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# The Thunderword

The weekly voice of the students

Volume 39, Issue 10

Highline Community College

November 24, 1999

## Who wants to be a millionaire

By **Sergey Kopasov  
and Marta Pelayo**  
Staff Reporters

The Highline College Foundation Board of Directors is not sure if the organization will take on the project of raising \$1 million for the new student center, Executive Director Mark McKay said on Monday.

During the Board's meeting on Nov. 18, Associate Dean of Student Programs Diane Anderson, Vice President for Students Jim Sorensen, and Vice President of Administration Laura Saunders made their pitch. However, the amount to be raised wasn't specified, according to Foundation Vice President for Operations John Huber.

Huber said that the \$1 million number was kicked around, but never actually officially proposed.

Huber thinks that the project is great and is supportive of the idea for the new student center. He feels that it is possible to raise this kind of money, but it would not be just the Foundation's effort, it would involve a big effort from the whole campus, including both students and administration.

The most important questions right now, Huber said, are whether the Foundation is going to be involved and if it is, at what level. However, it is still too early to say anything for sure because there are not very many timelines and parameters.

"Long-range plans and finances are a long way from being settled," Huber said.

McKay said that his goal for right now is to gather information about other community

See *Center*, page A12

## Des Moines discusses budget cuts

By **Heidi Larsson**  
Staff Reporter

Maintaining public safety and preserving the Parks and Recreation Department were the prevailing themes of the Des Moines City Council meeting. A standing room only crowd gathered on Nov. 18 to discuss the 2000 budget.

The 2000 budget will be finalized on Nov. 29.

"We have hard choices to make regarding services to cut and what revenues to raise," said Mayor Scott Thomasson. "Tonight we welcome your input, but all the choices are hard. You need to tell us what to choose between. Don't just tell us it's all bad. Please give us the help we need to weigh our choices."

Many people stepped forward stressing their concerns over public safety. The police department is facing a cut in funding. Police officers made known their concern as well. Officers said their personal safety is also at risk if the police force is reduced.

Many crime prevention programs currently in action are in jeopardy. People speaking at the



Photo by Heidi Larsson  
Citizens pack the Des Moines city council meeting and discuss the budget situation.

meeting expressed worry over the loss of community service officers. DARE, a popular program in the local schools, faces extinction. Other community programs are facing the same fate. Some of these are focused at keeping young people occu-

pied and out of trouble.

Local teachers and students came forward voicing their concerns.

April Wilson, a senior at Mt. Rainier High School, expressed her anxiety over the proposed cuts.

"I have seen police involvement grow in our school," said Wilson. "The kids need the positive influence of the police. The officers do care about the

See *City*, page A12

## SCANTRON Some students have figured out a way to cheat the testing system

By **Laura Adele Soracco**  
Staff Reporter

Some students have found a way to cheat using the Scantron to get perfect scores.

The trick works by making a straight pencil mark under the big top black rectangle, in the top left hand section of the Scantron. This causes the machine to not mark any wrong

answers.

A couple weeks ago, history instructor Kay Gribble sent an e-mail to all faculty, warning them of a new way to cheat using the Scantron.

She found out about that after two stu-

dents cheated in the same test. They both got perfect scores on their Scantron. But, they were also sanctioned by Gribble.

For the Scantron technicians this is not a new thing. "We have reports of incidents where students have cheated using Vaseline on the timing track," said one. "I could tell the manufacturers about this incident, we've had many past incidents with foreign substances on Scantrons, but even if we do something about it, students will always come out with ways around the

system."

Faced with cheating, most students think they wouldn't do it.

"It's not right to use it because you are just cheating yourself," said student Hazza Al-Shamisi.

However, after more students find out about this new way to cheat, some might consider using it.

A student who didn't want to give his name said "students are going to use it. I'll be the first one, for some tests."

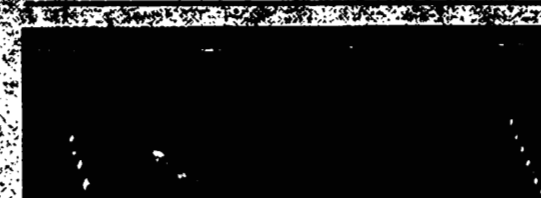
Cheating is penalized in the student handbook at Highline, and students who get caught do-

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winter sports preview**  
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### Crime Blotter for Nov. 18 - Nov. 24

#### Honda stolen again

A student reported that his gray Honda Civic was stolen from the South Parking Lot sometime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. The matter is being investigated but the car has not been found.

#### Hit and run

Witnesses reported to the Security Office that there was a hit and run that took place in the North Parking Lot. A red Plymouth hit a green Hyundai and took off before any information could be exchanged. The incident is being investigated.

#### Purse stolen

A student reported that after leaving her purse on an unattended desk in the upper floor of Building 8, it was stolen. The purse has yet to be found.

#### Running shoes that run by themselves

A student reported that her running shoes were stolen from her bag after leaving it on the ground unattended in front of the Bookstore in Building 6. The shoes have yet to be caught.

#### Lost and Found

The following items were lost on campus this week. If you have found any of these items, please return them to the Security Office in Building 6.

Key chain  
Calculus book  
Speech book was lost in building 17-106  
Math book  
Calculator was lost in the Bookstore in Building 6  
The following items have been found:  
Eight wallets were found in Building 8  
Two keys were found in Building 6  
Wristband was found in Building 6

By Matthew Ellis  
Staff Reporter

Michael Cassella-Blackburn, a new history teacher at Highline, has been in the Navy, hiked the Wonderland trail, was stationed in Iran, and has traveled the world.

Cassella-Blackburn is a Pacific Northwest historian at Highline.

He teaches a little bit of U.S. history as well.

He has a long, brown beard, with a few touches of gray.

He is a good listener, always keeping eye contact with the speaker. When he smiles, the skin around his eyes begin to wrinkle.

He has a one-year contract right now, but he would like to stay permanently.

"I am impressed with the faculty, it is something I haven't seen before. All the diversity and camaraderie. I would like this to be a permanent position," he said.

He got this job at Highline because the school decided to end the permanent position

search. He was at the top of the list, so he was chosen. A fellow staff member, Jim Glennon, said that Cassella-Blackburn "is a good man."

Cassella-Blackburn likes Highline. "Highline is great. I am reasonably impressed with the students," he added.

Cassella-Blackburn has also taught at Tacoma Community College and Green River.

He noticed the similarities between the students, but he said that Highline is more diverse.

Cassella-Blackburn was an undergraduate at the University of Oregon, later moving on to get his master's at the University of Kansas.

He received his doctorate at Syracuse University.

He said his instructors in philosophy and history helped lead him to teaching, and his decision to become a teacher was made in January 1980.

Along with his education, he spent four years in the Navy, traveling to Iran and going on two cruises on the Pacific and Indian oceans.



Cassella-Blackburn

In the Navy, he spent time in Iran in '77.

"I know what it is like to feel people's hatred," he said of the Iranians.

At that time the Iranians did not like Americans, he said.

Reflecting on his time in the Navy, he said at the time he did not like it. "I appreciate it now, though," he added.

When he was younger, he wanted to go to Seattle because

his father was in the Army and was going to be stationed here.

It was the year in which the Seattle Center was being built and they were very excited to go.

But his father ended up getting stationed in El Paso, Texas instead.

When he grew up, he was stationed in Pearl Harbor.

It was from Pearl Harbor that he made the decision to move to Seattle.

He uses his adventures to teach his class.

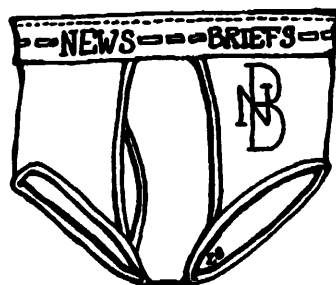
When teaching, he is able to tell his students what it is like in each of the countries he has been in.

He is able to explain different cultures and different attitudes that people hold.

He is glad to be here and he hopes to stay here for a while. He enjoys teaching others and giving students the chance to hear the experiences he has had.

Cassella-Blackburn has two kids, a daughter who is three and a son who is eight.

He spends his free time running and playing with his kids.



#### Evening childcare now available to students

Highline was the only college to receive part of a \$4.9 million grant to fund childcare programs.

The grant will help Highline to provide evening child care for three years starting Winter Quarter 2000.

Child Care Development Center Winter Quarter hours are: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information or to

register call 206-878-3710 ext. 3224.

#### The Final Stage: A Foundation fundraiser

Breeders Theatre will present *A Family Affair* and *Why? 2K* at Building 7 on Dec. 7. Both plays are written and directed by Dr. T.M. Sell, political science professor at Highline.

It is a Foundation fundraiser and the show will begin at 8 p.m.

The entrance fee is pay what you will.

#### Holiday with lights

The Student Programs Office is sponsoring and selling tickets for the Holiday with Lights celebration at Enchanted Parkways.

Tickets cost \$4.50 per person and the celebration will last

from Dec. 9 to Jan. 2.

For more information call Christine Stevenson at 206-878-3710 ext. 3536.

#### Women's Programs' book fair next week

Women's Programs is sponsoring a book fair on Nov. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the lower level of Building 8.

Hard cover books will be 40 - 70 percent off retail prices.

All proceeds will go to the Women's Programs Emergency Scholarship program.

#### Winter weather traffic links and information

With winter season just around the corner, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and City of Seattle Transportation Department have joined together to help residents bear the upcoming season and the World Trade Organization event.

They have put together a list of links for residents to look at for traffic information.

For bad weather and other information check out [www.govlink.org/storm/](http://www.govlink.org/storm/).

People who live in unincorporated areas can access [www.metrokc.gov/go/alerts/roads](http://www.metrokc.gov/go/alerts/roads), for advisories on road closures.

People who commute into Seattle may want to subscribe to WTO Traffic. Alerts at [www.govlink.org/wtotraffic/](http://www.govlink.org/wtotraffic/).

People who subscribe will receive daily e-mail notices about WTO events that will affect traffic.

## BRAINPOWER

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•Chemistry  
•Languages  
•Sciences  
•Accounting

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Compiled by  
Bryan Ford

## Compass tests frustrates students

By Sergey Kopasov  
Staff Reporter

Tanya Milles, a criminal justice major at Highline, took the COMPASS test during the summer. She said that the test didn't reflect the right score due to the way it was organized and set up.

"I don't think it covered basics we learned at high school. I got put in Math 81 even though I've taken Algebra three and four at high school," Milles said.

Even though Milles has scored high on the English part, she got put in the low level Math even after retaking the test.

Marta Drobyn, a sophomore and a tutor at Highline, also thinks that the test doesn't reflect students' abilities.

"I took Algebra three and four at high school but got placed in a below 100 level math at Highline. I think this is because the test is a bit harsh," Drobyn said.

The COMPASS test is given to all entering Highline students in reading, writing and math. The test is used to place students in the appropriate level of course work in math and English.

Many students complain that the test places them too low, especially in math classes.

Recently two instructors, Diana Bender and Allan Walton, conducted a survey in sub-100 math classes to find out what students think of the fairness of the placement test. Nearly half, 49.7 percent, said that they were



Photo by James Bowen

Every quarter, new students take the compass test which consists of a math, reading and writing sections.

placed in lower level class than they deserved.

Barbara Hunter has been a math instructor at Highline for five years and thinks that the assessment test has been a problem ever since she got here.

"Some students are not challenged and it is not fair to them," Hunter said.

Some instructors think, however, that the test is fine and that placement in low level classes is students' fault.

Babs Cerna, a new math instructor at Highline, said the test is accurate enough. Even though he admits that there are some students in his classes who should have been in a higher level math, it is mostly due to the fact that it has been a few

years since they last took math and they have forgotten the concepts.

English instructors also don't think there is much of a problem.

Lonny Kaneko, an English 91 and 101 instructor at Highline, thinks that the test is generally pretty accurate.

"There is no test that is perfect. However, we haven't seen it as a big problem thus far," Kaneko said.

He also said that he had a lot more problems with students who have passed English 91 but still weren't ready to take 101.

Susan Rich, a new English instructor at Highline, said that "her students have been placed well and are doing fine."

Robin Loveless, the administrator of the test, said that ACT produces norms for the test and the school adjusts those just slightly. The test gets updated once every two years and the new update is going to be here at the end of November.

An English as a Second Language component is going to become a part of the COMPASS test and is going to include an aural section, something that wasn't included before.

Math instructors are trying to come up with ways of improving the accurateness of the placement. First, they are planning on taking the test themselves to make up their own opinion on its appropriateness.

Secondly, they are planning on getting a \$200,000 grant from a private party. If granted, they will develop a class designed for students to review courses they have taken in high school.

Once they have taken the course, they can retake the test and hopefully be placed in the right level.

Milles decided to stay at Math 81, but she thinks that the existing test is often unfair and sometimes places students in the wrong level classes. She hopes that the school administration will come up with a placement test that is more accurate than the existing COMPASS test. In her opinion, it will eliminate confusion and save time and effort for both students and instructors.

"I don't think that the test is up to the modern, 1999 standards," Milles said.

## Crouts helps South Africa to rebuild homes and history

By Laura Adele Soracco  
Staff Reporter

Beverley Crouts is an architect who helps people regain their homes and reconstruct their history.

She came from South Africa to Seattle and Highline in a professional exchange program.

She hoped to learn from people here who deal with similar issues of community development, and to make others aware of the situation in Africa.

During the two weeks Crouts spent in the Seattle area, she had a busy schedule, which included assisting as a guest in a couple anthropology classes at Highline, visits to the University of Washington and interviews with professionals in her field of interest.

Of Highline, Crouts said she likes how "the class system is set up freely and there are many resources." This makes a difference in community development, Crouts said.

"Back home as a result of the Apartheid system, many were kicked out of their houses and didn't get any education," she said.

Initially she worked for a private architectural company, but "They don't really care about anything, they just care about building beautiful buildings and getting the profit out of it."

Now, she works in a non-profit organization because she feels "that's the best way to get directly involved in helping homeless people get a home."

Her job is to "work with the people in the area and they together with your knowledge can indicate what facilities are needed regarding education, clinics and landing (land restitution)."

Crouts likes to be involved with the buildings but also with the people. "I love people, I love buildings," she said.

After her experience here, Crouts said she will take back a lot of contacts and help for the future of low income housing in South Africa. Crouts said she hopes that her visit strengthens the relationship between Seattle, South Africa and Tacoma.



Crouts

## Fofanova brings a warm wind from Russia

By Cyrus Kim  
Staff Reporter

It's almost midnight. Math 126 instructor, Natalia Fofanova's analysis is going to be completed. The analysis is on reducing homework time for the students and checking time for the instructor.

For Fofanova, almost every night or early morning is spent like a student preparing for an exam.

Fofanova started her math teaching career in a cold place - Russia, in both high school and at Kujbishev State University. But she's bringing a warm wind to Highline.

"I'd like to give students everything I know," she said.

Even under a faded light from the memory of the Cold War, the strong image of the

former Soviet Union is still flickering in the teacher's dutiful attitude to the students.

"I have come to America for keeping my kids away from the horror of the war and for giving them a bright future, not for my job. I and my husband had a much better job there," she said.

Her husband, Yuri Fofanov, who taught computer skills to the communist elite programmers for 15 years, has taught computer science part time at Highline as well.

He now is a full-time computer science programming instructor at Pacific Lutheran University.

"Teachers in Russia win all the respect of all. They are so honorable there. Because they win higher esteem, they make every effort," Fofanova said.

At first, she spoke in a com-

**"Teachers in Russia win all the respect of all."**

--Natalia Fofanova

manding tone in her class, but now she is friends with all the students, considering each students' opinion.

Her good nature seems to engage almost every student.

For example, in one difficult problem in a Math 126 class, Fofanova allowed an extra day after students complained.

The next day, when a student said that the textbook's explanation was incomplete, Fofanova again gave the class an extra day.

On the third day, the formerly

confused student was explaining the problem to others in class, who was soon caught up.

Fofanova nickname is a "never-stopping train."

Her friends, Elenan and Victor, said, "Ona kak parovoz legche propustiti chem ostanoviti - she is a like train. You cannot stop her. It's better for her to go." Her nickname hints that she can put her hot heart into teaching.

"To make a mistake is another learning process. So I always give the second chance to let them know," she said. She provides a make-up folder to give a second chance to students who failed in the test.

"I make use of homework to let them know how to solve, not for grades," Fofanova said with a warm smile like a late autumn sunshine.



## Editorials

## Budget cuts should start with third runway

The Des Moines City Council is scrambling in an effort to decide what to cut from the budget.

Before looking at the Parks and Recreation department or any of the crime prevention programs, the city council should look no further than the fund for fighting the third runway at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

The budget situation was already in need of prioritizing.

They've already spent \$2.5 million fighting a project that has already begun construction.

Opponents of the runway plan have been waging a losing battle all the way, and after losing seven lawsuits against the runway, it's time to give up the fight.

Nobody wants to live under a runway or next to an airport. It's understandably why nearby cities would want to keep this from happening. But it's already happening. Meanwhile, the cities, Des Moines included, have probably already blown any chance of milking the Port of Seattle for cash in exchange for not opposing the airport.

Des Moines has \$775,000 budgeted for the airport fight this year, and \$350,000 budgeted for next year. Even before I-695 trashed city budgets, Normandy Park last year had to cut its budget to keep up its quixotic tilt against the airport.

Opponents of the runway have very little chance of success anyway. No city has ever beaten an airport when it comes to derailing an expansion.

Less than two weeks ago, the state Court of Appeals affirmed an earlier dismissal of the case brought by Des Moines and other South King County cities against the runway group.

The court affirmed that the runway project is an essential public facility, invalidating the Des Moines community plan that attempted to prevent the runway.

Although the runway opponents have the city's interests in mind, I-695 has made it too costly to pursue these projects.

Unfortunately, programs such as DARE and other crime prevention will still face possible extinction.

If they really care about quality of life, the city needs to figure out where their dollars can do the most good.

## Student center lacking quality funding plan

After years of committees and a student election, the new student center is in its planning stage.

Unfortunately for students, who are being charged a fee each quarter to pay for most of the center, after all the preparation, the center doesn't seem to have a plan at all.

In fact, it seems to have been thrown together so far in a rather haphazard manner.

The election to impose the fee was advertised so little, and for such a short period of time, that it may as well have been hidden from students.

The same planners who threw together the election also didn't seem to take the time to research that their plan called for an amount of fundraising - \$1 million - that the college's fundraising wing, the Foundation, has never raised more than a fifth of.

At a meeting with the Foundation, college administrators didn't seem to have much of a clue in regards to the fundraising, and routinely buckled when asked tough questions.

It came out that the college very clearly has no backup plan to fund the final million dollars for the student center if it cannot be privately raised, and the college seems to have ignored the facts that students possess the right to repeal the fee, and that the election by less than 5 percent of the student population was not exactly an open invitation to waste student time and money on a plan that isn't a plan at all.

If this poor planning keeps up, students should very strongly consider a much stronger election - one to repeal the fee.

**The Thunderword's editorial board consists of K.M. Petersen, Marta D. Pelayo, Heather Baker, Derek Roche, Matthew Ussery, and Jordan Whitely.**



## 'Y2K: The Movie' milks millennium fears

I don't know if I can handle the Y2K problem.

I'm finding it more and more difficult each day to cope.

What's that you say, the computers?

Oh no, I'm talking about what's been dominating mass media for most of the year, and is only getting worse.

In about April, I swore that if I heard the term "Y2K" ever again (is it really that cumbersome to say "year 2,000"?), I'd shoot someone.

But as the nightly news passed by, I learned to deal with it.

But as we get into this final month, it's sure to be everywhere, and not just in the quasi-journalism of television news.

Network executives have been doing the math, and they figured out that they could probably make some more money off of people's paranoia by doing any kind of special program they can on it as the

Light  
It  
Up

By K.M. Petersen

possible problem draws nearer.

NBC decided to get a jump on the competition, running *Y2K: The Movie* on Sunday night.

"What if they're right?" the commercials ominously asked.

Combining portraying what's really going to be a pretty minor problem as a catastrophic one with a made for TV movie screamed out that Y2K would be horrible.

I had a spare moment and was flipping through the channels. Typically, nothing good is on at that time of Sunday evening, so I tried watching it just for a laugh.

Now, there is a campy, funny type of bad. *Y2K: The Movie* was not that type. The acting

was so awful I could only stand about three minutes of it.

I flipped back later on in the hour and saw a highlight, however: Some people were lying dead, and in separate places, people monitoring the situation watched on a security camera in horror.

A grieving woman, watching on her laptop (which, by the way, worked fine, as opposed to every power plant on the East Coast and every military airplane) with two men looking over her shoulder, said "Oh my God" in disbelief.

Within two seconds, one of the men behind her said something to the sort of "Let's go," to which she slammed her laptop screen down and jumped out of her chair like a fourth grader being offered free Pokemon cards.

Man, I really hope Y2K isn't as bad as it looks.

K.M.'s favorite rapper is Defcom 1.

## The Thunderword

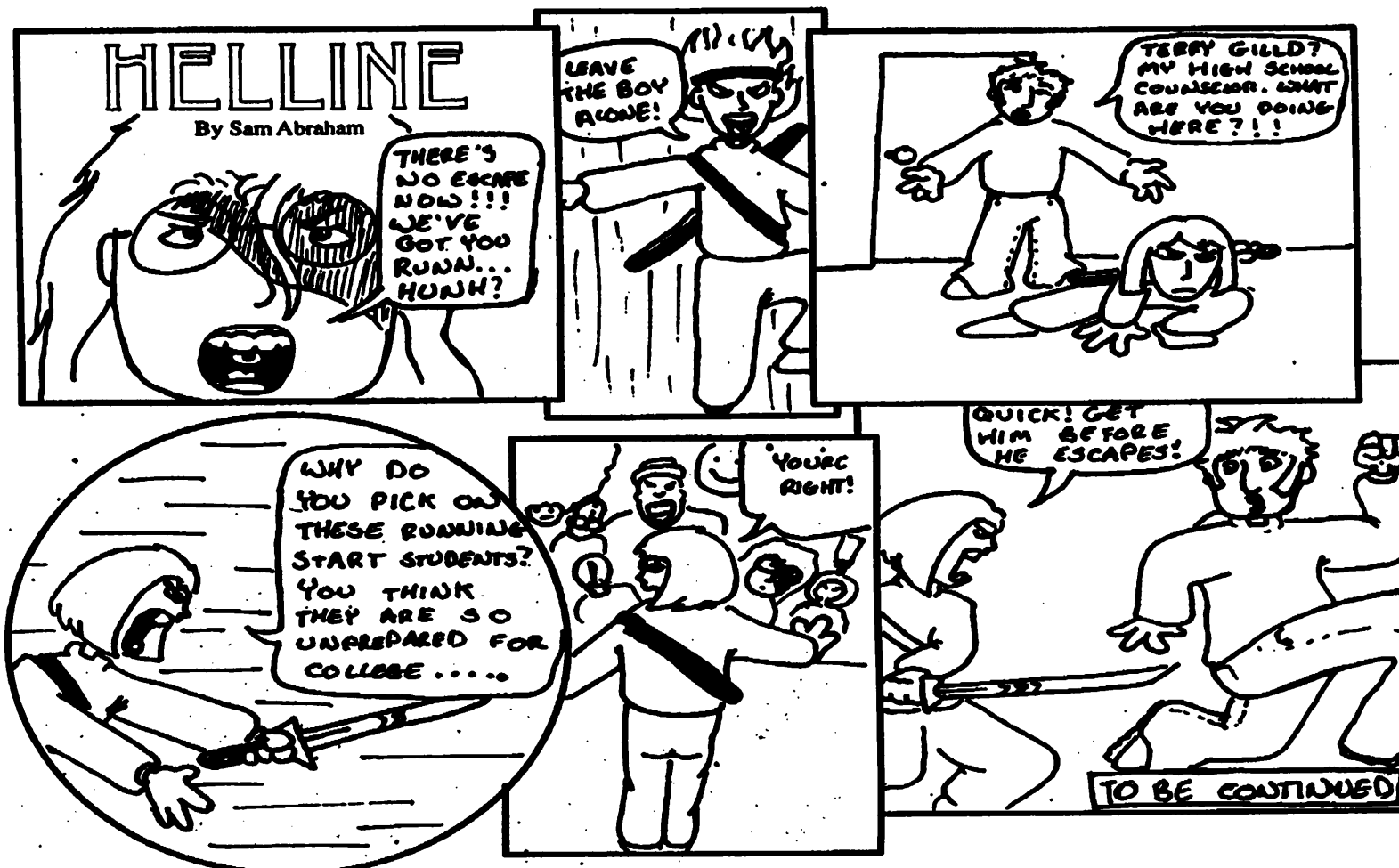
Many people ask why, but we ask "huh?"

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## Parking lot thieves hit student government

By John Fox  
and Kyle Maschhoff  
Special to the Thunderword

This is John Fox and Kyle Maschhoff coming back at you with an issue of dire importance. It seems that our school's parking lots have become somewhat of an all-you-can-eat buffet for car thieves.

We know of many cars that have either been broken into or just taken all together within the last month. Student Senator Kyle Maschhoff suffered three great losses in a matter of four school days. To start with, poor Kyle went out to his wheels one

### Commentary

Friday afternoon only to find that his stereo and speakers had magically gotten out of his car.

Kyle searched the parking lot for hours calling out, "Stereo where are you? Come back." Unfortunately, the stereo had wandered beyond his cries.

Kyle decided that it was time to move on. His stereo was gone for good. Kyle sucked it up and found the courage to purchase a new radio. This time Kyle bought a top of the line beauty that no man could resist. She was charming, beautiful,

and had great features.

Monday went by without a hitch but when Kyle returned to his car on Tuesday after his classes, something wasn't right. All of Kyle's music had been borrowed without asking for his permission. Kyle found it difficult to fall asleep that night due to the fact he was choking on tears. Kyle felt if he shut his eyes for two seconds he may open them to the surprise of no covers or bed.

The next morning Kyle bravely got out of bed and made his way to school. This time he tried to outsmart his criminal friends. He parked his car in a

different lot hoping that they wouldn't find it.

Before leaving his car that morning, Kyle pleaded to his stereo to stay in the car.

Kyle promised that he would take the stereo for ice cream after school if only it would stay put. When Kyle went out to check on his precious baby, he did not find his stereo again. In fact, he couldn't find his car.

After checking all of the car's usual hiding spots in a rousing game of often-played hide and seek, Kyle gave up and went to the security office to see if the car was in there.

Unfortunately, Kyle is not the

only theft victim on campus. While he is the only one that has been robbed three times, he is not the only one to have his car broken into. We would like to encourage students that if they have had something taken from their car or seen suspicious activity in the parking lot to report it to campus security.

Finally, if you happen to run into a poor little stereo looking for its owner at a local ice cream shop please notify Kyle Maschhoff of its whereabouts.

John Fox is Vice President of Legislation and Kyle Maschhoff is the student senator for the ASHCC.

### Letter

Dear Editor,

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is not an international environmental agency. Now, for those of you that have no clue what the WTO is, or what they do here is a brief explanation (this goes for all you protestors who lack or haven't finished an education). The WTO evolved out of General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations in 1995 at the "Uruguay Round." Currently 130 countries are members with 30 or so negotiating membership. The WTO was created to "level the playing field" for developing countries in world trade.

They hold meetings for free trade not for free love. WTO decides if countries are discriminating against other countries on the basis of trade among other things.

For example, The United States decided that they wanted to protect the turtles.

To do this they passed an Endangered Species Act for the poor turtles, suggesting shrimp fishermen (in this case we will assume fishermen "fish" for shrimp) to put "turtle excluder devices" on their shrimp nets. And gave US fishermen three years to reach compliance, and not allowing shrimp caught in ways that kill endangered sea turtles into the US. But only allowed 1 year for other countries to comply.

This, from the WTO's point of view, is discrimination and the WTO deemed it illegal. Even though the US had good intentions, they did not take in to consideration the economic pressures it put on those countries.

That's not to say that they don't support the environment, GATT-Article 20 is all about that. But, this example is one

tiny slice of the WTO pie.

There are a whole lot more issues surrounding the WTO, it would take many more columns for me to illustrate every issue for community college students to understand.

Now that I have your attention, it brings me to my final point; educate yourself when it comes to making your own conclusions.

Don't follow someone because they think they know what they are talking about, chances are, they don't.

Instead of carrying a 20 foot puppet around Seattle for ten hours, thinking it will change the world of trade. Spend it in the library or on-line researching for that well written letter to your local newspaper or congressman, maybe give him a call and ask him what he knows. But, I have to admit, I didn't take time to read their 30,000 pages of WTO policy.

This will give you a start.

www.wto.org, www.tradewatch.com, www.ifg.org, www.twinside.org.sg, www.afd-online.org, www.st.org.

I found most of my info in "A citizen's guide to the World

Trade Organization" ISBN 1-58231-000-9, published by the workgroup on the WTO/MAI, July 1999.

Kirk Elliot,  
Highline graduate

### Opinion and 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 letters and commentaries to: Letters to the Editor, The Thunderword, Highline Community College, mail stop 10-3, P.O. Box 98000, Des Moines, WA 98198. Submissions can also be dropped off in the Thunderword office room 106, Building 10.

## Here today, gone today

Upon reaching the pinnacle of success, a descent is inevitable. Minor or embarrassingly conspicuous, down is the infal-

### The Roche Motel



By Derek Roche

lible direction. The entertainment industry follows suit, evidenced by the rise and fall of stars we as fans place on pedestals, but soon become broke, down on their cocaine inspired luck. Call them one-hit wonders, call them flashes-in-the-pan, but for God's sake, someone call them for a gig.

**Vanilla Ice** - With the hypothetically catchy track "Ice, Ice Baby," he shot to the top of the charts, but as fast as you can say "let the DJ resolve it," his career was quickly put on ice.

**Mathew McConaughey** - The Hollywood press shamelessly hyped this fast-rising star for his first starring role in *A Time to Kill*, but with the disappointing grosses of *ED TV*, and *The Newton Boys*, the southern-raised actor has more than enough time to kill.

**Milli Vanilli** - The epitome of one-hit wonders. The biggest industry hoax since the \$64,000 Question, the pantomiming duo was stripped of their Grammy for "Best New Artist" and have garnered immortal stature in the Hall of Shame.

**New Kids on the Block** - If another album was successful their name would even be dated.

**Dean Cain** - The Superman curse perhaps. George Reeves who played the man of steel in the 1950s was rarely heard from again, and Christopher Reeve struggled to break the type-casting shackles for most of his career. Cain's latest: *Future Sport*, a straight-to-video dud.

**Van Damme/Steven Segall** - OK, they both had a healthy share of hits, and nobody wants to see one's livelihood shattered, yet there's almost a perverse enjoyment in seeing their once high-profile careers flounder (their films are no longer released in theaters). For a million dollars, did anyone see Van Damme's *Desert Heat*? Final answer? Didn't think so.

Are the stars of today prone to early retirement? How about the entire cast of *Dawson Creek*, *TLC*, *Denise Richards*, and *Pokemon*. Peekachu, however, will always have a place in my heart.

## A showcase for Highline's artistic minds

By Kristin Brothov  
Staff Reporter

After sponsoring the successful fashion show last week, Team Highline's next scheduled event was the "Really Big Art Show."

Held this past Monday and Tuesday, the show, in which Highline's own students, faculty, and staff can display their artwork, was the first one this year.

"The first show is always the slowest," said the event's coordinator Amy Studley, referring to the fact that this show only has about 40 pieces. "It usually picks up after this one. People see the art and realize that they have the opportunity to enter in an event like this."

The work is now on display, under the categories of pottery or sculpture, photo-



Photo by James Bowen

Appropriately titled *Swans*, this nature themed painting is the work of Lynn Pierce.



Photo by James Bowen

An oddly shaped sculpture titled *Nine*, by Erik Nethken.

graphy, and miscellaneous items. Everyone who attends is allowed to place a vote.

"We're expecting about 200 votes," Studley said.

All of the artists are students or faculty and some of them, like Jane Anderson, have never had any art training at all.

"I learned to draw on my

grandma's velvet couch," said Anderson.

Now she said she paints or draws at least once every day. The show had all different kinds of art: everything from photography to pottery. They had some traditional pieces, like Anderson's *Late Bloomers*, or very untraditional, like the *Egyptian Chess Set*.

## Burton's 'Hollow' could make you sleepy

By April Pennix-Garvin  
Staff Reporter

Director Tim Burton's latest movie, *Sleepy Hollow*, is a film that for all of its special effects, leaves its audience with a kind of dull anticlimax.

Adapted from author Washington Irving's story, *Sleepy Hollow* tells the tale of Ichabod Crane, a sometimes cowardly man, newly arrived in the farm village of Sleepy Hollow.

In certain areas, Burton's Ichabod Crane is nothing like Irving's.

This Crane isn't a school teacher, but a New York City constable of the year 1790, who, after trying the patience of his superiors, is sent off to the title town to investigate the murders of three of the village's citizens. Relying on reason, logic, and his inventions to help him solve the case, Ichabod attempts to find the murderer and bring the suspect back to his superiors in New York.

Ichabod disregards tales of how a German Hessian soldier of the Revolutionary War would charge at full gallop into any battle and decapitate his victims. The soldier was himself behead-



Paramount Pictures photo

The Deppster searches for his muse in *Sleepy Hollow*.

ed with his own sword, and since has roamed the forest near the village decapitating any man or woman at will.

Ichabod becomes at odds with the side of him that searches for the logical scientific answers, and the supernatural aspect of what he uncovers. The plot is clear, although the movie's flashback sequences, which attempt to explain a part of Ichabod's personality, could've been left on the cutting room

floor. Johnny Depp's subtle charisma shines from the beginning of the film until its end, with glimpses of Irving's original Ichabod. Ichabod's fainting spells are absolutely hilarious.

Supporting actress Christina Ricci, seemingly out of place with bleach blond hair and corset, played her role with a sincerity and morbid charm that compliments Johnny Depp's straitlaced Ichabod.

The performances good, and

the plot is intriguing, but the tactics of engineering the plot were far from perfect.

*Sleepy Hollow* had all of the edge-of-your-seat suspense of *Edward Scissorhands*, but had more decapitations and bloodshed in one scene alone than both *Scream* movies put together.

The horseman effects are awesome, and the film's color has a washed-out, surreal look complete with rolling clouds of fog, and the crackle of thunder and lightning are well done.

The movie ends with what can only loosely be called an ending. The audience sat in the theater expecting the last scene, knowing that the movie was almost over, and for their wait received an ending that left them to believe that the author of the screenplay, Andrew Walker, didn't really know how to end the story.

*Sleepy Hollow* is a movie recommended for a couple of hours of mind-numbing escapism.

Although *Sleepy Hollow* isn't a sleeper, all the promises of chills and thrills by its commercial trailers do in fact ring very hollow.

# 'In Reverse' lacks definition and style

Matthew Sweet's latest shows why he's never enjoyed commercial success

By Matthew Ellis  
Staff Reporter

Aside from the clever but confusing cover, Matthew Sweet's new album *In Reverse*

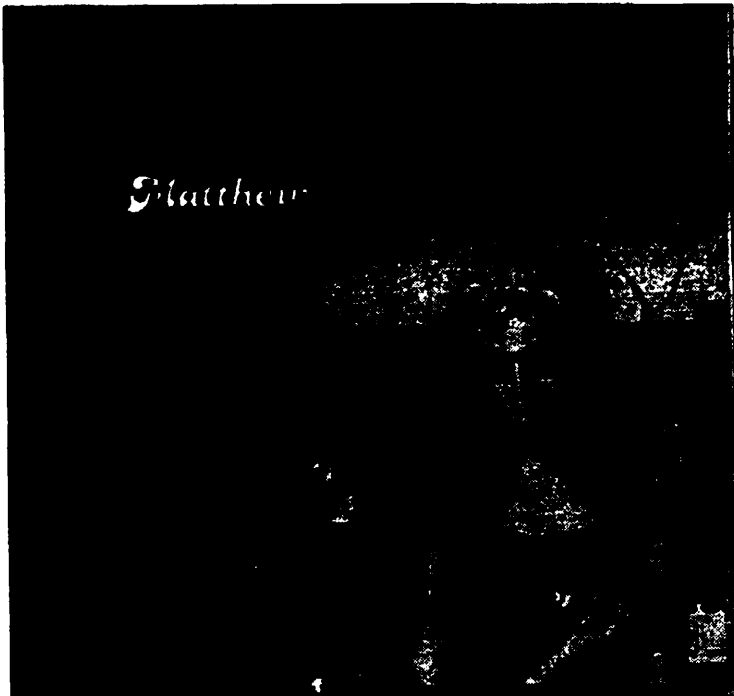
## Music Review

verse is a dull, boring collection of songs.

It lacks harmony and a good beat. The music does not flow well together and too many instruments are jammed into his songs in a very disorganized manner.

Sweet began playing music in high school. Following graduation, he went to the University of Georgia. There he met a woman named Lynda Stipe and joined her band, Oh-OK.

He played on one album of Oh-OK's and then he and a drummer broke off to form their own band called Buzz of Delight. Eventually, Columbia Records signed the two and an album was made.



Art courtesy of Volcano Entertainment

Matthew Sweet's latest album is as boring as his last.

However, his albums did not sell well and the band was dropped from Columbia Records. Sweet then signed on with A & M Records, and another album was made, but again, the album did not sell and Sweet was dropped from A & M.

Over the next year, Sweet played as a guitarist in Lloyd Cole's band until he was signed by Zoo Records. Sweet made an album called *Girlfriend* and

unlike its predecessors, it sold very well.

Sweet continued to play for Zoo Records. His albums got mixed reviews and he had his ups and downs. He left a couple of his band members and went off with another man to create another album.

*In Reverse* is his newest album and it is under the label of Volcano Records, not Zoo.

As can be seen by his past experiences, Sweet has not done

The riffs in this song . . . sound like they were made up while he was drunk. I expected [that] he would play more solos and finger style guitar.

too well and the reason is evident in his newest album.

His music is very sloppy and undefined; it does not seem very well choreographed and managed.

Yet beside the lousy background noise, (I say noise, because whatever it is in the background, it is definitely not music) there are some good lyrics. In the song *Faith in You*, he sings about whom he should put his faith in, "I lay down in the evening and I look up at the stars, but I don't believe in miracles, should I put my faith in ours?"

It seems that the many years that Sweet has played guitar has not paid off. The solos in his songs are very dull and boring. They do not stick out and catch the ear, they are very whiny and annoying.

The first song on the album, *Millennium Blues*, begins with

some horns playing in a sporadic manner with the guitar suddenly bursting forth in an annoying display of chords.

The riffs in this song and the others sound like they were made up while he was drunk. I expected that with all his experience he would play more solos and finger style guitar than just plain chords.

However, the piano is not all that bad, he does have a gift there. And there is at least one song worth mentioning from this album.

The song *Worse to Live* has a nice sound to it. It is a little softer than his other songs, but it has a beat.

This record is not worth buying for just one song though. I recommend hearing it before you buy it.

You may like it, but I highly doubt it and you do not want to waste your money.

## JACT a surprisingly soulful sound

By Sam Abraham  
Staff Reporter

The LA-based quartet, JACT, derived their name from the slang for amped or excited, but at no point during the course of the album do they sound like

## Music Review

they are either.

It isn't a bad CD though. It possesses a deep, soothing soulfulness that's refreshing in a category littered with disgruntled guitar riffs and screaming vocals.

The band formed less than a year ago when frontman Andy Frank met guitarist Ted Hutt in London.

Frank was formerly head of the acclaimed English band Pusherman, which fell apart under a hail of personal conflicts, leaving him wandering the London streets alone in a state of self-reflection.

It was at this time that Hutt left what remained of his band, Reacharound, in search of

something new.

He returned from his new LA home back to London where he met Frank.

JACT was formed from Hutt, Frank, and Hutt's remaining bandmates, Londoner Jeff Peters (bass) and from Vancouver, B.C., C.J. Eiriksson on drums.

Andy Frank's lyrical stylings come from his personal "down times."

Ranging from songs about his sexual experiences (*Magic #3*) to songs about exorcising the past (*Barricade*).

Hutt successfully textures Frank's lyrical feelings with the use of a variety of awkward instrument styles.

In *Sweet Charity* and *Heaven*, Hutt experimented with instruments like the bottleneck slide guitar, and wah wah peddle.

He even uses a technique referred to as tremolo style in which the guitar is played using a violin bow in songs like *Excuses* and *Barricade*.

Pay no heed to the Parental Advisory sticker on the cover (like you do anyway); the album contains no more than two ex-

The record seems to get more droning with repeated play.

plicit words in its entirety.

Even though the music style doesn't reflect the CD cover, the music is enjoyable the first few times.

The band is reminiscent of Oasis, and much like the English Beatles rip-off, the record seems to get more droning with repeated play.

While their style is refreshing and enjoyable, it does indeed wear thin after a while.

So, if you're a big fan of Oasis, and can enjoy their music on a regular basis, go get JACT's new CD on the very same Trauma Records label that Bush is signed on.

However, if you're anything like me, and don't like the repetitive style of Oasis, then I'd let this one go.

## Guano Apes could stand on instrumentals alone

By Jeff Markley  
Staff Reporter

A new rock band, well, I guess you can call them a rock band, has entered the music industry.

This new group is called Guano Apes, a four member rock group who has just released a new album, *Proud Like A God*. This CD has 11 songs.

The singer of Guano Apes,

## Music Review

Sandra, fills each song with satisfactory lyrics with a little screaming in some songs. The other members, Dennis who plays drums, Stefan the bass player, and Henning the lead guitarist, do a good job of giving each song its uniqueness to the rest.

However, on a couple songs there was some record scratching in a hip-hop and R&B music.

This is what throws me off as to whether label these guys as a rock group or a sunnier type of

band.

After listening to the whole CD, I have come to the conclusion that, not to insult the singer, most of the songs would be better without any singing at all.

You might say, "well, geez, many songs can be good without lyrics."

In the case of Guano Apes, I disagree and feel that the original style of singing is not as good as it could be and perhaps, they could make another CD with just the instrumentals.

I'm not saying the whole album was trash.

Some songs were okay. As a matter of fact, the only songs that I felt were actually worthy of its lyrics were *Open Your Eyes* and *Lords of the Boards* (but if you took out the singing, they would be just as good).

This may seem kind of mean, but the lyrics of a song are what pull me in and get me to like the band.

If they can still do well with their instruments, then they're half way there.

Sure, I like this band, just without the singing.



## Where it's at

• Last day to officially withdraw or add a class. You can withdraw from a class without the instructor's signature unless specified Nov. 24, or you can add a independent, special, or contractual study class.

• International Lunch Table. The weekly gathering is on Nov. 24 from noon to 2 p.m.

• *The American Clock* by Arthur Miller is being presented by the drama students. The play will run from Dec. 2-4 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors and \$6 for general admission. Call Christina Taylor for more information.

• The Blood Drive will be on Dec. 6 in Building 2 between the hours of 9 to 11 a.m. and noon to 3 p.m.

• Tickle Tune Typhoon tickets are being sold in the Student Programs Office in Building 8 for \$5. The performance is on Dec. 10 at 11 a.m.

• Queen Victoria's Holiday Puppet Show. This classic style puppetry show will be performing at the Des Moines Library on Monday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m., Tukwila Elementary School on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at 3:30 p.m., Valley View Library on Saturday, Dec. 11, at 1 p.m., Burien Library on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m., and Federal Way Regional Library on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 1 p.m.

• Happy Hedgehog Holidays! Come hear stories about hedgehogs, see and pet a real one, then make holiday cards at the Covington Library on Dec. 16 at 7 p.m.

• Holiday with Lights Celebration is being held from Dec. 3 to Jan. 2. Tickets available in Student Programs office for \$4.50. Everyone is welcome to attend.

More of  
the same  
from Bond

By Derek Roche  
Staff Reporter

The lucrative Bond Franchise has now reached its 19th adventure, (21st if you count *Casino Royale* and *Never Say Never Again*) with *The World is Not Enough*, and its more of the same from the suave spy.

The opening sequence, rumored to be the most expensive of the series, is a taut, well-directed boat chase, that combines spectacular stunt work and stuff that gets blown up real good.

The plot is secondary, and really not the point of the Bond films. The gimmick this outing; the villain is immune to pain.

Remaining true to the formula, there are two Bond babes, one bad (Bond sleeps with her anyway) and an ally that teams up with James to defeat the diabolical villain.

The stunning Sophie Marceau (*Braveheart*) plays the evil vixen, and Denise Richards plays Nuclear Physicist Christmas Jones.

While Richards is satisfactory as Jones, it's Marceau who steals the show. Not only is she remarkably attractive, she has a seductive energy that plays off of Brosnan's swagger flawlessly.

Richards basically goes through the motions, as if she's copying past Bond Girl performances. She does indeed have a spunky personality but her quips are lifeless and dull.

As for Brosnan himself, he's a talented actor who is good in just about anything he does. His range, however, is limited. I always get the sense that he should be narrating a documentary on PBS. As Bond, however, he's aint half bad. Neither is this film.

## ALL IN THE FAMILY

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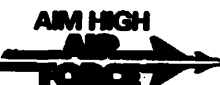
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## Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

## " Music Men "

## ACROSS

- 1 Blinks  
5 London buggy  
9 Nimbus  
13 Comedian Johnson  
14 Vatican locale  
15 out: Barely survived  
16 Bob Dylan's hit song  
20 Long, long time  
21 Scottish monster locale  
22 Athletic areas  
23 Leaf holder  
24 Power system  
25 Curbed the car?  
28 Mr. Greenspan  
29 Paid player  
32 Laugh scornfully  
33 Group of Erin Isles  
34 Fine horse  
35 Jerome "Doc" Pomus hit song  
38 Bequeathed  
39 Hold  
40 Gutter supports  
41 Surgeons  
42 Word before up or down  
43 Conditional forgiveness  
44 Wished  
45 Irish county  
46 Nevada  
49 Board game  
50 Rand McNally output  
53 Sammy Cahn's hit song  
56 Freshly  
57 UPS services  
58 Greek god of war  
59 Catholic rite  
60 Frontier lawman  
61 Historic fiddler?

## DOWN

- 1 Ms. Didrickson  
2 Woody's boy  
3 Like \_\_\_\_ of bricks

- 4 Stitch  
5 Cut glass object  
6 Howard and Jaworski  
7 Sum: abbr  
8 Indian queen  
9 Cut down  
10 Related  
11 Ms. Home  
12 Gamblers' concerns  
17 Hospital staffer  
18 Require  
19 Emerald Isle  
23 Trapshooting  
24 Stare angrily  
25 Hymn  
26 Wagered  
27 Coral formations  
28 Ridge  
29 Utah city  
30 Bolero composer  
31 More than hefty  
33 Wide open  
34 On \_\_\_\_ in fun

- 36 Conformity  
37 Closer  
42 Scope prefix  
43 Rain hard  
44 Makes beer  
45 Fastener  
46 Shut noisily  
47 New Rochelle school  
48 Dec 24 and 31  
49 Military leader: abbr.  
50 Stallion's chick  
51 Follows teen  
52 Acapulco moola  
54 Inks on an EMT report  
55 007's creator

## Quotable Quote

"The English may not like music, but they absolutely love the noise it makes."

...Sir Thomas Beecham

By GFR Associates E-Mail: [EDC9432@aol.com](mailto:EDC9432@aol.com)  
Mail: GFR, P.O. Box 461, Schenectady, NY 12301



## Suit up and get ready to play . . . water polo?

By Rick Clapham  
Staff Reporter

Highline has sports and clubs other than basketball, wrestling, soccer, track, cross country and the usual sports. Highline also has the not so common sports such as water polo. Water polo is a club on campus that competes.

The class gives a person an option to not only earn credits toward an Associates of Arts degree, but it gives a person a chance to play competitively. For all ex-athletes that miss the competition because of homework and work, this is a perfect class to take.

Highline has a water polo team which competes against teams from other schools. Unlike other sports practice happens during class time which offers students with lack of free time, able to compete in a sport.

Just like any sport there are rules and regulations that one has to follow to compete.

Here are a few rules and regulations about water polo. It is a game of strength, quickness, and endurance. The playing field is in a pool, obviously. The playing area is 30x20 meters with a minimum of 6 1/2 feet deep.

The team consists of 13 players, with seven of those players in the pool at a time: one goal keeper, and six field players. The game is played in four quarters, each seven minutes long, with two minute intervals between each quarter. In case of



Photo by Sam Shabb

Water polo is a game of strength, quickness, and endurance

overtime, like in many sports, this game has two three minute overtime quarters. At the end of the overtime, if the teams are still tied, then they have a sudden death overtime, first to score wins.

Substitutes are common in this game, usually a substitution occurs after a goal, between periods, in case of an ejection of a player, or a player can sub by swimming to their team's corner and tagging an entering player, or during a time out. Each team has three time-outs during regulation and one in overtime.

In this game physical contact is the rule, not the exception as

in other sports such as basketball. Each quarter starts with the teams lined up on opposite goal lines and on the referee whistle the teams swim toward the middle of the playing field where the ball, the size of a volleyball awaits for play.

During the game, just like any sport, there are fouls. Some ways to prevent from fouling, one should try to stay away from touching the ball with two hands- this is a one hand sport- taking the ball underwater when being tackled, tackling players without the ball. Stay away from pushing off of opponents and stalling, even though this is

a sport where you have to swim nonstop and it's extremely hard to swim as fast as you can for 28 minutes. Players get booted from the game if they strike or kick another player, splash players in the face during dead time, interfere with a free throw, disrespect the ref, and hold or dunk opposing players not holding the ball.

With all these rules it seems that this sport wouldn't be all that much fun, but according to Sam Shabb, the instructor/coach of the team, said "actually everyone down there has a great time."

"I do this for fun and I love

the competition (this) is why I play," said Shabb.

Shabb has a background of swimming, he swam in college and competed on a water polo team in college. Even though he competed and swam on a collegiate level, he said, "All I expect is for everyone to get a new experience and have a great time while attending the class."

"I don't expect the greatest swimmers to join the class. Actually any experienced from beginners to expert swimmers are encouraged to take this class." This class is open to both women and men.

"We have many different types of people down there who play, from biology majors, to one guy who plays in the Seattle symphony," said Shabb.

"This is a sport that combines a little of soccer, basketball, and hockey all in the water."

This class does compete competitively and it is a class so there are small fees to pay so that they can compete. Some of the tournaments range from \$100 to \$300 to enter the tournament.

"Usually the whole team pitches in a few dollars and I pitch in the rest," said Shabb.

To be on the team you have to be a registered student. For more information about the class contact Shabb at 206-878-3710 ext. 3452.

In most sports to compete means that you have to be the best, not here. All you have to do is to show up and be ready to play.

## Wrestlers leaves tournament battered and bruised

By Evan Keck  
Staff Reporter

Highline got a taste of Division I wrestling on Saturday at Southern Oregon. In two days of wrestling the T-Birds got beat and battered.

On Friday the men traveled to Coos Bay, Oregon for a dual meet against Southwest Oregon.

Highline gave up two forfeits (12 points), coming in Friday at 133, and 157 pounds. Joben Nuesse and Bobby Brokenshire could not make it to the meet because of class exams. Chad Keck was unable to compete at 157 due to an injury.

Second - string freshman Shawn Thayer wrestled at the 125-pound weight class for Brokenshire. Thayer lost the opening match and Highline was quickly behind in points.

Shad Lierly took the mat for the T-Birds to hopefully bring Highline back into the competition. But their hopes died when

the SWOCC opponent knocked out two of Lierly's teeth. Lierly was forced to quit the match with injury default and was rushed to a dentist for medical assistance.

Next up was Jason King at 149, who fell short with a loss 8-5. King gave up eight pounds by wrestling up at the 149 weight class.

Andy Olson came out with a pin that gave the T-Birds six points.

Iven Carlson and Ryan Doerge lost their matches at the 184 and 197 pound classifications.

Anthony Hamilton won the final match of the night. Hamilton, who was going to red-shirt, will be competing this season.

Battered and bruised the T-Birds pushed on to Southern Oregon University.

The open tournament brought a lot of stiff competition. Six Division I schools were in atten-

dance. Oregon State, University of Oregon, Boise State, and BYU were just a few of the marquee teams. The tournament was double-elimination with deep brackets.

Brokenshire won a match and dropped two. His third and final match of the evening was a tough one against a wrestler from San Francisco State. Brokenshire was ahead in the second round 8-0. In the third round his opponent came back to win 11-8, knocking him from the tournament.

Joben Nuesse, catching up with the team on Saturday, competed hard for the T-Birds. In his second match, Nuesse had a technical fall in the second round. The referees stopped the match when Nuesse had gained a 15-point advantage.

"I got him with a double leg and just kept turning him," Nuesse said. Even with his impressive victory, Nuesse was unable to capitalize in the tournament, losing his third match and was put out of the tournament.

Jason King wrestled the 141 spot in the tournament in place of injured Lierly. King had an impressive performance winning two matches. Unfortunately it was not good enough to place.

No one competed in the 149 and 157 pound classification. Joe Castro had a tough night at 165, losing his first two matches. Castro had a tough battle with an opponent from San Francisco State. He was put on his back early in the match but was able to claw his way back into the fight, but ran out of time for the loss. Brian Wiehle was unable to make the trip due to an ankle injury. Wiehle is expected to join the team this weekend.

At 174 pounds, Andy Olson had a good performance. Olson won two matches before being eliminated in the tournament. One win was by a fall over a

Portland State opponent.

Carlson had an impressive performance by just losing to a Division I opponent from BYU.

"It was a good match," said Owens. "He put together some moves."

Doerge at 197 and Hamilton at 285 both were eliminated after their second matches.

Going unattached Thayer at 125, Tanner Stahl at 165, Curt Creson at 174, and Jeremiah Barney at 184 were all eliminated in two.

Heavyweight Mike LeMere withdrew from the tournament with injury default after hurting his knee in his first match. Joe Kelson also was forced to withdraw from the tournament after developing flu like symptoms.

Highline will go next to Reno for a national team tournament on Friday, Nov. 26 and an open tournament on Saturday, Nov. 27. "We have always won a dual down there," said Owens. "It will be a lot of fun."

## Crossover play is still not accepted

Once again Highline athletes will be out of luck now that baseball season is only a quarter away. Since the school has been in existence, some sports have been left out of Highline's athletics program.

### What gives?



By Paul Reid

The lack of finances and facilities eliminate opportunities for athletes interested in sports like baseball, football, and tennis. Although efforts have been made to solve this problem, little has been accomplished. Crossover play is not allowed.

Crossover play is when students attend one school but play sports at another. I become upset because somehow money was found for soccer, yet other sports get the short end of the stick.

With crossover play, extended funds wouldn't be needed, therefore, avoiding controversy. Green River has certain sports that Highline doesn't, but crossover play does not exist.

Former Athletic Director Fred Harrison has brought this issue before the NWAACC board on numerous occasions, and new Athletic Director John Dunn plans to continue Harrison's quest.

Other community colleges in this state have athletes from other schools. For example, the league allows those students attending Seattle North, South, and Central Community Colleges to play for another school. This concept seems to be logical.

"It would give everyone an opportunity," said Athletic Director John Dunn. "Why should students be penalized because of where they live? Telecourses are available for Green River students to take at Highline, so why is there a difference?"

Dunn mentioned if other sports became available, it would be extremely expensive and Highline would have to play off campus home games. "We already do that with soccer, and we don't really want to do it with other sports too," Dunn said. Highline will not fork money over for more sports, so the answer lies in crossover play.

# Sailing: adventure on the high seas

By Heidi Larsson  
Staff reporter

The timeless sport of sailboat racing has been going on in Des Moines for about 30 years. Three Tree Yacht Club is the organization that sponsors events off these shores.

Bob Post has been sailboat racing since 1982. Post is a local artist specializing in the restoration of metals.

"I love sailing and racing," said Post. "I'm a very competitive person. I can't miss a race."

Sailors from yacht clubs in the Seattle area are invited to participate. The notice to compete is advertised in 48 North, a local periodical focused on sailing. A small fee is involved to cover the cost of sponsoring a race.

The competitions are generally held in a series of five to seven races. The races are spread over a couple of days. The sailboats compete in different classes according to their handicap rating.

There is no limit as to the number of boats allowed to participate.

"The more boats, the tighter the race," said Post. "It's amazing how close the boats get to each other. At times it's boat to boat."

The courses vary race to race depending on which way the wind is blowing. The racing committee that's sponsoring the event designs the course. It is then posted on the side of the committee boat, which is anchored across from the starting buoy.

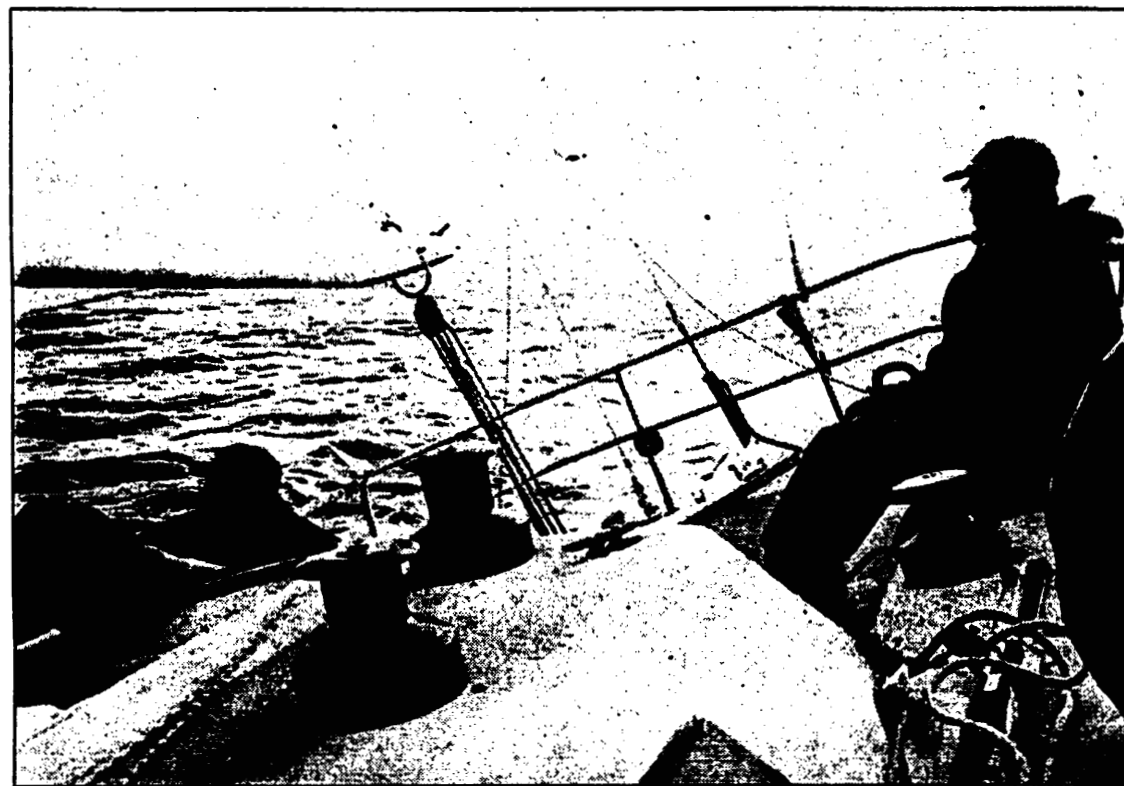


Photo by Heidi Larsson

Bob Post helps steering the boat on a foggy day in the Des Moines marina

chored across from the starting buoy.

Prior to the race, the boats are on the water jockeying for position. A starter's pistol is shot off giving the 10-minute warning that the race will soon begin. All of the boats are maneuvering close to the starting line.

When the race begins, the boats are at various positions on the water. Nature makes it impossible for them to be lined up in a row. Experience and talent prevails from this point on.

The weather has a lot to do with the flavor of the race. When the water is tumultuous,

the sport becomes tumultuous. When the water is calm, the race is more subdued, but still action-packed.

These boats are not automated; a sailboat never sails a straight line. The power comes from wind and the control from man. Every change of direction is done by way of sail and rudder, timing being the key element.

Winning a race can depend on how efficiently the crew works together. The skipper and crew need to be sharp. Every race is different.

Reading the wind correctly and taking advantage of all it has to offer is essential. Superior tactics are crucial. Weather and current are variables that need to be dealt with constantly.

Races are held even when waves are up to six feet. The unexpected is to be expected. Whales have been known to cross paths. The debris in the sound presents a constant hazard to the boat as well as the crew.

"The basic concept of racing has stayed the same," said Post. "But it has changed oodles and gobs in a number of areas, mostly with new technology."

Boats were made of wood. "Just since I've been racing, carbon fiber has allowed the boats to be built much lighter," said Post.

Sails and lines are more durable. Depth sounders and the Global Positioning System are available and affordable now.

"GPS has been around since about 1987, but it's only recently been available to the general public," said Post. "We now have wind speed instruments that have the ability to report true wind and wind

angle."

Certain requirements are mandatory in order to race. There are three organizations that the skipper needs to be a member.

First of all the skipper must belong to a yacht club and adhere to their rules.

The United States Sailing Association is the second organization that requires membership. It is the governing body that provides the rules, conditions and penalties upon which the races are held.

Third is The Pacific Handicap Racing Fleet, a data base on different types of sailboats. It assigns a rating certificate to each boat that is referred to as the handicap.

"The handicap is a number assigned to each boat," said Post. "Since sailboats are of various sizes and types, this handicap system is in place. It helps to ensure that the races are as fair and equitable as is possible."

On Bob Post's 35-foot boat, Fast Feather II, he needs a crew of eight to compete well. But he can manage with seven.

Skippers are always looking for crew.

Most boats need four to 10 people to do the various duties involved in sailing. While experience is preferred, many skippers will train those who ever never sailed. Many take walk-ons before a race.

The officers for Three Tree Point Yacht Club can be helpful in finding skippers open to training those with an avid interest in learning the craft of sailing.

For more information about the yacht club, phone 206-824-3674.

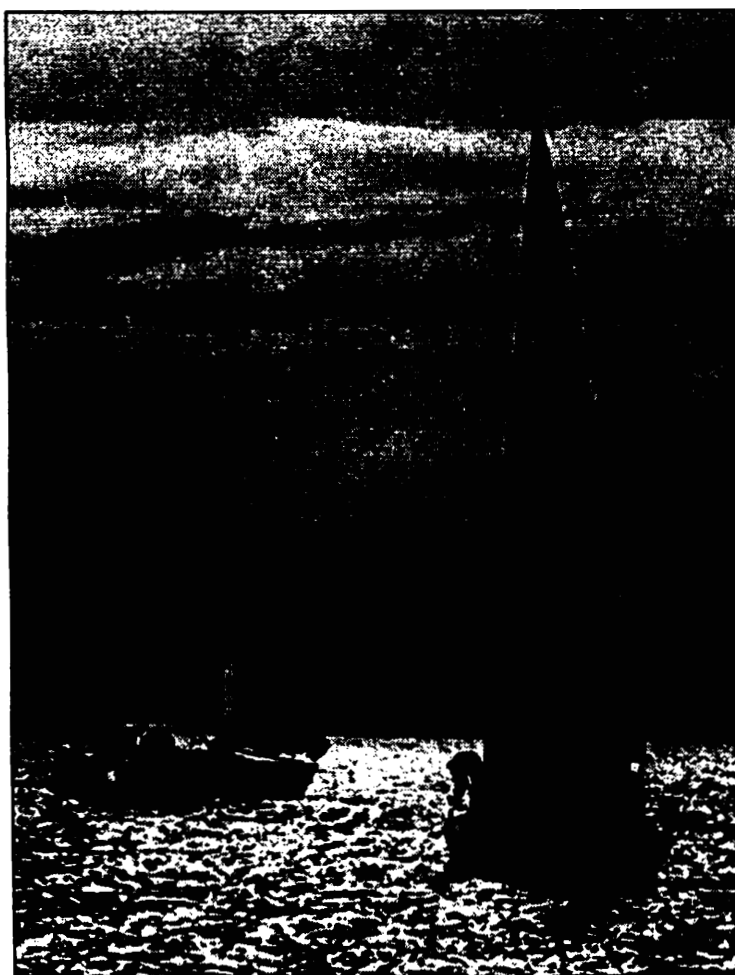


Photo by Heidi Larsson

Sail boats can be seen in the marina.

# Nutrition key to students' success

Studies show that well-balanced diet increases alertness, productivity

By Jenny Mitchell  
Staff Reporter

Student Maria Taylor had the typical fat-inducing diet. She, like many other students, didn't care and thought of her diet as being the least of her worries. Her diet consisted of already prepared meals like fast foods, t.v. dinners, and candy bars.

"I didn't have the time or the money, and fast food was just convenient," said Taylor.

Experts say a diet like Taylor's could affect performances in school or work. Brain function can change when eating isn't normal.

Students should have the right balance of foods to do optimally on their exams, according to the book *Nutrition Concepts and Controversies* by Frances Sizer and Eleanor Whitely.

Any calorie-restricting diets can influence brain chemistry.

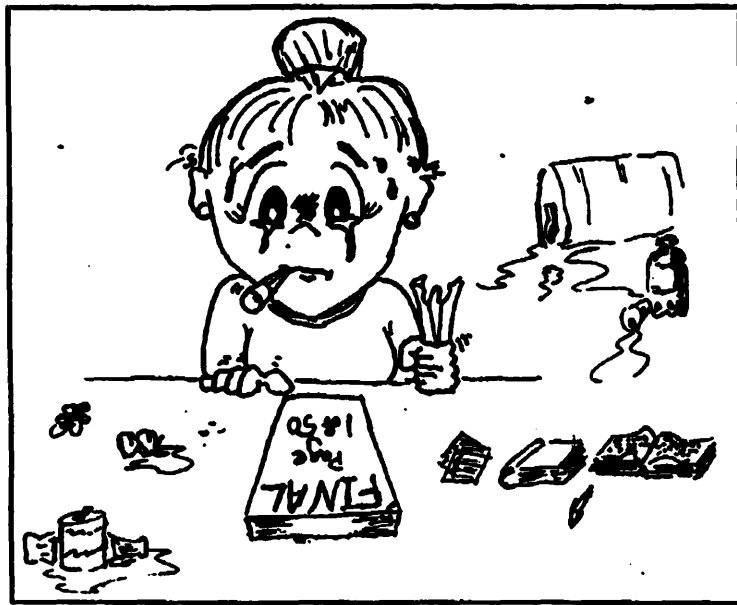


Illustration by Jeff Markley

People on low-carbohydrate diets are easily distracted from tasks requiring vigilance and have slower reaction times. They also score lower on memory tests than at times of normal eating.

Brain and nerve cells only use calories from important carbohydrates, said Tracy Brigham, Highline's health and fitness instructor and track and cross-country coach.

Many people report feeling

relaxed, peaceful, and sleepy after using some types of diets. These types of diets usually consist of high carbs and low protein or low carbs and high protein.

These diets can lead to fatigue and depression. A person feeling tired and depressed may have a difficult time concentrating on his or her studies.

"During starvation periods the body has to use protein, taking away from many other func-

tions," said Brigham. Protein is important for the use of fluid balance. It keeps the body from becoming dehydrated. Dehydration causes confusion, so students should drink plenty of fluids before tests and avoid caffeine because caffeine is a diuretic.

"Carbohydrates such as whole grains and veggies give the body long-term energy needed," said Brigham. Carbohydrates are a form of energy and sweet sugary foods don't give enough long-term energy. So it's a good idea to skip the donuts and go for something more wholesome, like cereal.

People need "good balanced meals with whole natural foods, low on processed foods and that are low in fat, sugar, caffeine, alcohol, and sodium," said Brigham.

An example of a good balanced meal would be a veggie salad with a low-fat protein source like tuna or turkey. Fish is also a great meal because the oil found in the fish has shown to reduce aggression in college students under the stress of finals.

Snacking while you study is also beneficial. Researchers say

that people who ate a snack during a learning task exhibit better recall later than when no snack was eaten.

"Exercise is good the day of or before tests because it helps harness nervous energy and it increases concentration," said Brigham.

Exercise would be most helpful for those students who have a lot of anxiety before speeches.

Researchers say the foods we eat can affect our mind and memory, and therefore people should spend more time choosing healthier alternatives.

The extra time spent could pay off in not only grades but an overall well-being.

Although Taylor has the on-the-go diet, she says she now tries to spend more time seeking out healthier foods.

She says it makes her feel better by giving her more healthy energy.

She says it's hard to find healthier foods at first, but soon you get into a pattern.

"I never skip breakfast now and when I snack it consists of fruits or power bars and my meals are usually complete," said Taylor.

## Chatting will bridge cultural exchanges to Highline

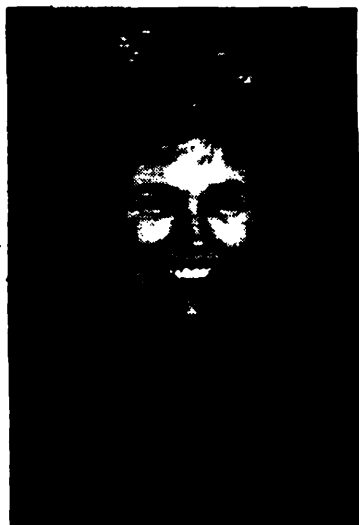
By Ryutaro Hiroshige  
Staff Reporter

A new program on campus is helping both international students and American people to get to know each other better.

The Conversation Pal program was created by the International Students Program to increase opportunities for communication between international students, instructors, staff, and members of the community. It helps the students who haven't had a chance to talk with either international students or native English speakers.

This program doesn't have a long history. It was launched in Summer Quarter with 15 pairs. This quarter, around 35 pairs are participating. International students and American people apply to be conversation pals, and International Students office helps choose partners.

There is no limit for the number of people who want to participate, although people have to pay attention to its deadline. Applications for next quarter are due by Jan. 13, 2000. People can turn in the application either at the International Students office in Building 6, or at the Conversational Pal program application drop box in Building 8.



Vickie Ropp

Once participants are paired up, they have a conversation at least one time in a week whenever they want to meet, such as the cafeteria, library, or even outside of the campus.

Having a live conversation is different from learning English in class. International students can learn daily phrases, like slang.

"To improve my English and to speak like an American accent is my purpose through this program," said Mohamed Umer, an international student from India.

Meeting with international students allows native English speakers to have enough time to

focus on taking care of their English skills. There are also benefits for native English speakers. Vickie Ropp, a speech instructor and Umer's partner, said that she wanted to learn about culture from people who live there.

"Talking with Umer has helped me better understand the learning process for people from other cultures," Ropp said. The International Students Office also organizes social events for participants.

"By having these activities, people can get to see other conversation partners, so the main point of having these two activities is that to get to know other partners. They will find out other aspects of nationalities," said Mariko Fujiwara, assistant director of the International Students Program.

On the other hand, there are difficulties for conversational pals. For instance, some of the conversation pals don't show up on time, or there is difficulty to talk with each other because of their different levels in English.

However, international students are starting to establish confidence in improving their conversation skills in English. "I could get rid of my shyness to talk with people in English," Umer said.

By Tyler Barton  
Staff Reporter

Twenty more computers are going in the library for instructional sessions and student use.

The far southeast wall is being remodeled to accommodate new computers, tables, and carpeting.

The reference librarian, Karen Fernandez, is heading the project.

The goal is to set up a space with enough computers to teach groups of new students how the library works, and about some of its resources, said Fernandez.

The computers are being handed down from another computer lab at the college that is getting new computers.

The library currently has about 30 computers that frequently block up with the number of students using them in the morning.

The new computers going in will bring the total to 50, and will hopefully open up some more space for students.

"It's well over \$100,000," said Fernandez of the project's cost.

The project is a lot of work and will take a considerable amount of time. "We are hoping early Winter Quarter," said

## Library to get twenty new computers

**"It's [The project costs] well over \$100,000."**

--Karen Fernandez

Fernandez.

The majority of work will consist of wiring for the computers.

The furniture is being custom made to fit the computers better than what is currently being used.

If the library gets more funding there will also be an accordion sliding wall that can be closed to keep out some of the noise.

In order to get the space for the new computers, the government documents have been taken out and moved to the fourth floor.

This project will make library workshops much easier to conduct and more efficient, Fernandez said.

In the past, students had to sit on the floor and watch a projection screen on the wall.

Now students will have the opportunity for hands-on learning, she said.



## City

continued from page A1

kids."

Parks and Recreation is another department facing major funding cuts. Praise for this department was expressed by Brad Wagner, a local business owner.

"The people in the Parks Department are the kind of people you want to hold on to," said Wagner. "They are valuable people and we need to keep them."

The money that has been designated for a new sports center is now at risk. If this money is used elsewhere by the council, other matching funds will be removed as well. Many spoke up fearing those consequences.

The Senior Center falls under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department. Many people voiced their fears over reduced services for the elderly. One speaker said the Senior Center is essential to the physical and mental health of the community.

Only a couple people offered

suggestions as to what should be done. Don Riecks, a local resident, was one of the few.

"Raise the cost of building permits," said Riecks. "Reduce the travel budget for staff and council, cut some of the perks. Go slow on hiring consultants, decide if you're going to do the project first."

Two people suggested using the money delegated to fight the third runway. They stated that the money could be put to better use.

Only one citizen voiced his opinion that the state should be held accountable.

John Carol, a Huntington Park resident, asked the council to be visionary on their decisions.

The mayor encouraged the audience to also give their comments in writing.

"We get a ton of mail but we read it and consider it all," said Thomasson.

City Hall's address is 21360 11th Ave. S. For more information their phone number is 206-878-4595.

## Center

continued from page A1

centers that have been built in other colleges and then use the information to present to the Board of Trustees, Executive Board of Directors and Highline administration in respect to Highline's project.

"In March we are going to look at our donors and establish timelines," McKay said.

Meanwhile, next week the Foundation is going to kick off a new Exceptional Faculty Awards campaign, which will require \$100,000 in two years, an additional \$50,000 a year to the typi-

cal \$150,000 that the Foundation raises annually. If the Foundation does take on the student center project, it will go over \$500,000 a year. It has never raised this kind of money before.

McKay is excited about the project, however, and thinks that the new student center is necessary since the number of students at Highline exceeds the amount the old center was designed for by almost five times.

"I was a student here myself and my mom was working in the cafeteria. I would like to leave a new student center as a part of my heritage," McKay said.

## Cheat

continued from page 1

ing it will definitely get in trouble, said Kaddie Lawrence, biology instructor.

Some students are concerned that in the meantime, "Instructors need to come out with a new way to grade until they solve the problem with the scantron," said student Kamisha Turner.

However, technicians at

Scantron say that it's not their problem. "Instructors should be able to notice anything wrong on the timer track," said a technician for Scantron in Nebraska.

As finals get closer, students might see this as an alternative to earning a good grade.

But, this will not bring any good, reading instructor Eena Hibbs said. "I wouldn't give them a second chance," she said. "On a test I would drop them out of the class. Cheating is illegal."

## HELP WANTED

The Thunderword needs a photo editor for Winter Quarter. Paid position; lots of work. Must have transportation, 35mm camera, darkroom experience. Please apply at the Thunderword office in 10-106. Here's a hint: Bring samples of your work.

## Anderson returns to Highline

By David Froyalde  
Staff Reporter

It may have taken about eight years, but Margo Anderson has come back to Highline.

Anderson is the college's new director of Human Resources, replacing Sue Williamson, who is now dean of Extended Learning.

From 1989 to 1991, Anderson worked at Highline as the payroll manager in the personnel department. She then left to become the director of personnel at Renton Technical College for eight years. She resumed her Highline career starting Nov. 1.

Returning to Highline was a very difficult decision for Anderson to make. A bigger college, bigger challenges, along with being closer to her Federal Way home were all contributing factors in Anderson's choice.

"It was very hard to leave there (Renton Tech). I will miss a lot of good friends," said Anderson.

The atmosphere around Highline is a lot different from that of technical colleges. Unlike the diverse student population here, the students are more of a "smaller knit group."

Anderson anticipates that the closeness and teamwork she experienced at Renton Tech will

happen here as well. Although each is different, she enjoys working in both community and technical colleges.

"Both systems have an important function in the education system," said Anderson.

Some of the work done by the staff of Human Resources includes hiring, designing a correct payroll, and giving appropriate employee benefits.

Lately, it has been a very hectic period for them, dealing with big projects and "attorney types of things." She declined to elaborate.

Although it is busy, Anderson likes the challenge. Anderson feels there are more responsibilities here. She hopes for continuing patience from the staff as she learns more about her new job.

Anderson is a native of Washington who graduated from Stadium High School in Tacoma. She comes across as a kind-hearted, sensitive person.

In her spare time, Anderson enjoys reading and spending time with her family. She also likes traveling and has already started thinking about picking

some future travel destinations.

"I would like to visit Australia, somewhere I have never been before, after I retire," said Anderson.

Upon returning to Highline, Anderson has noticed that the school has "come a long way." She recalled that the Technology Building 30 had just started undergoing the building process when she was last here.

One of the new programs Anderson likes is the Running Start program. Had this opportunity been given before, she would have sent her own kids through this program.

"It is (Running Start) great to give (high school) students a head start in their college years," said Anderson.

Because this has been a very busy time for Anderson, she hasn't had a chance to visit the different departments and meet a lot of the students.

"I haven't had much chance to get around but I really hope to," said Anderson.

Anderson hopes to learn her job well and be able to effectively help the Highline community. However, she said she is still too new to have too many goals. Anderson hopes to remain at Highline until she decides it is time to retire.

"I'm planning to make Highline a long-term home," said Anderson.



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