

# Thunderword

volume 42, issue 28

Highline Community College

Photo by Melissa Flesch

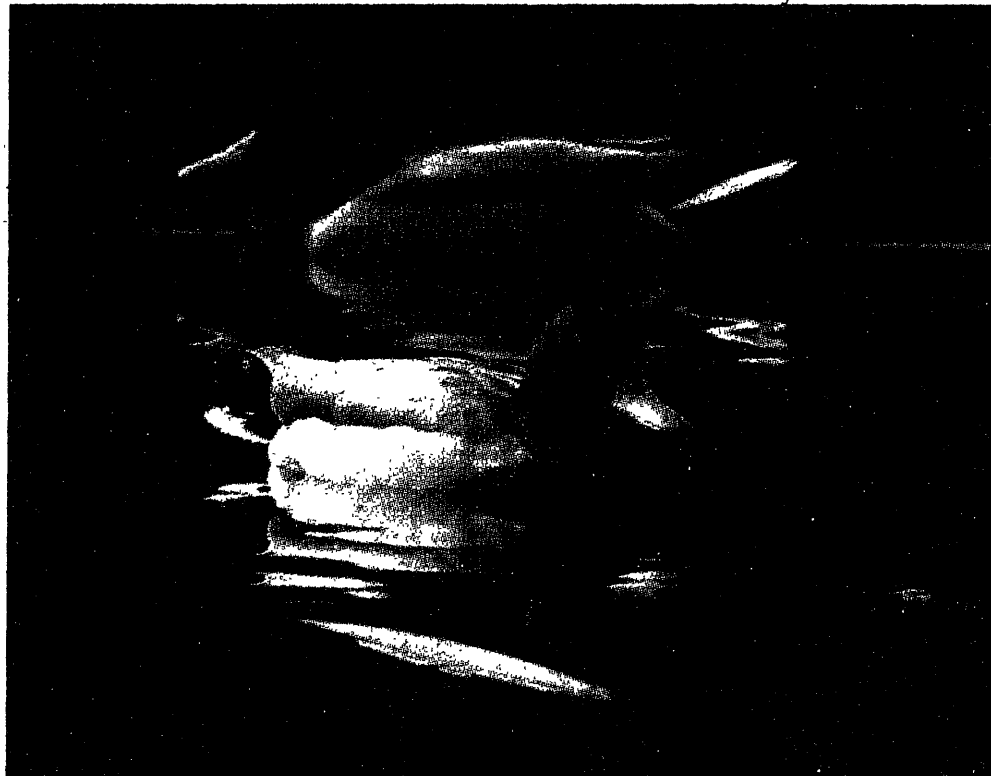


Photo by Lauren Polenske



## Wild times at the pond

Warm weather brings out wildlife around the pond at the west end of campus. Mallards, above, cruise the pond and snag the occasional morsel. A red-winged

black bird surveys the scene. A rhododendron shows it's full blossom. A weasel, bottom right, finds a ready meal in a mouse. See story, page A23.



Photo by Adrienne Hughes



Photo by Melissa Flesch



Photo by Melissa Flesch

## Limited space at grads ceremony

By AMBER TRILLO  
Staff Reporter

As many as 100 Highline students will not be able to share their graduation ceremony with family and friends this year as officials plan to strictly enforce a ticket-required policy.

"The building [pavilion] was designed to be a gym, so when there is an assembly such as graduation there must be a seating chart and for safety reasons only a certain number of people may attend," said Chief Ron Biesold from King County Fire District 26, which serves the Des Moines area.

During past events people without tickets have been allowed to stay as long as there was standing room, sometimes filling the pavilion with more than 2,400 guests.

This year changes have been made to the number of guests allowed.

By request of Fire District Officials a licensed architect recently assessed the pavilion and determined that to comply with safety standards only 2,170 tickets would be distributed.

Biesold said that while there may be physical standing room for more people than are being allowed to attend this year, the real danger arises from the number of exits and evacuation procedures.

Biesold plans to be present at graduation to personally overlook the event and assure that the ticket-required policy is in effect.

The deadline for graduates to confirm their participation in the commencement ceremony was May 20 and as of that date the

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Tom's World comic.  
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Junki Yoshida to speak  
at commencement.  
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## Crime Blotter for May 29 to June 4

### Runner's daddy asked to go home

Security was called on a man who refused to exit the testing center where his daughter was taking the Compass test on May 29.

He was talking to and standing over his daughter, who was applying for Running Start. When a testing center staff member told the man that he was disturbing other test takers and would have to leave, he grunted.

He argued with the staff member that since his daughter was underage, he had the right to stand over her.

The man apologized when security came to resolve the situation by saying that he was only a concerned and worried

### Hit and run in occurs in East Lot father.

A student's 1991 Pontiac Grand Am was hit on the passenger side rear panel between 4:45 and 5:45 p.m. on May 29.

The car was parked in the east parking lot.

The Des Moines Police Department was contacted but the party who hit the Pontiac was nowhere to be found.

### Owie sends two- year-old home

A two-year-old child was pushing a toy truck when he fell and injured his forehead on cement while in childcare on May 29 at 1 p.m.

His grandmother arrived to take him home.

### Graffiti found in north parking lot

Someone sprayed graffiti on the gate of the north parking lot on May 28.

## Richter scale kills people

Dr. Eric Baer  
speaks on the  
inadequacies of  
the Richter Scale

BY RACHEL PLATT  
Staff Reporter

Highline geology professor, Dr. Eric Baer shook things up during the last Science Seminar of the quarter last Friday.

The lecture "How Big was that Earthquake" discussed the history and problems of using of the Richter scale and alternative methods of deciphering seismic waves.

An earthquake is caused by the release of stress accumulated along geologic faults. The stress is released in waves. It is when these waves reach the earth's surface that people experience the shaking associated with an earthquake.

The Richter magnitude is determined by the amount of shaking of the largest wave at 100 kilometers, using one particular seismogram said Baer.



Baer

"It's a logarithm," said Baer. "For each increase of one, the shaking increases by a factor of 10 and the energy released increases by a factor of 30."

"The biggest problem with the Richter scale is that people don't understand it," said Baer. "Not only do they not understand it but they underestimate it."

Baer also explained that a problem with the Richter Scale is that it only measures one wave.

"It's like taking a C note from an oboe from a symphony and saying, 'Oh great symphony,'" said Baer. "There are numerous other ways of explaining an earthquake."

Some of these methods include the body wave magnitude, surface wave magnitude, moment magnitude, and Mercalli intensity scale.

The Mercalli intensity scale is a method of measuring an earthquake by the destructiveness that ensues after the earthquake has passed.

The system uses a scale of Roman numeral numbers ranging from one to 12 which provides the entire range of the areas effected by the earthquake.

Baer is a strong advocate of the Mercalli scale because it deals with issues that people care about after an earthquake,



Photo by Connie Bradley

Highline professor, Dr. Eric Baer, was up in arms about how the American public underestimates the Richter Scale.

such as where people are hurt and where property has been damaged.

By using the Mercalli intensity scale medical crews can be dispatched to areas where medical need is more prevalent said Baer.

Baer went on to explain how when students in his classes are asked to explain the difference in movement between a Richter scale 6 earthquake as opposed to an 8, students often underesti-

mate ground shaking.

"Each increase in one point is 10 times more shaking, so in a magnitude 8 earthquake you will be about 30 feet," said Baer

Baer also highlighted how the Richter scale was originally created in southern California to measure local earthquakes and that its creator Charles F. Richter didn't even like it.

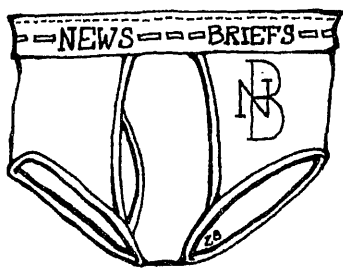
"It is supposed to be measured at 100 kilometers, but that almost never happens and there is not a good correction," said Baer.

Baer continued by telling the audience that since the media reflects the public what they want to hear that they as informed citizens, should tell the media they want the Mercalli system.

"The next time we have an earthquake you should all call up the news and ask them what the Mercalli rating was," said Baer.

**"The biggest  
problem with the  
Richter scale is that  
people don't  
understand it."**

**-Dr. Eric Baer  
Geology professor**



### Highline trustee takes top honor

J. Michael Emerson, a Highline trustee since 1996, has been selected by Washington's Trustee's Association of Community and Technical Colleges for its highest honor, "Trustee of the Year."

### Fall 2003 T-Word staff determined

Victoria Anthony will be The Thunderword's Editor-in-Chief Fall Quarter.

Another named Ben Johnston Managing Editor, Jordan Goddard as Graphics Editor, Melissa Flesch as Photo Editor, Colette Wood as Arts Editor, Amber Trillo as Opinion Editor, Dustin Nickerson as Sports Editor, and Lauren Polenske as Advertising Manager.

Positions for News Editor and Business Manager have yet to be filled.

### Volunteers needed for graduation

Six to eight people are needed to help with this year's graduation.

Responsibilities of the volunteers will be to help pour punch and serve cookies to graduates and their families after commencement which occurs June 12.

Volunteers will need to be

committed to help from 7 - 10 p.m.

For more information contact Carol Helgerson at 206-878-3710, ext. 3777.

### Testing center extends hours

The Testing Center has added nine hours to their schedule during finals week, for the convenience of teachers and students on campus.

The center will, however, be closed on Thursday, June 12 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

### Women's forum slated for June 12

A women's breakfast forum entitled Courageous Business Strategies is set to occur on June 12 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

The forum will feature guest

speaker Brenda Sol who will discuss how to move from fear to action in three simple steps.

The forum will be located at the Federal Way Campus at 33320 First Way S. Call 253-943-4000 to register to attend.

### Let them eat at the finished tent

The tent will be officially opened for service June 9. Hours of operation will be from 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

In the meantime, the limited sandwich/salad service will continue outside of Building 6, next to the coffee cart.

### Reserve your luncheon seat

Reservations are due June 5 for the Faculty and Staff Spring Luncheon on June 12, in Building 7 at 11:30 a.m.

## Saucy success

Highline alumnus Junki Yoshida to reveal his recipe for success at commencement

By SYREETA BERNAL  
Staff Reporter

After leaving Highline nearly 20 years ago Junki Yoshida will be making a second appearance on campus next week for Highline's commencement ceremony.

Yoshida, a successful business tycoon and father of the famous Mr. Yoshida's Marinade and Cooking sauce, will be at Highline June 12 at 7:30 p.m. to speak for the 2002-2003 commencement ceremony.

When Yoshida speaks he appears to be an amazing man with an abundance of energy and a sense of enthusiasm that oozes from his pores.

"It's all because of what happened when I first came to Highline," says Yoshida. "Highline Community College changed my life."

Yoshida was born in Kyoto, Japan on Dec. 7, 1949. When he was 19 he defied his parents by making the drastic life decision of moving to Seattle to better his life and lift his economic status.

Yoshida arrived to Seattle in a movieesque manner, knowing only the basics of the English and carrying only \$500 in his pocket.

Upon arrival Yoshida made the choice not to return home and cashed in his return ticket

and with the money bought a Plymouth Valiant, which became his makeshift home for the next several months.

Through his turbulent beginnings in America, Yoshida attributes much of his success to the life lessons he learned at Highline.

"It's because of the power found on Highline's campus that helped me succeed," Yoshida said.

While Yoshida attended Highline he taught Karate classes and he was involved with the Washington Criminal Justice Systems as a self-defense teacher as well as being an English student.

And while academics played an important role during his time at Highline some of the things Yoshida remembers most about the campus are his relationships with faculty members.

"On Highline's campus there

**"It's because of the power found on Highline's campus that helped me succeed,"**

**-Junki Yoshida, Highline alumnus**

aren't just educational relationships, but personal relationships also," Yoshida said. "Every professor treated me like a valuable person."

However, his relationship with Chic Sandifer (a former Highline professor) stands out in particular for Yoshida.

"When I signed up for Chic Sandifer's English class, he told me to withdraw, because my English was terrible," Yoshida said.

Faced with another challenge because of his speaking skills, Yoshida moved forward.

"Today I thank Mr. Sandifer because although we got off to a rocky start we now have become really good friends," Yoshida said. "Dr. Sandifer helped me with my English and then he was my best man in my wedding."

But a relationship with Sandifer was not the only bond that was made for Yoshida at Highline. He also met his wife here during his stint on campus.

"I met my wife at Highline and that is also where I started the best years of my life," Yoshida said.

When Yoshida first decided almost 20 years ago to sell a sauce that had been a family recipe for over 60 years he had no idea that he had made a life-changing decision.

However, after making the



Junki Yoshida, Highline alumnus, has become successful by working his way into the stomachs of many.

business decision, Yoshida has accomplished very big things.

"I think people need to know how to build relationships, because a business start with true relationships," Yoshida said.

It would be smart to listen to a man who after all his experiences and hard work now has established a powerful conglomerate of 27 diverse companies. These companies have over more than 300 employees under the Yoshida Group umbrella, generating an annual revenue of more than \$180 million.

The most recent move for

Yoshida was after careful consideration, he sold the name and distribution rights for the Yoshida line of sauces in North America to Heinz USA.

Although Yoshida is a very powerful man and has lived the American dream he still has fears of coming back to the wonderful Highline campus.

"I have a very deep, deep emotional feeling about coming back," Yoshida said. "I've been all over the world speaking about my life and my business and this is the only one that is making me nervous."

## Highline students help troubled teens

By LATASHA HARLEY  
Staff Reporter

Highline students are mentoring Kent Junior High school students who are in jeopardy of being kicked out of school.

"I started mentoring at KJH, because when I was growing up I was in the same predicament as some of the students," said Dave Lucas, Highline student. "No one helped me and I wanted to make a positive difference in someone else's life."

The mentoring program was designed for students who are disruptive in class and defy teacher instructions. Highline



Greenfield

mentors are put into place in order to facilitate Kent Junior High students with developing

social, moral, and academic goals.

Rod Butler, a former student here at Highline and disciplinary specialist at KJH, asked Derek Greenfield, sociology professor, to design a program to turn the situation around.

"A significant number of KJH students are seriously underperforming academically and engaging in self destructive behavior," said Greenfield. "We are joining in an effort to help these young men and women empower themselves with the attitude and behavior necessary for success."

Ricky Newton is now currently teaching the alternative

program at KJH in which the majority of students receive mentoring from Highline students. Newton has taught students with disciplinary problems for eight years, so by having the mentoring program at KJH it provides students with the opportunity to view positive role models.

"Having mentors who are in the same age range as the KJH students helps them make connections with the students, as opposed to a 35-year-old person," said Newton. "KJH students also learn positive activities from Highline students, such as what they do outside of school, what degrees they are

obtaining and how to relate to negative situations in a positive manner."

This quarter has been a challenging quarter for Greenfield and Highline mentor students, since this quarter is the first in implementing the mentor program at the junior high.

The mentoring program was originally established for young males who did not have positive male role models in their lives. Having male volunteers from Highline participate in the program allowed KJH males the

See Mentor page A24



**Julia Retzloff, Tom DesLongchamp.**  
**Pho.....Kelley Riggio**  
**Advertising.....Julianna D'Angelo,**  
**Kanebra McMillon, Lyudmila Voznyarskaya.**  
**Adviser.....Dr. T.M. Sell**  
**Newsline.....206-878-3710 ext. 3318**  
**Fax .....206-870-3771**  
**Address..P.O. Box 98000, Des Moines,**  
**WA 98198 Building 10-106**  
**Advertising..206-878-3710 ext. 3291**  
**Email.....thunderword@highline.edu**





## How many roads must a man go down

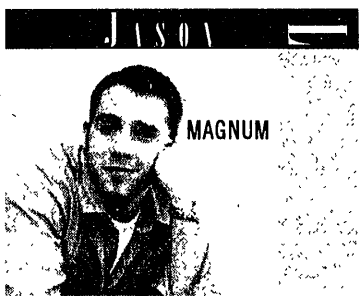
My educational experience can only be properly referred to as a long and arduous journey.

I first stepped onto the Highline campus in 1998, as a Running Start student. Ignorant of any perspective of reality and personal responsibility, I began taking interesting classes that satisfied my high school requirements but turned out to be completely useless toward attaining an A.A.

After I graduated high school, I spent the next four years at three different schools, including one in another state.

During this journey, I tried to figure out what I wanted to do with my life and spent a considerable time trying out new things and gaining experience in the fields I might be interested in before I committed to an area of study.

I had seen many of my friends spend an unreal amount of money on an education they



could not use four years later because they had no desire to pursue their chosen field of study. I was committed not to be one of these people.

I had always known that I was interested in law and politics. But I was not sure what I wanted to do within this very broad field. After high school, I began to get involved in local political campaigns, sometimes as paid field staff and other times as a volunteer, and began to rub elbows with those in the political and legal arena.

After some time and consid-

erable effort I managed to get a job that allowed me to explore many different aspects of both the legal and political community. That allowed me to get a sneak peak into my possible career interests.

Though the job took my time away so that I could not attend school, I gained irreplaceable experience in my potential field of study and career.

For two years, I was exposed to a plethora of choices and perspectives in law and politics. I quickly began making a list of things I did and most importantly, did not want to do.

After many heartaches, multiple failures and dead-ends, I gained a cleared vision of what my life pursuit was to become. I decided to return to Highline and finish my A.A. with the helpful advice of key professors whom I had stayed in contact with during my absence.

I now have full confidence in

the choices I am making in my academic pursuit and am not scared to take risks, economically or socially.

And that is the beauty of the community college. I was given the opportunity to fiddle around, make mistakes, and finally figure out what I wanted to do without ruining my chances of success in my academic future. No matter what detours I took, I could always come back and work on the first two years of my degree.

Highline has had a very large role in the sculpting of my life and academic career by serving as a building block for many other avenues of growth. What started out as merely a means to an end, has turned out to be one of the most influential pieces of my own personal puzzle.

I am now graduating and will be leaving the Highline campus. I am sure I will look back with gratitude that I got the chance to

study here in Des Moines.

I can honestly credit my eventual success here at Highline to my decision to get involved on campus. My suggestion is to find something you enjoy on campus and get involved. I will also never take for granted the lessons I have learned from many of the instructors here.

Take the time to get to know them and ask questions. Most instructors have faced the same challenges as you and have a perspective that can aid you in your own journey.

The most important lesson I have learned over the last several years is that your education really is not a race.

Going in the wrong direction fast is just as bad, if not worse, than standing idle. So, be sure of the direction you are going and have some fun along the way.

*Jason is available at reasonable rates.*

## My so-called life at Highline

"So please take out your scantrons and answer problems one through ten."

It was Fall Quarter of 2000, I was a 16-year-old home-schooled Running Start student, sitting in Biology 101, about to take my first test - and I didn't know what a scantron was. I looked around the room at the other students; everyone was calm and appeared to be taking out slips of paper covered with green markings - totally foreign to me.

I looked up at my instructor, Gina Erickson.

"Umm, Mrs. Erickson, um, I'm not really sure what a scantron is," I said, trying not to look as close to tears as I felt.

The look on her face was one I will never forget: a look of pity mixed with compassion and a touch of humor. Welcome to Highline.

Two years later, I've finally gotten the hang of not only the whole scantron thing but a few other details as well, and in just a couple weeks I will graduate from both high school and



Highline, with honors to boot.

Fact is, I realize there are some Running Start students who don't deserve to be here. I won't name names; you know who you are. But then there are the rest. Students who are escaping the swarming hallways of their high schools in the hopes of a more focused education.

People experience culture shock when moving from one country to another, and moving from the pacifying environment of high school to the unaided atmosphere of college is no less of a shock.

Let me point out that I did not experience this transition directly. The culture shock I experienced was of a different na-

ture (that of moving from my living room couch to a college classroom), but it is the experience of many of my friends and definitely not an uncommon one.

All of that said, the transition is not earth-shattering. You get used to buying textbooks and eventually you even adjust to being responsible for getting yourself to class on time.

The hard thing to get past is the stigma of being a Running Start student. Despite how that may sound, I'm not trying to claim victim status here.

I don't blame people who stigmatize, but it is frustrating to be stereotyped as an irresponsible slacker when that's not who you are. Self discipline and personal responsibility are not acquired exclusively through age.

The fact that someone is Running Start does not mean they are going to be any less adept at pulling off college successfully. It's also wise to keep in mind that no one will usually notice a Running Start student

unless they happen to be particularly annoying; most of the time you probably aren't even aware of how many dutiful Running Start students surround you.

Unless, of course, they happen to look fairly young (maybe I'll appreciate that when I'm older): In this instance it automatically becomes acceptable to approach this undersized individual with the blunt greeting:

"Wow, you look like your about 12! What are you doing in college?"

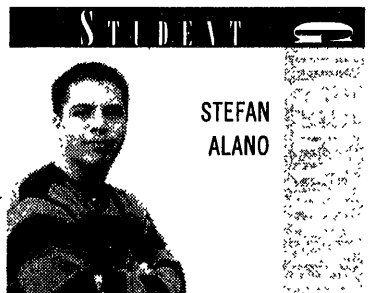
Though I am excited to graduate and hopefully leave such comments behind me, I fear I have not reached the end of such encounters. Next fall at Western I will merely be the youngest junior in college, and if worse comes to worse it may not even end there. I can just see myself, graduated from Western and soon to be the youngest person in the unemployment office.

I don't know, maybe it's the pigtails.

Jess, it's not the pigtails.

## Student body president bids Highline adieu

With finals quickly approaching and the end of the 2002-2003 school year upon us, Student Government is hard at work.



I've had the opportunity to be a member of Student Government for the past two years, first as a senator and now as the president.

My personal involvement with this organization has been a real eye opening experience to all of the opportunities readily available on this campus. However, more importantly, I have discovered that many of these opportunities only avail themselves to those who actively seek them.

Prior to coming to Highline I had never obtained success in an academic environment and I often wonder what high school would have been like if I would have taken a more active role there too.

Fortunately for me, your past track record is not the basis for your ability to succeed today. I tell you this because I believe that the most important thing you can do while you are at Highline is to take control of your college experience.

If you don't know why you're here, figure it out. If you don't know where you're going, figure it out.

Trust me, investing time thinking about your goals and future will help pay dividends unequal to any other investment.

Take the time to push yourself to your limits so you know what they are, and then see if you can push yourself harder.

Judging from my experience at this school, it's the most valuable advice I can offer. Ultimately you are the only person who can determine how successful you will be.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as one of your elected representatives; it has been one of the most valuable experiences in my life.

Stefan Alano is the Student Government President.

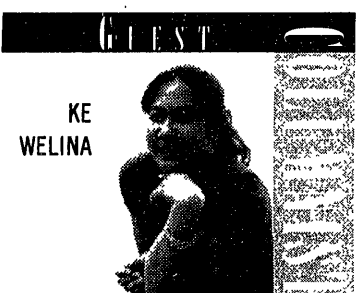
## Facing challenges and overcoming obstacles

**Editor's note:** This is a continuation of last week's column by Ke Welina about Native Americans.

Though my Uncle Albert faced adversity and discrimination throughout his life, thankfully he was not a statistic of Indians who have succumbed to the failures instilled within them.

With an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and hard work, he received his high school diploma while serving in the United States Marines. After his years in the service he enrolled at the University of Hawaii and received a bachelor's degree. He later went on and received many other degrees and licenses, including pilots license, masters of biblical studies, doctorate of divinity, contracting licenses, and many other of professional standing.

He now resides in California with his wife and child, maintaining active involvement with his tribe's operations. He is still a registered member and keeps politically active in elections and decisions. He leads a full life as a photographer, published poet and author, independent christian minister, contracting



advisor, scout leader, and teacher of reading and arts-n-crafts. His success points out that accomplishments for anyone are obtainable, even when life starts out with so many obstacles. No matter where his journey leads him, Uncle Albert never forgets his roots.

I believe before the United States tries to solve the world's problems, we should concentrate more attention on solving the problems we have here at home, especially to correct the ill treatment of the Native American Indians. We should not only apologize, but also restore their dignity by giving them better land parcels, or the help and means for their reservations to be brought up to descent conditions. The United States government should also provide money or facilities to upgrade their standards of liv-

ing, so that they can grow equally with the rest of our great nation.

As future businessmen and businesswomen we should educate ourselves and learn the different cultures of our future clients. We must know and respect the rules of their society and how it functions to be able to better communicate with them.

For example, in the Lakota tribe, a woman is very loyal and obedient to her spouse. She is the caretaker of the whole family. A man is the head of household, the protector and provider of his family. When he does not have viable means, the whole family suffers, physically and emotionally. We must realize that in many cultures we should approach the men first because of historical cultural influences.

Culturally, it is very important that the family problems stay secretive and that they be resolved without outside assistance. This ancient cultural method has not been successful in modern times, as shown with the many drug and alcohol problems and highest suicidal rates.

When I become a social worker I do want to be culturally aware of my future clients

to be an effective counselor. Only with knowledge of past cultural affects, can we be truly effective. This is my choice; to be effective, I must be culturally aware of those from different backgrounds.

Finally, I would like you to ponder over this powerful message that was given by my cousin, Harry Lehua Kamoku, as he talked to his workers due to the influx of immigrants from different countries.

"We are all brothers under the skin because when we bleed, we bleed the same color."

I am sharing this article because many of us are unaware of what the Native Americans endured and how we neglected them. Are we still neglecting them and other cultures? I hope by sharing this article that others from different cultures would share their experiences, culture, beliefs, and/or values so that we can learn from each other, and not learn about each other only through books. Thank you for sharing this article with your readers.

Ke is a student at High-line. For further studies on what's happening with local tribes, log onto [www.indiancountry.com](http://www.indiancountry.com)



The many faces of Tom: this is the process of one of DesLongchamp's oil self portraits from start to finish.

BY JESSICA FLESCH  
Staff Reporter

Dead fish swim with the current and Highline Running student Tom DesLongchamp is one fish who is definitely swimming upstream.

Eighteen-year-old DesLongchamp is the man behind the Thunderword comic *Tom's World*.

This bizarre comic has baffled Thunderword readers for close to two years now with miscellaneous characters, weird punch lines and mysterious meanings.

"My comic strips are weird because I want people to think.

I favor confusion more than an 'oh, that's cute' reaction," said DesLongchamp.

And confusion is the reaction most people experience.

DesLongchamp has enjoyed making *Tom's World* for the most part.

"Sometimes I have a lot of fun with it, but sometimes I get panicky," said DesLongchamp. "It's been a good experience though. When I look at all the comics I've made it's mind blowing."

DesLongchamp compared the experience of creating the comic to Tim Robbins' experience crawling through three football fields of crap in *Shawshank Redemption*.

"It's a slow, tedious process. Little by little you make your way."

In classic Andy Kauffman style, DesLongchamp aims for gut reactions.



"Some people enjoy just outright nonsense; I do," said DesLong-

champ. "Pretty much I'm just looking for real reactions."

DesLongchamp's goals

through his art are to get people thinking and to make people laugh.

"I want people to laugh and feel joy or to think and wonder, to ask questions. I

don't want to suggest an answer, I just want to ask the question," said DesLongchamp.

DesLongchamp expresses his art through a variety of media, including drawing, painting, sculpting, carving, photography and chalk.

Yes, you heard right, chalk. If you've ever wandered around on campus and seen chalk drawings on the sidewalk you can bet DesLongchamp was probably the culprit.

"Chalk is a quick, easy way to get attention and you don't get in trouble. It's a great way to leave messages and draw pictures, plus I've

made two good friends from doing it," said DesLongchamp.

DesLongchamp has been interested in art since he was a little kid.

"The first time I remember enjoying art was when I was two. I drew a picture of windows with arms and legs," ex-

plained DesLongchamp.

DesLongchamp recognizes other artists and

try to be myself and love people, I want to be the same person whoever I'm around," DesLongchamp said. "I don't want to be two-faced."

This is DesLongchamp's last quarter at Highline.

He has been accepted to Rhode Island School of Design and will begin classes this coming fall.

"Ya, I'm going to RISD to become a poor person," DesLongchamp said with a laugh. "And also a better artist and maybe when I'm

done I'll become a rich person."

After that DesLongchamp isn't sure what's in store for him.

"I don't think that far ahead," said DesLongchamp with an honest laugh. "If I could do anything and be successful I would be an animator/artist and I would live off my work, but I acknowledge that's very hard to do."

Currently DesLongchamp does free-lance animation work for assorted clients as well as host his website, and with over 110,000 visitors that's quite a job. DesLongchamp's website, *He Said Why Not*, is a place where you can get a glimpse of a lot more of his artistic creations, including his animation and even live action skits.

If you would like to view an archive of old *Tom's World* comics or would like to see more of his art, animation or weirdness, visit his website at [www.tomthinks.com](http://www.tomthinks.com).



music as primary inspirations for his art.

"Van Gogh is a big inspiration for me as well as other artists like Salvador Dali and Don Hertzfeldt," DesLongchamp said.

Van Gogh is DesLongchamp's favorite artist and one of his initial inspirations to develop his artistic talent.

"He has become my favorite artist and is a really big inspiration; we went to college together," said DesLongchamp in a serious tone.

"No, I'm just kidding," he clarified after a fit of suppressed laughter.

DesLongchamp said he is viewed by many people as very weird, and he has even encountered some who thought he was either on drugs or mentally unstable.

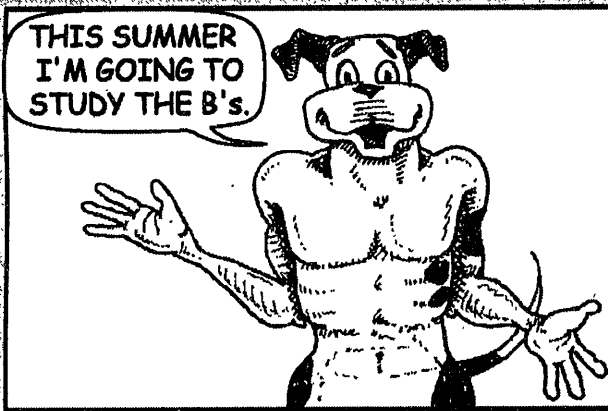
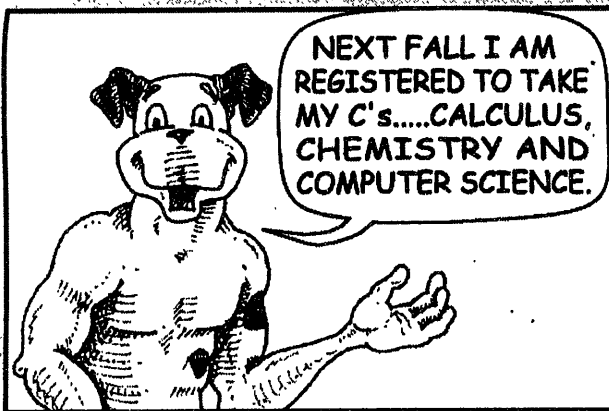
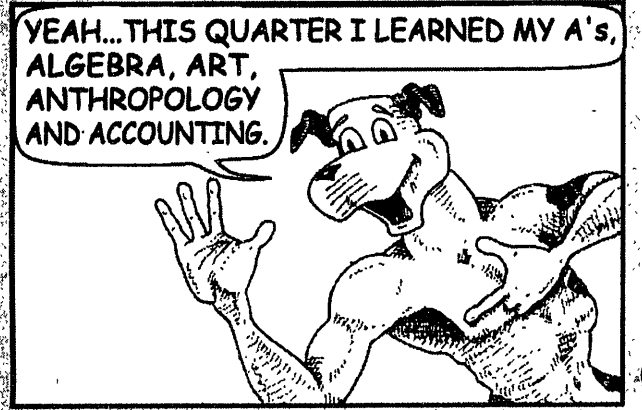
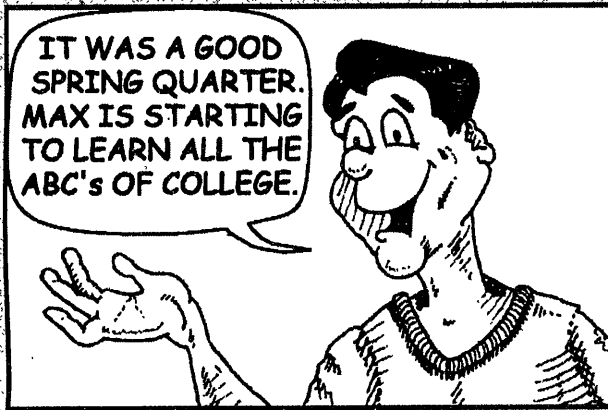
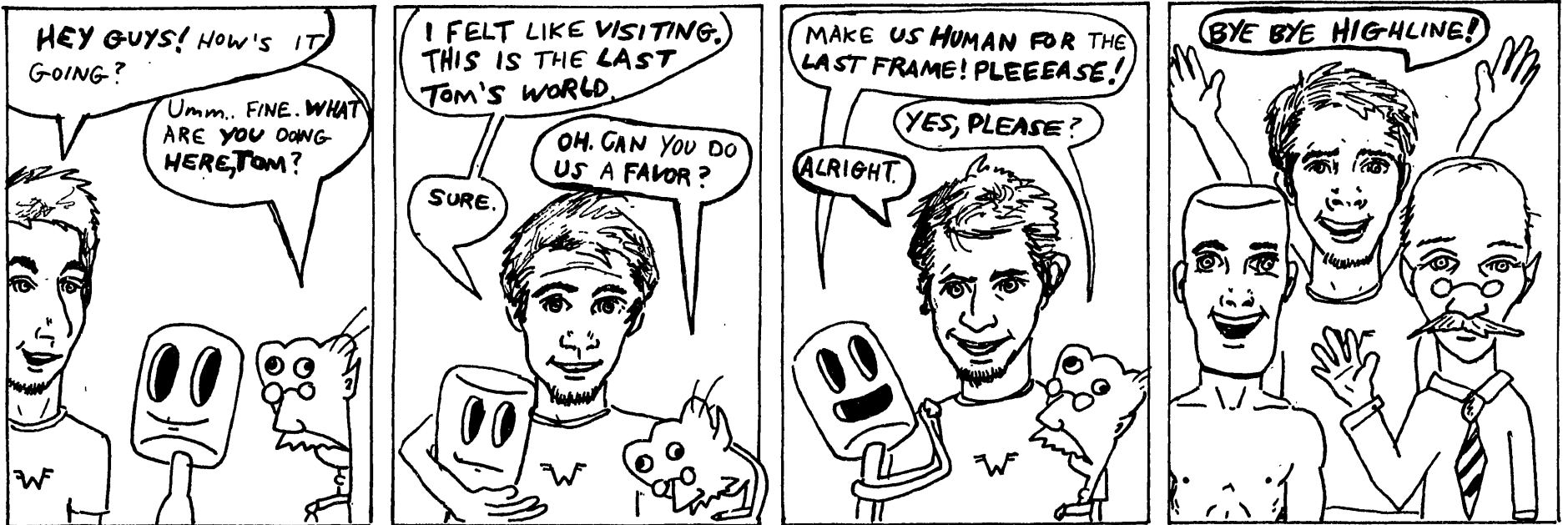
"I try not to worry about what other people think of me. I



# TOM'S WORLD

BY TOM DESLONGCHAMP  
TOMTHINKS.COM

I MADE THIS COMIC FOR 2 YEARS. I HOPE YOU ENJOYED IT. I HOPE IT WASN'T TOO CONFUSING. HAVE A MAGNIFICENT SUMMER. I WON'T BE BACK THIS FALL, SO HAVE A NICE LIFE TOO! Email Me: tomdeslongchamp@msn.com



## TV class finds lighthouse at end of tunnel

### KING-TV's Kevin Strehle aids video

BY STEPHEN THOMAS  
Staff Reporter

The TV production program here at Highline has spent all quarter producing a High definition, professional 40-minute educational video on the Dungeness lighthouse with help from KING-TV.

The program is taught by Kevin Strehle, who also is a top producer for KING-TV.

"Another instructor approached me about this project and asked me if my class would like to take part in producing this film," said Strehle. "I talked to my students about it and we



Kevin Strehle teaches the TV Production class.

decided as a class to do it." Students in the class are Jesse Furguson, Brenda Lindy, Nikki Bailly, Constance Braswell, Darrell Sawyer, and Walter

making this video is to show the students what it is like to produce a High definition, high quality, professional film.

"Making this video really

Wiedemen.

The video was really about what to do when working at the Dungeness lighthouse, things like how to give tours and also its historical significance.

The main reason for

helped me learn a lot about how to use a camera and how to produce, it was a really good experience for me," said student Walter Wiedemen. "Everything that I learned in this class will help me further my career in TV production."

The video took roughly 100 hours to make, a normal class is usually about 30 hours. The shoot alone took about 40 hours.

"These students really went above and beyond for this project," said Strehle.

The video is in its final phase of production right now and should be all done on Thursday, June 5 by 6 p.m.; check with media services about what building it will be shown in.

"Working with someone like Kevin as a teacher really shows his dedication, he put in many more hours for this video than were required," said Wiedemen.

Kevin Strehle has won 13 Emmy awards with KING 5 for production, writing, photographing, and editing and has been nominated for seven more for the upcoming Emmy awards on June 21. Strehle also produces a show called *Northwest Backroads*.

"The show profiles people, places, and things that make the Northwest unique," said Strehle.

The show airs Saturdays at 7 p.m.

"This class is a lot of fun, it's not your typical teacher-student relationship, and there isn't a lot of homework," said Strehle.

"This class is a great learning experience and students will have the opportunity to see parts of the Pacific Northwest that they probably wouldn't see otherwise."

# Music department expanding goals

BY JANA BOSLEY  
Staff Reporter

Highline's Music Department has done numerous events and expansions over the 2002-2003 school year, but there is still more to look forward to in the future.

"We have been working hard for the past few years to reach a professional standard of musicianship and performance quality," said Dr. Sandra Glover, Highline music professor.

The Music Department wants to grow in liberal arts education and surpass all goals that have been set for the department by the community and school. In the past year Highline's music faculty and students have begun to do that.

Since the beginning of Fall Quarter, there have been some new additions to the music department: The Highline Jazz Ensemble and Quartetto Domani.

At the start of Fall Quarter Highline student JC Hedberg organized the jazz ensemble from students who showed interest in playing jazz. Hedberg and the ensemble have gone on to play numerous student concerts in Building 8, the Foundation Gala, and much more.

Quartetto Domani is Highline's string quartet. The quartet consists of Highline students Michele Inklebarger and Amanda Kopcsak, both on the violin, cellist Andrew Stuard from Thomas Jefferson High School and violist Kathy Fleming from Green River Community College. The quartet recently held its first concert at Highline on May 22.

Besides the instrumental aspect of music, Highline's vocalists have done some new things as well.

This quarter Highline's College Choir is collaborating with South Seattle Community College Choir. This concert is titled A Night On Broadway because the choirs will be performing selections from Broadway musicals as well as traditional choral pieces. The joint choirs performed at Highline on June 4 and will be performing at South Seattle on June 8. The choir will also be performing at Commencement with a quartet singing the *Star Spangled Banner*.

Vocalists and instrumentalists also had the opportunity to team up this quarter.

Students from Glover's advanced voice class and the jazz ensemble put together a program of old jazz pieces from the '40s and '50s.

These students then went out into the community and performed their concert for seniors who were their age when these songs were written.

Glover hopes that because of all the success achieved in community outreach by the vocal program that they will be able to expand to several concerts like these per quarter in the future.

There have also been many concerts featuring Highline students involved in the Music Department.

There were two Outstanding Pianists concerts, class voice and piano recitals at the end of each quarter as well as graduating student recitals and faculty performances.

Soprano Faina Morozov had a recital in May and saxophonist JC Hedberg held her recital on Tuesday, June 3.

Glover recently was a part of the Three Teachers concert on June 1 in Building 7 to help raise scholarship money for Highline students.

"Over \$160 for scholarship

money was raised just from donation," said Glover.

The three teachers plan to rotate their series throughout the community in order to continue raising scholarship money.

The Highline Music Department hopes to continue with this same amount of stamina if not more next year.

"It will be a big year for major performances and recitals," said Dr. Sydney Stegall, Highline music professor. "We've got quite a few people who will be giving shared and or solo recitals." However, the department really won't know until the fall when students start arriving as to what to expect. They do know that they will be having master classes instructed by nationally recognized artists.

"We now have a musical studentry that are outstanding enough to benefit from a rigorous master class experience," said Glover.

The Music Department hopes to continue with the Quartetto Domani next year if all the members return to Highline. Sometime in the future Stegall would also like to see a piano trio, which consists of a pianist, violinist, and cellist.

Next year Glover also hopes to expand the choral work to include a small ensemble that is audition based because of the difficulty of the work.

While this summer the advanced voice students will be preparing small operatic scenes and stage rehearsal will begin in Fall Quarter.

The Music Department is not just limited to the more familiar aspects of music either.

"We're always on the look out for ethnic instruments too," Stegall said. "We're looking for ways to utilize the talents of international students and students who are recent immigrants."

Highline's Music Department has grown immensely over the past few years and is still working hard. The department is starting to see students transferring to universities and colleges that have outstanding music departments.

"People came to Highline because it was a place they could become established in," Glover said. "Students could get a jump start to other universities."

## Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

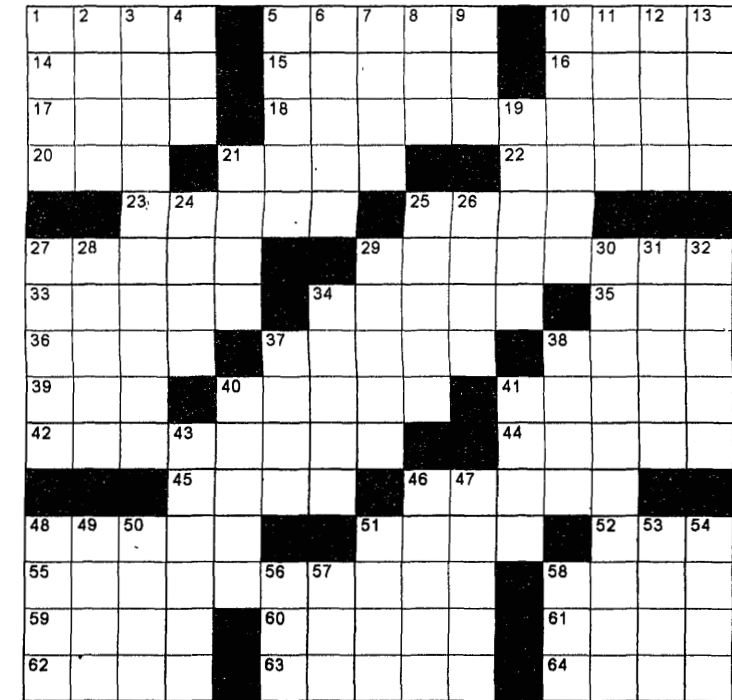
### Whatever Works !

#### Across

- 1 Barnyard Moms
- 5 King of Rock 'N Roll
- 10 Floor+ceiling+walls
- 14 Secret plan
- 15 Tractor man
- 16 Border
- 17 Very strange
- 18 Nectar deliverers
- 20 Kitchen aid
- 21 Fred & Wilma's pet
- 22 Alleviates
- 23 Scrutinizes quickly
- 25 Go without food
- 27 Walking
- 29 Judge's pronouncement
- 33 Crime syndicate
- 34 Family units
- 35 Long time
- 36 Kind of exam
- 37 Indifferent
- 38 Ernie's best friend
- 39 Cash register co.
- 40 The \_\_\_\_ Ernie's scary friend
- 41 Aromatic wood
- 42 Have smooth relations
- 44 Enthusiastic gathering
- 45 Tom Dooley, e.g.
- 46 Cell, e.g.
- 48 Follows black and check
- 51 Takeover
- 52 Existed
- 55 Under development
- 58 Gardener's need
- 59 Bamboozle
- 60 Succulent plants
- 61 Met treat
- 62 Assistant:Prefix
- 63 Informative
- 64 Card game

#### Down

- 1 Eject forcefully
- 2 Stick in the fridge
- 3 Paintings, e.g.
- 4 Eye infection



- 5 \_\_\_\_ Meese:Reagan A.G.
- 6 Trotsky & others
- 7 \_\_\_\_ Beach, FL
- 8 Gall
- 9 Bishop's diocese
- 10 Marketing gimmick
- 11 Poets' outputs
- 12 S-shape
- 13 Army chow
- 19 Takes a breather
- 21 Information
- 24 Roll of stamps
- 25 Banquet
- 26 \_\_\_\_ Hathaway:  
Shakespeare's wife
- 27 Amid
- 28 Comedy
- 29 Vernacular
- 30 Knitting, e.g.
- 31 Reef deposit
- 32 Bookkeeper's input
- 34 Held tightly
- 37 A timely benefit
- 38 Edible seed
- 40 Hollywood's Glenn
- 41 A short haircut

- 43 Respiratory disorder
- 46 Jabs
- 47 Loose woman
- 48 Speech defect
- 49 Early Peruvian
- 50 Box office favorite
- 51 Brag
- 53 China setting
- 54 Usher
- 56 Deficient in color
- 57 Matador's encouragement
- 58 Owns

#### Quotable Quote

There's no trick to being a humorist when you have the whole government working for you.

... Will Rogers

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

### CITY SEARCH

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By GFR Associates • PO Box 461 Schenectady, NY 12309 • Visit our web site at [www.gfrpuzzles.com](http://www.gfrpuzzles.com)

Crossword solution for this week can be found on page A11.

## Season still a success for T-Birds

By DUSTIN NICKERSON  
Staff Reporter

Highline fastpitch finished this season with a disappointment at the NWAACC tournament, but with a second straight Northern division championship, and a mind blowing 31-1 record, no one is looking at the season as anything less than a great accomplishment.

"Playoffs are just a single weekend," said Head Coach Kirsten Jensen. "This is still one of the most successful seasons that I have ever been a part of."

But for much of the team, and most of the onlookers, one can't help but wonder what happened to a team that glittered and shined through the regular season, and was as appealing as an infield fly in the playoffs.

The T-Birds even started the preseason hot, though they didn't actually win a game in the heat of Hawaii.

However, they were pinned up against Division II, four-year schools that were already half way through their seasons. Despite this, the T-Birds fought hard, and kept the games tight, giving them a glimpse of the

caliber team that they really were.

The team came back home to find oceans under 70 degrees, but their team still scorching.

Between March 29 and May 10, Highline lost just a single game. That loss came to local rival Green River, who they pummeled later that day.

"I think we did too well," said Assistant Coach Mark Hall. "It's not a secret that we have the weakest division, and playing bad teams over and over can't help matters."

The team hadn't seen much strong competition going into the playoffs, and was at a disadvantage already because of the amount of underclassman they had. Of the 16 women on the roster at the beginning of the season, 10 were freshman, and they made a good portion of the starting lineup.

"We definitely had a pretty young team this year," Jensen said, "and they really needed to know that they could win it all. I think they thought it, but they didn't really believe it."

"We were not emotionally prepared for the big show at all," Hall added.

At NWAACCs, the team



Photo by Adrienne Hughes

Highline fastpitch celebrates after winning their first game at NWAACCs.

won a one-run game against Clackamas in the first game, but lost their next two, and didn't place in the tourney after having the best league record in all of the NWAACC conference.

Still, the team is taking the this season for what it's worth, and that's a tool to hopefully get

over the hump next year.

"We have a young team and this was a learning experience for us," pitcher Lacey Walter said. "For next season to be a success, everybody needs to focus on every positive aspect and keep focused on what will make the team better."

And for those sophomores not returning, the season is a memory embroidered in their minds forever.

"I'm glad we had a good year," said sophomore Michelle Tripp, "but the relationships with all the players I'll never forget."

## Nishio takes her final bow as a T-Bird

By SHAUNA BJORK  
Staff Reporter

A quiet, petite young woman comes to the plate, jumping up and down, stretching before her at bat. She looks to the coach for signs then swings the bat and runs out of the box. Once she makes it to the base she looks to the dug out and her coach and bows with a giant smile.

Mihoko Nishio is a 20-year-old student who is playing her first and only season for Highline as a reserve outfielder.

She is a freshman at Highline, although she attended University of Tsukuba in Japan for two years.

Nishio wanted to come to America very badly to play fastpitch. She has lived here for 10 months and came to Highline after other coaches in the league did not respond to her e-mails.

"The main reason why I came to America is to play fastpitch," said Nishio. "So when I was in Japan, I sent many e-mails to coaches of college such as Lower Columbia, Shoreline, and Edmonds and only J (Head Coach Kirsten



Nishio

Jensen) responded to my e-mail."

Nishio did not come to Highline inexperienced; she played a lot of softball in Japan.

She played softball in junior high school for three years in Japan. She also played on a select team of Nagano Prefecture for two years.

She did not play in high school, because she felt it more important to concentrate on school and get into a good college.

Nishio didn't like to play for teams in Japan; she couldn't find good coaches or teams.

"Japanese high school teams, which are strong, are very strict. If I take part in a team like this I always have to take care of coach's suggestions and senior students," said Nishio.

Nishio attended college in Japan because when she goes back there to live she will have to have education from a college there. After attending college there for two years she came to Highline eager to play.

Nishio was very excited to come to practice this season and join this team. Her strengths come from her preseason work.

"I've never had preseason practices like this year. The practices here were so meaningful and thoughtful," said Nishio.

The practices helped her to trust her teammates and coaches. Nishio also visualizes what she is going to do at the plate in order to be successful.

"If I concentrate on my play. I can hit and work well in defense. In order to do that, I always imagine how I swing the bat, how I bunt and slap, and how I will react to a ball in defense," said Nishio. "With seeing opposing pitcher and hitting during games, these imagina-

tions help me to have confidence."

Nishio also realizes her weakness.

"I am sometimes short temper. When I cannot hit well or bunt well I start to blame myself. So I need to control myself," said Nishio.

Nishio says that she also realizes that this dissatisfaction also helps her to develop into a better player.

Academically at Highline Nishio is receiving her certificate of para-educator, which is a yearlong course that she will finish in June, and graduate.

Next year she will not be returning. She is going back to Japan to attend the University of Tsukuba again.

"Although I would like to transfer to an American college, it is too expensive and I can't afford it," said Nishio. "This was a hard decision for me, because this season will be the end of playing for me, I will miss my teammates and coaches."

She has become extremely close to her team this year. She doesn't have relatives or many friends here so the team was her family.

Her teammates feel the same sadness seeing her go.

"Mihoko is like one of the funniest people ever, she was such an addition to this team," said teammate Selina Gatz.

Nishio taught the team a little Japanese, and the players called "Ichiro's Girlfriend," said Gatz.

"I love Mihoko. It's so sad she is leaving," said pitcher Danae Munsell.

Nishio made her first and only appearance in the NWAACC tournament last weekend, and she had hoped to show Lower Columbia what they were missing.

"I would like to focus on beating Lower Columbia," said Nishio. "They never responded to my e-mail from Japan. I will show them my Japanese spirit!"

Although they did not face Lower Columbia, Nishio is still happy with her team's performance, and she will never forget this experience.

"I have teammates and coaches whom I can trust," said Nishio. "I just want to appreciate them so much and put this experience to my future. I will never forget my wonderful teammates and coaches."



# Cross country gears up for fall

By COLETTE WOODS  
Staff Reporter

The 2003 men's and women's cross country team is getting ready for the new season with seven returning runners, and six new recruits.

Among the people coming back for the men are Clay Hemlock, who was fourth in the league last year, Pat McGuire, Aaron Sather, and Sean Conroy.

"Having four people come back is great," said Head Coach Robert Yates. "That will make our team very strong."

Newcomers for the men are David Larpenteur from Decatur, James Roach from Thomas Jefferson, and Josh Frasier and Chris Farrell from Tyee.

"Frasier and Farrell both went to state last year," said Yates. "So I am really excited about that."

With Hemlock placing fourth in the league last year, he has a good chance of being an individual champion.

Hemlock was a freshman who stunned the league last year as a T-Bird both in cross country and track.

With every race he runs, Hemlock is chasing the Highline record books.

"Clay will most likely be a favorite for the individual trophy," said Yates.

Amanda Kamm, Sean Flaaen, and Alia Hines are returning for the women.

Kamm is the ace of the staff and was a late comer to the team last year.

Still, she put together a respectable season, and has only gotten better since. Kamm



Clay Hemlock (front) will be the No.1 for a strong men's team next fall.

Photo by Adrieene Hughes

snatched a second place medal in the 800-meter at last week's NWAACCs.

"The women's team is very strong," said Yates. "I am really looking forward to seeing what they can do."

Yates has two new women coming for sure: Jessica Delos-Santos from Renton High School, and Stiges Marshall, a returning student. Yates has three people still deciding.

Last year's team placed a combined (men and women) fourth in the league, and this year Yates wants to place in the top two.

An always strong Spokane won the overall championship, as well as the men's title, fighting off Mt. Hood who had the top runners in the league in Bobby King.

Clark took the women's title at the championships.

"Our main focus is to progress as a team," said Yates. "And place so we can get a trophy."

The team will start training in July, where they will be running up to 80 miles a week.

"We will be training very hard," said Yates. "We want to run our best the whole season."

This intense training also is key in the prevention of injury in during the rigorous season.

Some of the meets they run are the Sun Dodger Invitational at Lincoln Park, and The Willamette Invitational, which is the largest meet on the West Coast. There will be 1,000 runners.

Yates is very confident in his team.

"This is the best team we've had," said Yates. "I am really

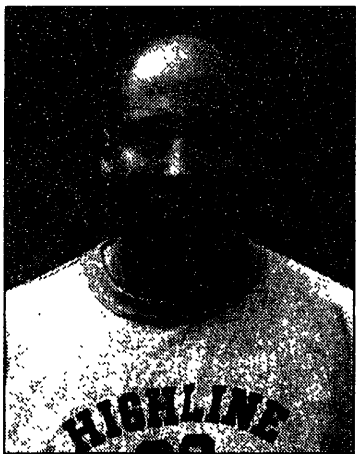
## New coach hard at work

By SHAUNA BJORK  
Staff Reporter

New head men's basketball Coach Che Dawson has already recruited six new players, and another two have made verbal commitments. Highline has signed 2003 graduates Zenrique Tellez, 5'11" from Franklin, Brett Wusterbarth, 5'10" from Steilacoom, Jeff Ray, 6'4" from Foss, and Ben Wade, 6'4" from Ingraham.

The team has also signed 2002 graduate Devon Hall, 6'2" from Sealth. Hall went to Washington State for a year but did not play.

Another recruit, Aaron White, 6'2" is coming from Eastern Utah, where he didn't



Dawson

get as much playing time as he had wanted.

Two more players who said they are coming to Highline and are expected to sign later this week.

Dawson isn't sure about who will be returning from last year's squad yet.

"Returning players from last year still have not been decided," said Dawson. "Many will depend on their academic status and demonstrated level of commitment, dedication and follow-through so far and throughout the summer."

Overall, Dawson is satisfied with what they have got so far.

"We are very happy with where we are in the recruiting process," said Dawson. "All of the young men we have signed and continue to recruit are quality student-athletes who the HCC community will be proud to have on campus and representing them on the court."

## This week's CROSSWORD SOLUTION

### WHATEVER WORKS

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# Sports done the right way

Ed Morris was an example of the ideal student-athlete

By CHELSEA RAMSAY  
Staff Reporter

His face never made it on a box of Wheaties, but it has graced the campus of Highline for some time now.

Ed Morris, Highline math instructor, has been teaching his passion at Highline since 1972. But more than 30 years ago he practiced his other passion: track.

His running days began young, and there was a distinct reason why he decided to take up the sport.

"Because in fifth and sixth grade I could run faster than anybody else," Morris said.

This superiority was enough to influence him to turn out for track.

"In junior high school you could run in two running events and a field event," Morris said.

And with his speed, he took advantage of the double entry in running. However, his strength was really embedded in sprinting.

"I didn't have a field event," Morris said.

That status remained, and Morris continued on as a runner.

Naturally, the next step was high school track.

First came his freshman year and Morris sprinted straight into varsity. Eleventh grade started in a similar fashion.

"At the time I had one of the top times in the state," Morris said.

However, midseason his luck came up short.

"My second year I had a hair-line fracture so I was out," Morris said. "I missed all the championships. It was hard but that's

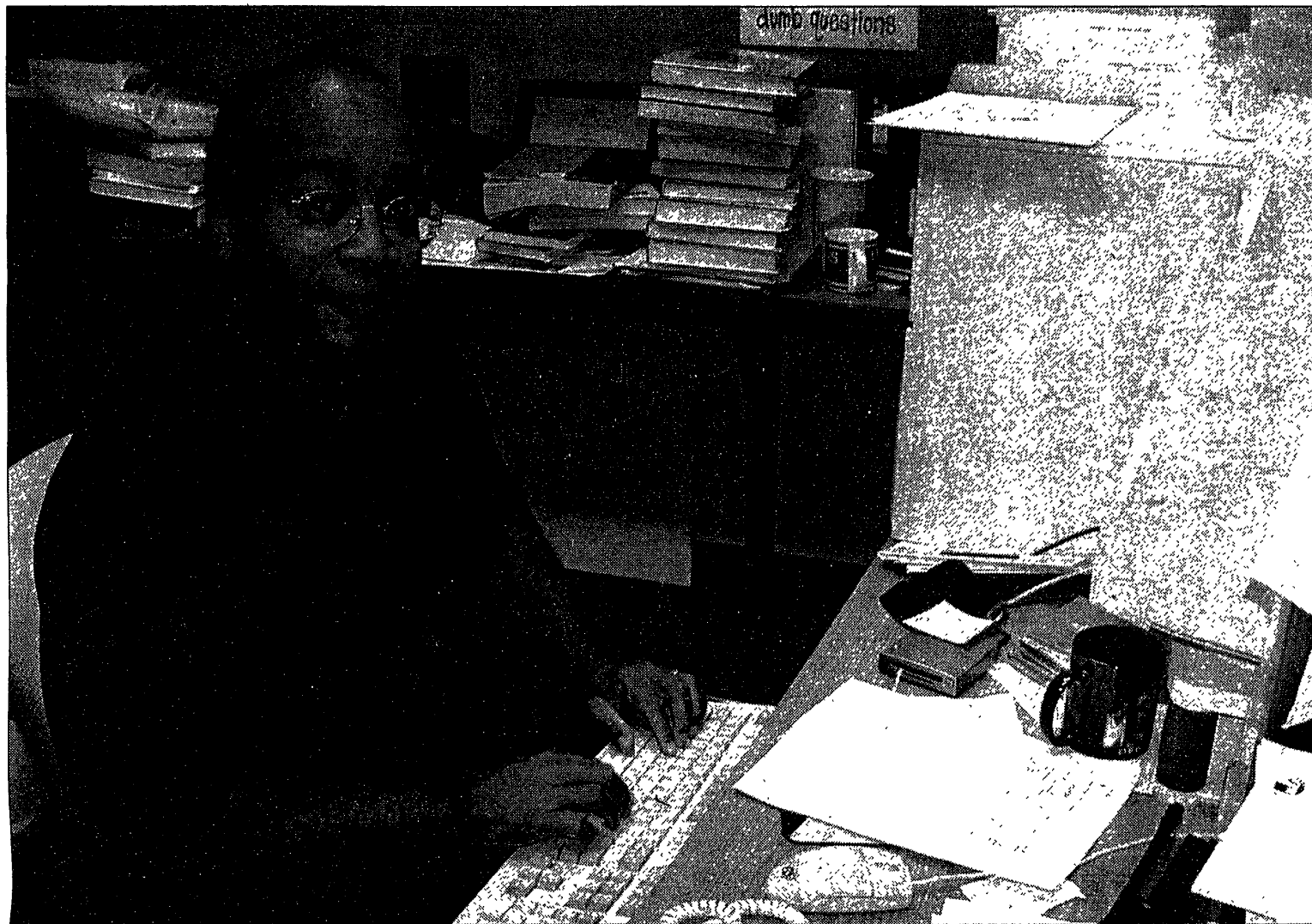


Photo by Connie Bradley

Ed Morris is a Highline math instructor who made his way to the top using track as a tool.

one of the things about being an athlete."

Senior year rolled around and Morris was back on the track, easily making the varsity team and leading his team to various victories.

But high school was coming to end, and everything he had worked up in those three years were about to pay off.

"It gave me a good basis, a good foundation for moving on," Morris said.

And his track records helped him to move on to Colgate University in New York.

"I wanted a small liberal arts institution," Morris said. "I wasn't trying to go to an outstanding institution in terms of sprinting."

Colgate also offered something other colleges didn't: a full scholarship.

As his schooling came free, he valued it to the fullest extent, as he did through all levels of his education.

"Academics came first and track came second," Morris said. "For the most part they didn't really conflict. Track was my recreation. When the books are over what are you going to do? For me it was track."

But when college offered a more challenging and demanding work load than high school, it was track that helped kept him going.

"My first semester at college was miserable," Morris said. "It (track) gave me an opportunity to be successful somewhere besides the classroom."

After the rough beginning, classes became easier and Morris continued to flourish on the course as well.

The team traveled to various cities, competing in such arenas as Madison Square Garden, the Carrier Dome, and Boston Gardens.

As a whole, Colgate was far from the best, but for being a small college, they held their own.

"We did well," Morris said. "People didn't fear us when they had us on the schedule."

The entire team may not have been star athletes, but select members were. Belonging to the elite group was Morris and his fellow relay sprinters.

"The coach would pick the four fastest runners," Morris said.

And those four, Morris included, created the best relay team known to Colgate. The time of 41.1 seconds in the 4 by 100 race, which was done in 1969, still holds as the fastest time in the university's history.

Individually, Morris was equally impressive.

"I am on the top five for the 50 meter dash," Morris said.

After college was over, Morris's track days came to an end as well.

"It was four years and when it was over, it was over," Morris said.

Continuing on required an ability that Morris just didn't have.

"I was talented but not that talented," Morris said. "I was a great regional athlete but not a great national athlete. I wasn't even a national athlete and to continue you had to be a national athlete."

Had his talent met national standards, there is no question of whether or not he would have pursued it.

"If I would have had the op-

portunity to do it...in a heartbeat," Morris said. "I had a Sports Illustrated, a 1960s edition, and it showed the finalists. I used to look at that picture over and over again and dream. Everybody dreams of it."

After Colgate, Morris stopped dreaming and continued on with his other passion: math.

"Math has always been my major," Morris said. "I had a little chalkboard when I was a youngin' and I did division problems."

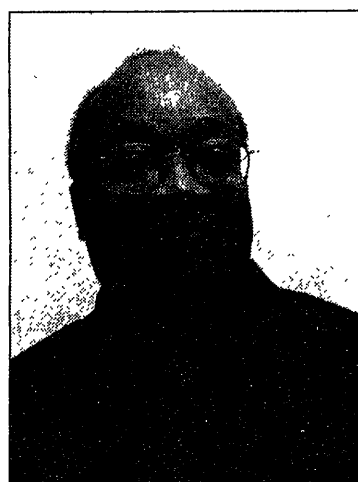
Maintaining his education through the track days allowed him to create a realistic future of mathematics.

And his education has led him to Highline, where he has taught math for 31 years.

"I was one of the few people of color on campus in 1972," Morris said. "I've actually watched this place really develop through the '70s. I remember being here before eight or nine of these buildings were even here."

And even before Morris was a part of Highline, back when he first began running, he also began opening books and studying. His balance of helps battle an important stereotype.

"There really are student-athletes out there," Morris said. "Not just athletes."

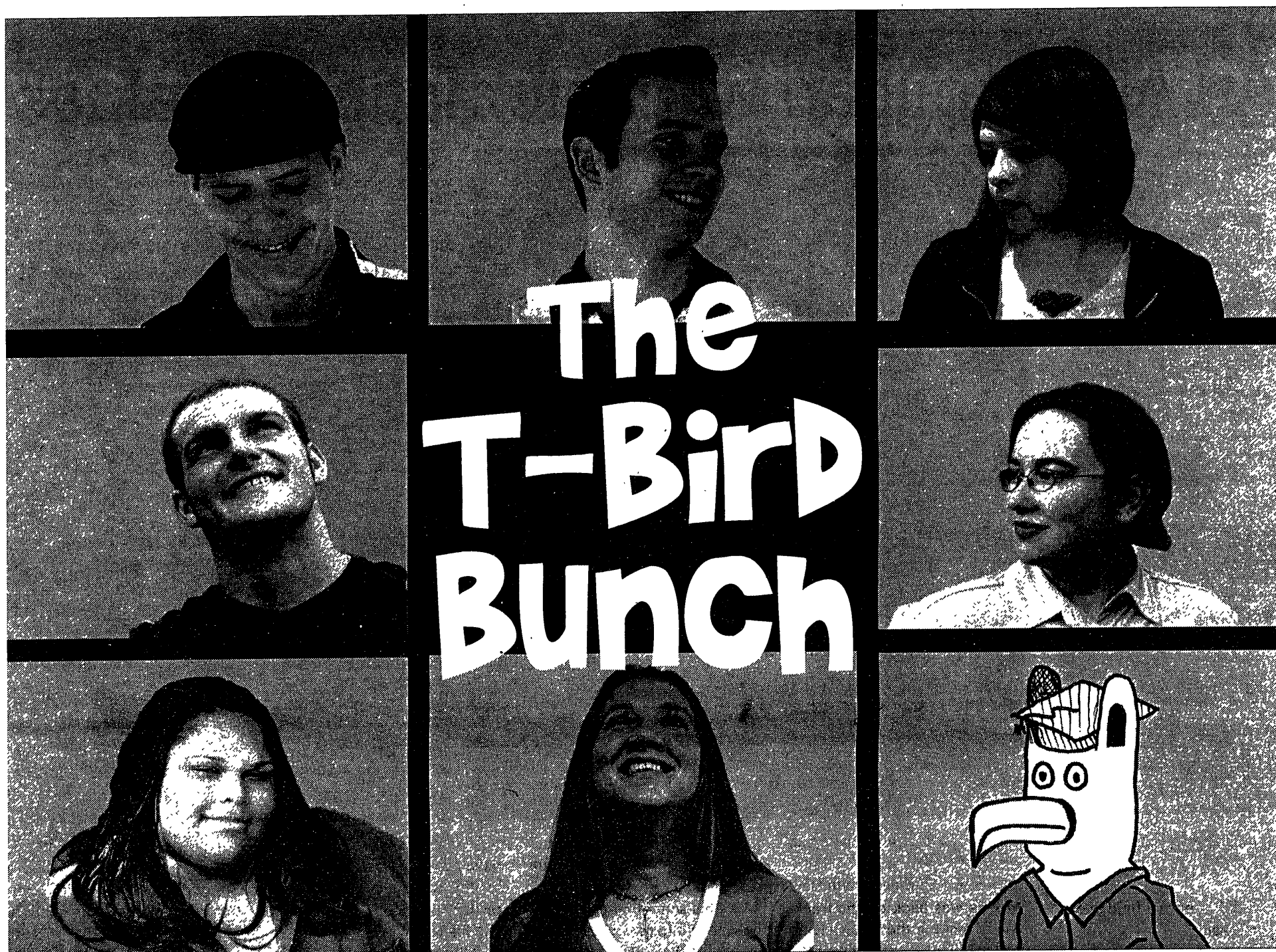


"Academics always came first, track came second."

-Ed Morris,  
Highline  
math professor



# Here's the story...



## ...Of 7 Amazing

## : Highline Graduates

## The Inside Scoop



# Mikey Hood

## An All-American with international values

Story by  
RACHEL PLATT

Photo by  
CONSTANCE BRADLEY

**M**ikey Hood looks as American as apple pie, but if you asked him he'd probably prefer sushi.

Hood stands about 5'9" with blonde hair and a medium build, which helps to set him apart from his co-workers in the International Programs Office.

"A lot of people ask me where I'm from because I work here (International Programs)," said Hood. "But I'm just white."

The desire to explore and understand other cultures began in high school for Hood while he was taking Japanese language and culture classes at Kent-Meridian High School.

During his junior year Hood journeyed to Japan to expand his knowledge of Japanese culture by becoming a foreign exchange student.

"I totally changed after I came back from Japan," said Hood. "When I got back to the states I realized that there is so much more out there. I also discovered that Americans have our own culture."

When Hood began attending Highline two years ago he immediately became involved with Conversation Pals, the college's club for international students to improve their English with native English speakers.

"Every quarter I was involved with Conversation Pal," said Hood. "Which turned out to be really great because that's how I met my girlfriend."

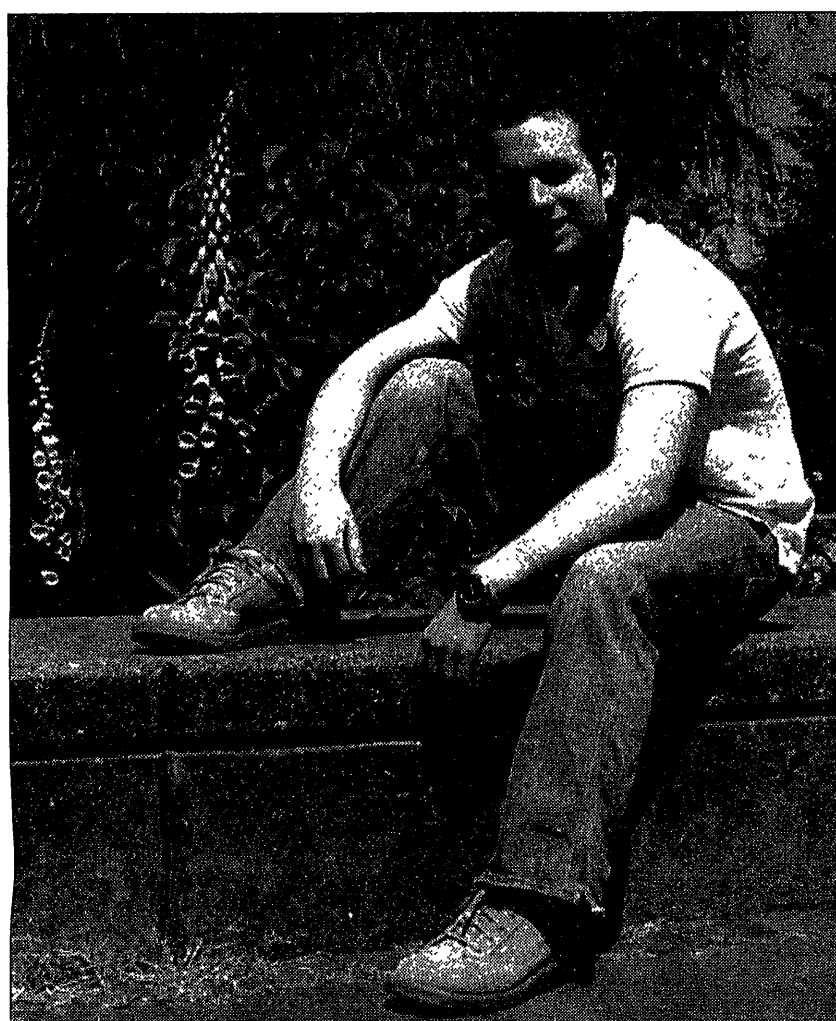
Hood continued to volunteer at International Program's events and learned of a paid position that would go into effect the following year.

"Mariko [Fujwara] used to ask me to help out a lot," said Hood. "And I was always down with lending a hand but I kept bugging them because I wanted to get paid for what I was doing."

Hood's persistence paid off upon receiving a position on the International Leadership Student Counsel (ISC).

"We (ISC) basically make programs for International Students," said Hood.

A list of events that Hood has had a hand in putting together this year include an elephant gift



exchange, a barrage of international club meetings, a ski trip to Canada, a haunted house trip, an ice skating outing and Highline's first International Night.

"When I started International Night my vision was completely different from what actually went on," said Hood. "Initially I wanted a DJ, food, entertainment and all the makings of a really cool dance."

However, after a conversation with Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs, Hood discovered that the grandiose event was slated to spend \$650. Hood quickly went to the S&A (Services and Activities Committee) and put in a request form for more money.

The request worked and International Night received a budget of \$8,000, which dwarfed the original amount.

Hood chalks up raising the amount and thereby quality of International Night as one of his proudest achievements of his educational career. After receiving the extra allowance in their budget, the International Night committee got their plans under way. Hood played a hand in splitting the committees up to focus on specific aspects of the evening such as entertainment, food, and advertising.

"It's tough working with in-

ternational students because they're so shy. They want to get involved but they're also hesitant," said Hood. "The whole goal of International Night was to show the campus that international students want to be involved."

**H**ood explained that for weeks before the big event he spent many hours calling and e-mailing international students

making sure that they were planning on coming.

The fruits of Hood's labor showed at the event, which managed to oversell, and was deemed as a huge success by all those who attended.

"During International Night I barely had time to breathe," said Hood. "But it was really successful and hopefully it will continue."

Hood received two awards for his hard work throughout the year in International Programs and dedication to International Night including Honorable Mention for Employee of the Year award and the International Club award. Jonathan Brown worked side by side with Hood as the academic adviser of the international club and

raved of Hood's accomplishments in and outside of Highline.

"Mikey is a student with a lot of promise," said Brown. "He is hard working and sustained his work with International Club throughout this year by holding a strong vision of what the club could be."

Brown also spoke of Hood's immense capacity to generate excitement among his peers and

empowering others to share his vision of a strong international community.

"I have been particularly impressed with his communication skills and his ability to broadcast his involvement opportunities to the international community here," said Brown.

And while Hood's seemingly superhero persona in the International Programs office can be intimidating, he makes it clear that he has interests outside of Highline.

Hood is involved in a dedicated form of martial arts called Kendo and has also been making a stab in music.

"I've been trying to make electronic music for about six months," said Hood.

Hood also stresses the importance to Highline students of getting out into the international community around them on campus and take the opportunity to learn about other cultures.

"In the process of dealing with people from various cultures it allows you to break stereotypes, which is extremely important," said Hood.

"He is devoted to his cause and hard-working," said Brown. "I am certain that he will be successful in his future endeavors."

Upon graduation this quarter Hood will be attending the University of Washington (Seattle) to obtain his degree in international business with a minor in Japanese. He plans to travel to Japan again.

### Staff

"Groovy,  
Baby"



#### Editor

JOHN MONTENEGRO

#### Staff Reporters

COLETTE WOODS, VICTORIA ANTHONY, CHELSEA RAMSAY, LAUREN POLENSKE, RACHEL PLATT, INNA DENCHIK, JANA BOSLEY

#### Photographers

ADRIENNE HUGHES, MELISSA FLESCHE, CONSTANCE BRADLEY, LAUREN POLENSKE

#### Graphics

JORDAN GODDARD, JULIA RETZLOFF, SHAWN SHELTEREN

#### Cover Design

JORDAN GODDARD

# Brandi Shoaf

## Overcoming adversity, accomplishing alot

STORY & PHOTOS BY  
LAUREN POLENSKE

**B**ehind her bright smile and friendly demeanor there's a person who has inner strength that would impress and inspire even the most jaded spirits.

As a nursing student and full-time mother her schedule is hectic enough without adding her role as president of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) and keeping a grade point average (GPA) near perfect.

She's been the recipient of awards and scholarships including the Academic Achievement Scholarship between three and four times, a nursing scholarship, the Extraordinary Ordinary Woman's award and the Chinese School of Language Scholarship and with a laugh and a shrug of her shoulders she adds she doesn't even speak the language.

She's even been nominated for Highline's Who's Who award four different times.

The award that she is most proud of, however, is the Next Steps Scholarship that will allow her a two-year free ride at the University of Washington at Tacoma's nursing program.

This 30-year-old Seattle native is hard working and talented Brandi Shoaf. The road to where she stands today wasn't an easy ride.

Her struggle began in junior high school when she began drinking and experimenting with different kinds of hard drugs.

Shoaf's addictions followed her as she made her way



through high school.

As time went by, she found herself deeper into drugs and caught up in an abusive relationship. Trying all while to raise two small children with no way out that she could see.

"I was dying," Shoaf said. "My life was unmanageable."

Shoaf needed help. After trying various treatment programs she found one that she could stick with and it worked for her.

She spent seven months in a rehab facility and with determination she overcame her years of drug and alcohol abuse.

"My kids were my motivators. I wanted to be a positive role model and didn't want to

raise them like that," Shoaf said.

Attributing her new attitude to being a strong single mom and not wanting to have to depend on a man ever again.

Knowing that she had to make changes in her life for he better, she knew she had to go back to school.

Out of convenience Highline was her choice.

"I'd heard some good things about Highline. And I heard they had a good nursing program," Shoaf said.

Confidence was one needed quality Shoaf still lacked in herself an the realization that she too could find her niche in a school atmosphere.

"My kids were my motivators. I wanted to be a positive role model and didn't want to raise them like that."

"Summer of 2000 was my first quarter here. I didn't have any confidence in myself to even pass biology, much less the nursing program," Shoaf said.

But after 12 straight quarters of hard work with perfect to near perfect grades and her extra activities, Shoaf has proven those feelings of not belonging and no confidence wrong.

"I was never a 4.0 student. My focus has changed and I don't have any unhealthy distractions," Shoaf said. "Education is a whole new level of growth."

After graduation Shoaf will go on to study nursing. She will receive her bachelor's degree in 2 years and hopefully she says, in two more, a masters.

**S**hoaf gives thanks to the people who took her in here at Highline and helped her be successful.

Starting out on work-study she worked under the advisor for PTK who was Russ Higley at the time.

"He was the one who drug me to that first PTK meeting, I didn't want to go, I just didn't feel like I belonged," Shoaf said.

She'll always be grateful to the people who helped her find her way.

And the friendships she's made will leave a lasting impression on those still here at Highline.

PTK Adviser Laura Manning, is amazed by Shoaf's drive.

"I figured it out, if you want anything done here at Highline, just go find a busy nursing student with a couple of kids. They do everything," Manning said. "She's just amazing. Very competent and so driven and inspira-

tional too."

Shoaf's hard work and determination have made lasting impressions on many she's come across.

Nursing Director Barbara Smith isn't at all amazed by Shoaf's accomplishments.

"She's always had such potential, i knew that from the start. I can't say i'm surprized but, i am delighted," Smith said. "I'm really going to miss that group of students as a whole, they were all great."

Partly because of Brandi's leadership along with some of the other students. She's so professional, she'll do great things in the world."

Years ago Shoaf didn't know what was in store for her when she started out what route life actually had for her.

After overcoming the obstacles of her past Shoaf realizes that her position may be able to help someone who is living a life of destruction.

"Nobody told me when I was trying drugs, I was going to end up strung out and messed up," Shoaf said. "There are support groups, you have to make the effort." She adds when someone is living like that, it's not that easy to see.

"If you're in a vulnerable place like that and in a situation like mine, you can't hear anybody," said Shoaf.

Today as she is ready to graduate from Highline's nursing program and as she is readying herself to continue through with her education, she sits back with a thoughtful smile and contemplates what she would be able to do without the restrictions of her reality and the stress of money.

Shoaf would find herself living in a place where the sun always shines and the water is just a short walk away.

"I love being in the sun," Shoaf said. "And with all the money in world I'd love to just on the spur of the moment travel. And I would travel everywhere."

Shoaf has two children Austin, 6, and Karlea 5, who have helped to drive her through school making her goals reachable.

Education has changed her life in nearly every aspect she said and wishes that it was possible to continue going to school without the everyday pressures forever.





# J.C. Hedberg

## Jazzin' Up The Scene

STORY BY  
JANA BOSLEY

PHOTOS BY  
CONSTANCE BRADLEY

**I**t's not that Highline student JC Hedberg doesn't like classical music, she just wants to play jazz.

Hedberg looks like your typical college student, but she's much more. She has copious amounts of musical talent that she is always willing to share. When she's not practicing, going to class, or working she spends her spare time tutoring struggling music students.

Hedberg began her education at Highline three years ago as a Running Start student from Tyee High School. Attending Highline earned her enough credits to graduate from high school a year early. She also met all requirements for her AA to have graduated from Highline after the 2002 Fall Quarter.

However, Hedberg did not want to transfer in the middle of the school year, so she prolonged her graduation to this spring.

"It's been a lot of fun. I've really enjoyed the environment and teachers," said Hedberg.

"It was great to be in class with students who actually wanted to be in class as opposed to classes in high school."

When Hedberg first came to Highline she took several classes from jazz musician and

teacher Ben Thomas. This was a great experience for her. Hedberg's dream is to become a professional jazz musician.

"I would love to have my own small combo someday," Hedberg said. "Play all over the area, compose, and teach others to play."

This talented young musician did not always want to play jazz. Hedberg's first instrument was the clarinet in the fifth grade. It wasn't until seventh grade when she decided she wanted to be in jazz band that she started to play the saxophone.

In high school, she also picked up the trumpet and trombone.

Each year Hedberg participated in the saxophone solo and ensemble and trombone ensemble categories in the district contest. Her junior year she went to state competition for her saxophone solo.

Hedberg's playing has also brought her several awards. She earned the Outstanding Soloist award at the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival and the Louis Armstrong Award in high school. At Highline, Hedberg received a scholarship for Spring Quarter and the Outstanding Contribution award for her work with Highline's jazz ensemble.

Hedberg had been speaking with faculty in Highline's music department her first two years here about getting a jazz ensemble together. Then at the beginning of the 2002-2003 school



year she found other students who were interested in playing and organized the Highline Jazz Ensemble.

Since then the jazz ensemble has put on its own concerts at the end of each quarter, student concerts in Building 8, and played at the Foundation Gala.

This quarter the ensemble joined with students from the advanced voice class and toured retirement homes in the area.

"Instrumental jazz and vocal jazz are both fun, but completely different," said Hedberg.

"Playing in smaller combos was new for most of the group, but with vocalists was something we've never done before."

Hedberg encourages others who are interested in learning to play jazz to do a few things.

"Listening to music, especially jazz, is what is going to help you get there. Seeing live shows is something that will also inspire you a lot."

**H**edberg herself attends as many local jazz performances that time and money will allow.

"Almost all musicians are willing to talk to you. Jazz is something passed down from one musician to the next," said Hedberg.

Like many other college students, Hedberg works to pay for schooling.

When Hedberg isn't in class at Highline, she is working at the Highline School District's Performing Arts Center in Burien. There she is an assistant head technician. This means she works the lights, sound, and other general set up for shows. It's similar to being a supervisor to high school stage crew.

The theater puts on performances ranging from high

school band concerts to professional traveling productions. It is a professional atmosphere that Hedberg enjoys being a part of.

"I am one of the few people who can say they look forward to going to work."

With having to manage a job and school, Hedberg has not been able to practice her saxophone as much as she would like. Her practice time varies on work schedule and homework.

"Any chance I get, I pull my horn out," Hedberg said.

After her graduation this spring, Hedberg plans to take a year off from school. This will enable her to spend more time practicing and bringing her musical skills up to the level she wants them at.

Hedberg wants to attend Cornish in Seattle after her year off and pursue a jazz performance degree. If not there she will go to University of Washington for a jazz studies degree.

"The music education I've gotten at Highline will definitely put me at an advantage for wherever I transfer to."





# Tyler Ruggenberg

## On the right track to success

STORY BY  
VICTORIA ANTHONY  
PHOTOS BY  
CONSTANCE BRADLEY

**T**yler Ruggenberg was given the opportunity of a second chance and he graciously accepted it.

Ruggenberg, a graduating Highline student, ran into some legal trouble in the past but has done a complete turnaround with his life, and now has plans to attend the University of Washington in the fall. Ruggenberg said he might even try law school once he has his bachelor's degree under his belt. That is if the three felony convictions on his record don't get in his way.

One felony was slapped on his record as a juvenile when Ruggenberg and some friends were found in a stolen car. The other two came to him as an adult, one for second-degree robbery and one for Violation of the Uniform Controlled Substance Act (VUCSA).

"The second degree robbery conviction was a result from my role in the robbery of a Pizza Hut. I wasn't actually inside the restaurant while it was being robbed but I planned it out and was in the getaway car. It was really stupid; I had just gotten fired from the place and I wanted to seek revenge," Ruggenberg said. "A couple people that I knew at the time were eager to stick some place up so I told them I had the perfect target."

Ruggenberg wasn't caught for the robbery until months later. The second felony, the VUCSA, was attached to Ruggenberg's record when he was caught with crack cocaine.

"I started selling the drug because I learned I could make a substantial profit from all the users on Pacific Highway that would come to a local dope house located down the street from me," Ruggenberg said.

One day while washing his car, Ruggenberg was approached by a police officer who recognized him as somebody with a warrant out for his arrest. The warrant was for a missed court date that Ruggenberg said he was unaware of. The officer searched him and found a bag of crack. Ruggenberg received a six-month sentence for each of his



felony convictions, but fortunately was able to serve them concurrently. Instead of one year in the King County Jail, he only stayed six months. However, those six months were the slowest months of Ruggenberg's life.

"Jail wasn't scary, but extremely depressing, boring and dirty... The food is horrible, so bad that some of it is almost inedible," Ruggenberg said. "Time just seems to go a lot slower in jail, it's always the same routine day in and day out."

While most King County inmates chose to spend their time watching Jenny Jones and Jerry Springer, Ruggenberg said he spent a lot of time reading books from the King County Library System.

Life in jail wasn't easy on Ruggenberg's family either. Though they remained supportive throughout his sentence, it was difficult for his family to visit him through a glass partition. Ruggenberg spent Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years alone in jail, but his aunt and uncle brought pictures of his family taken during the holidays. His mom also paid him a visit on Christmas day.

"It really hurt her to have to visit me in jail on Christmas... Nobody liked seeing me in there, it was hard on everyone," Ruggenberg said.

While serving his sentence, Ruggenberg had a lot of time on his hands to think about his future.

"I realized that I had to change my ways or else I would

eventually spend my entire life in prison. I decided that continuing with the criminal lifestyle wasn't worth the consequences of losing my family and becoming institutionalized," Ruggenberg said. "That lifestyle is addicting, and once you get seriously involved it can be hard to get out. You really don't have any responsibilities, you work on your own time for tax-free quick money and nobody can tell you what to do. I realized that I was wasting a lot of talent and that I could be doing a lot more with my life. I was also letting my family down and I didn't want to disappoint them anymore."

Ruggenberg's positive outlook on his future was a good sign to his probation officer, Richard Hume.

"Tyler did his jail time, finishing it in work release. He paid his restitution way ahead of schedule and completed his probation without one violation," Hume wrote in a letter of recommendation for a scholarship Ruggenberg applied for. "Tyler is certainly the kind of young man that gives meaning to the words 'second chance.'"

Upon release from the King County Jail, Ruggenberg enrolled as a full-time student at Highline. He previously went to Highline during Summer Quarter of 1999 to complete his high school credits, but school wasn't his top priority.

**N**ot expecting to be back in two years, Ruggenberg didn't pay much attention to his suffering GPA. However, he has worked hard in several academic programs to bring it back up to par. Ruggenberg started out at Highline in the Computer Information Systems (CIS) program.

"At that point I was pretty lost and didn't really have an idea of what direction I was heading in. I just knew I had to

start making some progress so I wanted to do something productive with my time that would keep me off the streets," Ruggenberg said.

After completing three quarters in the CIS program, Ruggenberg decided computers weren't for him. He then took a couple of writing courses and decided to major in English. But that idea didn't stick with him for long either. Ruggenberg enrolled in Sociology 110, taught by Derek Greenfield, and found that his real passion was sociology.

"It was a tremendous learning experience, he has such a passion for teaching and he brings just an incredible amount of wisdom and energy every single day," Ruggenberg said. "I found that sociology really interested me and after speaking with Derek outside of class a few times I decided that I would concentrate on majoring in sociology."

Ruggenberg will be transferring to the University of Washington Fall Quarter to further his education in sociology. Upon completion of his bachelor's degree, Ruggenberg would like to attend graduate school.

"I have so much experience with the criminal justice system that I recently have been seriously considering trying to get into law school after receiving my undergraduate degree. I'm not sure if my criminal convictions will prevent me from practicing law. I have to look into that soon," Ruggenberg said.

If his convictions do get in his way, Ruggenberg said he will use his knowledge from his past experiences to help prevent other people from making similar mistakes.

"Teaching is an option that I've considered that will allow me to accomplish that goal," Ruggenberg said.

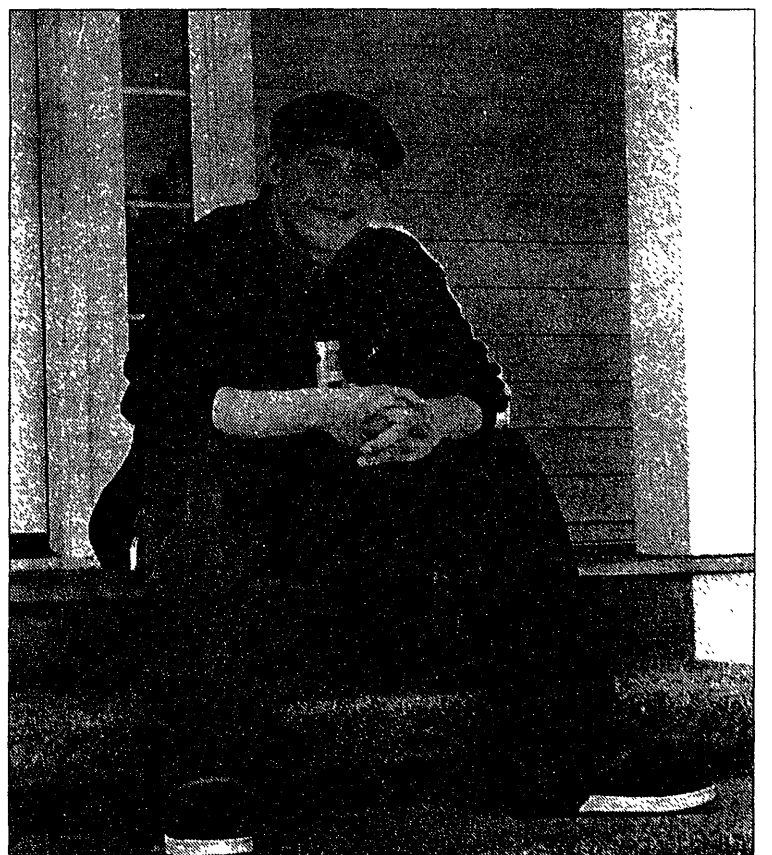
Working full-time and going to school full-time keeps Ruggenberg a busy man, so when he gets a free moment he spends it with people he cares about. Ruggenberg described him and his girlfriend as "food aficionados" who often go out to eat.

When Ruggenberg hangs out with his friends, their time is mostly spent rapping or traveling.

"I've been rapping since I was in like fifth grade and I haven't had much time to put into it recently, but when I can I get together with a couple of others in my group," Ruggenberg said. "We got a few cuts on CD and I have like five new beats that we just made. I have to write to those when I get a chance."

Taking a break from school and work this summer, Ruggenberg and about 15 of his friends have a trip planned to Las Vegas. However, if it weren't for his quick turnaround, Ruggenberg wouldn't be going anywhere.

"Jail time definitely changed my outlook on life. You really don't appreciate your freedom until you have it taken away from you," Ruggenberg said.



# Nycole Hyatt

## Meats no treat for idiomatic vegan

STORY BY  
CHELSEA RAMSAY  
PHOTOS BY  
MELISSA FLESCH

A scanty fragment of glossy black hair falls astray from behind her gauged ear, streaking past her forehead and upper cheekbone, falling stationary just in front of her hazel eye. The unilluminated tint of the lock contrasts sharply against her faint, pallid complexion.

The run way stray hairs individually become captured by her mascara coated lashes, distracting her focus from the portrait to the chafing tuft. Lowering her finely plucked eyebrows, she shows a slight irritation as she brushes the hair away from her face and tucks it tightly behind her ear.

Regaining her concentration, she squints her right eye, moves it forward toward the circular lens and takes a black and white picture of the world- a world in which she adds color to simply by her presence.

Whether it's through her art, attitude, or way of living, student Nycole Hyatt has created sprinkles on the donut of life.

Making a difference and sharing her feelings are best communicated through her actions, Hyatt said.

In this attempt, Hyatt leads by example for a cause she feels very strongly about.

"When I was young I became a vegetarian because I thought it

was cool," Hyatt said. "But I read a couple of books about vegetarianism and how it is a lot healthier diet. It's easier for your body to digest fruits and grains than steak or any other meat for that matter. Then I decided to take the diet to the next step and I became a vegan. You hear a lot of vegetarian propaganda dealing with animals' rights that say boycotting meat isn't the only thing you can do. Realistically, dairy cows suffer just as much as others cows produced for their meat. And besides the animal cruelty, it is simply better for the body, if you do it right.

"You can feel a difference in how your body works. Soy has proven to be instrumental to your health and the vegan diet is all soy based. If I had a sandwich I could have wheat bread, a fake meat that is soy based, a fake cheese that is soy based, and an artificial mayonnaise that is soy based."

Hyatt chooses to be animal-product free for her own health, and doesn't force that on anyone. However, with the issue of animal cruelty, she goes beyond preaching and plans to actively protest one of the most severe forms of the abuse.

"This summer I'm traveling to Spain with PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) to protest the running of the bulls," Hyatt said.

While in Spain, protesting is the her first priority, but her love for traveling will lead her to tourism as well.

It will be Hyatt's first trip to Spain, but she has been to other European countries such as the United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands.

London, where she visited a Salvador Dalí museum, was the most influential for the young liberal.

"I had seen Savador Dali paintings before and I was really excited to tour the gallery because I already like him," Hyatt said. "It was very interesting. There were Dalí's quotes on the wall next to the paintings regarding the piece. There were a bunch of rare and exclusive pieces that I had never heard about. He had re-illustrated the book *El Hingioso Hidalgo Don Quijote De La Mancha* (*Man of La Mancha*). He re-drew the pictures how he saw the story. That museum made me realize how impressive he really was. I had a new found appreciation for his art."

The gallery literally left a lasting impression on Hyatt.

On her 18th birthday, Hyatt had her chest tattooed with the Dali painting *Meditative Rose*.

"I've always thought it was a very attractive and stunning painting," Hyatt said. "It's a cool tattoo because it's a piece of art and not a cheesy, overdone piece off the flash wall. It's inimitable because a lot of people get flower tattoos but this is a painting by my favorite artist."

Admiring the fine art helped inspire Hyatt to begin working in that same direction and start producing her own pieces of art.

Photography was her first artistic passion.

"I've always loved art and photography was an intriguing pastime I had always wanted to get involved in," Hyatt said. "I decided after taking a few photography classes as Highline that this was something I really enjoyed and I wanted to continue to do it on my own time so I converted my bathroom into my own darkroom."

And not just any basic darkroom, but a very advanced room that would usually be quite expensive. With the use of an old ironing board, storage tubs, a pet hose, and a few other odds and ends, Hyatt created a comfortable and professional darkroom, mostly because she was "tired of hunching over the



bathtub to develop a photo," Hyatt said.

Along with capturing photos and developing them, Hyatt leaves her right-brain open to all aspects of art.

"Another artistic hobby I have is painting," Hyatt said. "Painting is something for me to do at the end of the day. I started off just doing the traditional oil on canvas but now I've expanded to painting anything I can."

Combining her two hobbies has created a new pastime.

"I've recently started designing my own furniture incorporating my photographs and paintings," Hyatt said. "Either I'll build furniture or buy a unique piece from the thrift store and refinish it with cool magazine clippings and photographs I've taken or I'll paint it."

And while Dali served as her muse for art, Hyatt says her favorite writer, Kurt Vonnegut, really inspired her to begin writing as well.

About a year ago, Hyatt began writing about various things and decided she wanted to share her work with others. Now she personally writes, publishes, and distributes her self-made magazine to downtown bookstores and other shops.

"Right now I'm concentrat-

ing on my locally distributed zine," Hyatt said. "I have a lot of opinions that I like to share with people. I write articles about my political views and I do a lot of reviews for music, film, and literature. Hopefully I'll grow as a writer and I'll be able to continue doing this later in life."

If her future goes as planned, she will be able to continue writing. Hyatt is graduating from Highline with an emphasis in art and is continuing to study at The Evergreen State College, which she selected "because it's a liberal arts college that I heard of that has a unique curriculum."

"There I plan to get my business degree and combine it with my degree from Highline and open my own mixed media center where I'll host local musical acts, writers, and other artists and give them a place to publicize their work, while I'll have the opportunity to do the same. I'm going to sell clothes, furniture, books, records, zines and whatever else people produce that they want to sell."

This fall Hyatt starts at Evergreen and will begin to pave the path for the rest of her life. As her future goals are important, Hyatt says she'll never abandon what she's doing now - doing what makes her happy.



# Phanta Chambers

## Truly enjoys helping others

Story by

INNA DENCHIK

Photos by

LAUREN POLESKE  
& ADRIENNE HUGHES

She sits behind her desk helping yet another student over the phone.

A smile of satisfaction creeps across her face as the student on the other side of the line thanks her and says goodbye.

She quickly turns her attention to another task at hand, a project handed to her by an Extended Learning staff member, not wasting a minute of her time.

Phanta Chambers is a front-line staff member for the Center of Extended Learning, as well as a graduating student here at Highline.

"Phanta Chambers is a really hard worker and she's always ready to help no matter how busy she is," said Krissy Hatcher, assistant director of marketing and training for the Center of Extended Learning.

Chambers was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska where she attended A.J. Dimond High School.

She was accepted to Western Washington University and moved to Washington in 1997.

After completing two years at Western Washington University, out-of-state tuition was taking its toll on her pocketbook so she decided to finish two years at a community college and then transfer back to a university.

**"Phanta Chambers is a really hard worker and she's always ready to help no matter how busy she is."**

**- Krissy Hatcher, assistant director, Extended Learning**

She came to Highline in the winter of 2001 and graduated in the winter of 2003 and has been working in the Center for Extended Learning since September 2001.

Depending on how things work out, Chambers said that she would like to continue working on Highline campus.

"One of the key things that I have noticed is the level of customer service that she provides for the students," said Sue Williamson, Dean for the Center of Extended Learning.

Since Chambers is a student herself she knows all the ins and outs about financial aide, transferring and a handful of other information that is valuable for any student, said Williamson.

"Chamber knows so much about the program," added Hatcher.

"She has taken the time to learn about every aspect of the department."

Hatcher said that this way she is able to answer almost any question without any assistance from the center staff.

Chambers received her Associates of Arts degree with an emphasis in Literature this past Winter Quarter and will be walking with other 2003 Highline graduates on Thursday, June 12.

She plans to attend the University of Washington next fall where she will work on her Interdisciplinary Arts and Science Degree and study media and culture.

Chambers is confidently working her way toward becoming a counselor.

But Chambers says that she couldn't have done any of it without the support from her mother.

"My mom has been my back bone since the divorce of my



parents when I was 10 years old," said Chambers. "She's my angel."

Chambers' mother told her to go out of state and make something of herself, and that was precisely what she did.

When Chambers came to Western Washington University she met an African American woman who was both a poet and a writer.

"Maya Angelou was a great influence in my life because I got to see someone else, an African American woman like myself, overcome hardships and obstacles in her life," said Chambers.

"She gave me the knowledge as well as inspiration to make me believe that I can do it as well."

Chambers wants to influence people in a good way. This is precisely why she has chosen to continue working with higher education.

Her career path as a counselor will give her the opportunity to help out those with problems

and hardships in their lives.

"One of the things I would change if it was in my power is discrimination," said Chambers. "Anything ending with 'ism'; sexism, ageism, racism."

Chambers feels that it would be a much better world if everyone treated each other the same regardless of background, color, race, or belief.

Although school and her future are her priorities at present, Chambers takes some time to just relax.

On her spare time Chambers likes to just kick back and nap and play the violin.

"I like to play the violin just for fun," said Chambers.

But Chambers said that she would like to get out more.

"Living in Washington for five years now I haven't taken advantage of all it has to offer," said Chambers.

Chambers' goal in the near future is to discover more of Washington and to see the Seattle Symphony live.



# Gunner Argo

## Track star who made it big on and off the field

STORY BY

COLETTE WOODS

PHOTOS BY

CONSTANCE BRADLEY

**G**unner Argo brings competition to the track team and life to the people around him.

Standing a little over six feet tall, with black hair and dark brown eyes usually covered with shades, you can always see him on the track, in the weight room, or playing basketball.

Born in Enumclaw, he moved to Carbonado when he was little, which is small town 15 miles outside Mt. Rainer National Park.

"I always liked living in a small town," said Argo. "You don't have to lock your doors and all of your neighbors are your relatives."

Argo went to White River High School where he graduated in 2000. He admits to being an attention freak.

"I like people watching me," said Argo. "I was senior class president in high school and I enjoy public speaking. I want people to be comfortable around me and I want people to be able to approach me."

He took some time off between high school and coming to Highline.

"Highline was the closest school that had a track team," said Argo. "So I came here."

Argo has been running track since the sixth grade.

"Over the summer in sixth grade, I tried it and I liked it ever since," said Argo. "Now it's like I'm married to the track."

Argo says he is very proud of his track team.

"We all got along really well,

and there weren't any egos," said Argo. "We all worked really hard this season."

Argo competes in the decathlon here at Highline. He also played for the basketball team last season.

"I like track better," said Argo. "Track fits my personality better."

"I am not a big fan of watching sports," said Argo. "I like to play them. I don't have a clear-cut favorite, either. I usually go for the home team. If not, then I go for the underdog."

Even though Argo is an athlete, he admits he doesn't eat everything he should.

"I am not a fitness freak," said Argo. "Sometimes you have to have fun."

One thing that is important to Argo is a good breakfast.

"I love breakfast and I eat one everyday," said Argo. "But the only thing is that most breakfast food is so bad for your health, so I eat oatmeal because it's good for you, but I hate it!"

During his free time, Argo likes to be at home.

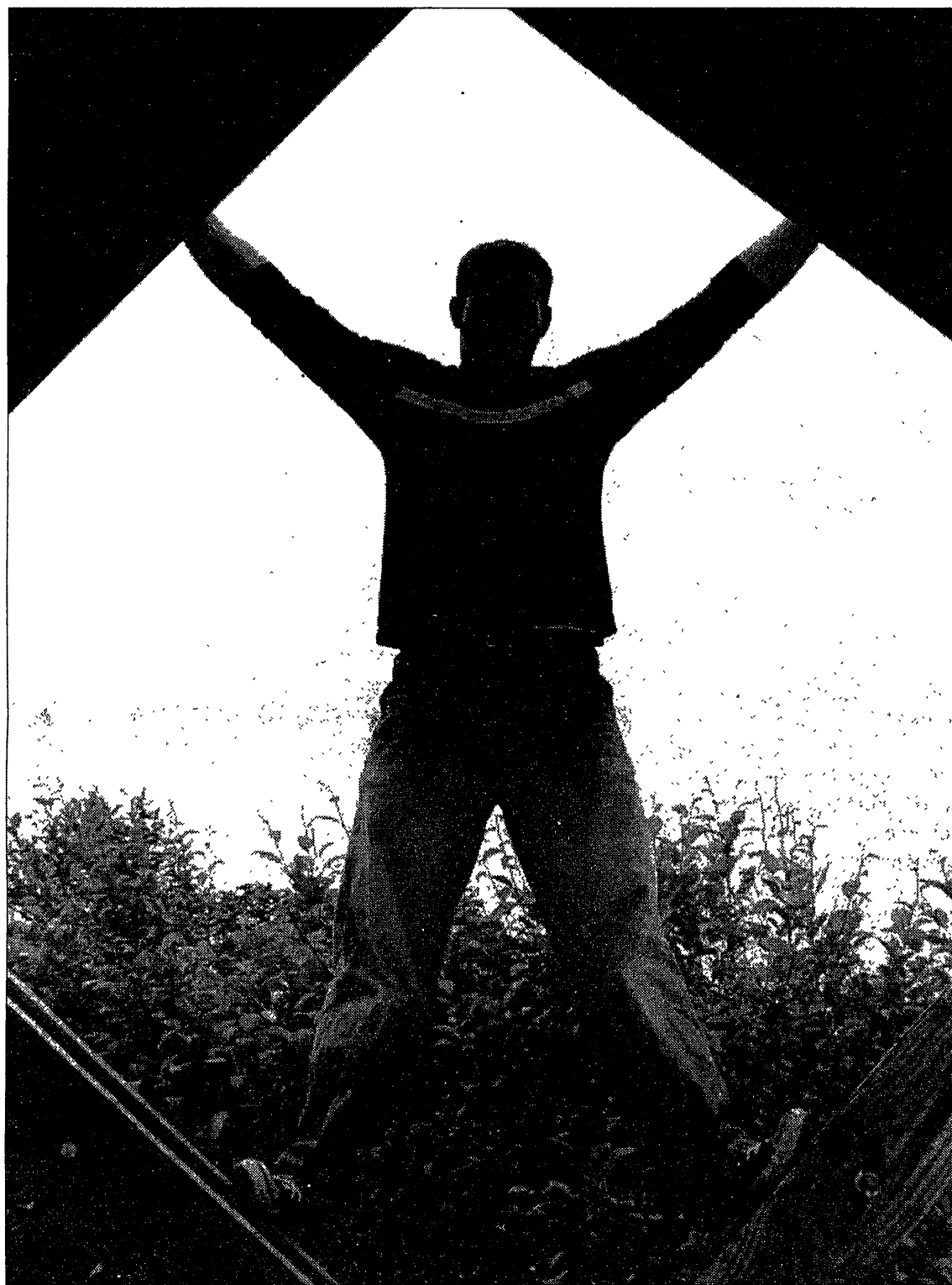
"My free time is so limited because it's an hour and a half drive each way, so most of my time it is spent driving," said Argo. "Luckily, I have a friend that lives closer and I stay there a couple nights a week so I won't have to drive so far."

When he is not driving home from practice or a meet, Argo goes to church where he attends The Church of Jesus Christ for Latter-Day Saints.

"I have always grew up in a church," said Argo. "Religion is a big part of my life."

Despite his hectic schedule, Argo wouldn't have it any other way.

"I'd rather be busy than bored," said Argo. "There is al-



ways something you can do."

Argo has four brothers and a sister.

**H**is sister and two of his brothers are older. The two oldest brothers went to Highline last year.

"It was cool to be here with my brothers," said Argo.

Argo usually listens to rock or alternative music.

"I love girl bands," said Argo. "A girl that can sing is a wonderful thing."

Argo also spends the little free time he has reading novels.

"I like classic novels," said Argo. "I also like to read books about learning."

As far as traveling, Argo spent two months on the East

Coast this past summer.

"It was too muggy," said Argo. "And too many people."

He also went to Las Vegas for a month painting apartments with a friend.

"It was a small town that was two hours away from everything," said Argo. "Which is cool because I got to read a lot."

Despite the rapid weather changes here, Argo's favorite place is still home.

"I grew up with the rain," said Argo. "I like it here and I wouldn't want to be anywhere else."

As for his future, Argo's mind is already made up.

"I am most likely am going to Portland State University," said Argo. "They have a really

good track team and a good education program there."

Argo wants to major in education so he can be a high school English teacher.

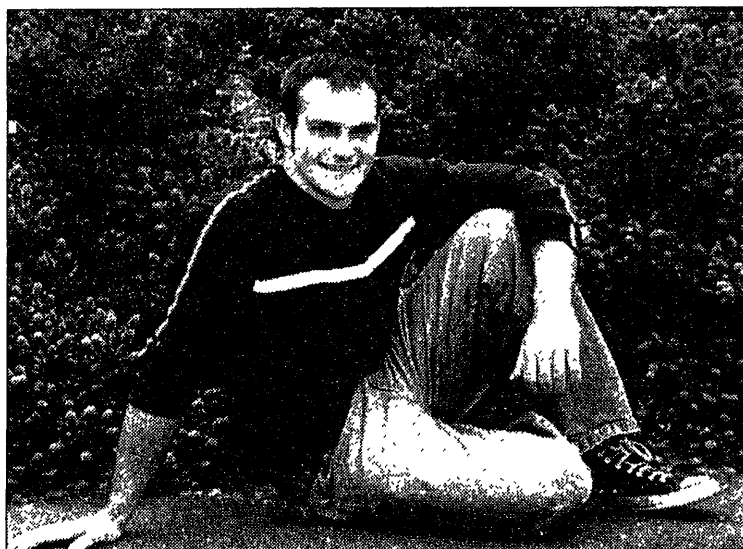
"Knowledge is one of the most underrated things now," said Argo. "I want to get kids excited about learning."

With Argo coming from a big family, he wants one for himself.

"I hope to one day get married and have lots of kids, like seven or eight," said Argo. "My biggest challenge is finding a woman who wants that many kids!"

Argo's philosophy on life is simple: Spread yourself out and try new things.

"It's better to be well rounded," Argo said.



# Interim tent is nearing final stages

By INNA DENCHIK  
Staff Reporter

Completion of the tent is nearing, while plans for the demolition of Building 8 are set for July.

Building 8 will soon be coming down to make way for a new and contemporary student union structure. The rebuilding process will take approximately two years; a tent is being constructed to serve as a cafeteria during the rebuilding process.

Finishing touches are being done on the cafeteria in hopes that it will be ready in time for graduation next Thursday, June 12.

"It's not looking good for the scheduled June 9 opening," said Dr. Phil Sell from facilities.

Although the tent has been fully carpeted, other delays have set back the grand-opening date.

"Plumbing is pretty much done," said Sell. "But electric work is taking longer than expected."

Sell said they are not having difficulties with the electrical work, there is just more labor involved than they had anticipated earlier.

Some appliances have already been installed in the kitchen, but electricity is yet to be connected to the portable.

Storage sheds from the side

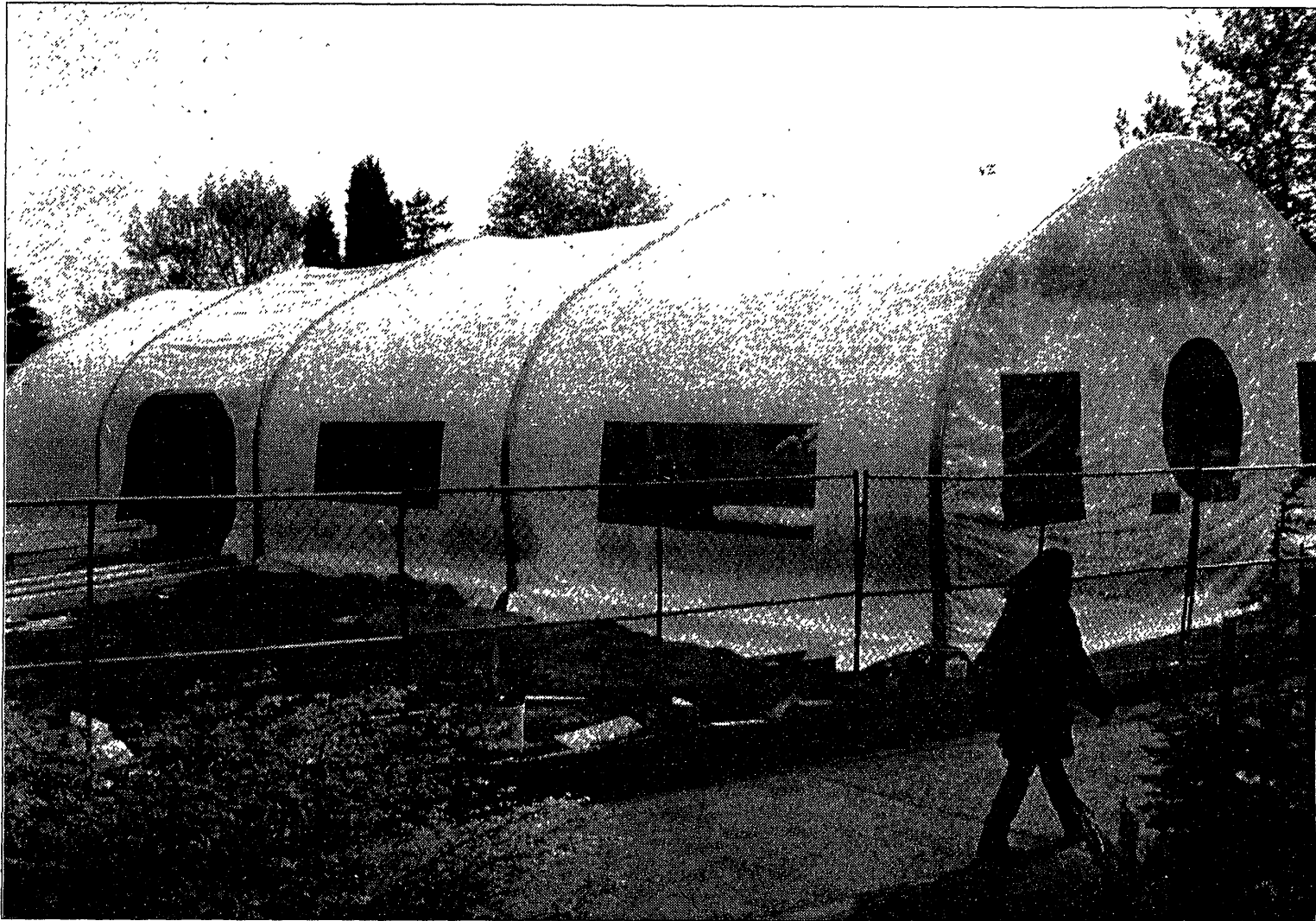


Photo by Connie Bradley

The nearly completed temporary tent will serve as the cafeteria until the new student union building is constructed.

of Building 8 will be moved up to the side of the tent next week.

"The tent will probably open on the 10th or the 11th," said Sell.

The demolition, on the other hand, is scheduled to happen at the beginning of July.

An official notice to proceed with construction will be given

to Lumpkin Construction Company on June 20, said Sell. Lumpkin will then be able to do utility work. They will need to re-route the water and sewer and

that may take one to two weeks.

Sell said, "Demolition will not start before July 1."

## Highline combines program with CWU

By LAUREN POLENSKE  
Staff Reporter

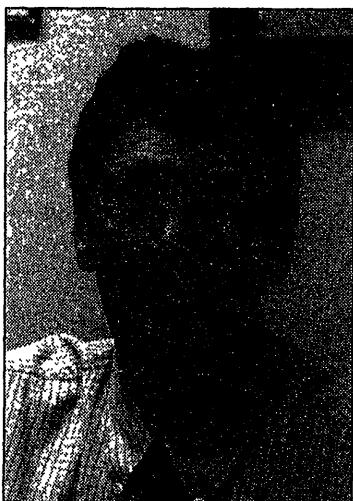
Central Washington University and Highline are teaming up to make it possible for students who are pursuing a non-transferable degree to receive a university diploma in just three years.

The new option is an opportunity for technology students to earn a degree in Industrial Technology and will be offered on the Highline campus.

"If you change your mind and say 'hey, I'd like to transfer,' it just doesn't work," said Bob Maplestone.

Maplestone will be the adviser for the three-year part-time night courses, designed to fit into the typical workday.

"It's really a golden opportunity for students who hadn't planned on wanting to transfer and are without a transferable degree. It's really a neat thing," said Maplestone.



Maplestone

The applied science degree (AS) is a transferable degree but the Associate of Applied Science degree (AAS) is not. Usually they are both degrees where when students finish they usually find work and their schooling is then complete.

With this new option students will be able to attend CWU without leaving Highline, Maplestone said.

The degree is fashioned after a similar program already offered at Edmonds Community College in Safety and Health Management.

The program will be formed in a cohort model, Maplestone said, moving through one group of students who enroll at a time.

"We found that it was better for the students that way," Maplestone said. "They will learn together, study together and essentially be a support group for each other."

There are two possible routes in the program designed for each degree type that the student will bring with them. The core of the program will stay the same, the only change will be in what type of electives the student needs to meet the required credits.

The end product will be the same for either route, they will end the program together and earn a Bachelor of Applied Science or Bachelor of Science de-

gree.

There will be a distance program set up that will link Highline CWU students to Edmonds CWU students in order to meet the minimum number of students that are needed in order for the program to be successful.

The Edmonds students and Highline students will be hooked up through video and be able to talk and see each other, in the two different classrooms.

This new degree option is only available to students in the technology programs, including business, engineering and drafting.

The courses offered from CWU will be open to Highline students as well as Central Washington University students and will be taught at the 300-400 level.

The program will start in Fall Quarter 2003 and needs a minimum amount of 23 students to enroll in order to succeed.

Do you want a chance force your cherished ideals upon on an unsuspecting public, carefully manipulating their core beliefs into a mere shell of rational decency? Then don't come to the Thundeword, and don't take Journalism 101 Fall Quarter.

# Jacobs learns to adjust at Highline

By AMANDA HETZEL  
Staff Reporter

Highline professor Mark Jacobs may be learning as much as his students this quarter.

Jacobs had to learn how to change his style of teaching to accommodate the needs of Highline students, since he is used to how the students in Cape Town, South Africa, learn.

Cape Town is located on the far south western tip of South Africa. It has a Mediterranean climate.

"This is winter for me," said Jacobs. The summers in Cape Town are usually pleasantly warm.

Cape Town is known for being liberal but it does have a lot of poverty as well as crime and drugs. On the other hand South Africa is a very beautiful country that is becoming a big tourist attraction.

Cape Town is full of rich history and is a cultural melting pot with its diverse and vibrant character being derived from Khoisan and other African tribes from the north, and Indonesian, French, Dutch, British and German settlers.

Jacobs has been at Highline Spring Quarter teaching computerized Math 85, and Math

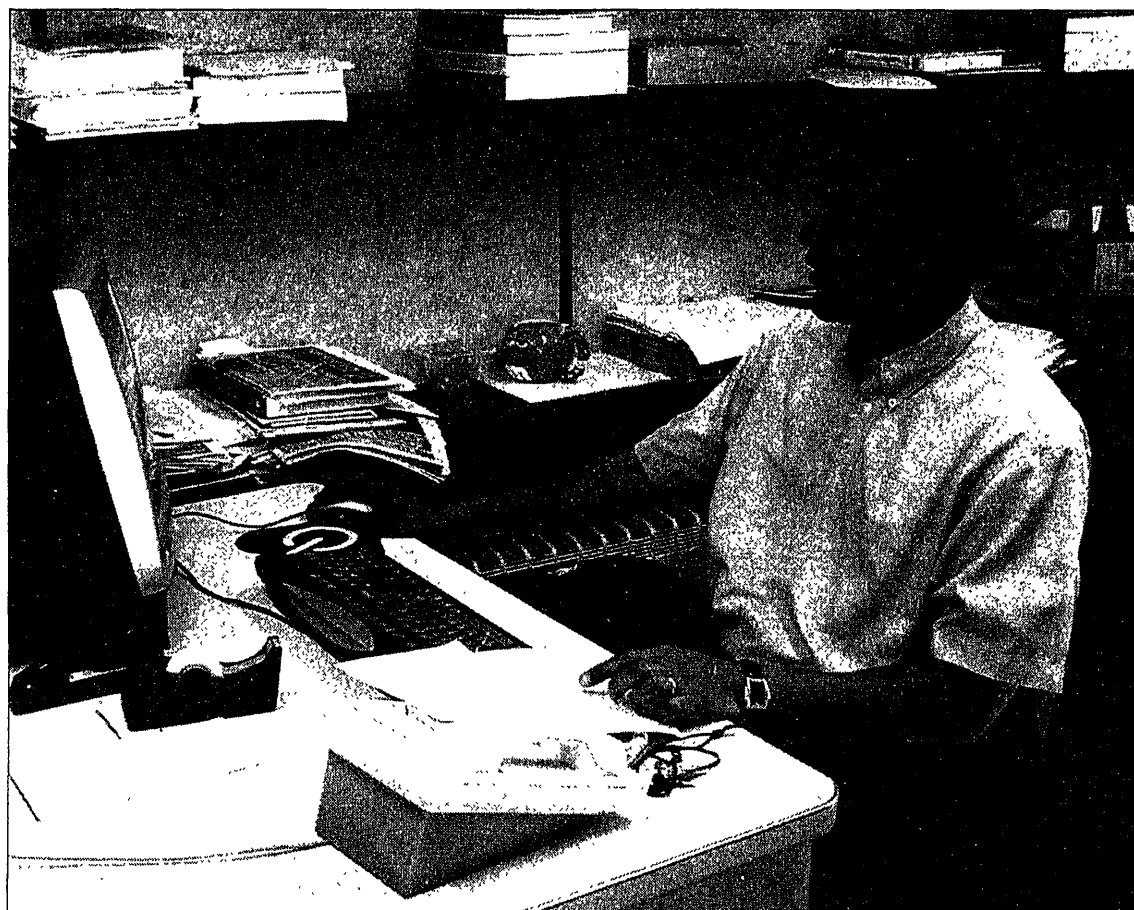


Photo by Ben Johnston

Mark Jacobs prepares for another day in class in his office in Building 17.

115, as well as learning more about computer-based math.

Jacobs teaches at an institution in Cape Town that is mainly involved in technical training. He is a professor of math for engineers and technicians.

On Jacobs' first day at Highline he was excited to be on campus and to see the diversity of students.

"There is a high expectation on students to work on their own here. That was the first

thing that I noticed," said Jacobs.

Jacobs noticed that Highline students have more active support from teachers, but are still more independent and more driven than the students in

South Africa. However, students there tend to work more together.

Jacobs had to change his style of teaching when he arrived here. He noticed that the contact is more personal.

The students Jacob taught expected more from him, if that meant more homework or even more time available for his students outside of class.

It was very different for him in the beginning because everyone here gets on with their own work, he said.

"Everyone is very welcoming to me, but I think they found my style maybe a bit unusual," said Jacobs.

Jacobs was surprised to see that some students needed more help than others, which meant that Jacobs had to be versatile.

"I have learned that I have to persuade students to be more self-reliant," said Jacobs. He also plans on using more audio-visual aids while teaching back at Cape Town, because he saw how well the students learned from them.

"I came to a very good college, and it was a great experience. I appreciate the opportunity to experience another society. I only wish it was a bit longer," said Jacobs.

## New Team Highline still to be announced

By SYREETA BERNAL  
Staff Reporter

The names of the new Team Highline members have not been released yet because all the candidates have not been notified, the group's adviser said Wednesday.

"They were all great," says Natasha Burrowes, Team Highline adviser.

The five new members for next year were chosen on Tuesday.

In total 13 students applied for the yearlong position of planning events for the college.

"I really enjoyed meeting these students and seeing what they have to offer Highline," says Burrowes.

"We had a great year full of successful events," Burrowes said.

"For as long as I have been here they have made this a great experience for me," says Burrowes.

## Abduction being examined

By CHANDRA SMITH  
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Police Department is investigating a rape that happened in a Highline parking lot at approximately two minutes after midnight on May 23.

The victim, a 19-year-old Tacoma resident, was on the Des Moines side of Pacific Highway South when she was abducted by two subjects and taken by automobile to a poorly lit area on the south side of the administrative parking lot, but the exact location of where she was taken against her will is unknown.

The assailants proceeded to rape her in Highline's parking lot, threatening her with a knife. The victim was able to flag down a passing motorist who alerted police.

When they arrived, she was too upset to identify her assailants or supply additional information.

She was taken by ambulance to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle where she was treated and released the same day. The

woman did provide medical evidence that may enable police to make a DNA match.

The Des Moines Police Department is making an effort to gain enough information from the victim to create a composite sketch of her two assailants.

Detective Ross Stuth of the Des Moines Police Department said the next steps police will take depend on the analysis of evidence recovered and ability to locate witnesses, Stuth said.

The incident may be related to two other Kent rape cases but there are two sides to every story, he said.

"There are some discrepancies in the issues of the complaint and the information obtained to this date. We are still working with the victim to clarify these discrepancies," Stuth said.

The victim does not currently attend Highline, he said.

The hour of the evening and the fact that the woman was alone played important roles and increased the danger of being raped, Stuth said.

"The time that this occurred wasn't when students were around," he said.

To decrease the risk of being raped he suggests that students take the usual precautions such as walking in pairs and carrying electronic devices that can be used to alert others.

If a woman feels threatened and doesn't carry an alarm, a simple whistle or scream will do.

"A woman is 10 times more vulnerable when she is by herself. Take a friend with you," Stuth said.

Richard Fisher, director of campus security and safety, said additional security personnel would not be on duty as a result of the rape.

"We have 82 acres to cover. As much as we would like to, if we increase the security staff for instance, there would have to be one person in each parking lot. There are also other potential areas of crime. We don't have the personnel or the funds to do it," Fisher said.

Security will rely on techniques such as doubling back to avert crime instead, he said.

"These kinds of crimes happen all the time and this just happened to be the place where they did it," Fisher said.

### Memorial table

A table in Recognition of veterans will be available in front of Building 6 on Thursday the 5 from 10:15 to 12:15 and on Friday the 6 from 9:15 to 12:15. Visitors can light a candle, write a note, say a loved one's name over a microphone or pick up a poem.

### Buyback bonus

Students who sell their books to the bookstore during Buyback June 9-13, will be eligible to win a variety of prizes including yo-yos and stuffed animals by trying their hand at putt-putt.

### No access to Building 23

Building 23 will be shut down due to construction this summer.

### Library service hours for summer

The Library will be changing their hours of operation during the Summer. The library will be open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and will extend its hours to 9 p.m. on Fridays.

Reference Services will be available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.



# Sims asks students to get involved

BY LAUREN POLENSKE  
Staff Reporter

People in college need to become more politically active or they will inherit a lot of problems in the future, King County Executive Ron Sims said here last Thursday.

Sims was invited to speak to Jean Harris' African American Experience class.

The class wanted to know how they could make a difference, Professor Jean Harris said. Sims spoke about a variety of topics including his political history, funding for health care, federal debt, affirmative action and reparations.

As King County executive, Sims is responsible for the 11th largest county in the United States.

King County has the second largest road network, two jails and a large bus system, Sims said. He is also presiding over mental health and public health systems countywide.

Sims got his start in politics as student body president in college and an activist against the Viet Nam War.

"There just didn't seem to be a purpose or an end to the war," Sims said, adding he was among only six black students out of 5,000 students total.

The combination of not having adequate materials in school, the stresses of war and the ratio of black to white students is why Sims said he'd had enough.

"I said 'No, No more of this.'



Photo by Rachel Platt  
Ron Sims relates his college experience to Highline students.

I became an intern for Governor Dan Evans because I wanted something, I just didn't know what," Sims said.

He advised the class that the only way to success is to work hard until the job is fully done and done in a superb way. Sims linked this philosophy to his

first summer job where he cleaned toilets.

Sims focused on riling up the students into making a difference.

"In the future if you don't have health insurance, or you're layed off and need a transplant, you're not going to get it," Sims

said. "Unless you're going to be able to pay for it, you won't be worth it."

He explained that this is the mentality of insurance companies for this generation and in the future.

"Our appetite exceeded our economic growth," Sims said.

The greatest threat to this country in the future is violence and the economy, Sims said.

"You will have to make up a \$44 trillion deficit, how?" Sims said. "What do you cut?"

The only way to make up this money is raising every tax by 66 percent, Sims said, explaining that when the majority of the baby boomer generation retires in 10 years the debt will be in this generation's hands.

"We would need higher taxes and major cuts. This is a huge challenge to future generations," Sims said. "The only way to change this is if you're active in your government. If you're not active shame on you."

The goal Sims would like to see is involvement. Getting out, making informed decisions about voting, talk to the candidate and if they don't have the time to talk to you, don't vote for them he said.

"Someone has to and will rewrite all the rules," Sims said.

"Are you going to be the one to rewrite them, or let somebody else? If you don't vote, you automatically vote for the winner."

Sims believes one of the first steps to getting involved is voting and being educated on the issues.

"Involvement means change. And when you change the government, you change lives," Sims said.

Sims credits his place in politics to Affirmative Action, saying he knows a few jobs he received based solely on the color of his skin.

"I got more specialized cases," Sims said referring to when he worked as an investigator. "And I will never apologize for that. I'm proud of affirmative action, it increases the pool of candidates."

When a student asked about his stand on reparations, the payment to African Americans for damages caused by slavery, Sims paused and then said he was in favor of it.

"Slavery ended, and all they (slaves) wanted to do was to go and find each other and form families," Sims said, as he told the class he doesn't think he'll live to see it, but that he is in favor of the idea.

The hour Sims had to speak came and went but students didn't leave right away. They stayed to listen and ask questions.

"He's very down to earth. Definitely not one of those boujie politicians," student Anna Copeland said.

# Strohmaier helps students with uncertain future

BY ZACK AMAN  
Staff Reporter

Highline lab instructor Joy Strohmaier might have to leave campus at the end of this year.

"I love helping students and I love the feeling of community on campus," Strohmaier said.

Strohmaier has been a familiar face on campus in the past decade.

"I was an instructor at Highline from 1991-1995 and then went to Wyoming and came back here in 2000," Strohmaier said.

Strohmaier born in Colorado, her only daughter lives in Chicago, and she has been on the move the past two decades, but hopes to call Highline home for a long time.

"I have obtained both my master's and bachelor's degree,



and I had to do it at both University of Arizona and University of Wyoming," Strohmaier said.

"I really would like to stay at Highline and continue with programs that we've helped establish on campus," Strohmaier said.

Strohmaier teaches microbi-

"I want to do whatever I can to help students on campus succeed..."

**-Joy Strohmaier, instructor**

ology, anatomy and physiology, and cell biology classes on campus.

Strohmaier has played a big role in keeping micro lab classes available to students during the Summer Quarter.

"I want to do whatever I can to help students on campus suc-

ceed, because I know that everyone here has separate lives and it's hard for some people to even make it to school," Strohmaier said.

"I love to guide my students in their work and answer their questions, and watch them light up when they know the correct answer, and I learn a lot from them," Strohmaier said.

Strohmaier might be leaving Highline at the end of the year, because she's not contracted to instruct past this upcoming year.

"It's tough not having a definite idea of the future, and being unsure if your going to be coming back or not," Strohmaier said.

"If I'm not teaching at Highline, I will be teaching somewhere. Maybe even overseas," Strohmaier said.

"Highline has been good to me, and the people is what I

love most about the campus, because everyone wants to succeed," Strohmaier said.

Strohmaier isn't contracted to teach past this year, but she wants to give advice to any students who want to succeed at Highline and hopes to see both students and faculty at the beginning of next year.

"Get to know your instructors, and your classmates. We all are good people and we want to succeed, and if we work together we can reach our potential," Strohmaier said.

## Got News?

Call  
206-878-3710  
ext. 3317

## Family fun available at local parks



Photo by Adrienne Hughes

Children play at Des Moines Beach park during a hot summer day. Boasting well over 20 city parks, ranging from the 0.1-acre Overlook 1 Park to the newly dedicated 20.5-acre Steven J. Underwood Memorial Park, Des Moines has a park for every desire. The city invites you to visit two of their local parks that will be hosting local entertainers for fun, family oriented entertainment in the community. Wooten Park, located across from Salty's in lower Redondo, and Des Moines Beach Park, located at the north end of the Des Moines Marina, will be hosting a series of concerts, appropriately called the

2003 Soundwaves Summer Concert Series.

Beginning with The Brian Waite Band on the afternoon of July 15 at Des Moines Beach Park and ending the evening of Aug. 19 with the traditional Irish Band The Gaels, there will be something attuned to everyone's liking. The concert series is being sponsored by the Des Moines Legacy Foundation and Char Schultz State Farm Insurance. Whether you bring family, friends or a picnic lunch you can enjoy the sights and sounds at these popular summer retreats.

## Cafeteria controversy still being investigated

By WINDY L. BUTLER  
Staff Reporter

Highline's administration hopes to bring a resolution to the racial slur issue that occurred in the student union cafeteria on May 14 by the end of next week.

Aramark, the company that runs the cafeteria, is currently investigating the incident along with the Highline administration.

Aramark is the employer of Cliff Kauahi, food service supervisor who was involved in this incident with student Jerall Folkes.

Debbie Albert, spokeswoman for Aramark, is gathering the information for review.



Gorne

Albert said from her office in Philadelphia. "We are looking into the matter and hope to resolve this issue soon."

When Cliff Kauahi was asked to give his own statement on this matter, he declined.

Meanwhile, Ivan Gorne, vice president of Student Services, is finding that this issue is taking longer than anticipated.

"All I can tell you at this time is Aramark does not condone this kind of behavior,"

"The situation has taken more time than we like, but it's not unusual," said Gorne. "Sometimes these types of issues take a couple of weeks to take care of."

Highline has been in constant contact with Aramark to resolve the issue, said Gorne.

"She (Albert) has a copy of the materials that we put together in our fact-finding effort regarding this issue and she told me they would expect to take some form of action by the end of next week," said Gorne.

Aramark has not had a chance to talk with legal counsel even though they have a copy of the documentation, Gorne said.

"So, this is where they are, but they have been in communica-

tion with Mr. Cliff Kauahi," said Gorne. "Mr. Kauahi has been out due to emergency surgery, but Aramark was surprised to see him back doing work because of the surgery."

The college will continue to assure the campus community that this type of behavior is not condoned and appropriate action will be taken, said Gorne.

"The employer and the college are going through this kind of investigation as we normally would," said Gorne. "Because it's an outside contractor, we expect them to take action that we feel comfortable with and they have been doing just that. They take this issue very seriously as well."

Several parties have stated that

all parties involved need to be held accountable for what happened, said Gorne.

"Even with the unfortunate nature of the communication and the inappropriate use of the term, I would like both parties directly involved to come to some kind of reconciliation and appropriate resolution to what their feelings are," said Gorne.

"That is real important in terms of acknowledgement, but also were they are going to go from here and maybe they can move forward in a way that they both can feel comfortable with. We all learn a lot more when we can get to that point about building relationships instead of having instincts that affect relationships negatively," Gorne said.



# Highline alumnus now local chiropractor

By INNA DENCHIK  
Staff Reporter

A successful Highline alumnus has made his way back to Des Moines.

A 1987 graduate of Highline, Dr. Greg Summers, has joined a successful chiropractic practice in the Des Moines business community, MacDermott Chiropractic Center.

Attending Highline 1985-1987, Summers received an associate of arts degree with an emphasis in biology and math.

In 1999, he returned to Highline to work on physics and chemistry prerequisites required for chiropractic school.

Summers said that he remembers when SeaTac Mall was a large swamp where he and his friends used to play.

"I lived in Federal Way when there were only three houses on my block and there were only two places to eat at," said Summers.

"I still live in the house my father built."

Summers originally had plans to go to the University of Washington for pre-med and

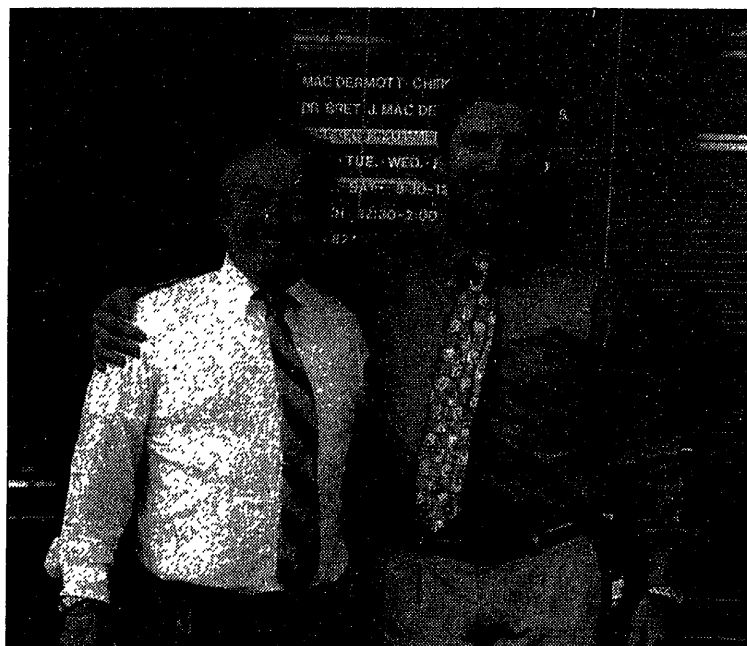


Photo by Inna Denchik

Dr. Summers, right, with his partner, Dr. MacDermott.

then become a toxicologist.

After finishing his degree at Highline, he did obtain his bachelor's in zoology, pre-med from the University of Washington but decided that he would need additional funds for his master's degree.

This is when Summers followed in his grandmother's and mother's footsteps, and went to Alexander Massage School lo-

cated in Tacoma, becoming a licensed massage therapist.

When Summers began to do massage therapy he enjoyed it immensely and continued to do sports and medical massage as all ideas of becoming a toxicologist completely departed his head.

"I have massaged 20 Olympic gold medalists," said Summers. "I have also been invited

to massage the Iron Man athletes in Hawaii four times."

But Summers wanted to go further, so listening to his mentor of 15 years, he went to Western States Chiropractic College.

"It's all Dr. [Bret] MacDermott's fault," said Summers jokingly, with reference to becoming a chiropractor.

Summers is now married to LeAnne Summers and has two boys: Sean, 9 years old and Colin, 3 years old.

During his free time, Summers is an active outdoors man.

"I love the outdoors," said Summers. "I do everything, hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, photography, etc."

Summers also spends a good amount of time volunteering.

"I give a free lecture the first Tuesday of every month called 'Grill the Doc'," said Summers.

"During this time anyone who participates is given the opportunity to ask any questions that they would like."

Summers organized the lecture because he believes that doctors need to make themselves more available for questions that anyone may have.

Although chiropractic is his

primary focus, Summers occasionally performs massages for patients.

MacDermott Chiropractic Center has been in practice for 25 years and is located off of Marine View Drive and the Kent-Des Moines Road.

"I met Dr. MacDermott 15 years ago my mothers massage clinic and his practice have been referring back and forth for years," said Summers.

Summers said that there are two types of chiropractic styles.

The first is called straight chiropractors that believe when the spine is restored to health other health care such as immunization and pharmaceuticals are unnecessary.

The second type of chiropractor is called a mixer who believes that different type of healthcare will help with different complications in the body.

"We call our selves 'medipractors'," said Summers. "'Medi', for the medical field and 'practor', for chiropractors. We all have our place in someone's treatment. Try the most conservative and then refer to a different mean if treatment is not available there."

## Japanese instructor eases learning process

By JEROME SIRMAN  
AND JASON LEGGETT  
Staff Reporters

Most students of the Japanese language start their first quarter at Highline baffled and overwhelmed with the task that lies ahead of them.

Despite these fears, Japanese instructor Midori Kunitsugu introduces and relates the material in such a manner so they grasp complex concepts and stimulates progress rather rapidly through the course. Kunitsugu has one key principle on which she attributes success.

"Students must do their homework. To get better, they must study," Kunitsugu said.

Kunistugu started her career as an exchange teacher from Japan. She taught Japanese while also taking classes at Seattle Pacific University and later at Seattle University, to earn her Washington state teachers certification.

Soon after, she took the job teaching Japanese here at Highline. She has been helping intimidated students learn Japanese for the past 11 years.

Kunitsugu uses several different techniques to teach the students how to speak Japanese.



Kunitsugu

One tactic is to organize students into small groups to practice conversation techniques and help sharpen their reaction and communication skills.

Even after practicing in groups, speaking Japanese consistently remains difficult. Despite familiar vowels and phonetic structure, problems usually occur when trying to create legitimate sentences based on the English system.

Japanese usually leaves

many words left out in sentences because they view them as implied. Personal pronouns and modifying verbs are a couple of examples that tend to throw students off right from the beginning. Absolutely essential to the English language, they are rarely used among the Japanese.

The further into the language a student delves, the more difficult the word order seems to become. "This language has me speechless," said Luke Plouf, a Japanese student. "It just gets harder and harder."

The written aspect of the language is equally challenging and even more complex.

40,000 different intricately hand-written characters, originally derived from the ancient Chinese system called kanji, make up the Japanese language.

Of course this is too many to learn, so the focus is targeted to the most important kanji. Students are required to learn

around 200 during Winter and Spring Quarter.


In addition, there are two other alphabets students need to worry about: hiragana and katakana. These two scripts focus on the original Japanese words and foreign words, such as nouns and simple verbs. Each system has approximately 45 characters each and the symbols tend to look alike but have different meanings.

These obstacles to learning the language are met head on by a very motivated and enthusiastic instructor, who takes a personal interest in every student's success. Every day, Kunitsugu

comes with a well-planned lecture and plenty of visual aids, including amusing videos of comical game shows as well as over sized flash cards.

Kunitsugu faces a new challenge of helping students master a 200 level class at Highline this Fall Quarter. As her in-class personality indicates, she is equally excited about the opportunity to teach more of her culture and language to those with a passion to learn it.

Though learning Japanese can be daunting, Midori Kunitsugu makes the learning process a little bit smoother and a lot more fun, her students say.



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# Kurd students dream of change

BY ZACK AMAN  
 Staff Reporter

The lives of Highline students Susan Shamdeen and Sheelan Shamdeen continue to change due to turmoil in Iraq.

Living thousands of miles away from their homeland Kurdistan both Susan Shamdeen and Sheelan Shamdeen are still worried about the welfare of their people.

"We believe in the war to get Saddam Hussein out, but we don't believe in the killing of innocent lives," Susan Shamdeen said.

Kurdistan, a country divided, is located on the borders of Iraq and Turkey.

"Kurdistan people are proud people, but we just want to be freed from Saddam (Hussein)," Sheelan Shamdeen said.

Both Susan, 23, and Sheelan Shamdeen 24, have been living in America for seven years.

Susan accompanied by her sister Sheelan, came with her husband's family to America for a chance at a more stable life.

"I live in America, but a piece of me is still in Kurdistan with our parents," said Susan Shamdeen.

Both Susan and Sheelan's parents still live in Kurdistan, and both yearn to return home one day.

"We both love America, because America has helped us so



Susan and Sheelan during Diversity Week talking with others about their culture.

Photos by Adrienne Hughes

much, but if things get stable back home I wouldn't mind going back," Sheelan Shamdeen said.

"One of my teachers gave me a hug and told me not to worry because she knew I still had family there," Sheelan Shamdeen said.

When the war began in Iraq

both Susan and Sheelan's daily lives changed.

"Our teachers were more aware of where we were from and asked us questions and were very supportive," Susan Shamdeen said.

"Students in our classes began asking us where we were from," Susan Shamdeen said.

Susan and Sheelan both welcome all the attention because they want people to know more about their country.

"Sometimes when I told people I was from Kurdistan they would always have a strange look on their face, but now thanks to the news they know," Susan said.

Although Susan and Sheelan's country got exposure in the media, they along with the 15 other students from Kurdistan who attend Highline were struggling with another challenge.

"We watch the news every single day sometimes on our breaks me and my sister go to the library to catch the latest news," Sheelan said.

Both sisters had a tough time balancing their school schedule and keeping up with the news.

"I had to drop out of one of my classes because things were too hectic both at my house and my homeland it was too much," Susan Shamdeen said.

"When I would come home I would find either my husband Salahaddin or my son Cosmat and Nader on the phone with people back home," Susan Shamdeen said.

"I feel so bad for our parents I wish they could be back here with us, but I believe they will be alright I hope," Sheelan Shamdeen said.

With all of the adversity both Sheelan and Susan Shamdeen have faced they believe everything will be OK, because they both hope and feel that something big is on the horizon.

"I hope that after all that has been going on that my country of Kurdistan can return back to being peaceful, and the people can relax," Susan Shamdeen said.

# Office assistant retires after 19 years

BY MAK ZULJEVIC  
 Staff Reporter

Office assistant Jaci Graff has retired after 19 years of service for Highline students.

She has held many positions throughout the years, including working in the counseling department and the Admissions office.

"Jaci was our head triage officer, our paperwork queen, our computer technician, our procurement specialist. The Counselors will miss her sharp wit and warm greetings in the morning," says Gloria Koepping, one of her coworkers.

Graff said the feelings are mutual and she will miss her friends and coworkers also.

"Highline has a beautiful campus, and the people with whom I worked were all dedicated," Graff said.

As for her retirement plans, Graff says she'll keep her eyes open for new adventures.

"Jaci Graff is our Frank Sinatra."

-Lance Gibson,  
 counseling center

"I will most likely do some traveling, and I also have in mind to remodel my house," Graff said.

Wherever she goes, Jaci will always remember Highline's warm atmosphere.

"I hope that the students will continue to perform the best way they can, and they can be sure that I will always support them and Highline's institution," said Graff.

Everyone is sad to see Graff leave.

The words of her coworkers speak for themselves.

"Jaci Graff is our Frank

Sinatra," said Lance Gibson, director of the counseling center. "she will surely be missed."



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# Emerson named trustee of the year

By MAK ZULJEVIC  
Staff Reporter

J. Michael Emerson, a Highline trustee since 1996, has been selected by Washington's Trustees' Association of Community and Technical Colleges (TACTC) for its highest honor, Trustee of the Year.

As a dedicated member of the higher education system, Emerson's contributions blanket all members of the Highline community, from the fellow board members to students to anyone interested in education issues, others on campus say.

"He can always be counted on for calm, thoughtful, logical and correct analysis," said fellow Highline trustee Michael Allan.

The five-member board of trustees is a Governor-appointed board responsible for the running of Highline.

While under Emerson's leadership, TACTC undertook and



"I am really proud of Highline, since it is an excellent academic institution,"

**-J. Michael Emerson,  
Highline Trustee**

completed two major studies supporting the role of community colleges in higher education.

Emerson has contributed to education in a variety of ways during his role as a Highline trustee by working with organizations such as TACTC. Whether speaking with legislators, fellow trustees, students or others in the Highline community, Emerson has flair for cutting to the truth in the most diplomatic way possible, according

to fellow TACTC members.

"We have a strong fiscal program, but we have to pay attention and complete the constructions for the new student building on campus," Emerson said.

From organizing outside speakers to performing as master of ceremonies at the college's annual "Circle of Honor" recognition banquet and supporting student-initiated projects, Emerson keys in on involvement.

He has participated in every

Highline graduation since his appointment to the college's board and also served as a member of the college's Foundation board, prior to his appointment as a trustee.

"He is a fine representative of this superb system of higher education," said Tom Koenninger, chairman of the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC). "And deserves recognition as an exemplary trustee."

Emerson's words speak for his pride in Highline.

"We often talk about diversity, and since Highline has a strong mix of diverse backgrounds between the students, we should improve with the diversity of faculty members," Emerson said. "I am really proud of Highline, since it is an excellent academic institution," said Emerson.

He played an active role in the nationwide search for a new college president, traveling to

candidates' campuses to lead interviews. He was a strong advocate for a new student union building, now under construction on Highline's main campus, and continues to actively promote student leadership.

His position as this year's TACTC president regularly brings him into contact with legislators, and he has testified before the Senate Higher Education Committee. In addition to such front-line roles, he continues to work with the regents and trustees of state two and four year institutions on a collaborative approach to higher education and participates as an instructor at orientation sessions for new trustees.

"Every time I attend a lecture, I see a high level of interaction between the students and staff members," Emerson said.

Emerson earned his A.B. and M.B.A. at Dartmouth and his J.D. at Stanford. He is a senior executive with The Boeing Company and lives in Burien.

## Legislature reaches bittersweet budget resolution

By BEN JOHNSTON  
Staff Reporter

As the end of the state budget saga nears, the Republican Senate and the Democratic House are split only on the satisfaction the end of weeks of negotiations provide.

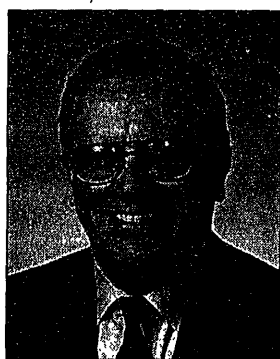
State Rep. Dave Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, scoffed at the statement by a Republican senator that the budget does as little damage to higher education as possible.

"Just looking at the budget, I can't see anyone being proud of it," Upthegrove said. "An across the board cut to higher ed is serious damage. It's appalling, certainly nothing to be proud of."

The across the board cut takes \$131 million from the statewide higher education budget, \$2.2 million of which will be taken from Highline. A two-year, 14-percent tuition hike is put in place to supplant the loss of funds, but the high number of ESL/ABL students here will stiffen the blow for Highline.

Among the few concessions offered is a \$6.3 million allotment for 400 transferring juniors statewide per year. The Legislature sees transferring from a two-year school to a four-year school as more cost-effective, and wishes to encourage students to take that route.

Also, \$5 million has been al-



"...I'll be pleased to vote for it,"

**-Sen. Don Carlson,  
R-Vancouver**

"Tell that to ... a student who can barely afford tuition as it is,"



tion," said state Senator Don Carlson, R-Vancouver. "But I'll be pleased to vote for it."

While some in the Democrat-controlled House are displeased with the end product, none are denying the likelihood that it will pass before the midnight Tuesday deadline.

"I would expect this budget to pass," Upthegrove said, without satisfaction. "Tell that to a part-time faculty member who works two jobs, commutes between two schools, barely makes a living at it and now has no COLAs and increased benefit costs, or a student who can barely afford tuition as it is."

lotted for part-time and full-time faculty increments statewide, which will be split down the middle between full- and part-time faculty.

"It's a step backwards," Upthegrove said. "Higher ed took a big whack. (Faculty) will see no COLAs, will have to pay more for health care. It's not

much in the way of a bright spot."

"No one is going to be happy with a budget that's going to cut \$131 million from higher educa-

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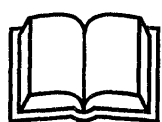
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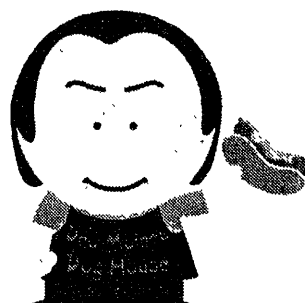
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## Robinett rises above past problems

By HOLLY GLEIM  
Staff Reporter

Staff member Jodie Robinett has put the pieces of her life puzzle back together.

Robinett is the Student Programs Office Assistant in Building 16. Robinett has been working for Highline for two years.

Many of her daily tasks include providing services to clubs and Student Government, supervising the front desk, and managing the flow of people and the work. She is able to connect with students in many ways.

She has overcome many obstacles over her lifetime. From the beginning it would seem that Robinett has had what you would call a rough life. From the age of 3 Robinett still can recall memories of her mother's drinking. That wasn't the only problem within her family. Her mother's drinking later led to the violence, verbal, and sexual abuse within her home.

At the age of 6 Robinett was taken away from her mother and placed in her father's custody.

After moving in with her father, she had very little supervision as a child. Her father and stepmother got married and Robinett became the focus of attention for their teasing.

By her early childhood her self-esteem was shot. As a child Robinett had always been told she was fat and that she needed to change.

After all the hatred and abuse she suffered, she still tried to be different and please people.

In junior high everyone began experimenting with drugs and alcohol. Even with all the drug use and alcohol in her past, Robinett had yet to experiment with any drugs. At 14 years old, Robinett was one of the last in her family to experiment with drugs. The experimenting began with marijuana.

"It all started because of peer pressure," Robinett said.

The marijuana was a daily task for Robinett from the age of 14-31. At 16 years old she began to drink and decided to stop because "I didn't want to end up like my mother," said Robinett.

After being clean for a while Robinett decided to get married at the age of 18.

Her husband was into drugs and Robinett felt that the only way her husband would love her is if she were to do what he said. They started traveling around experimenting with different types of drugs.

They later had a child and

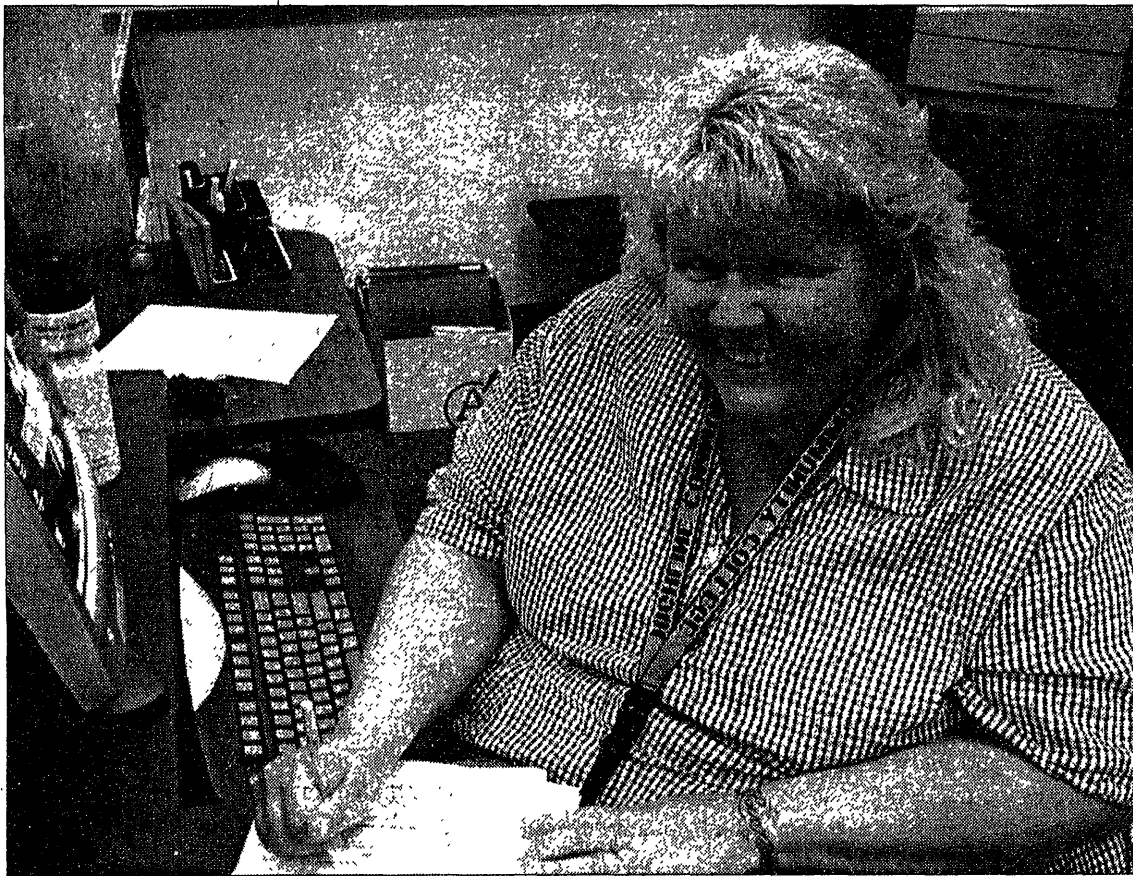


Photo by Adrienne Hughes

Robinett is the office assistant in Building 16 for Student Programs.

Robinett was always honest with her son about smoking weed because she did not want to hide anything from him.

"I always believed that weed wasn't a problem, but the long term effect is the real problem," said Robinett.

Her husband became very abusive in many ways and they later separated.

"If you're not screaming at me then you don't love me," said Robinett.

This is how Robinett felt most of her life, because this is the way she had been raised, with someone constantly yelling.

The abuse continued throughout many of her relationships, but this is the way she felt wanted when she was with

these men.

"By the age of 23 I began to experiment with powdered drugs. I enjoyed constantly having people around," said Robinett. The crowds she was hanging around with were either dealers or druggies.

Robinett became homeless a couple of times but with all this she still managed to pick up the pieces and start over before things got worse.

On March 3, 1988 she went over the edge on cocaine and couldn't stop. During this time she continued to work at a community college doing drugs at night and working during the day.

After doing drugs on and off Robinett decided to stop and shut everyone out of her life.

She put signs all over walls of her house saying No, No, No. "Just say no" was something Robinett had always remembered Nancy Regan saying.

After being clean for the third time, Robinett started using crack. This was a very different lifestyle then what she had been dealing with before. The lifestyle became more chaotic. Her son was taken away from her and she was homeless for a second time. She felt depressed when her son was taken away but then turned back to drugs to take the pain away. She

found herself spending her savings, up to \$6,000 on cocaine in one week. She finally decided to quit for the last time. To support herself she would just connect others with drugs dealers. She made a living doing this for six months.

It all changed when she went to visit someone in prison. She spent over five hours talking with someone in the Christian Ministry.

"Something compelled me to open up and talk," Robinett said.

With no concept of faith, she was ready to get help.

A woman decided to help her and was going to put Robinett in a shelter home. She worked hard to help Robinett because she believed in her. Robinett made it to the shelter just in time. She stayed there for 10 days. Robinett felt safer in this shelter then she had felt her whole life. After this Robinett had been clean for 10 days and was going to be released but felt that she wasn't ready. The shelter found her a place to stay and get help. On June 1 eight years ago Robinett went through treatment. She began recognizing that there were people out there who cared about her.

Robinett later had another son who is very involved helping her to heal by attending many meetings with her today.

Robinett was one of the women nominated for the Extraordinary-Ordinary Women awards this year, recognizing her for all the obstacles she has overcome.

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# Highline students help drug babies

By THERESA BROWN  
 Staff Reporter

Drugs aren't good for anyone, but they are especially hard on babies. Highline students Lindsey Locke and Jessica Barrie have learned this first hand from working at Pediatric Interim Care Center (PICC), located in Kent Valley. PICC provides care for babies who are born with drug addictions. Armed with personal knowledge, Locke and Barrie spoke at the final honors colloquy yesterday about prenatal drug exposure.

In 2001, PICC cared for 143 babies with drug addictions. The most frequent type of drugs found in toxicology reports in the babies are opiates and stimulants. In 2001, 37 babies were treated for cocaine withdrawal.

"There are half a million children born drug-addicted each year in the United States,



Photo by Connie Bradley  
 Highline students, Lindsey Locke and Jessica Barrie, volunteer at PICC, a facility for drug babies in Kent.

13,000 of them in Washington state. PICC sees around 152 babies a year," Locke said.

There are different withdrawal symptoms for different drugs. Heroin and methadone are extremely difficult drugs to stop using, and the withdrawal symptoms are not minimized by the age of the child.

"With heroin and methadone, we see indications within 24-48 hours after birth. These children suffer from tremors, hypersensitivity, disorganized suck, rigidity of muscles, explosive stools, urine so acidic it leaves third degree burns and projective vomiting. The tremors are so bad, sometimes morphine is ad-

ministered to prevent stroke or seizure," Barrie said.

"With crack and cocaine, it is very difficult to tell if there is an addiction. The child will sleep for long hours and will have to be woken to be fed. Once awake, the child is lethargic and won't want to eat, because the drugs are telling the baby that it's full, and we basically have to force feed the baby," Barrie said. "Amphetamines are similar to cocaine in withdrawal. They are poor feeders, lethargic and have floppy muscle tone, which basically turns them into rag dolls."

Even though these children are born into a world of pain and suffering, there isn't much to be done except provide care for the babies. Prenatal drug exposure is not considered child abuse in the eyes of the state. In Washington, a fetus is considered a human when it can sustain life outside of the womb. Thanks to

technological advances, babies can survive as early as 20 weeks. Unfortunately, until the child is born, there's nothing that can be done.

Although PICC has never had a baby die under its care in the 13 years it has been open, the casualty of drug abuse lingers on in the children. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is the leading cause for non-hereditary mental retardation.

"Cocaine babies have a low birth weight and a small head circumference, which has been connected with a lower IQ," Locke said. The overall situation for the children is sad, but for the mothers it is often tragic.

"Thirty women can enter rehab seven times, and on average only one woman will walk away clean," Barrie said.

PICC saves the government millions of dollars yearly, and is also the only organization like it in the country.

## Student Government wraps up a successful year

By KIMBERLY MCLEAN  
 Staff Reporter

Within the next two years, Highline smokers will have a place to call their own.

The Student Government Associated Council passed the request last Tuesday, June 3 from Highline's Health Awareness Committee asking for \$5,000 for the construction of smoking shelters on campus.

"The proposed smoking policy developed by the Health Awareness Committee has to be approved by Highline's Board of Trustees before this actually goes through completely," Student Government President Stefan Alano said.

Alano said the plan designates Highline parking lots as a smoking permitted area but the rest of campus as non-smoking.

Since students wouldn't be able to smoke on campus, they want the \$5,000 to go toward the acquisition of five accessible smoking huts bordering the parking lots.

As for enforcement, Alano said that is up to higher authorities.

The rest of the meeting was a general wrap-up of this year's student government and a discussion of Highline's drama department.

The Drama Department has requested \$40,000 for a major overhaul of the theatrical lighting control system in the Little Theater.

Alano moved that the request be put on reserve for next year's ASHCC Associated Council and recommended to pass, provided that the drama department supplies a more itemized breakdown of specific costs.

Alano has been working on finishing up the contingency fund requests and presenting them to the S & A committee as well as training the commencement committee and getting the smoking policy on its feet for

the Health Awareness committee.

"I feel like I've gotten a lot of good things done for the future students of Highline this year," said Alano.

Vice President of Legislation DJ Taylor is finishing the Tenure Review Committee, the Legislation Committee, and the Accreditation Committee.

He has supervised the placement of next year's Student Government members also and

is finishing collecting the voter registration forms to turn in to Olympia.

Two of the three senators were in attendance at the meeting: Eric Blanchard and Dan Fortin.

"The paperwork for the grant money to facilitate smoking cessation at Highline has been submitted," Blanchard said.

Fortin said that his security issue efforts have come to an end as the quarter closes, and he

has updated the new student government positions on the improvements and issues that they will need to deal with next year.

Associate Dean of Student Services Jonathan Brown said "I am very proud of this year's student government."

"They have been the most successful group of leaders in getting more accomplished for Highline students than I have ever seen."

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# Wildlife shows its beauty on campus

## Animals have spring fling at campus pond

By AMBER TRILLO  
Staff Reporter

The sun is out and wild animals run rampant across the campus.

No, it's not the Running Start students taking advantage of the campus; it is the plethora of wildlife that calls Highline home.

On any given day Highline's own wildlife may choose to share the walk way with you.

In recent weeks students have seen more than the average squirrel. Sightings include mice, ducks, and even a weasel.

Running around in their mischievous and sometimes cute way most of the animals can be seen in a part of campus many students haven't even heard of: Highline's own storm water control project.

The storm water control project, located at the west end of campus, was originally built to satisfy drainage requirements.

"Because the campus is on a hill the pond is needed to catch all the surface water run-off," said Gerry Barclay, biology instructor.

The project that was started to correct a drainage problem now flourishes with a myriad of different species of plants and provides a beautiful habitat for Highline's wildlife.

In addition to being visually pleasing the park also serves as a learning platform for many of the science classes, including Barclay's.

The plants in the park are grouped in regions resembling the regions of the Pacific Northwest.

The landscape regions represented include mountain, wetland, meadow, northwest forest and riparian.

"I only know of one problem with the pond. It has no name," said Barclay. "For now we just call it the Surface Water Retention Pond but someone should give it name."



Photo by Adrienne Hughes

Ducklings caught soaking up the sun at the drainage pond on the west end of campus.

home to many animals and on occasion a few running start students.

Many local residents even take a stroll by the pond on a nice day.

## Grads

Continued from page A1

registration office had received requests from 408 students.

The 408 students received four tickets each and the remaining tickets of the allotted 2,170 went to faculty and staff.

At least a 100 students did not confirm their status for graduation before the May 20 deadline and did not receive any tickets.

"I don't know what happened; at the beginning of Fall Quarter I paid the graduation fee and assumed I was on a list but when I went to pick up my tickets they said I wasn't on any list or even registered to graduate," said Maggie Hagen, one of the 100 to not receive any tickets.

"Who wants to walk if your family can't be there to see you? It just sucks," said Hagen.

Hagen is not alone.

Dozens of yellow sticky

notes flood the message board located in the Highline bookstore. Phone numbers and personal stories beg for tickets to graduation.

Some notes plead for just one ticket, others are in search of four or five for relatives in town from overseas to attend the ceremony.

Jason Prenovost, director of Outreach Services, has been involved in planning the commencement ceremony for Highline for the past five years.

"Generally everything for graduation had run smooth until now," said Prenovost. "It breaks our hearts because we know that part of the joy in walking during graduation is being able to share it with friends and family, but I would never want to put people in a situation that was unsafe."

While Hagen is upset that her family will not be able to share the moment with her, she agreed with Prenovost that they would rather be safe than sorry.

Prenovost said the decision to limit the amount of tickets came so late that there was not a lot of time to plan.

However the committee that organizes commencement is already working on resolving the problem so it doesn't occur next year.

According to Prenovost some students have been selling their extra tickets for as much as \$50 each.

"I think students should be outraged that others are selling

tickets. It is unethical and if the college was taking advantage of the situation in the same way I am sure students would be upset," said Prenovost.

Prenovost is encouraging students who have extra tickets to return them Joanne Jordan in the registrar's office.

"We would greatly appreciate any returned tickets and will distribute any them to students who didn't receive any in the order people signed up for graduation," said Prenovost.

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## Mentor

Continued from page A3

opportunity to observe successful males.

However, the mentoring program now includes both males and females.

This quarter contains 14 men and women who volunteer. There are 21 students in the program who receive mentoring from Highline students.

Greenfield would like for more male volunteers to participate in the program because he feels that they will have the greatest impact on the young men's lives that are involved in the mentorship program.

The mentor group meets every Wednesday from 4 to 5:15 p.m., during which the group conducts workshops. The workshops provide the KJH students with techniques on communication skills, how to resolve conflicts, and self-esteem issues.

The group also meets outside of the program to discuss what they have learned and how they can improve workshops for the following week.

Two sociology credits are also an option to be earned by participating in the mentorship program, however, enrollment in the class is not a requirement to participate in the mentorship program.

"I met one girl who has disciplinary problems with both the school and her mother. One time she called me and told me she had a fight with her mother and she wanted some advice on what she should do," said Lucas. "I told her she should listen to her mother and she should not let that fight upset her. She not only calls me for personal advice she also calls me when she wants to talk about school, such as low test scores."

"I have another student that I mentor and she has made complete 180, she is now receiving A's in all over her classes. I am so proud of her," said Lucas.

The program allows Highline students to appreciate the impor-

**"I have another student that I mentor and she has made complete 180, she is now receiving A's in all over her classes."**

**-Dave Lucas  
Highline student**

tance of social leadership and communication skills.

"This is not only a good experience for both KJH students and the mentors. The mentors learn from the students and the students learn from the mentors," said Jerry Taylor, Highline student and mentor. "The mentoring program has helped me learn more about myself, such as my strong drive for leadership, communication skills, and patience for others."

Greenfield expresses great pride for the students who have

participated in the mentorship program and feels that their contributions towards the KJH school students is one of the first steps in facing the troubled youth in a positive direction.

"The program has been challenging and incredible rewarding, because many of the young people in the program have been through a lot and can be resistant toward outsiders. The program has established meaningful bonds with both KJH students and Highline students," said Greenfield. "The commitment to young people, a positive attitude, the willingness to work hard, and the belief in KJH students will equal success."

"I am proud of the work that the Highline students and I want them to know that it has made a difference," said Greenfield.

Although KJH will be temporarily closed for the 2004 and 2005 school year for remodeling, Newton wants Highline students to stay involved in the KJH lives of the students during their relocation.

Newton would also like for more Highline students to par-

ticipate in the mentoring program due to the expansion the school will have upon re-opening in the fall of 2005.

There may be up to 75 students and three new instructors. The new alternative program will create better learning environment for KJH students along with help from Highline students.

For more information on the mentoring program students may contact Derek Greenfield at 206-878-3710, ext. 3402 or by stopping by his office located in Building 11.

Students who may be interested in participating in the mentorship program may also contact Ricky Newton at Kent Junior High School at 253-373-7447.

**Got news?  
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