fair venue, attracting A-list entertainers is not particularly easy. Tickets for the concerts range from around \$23 to \$35 dollars. Acts scheduled to perform include *Barry Manilow* (I'm there), *Third Eye Blind*, *Donna Summer*, *Kenny G*, and grunge rock survivor *Collective Soul*.

The food and beverage stands are predictably expensive and consists of your standard carnival dietary products; cotton candy, raspberry lemonade, five dollar hamburgers, etc.

Many, however, have their lost trust in the sanitary handling of foods at the Puyallup Fair after last year's E. Coli outbreak as a result of improperly prepared edibles.

So when's the best time to attend? Any logical person would suggest early, on a weekday preferably, or a Sunday evening. I attended late Saturday, and it was a good deal overpopulated, but not uncomfortably, or even unreasonably.

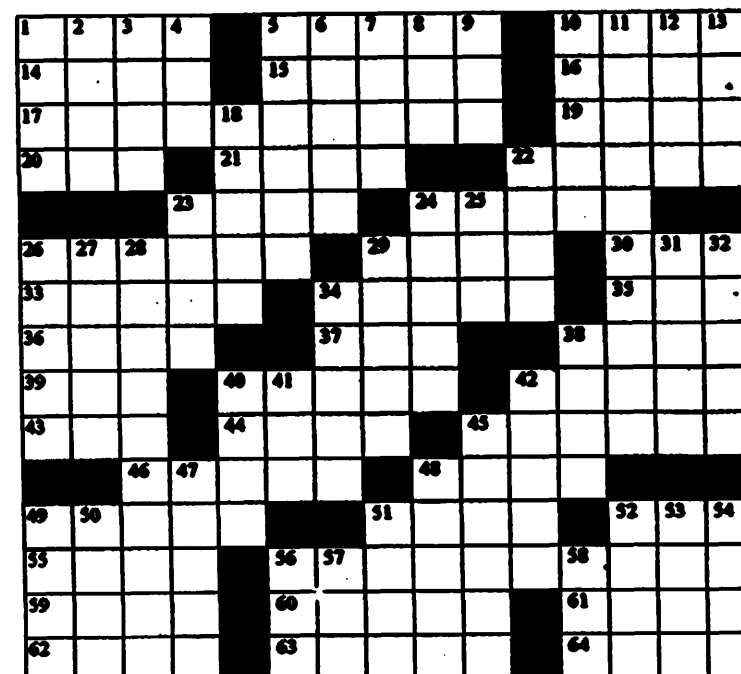
Crossword 101

By Ed Cauty

"No Big Deal"

ACROSS

- 1 Legal lead in
5 Hermann ____,
Siddhartha author
10 "___ poor Yorick!"
14 M.L. truant
15 Reproductive gland
16 Liver secretion
17 Pierre's big crush
19 Like ___ of bricks!
20 Promotions
21 Stow
22 Treaded the boards
23 Cone or tree
24 Danger
25 Ready and ___ to go
29 Mountain lion
30 Work unit
33 Clapton & Dickerson
34 Bush
35 Jelly container
36 Twitches
37 Postal creed word
38 Soft drink
39 Approximate suffix
40 Bridges
42 Master of India
43 Electric, for one
44 Birthday treat
45 Trousers
46 Florence's place
48 Target of 5 Down
49 The devil
51 Grain works
52 The woman
55 Against
56 Part of a Big Mac Value Meal
59 Collapsed
60 "On Golden Pond" actor
61 Mine way
62 Barnyard morn
63 More shy
64 Edsted
- DOWN
1 Mr. Hemingway



- 2 Amazed
3 Spoils
4 The Greatest
5 Gardening job
6 Sidestep
7 Identical
8 ___ Lanka
9 Watch
10 Calculators
11 Robin's big friend
12 Lotion ingredient
13 Mail
18 Dilute
22 Semite
23 Snapshots
24 Contented sounds
25 Flightless bird
26 Adjust the ascot
27 Roll out
28 A big ape?
29 Call
31 Word with clock or ham
32 Snap up
34 Estlike

- 38 Uttered
40 Leaf through
41 Friend
42 Book support
45 Wine area
47 Follows
48 "The Importance of Being Earnest" author
49 Secure
50 Again
51 Umpteen
52 Team
53 Son
54 Royal Italian family
56 NCO
57 Barnyard babble
58 Untreated

Quotable Quote

"God heals, the doctor takes the fee."

... Benjamin Franklin

Crossword puzzle answers to appear in the next issue of the Thunderword

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Odds against volleyball team again

The once proud volleyball team has fallen.

Again. Four seasons ago, the T-Birds stood atop their division.

Then, that summer, lightning struck: Coach John Littleman resigned, leaving the program in the hands of Tanya Burkett.

After a last-place finish, Burkett resigned (or was unceremo-

Ten Yard Fight



By K.M. Petersen

niously dumped) before Shauna Sheppard was hired.

The program appeared back on track under Sheppard last season, being competitive and making the playoffs.

But less than a week before this year's practices were supposed to start, lightning struck again.

Sheppard resigned, having done no recruiting and not even contacting two players.

Enter Andrea Lancaster, who was originally hired as an assistant coach.

Athletic Director John Dunn seems supportive of Lancaster, the school's fourth coach in four years. He knows that it may take time to rebuild the program to previous heights.

But what about this season?

The team returns two players, middle blocker April Helms and right side hitter Jenoa Potter.

The fresh faces on the team are so new that, shortly before the season, Lancaster didn't know some of their names.

Perhaps this team will be competitive, but the odds are stacked strongly against them.

Even if they don't win a single game, just competing under such harsh circumstances takes a lot more guts than most have.

The campus community really should be proud of this team for stepping up and representing the college. These women should be used as an example of people who don't give up when things get hard.

As for Lancaster, she has stepped into what appears to be a thankless situation.

Hopefully, her patience this year is rewarded with a few more league championships in the future, and hopefully, Dunn remains as patient as he appears to be, allowing her to rebuild.

Women's soccer heads into new season

By Evan Keck
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds kicked off their season with a bang in a 3-0 shutout against Shoreline on Wednesday, Sept. 15.

With a balanced attack led by Vicki Upchurch with a goal in the fifth minute of the game, the women eased their way to victory.

Upchurch scored with a feed from fellow midfielder Jessica Andresen to set the pace of the game.

The T-Birds scored two more times. Lerin Farrison tallied in the 25th minute with an assist by Rachel Moyer. Forward Heidi Schab in the 85th minute.

"We have good solid players," said Coach Shari Andresen. "The team is real balanced."

With eight returning players and plenty of new talent, the team has a lot of depth they can turn to late in the game.

The Shoreline Dolphins have a new coach, Movakel Sargizi, and are still adjusting to a new system. Finishing last year's season at 2-12-2 the Dolphins are just hoping to improve their record. Though Shoreline posed no real threat to the Lady T-Birds, they did give the team a chance to get real playing experience with each other.

This early in the season Coach Andresen expects a few mistakes but is confident that this year will go well.

"We had some missed opportunities, and we didn't finish a lot of our shots," she said.

The only other real excitement came when defender Tereza Gibson was given a yellow card penalty for rough play.

The ladies had a 7-7-2 record last year and finished fourth in the East Division.

Andresen, the longest-ten-



Photo by Jamie Turner
Highline players share a laugh at practice after demolishing the Shoreline Dolphins 3-0. Their next game is against Lower Columbia on Wednesday, September 22 at 4 p.m.

ured coach in the NWAACC's Southwest Division, said key players for the team this year will be defenders Angie Upchurch and Jamie West, and midfielders Moyer, Jessica Andresen, Heather Warner and Vickie Upchurch.

Also expected to contribute is forward Jamie Kirk.

The Thunderbirds hope to do better this year, and the rest of the league agrees. NWAACC coaches picked Highline second in the pre-season poll, behind Tacoma and ahead of Green River in the Southwest Division.

Tacoma, 15-1-0 last year, are the three-time defending league champions. First-year coach Lynette Buffington has only two returning players, but the

"We have a good mix of returners and freshmen as we look to be competitive this season," Pozega said. "Last year, we were plagued with injuries."

The Thunderbirds are still learning and is already preparing for their next game against Lower Columbia on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The ladies will take the field on their home turf at Zenith Park at 4 p.m.

"We are looking forward for opportunities to put the ball in the back of the net," said Andresen.

With new coach Budd Gilbert and three returning players, the Red Devils are concentrating on filling gaps on the field.

"We had a late start on recruiting and virtually a new team, but our attitude and hunger is great," Gilbert said. "We will be as competitive as we possibly can every minute of the game."

The team had a record of 3-12-1 last year and finished fourth in the West Division.

Possible game time threats by the Red Devils could come from their forwards Chaney Bolster, or Melinda Clark.

Their goalkeeper Leslie Thielen may play strong and help keep their team close.

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Cross country running again

By K.M. Petersen
Staff Reporter

The men's cross country team is heavy in numbers this year, while the women are again suffering from a lack of participants.

Cross country appears to be maintaining its previous form, despite heavy losses on the men's side and the continued building process for the women.

Graduated sophomores Dagen Bendixen and Andy Gist, who both placed in the top 10 at the NWAACC championships, paced last season's men's team.

Coach Tracy Brigham believes this year's team is just as strong as last year's, despite the heavy losses.

"I think our men are going to be strong," she said.

Brigham is particularly excited by the progress of freshman Phil Cavelli from Spanaway Lake. "I think he'll be as good as Dagen," she said.

With 15 runners, including the return of top-20 NWAACC finisher Andrew Russell and a strong freshman class, depth is a team strength for the men this year. "Our top five might actually be as strong (as last year)," Brigham said.

The women's side is not quite as fortunate. "I could still use some more numbers," Brigham said of the squad, whose roster size has increased to five with two late additions.

Despite the roster shortage, she believes the team will be competitive. The team's highlight might be incoming freshman Jennifer Trujillo from Kent-Meridian High School. Trujillo has the ability to do well in the NWAACC, Brigham said.

Karla Booth is the only returner from last year's squad, which placed eighth in the NWAACC. Booth finished 52nd at the championships, but was slowed by illness.

Track team veteran Rachel Schwartz may also join the squad to provide a needed boost.

Brigham said the women's team is still interested in adding more runners. Women interested in joining the team should contact her.

This year marks a return to cross country receiving S&A funding.

Although the runners had to compete as a club last year, they were competitive. "We really hung in there last year," Brigham said. She further said that the funding will help the team.

Brigham explained the runners are more excited this year and the funding has provided the squad some needed support.

T-Birds reloading for soccer season

By Jamie Kirk
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team is going to have to do a lot of work to repeat last year's division winning performance.

"We have a blue collar, lace-it-up team with a core of very hard workers. We don't want to get outworked by anyone," said Head Coach Jason Prenovost.

The T-Birds have only five players returning from last year's squad.

These players include season starters Peter Wilson and Clement Chiabi. Forwards Jason Soper and Ruben Seoanes, and midfielder Michael Koo will be back after being injured most of last season.

The Thunderbirds lost several key players to graduation last year, including the league's Most Valuable Player Gerry DiPietro.

Highline does have some strong new talent in the 13 newcomers to this year's team.

Foozi Bellal from Mt. Rainier High School, Brooks Bonner from Highline High School and Brian Iblings from Auburn Riverside are among the rookies.

"Foozi is very strong skilled. He will help in the midfield and up front," said Assistant Coach Keith Paton.

"Brian Iblings is a really



Photo by Tannya Carter

Drake Romeo, left, and Abdi Mohamed congratulate Clement Chiabi after Chiabi's goal against Grays Harbor last week.

strong forward. There should be some good scoring with him and Jason Soper up front, they compliment each other well," said Paton.

The T-Birds have been plagued with injuries throughout the preseason, which has not allowed the coaches to fully evaluate their team.

"We are pretty banged up. We have not had a chance to see how good we can be," said Prenovost.

Highline has also changed divisions. The soccer team, which used to be in the Northeastern

division, is now in the Southwestern division.

Although they're leaving behind many tough opponents in the Northeast, the T-Bird men will have competition in the Southwest, too.

"Green River, Tacoma and Clark are going to be tough. Then there is always the unexpected team," said Prenovost.

"We must improve every week if we want to put ourselves in a position to give a run at the championship," said Prenovost. "If we can make the playoffs we will be in a great position."

tion."

Prenovost is pleased that his sophomores are stepping up into leadership roles.

"Peter (Wilson) is showing a lot of leadership and maturity on his own," said Prenovost. "We need a lot of people to step up."

The team also has a unique side. There are players on the team from Cameroon, Korea, Somalia, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Yugoslavia, Columbia, and Algeria.

The team is a good example of diversity at Highline, said Prenovost.

Highline throttles Chokers in soccer opener

By Jamie Kirk
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team is off to a good start in league play, with a 7-1 victory last Tuesday over Grays Harbor.

The game started off on the wrong foot with an early goal by the Chokers.

The T-Birds had an answer, quickly responding with four goals.

Brian Iblings had the first

goal with an assist by Jason Soper. Then Ruben Seoanes put in the second off an assist from Dejan Jankovic, who also had the third goal, followed by one from Soper.

It was good that the team responded to being scored on early, said Head Coach Jason Prenovost.

Highline added three more goals, one by Foozi Bellal, a header goal by Clement Chiabi, and one by Abdi Mohamed.

"We put a game away that we needed to put away. We took care of business," said Prenovost.

"The team is attacking well as a team but we need to work on our marking and team defense," said Prenovost.

"The team made strides. We really started to play well together," said Iblings.

"We played good for our first game, but we need to do better. There are a lot better teams out

there," said Brett Cardenas.

"I was impressed with everyone's play, the bench did really well," said Prenovost. "I have high expectations of the team."

Highline faced South Puget Sound Saturday, Sept. 18 with the score unavailable at press time.

The T-Birds have a home game at Zenith Park Friday, Sept. 24 at 4 PM, against Umpqua, and are at Clark Wednesday, Sept. 29 at 4 PM.

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Shoreline 0, South Seattle 0
Spokane 11, W. Valley 2
Green River 3, Clark 1
Pierce 1, S. Puget 1
SW Oregon 5, Umpqua 3

Upcoming games
Highline @ S. Puget, Sept. 18
Umpqua @ Highline, Sept. 24
Highline @ Clark, Sept. 29

Coaches' Poll

Northeast
1. Spokane
2. Edmonds
3. Skagit Valley
Southwest
1. Clark
Tacoma
3. Highline
Overall
1. Spokane
2. Skagit Valley
3. Tacoma

WOMEN'S SOCCER

C. Basin 2, Skagit 0
W. Valley 0, Spokane 0
Highline 3, Shoreline 0

Coaches' Poll

Northeast
1. Columbia Basin
2. Wenatchee Valley
3. Spokane
Southwest
1. Tacoma

2. Highline

3. Green River
Overall
1. Tacoma
2. Columbia Basin
3. Wenatchee Valley

Upcoming games

L. Columbia @ Highline, Sept. 22
Tacoma @ Highline, Sept. 29

VOLLEYBALL

Coaches' Poll

North
1. Edmonds
2. Bellevue
Skagit Valley
West
1. Green River
2. Clark
Lower Columbia

East

1. Spokane
2. Columbia Basin
3. Big Bend
South

1. Chemeketa
2. Mt. Hood
3. Clackamas
Overall

1. Chemeketa
2. Spokane
3. Clackamas

Upcoming games

Highline @ Tacoma, Sept. 22
Centralia @ Highline, Sept. 24
Highline @ Clark, Sept. 29

T-Birds bounce back in volleyball

By Matthew Usery
Staff Reporter

Highline's volleyball team is optimistic despite changing coaches to start the season.

That led to a shortage of players and a forfeit in Friday's game against Lower Columbia.

But the team has a coach now, plus a fistful of new players and a positive outlook for Wednesday's match at Tacoma.

It was a rocky start for the T-Birds, however. Shauna Sheppard, who coached for only one year, resigned less than a week before the start of the season, reportedly for personal reasons.

With Sheppard's hasty departure, there wasn't much time to find a replacement. Andrea Lancaster, at that time an assistant coach, slid right into the job.

"We hired her as an assistant this summer so we knew we wanted her in our program," said Athletic Director John Dunn. "She's very good, we're very lucky to have her."

Lancaster has a solid background in volleyball.

After playing volleyball for two years at Green River Community College, Lancaster transferred to Central Washington University and earned a community health degree. Although she has coached various high school and community



Photo by Tannya Carter
Highline's April Helms practices a dig in practice last week.

leagues, this is her first college coaching position.

In addition to coaching difficulties, the volleyball team had recruiting problems.

April Helms (middle blocker) and Jenoa Potter (right side hitter) are the only players returning from last season.

Two other players probably would have played but they were not contacted. These players assumed that there would not be a team this season so they made other plans.

Lancaster has managed to rebuild, however. "We now have nine players," she said.

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Conference calls for student leadership

By Heather Baker
Staff Reporter

Student leaders from across the state gathered at Highline for the annual Leadership Conference.

Out of the 30 community/technical colleges available in the state, 23 schools attended the conference. Bringing the attendance level from the predicted 150 to 250 people.

The Leadership conference is cosponsored by Highline and Green River Community College (GRCC).

In the past years GRCC has always taken the initiative to plan and host the event, said Diane Anderson, associate dean of student programs. Anderson who has worked at GRCC for several years heard of staff changes going on and offered that Highline will help sponsor and plan for the event.

Keynote speaker for the



Photo by Heather Baker

Derek Greenfield, left, leads students in an ice-breaker.

event was Derek Greenfield, sociology instructor at Highline. Besides being an instructor, Greenfield has founded his own company called VOICES (Visions for Organizations and Individuals to Create Effective Solutions) four years ago. As

part of VOICES Greenfield has traveled across the country giving speeches to schools and companies. Anderson felt that this and other activities Greenfield has been involved in on campus made him a great candidate to give the keynote

speech and as well as facilitate many workshops.

Renee Jovet, student body president, and Ed Command, Highline president, made opening introductions. Each stressed the importance of student leaders on campus.

The once quiet audience was thrown into frenzy when Greenfield made his entrance. Greenfield's energy and enthusiasm, pulsed throughout the room giving life to the topic of his speech "Attitudes Are Contagious...Make yours worth catching." The students played team work games and also game up with a little anthem for the conference, "I feel good, I feel good, Uh uh uh."

Besides having fun games to play students took home a renewed spirit of what they were doing was important. Greenfield drilled phrases such as "When you get involved you understand," and "We learn by

doing," into students.

Greenfield used sign language to help students remember a poem, "Tell me, I forget, Show me, I remember, Let me, I understand."

Later in the day it was time for students to unwind from the workshops and socialize with other students from different schools.

For entertainment students got up on stage and performed their favorite songs.

After lunch it was workshop time. The workshops were divided into three different categories, student government, student activity and student organizations. Anderson said they were divided that way so students can focus on the activity they are involved in.

The second day of the conference focused on specialty workshops such as "Creating a web page," and "Diversity's role in student leadership."

Campus receives major reconstruction

By Matthew Ussery
Staff Reporter

Several areas of Highline's campus were renovated during the summer to improve the campus atmosphere.

The biggest project started during the summer was the pond-park on the southwest corner of the campus behind the tennis courts. It is primarily being built to satisfy City of Des Moines drainage requirements.

In addition, it will provide a peaceful environment for students, faculty, and the community at large. The park will be available for use by early November.

Another summer project was the renovation of Building 3.

The building was slightly enlarged and its floor plan reconfigured for a more efficient use of the space.

Building 3 was also soundproofed to reduce the distraction of over-flying aircraft.

The building should be ready to use before Winter Quarter.

Building 3, which was formerly used for the jewelry program, will be used for computerized testing and coordinated studies.

The Pavilion also received visible improvements.

Along with repainting the ceiling, a new lighting system and two new scoreboards were installed.

The bleachers will also be replaced, but at the end of Winter Quarter. By waiting until after summer to install the bleachers, Highline will save money. Bleachers are cheaper



Photo by Tannya Carter

Building 3 is receiving heavy remodeling.

in the winter because most schools buy bleachers in the summer. Since the demand is much less in the winter, installation is less costly.

In addition to these projects, the Veteran's Pond was remodeled. "The pond (in front of

Building 5) will be done by Veterans Day," said Facilities Director Pete Babington.

Re-dedication ceremonies are expected to take place around Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

Stay tuned for more updates from the facilities department.

Job Connections

Selected meetings will cover:

Resume Writing

12:00-1:30 P.M. Thursday, September 30

Building 13, Room 105

5:30-7:00 P.M. Monday, September 27

Building 23, Room 111

Cover Letters

12:00-1:30 P.M. Thursday, October 7

Building 13, Room 105

5:30-7:00 P.M. Monday, October 11

Building 23, Room 111

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News Briefs

Living life on a board and a dream

Books available
through program

A book loan program is available for students needing help purchasing required textbooks. It is a one-time opportunity and students must show a source of funding for repayment. All repayments are due Oct. 15.

Joint effort kicks off
awareness month

Women's Programs and Team Highline is hosting events on Oct. 14 for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

There will be various presentations and projects held throughout the day.

For more information contact Dawn Merydith at 206-878-3710 ext. 3340.

Free parking offered
through raffle

The Women's Program is raffling off tickets for a reserved parking spot next to Ed Command, college president's spot.

Raffle tickets cost \$1 a piece or six for \$5 and will be sold till Sept. 24.

There will be four winners, one for each quarter.

For more information contact Rebecca Rhodes at 206-878-3710 ext. 3004.

Tennis court path
closed this quarter

Students planning to use the school's tennis courts this fall will need to take a different path to get there.

The usual path, from the Pavilion past the running track, will be closed due to the Ravine project.

Students will need to walk down the south parking lot and the sidewalk along SE 240 to get to the courts.

By Teresa C. Moreau
Staff Reporter

Former Highline student Steve Whisman dreamed about owning his own board shop. After taking various business classes at Highline, he decided to make his dream become reality.

Now he is the owner of Subvert, a board-sport shop in downtown Des Moines.

In order to start his business, Whisman cashed in the stocks that he was saving and borrowed money from his dad.

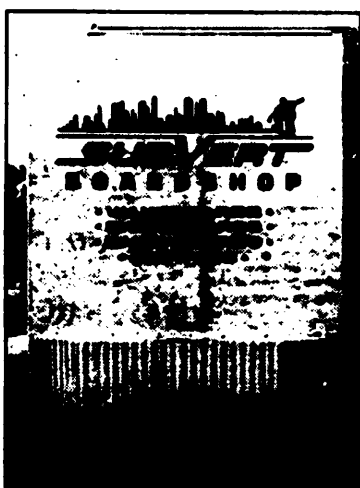
"I was scared at first to put my savings on the line, but I figured that I only live once," said Whisman.

Whisman's father, Lloyd, sticks close by his son's side. He works at Subvert every day.

"It is a lot of fun working with all of the young people," Lloyd Whisman said in his West Virginia accent.

Subvert is a skateboarding, snowboarding, wakeboarding, and gear retail store. The shop carries more than 50 different labels.

"Subvert is off the hook," said Nick Felt, a shop-spon-



The board shop's board.

sored snowboarder.

Plans for construction went underway Feb. 1. At first, the store was empty. Whisman sat for hours envisioning how he wanted the shop to look. During the early stages of construction a band practiced in Whisman's office. They served as inspiration for the shop's atmosphere.

Subvert board shop opened for business on May 23. Just inside the shop, to the right sits a huge white furry couch, which is inside of a railed seating area. In the seating room a television set and VCR are available for

customers to watch board-sport videos for as long as they wish.

The walls of the store consist of various murals, some hand painted and others airbrushed by local artists.

"Subvert has a positive atmosphere. It gives the local youth an opportunity to learn more about board sports," said Nicki Beard, a former Mt. Rainier soccer player.

Whisman feels that Marine View Drive in Des Moines is an excellent location.

"Des Moines is a nice town and the store is very close to Highline Community College and Mt. Rainier High School," said Whisman.

Whisman is no stranger to either locations. He has lived in the Burien-Manhattan area his entire life. Whisman graduated from Mt. Rainier High school in '97. He was senior class vice president and he played soccer and football as well. After high school Whisman attended Highline.

"I learned the basic foundations for business from my classes at Highline," said Whisman.

Whisman plans to expand

Subvert both locally and globally. He plans to push the store back for another 600 square feet. He is also in the process of constructing an Internet web site.

Whisman feels that the board industry has an abundance of money making opportunities if he can utilize the Internet efficiently. He hopes to become a global boardshop leader.

Whisman's other goals are to make people happy and give back to the community. He also plans to open another store and introduce board sports to more children. Whisman also wants to sponsor camps, competitions, and movie premieres.

"My main goal is to stay on the cutting edge of the board industry," said Whisman.

Whisman's advice to other students wanting to open their own business is to make a plan, figure out where the money will come from, and go for it.

Whisman said, "I am thankful to all of my friends, because the store is a collaboration of their ideas. Most of all I thank my father. Without him the store wouldn't have come together so well."

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*69

GM



Photos by Tannya Carter



Highline sociology Professor Derek Greenfield chats up a group of students, left, as the Matices puts on the groove.

Orientation gives new students head start

By Heather Baker
Staff Reporter

Chilly air and dark looming clouds did not dampen the spirits of new students gathered for orientation on Sept. 15.

Students shuffled between tables in the crowd-packed Library Plaza, to find which group they belong to. Each group consisted of one faculty member, one staff member and one returning student.

The facilitators are a new addition to orientation. They are part of the new student mentor program coordinated by Erin Burley of Student Programs. Mentors are there to help students feel welcome and comfortable on campus.

Shannon Proctor, speech instructor, said that the goal for mentoring is to make students feel, "...community college is not the second choice, but that it is the first choice."

"These years are pivotal...it is important to get those students as quick as possible," said Proctor.

Derek Greenfield, sociology instructor said, "A successful mentor needs to understand

students' needs, strengths and goals."

An advantage that some people see in the program is that it will help the retention rate for the school. "You need to feel connected to the school you are going to," said Dawn Merydith of the Women's Program, who also is a mentor.

After welcoming speeches by Highline President Ed Command and Student Government President Renee Jovet, groups participated in ice breakers.

Later students went to different classrooms to meet with faculty and ask questions about possible majors.

During lunch students enjoyed campus tours and the Latin jazz sound of the Matices.

While the band played, students salsa danced the hour away. Students who did not dance perused clubs and activities that are available on campus.

Even with the bad weather and sound technical difficulties it did not spoil the day. "It was fun. I'm meeting new faces," said Candra Grant, Running Start student.



Photo by Virg Staiger

Highline students present the flags of all the nationalities on campus, above. Ed Command gets handcuffed, left, as part of a mock trial. Below, Alli Payne teaches Laurel Stotts to salsa dance.

Photo by Heather Baker



Photo by
Tannya
Carter

New students Christine Zekiyan, Kathy Pabillon and Paul Pacampara check it all out.



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Search

continued from page 1

more than 50 people, 17 of whom spoke to the board.

A number of those expressed concern about hiring a consultant to help find Command's successor. Administrator-at-large Ken Hildebrand, who has been through the process of hiring a new president four times, said his experience with consultants was not positive. Others agreed.

Reference Librarian Jack Harton urged the board to hire a consultant, however. He felt that a consultant would facilitate the process and find as many candidates as possible.

Harton also pointed out that Highline's three vice presidents -- Jim Sorensen, Laura Saunders and Jack Birmingham -- all may very well be candidates for the job. Harton said a consultant would then provide an outside perspective in sorting out who the best candidate is.

All the speakers agreed, however, that the decision should include the entire community. Each speaker mentioned a part of the community which should be included in the decision process.

Barbara Clinton, a speech instructor, spoke on the impor-



Ken Hildebrand

tance of having a president who is a good communicator and values the educators.

"We should in compliance have a participative decision making process," Clinton said.

Sociology professor Derek Greenfield said the board shouldn't leave out the college's most important clientele. "Students should be involved in the process," he said.

Many of the speakers complimented Command's open-door policy. Most agreed that they wanted a president that would be visible and approachable on campus.

Other hopeful characteristics mentioned pertaining to the new president's agenda included

technology and global diversity.

Although the final decision lies in the board's hands, they want to get a good collection of ideas from community, board members said.

More open forums are planned. The board will give the community a chance to express its ideas on what the process should be and what characteristics the new president should possess.

President Command says that the process is timely. The board will have to create the process and then take applications.

After they screen the candidates, the board should be down to around 10 possibilities. Then on July 1, 2000 Highline will have a new president.

Drop

continued from page 1

effort to recruit students.

Outreach Services, the Public Information Office, Worker Retraining and other departments made a collaborative effort in recruiting all summer. "It's more of a team effort," said Public Information Officer Kristin Baldwin.

From mailings to ads on buses and commercials on radio station KUBE, the college was heavily advertised to prospective students.

The extensive mailing list also covered students from the past Spring Quarter who had yet to enroll for fall, as well as former students who attended in

the past five years and accumulated between 30-74 credits.

They also have a banner ad on SeattleTimes.com, got more than 100 applications for enrollment filled out at last summer's Waterlands Festival, and are recruiting at the Puyallup Fair.

Enrollment for Fall Quarter has been down since registration began last spring, giving the recruiting team incentive to get more students on campus.

"It did cause us a little bit of a panic," said Jason Prenovost, director of Outreach Services.

Despite being the underdog in this fight for people's time and money, the college has stayed positive that they will accomplish their goal.

"You don't ever stop making an effort," said Baldwin.

Gunderson receives award for heroic action

Security Officer Kevin Gunderson will receive the Governor's Life Saving Award. The award will be presented on Oct. 20 at the opening session of the Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference.

Gunderson rescued Lee Hall, Highline maintenance mechanic, from rushing hot water from a broken pipe on May 13. Gunderson forced the door of

the Library storeroom open and pulled Hall out of the scorching, knee-deep water. Despite his injuries, he was then able to call for help.

"He stood his ground even though he was burnt," said Hall.

Hall was rushed to Harborview Medical Center where he spent the next six weeks in recovery.

Hall suffered third degree

burns on over 30 percent of his body.

Hall, who continues to recover, was responding to a report of water leaking in the Library. Gunderson also was seriously burned in the accident, but was able to return to work within a few weeks.

Thunderword reporters Teresa C. Morean and Heather Baker contributed to this story.

Back To School Special