Paper vehicles win big

Highline’s engineers bring home three prizes

By Lynette Marquis

Highline’s engineering students sharpened their scissors and rocked the Paper Vehicle Competition last weekend in Cheney.

Highline teams and their vehicles won three of the six awards offered at Eastern Washington University’s ninth annual Human Powered Paper Vehicle (HPPV) Competition on Saturday, April 29.

Engineering students from all over Washington participate in creating innovative machines using only paper products so they can race against the time clock – not to mention the challenges of paper joints, human riders, and the laws of gravity.

“It’s a great opportunity for students to do hands-on engineering, following a set of rules or guidelines to build this project. It makes the things we learned more real,” said Engineering Instructor Richard Bankhead.

The competition includes two parts: presentation and performance. The presentation consists of the teams telling about their vehicles, their testing processes, and their theories behind their designs.

The performance portion of the competition is an obstacle course of about 300 meters, with cones to weave in and out of and a ramp of 10.6 percent incline and decline. Three team members must take part in this race, carefully trading the vehicle without two teammates touching it at the same time, as well as not touching the floor or cones during the race as it costs 10 percent of the team’s total race time.

The vehicles are the center of attention as each team has spent approximately 500 hours in developing their machine, starting at the beginning of Winter Quarter. Vehicle designs range in everything from pogo sticks to wheelchairs.

“We spent a crazy amount of time,” said Erin Severide, mechanical engineering student.

“About 15 weeks is spent making the vehicles, and that’s almost not enough time,” said Bankhead.

Students of Bankhead’s Engineering 290 (HPPV) class were divided into four teams of two to four members to create these fascinating machines.

Of the 17 teams – from different schools – that showed up with their vehicles to compete, only seven teams completed the obstacle course, three of which were from Highline.

The awards at the competition include two presentation awards, two vehicle performance (speed) awards, an award for the most innovative design, and a team spirit award.

Team BAMDA (Miguel Carion, Andrea Medow, Andrea Vega, and David Flores) won first place for their presentation of their paper skates.

Team Yotta (Dennis Enetanya, Mili Yard Guelia, and Victor Singh) won second place for their presentation on their three-wheeled vehicle.

See Paper, page 16

Carnivorous plants— they won’t eat you

See story, Page 6

Track loses another coach

See story, Page 10
Thievery thrives on campus
A blue mountain bike was stolen on from Building 25’s south side bike rack on April 26. A Micron laptop was stolen from Building 8 on May 1.

Student steps off wrong side of bus
A female Highline student stepped off the bus and hit the curb with her right foot and sprained her ankle on April 26, but no medical assistance was needed.

Book ‘em, Dano
Recently there have been many library disturbances. Much of the disturbances have been results of loud noise and chatter among students in the library.

Several students were a disturbance in the library on April 26. The students left after security arrived.

Library officials called for assistance due to seven people causing a disturbance on April 26. None of them gave IDs or names and they were escorted off campus.

Two boys caused problems in the library and were escorted from the building on April 27. These boys were very noisy in the Library on May 2. They left before security arrived.

Truck tramples seeded grass
The seeded grass near the north lot was damaged by a silver Chevy truck on April 26.

Lost property
A black cell phone was lost in Building 26 on April 27.
A cell phone was lost in women’s programs on April 27.
Electronic dictionary was lost in Building 10 or the Computer Lab.
A three ring binder was lost in Building 30 on May 1.
Brown Liz Claiborne purse was lost in Building 30, room 203 on May 1.
A cell phone was lost in Building 8 on April 28.

Compiled by R. Livingston

Constitution vote results expected
Results are expected to be announced today on the vote to change the Highline Student Government constitution.

If this reform passes, the amount of elected Student Government officials will be cut to two positions, and there will be several student positions opened up that will work under contract.

If this reform does not pass, Student Government elections may be put on hold until a system that can conform to the lessened budget can be agreed upon.

Van catches fire in a parking lot
A van caught fire in the South parking lot Thursday afternoon.

Firefighters were on the scene shortly after 4 p.m., just minutes after they were called. The fire may have been the result of an electrical problem, said one firefighter at the scene.

"Car fires aren’t that uncommon," he said.

Tony Nguyen, a nearby resident, saw the van catch fire and called the police. "I was inside my house and a load of smoke started going up," he said. "It started melting."

The van’s gray hood was pried and set open, its charred innards on display when the owner, Emelia Panama, arrived on the scene.

"This is my mom’s van," she said, covering her mouth as she circled the vehicle.

There were no injuries and no other vehicles were damaged.

Holy mackerel! Fish eat fish
The Science on the Sound series will explain about the genetics, cannibalism, and reproduction of marine fish.

Ingrid Spies from the Alaska Fisheries Science Center will discuss how genetic analysis has been able to answer some interesting questions about the Atka mackerel and why they are not completely understood.

She will be at the Marine Science and Technology center on May 6 from noon to 1 p.m.

The MaST center is located at 28203 Redondo Beach Drive So. Des Moines.

For more information about this week’s Science Seminar presents Fast Food Nation by Tony B. Williams, Science Seminars are on Friday afternoons from 2:20 – 3:15 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

For more information about Science Seminar contact Woody Moses at 206-878-3710, ext. 3649 or at wmoses@highline.edu.

Spring festival is coming up
Highline is hosting their annual Spring Festival.

The event is for both Highline and high school students featuring a college and career fair, workshops, live entertainment, and a barbecue.

The Spring Festival will be on Friday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for the event and if you are available contact Yanta Williams at 206-878-3710, ext. 2212 or at twilliam@highline.edu.

Fast food takes over the nation
This week’s Science Seminar presents Fast Food Nation by Tracy B. Brumfield.

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For more information about Science Seminar contact Woody Moses at 206-878-3710, ext. 3649 or at wmoes@highline.edu.

Visit Vietnamese free photo exhibit
Vietnam will be brought to Highline.

The Vietnamese Student Association and the Vietnamese International Students invite students to a photo exhibit on Vietnam.

The exhibit will include photographs of the country, videos, and Vietnamese music.

The exhibit is free and will be on Thursday, May 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mt. Olympus room located in the Student Union.

For more information about the Vietnamese Student Association contact Denny Stressey, advisor for the Vietnamese Student Association, 206-878-3710, ext. 3554 or at dstressey@highline.edu.

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Come down to the Tutoring Center
Specializing in turning good students into better students

Sign up for FREE tutoring in:
ACCOUNTING
SCIENCE
WRITING
...and most other classes offered at Highline

Building 26
Room 319
Mon-Thurs-------------8:00AM-7:30PM
Fri----------------------8:00AM-12:30PM, 2PM-4PM

International Student Services Intern
The Intern will assist with non-academic student services, especially student housing and activities. Responsibilities include assisting students with housing, activities, events, orientation and billing. Position requires excellent communication skills, problem solving and critical thinking skills. Interested? Visit the Co-op office in Building 9.

Get real world experience while earning real college credit.

Co-Opportunity Cooperative Education
Candidates battle for position

Two of four finalists for vice president of administration visited Highline's campus this week to make their points.

Kurt Buttleman

**STAFF REPORTER**

Kurt Buttleman says he is interested in working at Highline. Buttleman is one of four candidates up for the position of vice president of administration, a job left available since Dr. Laura Javaharipour took leave in October 2005. If Buttleman were to get the position, he would be in charge of administrative technology, the bookstore, business office, construction, contracts and leases, human resources, and security.

Buttleman answered questions from staff and faculty on Thursday, April 27, and questions from students on Friday, April 28. At the forums, Buttleman talked about his qualifications and expressed his enthusiasm for employment at Highline.

"Everybody I’ve talked to ... has said [Highline] is a great place to work. ... People actually enjoy working here and believe in what they do," Buttleman said. "A lot of the programs here are of interest to me."

Buttleman noted the family literacy program, a program designed to assist English as a second language students, particularly appealed to him. He also said he liked the absence of a district office at Highline, as it would allow him to be more involved and hands-on around campus.

"My skills are in administration, leadership, finances, that sort of thing," Buttleman said. "But my passion is education."

Buttleman said he discovered this after working for several years as a banker.

"I had an early career when I was in corporate America. There was no light at the end of the tunnel, nothing I wanted to do," Buttleman said. "I wasn’t proud of what I did. I didn’t meet any bankers higher up on the food chain who were happy with what they were doing."

Instead, Buttleman turned his attention toward education and administrative services, a career he felt was more worthwhile. Much of Buttleman’s experience comes from his work at South Seattle Community College, where he is the vice president of administrative services. Buttleman said he felt the position gave him knowledge that would be valuable to him if he were to work at Highline.

"I’ve learned to listen to the community, listen to the faculty," Buttleman said. "I’d work really hard to build that trust and relationships."

He went on to say how important he has found staff, faculty, and student involvement to be, and would be crucial to address any and all problems, especially low enrollment, a problem many attending the forums expressed concern over.

"I’ve been in similar situations," Buttleman said. "Buttleman said the key is to make sure everyone understands exactly why a reduction in staff and services provided has to happen, and to remind people of the positives."

"We just have to be honest in communication that this is going to be difficult," Buttleman said.

Buttleman said he believes in taking a similar approach in dealing with budget development, saying the college needs to be "transparent with money" and present a united front.

"We have to explain why we made decisions," Buttleman said. "We have to establish that sort of common objective for our funding so it’s not just someone making a decision, we’ve all decided on it."

The other candidates for the job are New Mexico State University’s interim vice president of administration; Farhad Javaharipour, vice president for administration at Santa Fe Community College; and Larry Yok, director of human services at Group Health.

Davis’s forum took place on April 26 and Javaharipour’s on May 2. Yok’s forum is today, May 4 in Building 7 at 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Farhad Javaharipour

**STAFF REPORTER**

Farhad Javaharipour feels that the most important thing Highline can do is serve, mentor, and educate its students so they become productive members of the community.

As vice president of administration for Santa Fe Community College in New Mexico, Javaharipour is one of four candidates for Highline’s vice president of administration position.

"We are here to for one reason – to educate students," he said.

He has other reasons for being here as well, however. One of those is because he likes to garden, which is difficult in New Mexico weather. The other reason is economics.

"I wanted to leave my other position now while it’s still early enough to double dip. It’s one thing to be old, but it’s worse to be old and poor," he said.

He then went on to explain his education philosophy via a story about the Oakland Raiders Network Coliseum facilities.

He said that no matter whom you ask at the stadium – be it the ticket takers, the janitors, the vendors – if you ask any of them what their line of business is, their response will be that they are in the business of winning football games. Their particular occupation is their contribution to winning a football game. He feels what he does will be his contribution to educating students.

"If we keep our eye on the ball – what’s good for the students – the rest will fall in place," said Javaharipour.

The vice president of administration is in charge of the bookstore, security, construction, human resources, business office, administrative technology, and contracts and leases.

The other candidates have been Maricon Davis, Highline’s interim vice president of administration; Kurt Buttleman, South Seattle Community College; and Larry Yok, director of human resources at Group Health.

Javaharipour has spent most of his career in higher education, including 25 years with the University of New Mexico. Five of those years were spent with Gallup Community College, which is a direct extension of the university.

"I didn’t know the value of a community college or how important they are until I was on the Gallup campus," said Javaharipour. "At community college we bring in folks and teach them real skills that make a real difference in their lives."

He feels that the biggest strength he can bring to Highline is service.

"I consider myself a student leader," said Javaharipour. "People like me... we see that the vice president doesn’t really do their work. They’re not specialists. Our position is to look at the needs of the campus and provide support and resources."

"I look at the process, look at the big picture, and make certain that I can remove the barriers," said Javaharipour.

"I provide resources and support. A lot of people want to have the authority, but not the responsibility. I instead talk about problems, and don’t micromanage."

Javaharipour also feels that he is most effective as a mentor. "I train folks to replace me," said Javaharipour. "That is any leader’s responsibility, and if they don’t do that then they are doing wrong by the community."

"You have to mentor the students so that when they leave they have a practical education that helps them do their job."
Editorial

New S&A budget looks promising for programs

The new Services and Activities budget for next year needs to spend smartly and responsibly considering this year’s low enrollment and lack of funds. The proposed budget seems to do that.

The S&A budget allocates money that comes from 10 percent of all student tuition, and puts funds different groups and organizations on campus, ranging from Student Programs to athletic teams.

While not all programs received the full amount they requested, they will still be receiving close to what they had this year, and in some cases, a little more. And while Student Programs did receive some boosts in certain areas, they also took cuts in others, including a loss of over $7,000 for Team Highline and more than $13,000 for Student Government.

These cuts reflect the smaller student government that is expected to replace their successors next year. Hopefully the tighter group will be more efficient — both in cost and productivity.

While Student Government is taking the biggest hits, it is also receiving the largest boosts, $5,000 more will be allocated to leadership development and $7,950 will be going to a new Club Resource Center, which hopes to better serve clubs.

With the growing number of clubs on campus, the Resource Center is an admirable idea, though “leadership development” seems slightly vague and a little questionable.

On the whole, the new budget appears responsible. With this in mind, however, the S&A committee needs to remain wary of tight funds and monitor how it allocates its resources. If the next year goes according to plan, though, everything should work out just fine.

Unity Week was a hit

Unity Week has come and gone, but the panels and presentations are still a topic of hot discussion among students. The week had an impact among the community, one that brought some closer together and opened up new ideas for others.

A total of 14 events took place, some of which were led by Highline staff.

“This was the biggest unity week we’ve ever had,” said Natasha Burrows, multicultural advisor. Unity Week has been in the works since February; the amount of planning was clear through the variety and quality of events.

While not everyone agreed on every topic presented, they were at least forced to think about it; the college didn’t just acknowledge its diversity last week, it talked about it.

All of the events cost less than $5,000, Burrows said, proving that despite budget deficits, Highline can still put on interesting and engaging events.

It’s well planed programs like Unity Week that are going to generate interest and activity among students — hopefully there are similar events to come.

**Comment**

Robert Fitzgerald

I get home every night around 10 p.m. to find my mom watching television. She always looks the same — her face is pressed onto the side of the couch, her remote held softly in one hand, her mouth hanging open as her eyes peer dully at the screen.

Last week I decided to see what she was watching and took my place next to her on the couch. There was a sitcom on called Teachers. However, the people on screen were sharply dressed, attractive and witty — there was no resemblance to any instructor I’d ever seen.

What’s more is that they didn’t even have fresh personalities; they were all repeats of the familiar sitcom caricature crowd: goofy white guy, token black guy, snobby-but-really-wild-on-the-inside sophisticated blood woman, etc.

I asked my mom if she actually thought that were really teachers like this. She just shrugged and changed the channel.

Next on the TV lineup was a reality show about plastic surgery in Beverly Hills. The doctor’s clients pranced around the screen, their faces distorted from prior surgeries, speaking plainly about the new breasts, nose, and chin they hoped to purchase.

My stomach coiled at the thought of this very thing being broadcast all over the nation and consumed readily, that people actually wanted to see these women and men upgrade their bodies in a sleek, digestible, hour-long presentation.

I stood up and walked into the kitchen. The counters were cluttered, the sink filled with dishes. From the living room a doctor laughed and took his scalpel and started to reduce a woman’s tummy fat. I went to my bedroom.

Downstairs I looked at all my books and wondered if there was one I could get my mom to read. “I don’t have time,” she would say if I offered. “I’m too busy.” Now I argue that my mom is a very busy person, but every night she spends three hours plugged into the TV, watching the same jokes and drama that’s already been presented a hundred times.

There’s not enough hours in the day for her to go on the gym or to work in her garden like she wants to, but still she submits to the slavery of the small screen, bowing before it’s glinting face every single night. America’s Idol, Will and Grace, Survivor — it’s all the same. Instead of sacrificing hours of our day to TV, we could be doing all of the things that we tell ourselves we don’t have time to do. TV is attractive because it’s easy — it lets you sit down and stop thinking for as long as you want. The next morning we wake up and curse because there’s a hundred things we have to do in our day. The general misconception is that the day ends at 6 p.m. when the TV comes on.

Robert stars in his own soap opera.

“IT was from the age before plastic.”
Figure skaters don't share the sport's grace

Perhaps the most notable event of the Winter Olympics is the figure skating.

Everyone watches, and the figure skaters become temporary celebrities within their respective countries.

To the casual observer, figure skating may all have to ask ourselves. I'm Asian but I'm not East Asian. No American who's never been out of his county will mistake me for a Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, or Korean American.

Being of mixed ethnicity, there are very few people who can recognize what I am. I am an American although I was born in India. My mother is half Indian and Persian, and my father was a full-blooded Norwegian although he was born and raised in Seattle.

When people ask me my ethnicity and I say Asian and white," they will reply with "Why aren't your eyes slanted then?"

I recently went to the Students of Color Conference, which was an eye opening experience for me in more than one way. Before I went, people told me "Don't come back and tell me your life's changed now!" It's been a turning point in my mental awareness of my own cultures and how all of them, not just one of them, shape me as a person.

There were lots of sessions students could attend, but the first session they had to go to was a caucus of the ethnic race they identified with. I ended up in the multi-cultural one. Identities aren't handed to people of diverse backgrounds, he was born and raised in Seattle.

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Furthermore, the conference had students of all different ethnicities. The conference provided for a safe environment for students to talk about touchy issues like race, diversity, mixed ethnicities and multiculturalism. It was great to see such a variety of people and explore what it means to hail from various cultures, but what I found out at the end of the day was that I'm an American partly from here, partly from there and I'm okay with it. So, who are you? Michelle is a recent victim of cultural identity theft.

Finally I had enough. At last I was able to expand on real ground and not some fake frozen one. My skates off and shoes on, I went to my car. I'm sure that after I left, there was an unusual display of camaraderie on the ice as everyone laughed at my plight. This is just speculation -- I never heard anything. Maybe it didn't happen, but maybe it did.

Given the personalities of competitive ice skaters, I wouldn't be surprised either way.

Alex once did a triple axel in a pickup truck.

Net neutrality loss is fair business

The current cyber-rumors tell of a grave danger being presented to network neutrality, but these fears may be highly overstated.

The idea behind network neutrality is that all sites are fairly accessible. A search engine will load up just as fast as a political site or private blog.

There are whisperings of legislation that will weaken, if not utterly destroy, network neutrality. The alleged legislation could give Internet providers the right to choose which speeds at which sites load, assuming they load at all.

While this could easily be a ploy to make small businesses that operate online, what people fail to realize is that they have the choice to decide on their own Internet provider.

There are limited providers in some areas, and in some places you simply cannot get decent service. What is also true is that if legislation like this does pass, the public is sure to react.

As a business, an Internet provider should have the right to choose what content they do and do not offer. Companies such as Comcast and EarthLink provide a service, and should thus have some control over the service they provide.

There has been much discussion on what "the man" is out to do to the Internet, but little in the way of actual links to who "the man" is.

After searching for a few hours, the best I came up with was two politicians and a mention of one company.

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Carnivorous plants make good pets — they don’t eat them

By Rachel Luby

Carnivorous plants are a common fascination among many people but they aren’t as vicious as people seem to think. You don’t have to worry about your plant turning into Audrey II and eating your little sister or pet cat. These plants are actually fun to have around, they just require a little extra effort.

Carnivorous plants live in primarily wet, nutrient poor soil located in swamps or bogs in humid weather. These plants interest people because they actually eat insects and sometimes even small rodents. The reason for their blood-thirsty appetite is the conditions in which they live.

“They live in acidic and wet soil that is nitrogen-poor,” says Gerry Barclay, a biology instructor at Highline. “They need nitrogen so they evolved a method of catching insects for nitrogen.”

Nitrogen is a crucial part in plant growth because it is important in making proteins.

The three main types of carnivorous plants are Venus fly traps, pitcher plants, and sundews.

The way that they each catch insects varies. The Venus fly trap catches insects with its modified leaf that has tiny, sensitive hairs. When the hairs are touched the leaf quickly closes up and whatever it was that touched the hair now is trapped. Then digestion begins.

The pitcher plant has what is called a “pitcher trap” and attracts insects with color and a sweet smell. Insects crawl around the rim of the trap, which is shaped like a pitcher, and then fall inside the plant. They end up drowning in the liquid inside the pitcher and then are digested.

Some of the pitcher plants actually get large enough to catch small rodents. Sundew plants are different from Venus fly traps and pitcher plants. They do not have a trap at all.

Sundews catch insects with the sticky hairs on their tentacle-like leaves. They attract insects with an odor and when the insect touches the tentacles, the tentacles curl up toward the insect and the insect is then trapped and suffocated.

All three types have the same requirements when it comes to their maintenance.

“They have to live in wet, [acidic] soils,” says Barclay. This means that they need to be kept well watered.

Watering your plants is simple. You have to keep them wet constantly because they are found naturally in swamps and bogs.

If you put your plants in a pot make sure the pot is poor draining. If it has holes in the bottom fill the bottom with rocks so that the drainage is poor. This way the soil will stay moist.

Water your plants with distilled water or rain water. You shouldn’t use tap water.

“The plants don’t like the chemicals in tap water,” says Barclay.

In the Pacific Northwest, where the weather is temperate, the plants do better in a terrarium although they can also grow outside during the summer time.

As a general rule you shouldn’t feed or fertilize your plants if they live outside. They should collect enough insects to feed themselves.

If they’re being grown inside you can buy freeze-dried insects or wingless fruit flies from a pet shop.

“They are good to grow inside greenhouses because they eat the little white flies whose larvae kill the other plants,” says Barclay.

The plants only really need one to two insects a month to survive. They also need a lot of sunlight. They won’t survive in shaded, cool areas.

The evolution of these plants is not very well known. The fact that they don’t have rigid body parts means that there are little-to-no fossil records of these plants.

They also do not grow many leaves to leave behind fossil records.

“They are deciduous,” says Barclay. This means that they don’t remain green all year round.

Many people don’t realize that these plants aren’t evergreen. They go dormant when the temperature cools, so don’t assume that your plant is dead when this happens. If it was taken care of properly it should return the next summer season.

Carnivorous plants aren’t hard to take care of, but they do require attention. “You have to keep a close eye on them,” said Gerry Barclay.

If you make sure that they have plenty of water, sunlight, and don’t get too cold then you shouldn’t have any problem growing them in Washington state.
Not silent
Deaf actor brings stand-up act to Highline

BY ERIK BREAKFIELD
STAFF REPORTER

Look! Howie Seago has something to sign.
If you can’t understand him, don’t worry, because he will bring along a friend to speak words for the signing impaired.

Deaf actor/comedian Howie Seago will be performing his first comedy show at Highline later this month.

“This will be my first full stand-up routine,” says Seago, who will be combining two types of comedic material meant to entertain both hearing and non-hearing audience members.

“I want deaf people and hearing people to both get a sense for each other’s world,” Seago said.

He plans on mixing verbal jokes within the English language for those who hear, with more visual jokes that are meant for the deaf.

Seago will perform on Fri-
day, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Highline student union for a mixed audience of both the deaf and the hearing.

The show will run with Seago using American Sign Language to present his material.
An interpreter will then speak what he is signing (for the signing impaired).

“I’ve always had comedy in my family shows but it was more reserved. I wanted to try comedy centered around adults,” Seago said.

Seago began running materi-
ally by his friends and after get-
ting good responses, he decided that a full show would be a good idea.
This is not Seago’s first time in a big light. He is a veteran actor and has landed roles on television shows, including the German film “Beyond Silence” which was nominated for the Academy Award in best Academy film.

He has also won awards for his ability in the field of acting, including the Helen Hayes Award for outstanding acting and the Drama-

Logic Award.

Seago also pitched an episo-
dee idea to Star Trek: The Next Generation, and starred in the episode once it was created.

“Roles for the deaf are not very common however and since Seago’s adventure in Germany, his acting career has somewhat slowed down.

This does not get to Seago too much though; he admits that he had other goals to accom-
plish as well.
I have a desire to communi-
cate with deaf children; I want them to accept themselves for who they are,” Seago says.

He also says that he wants to teach hearing people to be more accepting toward the hearing disabled.

This stems from Seago’s childhood in which he was told not to sign or use gestures by his father.

He was forced instead, to learn to read lips, which is proven to be extremely difficult and over 30-40 percent accurate.

This goal is reached through Seago’s full-time job as a program manager with the Shared Reading Video Outreach Proj-

ect, a job where he gets to teach deaf children firsthand.

“There are few deaf actors who earn a full-time living while acting,” Seago says, so he hangs on to his day job.

“One of the openings and work breaks I develop my comedy routine.

That should be enough, or so Seago believes, he is very con-

fident that the performance will go very well, and is excited to be giving his first adult oriented show.

“Anytime you go onstage there are a few butterflies. Then the adrenaline kicks in and you just go,” Seago said.

This may seem coarse language and mature themes and is not recommended for those under the age of 17, with parental discretion strongly ad-
vised.

But if you don’t mind a few naughty words and a few sexual situations, then the Student Union at 7:30 on May 19 is where you want to be.

Tickets for the show are $10 general admission and $8 for students with an ID card.

They can be purchased at the door, or in advance at the Student Programs office in Building 8.

You can also mail order ticket-

ets by sending a check to High-
line Community College, Stu-
dent Programs, MS B-3, Attn: Renee Reiche, P. O. Box 98000, Des Moines, WA 98198-9800.

For anymore details, you should visit www.highline.edu/howie.

Artist creates a year’s worth of work, one day at a time

BY AUSTEN LAVERTY
STAFF REPORTER

Port Townsend artist Kim Kopp controls time through her calendar-like panel paintings.

“I’ve been painting my whole life, but professionally only since I received my graduate degree,” said Kopp. “It’s been a lifelong endeavor.”

Kopp has two series that are being presented at the Kent Arts Commission Gallery. Her works, such as the first series calendar project, bring a new style to paint-ings the Gallery has not seen before.

“There is a single painting for each calendar day,” Kopp said.

When she paints a new pic-
ture, though, the paintings don’t always fall into sequential or-
der.

“I let the paintings pile up,” Kopp said. Kopp then goes through her paintings, places them on the wall, and rearranges them in a new order. She works with the paintings until she feels that the paintings work together.

“It’s a bit of connect the dots when arranging the months.”

While each painting is complete within its boundaries, they also function as part of a larger whole in the way letters

link up to form words, phrases and sentences; or days that add up to create weeks, months and years,” said Kopp.

This began the project on Jan. 1, 2005 and has been paint-
ing a new picture every day. Kopp is currently working on her 420th painting.

Although Kopp has already completed more than 400 paint-
ings, she only needs to have 365 for a calendar year. Kopp plans on continuing the project until she feels she’s done, “Which could be 200 paintings from now,” Kopp said. She hopes that she will finish before the end of 2006.

Kopp has worked on the calendar project before, only dealing with individual months. This is the first time she has taken on a full year. She hopes that the full year will get to be shown instead of just the indi-

vaidual months.

Kopp’s other series, loca-
tors and encasers, is also being shown at the gallery.

The location mark time and place and tend toward hard edged shapes such as granite monuments or historical markers; whereas the encasers envelop emotion and memory, taking softer rounder forms like leaves, pods, and insect casing,” Kopp said.

“The hard work is finally beginning to pay off. We’ll just see where it goes.”

Kopp’s paintings can be found in the Kent Arts Commission Gallery from May 1 until May 30.

The gallery is located at 240 Fourth Ave S, Kent, and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Hopes run high for local band

BY ALEX CAHAN
STAFF REPORTER

The prevalence of garage bands has given some students something worth fighting for.

James Kemp, a Running Start student at Highline, has started a band called Fighting Prevalence in his basement, and his optimism is high.

"We're not just a stupid garage band going nowhere. We want to take it places," he said. "I want to go as far as possible, but it's really up to the people who listen to us." 

"When they first started out I didn't have a lot of faith in them," said band manager and Highline student Katie Heinisch. "But they've gone along I really became impressed with their ability. These guys can go far if they want to."

Beginning January 2006, Fighting Prevalence is a classic example of a garage band.

The band line-up consists of Kemp, bassist and lead vocalist; John Stone and Alex Randall, both on guitar; and Frankie Santana on drums.

"They originally started out with a different name, but Kemp's sister told them it was stupid. She went through a dictionary and picked out words that she thought sounded cool, and then the band members went over the list.

The only word they all liked was prevalence, and they then started to add words to create a phrase that made sense. According to Kemp, they didn't want something that didn't make sense and would make them look bad. Their musical style is broad and not easily defined.

"We're more alternative rock, indie... I don't like the term indie, so if we were to put a label on us it would be more punk rock or alternative."

They sound like a mix between Nirvana and Simple Plan, but they also credit their influences to Green Day, Blink 182, Reliant K, and Emery.

Their lyrics are all original, and written through their own life experiences, particularly experiences about girls. However, they also have a deeper meaning.

"The idea of Fighting Prevalence is being put down and fighting against it," said Kemp. "Bringing in a band has been a goal of Kemp's for several years before he made it a reality, and he has loved every bit of it.

"We have a practice, and we end up having fun, laughing at each other and just enjoying it," Kemp said. "But once you actually get a song done right, that's pretty cool."

Of course, being in a band has its challenges as well.

The biggest delay in getting a band started was moving a drum set around, according to Kemp. But the biggest challenge now is keeping motivation up.

"I play what I want and that doesn't really work," said guitarist Stone.

However, the band is making strides towards success on the local scene.

They have a concert May 10 alongside local bands the Evils and Stottie at Studio Seven, located at 110 South Horton, Seattle, WA, 98134.

Tickets are $10 at the door, but they can be preordered for $7 at 206 286 1312. Doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Dance the night away the Latin way

BY BRETT MILLS
STAFF REPORTER

Come spice up your Cinco de Mayo at the United Latino Association's second annual Salón Latino Dance on Friday, May 5 in the Student Union.

The dance runs 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. and tickets are $5 per person and $8 per couple. Tickets are on sale on the second floor of the Student Union, and will be available at the door.

"People should definitely go to just have a good time," said Doris Martinez, the public relations officer for the ULA.

"There's going to be a variety of music with everything from salsa to hip-hop."

Martinez said the ULA encourages everybody to come to the dance to experience a taste of Latin American culture.

Contrary to what most people believe Cinco de Mayo is not the Mexican independence day. On May 5, 1862 4,000 Mexican soldiers defeated the French and restored Mexican army of 8,000. This helped ensure Mexico's independence from French domination.

Also attending will be the 10 Hispanic Seafair Pageant candidates including the queen.

The Hispanic Seafair is a day-long festival celebrating Hispanic culture as well as serving as a venue for presenting a scholarship to the Hispanic Seafair Queen.

"Last year's (dance) went pretty well but we concentrated mainly on salsa music and this year we are incorporating all Latin American music types," said Martinez.

Local professional theater troupe performs Dickens

BY KAREN DANIELS
STAFF REPORTER

Centerstage's Nicholas Nickleby opens this Friday at the Knutzen Family Theatre.

Centerstage is one of south Puget Sound's resident professional theatres.

The musical was adapted by Alan Bryce from the Charles Dickens novel.

Bryce wanted to do another Dickens novel because of the positive reaction Centerstage received after performing A Christmas Carol in 2004.

"That gave me the idea to adapt one of his great novels and make it a musical," Bryce said.

Nicholas Nickleby takes place in London at a time when the rich keep getting richer and the middle class are living paycheck to paycheck.

Nicholas is a young man who seeks out to reunite his family after his father's death left them penniless.

"I chose this novel for a couple of reasons," Bryce said. "It was one of the first novels [Dickens] wrote."

Dickens hadn't figured out how to thicken the plots of his novels making it possible for adapting to stage. Later Dickens novels have a much more complicated plot making it much harder to adapt, Bryce said.

Nicholas Nickleby is directed by Cynthia White.

Nicholas Nickleby will be playing May 5 through 28 every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

General auditions for Knutzen Family Theatre are held every January and June and specific auditions are posted all year.

Tickets are $7-$20. For tickets or information call 253-661-1444 or visit www.centerstagetheatre.com.

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Everyone contributes on track

BY JOHN THOMSON

The men’s track team took second place in the Western Washington Twilight thanks to some great performances by the athletes.

A total of 12 teams competed at the invite.

“It was the best meet we’ve had this year,” said Head Coach Amber Rowe.

“A lot of individuals stepped up and performed very well.”

The meet was held at Western Washington University in Bellingham.

Kenjamine Jackson did his usual thing by winning both the 100 and 200 meters and earning his team 20 points.

Jackson had a time of 10.80 in the 100 and 21.78 in the 200. Jackson is now in first place in NWACCC for both the 100 and 200.

Bruce Hubbard performed well again by placing second in the 100 with a time of 10.92 and fifth in the 200 with a time of 22.49.

Hubbard scored 12 points for the Thunderbirds.

But the real reason Highline placed second in the meet was because of the overlooked athletes who showed everyone that they can compete.

Miguel Martinez was one of those athletes.

Martinez placed sixth in the 100 with a time of 11.48 and seventh in the 200 with a time of 23.16 and scored five points.

Trevor Kulvi showed his true colors by placing third in the 5,000-meter run with an NWACCC championship qualifying time of 15:56.94.

Kulvi dropped over 30 seconds from his last 5,000 which was a 16:28 and scored nine points.

“I felt really good out there. It was nice to qualify for the championship,” said Kulvi after his run.

Jeff Vick put on a show of strength by muscling out a 42’ shot put which earned him first place.

Vick also threw the discus and placed third with a distance of 129’. These two performances earned the team sixteen points.

The Thunderbirds 4x100 relay placed second in a time of 42.71.

The relay consisted of Jackson, Hubbard, Martinez, and Brian Dotson.

The four of them combined to score eight points.

The team’s great performances combined earned them second place in the meet with a score of 72.

The first place team was Western Washington University.

WWU ran away with the win with a score of 333.

“We had a few more qualifiers and I am excited for the championship,” said Coach Rowe.

“It’s getting towards the end of the season and everyone is starting to go beyond their limits.”

With just two meets to go the Thunderbirds next meet is the Roy Burns Invitational on Saturday, May 6. The invite is held at Clark College in Vancouver, Washington.

Experienced coach Les Black quits men’s track

BY STEVE PIRROTE

The Highline track program had another setback recently as assistant coach Les Black stepped down for the remainder of the season.

Black is the most experienced track coach on the team. He has been coaching for the past 24 years at various levels.

Coach Black cited personal issues as his reason for quitting.

“With all the issues at home and I don’t get enough sleep,” Black said. “I’ve been working a lot, outside of the school and with the team. With the coaching changes I’ve been doing everything for a while and I just can’t handle any more stress. Track is non-stop, especially with the traveling.”

Athletic Director John Dunn is sad to see him go, but happy that he will get more time for himself.

“It’s too bad that Coach Black is leaving because he was such a large part of our program for the past four or five years,” Dunn said.

“He didn’t want to abandon the athletes that are there now, but he needed a break. It’s easy to feel like you’re abandoning the athletes, but really he has put in a tremendous amount of time and energy over the years. It’s just really hard to let go because you get so caught up in the sport and the team and the athletes. He has a real passion, and that’s what made it so difficult for him to leave, even though that’s what is best for him.”

Black’s departure leaves Amber Rowe and Barry Careel as head coaches of the team, neither of whom has head coaching experience in track.

However, both have experience in coaching and are very capable of handling the team.

Rowe understands that it is more responsibility now that Black has quit, but she is willing to take on the challenge.

“It’s more responsibility and more kids to deal with,” Rowe said.

“But he needed a break, and if that’s what is best for him then I’m OK with it.”

Rowe is also happy to have the athletes’ confidence.

“We’ve got a week to taper down and figure it out,” Rowe said. “We’ve (the coaches) got to figure out some workouts, but Les has sent me some and the kids know some. The kids don’t seem worried about it so I’m not worried about it.”

“We’re sad to see him go, but this is what’s best for Les Black as a person.”

Rowe is happy to be coaching now, but her biggest concern is for the athletes.

“I think I am a little inadequate,” said Rowe, who also is the women’s basketball head coach.

“Track is not my forte because I don’t have as much track knowledge as other coaches. But I know how to deal with kids and how to motivate them. Also, I am getting track knowledge, I just have to work hard for it. My main concern is what’s best for the track athletes we have now.”

Black does not know if he will return next year or not.

“I don’t have any clue if I’ll be back because it’s not up to me,” Black said.

“Probably I won’t be. It’s hard because nobody knows who’s going to be in the program next year, with recruits and coaches. When coaches come in they like to bring their own people in with them, so I don’t know if they will need me.”

Black also cited travel reasons for his departure.

“I live a ways away, I have to commute about 50 miles every- day,” Black said.

“I drive a lot and it gets to you and it wears on you. You can only do so much.”

However, Black does not intend to end his coaching career.

“I love coaching. I’ve been doing it for 24 years at all levels. If you do things right you can send athletes to Division I schools. I have a lot of connections so I can help athletes go to good schools.

“I’ll definitely coach somewhere. If you’ve got something to give and you’re good at it, you have to. It’s about knowing what you do for the kids.”
Track team competes well

BY TREVOR KULIC
STAFF REPORTER

BELLEVUE, WA — The Highline women's track team had a strong showing from all of its participants at the sixth annual Western Washington Twilight Meet on April 28.

Highline competed against several four-year universities and club teams at the small yet highly competitive meet.

Western Washington won the meet with a score of 265 points. Finishing second was Seattle Pacific with a score of 184 points while Saint Martin's University finished third with 48.5 points. Highline finished seventh in the meet with a score of 27.5 points.

Leading the way for Highline was freshman Brittany Smith who competed in the 100- and 200-meter dash as well as the triple jump.

In the 100, Smith finished in a tie for seventh with Lakita Burr of Saint Martin's in a time of 11.9. Smith finished 105th in the 200 with a time of 27.58 and was runner up in the triple jump with a jump of 36 feet 0.75 inches. Freshman Lindsey Farah had an outstanding day in both the 400-meter dash and the javelin. In the 400, Farah placed eighth overall with a time of 1:04.3 which is a season-best despite being injured. Farah's performance in the javelin was more memorable as she achieved a new personal record with a throw of 92 feet 1 inch. This placed her fifth overall in the event and made her the top community college finisher.

Representing the distance squad was the freshmen duo of Sheree Barbour and Rosee Meeker. Barbour ran in both the 400-meter dash and the 1,500-meter run while Meeker ran in the 5,000 meters.

Barbour finished fourth overall in the 400 with a time of 60.56 seconds and finished third in the 1,500 with a time of 5:03.18. Both marks made Barbour the top community college finisher in the meet.

With her time in the 1,500, Barbour increased her lead in the NWAACC standings over Lyndsey McMillan of Clackamas.

Meeker ran in the women's 5,000 in a time of 21:46 which placed seventh in the race and made her the top community college finisher for the race.

Meeker also competed in the Big Cheese Wheel race. The Big Cheese Wheel run is where all the distance runners from every school run a 200-meter for time, with the winner receiving a big cheese wheel.

Meeker, who ran her heat barefoot, won her section with a time of 30 seconds.

Up next for the Highline women's track team will be the Roy Burns Invite hosted by Clark Community College on May 6.

The meet will be held on the track at Hudson's Bay High School and will feature only community colleges and unattached runners.

Softball pushes for playoffs with wins over rivals

BY ERIC BREKFIELD
STAFF REPORTER

With great hitting over the weekend, the Highline fastpitch team (7-14, 7-24) took two wins over the former fourth place team, Grays Harbor (6-14, 6-22).

With the two wins on Saturday Highline is now in fourth place and up one half game over Grays Harbor in the standings.

Korena Steichen was the winning pitcher in game one when Highline scored 14 runs to win 14-9.

The big hit of the game came from Jessica Ventozzo who hit her seventh HR of the year.

In the second game Steichen then went 5-5 at the plate and Highline won 15-11. Jennifer Ventozzo picked up the win as the pitcher.

“We hit really well,” coach Anne Schmidt said.

“They had slow pitching and our hitters stayed disciplined.”

This is key because only three teams are guaranteed spots in the playoffs.

The fourth place and fifth place teams must hold a single-elimination playoff game to see who moves on to the post season.

If the team is to make the playoffs they must still win games against Green River and Grays Harbor.

A win against Centralia (14-7, 14-20) would go a long way in helping their cause as well, Schmidt believes that it is a strong possibility.

“We had close games against them before, we are very capable of beating them,” Schmidt said.

After their wins over Grays Harbor, the T-Birds put up a good fight in their first game against the league leading South Puget Sound (20-2, 32-8) on Tuesday, May 2.

The T-Birds played well but lost 4-1 against a strong Clppers team. Highline were subdued on offense, only getting four hits.

The second game was a different story as South Puget Sound turned up the offense and won 16-3.

Highline struggled on defense, allowing 17 hits and committing three errors.

“Our freshmen have really stepped up,” Schmidt says, commenting also on the large number vocal leaders on team led by Steichen and Jessica Ventozzo.

They will need to continue to play at the level they are now to generate momentum as they take on Centralia on Friday at 2 p.m. down at the Highline fastpitch field.

Then they play a must win game at Green River on Saturday and a tough game at Pierce on Tuesday May 9.

Multi event track results

Highline had no one participate in the NWAACC Multi-event championship meet at Lane Community College from Eugene, Oregon took the early lead in both the men's and women's team standings following the two-day NWAACC Multi-Championship Meet May 1-2. The meet was held at Lane CC.

With the Multi-Event Championship now completed, the focus for the rest of the league is seeding in their respective events as the NWAACC Track and Field meet is now only 18 days away. Points earned at the multi's count toward the overall team score at the championship.

In the championship meet, the top eight placers in each event score points for their team on the scale 10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1. In the men's competition only Lane, Clark, Treasure Valley and Southwestern Oregon had participants while Lane, Clark and Spokane had a strong showing in the women's competition.

In the men's competition the meet was won by Collin Cram of Lane with a total score of 6,511 points. It was a sweep for Lane as Heather Frigaard won the women's meet with a score 4,085.

At the 2005 competition. As of right now, Lane leads the championship meet with 21 points, followed by Clark with nine, Treasure Valley in third with six and Southwestern Oregon in fourth with three points.

In the women's team standings Lane is in first with 19 points, Spokane is second with 12 points and Clark is third with eight points.

The thunderword
Dash Point a fun hangout for warm weather

BY EMIL JACOBSON

STAFF REPORTER

Nested in the suburban sprawl between Tacoma and Federal Way lies a veritable natural oasis.

It has more than half a mile of sandy beach, and nearly 400 acres of forests, trails and campsites. Tucked between State Route 509 and Puget Sound, Dash Point State Park is a surprise in the middle of residential King County.

The park was founded in 1962, when a local family sold the site to the state. Since then, the city of Federal Way has grown up around it.

Head Ranger Steve McBee is all abuzz about Dash Point. McBee has been a park ranger since 1972, and has managed Dash Point since 1998.

Dash Point features a public sandy beach, 73 picnic tables, and an amphitheater. For generations, local families have enjoyed the lush greenery, the miles of trails, and the only public sandy beach for miles.

“We get visitors ranging from casual beach combers to the high school cross country teams,” he said.

The beach runs for 3,301 feet in between privately owned beaches. It is very clean, and is composed of fine sediments, clay, and silt. Dash Point also has a public campground with water and electricity hookups available. There is a $16 fee for a night at any of the 114 regular camping spots, and a $22 fee for one of the 27 spots with water and electric hookups. The campgrounds extend well into the forest, far from Dash Point Road, the only road that goes past that area of the park.

If someone is looking for something more active, then the trails starting at the parking lot extend for 13 miles in many different directions, said McBee.

Along the main trail runs Hoyt Creek, a bubbling stream, adding a calming effect to the surrounding forest. McBee said they hope to return the creek to salmon-bearing quality.

Fishing is permitted from the beach, though the park doesn’t have a launch. Years of red tides have prevented clamming for some time, however.

Coupled with the dense undergrowth, and the tall firs, this section of trail could take someone right out of the city, and back into nature. These trails have difficulties ranging from easy, light ascents, to very difficult climbs, said McBee.

The trails open to hikers and bicyclists. Pets are welcome on leashes.

In April, as it is Earth month, there will be a cycling meet, and an environmental awareness event, and a project to help with reforestation, said McBee. Through the summer, as a yearly event, Seaabury School also adopts the stream for maintenance and environmental education.

Attendance at the park had always been steady from spring until late in the fall, said McBee. Then three years ago, the state of Washington parks commission placed a mandatory $5 parking fee at all state parks, including Dash Point.

“State revenues were down, so the parks commission passed a fee for vehicle parking in state parks,” said McBee.

“We only filled the park a few days last year,” said McBee.

However as of April 2, the parking fee has been revoked.

“Already, the park attendance has been increasing every day,” McBee said. “This is of course weather dependent.”

One thing you can’t do at the park is drink alcohol. That’s illegal in Washington state parks.

“Rangers are commissioned officers, and able to issue citations if laws are broken,” McBee said.

The park is located at 7700 SW Dash Point Road. Operating hours are 8 a.m. to dusk. Although most picnic tables may not be reserved, you can call 888-225-7688 to reserve a camping space.

Dash Point State Park is in Federal Way. It has picnic tables, an amphitheater and sandy beaches for anyone to enjoy. For a small fee, camping is available.

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Get in shape for summer with cardio

Summer is just around the corner and that means swimsuit weather. Ladies, before you grab that skin-tight-bikini-wearing yellow-poka-dot bikini, you probably want to lose a couple pounds. Men, for our sake, before putting on your Speedos or muscle shirts this summer, make sure you have the body to go with them.

Cardiovascular exercise is one of the main factors to losing weight. That means getting your heart rate up for a sustained period of time.

In some you head off to the gym to go workout, remember you should set a good target heart rate. Highline's Physical Education Coordinator Keith Paton suggests that a good target heart rate to set for a cardio workout is 60-85 percent of your maximum heart rate.

You can calculate this by the following formula: (220 - age) x .60 for the lower end and (220 - age) x .85 for the upper end. Your body will try to keep your heart rate between these values while working out.

"Do different things," said Paton. It all depends on what current fitness level you are on. Going to the gym is one of the places where you can use the machines such as elliptical trainers, Stairmasters, or stationary bikes.

"In the fitness center use multiple types of machines," Paton said. "A great example is to ride the stationary bike for 10 minutes, do the elliptical for 10 minutes, and then switch to the Stairmaster for 10 minutes."

"This way you work out different parts of your body without getting bored in a half hour workout," Paton said.

You could also try a sport such as basketball to keep your cardio up. "I play basketball at least three times a week," said Highline basketball player Nate Jackson. "It keeps me in shape and helps with asthma. Cardio allows me to look good and feel good."

Paton also suggests that if you don't have time to go to the gym, go for a walk. It is a healthy and very easy thing to do. Walking with a couple of friends can help make it fun.

After a couple weeks of walking in your comfort zone, make plans to go hiking at Dash Point or Saltwater State Park. That way you can enjoy the beauty of the great outdoors and work your body.

Before walking, hiking or even jogging you should head to a local running store to find the best shoe for you.

Unlike big chain stores, the employees can tell you why the shoe they chose is the best for you.

Wearing the best shoe for you will help you avoid injury. Of course, jogging is also a good way to get a good cardiovascular workout.

"Depending on the day I go jogging and every once in a while I will run a set of hills just to spice it up," said Highline student Jessi Frantz. Keep in mind while you boost your heart rate, watch what you are eating.

"You've got to eliminate the calories," said Paton. "Remember you will be burning calories as you workout; the more you workout the more you will burn."

A variety in diet will help cut down calories too, though - eat the colors of the rainbow.

Eating fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy, and some fatty foods constitutes a healthy diet. If you eat a good diet and work your heart, you will be on a journey to a healthy life.

"Cardio is the key to weight loss," said Paton.

Lindy Farah enjoys burning calories, but often travels south during the winter to avoid the heat.

Women's soccer in need of new coach

Usually, a successful year for sports teams helps attract recruits. However, after winning the NWAAC Western Division and finishing third overall/best ever finish for women's soccer, the women's soccer team is in need of more than good recruits. The team is in need of a new coach.

Shortly after the season ended, Head Coach Jaeny McLaughlin left Seattle for California. He has no plans to return to coach and could not be reached for comment.

Furthermore, the assistant coach from this year, Tafara Pulse, has also left and does not plan to return.

Athletic Director John Dunn said that McLaughlin did not leave on bad terms.

"He got an opportunity to work down there (California) and be with his girlfriend," Dunn said.

I tried getting him back but he said he likes it down there."

Pulse also decided that this was the last year for her.

"I asked Tafara if she wanted to continue and she said she didn't," Dunn said. "I think that she was not ready for the responsibility of head coach. I am not worried because it is really the job of the head coach to bring in assistant coaches. They like to bring in people they are comfortable with and have worked with in the past."

A big problem for the team next year is returning players from this year. There are 10 players on the roster who are eligible to return, but some players have already moved on.

Lisa Overbo has already moved on to Central Washington University, while McLaughlin's daughter, Stephany, has left Highline. Likewise, Sheila Hamilton and Savannah Mercedo are no longer at Highline.

Whitney Owen will return, but does not plan to play soccer next year. Bree Klason and Stephanie Hughes both plan on playing next year.

Lindsey Pepper and Jessica Ventora are undecided.

This problem could be devastating as it might force coach Highline to build a team from the ground up. Rebuilding a team is common in the NWAAC, but getting new coaches and players is difficult.

This is a large problem because with such few returns, recruiting is all the more important. In a sport such as basketball, a coach could make two teams out of walk-on - it is a small team and a very popular sport. It is not hard to find basketball players.

Soccer is a different story. A coach needs about 15 players to make a competitive soccer team.

As there is no coach in place to recruit, the team is missing a key ingredient. Soccer teams are in need of such large teams that recruiting is an integral part of building the team. It would seem that there is a danger that there will be no team next year, but Dunn is quite sure that all these problems are just temporary.

"We have the coaching position advertised online and in a journal," Dunn said. "We've got a couple of applicants I really like. The issue is not finding somebody, but finding somebody who will work for the small amount of money. There is no risk that we won't find a coach."

As for recruits, Dunn is not worried.

"I know that there are several good players attending Highline now that are interested in playing next year. The big thing with other sports is letters of intent, but that's not a big deal in soccer. Jason (Prenovost, the men's soccer head coach) barely sends out any. It's more about talking with players and getting them to agree to come to Highline. Soccer players are more interested in just playing," Dunn said.

Although this seems to spell trouble for the whole program, the team will be all right next year.

Highline is well known for having a competitive soccer program and attracts good players from all over.

This year, a key player for the team was Jessica Wilson. Wilson played one year for University of California, Riverside, a Division I school. She decided she no longer had fun playing soccer and moved to Seattle with her parents. When she returned to college, she chose Highline.

Another example is Lisa Overbo. Overbo was recruited for the Western Washington University soccer team. She decided she wanted to be closer to home and came back and played for Highline.

These are just two examples of players that came out of the blue to play for Highline. If the new coach is able to convince the returning players to play, and several good players show up, the team might be able to repeat its performance of 2005.
Gay is profitable if not fashionable

By Candace Bohmick

Advertising researchers have discovered that the lesbian, bisexual and gay community is an untapped gold mine, a visiting expert said.

As part of Highline's Unity through Diversity Week, the presentation "LesBiGay Identity as Commodity" was given Friday, April 28 by Seattle University Law Professor David Skover.

He addressed understanding the commercial culture as it relates to the identity of the lesbian, bisexual, and gay community.

"In the realm of commodity, no one remains in the closet," said Skover. "In pop-culture LesBiGays abound and are celebrated; in politics they are discounted and devalued."

The political power of the LesBiGay community is diluted by geographical dispersion and their political victories have been won by narrow margins. There is a dichotomy between their political losses and commodity gains, he said.

"The commercial world woke up to the fact a buck is to be made," he said. He named Absolut, Vodka, IKEA, Benetton, Philip Morris and Abercrombie & Fitch as examples of companies using same-sex imaendo and ambiguous lures to straighten.

“Our demographics are more appealing to advertisers than are 80-year-old Christian ladies,” Skover said.

The gay male image is "sissy, fag and loser of the '50s," which was "ignored, shunned, or assaulted," has been transformed. Today the gay male is portrayed as buffed-out, erotically-charged, sexy, classy and wealthy.

It is a commodified identity.

Law Professor David Skover speaks about the new image of homosexuality in advertising at last week's presentation on the LesBiGay identity that took place as part of the events of Highline's Unity Week.

MySpace images could be dangerous, prof says

By Karen Daniels

People need to be more careful about what they post on their MySpace accounts, said CIS instructor Amelia Phillips.

Phillips was co-facilitating the panel discussion on MySpace.com last Thursday.

The panel was put together for Unity and Diversity Week in Building 7.

MySpace.com is a web site where anyone can create a profile page on themselves.

The panel featured six Highline students who talked about their MySpace accounts: Alicia Akerman, Derrick Webb, Rana Haddad, Jude Licama, Joyce Vierna, and Andrew Matthews.

Phillips helped lead the discussion with her input on technology based crime.

"Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in America," Phillips said.

A MySpace account is available for anyone on the internet to see and they make it available for you to list the city you live, the school you go to, and what classes you’re taking right now.

With the information you supply people can very easily find exactly where you are which can be very dangerous, Phillips said.

Mathews.

MySpace also offers an opportunity to make new friends, find old ones, and help to keep in contact with current ones.

"You have an opportunity to create an image," said Music Professor Ben Thomas, co-facilitator for the panel.

Everyone has his or her own identity, but how well do our pages represent who we actually are, Thomas asked. MySpace is our personality from our own point of view, he said.

"We all tweak it to be a little more what we’re like," said Thomas.

The panel admits they got their MySpace through the influence of friends.

"[Eventually] I was just talked into it," said Akerman.

There are more than 75 million MySpace accounts.

Ben Thomas agrees that MySpace is a great way to connect with people but can still be potentially dangerous.

"We all have this image in our minds—these are my friends, these are the people who are going to be looking at it but in fact, it is theirs for all to see.”

Got Students?

Got a class you’re hoping to fill up for Summer or Fall Quarter? Why not advertise it in the Thunderword? Get an ad this size for only $25 per issue. Deadlines for ads are May 9, 16, 23, and 30. Don’t miss this chance to increase enrollment.

e-mail thunderword@highline.edu or call Candace or Sharonda at ext. 3291 for details.

Ready to write?

Take Journalism 101 and write for the Thunderword next fall. Fame, glory and that all-important second writing course. Take item #4190 and see what it’s all about..
The University of Washington has changed its acceptance policy and is no longer accepting freshmen students based only on grade-point averages and standardized test scores.

"I really believe it's positive," said Siew Lai Lilley, the Transfer Center director at Highline, discussing the new policy.

Students who previously might not have been accepted to the UW have a better chance of getting in. They are looking at the student as a whole instead of just a grade point average.

Lilley said that she believes more students from Highline will now be accepted to the UW.

Last year the UW accepted more than half of its new students based on their grades and tests scores.

The UW has used a grid called the Admissions Index since the 1970s to determine acceptance of freshmen. The grid assigned each applicant a score based on grade point averages and standardized test scores. Any student with a score of 70 or higher was automatically accepted.

Students who scored 60 or lower were reviewed using a weighted point system based not only on grades and tests scores but curriculum and parental income.

"The UW believes people are more than numbers, they are looking at the student as a whole," said Lilley. "They want a variety of people."

The UW's new policy does not look at a person's race or ethnicity.

However, a person's race could still be revealed in a student's essay or personal statement, and that cannot be prevented.

"I think students will get accepted if they are prepared for their major and get good grades," Lilley said.

The factors that are now considered in an application are: what course a student took, especially the strength of senior year schedule, the clubs he or she was in, family income, GPA in context, strength of curriculum, grade trend, notable achievements in specific academic fields, recognized talents in the arts, essay quality and standardized test scores.

"Get a faculty adviser and get in contact with the admissions office of the university you want to go to," Lilley said.

Personal qualities and achievements that are considered are: cultural awareness (depth of awareness and understanding), adversity (disadvantages), a unique personal need to enroll in the UW, and activities (such as long term commitments, increasing level in responsibility).

Other factors considered include creativity, talent, well participation in the UW Sponsored College Prep. Programs, and evidence of character such as contribution to community, school or family, dedication to issues, unique perspective on issues and shows notable self awareness.

"The new policy looks at hardships - senior year is important," said Lilley.

The new comprehensive application review is costing the UW a lot of time and money - $250,000 for the first year.

In addition to the 20 professional staff, the UW hired and trained 20 graduate students to read applications. These readers give students a rating ranging from 'highest recommendation' to 'deny,' and at least two readers examine each application.

Students' essays are the most telling - they look at how the essay is written and what they share.

"Write a good personal statement. Highlight who you are and your talents. The UW isn't trying to shut people out," said Lilley.

The UW campus in Seattle will dedicate 30 percent of the spaces available for new undergraduates to Washington community college transfer students.

Running Start students who expect to have 40 or more transfer credits are considered undergraduates. Those with the highest admission priority are those with academic associate degrees and those with 90 transferable credits taken in preparation for a professional academic major.

There is no minimum GPA that assures admission. Although students who have GPAs of 2.5 or better will receive a comprehensive review. For more information, visit the UW website at http://www.washington.edu.

Lilley said. "This new acceptance of freshman will not impact how much space there is for transfer students. Out of 1,800 students attending UW-Bothell in fall, 200 were freshmen. Out of the anticipated 2,300 students attending UW Tacoma, fewer than 200 will be freshmen."

The priority application deadline for the UW-Bothell for Fall 2007 will be Jan. 15, 2007. Application materials will be available October 1, 2006.

Bothell will dedicate at least 52 percent of the available space for new undergraduates and Tacoma will dedicate 72 percent of their undergraduate seats to Washington state community college transfer students.

Considered within those undergraduates are technical college transfer students, those who have completed at least 45 credits, including Running Start students and dual Enrollment students, those with associate of arts and associate of science degrees and those with 90 transferable credits which were taken in preparation for the UW.

Email askuw@uw.edu if you have any questions or a re- application.

Visit www.uw.edu or http://www.tacoma.washington.edu for more information.
James Peyton brings experience to Highline

James Peyton loves to teach economics at Highline.

"I love the work. Teaching is something I like to do," said Peyton.

During his high school years in Alaska, Peyton became interested in economics. At the age of 18, Peyton left for Tunisia, North Africa as a high school exchange student through the AFS exchange program. It was there that Peyton first saw America from a new standpoint.

"I was on the outside looking in," Peyton said. "America is such a dominant cultural and economical power that looking in from the outside gave me a perspective on both the U.S. and other cultures."

After his stay in Tunisia, Peyton received an internship from Georgetown's Atmospheric Sciences department which sent him to West Africa. Peyton spent six months as an intern in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, came back to America and

completed his final two years at Georgetown.

Later, Peyton joined the Peace Corps, where he traveled to the Dominican Republic. Serving in the Corps left an impact on his life.

"You don't have a lot of money. You don't have a lot of stuff," he said. "It made it easier to be driven by what I like to do." After his stay in the Dominican Republic, Peyton came back to America and worked as a part-time instructor for the private test-preparation company Princeton Review. Peyton enjoyed the interaction with the students and teaching economics.

"The teaching part is what makes me happy working here at Highline," Peyton said.

Peyton's career at Highline began in March 1999 when his wife, geography professor Jennifer Jones, mentioned that a part-time position was open.

Peyton constantly looks for new challenges to promote the learning of his students.

"I try to use the things that have worked before, and bring in new elements here and there," said Peyton. "There's always something going on in economics."

Peyton also taught in 1992 during his stay in the Peace Corps.

"I do a much better job at teaching if I'm interested in what I'm talking about," said Peyton. During his first few quarters at Highline, Peyton enjoyed the challenge of illustrating economics for the students.

"Economy has a wide aspect to life," Peyton said. "I can relate economics through everyday experiences." Through class participation, Peyton has his students learn about global economics while still focusing on local economies.

Peyton is also the director for the Center of Community Research and Evaluation where he performs geographic information analysis for clients.

Peyton is also a member of Highline's State Board of Community and Technical Colleges Workforce Education Council's Environmental Scan Team.

He recently conducted a planning meeting for the South King County Economic Development Initiative Steering Committee.

Through his experiences outside of America, Peyton has learned what it's like to have a very limited amount of essential products, but he also knows what means the most to him.

"Money's great, it's good, but what gets me up and going and happy to come to work in the morning is what I do."

Warming world concerns speaker

Global warming and the increase of carbon dioxide output is having a deep impact on the climates both in the Pacific Northwest and in the world.

Last Wednesday's Honor's Colloquy was a presentation by Robert Nicholas, a graduate student in the University of Washington's Atmospheric Sciences department.

"2005 was the warmest year on record," Nicholas said. "In fact, the 10 warmest years on record have been in the last 14 years."

Nicholas said that one of the largest contributors global warming is carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide increases the intensity of the greenhouse effect, which, in turn, can cause the average global temperature to rise.

"If we didn't have the greenhouse effect, this would be a pretty bad place to live," Nicholas said. "Without the greenhouse effect, our average temperature would be about 30 degrees below [Celsius]. However, too much of the greenhouse effect would also make this a bad place to live. Venus is an example of a hyperactive greenhouse effect; we can only send satellites in for a few minutes before they melt."

He also outlined the major contributors to the carbon dioxide output. Overall, the temperature has been increasing worldwide, and a lot of the temperature increase is related to the carbon dioxide output of industrialized countries.

"We have more carbon dioxide now than we've had in the past 4,000 years," Nicholas said. Nicholas talked about how the United States was one of the major carbon dioxide producers in the world, and it was also one of the few countries that ignored the problem.

"We're in a country that, as a policy, doesn't take global warming seriously," Nicholas said. "We're going to have to see some pretty serious catastrophes for us to take it seriously."

Despite the United States' stance on the issue of global warming, Nicholas does believe that it is within our power to make things right.

"I'm optimistic that we can do what we need to do, but I'm a bit pessimistic as to if we'll actually do it without a little hurt first."
Sailing away

The sailboat leaves port at the Des Moines Marina, taking advantage of the warmer, sunnier weather.

Photo by Jocie Olson

Foundation raises money with gala

BY FLOYD DECKER
STAFF REPORTER

The Highline Foundation will be hosting its sixth annual gala of events fund-raiser. The festivities of events will be hosted in the Cedarbrook Conference Center, 18525 36th Ave. S. SeaTac, Washington on Saturday, May 6, from 6-11 p.m.

This is one of the Foundation largest fund-raising events of the year. This annual fund-raising events is being presented by major sponsor, Yoshida Group, and a host of patron sponsors. The proceeds will benefit the Highline writing and emergency assistance fund and scholarship programs.

With rising tuition rates, more students are seeking to need financial help during the upcoming academic year, said Rod Stephenson, executive director of the Foundation at Highline. “With proceeds from the gala of events, we are able to create more opportunities for Highline Students,” said Stephenson.

The evening will include a reception hosted by Highline President Priscilla Bell, dinner, dancing, a live auction, and a raffle.

The schedule of events is as follows:

6 p.m.—President’s reception, all are welcome.
7 p.m.—Gourmet dinner, hosted wine and coffee, a live auction, dancing, and a raffle.
Black tie is optional for the evening attire. Free valet parking will be available. Admission contributions are $125 per person, and $1,000 table for eight guests.

Tickets can be reserved by phone at 206-878-3774 or contact Rod Stephenson 206-878-3710 ext. 3696, also online at www.fundsighighline.org.

Highline Foundation is a 501c3 not-for-profit corporation; a contribution to the event is tax deductible.

“While the gala has a serious mission of helping students, we make sure to create a seriously fun event so guest look forward to coming back year after year to support or students,” says Stephenson.

Women’s Celebration recognizes hardships

BY ANGELA NELSON
STAFF REPORTER

Dazzling colors of purple, green, and gold is what you’ll see at the 24th Annual Women’s Celebration.

The event will run 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. May 9th in the Student Union.

Recognizing all the hardships women overcome is what the Women’s Celebration is all about.

Marie Bruin director of the Women’s Program, says the celebration also gives opportunity for many other things.

“It’s been a variety of things it has given us an opportunity to celebrate students and women. It also serves a purpose to allow us to fundraise for the programs emergency fund.

Maintaining the emergency fund helps both male and female, keep their lights on and food on the table.

The emergency fund is the sole responsibility of the Women’s Program,” Bruin said.

Highline does not contribute to the emergency fund, so the Women’s Program takes advantage fund raising at the Women’s Celebration every year.

The theme this year is Carnival Extraordinary.

A March Grass feel well be in the air, hopefully making some relocated hurricane Katrina victims remind them of home, program officials say.

Bruin said the Women’s Program tries to identify with different culture groups, so people can learn something new.

“We try to identify with groups we don’t know well. For example last year we did Greek and learned an assortment of things. We try to honor groups and learn about them at the same time.

So this year’s theme is an attempt to honor hurricane victims, since we have a lot that have relocated here to Highline. We are not trying to mimic them, but just show them a little flavor.

Get people out their comfort zones and see things through a different lens,” Bruin said.

The Women’s Program has already sold 100 tickets so far, and this is the first year tickets have been sold in advance.

This year’s event will include three different events, which will be raffle drawings, games, and a traditional auction.

The Women’s Celebration also includes the Extraordinary/Ordinary Women’s Awards, where women are recognized for their achievements.

Ann Sawyer, program assistant, said the celebration does help promote awards.

“Main focal point is awards itself. We award women for surviving obstacles and hardships, but it has grown into a celebration of women, which gives a fun up beat atmosphere,” Sawyer said.

“The Extraordinary/Ordinary Woman’s Awards is why this all happens,” she said.

Many members in the community have gotten involved by giving donations.

All the donations received by the Women’s Program will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

An Argo Cruise for four and Comedy Underground tickets are just two out of 58 items that will be auctioned off at the celebration.

Midway Fred Meyer also donated of a 20 inch flat screen television set, complete with DVD player and newly released DVD.

Sawyer said many businesses have donated repeatedly over the years.

“Getting donations is lots of letter writing and personal contacts, but there are many businesses that have donated from previous years and come back to participate with this event,” Sawyer said.

Being the highest bidder is not the only way you can win prizes.

Tickets taken at time of admission will be put into the raffle drawing, and you can also increase your chance of winning by buying additional tickets to be put into the drawing.

Carnival games will give you the opportunity to enter a basket drawing, with four to five baskets given away.

Gift baskets will be filled with an assortment of items, from Avon products to a gift certificate for a clinical facial.

Games will include Go Fish, where participants will use fishing poles in a pretend pond, to catch fish.

The game is over enough if you fish out a boot, fish scales, or a tin can.

The only carnival game where you cannot obtain a ticket as a prize is the Ring Toss.

If anyone is lucky enough to get a ring onto a bottle, they receive the bottle as their prize.

Wine or sparkling cider will be the prizes.

The main reason for the Carnival is to help raise money for the Women’s Program emergency fund.

“It’s hard to set a dollar amount, but hopefully we’ll do very well. It’s just a matter of making it fun for everyone and promoting students to stay in school,” Sawyer said.

The fund money will help many students to buy school books and met expenses.

The celebration will be in full swing May 9, 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building.

Commencement speaker needed

Students wishing to speak at graduation this year should speak to their professors about obtaining an application.

The commencement speaker applications are due Tuesday, May 9, by 3 p.m. and students applying for the position are required to have at least a 3.0 grade point average.

For more information contact Jonathan Brown at (206) 878-3710 ext. 3257 or Paul Kalikh at (206) 878-3710 ext. 3215.
Mental health awareness day coming May 10

By Andrea Davis-Gonzalez Staff Reporter

Students, faculty, and staff will have an opportunity to learn about the importance of mental health on May 10. Former Highline student Amy Fitzpatrick and Phi Theta Kappa adviser Laura Manning came up with the idea to introduce Highline to Mental Health Awareness Day.

Fitzpatrick said that her bipolar disorder inspired her to coordinate the event. It is a day for all to put aside their differences and break down stereotypes of those with mental disorders.

“We want to be informative and break stigmas. People are always thinking that we’re a bunch of crazies who aren’t productive,” Fitzpatrick said.

Breakfast club is back

By Judy Yue Staff Reporter

If you want to break a fast food habit, learn about the fast food industry from experienced professionals, or just get some free breakfast (or all three) then come to the Business Division’s second annual leadership breakfast tomorrow on May 5.

The topic will be “Why the Fries Taste So Good.” Focusing on the book, Fast Food Nation, by Eric Schlosser. It will also be focusing on related topics of labor and employment, globalization and cultural awareness.

Featured panelists of the breakfast will be Dr. Eric Ramirez (Ph.D. and M.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Lori Lively, educational consultant for Marlene’s Organic Deli and Market. The breakfast will provide the chance for local business professionals to interact with each other and college students concerning issues of nutrition and the health food business as well as the medical related issues from dietary choices of today’s society.

The breakfast will be held in Building 2 from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. Admission is free and breakfast will be complimentary. Everybody is welcome to come.

Fitzpatrick will be giving a presentation with mental health nurse practitioner Bob Smithing in the Student Union in the Mt. Constance room from 10-10:50 a.m. Both will be speaking mainly about bipolar disorder, depression, and the importance of having good mental health.

According to the National Mental Health Association approximately 2.5 million Americans are bipolar. Resource representative for the Association, Laura Fleetwood said that depression is the most common mental disorder affecting over 19 million Americans.

Those who are seeking additional information or won’t be able to attend the presentation can pick up information packets from 9 a.m. to noon on the first floor of the Student Union. Counselors will be available to answer any questions.

Fitzpatrick said that before her disorder was diagnosed, she had no explanation for the things she did and felt. Some days she felt extremely depressed and suicidal, and other days she would feel extremely happy. “I would walk around wondering why I was feeling certain things. Unknown suffering was my worst enemy until I got my diagnosis, having an answer was such a relief,” Fitzpatrick said.

Fitzpatrick says students, faculty, and staff should seek the help they need if they think that they may have a mental disorder. She also said mental health affects our society as a whole, nobody should feel ashamed of who they are. These are the main ideas that will be presented through Mental Health Awareness Day.

“They’ll (the audience) gain insight that might help them in their own lives with mental health, with family members or someone they come in contact with later in their lives. I don’t feel like I have to hide out somewhere when I’m talking about it. I’m not ashamed of it and others shouldn’t be either,” Fitzpatrick said.

Fitzpatrick completed her AA degree at Highline with a paralegal emphasis and will continue on to Evergreen Tacoma Campus in the Fall for her bachelor’s degree.

She said that ever since she took her medication her disorder has become more controlled. Fitzpatrick also said that she hopes to tell those who may be suffering from a mental disorder that what they have is controllable, and they should never let it control their lives.
Alkhalili serves up business, tennis

By Andrea Davis-Gonzalez

Staff Reporter

The person who created the expression "Never mix business with pleasure," obviously has never met Sam Alkhalili. Alkhalili is not just a business information technology instructor at Highline, but has achieved much more than a teaching degree.

After dedicating himself to sports and family, Alkhalili has come a long way from Lebanon in pursuit of a career in science-technology. Around the 1970's the Lebanese Civil War made many teachers flee the country, so Alkhalili offered to go. "It was a teacher at the age of 19," said Alkhalili. The destruction of the country's limited recreational activities for many and it was then that Alkhalili's interest switched from playing professional bas-

ketball to playing table tennis. He said he enjoyed playing table tennis so much, he decided to enter himself in a table tennis competition.

While playing, his opponents became aware of his natural talent and had entered him into a professional table tennis match. "At the age of 19, I won the first match it was amazing," said Alkhalili. "I was pretty much unknown at the time," said Alkhalili.

After being offered a table tennis scholarship to go to school in France, and a high school scholarship to go to school in Germany, he decided to continue his education in the United States.

He said that his ability to speak French made it easy to learn English. The U.S. was how he'd imagined it, so there was much of a culture shock. "I anticipated it was going to be expensive," Alkhalili said.

In 1981 Alkhalili decided to move to Los Angeles. There he worked as a manager for Florshcin Shoes Company and later for PGA Trading Company.

After Allen's death in 1993 his next move was in 1996 as a director of MESA, a tutoring program at College of the Sequoia in which he received the "Director of the Year" award two years later. After deciding to continue his education, Alkhalili graduated from Strayer University in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in science computer information and from American Inter-Continental University in 2003 with a master's degree in science information technology. In 2005 he went to a career fair where he saw Highline's booth.

He spoke with one of the representatives and was later offered to be interviewed for a job as a full-time instructor. He said that after getting to Highline for his interview, he looked around the campus and he enjoyed the scenery and the diversity.

"We immediately fell in love with the campus," Alkhalili said.

Alkhalili earned his teaching position at Highline teaching business information technology where students learn about project management, bookkeeping, Administrative management, and administrative assistance.

His view that instructors should become better connected with students inspired him to set up a "lunch bunch." Every Thursday between 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the Student Union, "The teachers and students get togeth-

er on a personal level," Alkhalili said. He said that he believes that it is easier for the students to learn in a more comfortable environment where the instructor is one of them.

Although he has taught in col-

leges around California he sees that he's left behind friends rather than students. "Daring class I am the in-

structor, but after class we become friends," Alkhalili said. "You should've seen the party they threw me when I left Cali-

fornia."

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Many judge paralegal program a success

Highline trains for many for legal careers

By Judy Take

Staff Reporter

If you want to get a career in law but don't want to spend all the money and time for law school, then Highline has the right program for you.

Highline's paralegal program trains students to enter the legal profession.

Paralegals are able to do the same things as lawyers except for setting legal fees, giving legal advice, and presenting cases in court.

Buzz Wheeler, the coordina-

tor of Highline's program, says it is a "respected program" that is viewed with high opinion by many attorneys who have increased need for paralegals in their offices.

There is little question as to why their need is so great. According to the U.S. Depart-

ment of Labor, employment for paralegals is projected to have a "faster than average" growth, according to the "best em-

ployment opportunities."

Wheeler says the growth has persisted over the last 10 years. He says that the reason for the growth is due to American soci-

ty becoming a "much more litigation society," meaning that society has become much more prone to lawsuits than before.

There are a large number

of cases in the system and it's taking a longer time (to resolve them)," says Wheeler. He also says that the massive growth for paralegals has also
erupted due to the increasing
cost of lawyers.

The program is divided into two pathways.

A student may choose to ini-
tially pursue a two year assoc-
iate of applied science degree.

Returning students who al-
ready have obtained bachelor's degrees may choose to pursue paralegal certification through completion of 30 credits.

It is one of few ABA approved programs in the state.

According to Wheeler, ABA approval is a key factor to gaining any program's success.

"The ABA is not friendly to online programs," says Wheeler about strictly online institutions claiming to offer paralegal certification, some as in as little as 10 months or less.

He says that the training for a paralegal requires "practical skills" which a student learning online would ultimately not get opposed to a traditional class-

room.

"Even the University of Washington has a nine-month program that is not ABA-approved," Wheeler says.

Not only does ABA approval increase the chances of employment for students, but it also is an important factor as to why students may end up choos-

ing this program over others.

"We were searching around and Highline was a better program. It's structured better," says student Sam Komoto, who is working towards paralegal cer-

tification.

She chose to pursue certification because "the fact that you can obtain the certificate and title carries more weight than just having a basic associate of arts degree," Komoto hopes to specialize in arbitration and med-

iation once she is certified.

Highline's success could also be attributed to another im-
portant factor: location, location, location.

"The other nearest paralegal program is located up in Ed-

mobs. We get students who come from Tacoma and the Eastside," Wheeler says.

Most students in the program are grown adults pursuing a "second career or returning stu-

dents who already have a four- year degree," Wheeler acknowledges this pattern.

"There are younger people who are in the program," he says, "but that number is still small."

They (young students) aren't aware that it (becom-
ing a paralegal) is out there as a career choice," says Wheeler. "There's not much exposure to it as a profession."

Wheeler says that in time, paralegal programs will begin to encompass more college-aged students nationwide.

The program does have meth-

ods for attracting more students to participate in the program.

"We have a quarterly orienta-

tion for new and interested stu-

dents," Wheeler says.

"Additionally, student mem-

bers of the Highline College Paralegal Association (HCPCA) are there to talk about the stu-

dent organization and its ac-

tivities and to answer any ques-

tions."

"A large number of our stu-

dents come from referrals by other students or from attorneys that are familiar with the pro-

gram," Wheeler says.

As Buzz Wheeler, the av-

erage enrollment in the program usually varies between 200-250 students.

For more information, Buzz Wheeler can be contacted at 206-878-3710, ext. 3910 or emailed at bwheeler@highline.edu.

Students may also visit high-

line.highlinecc.edu/paralegal/ for additional information.

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Page 19

5/4/06

The Thunderword
S&A
continued from page 1

funds. Programs with a larger student following were given preference.

“We focused on the retention of current students,” Hayes said.

“We wanted to facilitate a sense of community with the students. [We did it by] understanding the enrollment decline and looking at what keeps students engaged.”

Hayes gave sports as an example, saying in order to maintain or improve the quality of sports and how available they are to students, an overall increase of $13,018 was given to sports due to the fact that the cost of traveling and insurance has increased.

“Their increases have been primarily because of the per diem increases,” Hayes said.

“Traveling costs and insurance is on the rise.”

However, not every program was allowed budget increases and 15 programs were given less than what they requested. Phi Theta Kappa was denied the $12,922 increase in funds they requested. Tutoring and work grants received $5,000 less than what was asked for. Team Highline also got $5,000 less than what they wanted.

Open hearings for the programs to argue their cases for more money were held on Wednesday, May 3 in Building 19. Program managers were each allowed 20 minutes to ask the committee to reconsider their decisions concerning the distribution of the S&A funds.

However, only one program manager came to the hearings to campus on the sidewalk outside the engineering shop. Trial and error is necessary for the desirable outcome of the vehicles to not collapse beneath their riders.

“It’s part of the design process. You have things that don’t work out the first time and then you make changes,” said Bankhead.

Through all the labor of a quarter and a half, the work paid off.

“It was stressful but I loved it,” said Severid. “It was well worth the time and effort.”

“It’s nice to see students put in a lot of hard work and see it pay off. It’s great,” Bankhead said.

Paper
continued from page 1

There is a display in recognition of this competition on the second floor in Building 29. Each vehicle must meet the criteria of 90 percent paper products and a maximum total weight of 75 pounds. The vehicles are judged on innovation, so teams aim for creative, sturdy and fresh ideas for their vehicles.

Most supplies were donated by Weyerhaeuser and Sheets Unlimited in Renton, which gave Highline the advantage of a four-ply card stock.

Each team also has about a $30 budget to complete its project.

Though it’s a competition, all the students work together.

“No sabotages,” Severid said with a laugh.

“It’s too difficult not to work together,” said Bankhead.

The vehicles are tested on discussion insurance for athletics.

The S&A Budget Committee will finalize the preliminary budget in the coming days and submit it to Student Government, the President’s Executive Staff, and the Board of Trustees for evaluation and approval.

S&A committee deliberates over the budget at a recent meeting.