

# THE THUNDERWORD

MAY 11, 2006

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HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Smiles and trials

Student escapes war to reach Highline

By ROBERT FITZGERALD

STAFF REPORTER

The smile comes first — it's the immediate thing one notices about Betheal Habte. The strong features, the gold cross hanging from his neck, it all comes second to that earnest, genuine smile.

It's a smile that's endured a trail of hardships, ranging from Habte's escape from a country engulfed by war to his recent battle with a crushing injury. It's a smile that illuminates, inspires, and carries him through his trials.

Habte, who started playing for Highline's soccer team in 2004, injured his knee when he was tackled in the All Nations Cup in Seattle last year.

"The tournament didn't have insurance," he said. "My knee needs surgery."

The Cup's lack of coverage was to be the beginning of Habte's most recent difficulty. He received aid from the Department of Health and Services (DSHS) and was scheduled to undergo surgery during winter break. The aid expired, however — one day before his surgery. Habte is reapplying for aid.



Photo by Alicia Mendez

Student Betheal Habte has played for a number of soccer teams including Highline's.

"I don't think [I'll get it]," he said. "It's been too long."

While he remains hopeful, Habte is still considering his options. "I'll maybe have to work summer," he said.

Habte has become accustomed to difficult times. His immigration from Ethiopia wasn't under

the best of circumstances.

In 1998 Ethiopia went to war with Eritrea — it was the year that Habte first began college. He was 15 at the time, and was one of the 7,000 students gifted

See Betheal, page 15

## City to vote on police levy

By JUDY VUE

STAFF REPORTER

Des Moines voters will decide on May 16 if they want to raise property taxes to hire more police officers.

If passed, the levy will take \$1.60 out of every \$1,000 of assessed value starting 2007. The tax will continue through 2012, raising property taxes by 4 percent, said Des Moines Finance Director Paula Henderson.

"Cities are limited to a 1 percent factor for increasing their annual regular property tax collections. Therefore, the levy lid lift proposal will provide an additional 3 percent in regular property tax collections for the years 2008 – 2012," Henderson says.

The money is slated to fund the Des Moines Police Department to increase their staffing to the level it used to be in 1999. This could hire six officers back into the force, city officials say.

From 1997 – 2000, the department was at its full strength and crime was down 25 percent. From 2000 – 2005, crime went up 42 percent, said Des Moines Police Chief Roger Baker.

He says this is due to initiatives I-695 and I-747. "(The initiatives) reduced funding sources for the city. The city lost millions of dollars of revenue with no other resource for funding. The police department was reduced by over 20 percent," he said.

Finance Director Henderson agrees.

"The revenue loss from I-695 totaled approximately \$1.9 million in 2000. If we apply inflation factors to this revenue source, we would have expected approximately \$3.2 million in 2006," Henderson said.

"Our estimated revenue loss from I-747 in 2002 was approximately \$214,000, and our estimated loss for 2006 would have been approximately \$846,000."

The upcoming May 16 election is not the first attempt to make up for these difficult losses.

An attempt to lift the levy lid failed on Nov. 8, 2005, with 55 percent voting no.

Chief Baker says this may have been because there were two separate issues on the ballot. One was to renovate a new police substation in Redondo. The other was the levy lid lift.

Baker believes this may have caused some confusion among voters resulting in the lift not passing.

"People only got to vote once but they had two issues to decide," Chief Baker says.

See Police, page 16

## Sports insurance dispute threatens athletics

By SIMONE SNOW

STAFF REPORTER

Rising insurance costs have put Highline's sports programs in the position of having to find alternative sources for funding.

Sports insurance currently costs \$26,494.62 to cover approximately 150 students participating in 12 different teams including basketball, track, and cross country. However, with the cost of insurance increasing and the amount of funding sports received from the Service and Activities Budget Committee decreasing, the future

of sports at Highline has been called into question.

"The insurance is a secondary insurance that covers each participant after their primary insurance has been used," said John Dunn, athletic director. "This insurance protects the college in the event of a serious and or catastrophic injury occurring."

With the exception of stipends for the coaches, sports are funded entirely by the S&A budget. For the 2006-2007 academic year, athletics requested \$214,216, but was only allocated \$205,693 from the S&A

funds, leaving a \$8,523 hole in their budget.

"I think it's more a question of choice," said Jonathan Brown, associate dean for Student Programs. "It's an example of S&A taking a stand on a cost that's getting out of hand."

The premium, an amount of money regularly paid to an insurance company, has been consistently raised since Sept. 11, 2001 at what Dunn calls "an alarming rate."

"The S&A committee can give the total amount if they choose to do so," Dunn said. "This year they have decided to



John Dunn

what appears to be take a stand while looking at other possible funding sources for the premium."

Other sources could include holding fundraisers, or re-negotiating the insurance contract to allow the college to pay a higher premium, thereby saving money in the long run.

"The insurance is a state bid item," Dunn said. "The only change is that it has become expensive. ... It will not be funded in total for the first time in 15 years."

If the insurance situation does not improve, players and possibly entire teams may have

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One-Acts, arts, all part of Spring Festival

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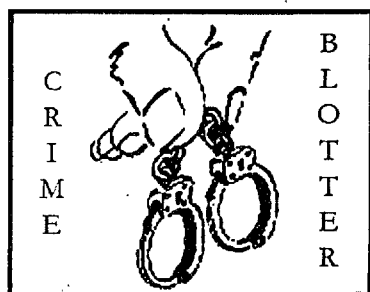
Track competes at Roy Burns Invite

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# CAMPUS LIFE



## Unwanted Library disturbances return

The Library called security about a man who was in the Library that had been banned for one year. He was causing no problems but Security responded and he had no ID and was arrested with a warrant in Building 8 on May 3.

Security was called about a man in the Library showing off his brass knuckles to four friends on May 3. Security arrived and he refused to show ID, put the brass knuckles in his pocket and left the library.

The Library staff called Security about several people causing problems. Security removed seven men in total on May 9. Three were removed for disorderly conduct, two for being on the ban list and two for not having ID to show their age.

The Library called security to remove a man from the premises on May 4. He was at a computer when security arrived and was escorted outside and told not to return for one week.

## Suspicious Honda lurks in parking lot

Security was contacted about a Honda Accord that had been parked in the north parking lot for several days.

## Found Property

- A black wallet in Building 8 on May 4.
- A check was found in Building 17, room 201 on May 4.
- A roadside repair kit was found in the north parking lot on May 4.
- A Verizon LG cell phone was found on May 5.
- A tan rain coat was found in the south parking lot on May 9 and was turned into Building 29.
- One key was found in Building 6 on May 9.

## Lost Property

- A purse with a black Coach wallet was lost on May 3.
- A Tiffany bracelet was lost in the gym on May 3.
- Transcript envelopes were found in student services on May 4.

-Compiled by R. Livingston



Guests gathered at the Gala dinner and auction to support students who use Highline's Foundation money. In the top left, Gala guests toast to raising money for supporting students' dreams. In the bottom left auctioneers show off the newest item for grabs. To the right, guests dance the night away.



Photos by Alicia Mendez

# Foundation raises money for dreams

By JOCIE OLSON

STAFF REPORTER

With bidder numbers flying, the Highline Foundation raised more than \$100,000 at the 6th Annual Spring Gala.

"It was the most successful dollar wise," said Lisa Skari, executive director for Institutional Advancement.

Last year's gala was able to raise \$91,000, but this year exceeded all.

"This was a record breaker," said Rod Stephenson, executive director for the Highline Foundation.

The Highline Foundation is a nonprofit organization made up of community members who are dedicated to raising funds

and providing a good education for students at Highline.

The gala is one of the ways that the Foundation raises funds for students, programs, and scholarships.

The Spring Gala is a black tie event, one full of frill and flourish, that included a live auction and dinner.

Upon entering the room, guests were greeted with the sight of elegantly decorated tables with rose and lily center pieces.

Before the live auction a savory steak and fish dinner, followed by dessert, put guests into the mood to open their hearts as well as their wallets.

Hot items in the auction ranged from a South African Sa-

fari to a football from the Super Bowl.

"Most items went for actual value or more. That was very encouraging," Skari said.

"The biggest challenge is always trying to fill the house and fill the seats," Stephenson said.

Stephenson explained that if a room can hold 300 people then you want to sell 300 tickets; you don't have the energy and enthusiasm with only half the room full.

The gala sold 194 tickets which brought in \$24,000.

Stephenson also said that finding unique, desirable large ticket items is always a challenge.

The auction alone raised \$78,000 and the rest came from

sponsorship and ticket sales, Stephenson said.

The biggest item in the auction was the Fund a Dream, which is a chance for people to donate money at different levels from \$5,000 down to \$100.

Amber Martinez, a Highline student and recipient of the Burien Challenge to Excellence Scholarship, spoke as part of the Fund a Dream.

She encouraged the audience to donate because when they fund one opportunity then they create a thousand more.

This year the Fund a Dream raised more than \$24,000.

"Rod Stevenson and the Board did a great job," Skari said.

The money that was raised at the auction will be able to help more than 1,000 students.

The Foundation also funds approximately 70 scholarships.



## Read poetry during breakfast

Eat breakfast with the Inter-Cultural Center.

The Inter-Cultural Center is holding a breakfast Friday, May 12 at 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. in Building 6, room 164.

Food, poetry, and coffee will

be shared at the breakfast.

Anyone attending is encouraged to bring a poem with a multi-cultural theme to the breakfast.

For more information contact Sharonda McCarty at smccarve@highline.edu.

## Discuss political involvement

Politics and community involvement will be discussed at the next Honors Colloquy.

Richard Mitchell, general counsel to Governor Christine Gregoire, will lead the colloquy Wednesday, May 19 at 12:10

p.m. till 1:15 p.m.

Mitchell will discuss how he got involved in politics and his experiences since being involved.

For more information contact Barbara Clinton at 206-878-3710, ext. 3151.

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## Extraordinary women honored

BY ANGELA NELSON

STAFF REPORTER

The 24th Annual Women's Celebration honored three women this year with the Extraordinary/Ordinary Women Award.

The Women's Celebration recognizes all the hardships that women have overcome.

The celebration included a silent auction with items such as a 1960s vintage purse, artwork of Rie Munoz, and two roundtrip Amtrak train tickets.

Ann Sawyer, program assistant, said that Woman's Program has not yet determined how much money was raised.

"There has not been a final count on how much money was raised, but we'll roughly know the numbers in a couple of days. One thing is for sure though - the funds are a great help to our emergency fund," Sawyer said.

The silent auction is a yearly fund raiser which is used to raise money for emergency scholarships.

Although Woman's Program received many nominations for this year for the award, only three particular women stuck out - students Dawn Webster-Piper, Ainalem (Nally) Gerbreananya, and staff member Lynne Boettcher.

Stephen Washburn from GED/ESL nominated Gerbreananya because she reminds him of why he loves to teach. Although Washburn was not able to make it, Cindy Holland,



Photo by Keith Daigle

The nominees of the Extraordinary/Ordinary women award pose for a group picture. The women who won the award (wearing the tiaras) are from left to right: Ainalem (Nally) Gerbreananya, Lynne Boettcher, and Dawn Webster-Piper.

Workfirst retention coordinator, read the letter that he included in his nomination form.

"Ainalem entered the GED preparation course in 2003. Right off the back I could see she was determined to improve her skills," Washburn said in his letter.

He said that at the level she was at when she came, it would usually take two or three quarters to obtain a GED. She improved her academic skills and surprisingly was able to complete all of the tests in one month.

"She uses her maturity, poise and humor to effectively connect with a wide range of people. Her involvement reflects her deep commitment, passion, and dedication for causes that better a society on many levels," Washburn wrote.

Nancy Warren, director of Worker Retraining, said she nominated Lynne Boettcher because of the incredible service she provides to everyone each day.

"From what Lynne has shared with us, she made some

poor choices in her earlier years, which had negative consequences, a wrong marriage, parental abuse, and alcohol."

Warren said that in 1998 Boettcher found herself unemployed. She enrolled and completed a Human Resources program here at the college, and she worked in the Respite Care program and promoted it to students. Because of her fine work she gained employment, helping students who entered doors at Highline. She gets students the answers they need and provides

the right amount of guidance to get to the next step.

"She also found her way to Highline," Warren said.

Now Boettcher is celebrating 20 years of sobriety.

"Lynne has a great sense of humor and we appreciate her to have the ability to see good in adverse situations," Warren said.

Shireen Deboo from Library Services said that she nominated Dawn Webster-Piper because of her hard work on campus.

Deboo explained how Piper came to Highline in Fall of 2004 and when she could not find a job on campus her dad suggested go to the library and apply for a position. She soon became part of the library team and created a welcoming atmosphere.

"She is conscientious and considerate, making her a great campus ambassador here at Highline," Deboo said.

Marie Bruin, director of the Woman's Program, and Jean Munro, of Work First Services, were winners of the honorable mention award.

"Every day we get an incredible vision to see women take control of their lives and make a new life for themselves. I thank you for the honor to be in the position where I can see you transform," Bruin said.

"This event would not be at all possible without all of you. Thank you for joining us at the 2006 Women's Celebration, and I hope to see you next year at our 25th celebration."

## Constitutional reform passes, voter turnout low

BY AUSTIN MACKENZIE

STAFF REPORTER

The amendment to the Student Government Constitution has passed, and the election packets are out for the 2006-2007 Student Government.

The vote on the constitutional reform passed on a vote of 67-7, with three ballots being invalidated.

The reform will reduce the amount of Student Government elected officials, as well as create a caucus system for the general student body. During the summer, a Speaker of the Caucuses will be named, and four primary caucuses will be formed. After Fall Quarter begins, students will be free to form more caucuses. The purpose of caucuses is to allow for students to have a greater say in the way Student Government

acts, allowing them to sit in on the various Student Government meetings and functions and cast their vote.

While Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs was somewhat concerned by the voter turnout, he said that overall the results are not unexpected.

"Last year we had Student Government elections, there were 217 votes, 215 of which were validated," Brown said. "This had a lot more coverage than the constitutional reform."

"Unlike with the Student Government candidates, the consti-

tution doesn't have any friends; it doesn't have classmates it can ask to vote for it," Brown said.

I am concerned, but I think the people who care enough about their own governance made it to the polls."



Jonathan Brown

to two, the president and the vice president.

Both positions will be required to work 19 hours a week, at least 10 of which must be

posted office hours. Both positions are paid minimum wage for their service.

The president's duties will include acting as a liaison between the students and the Board of Trustees, college administration, and the general community.

The vice president's duties will include sitting in on the Tenure Review Committee, keep records of Student Government activities, and track the Student Government budget.

Those wishing to run for either of the Student Government elected positions should pick up and read the packet in the Student Programs office on the third floor of the Highline Student Union. The election packets are due on May 15 at noon, and a mandatory candidate meeting will be held on the same day at 1:15 p.m.

A candidate forum will be held on May 17 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., and the elections themselves will be on May 24-25.

Election results are expected to be posted on May 29, but that date is subject to change depending on the amount of ballots cast.

With the changes to the constitution, the way Student Government functions will be different on many fundamental levels.

"I think it's a great opportunity for further student involvement and engagement in our student government processes," Brown said. "I would also like to add that Student Government acted pretty fast in order to make this happen. As their adviser, I feel very supportive, but I also feel that there's still a lot of work to be done."



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## OPINION

## Editorial

Yok offers Highline  
a new point of view

For the past two weeks, Highline has held forums for the four finalists for the position of vice president of administration. It was an opportunity for Marion Davis, Kurt Buttleman, Farhad Javaharipour, and Larry Yok to be introduced to the college.

It was also a chance for staff, faculty, and students to get any questions and concerns addressed.

Davis brings to the board her experience as interim vice president, and is already familiar with how the school works and functions.

Javaharipour spoke of the need for service to the students. Buttleman spoke of the need to increase enrollment, college unity, and student involvement.

Yok offered many fresh ideas about enrollment and marketing for the college.

While some of the candidates appeared to raise more questions than they answered, one among them stood out.

Keeping in mind that we are not privy to all of the information the hiring committee has, candidate Larry Yok offered a refreshing new outlook on dealing with some of Highline's weak spots and may be the best choice.

Yok's past jobs may not have had him working in community colleges, but they did have him dealing with human services, a skill crucial for the position which would require him to work with the bookstore, security, and human resources.

The job has become even more important due to recent staff cuts, as more and more responsibilities have been delegated to the position.

Yok admitted in his forum he is worried his lack of experience at community colleges will hold him back, but in fact it could be his greatest asset since he won't feel limited to how things have always been.

When asked how he would handle Highline's declining enrollment, Yok proposed marketing Highline's strengths and greatest assets. He even suggested geographically expanding the campus to open it up to a wider population of people.

These are not ground breaking, earth-shattering, or even original ideas.

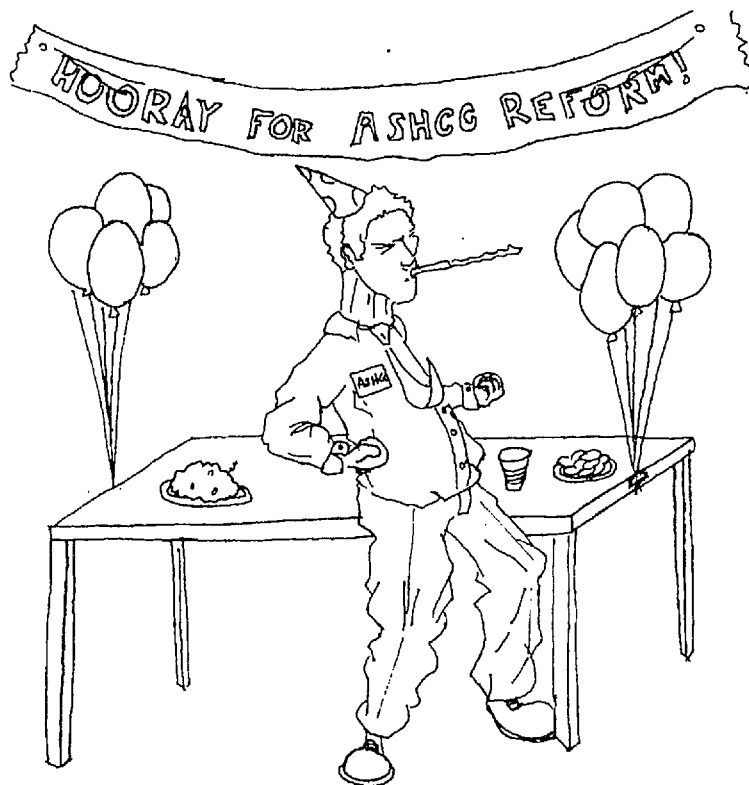
People all over Highline have been calling for more marketing of the college, such as a simple sign to mark Building 99. However, Yok was the only candidate to point it out.

Davis and Javaharipour did not even mention low enrollment or marketing.

Kurt Buttleman came closest to touching on low enrollment when he proposed having analysts come to the college to look at Highline and find ways to advertise it, but why pay to find out what we already know?

Highline has been struggling to increase enrollment and improve the school by doing the same things it has always done.

Since this isn't working, maybe the school should do something different.



## Cursive causes pain and suffering

I remember first grade — the blue and red walls, the construction paper decorations, the giant of a teacher. Assignments were light and enjoyable: a macaroni frame for mom, a couple simple math equations. Things were good.

Then, one day, after a particularly invigorating recess, the whole thing turned awful. "Cursive," she called it. I had a sense of mild excitement about learning this fascinating and sophisticated art — at that young age I had yet to understand irony.

Cursive was the breaking point in my childhood happiness. My spirit was destroyed between those dotted, ruling lines. I cursed my wretched hands, the hands that couldn't make the swirling twists of letters, couldn't connect the words in the fluid manner demanded.

It was hopeless. A small and awkward child, I lacked the motor skills necessary to produce that flourished alphabet. At that young age, I felt my inability

would destroy me.

Long nights were spent at the kitchen table, the words still refusing to form beneath the fluorescent glow. After long hours and unceasing encouragement, I learned to draw those bleeding

letters.

They were ugly and they were crude, but they were mine. I had become proficient in this archaic text and marched to school with confidence. My teacher cooed at my newfound ability, and I considered myself prepared for the real

## Comment



Robert Fitzgerald

world.

For the next five years I wielded my ability and my skills increased. Then, one day in junior high, we were told to submit our papers in print.

Print. I scoffed at the notion. Why would they have made me slave over cursive if it wasn't going to contribute to my professional and social life? I felt these junior high folk were totally off, though I submitted papers in print, if only to appease

the fools.

Then in high school they instructed us to do the same, and it was then I realized that cursive was a skill I would never use again. In college my beliefs were confirmed, as I was instructed to never turn an assignment if it was hand written — cursive or print.

Cursive served its purpose until about 50 years ago. The age of the typewriter had come, giving birth to the computer. Cursive, in all its cryptic splendor, has died.

Still, though, we're forcing our children to learn it. A skill that will never be used in the real world, cursive is simply a way to occupy class time, forcing children to perform a task that is based on coordination alone.

Sometimes, though, when I've nothing better to do, I'll find myself drawing on the edges of my papers in those winding letters, practicing the thing that I'll never need, as if to justify those late nights spent at the kitchen table.

*Robert likes italic food.*

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*"Making the sound of the chocolate pig."*

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# SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL

Annual bash promises 'something for everybody'

By KAYDEE SMITH

STAFF REPORTER

Anyone needing a good dose of art, music, or drama is sure to get their fix next week during the Spring Arts Festival.

The Arts Festival will take place next week May 15-20, here on campus. The week-long festival is a combined effort from three arts departments and their students.

"The Arts and Humanities divisions are thrilled to offer a completely full schedule of events," says Dr. Sandra Glover, a vocal instructor at Highline. "Every event is going to be of some artistic significance."

Like a great slice of cake, Glover says, "The week is planned to be a rich sampling of arts."

The festival begins Monday with a ceramics sale between Buildings 7 and 8 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Professor Rob Droessler is holding the annual sale with three tents and lots of tables.

At 12:10 p.m. on Monday, the college choir presents the third concert in their yearly series. Dr. Glover says this year has had an Americana theme in the three concerts, and the final concert will have an American jazz theme.

Ben Thomas' professional ensemble will also play with the choir at 12:10 p.m. and later Monday night at 7:30 p.m. The Ben Thomas Trio will also perform their own set after the choir performance.

The members of the trio include Clipper Anderson on bass, Eric Likkel playing the clarinet, and Thomas on the vibraphone.

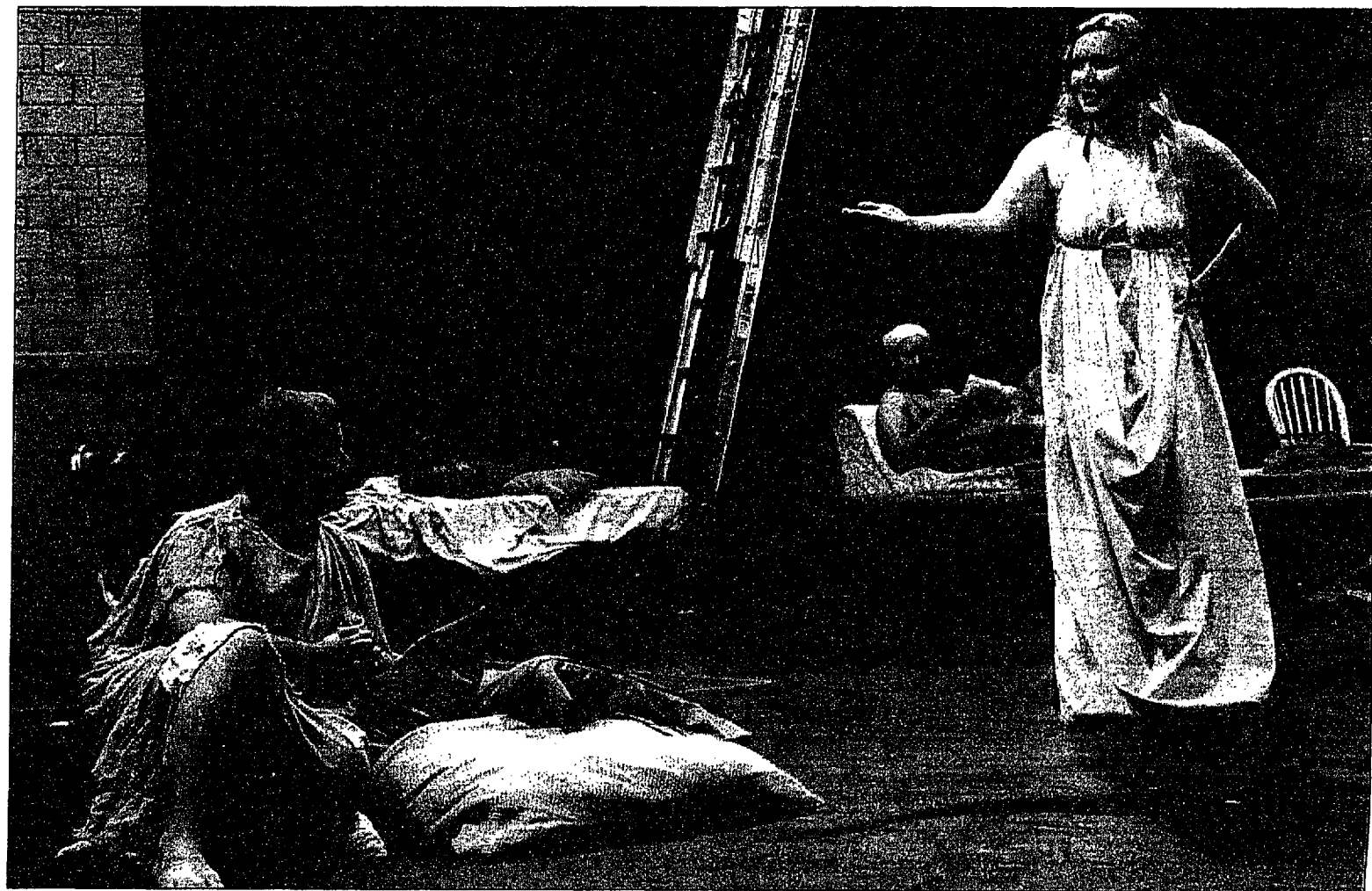
"It's a big metal xylophone," says Thomas.

Also on Monday, the Art Exhibit opens in the Library, Building 25, on the fourth floor at 4 p.m.

On Tuesday, at 12:10 p.m., Bob Stahl from the photography department will lecture in Building 26, room 318, on "Photography: Developing a Poetic Eye."

Wednesday, also at 12:10 p.m., there will be a poetry competition and Black Caucus Poetry Readings in Building 7.

A reception hosted by the arts departments will be 6-8 p.m. in



Drama students Steven Grawrock and Amber Rose Johnson rehearse their skit for a One-Act play.

Photo by Keith Daigle

Building 4, room 123. The reception will feature artwork, performances, wine and snacks. After the reception, the One-Acts will begin at 8 p.m. in the Little Theater, Building 4, room 122. Drama Professor Christiana Taylor says the One-Acts often sell out, so be warned.

The One-Acts will continue on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. in Building 4, room 122.

At noon Thursday, Ben Thomas, drama Professor Rick Lorig, and Rob Droessler will "do stuff," says Taylor.

"This promises to be a hilarious event," Taylor says.

Ben Thomas says, "We'll deal with music, visual art, and space. It's gonna be weirdness."

The One-Acts continue Thursday night at 8 p.m. in Building 4, room 122.

On Friday, Todd Zimberg's High School Jazz Band, E-Block, will perform a lunch concert at 12:10 p.m. in Building 7 on May 19.

The Spring Arts Festival "can be interpreted as an invitation to students and faculty to further explore The Arts and Humanities division," says Sandra Glover.

"There's a little something for everybody," says Ben Thomas.

Next week is packed with events and Glover says, "The Arts Week events amply prove the arts are thriving on Highline campus."

## One-Acts to offer plenty of comedy

By KEITH DAIGLE

STAFF REPORTER

It's spring and love is in the air...and in the spring One Acts.

As part of the Spring Arts Festival the Drama Department will be presenting five short plays put on by four student directors. Every one deals with relationships.

The plays will run Wednesday through Saturday night, starting at 8 p.m. each night. Admission is \$5 for students and \$6 general admission.

Plays include:

•Bernard Shaw's *Passion, Petrification or the Fatal Grazogene*, directed by Amber Rose Johnson.

•Steven Grawrock is directing the Moliere play *The Sicilian or Love the Painter*.

•Aquilla Reed is presenting *La Dispute* by Marivaux.

•*The Mint Julip Trilogy*, by Nick Zagone, is being presented by Jared Thomas.

•The directors act, along with Erik Breakfield, in *Helena's Husband*.

The plays come from different authors and a variety of different time periods, however all of the plays have relationships and humor in common.

"It's a comedy but it is very interesting, he was doing a lot of things with critiquing his so-



Amber Johnson

ciety and it is still a pertinent critique today," Johnson said of *Passion*.

Grawrock said that he prefers older plays to more modern pieces. *The Sicilian* was written around 1700.

"I love to work in the classical aspect. It is more fun to me than more modern plays," Grawrock said.

Reed is directing *La Dispute*.

"It had humor, but it was also serious at the same time," said Reed.

Thomas' is the most modern play, and again, it focuses on the relationships of men and women.

"It is sort of a comedy of errors between three girls and three guys at a house party

in college," said Thomas.

"I went through several plays. It was the first one that (made me) laugh out loud when I read it to myself," he said.

Thomas said that he chose it in part because of the way that the story flowed.

"It interested me because of the way it was written. It is actually written as three ten minute shows that can stand by themselves. One with all three boys, one with all three girls and the third one being all six characters interacting," Thomas said.

As a requirement to become a one-act director, all of the directors directed plays that were presented in front of their drama class last quarter. However this is the first time that any of them have presented a play on stage in front of an actual audience.

"When you are acting it's a lot about your characters interaction. So you know your character well and you know their interactions with (the other characters) they interact with," Grawrock said.

"A character does not always interact with every other character, so sometimes you don't know other characters as well as you could. But when you directing you need to know all of the other characters pretty well. Because you need to understand each of the character interactions and how the characters

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## GARDEN OF WEEDIN'

### Ways to wipe out weeds in the yard, garden and flower bed

By RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

Battling a backyard menace? Weeds are a problem all homeowners face. Some cases are worse than others.

"Weeds are plants you don't want," says Highline Biology Lab Coordinator Donn Walter.

In the Pacific Northwest weeds such as dandelions, clover, English ivy, vetch, morning glories and even blackberry bushes are prominent members of the landscape.

They are also all great nuisances to gardeners.

What makes weeds so annoying is that they are invasive. This means that they grow rapidly and overgrow every area possible.

Ridding your lawn, garden, or flower beds of weeds entirely is impossible, but you can get rid of a good majority.

There are many methods for removing weeds from your landscape, including ones that don't require you to use any herbicides that may be harmful to the environment.

"Keep your garden healthy," says Walter. Keeping your garden and yard healthy will make it harder for weeds to grow.

"Keep your lawn short and neat," adds Walter. Having your lawn short will also prevent weeds from growing.

When you mow your lawn, don't rake up the grass clippings. The nutrients from the clippings will make your lawn

healthier and stronger.

A healthy turf is another way to keep pesky garden weeds away.

One of the best methods to keep weeds away is to simply pull them up right when you see them.

"You have to get the root," says Walter. If you don't pull up the root with the rest of the plant the weed will just grow back.

Also, don't let the weed mature enough that it flowers and goes to seed. For example, when dandelions go to seed they end up being light, fluffy balls of fuzz. Each piece is like a little fuzzy parachute.

There are seeds at the end of each little parachute which float away and scatter across your landscape.

If you were to wait to pull up the dandelion until it went to seed, all of those little fuzzy pieces will float away in the wind and scatter all across your yard, garden or flower beds.

There are even home remedies that work as weed-killers.

"Vinegar," suggests Walter. Vinegar is an environmentally friendly and penny-saving way of killing off those obnoxious weeds.

To help keep weeds out of your lawn, you should make sure the seed you buy is high quality.

"Buy the expensive stuff," says Walter. It won't have the weed seeds in it that the cheaper bags of seeds do.

Aside from organic methods

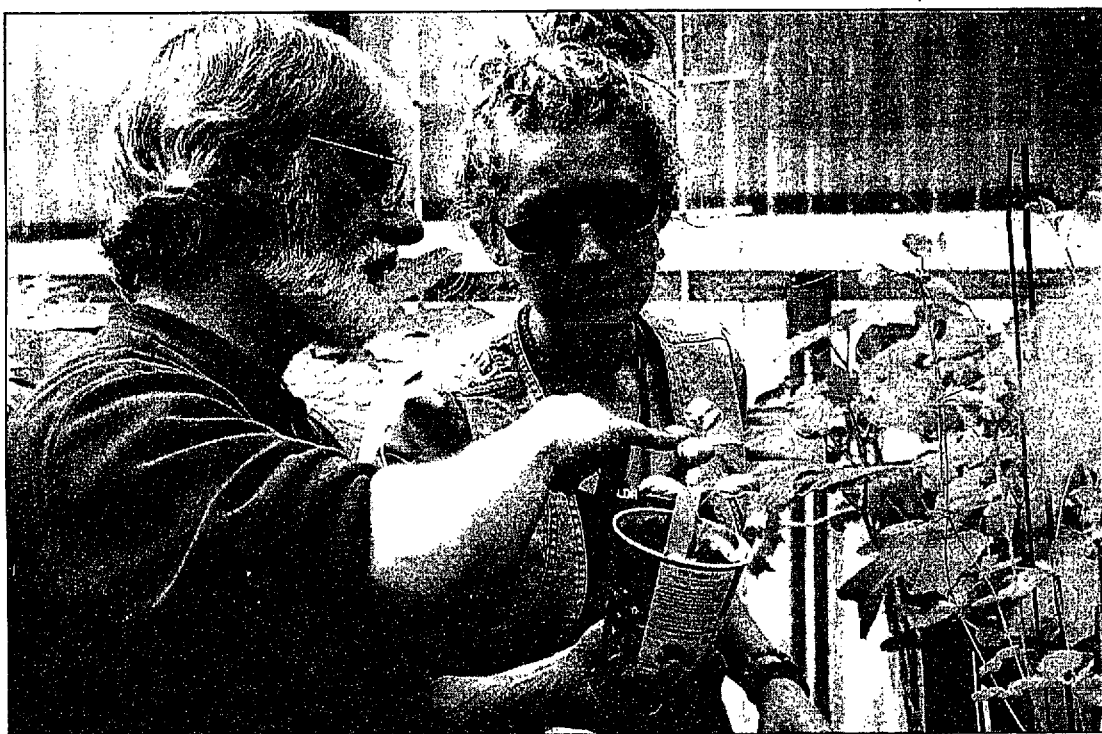


Photo by Roman Klimenko

Donn Walter helps Highline student Stephanie Ingersoll care for the plants she's raised for the annual plant sale.

### Calling all gardeners: Plant sale returns

By RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

All of you green thumbs out there, here is what you've been waiting for, the annual Highline plant sale.

This year's plant sale will take place on Friday, May 19.

The plant sale is an annual event that is held as part of the Spring Festival at Highline.

"It's the biggest social event on campus," says Gerry Barclay, a biology teacher at Highline.

The sale is a huge success every year.

"Last year we sold almost everything," Barclay says.

On sale will be a variety of vegetables and flowers such as tomatoes, sunflowers, pumpkins, zucchini and peppers.

The prices are as low as 50 cents.

Students from Gerry Barclay's Biology 119 class will have raised most of the plants sold at the sale.

Students aren't the only ones to have a hand in the success of the plant sale though.

Donn and Sabine Walter have spent hours helping students make sure their plants

prosper by taking care of them on weekends and at various times during the weekdays.

The money from the plant sale goes right back to the birthplace of the plants sold.

"All the money goes to the greenhouse fund," Barclay says.

The money in the greenhouse fund is spent on buying plants for next spring, soil, and whatever else is needed in the greenhouse.

The plant sale will last from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will be held on campus by the greenhouse.

of weed control, a number of products use herbicides to kill off obnoxious plants.

Round-up specifically targets the root of a weed. Ortho Weed-B-Gone says it does not harm lawns and remains rain-resistant for up to six hours. Both are available in stores.

Ridding your landscape of every last little weed can actually cause more harm than any-

thing else.

According to hgtv.com and Paul James ("The Gardener Guy"), trying to remove all the weeds in your yard can not only harm your yard but also any helpful insects.

A small percentage of weeds in your yard or flower beds aren't going to hurt anything. They provide a habitat and even a food source for helpful insects

that aid in plant growth.

Also, having a yard that is completely weed free could end up looking like a golf course.

Allowing some weeds, such as clover, allows the yard to have more of a meadow appearance.

Finding yourself on the losing end of the battle against weeds is tough but doesn't mean you can't still win.

### Breeders Theater offers art scholarship

By RACHEL LUSBY

STAFF REPORTER

Calling all artists, Burien-based Breeders Theater is offering its annual scholarship to performing arts students.

Breeders Theater was founded in 1999 by Dr. T.M. Sell. They have been performing twice a year since 2002 at the E.B. Foote Winery.

The scholarship offered by the theater group is to provide financial aid for students majoring in the arts and is worth up to \$1500 for a Highline student.

"The cast and crew of Breeders Theater are delighted to

make this scholarship available on an annual basis," says Nancy Warren, the business manager for the theater group. Each candidate must meet the following requirements:

- Each must be involved in the performing arts through composition, administration, teaching, set design, playwriting, costume design or something else related to the performing arts.

- Each must have completed 30 credits by the end of Winter 2006

- A minimum G.P.A. of 3.0 and he or she must provide a copy of his or her transcript; an unofficial HCC transcript will

be accepted.

- A list of performing arts projects worked on.

- One letter of recommendation

The theater group would also like the student to write a simple, short response to the question of why he or she would qualify for a performing arts scholarship.

Responses to that question should be sent to breederstheater@aol.com.

To send your transcript and letter of recommendation in go to building 9, room 103 and give it to Nancy Warren.

The deadline for this scholarship is June 5, 2006.

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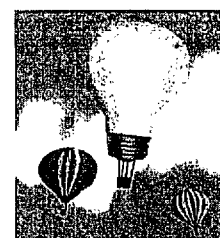
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# Farmers get fresh with produce

BY ALICIA MENDEZ

STAFF REPORTER

Strawberries, lilacs, and corn -- oh my.

Succulent berries, juicy melons, crisp carrots, sweet scented flowers are soon to sprout up in the city of Des Moines.

The first ever city of Des Moines Farmers Market is opening Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m. The market will be open every Saturday from June 17 until Oct. 28 from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m.

Organic fruits, vegetables, along with crafts, and food will be sold at the market.

This is the first time in Washington that all of the vendors at a farmers market are selling purely organic products, said Wendie Dyson market organizer.

Dyson is the coordinator of the market, under Farming & the Environment.

The market encourages local involvement from the community and vendor holders.

"All of our farm vendors are from Washington state and all of our crafters, as of now, are from the city of Des Moines," Dyson said.

"We are working on creating a distribution center for farmers in the state," Dyson said.

The market intends to lure



*Fresh organic produce grown and sold by local farmers has proven popular with consumers throughout King County. This season there will be a farmer's market in Des Moines featuring everything from apples to cider to crafts.*

Photos courtesy of [www.ci.burien.wa.us](http://www.ci.burien.wa.us) and [seattlebonvivant.typepad.com](http://seattlebonvivant.typepad.com)

customers not only by delectable freshly grown foods, but with entertainment.

Every Saturday they intend to have a theme day, whether the theme be Latino, Vietnamese, or Irish, Dyson said.

Music and food sold will go along with the theme of the day.

Also, there will be a booth available specifically meant for clubs, groups, or non-profit organizations to let the public know about their cause.

"The other thing that's fun is that we're going to have free sampling," Dyson said.

Because all of the farmers are local, the food will be fresh from the farm picked either the night before or that morning.

"The farmers are literally picking it no more than 24 hours before it's on sale," Dyson said.

"We have made it an effort to have an abundance of fruits, berries, honeys, all kinds of apples, and flowers," Dyson said.

Other local farmers markets

have had success. The Burien Farmers Market has been successful for four years now, and also uses mostly Washington farmers only.

Each day the market has from 2,000 to 2,500 customers, said Burien Farmers Market Organizer Dedra George.

When selecting a vendor to sell at our market, fresh products make the cut, George said.

Some farmers who will be selling at the Des Moines Farmers Market have sold at Pike

Place Market in Seattle.

Bill Razey, a farmer from Naches in Eastern Washington, has sold at Pike Place and will be selling cherries at the Des Moines Farmers Market.

"We've been selling cherries for over 100 years. Some of the trees are 70 years old," Razey said. "Some of our trees were planted a long time ago by my grandfather. You'd like to imagine that the older trees produce better cherries."

Razey and his family will be selling mostly Rainier cherries at the market. All of his produce is organic which makes the fruit taste better, Razey said.

"All of our fruit is grown on rich volcanic soil. We're irrigated out of the Naches River," Razey said.

Another farmer who grows locally in Monroe, Judy Bolles of Bolles Organic Farm, will be selling various berries.

"We have 15 acres. Probably 12 of them have raspberries. We have an acre of strawberries and approximately a half acre of blueberries," Bolles said.

Farmers are not the only vendors to sell at the market. All sorts of crafts from jewelry, cards, painting, fused glass will be apart of the market.

"We're really looking forward to it, it looks like a great place," Bolles said.

## Local group performs Broadway songs in Burien

BY BRETT MILLS

STAFF REPORTER

ChoralSounds Northwest is saluting Broadway with its Give Our Regards to Broadway program May 19-21 in Burien.

ChoralSounds Northwest was founded in 1984 as the Highline Civic Chorus under the direction of Conductor Mark Adrian.

Give Our Regards to Broadway is a show that consists of salutes to four Broadway musicals: Mame, Damn Yankees, Beauty and the Beast, and Cabaret.

For each show, there will be

a brief narrative to set the scene and tell the basic story of the show and then the chorus will sing and dance several songs from each show.

There will be full-scale production numbers for some songs with dancing, choreography, costumes and props. Other songs will be performed more traditionally with the chorus singing on the risers.

"This is the second year we have done this kind of show," said Paul Bauer, marketing director of ChoralSounds. "Last year we did a similar treatment of four other Broadway musicals.

Audiences loved it and asked us to do it again so we chose four new musicals and put together a really fun show."

ChoralSounds will be performing everything from Bosom Buddies from Mame and Those Were the Good Old Days from Damn Yankees, to Cabaret's Willkommen as well as Be Our Guest and Tale as Old as Time from Beauty and the Beast.

The show will take place on May 19 and 20 at 8 p.m. and May 21 at 2 p.m. at the Highline Performing Arts Center; located at 401 S. 152nd St., Burien WA 98148.

Reserved seating tickets are on sale for \$25, \$18, and \$15 or free for young people 13 and under when accompanied by a paid adult. They are available online at [www.nwassociaarts.org](http://www.nwassociaarts.org) or by calling 206-246-6040. Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more.

"One of the coolest things about our shows is that all kids 13 and under are admitted free with an adult (and one adult can bring more than one kid.) This is part of our continuing commitment to offer an exposure to the performing arts to young people," said Bauer.

## Missing Lynx between science and arts

BY AUSTEN LAVERY

STAFF REPORTER

The Lynx is leaping onto the minds of Highline students, faculty and staff.

Highline professors Gerry Barclay and Angi Caster are the co-editors of the Lynx, an online journal of poetry, essays and art.

"It's a work in progress," said Barclay.

Barclay is looking for more submissions for the Lynx.

"We accept science-related works," said Barclay. "Mostly they're biology related."

Barclay and Caster have been working on the Lynx since Fall Quarter '05.

"The Lynx is a link between

science and humanities," said Barclay.

According to the website, the Lincean Academy was a scientific society to which Galileo belonged.

The Lynx can be found at <http://flightline.highline.edu/lynx>.

Submissions can be made to both Barclay and Caster.

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2PM -4PM

PUZZLES

Rational Numbers by Linda Thistle

Using the clues, simple arithmetic, and a little logic, place a single digit (0 to 9) in each empty box in the diagram. To help you get started, one digit has been entered in the diagram.

ACROSS

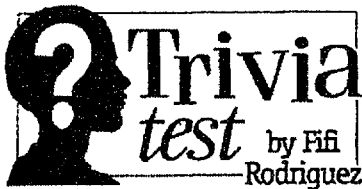
- 2. The last digit is the sum of the other digits
- 5. Eight times 3-Down
- 7. Digits of 12-Down rearranged
- 9. Two hundred less than 4-Down
- 11. The first digit is three times the last digit
- 12. Sum of the digits of 17-Across
- 13. 9-Across plus 1-Down
- 15. Four more than 2-Across
- 17. Five hundred more than 19-Across
- 19. Consecutive even digits rearranged

1		2		3		4
5	6			7	1	8
	9		10			11
12			13	14		
15		16		17		18
		19				

DOWN

- 1. One less than 16-Down
- 2. Digits of 4-Down rearranged
- 3. The first digit is four times the last digit
- 4. 17-Across minus 7-Across
- 6. One-half of 8-Down
- 8. Consecutive digits rearranged
- 10. One less than 12-Across
- 12. Five times 18-Down
- 14. 2-Down plus 4-Down
- 16. 12-Down minus 11-Across
- 18. One-sixth of 15-Across

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- 1. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear described as "er-gophobia"?
- 2. MUSIC: Which pop band first recorded the hit song "I'm a Believer"?
- 3. HISTORY: Which nation had four kings by the name of Frederick William in the 18th and 19th centuries?
- 4. THEATER: Which musical had a character named "Ado Annie Carnes"?
- 5. WAR: Approximately how many people were killed, wounded or missing after the Civil War's Battle of Shiloh?
- 6. GEOGRAPHY: What is the official monetary unit of the Philippines?
- 7. TELEVISION: Where

- was TV's "Magnum, P.I." set?
- 8 LANGUAGE: What common food has the Latin name of "Vitis vinifera"?
- 9. ART: For what style of painting was Gustave Courbet best known?
- 10. PHILOSOPHY: Who wrote "Nature and Destiny of Man"?

- 10. Reinhold Niebuhr
- 9. Realism
- 8. Grape
- 7. Hawaii
- 6. Peso
- 5. Almost 24,000
- 4. "Okla-homa"
- 3. Prussia
- 2. The Monkees
- 1. Fear of work

Answers

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•The Instructional Computing Center presents the Breakfast Club on Friday, May 12 from 9-10 a.m. The event will be held in Building 6, room 164. Attendees should bring with them a poem to share on the topic of multicultural poetry. Muffins and coffee will also be provided.

•Team Highline, the Black Student Union, the United Latino Association, Associated Students of Highline Community College, and Clubs and Organizations are sponsoring "Bringing Consciousness Back to Hip Hop" on Monday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Highline Student Union.

There will be lectures, workshops and an emcee showcase.

•The Rainier Symphony Orchestra presents "Symphony Pops!" May 20-21. The symphony will be performing with The Bottom Line Duo at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center on May 20 at 7:30 p.m. and the Foster High School Performing Arts Center on May

Rational Numbers answers

8		1	3	4		8
3	2	8		1	5	1
	6	1	1		3	1
1	7		6	9	4	
1	3	8		9	6	2
5		4	6	2		3

Water Everywhere

Across

- 1 Capri, for one
- 5 Rip up
- 10 Err
- 14 Pinot
- 15 Power of Positive Thinking author
- 16 Prohibited
- 17 1980 Olympic site
- 19 Related
- 20 First mate
- 21 Agitate
- 22 Most frigid
- 24 Hamstring
- 26 Take back
- 28 Keats specialties
- 30 therapist
- 33 Highways
- 36 Gear projection
- 38 Fold over and sew together
- 39 Minerals
- 40 Angry
- 41 Beer's head
- 42 Australian bird
- 43 Plumber's helper
- 44 Suspicious
- 45 Plane departure
- 47 Baden-Baden & others
- 49 Idolizes
- 51 Says
- 55 Kansas town
- 57 Skin
- 59 New Prefix
- 60 Take
- 61 Lorelei locale
- 64 Team connector
- 65 Mysterious
- 66 Roam
- 67 Looked
- 68 Apparel
- 69 Affirmatives

Down

- 1 Body of water
- 2 Italian white wine
- 3 Compare to
- 4 Before

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21				22	23				
24				25			26	27						
			28			29		30				31	32	
33	34	35				36	37					38		
39					40						41			
42				43						44				
45			46					47	48					
		49					50		51			52	53	54
55	56						57	58				59		
60					61	62					63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

- 5 Flexible strip
- 6 Cure
- 7 Dale Earnhardt, e.g.
- 8 Yale student
- 9 Set aside for special use
- 10 Wine marks
- 11 Nevada resort area
- 12 Florida wading bird
- 13 Fourth and ten play
- 18 Urges on
- 23 Singer Johnny
- 25 They attract bucks
- 27 Hams it up, perhaps
- 29 Attack with machine guns
- 31 Sprocket
- 32 TV award
- 33 Poe, for one
- 34 Singer Thomas
- 35 A Finger Lake
- 37 Acorn birthplace
- 40 Night-vision aid
- 41 Community theme event
- 43 Shortly
- 44 By and by
- 46 Blue-pencilled

- 48 Apple sauce and hummus, e.g.
- 50 Steeple
- 52 Representative
- 53 Actor Christopher
- 54 Infections
- 55 Eye inflammation
- 56 Popeye's greeting
- 58 Cuckoos
- 62 Majesty
- 63 Ret. plan

Quotable Quote

Don't throw away the old bucket until you know whether the new one holds water.

... Swedish Proverb

By GFR Associates • Visit our web site at [www.gfrpuzzles.com](http://www.gfrpuzzles.com)

21 at 3 p.m. Ticket prices are \$17 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students.

•The University of Washington's 35th annual University Street Fair runs Saturday, May 20 from 10 a.m. to

7 p.m. until Sunday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fair includes a multitude of craft and food booths and admission is free for everyone.

•Got an arts event you want to see here? Send us the details at [tword@highline.edu](mailto:tword@highline.edu). Include details!

Wishing Well®

7	2	4	6	2	8	4	2	8	3	8	2	8
D	H	A	A	A	S	B	S	H	M	A	T	R
6	7	8	4	2	7	6	5	2	3	5	2	3
B	O	E	E	E	T	R	A	N	O	C	D	R
8	5	2	5	6	4	2	8	5	6	7	3	7
I	C	E	E	I	T	C	D	P	E	H	A	E
8	2	7	4	5	2	5	2	8	6	4	7	8
E	I	B	T	T	S	C	I	A	F	E	E	S
4	5	7	6	3	6	7	4	3	4	5	6	4
R	H	S	E	L	N	T	L	E	I	A	C	F
6	2	3	5	3	7	6	5	6	5	7	6	2
O	O	I	N	S	Y	U	G	N	E	O	T	N
6	3	5	7	2	6	3	7	3	4	7	3	7
E	H	S	U	S	R	I	C	G	E	A	H	N

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Last week's solution  
JAVA

P	I	C	A		T	A	L	E	S		A	L	M	S
A	D	O	S		A	G	I	L	E		R	E	A	P
R	E	F	S		C	O	F	F	E	E	C	A	K	E
R	A	F		S	I	N	E				S	H	R	E
				E	M	P	T	Y		H	O	S	E	
S	M	E	A	R			M	O	N	A	R	C	H	S
N	O	B	L	Y		H	O	N	E	Y		O	A	T
A	L	E	E		L	A	U	D	S		A	F	R	O
I	D	A		C	O	B	R	A		G	O	F	E	R
L	Y	N	C	H	P	I	N			E	N	E	M	Y
				O	U	S	T			T	H	R	E	E
A	L	O	F	T			L	O	A	M		P	A	W
C	O	F	F	E	E	C	U	P	S		N	O	V	A
R	I	F	E		S	P	L	I	T		O	T	I	S
E	S	S	E		S	A	U	C	E		R	S	V	P



# Thunder Birds kick it into high gear

By TREVOR KULVI

STAFF REPORTER

Vancouver, Wash. — With only 11 days remaining and one meet left before the championship meet, the Highline women's track team put it into high gear as they came away with several personal records and outstanding performances at the Roy Burns Invite hosted by Clark College on May 6.

The meet featured only community college teams; Highline was able to get used to the competition they will face in the championship meet. Joining Highline at the meet were Clark, Lane, Mount Hood, and Southwestern Oregon.

Leading the way for Highline was freshman Sheree Barbour who competed in both the 800 and 1,500-meter run.

Barbour won the 800 in a time of 2:23 and won the 1,500 in a time of 5:00.73. Her time now has her in front by seven seconds over Tamara Starodubseva of Lane.

"I really want to break five this season," said Barbour about her performance.

Also representing Highline in the distance events was the duo of freshmen Melissa Better and Rosie Meeker.

They both ran in the combined men's and women's 5,000 meter run.

Meeker finished first for the women with a time of 21:04.5 and Better finished second with a time of 22:10.13. Both marks were personal records for Better and Meeker and have placed

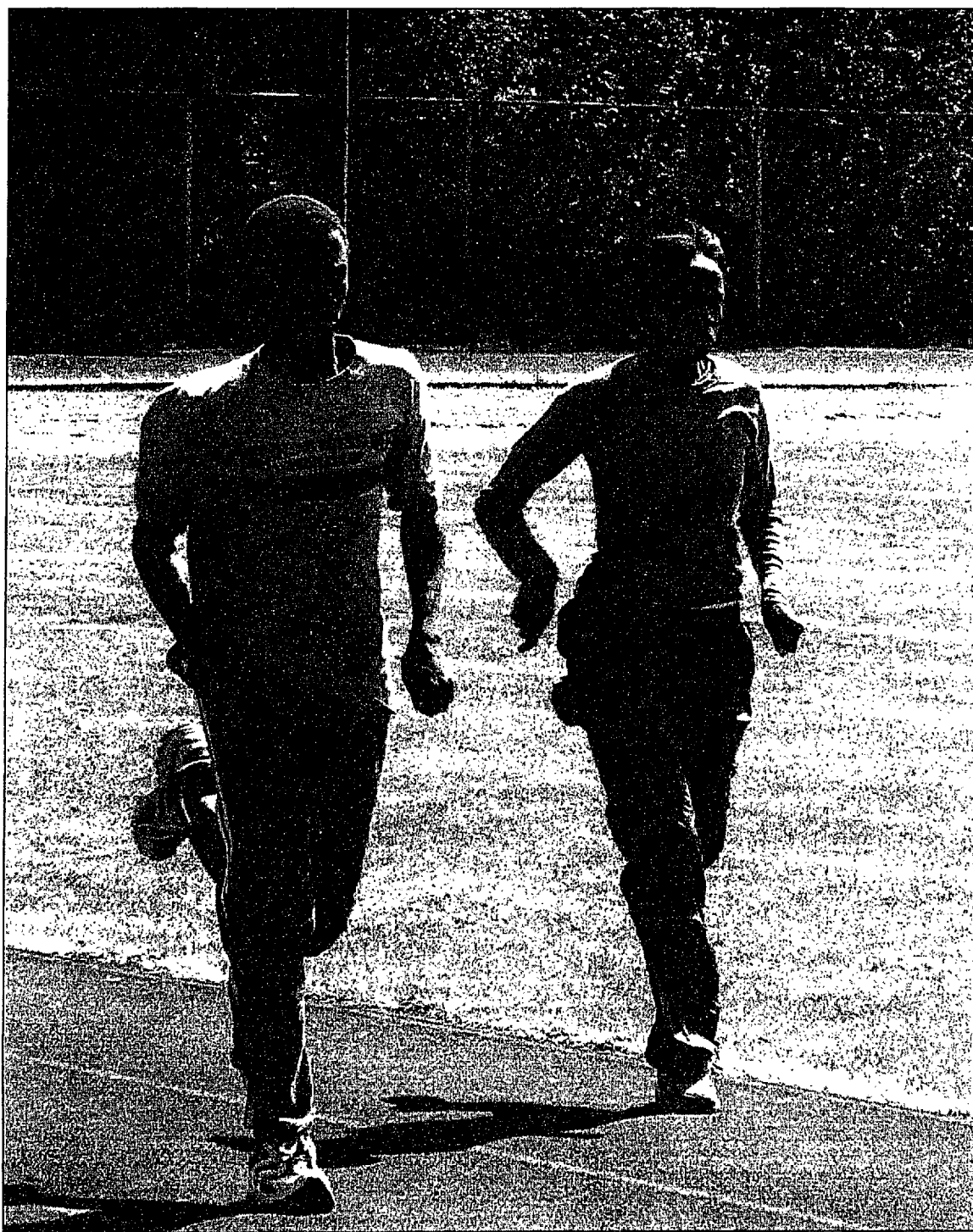


Photo by Austen Lavery

*Muhammad Ali and Sheree Barbour warming up for practice earlier this week.*

them in the top 13 in the league standings. They are well within striking distance of the qualify-

ing time. The duo of Brittany Smith and Lindsey Farah also showed great potential at the

meet with great performances both on the track and in the field events. Smith competed in both

the long jump and 200 while Farah competed in both the 400 and the javelin.

Smith took second in the long jump with a mark of 17 feet 4.25 inches.

Lakeesha Cadogan of Clark, who has been Smith's main rival for most of the season, won the event with a jump of 18'4.

Smith also clocked a time of 27.20 which was good enough to place second behind Cadogan.

Farah had a great day as she finished second overall in the 400 with a time of 63.46.

Up next for Highline will be the Ken Foreman Invite hosted by Seattle Pacific University on May 13 at West Seattle Stadium.

The meet will begin on Friday night with the running of the women's 3,000-meter steeple chase, which will be held at Nathan Hale High School.

The reason for this location is because West Seattle Stadium does not have a steeple chase pit and Seattle Pacific University was unable to rent the track at the University of Washington.

In past years, the meet was always held at the UW.

This will be the T-Birds' last chance to get the qualifying marks in their respective events before the NWAACC Championship meet.

Also expected to compete in the meet from the league will be the Chukars from Treasure Valley and long-time rivals the Sasquatch from Spokane.

This meet will not feature a team scoring affair.

## Smith aims for the top spot at championship meet

By TREVOR KULVI

STAFF REPORTER

It was a very difficult decision for Brittany Smith to make, but in the end she was finally able to make it.

"I couldn't make a decision on a four-year school and it is pretty close to home and it had a track team," said Smith on making the choice to come to Highline.

Smith competes for the Highline women's track team in the long jump, triple jump and the 200-meter dash.

Smith began doing track and field eight years ago while in sixth grade after being complemented on how fast she was.

"People always said I was fast and it turned out to be a lot of fun," said Smith.

Smith came to Highline after graduating from Kentlake High

School in 2005.

While competing in track at Kentlake, Smith earned three prestigious awards.

During her sophomore season in 2003, she was named the most improved athlete for the team.

Her senior year in 2005 was more memorable. That year she was named the Team MVP and captain as well.

Smith also qualified for the state meet her senior year out of the highly competitive South Puget Sound League.

At state, Smith placed 11th in the long jump with a mark of 16 feet 1 inch and placed 10th in the triple jump with a jump of 35 feet.

The transition from high school track to college track can be difficult for a lot of athletes, but Smith has made the switch look easy and has set some good

goals for this year.

"I want to have a lot of fun and make big improvements in my jumping distances this year," said Smith.

She has already met the goals.

As of right now she is the NWAACC league leader in both the triple and long jump and several coaches are considering her the favorite to win her events.

"I hope to at least win the triple jump and get in the top three in the long jump," said Smith.

"There are a couple people who are really good competition so we will see how it goes. It would also be cool to make some sort of showing in the 200."

After graduating from Highline, Smith hopes to transfer to the University of New Mexico and also hopes to get a degree in business.



Photo by Keith Daigle

*Brittany Smith taking a look down the runway as she prepares for the NWAACC Championship meet.*

5/11/06

THE THUNDERWORD

## SPORTS

## Softball gets closer to playoffs with win

By ERIK BREAKFIELD

STAFF REPORTER

It was another bittersweet week for the Highline fastpitch team, as they do just enough to keep their fourth place spot in the West division.

The girls picked up two solid wins against the basement dwelling Green River team, which still remains winless on the season, but they dropped two games to Centralia and two more to Pierce.

The T-Birds faced Centralia last Friday, a team they played with the entire game the last time they faced off.

They hoped to get an upset against the Trailblazers but when the time came, just couldn't get their offense running and fell behind 10-4 and 16-6 while committing eight errors in both games combined.

The next day however, Highline took the field with a vengeance and stacked 21 runs on 14 hits against the Gators in game one, Jennifer Ventoza allowed only one run and the defense backed her up with no errors.

Freshman Amanda Houser also belted her first homerun of the season.

Game two continued with the same momentum as Jessica Ventoza went 4-4 at the plate and Highline scored 12 runs on 17 hits; taking the game 12-3.

Highline's scorching bats cooled down for the games against Pierce however, as the girls had only 10 hits in both games combined and lost both 10-2.

The team still sits in fourth place though and that's all that

they need to do to move on to the playoffs.

They play two must win games against Grays Harbor this Friday May 12, at Highline field at 2 p.m.

These games are the season-finale for both of these teams; winner advances to the playoffs, loser prepares for next season.

As of right now Highline is tied in the standings with Grays

Harbor but holds the all important tie-breaker with them.

If Grays harbor beats Highline in the season finale, then the T-Birds will have to regroup for the 2007 season.

As of right now Highline is in fourth place in the division because they have a better league record despite the fact that Grays Harbor has two fewer losses on the season than does Highline.

According to the league handbook, the top four teams in each division at the end of the regular season will participate in the NWAACC Championships May 19-20 at Delta Park in Portland, Ore.

If the playoffs were to begin today, Highline would be the number four seed out of the west by virtue of their league record and a sweep of Grays Harbor in their last meeting back on Satur-

day April 29.

Highline can still make the playoffs even if they split against Grays Harbor, but might have to play them one more time according to the new rule put into effect this year.

The new rule put into effect this year would pit Highline against Grays Harbor for a possible fifth time because the fourth and fifth place teams would play for the final spot.



Photo by Keith Daigle

Keresa Steichen hammers a pitch against Green River. Highline's offense came alive as they scored 33 runs in two games against the Gators.

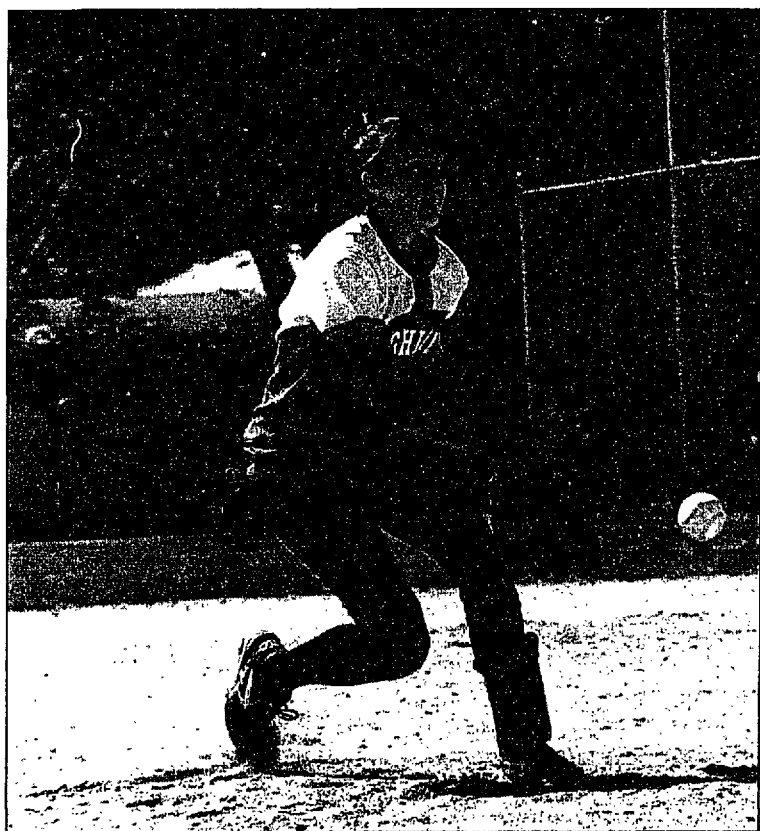


Photo by Keith Daigle

Jessica Ventoza unleashes a pitch against Green River. Ventoza allowed one run in the win against Green River.

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# Men's track improves times at invite

By STEVE PIROTTE

STAFF REPORTER

In the first meet since sprints coach Les Black quit, Highline's men's track team was able to perform well.

Although the final standings were not released to the coaches, Highline was ranked first for much of the Roy Burns Invite, hosted last weekend by Clark Community College in Vancouver, Wash.

"We had quite a few runners improve on their times," Head Coach Amber Rowe said.

This is a big boost not only for the team, but especially for the coaches.

"I was happy because this is the first week that I ran everything, as far as sprints and long distance," Rowe said.

"I was pretty nervous, but everybody stayed the same or improved."

In the 200-meters, Kenjamine Jackson earned Highline 10 points, finishing in first place with a time of 21.88.

Miguel Martinez finished fifth and Bruce Hubbard finished sixth. They combined to earn the team 7 points.

Martinez' time of 22.73 was an improvement, something Coach Rowe was very happy with.

"He has been in the 23's all year and he finally got into the 22's," Rowe said.

"The 4x100 team lowered their time and they are not even all healthy. Rashawn Boyce just came back from a hamstring injury and has only been practicing for a week."

The 4x100 relay team consists of Jackson, Hubbard, Martinez, and Boyce.

They beat out Clark and Southwestern Oregon to finish first with a time of 42.34.

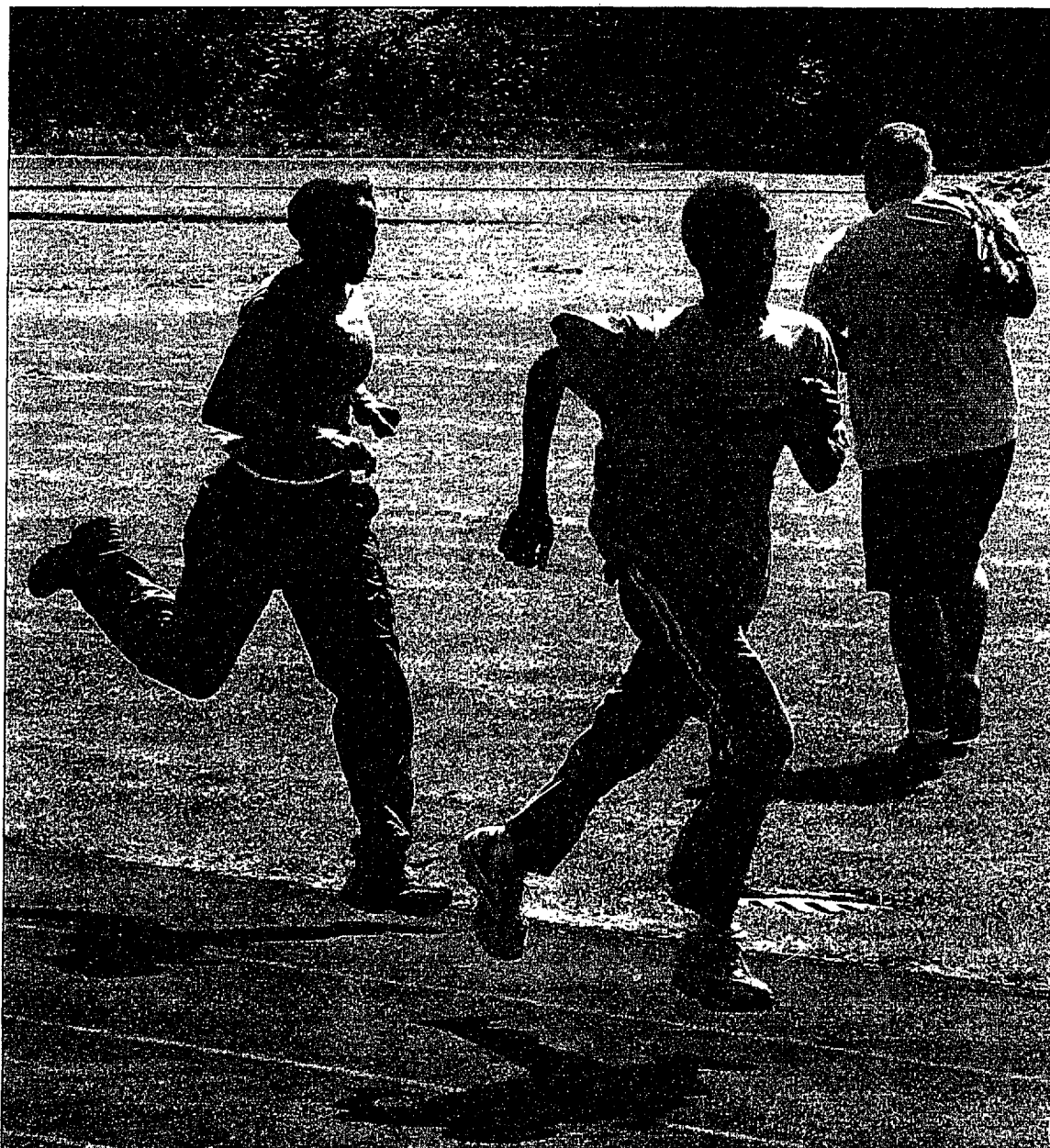


Photo by Austen Lavery

Kenjamine Jackson and Sheree Barbour warm up around the track while Jeff Vick gets ready to practice shot put, discus, and javelin.

"If Rashawn gets healthy they could improve even more on their time," Rowe said.

The most notable improvement was Jeff Vick, who is Highline's only thrower.

Vick improved his javelin throw by nearly 30 feet.

"He's qualified for three events in NWAACC; shot put, discus, and javelin," Rowe said.

"This is his first year throwing javelin, so it's pretty neat

that he qualified."

Vick finished second in the javelin, with a mark of 159'11, behind Todd Anderson of Clark.

Anderson won the event by nearly 14 feet with a mark of 173'10.5.

Vick followed that performance with the shot put, where he placed fifth.

He rounded off an impressive personal performance with

a fifth-place finish in discus. Vick earned 16 points for the team in these three events.

In the 100 meter, Hubbard finished first with a time of 11.12. Boyce was not far behind in third, with a time of 11.72.

Two of Highline's sprinters decided to change things up, running different events than they are used to.

Martinez and Jackson usually run the 100 meters, but this time

they both ran the 400 meters.

Jackson took third, while Martinez finished fifth.

"Both Kenjamine and Miguel decided to run the 400 just for fun, and Kenjamine qualified for NWAACCs," Rowe said.

"Miguel was close, I think he was only one person off from qualifying."

Their feat is even more impressive because they never run the 400 in practice, so they have little or no experience with the event.

"It's definitely not a training regiment. It's pretty impressive because they both went out and did it on pure athleticism," Rowe said.

Highline's long distance runners performed well also.

In the 1500 meter, Noah McDonald finished fourth and Trevor Kulvi finished fifth.

"I think they did a very good job," Rowe said. "Noah got hurt so he was not as great as he could have been."

In the 5,000-meter the men and women raced together, and Kulvi again finished fifth.

"Trevor was taking it easy because he is already qualified in his events," Rowe said.

In the 800 meters, McDonald finished fifth, while his teammates Mohammad Ali and Victor Kimuhu finished eighth and ninth respectively.

Highline's next meet is the Ken Foreman Invitational on Saturday, May 13.

"It's a big meet," Rowe said. "We've got 4 or 5 people still trying to qualify. It's going to be tough for everybody to qualify. Some people are quite a ways away from the qualifying mark, but anything is possible."

Although the meet is on Saturday, the steeplechase event will be run on Friday, May 12 at Nathan Hale High School.

## Scoreboard

### NWAACC SOFTBALL STANDINGS

As of 5/08/06.

#### NORTH League Overall

Bellevue	28-4	34-6
Edmonds	23-9	27-13
Everett	20-12	26-18
Peninsula	14-18	16-22
Olympic	14-20	22-27
Shoreline	11-21	11-23
Skagit Vly.	2-27	2-31

#### WEST League Overall

S. Puget Snd.	26-2	38-8
Pierce	22-5	25-22
Centralia	18-9	18-12
Highline	9-17	9-28
Grays Hbr.	8-18	8-26
Green River	0-28	0-36

#### EAST League Overall

Wen. Vly.	22-4	31-10
Spokane	22-4	30-8
Big Bend	16-10	22-13
Walla Walla	15-11	21-25
Col. Basin	9-14	14-17
Yakima Vly.	6-17	14-23
Treasure Vly.	8-18	13-23
Blue Mt.	3-21	10-29

#### SOUTH League Overall

Lower Col.	23-3	35-6
Chemeketa	18-8	36-8
Clackamas	16-10	22-16
Mt. Hood	15-11	19-15
SW Oregon	5-19	6-26
Clark	1-25	7-31

### NWAACC/Horizon Air Coaches' Poll

School	Record	Votes
1. Lower Col.	34-5	76
2. Chemeketa	35-7	59
3. Wen. Vly.	31-10	46
4. Bellevue	33-5	37
5. Spokane	30-8	30
6. Clackamas	21-15	29
7. S. Pug. Sound	36-8	16

### SCORES

EDMONDS 11, BELLEVUE 8 (FIRST GAME)
BELLEVUE 11, at EDMONDS 0 (SECOND GAME)
at SHORELINE 11, OLYMPIC 3 (FIRST GAME)
at SHORELINE 8, OLYMPIC 4 (SECOND GAME)

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# Yok hopes to bring ethics, expertise

By SIMONE SNOW

STAFF REPORTER

Larry Yok says while he is new to community colleges, he is no stranger to working in human resources.

Yok, director of human services at Group Health, is one of four candidates interested in the position of vice president of administration at Highline.

If he got the job, administrative technology, the bookstore, business office, construction, contracts and leases, human resources, and security would all fall under his jurisdiction.

"I have had jobs that are human resource positions. ... I've been working in the public sector most of my career," Yok said.

"This job really isn't that different from ones I've had."

However, Yok admitted he feels his lack of working at a community college is his biggest drawback.

"I am not a veteran of community colleges," Yok said. "I hope to make a transition that is relatively seamless, but I'm sure there will be a few bumps along the way."

The first bump came when



Photo by Jocie Olson

Larry Yok, vice president of administration candidate at the May 4 forum.

Yok was not chosen as an original final candidate for the position.

He replaced Nancy Moffatt, executive director for operations in the North Kitsap school district, when she dropped out.

This has not stopped Yok though.

In a forum held on May 4 in Building 7, Yok answered questions from about 60 staff and faculty members, and outlined his plans for Highline.

"What other things do we do that would be of value to anyone within a reasonable reach?" Yok said.

"You need to look outside the Highline Community College con-

tainer if you want to grow this place. ... If we're going to do more, we have to use our discretionary skills to get discretionary income."

By marketing Highline's

strengths and geographically expanding the campus, Yok hopes that would make Highline a more desirable school, helping to boost declining enrollment.

"An organization cannot save its way to success. It has to grow," Yok said.

Yok also took the opportunity to divulge his leadership style, saying he likes to "lead by example."

"I'm not a micromanager. People know their jobs better than I do. ... I prefer to state the desired outcome and let people get to it the best way they can," Yok said.

"It is important for a leader to be clear about their expectations, and to be approachable."

Yok said he also has high expectations when it comes to ethics in the workplace.

"I start first from the place that people prefer to behave ethically, they just need to know what those standards are," Yok said.

"You want to properly balance your control measures with what you think your risk is."

Certain control measures Yok gave as examples included semi-annual audits of programs, a measure he utilized in several

of his past jobs along with maintaining a constant interaction with his staff.

If he were to get the position, Yok said he would apply that practice to Highline by keeping an open dialogue going with staff and faculty, and even by making visits to classes.

"I've made a point of going out to the work site I'm responsible for," Yok said.

"It takes effort to walk away from [the office] ... but I'll do it since no workforce problem is separate from the environment."

The final concern the staff and faculty presented to Yok during the forum, was how frequently he has changed jobs in the past.

"The role this organization plays is so critical," Yok said. "As long as I've got something going on here I can make a contribution to, I'll stay here."

The other three candidates up for the job are Marion Davis, interim vice president of administration at Highline; Kurt Buttleman, vice president of administrative services at South Seattle Community College; and Farhad Javaheripour, vice president for administration at Santa Fe Community College.

## Brigham speaks against fast food

By SIMONE SNOW

STAFF REPORTER

Before your next meal at a fast food restaurant, Highline professor Tracy Brigham wants you to know what you will really be swallowing.

Brigham was the speaker at last week's Science Seminar, a series of lectures given by Highline faculty members every Friday.

Brigham's topic was fast food, and she used the time and Eric Schlosser's book *Fast Food Nation* to address several issues such as the health risks eating fast food presents, as well as factory farming.

Brigham described factory farming as "a large-scale, industrialized agriculture."

"It is probably how all of your fast food meat is coming to you," Brigham said.

However, a recent series of tests run on meat from factory farms revealed a dirty little secret.

A variety of things were found in the meat including hair, vomit, urine, and fecal material.

To complete the imagery, Brigham showed a brief animated movie clip titled, *The Meatrix*.

In the cartoon, a cow took a pig on a tour of what he called "the real world" of factory



Tracy Brigham

farming. On the tour, the cow disclosed some startling information.

Not only are the workers of factory farming treated poorly, the animals are too.

The animals to be used for meat are kept out of the sunlight, often going without fresh air to breathe.

They are packed tightly together as possible, so tightly many never even touch the ground or have enough room to turn around.

Finally, the cow pointed out that since many of the animals who end up in our Happy Meals are treated with antibiotics, it presents a huge health risk. It furthers the development of an antibiotic-resistant disease, leaving the consumer vulnerable to a potentially fatal illness.

"You as the consumers have a lot of power," Brigham said.

If anything is to change, Brigham said people must stop supporting factory farms.

Brigham encouraged students to buy meat from farmers' markets in support of local and family farms.

If purchasing meat from the grocery store, look for meat packages labeled free range or roaming, as it would not be meat from a factory farm.

Unfortunately, it is not just the meat buyers have to be wary of.

"When you make a strawberry milkshake, what do you put in it?" Brigham said.

Normally, people put in milk, strawberries, and possibly sugar. However, the McDonalds' strawberry milkshake contains 48 different ingredients, most them manufactured at the "flavor factory" near Princeton, NJ.

Another drink to avoid is diet soda.

"We don't think about the calories we're drinking a lot of the time," Brigham said. "People who eat diet sodas tend to eat more calories."

Studies have shown that since there is no sugar in diet soda for your body to break down and use as energy, your body craves more calories to sustain itself.

Other things to limit in your

diet are sugars, saturated fats, and trans fats, a fat that has been proven to help cause atherosclerosis, also known as hardening of the arteries.

Brigham handed out nutrition guides from a variety of fast food restaurants such as McDonalds, Dominos, and Wendy's for everyone to examine the fat content of every meal offered.

In a balanced diet of 2,000 calories, the average amount of fat should be 55 grams.

However, a majority of the meals had over 55 grams, the worst being Burger King's Triple Whopper with 82 grams of fat.

Brigham suggested that if someone were to eat fast food, they should search the nutrition guides of each restaurant to find the healthiest option.

"Yeah people need the right to make their own choices, but having that information will help you make informed choices," Brigham said.

Science Seminars are held every Friday in Building 3, room 102 at 2:20-3:10 p.m.

For more information, contact Woody Moses at 206-878-3710, ext. 3649, or at [wmoses@highline.edu](mailto:wmoses@highline.edu).

The next Science Seminar lecture is *The Psychology and Science of Gender and Sex*, presented by Rod Fowers.

## Highline business panel workshop

Join Highline's Business department faculty at a panel workshop where they will give their advice about the different paths to take in the business world.

The workshop will be held on Friday, May 12 from 12:10-1:00 p.m. in the Student Union Mount Skokomish room.

For more information about the Career Opportunities workshop contact Erik Tingelstad at 206-878-3710, ext. 3599.

## Science Seminar on the psychology of sex

This week Science Seminar will be a facilitated discussion on the psychology and science of sex and gender. The discussion will be led by Rod Fowers who will explore the fact that the terms sex and gender mean different things to different people.

Science Seminar will be on May 12 from 2:20-3:10 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](mailto:wmoses@highline.edu).

## Club helps students find direction

By LYNETTE MARQUIS  
STAFF REPORTER

Highline science majors now have a new formula for success.

Highline's new chemistry club - Chemistry for Allied Science Majors (CASM) - assists science majors with everything from deciding on their field of study to writing a personal statement.

"Our goal is to bring together any and all students majoring in chemistry: pre-med, pre-pharmacy, pre-dental, biochem, etc. Really any major that has a significant chemistry component," said Club Adviser Dr. Jeff Owens.

"CASM will help students prepare to apply and transfer into a four-year university and give students the motivation and determination to finish what they have started," said club President Michelle Morales, a sophomore pharmacy major.

The club plans on organizing an archive of study materials to practice all levels of exams, including pharmacy and medical college admission tests (MCAT and PCAT).

Another primary goal is to expand the club's impact off-campus by reaching out to local communities with activities that promote chemistry and science. Activities include "visiting middle and high schools, par-



Marie Marquis, Bryan Swift, and Jeff Owens discuss plans for the Chemistry for Allied Science Majors club (CASM).

ticipating in science fairs, hosting National Chemistry Week and Earth Day activities, etc.," according to Owens.

Community outreach programs may also include civic duties "such as neighborhood and highway trash removal in order to provide leadership in cooperative responsibilities for one's environment," Owens also said.

"When looking forward to applying for universities and scholarships, it's important to show leadership," said chemistry club member Karyn Mai, a

Gates Millennium Scholar as of 2006.

"This chemistry club not only offers science students the opportunity to have fun while gaining useful information, it gives them an opportunity to make themselves look good."

Owens has stressed the importance of science majors reading up-to-date science research.

That's why a portion of the club's time is spent with periodicals such as Puget Sound Chemist and Chemistry & Engineering News.

The club is already attracting

attention among Highline students.

"By simple word of mouth we have already grown to more than 15 students in size, and after we begin advertising next quarter, we expect our numbers may increase to between 30-50 active members," Owens said.

The chemistry club just received a grant from the prestigious American Chemical Society Puget Sound Section, also known as the producers of the Chemical Engineering News weekly publication.

The club hopes to become

a Student Affiliate Chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) - a program that supports students of chemical sciences by offering discounts on society journals, co-op and internship lists, summer jobs, science meetings, and networking with top professionals.

Sometimes science students aren't familiar with all the ins and outs of the career they're aiming for. The chemistry club hopes to help members with this by educating them about what really goes on in the job environment. Members will have a lot of opportunities to get questions answered.

"Some students will get excited, but others will say 'Well, I thought I wanted to do this,'" said Owens.

"For most people it's a process of elimination. I hope I do turn some people off so they find what they really want to do."

Tentative plans for spring quarter include a recruitment luncheon and a couple more science article discussions.

The casual and friendly environment of the club meetings makes it easy to get plugged into this club.

Meetings are held every Tuesday from 2-3 p.m. in the Student Union Club Room on the third floor.

For more information, contact Jeff Owens at 206-878-3710, ext. 3457.

## More than just another chemistry professor

By LYNETTE MARQUIS  
STAFF REPORTER

Jeff Owens used to experiment with chemistry. Now he's experimenting with learning.

Owens is no ordinary scientist; he's a new favorite among science students. A first-year chemistry instructor at Highline, he is sparking the interest of his students and other science majors on campus.

Students say they like Owens because he's so in tune with their needs. They say that his passion for teaching sparks their interest and makes them participate because they want to, rather than out of obligation.

"He'll spend a lot of time and help you until you understand," said Rachael Fox, one of Owens' Chemistry 152 students.

One time "after everyone was bummed about their low scores on a test, Jeff stood on his head to make us smile," said Karyn Mai, biology major who is in Owens' Chemistry 153 class.

Owens said he teaches because he believes in getting

people excited about science.

"I want to help people realize that science is interesting, important, and it can be used to explain so many things in our everyday lives," said Owens. "I think we all want to help prepare students as best we can for their next academic step, and making the topic fun and interesting sure helps."

Students say Owens is dedicated to them in class and out. Besides taking the time to help students whenever they need it, he devotes extra time to the new chemistry club on campus known as Chemistry and Allied Science Majors.

Owens got his bachelor's degree in chemistry at the University of California Santa Barbara in 1993. He got his Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of California Davis in 1998.

On his path to becoming a scientist, Owens met his wife, Kalyn.

"Kalyn and I met in graduate school. Neither one of us intended to date another science geek, but we got along too well

to hold that thought. We got married in 1999, a few weeks after running the Portland marathon together."

Jeff and Kalyn Owens now have two daughters, Arryn, 5, and Morgan, 3.

Kalyn Owens is currently a chemistry instructor at North Seattle Community College.

Before teaching at community colleges - Shoreline and North Seattle community colleges before Highline - Owens was a researcher for Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

After working at the research center, Owens helped start and was the first employee in a Biotech company called Catch Incorporated.

"Over five years, I was a scientist in several biotechnology companies and focused much of my effort on the development of protein purification processes to support Phase I anti-cancer clinical trials," Owens explains. "During these years, I gained valuable experience, while also realizing that I wanted to return to my true passion - teaching."

Owens' current students highly recommend taking him in chemistry.

Next year Owens is planning to teach Chemistry 121, 151, 152, and 153.

"I am very passionate about teaching and learning, and I

make every attempt to inspire students from all backgrounds and interests to become actively engaged in their own learning.

"In the classroom, I encourage active participation and collaborative learning activities throughout each course."

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## Students' computer skills will be tested

By KAYDEE SMITH

STAFF REPORTER

Any student at Highline, who knows a little about Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint, can prove it tomorrow in the Instructional Computing Center.

Professor Oussma (Sam) Alkhalili set up a competition for all students who want to compete in the B-Tech Challenge.

Sam Alkhalili is hoping to get 25 students involved in the competition, which will take place this Friday, May 12, in Building 30, room 201 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Sam Alkhalili says this is the first quarter Highline has been able to offer the simulated software programs to students not enrolled in a computer class. He says the B-Tech Challenge is "a community effort to get more students involved in school."

The challenge is for students to complete 100 tasks; each task contains 2-4 questions, and the students must try to answer all the questions correctly. Each student has five minutes to complete each task and answer the questions before moving to the next task. As time progresses, the questions will go from easiest to hardest.

Alkhalili says, "The challenge is a fun activity and a way to see the skills of the students."

If a student competes in the challenge, he or she may or may not finish the entire 100 questions. Alkhalili says, "If they do finish all 100, then they are really good."

The first, second, and third placed winners will receive an award for their performance. Alkhalili says the best award for the challenge is the fact the winners can state that they won a Microsoft software competition on their resume.

This is not the first competition Professor Alkhalili has put on. Alkhalili also put on a math competition from 1996-2001 in California at a community college.

"I'm hoping to repeat the success," Alkhalili says.



Alkhalili

## Highline anticipates Spring Festival

### College is to host a range of groups for its annual event

By ANDREA DAVIS-GONZALEZ

STAFF REPORTER

Students and the community will be invited to explore career and employment opportunities while having fun at the Spring Festival on May 19.

Every Spring Highline hosts an event for companies and organizations to introduce themselves to the community. This festival has also invited the community to take a look at Highline, stop by its booth, and get them thinking about college.

The Spring Festival will be held in inside the Pavilion, Building 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Coordinators say the event will try to help those who attend learn a little bit about career and educational opportunities.

Students from Highline, as well as various high schools, middle schools, and those in the community are welcome. Outreach Services Program Assistant Tanisha Williams said



Tanisha Williams

that more than 600 students are expected to attend. So far 15 high schools and two middle schools have confirmed.

"We often host over 1,000 (students) when we include junior high school students to the event," Williams said.

Some of the school districts attending include Kent, Auburn, Seattle, and Federal Way. Among the high schools that have confirmed is Kent-Meridian.

"I would like them (the students) to see the campus, different programs that are offered, and the classes they can take," said Kent Meridian counselor Debbera Kempton, who signed up the high school.

"I know that Highline gets them prepared and that have a good reputation for that."

Coordinators say that select universities, companies, and even Highline will set up booths and will have information packets representatives will be available to answer any questions.

Williams said that the Spring Festival will also include activities such as basketball, volleyball, and can eat barbecued food, or listen to the music played by a hired DJ.

"The Spring Festival allows students to have fun, explore college and career options, while visiting with over 30 of the area's top employers and over 30 in-and-out of state four-year universities," Williams said.

A few of the universities that have confirmed include Washington State, Johnson & Wales, and Chapman.

There will be a wide array of companies and organizations present at the event. Some that will be attending include American Airlines, City of Des Moines Parks Department, King County Library System, Lowes, Peace Corps, Starbucks and Valley Cities Counseling.

Some of these companies will try to help those who may

be interested with employment. The organizations will be at the Spring Festival to introduce themselves to them community. Des Moines Parks Department, Recreation Specialist Sara Gould said that two interns will be sent to the Spring Festival who will provide information of their services.

"Recreation brochures with all of our classes will be available," Gould said.

The Parks Department will also provide information about their volunteering activities. Information will include their summer day camp. Highline will also set up a booth.

A few of the departments that will be represented include Respiratory Care and Computer Science.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Lisa Skari - who helped expand the Spring Festival - said that the Spring Festival is something for everyone to enjoy.

"Ten years ago we had no idea how it would turn out, it makes my job fun— trying new things and seeing that they actually work," Skari said.

"More high schools keep coming and more high schools keep asking to come."

### Workshops hip, hop onto scene

Highline presents Hip Hop Summit, "Bringing Consciousness Back to Hip Hop."

Bakari Kitwana, author of "The Hip Hop Generation: Young Blacks and the Crisis in African American Culture," will be giving lectures. Workshops will be held throughout the day.

The event will be Monday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Student Union.

For more information contact Janae Leggett at 206-878-3710, ext. 3537 or at [jleggett@highline.edu](mailto:jleggett@highline.edu).

### Latino cafe to spice things up

Learn about the lives of the Latino students on Highline's campus at the Latino Conversation Café.

The café will be on Tuesday, May 16 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Mount Constance room located in the Student Union building. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the Latino Conversation Café contact Barbara Clinton at 206-878-3710, ext. 3151 or at [bclinton@highline.edu](mailto:bclinton@highline.edu).



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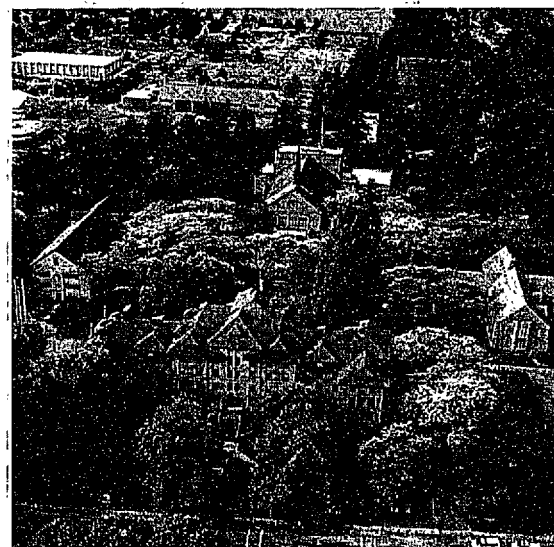
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## Betheal

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enough to attend a university. "To get into school in Ethiopia is very competitive," he said. "That's all you work towards for 12 years." Unfortunately, Habte was able to attend class for only two months and 27 days, he said.

The authorities put Habte in prison because he was Eritrean. Most Eritreans were deported, but Ethiopia didn't want to run the risk of giving their enemy potential soldiers. "They keep the youngsters in prison," he said.

Fortunately, a woman whose daughters Habte had tutored was able to negotiate his release. However, things weren't going to be the same. "They couldn't let me continue studying at the university," he said.

Habte's father was deported that year and the family's funds were blocked. "We started selling [my father's] equipment," he said.

"They forced us to get out of the house and they took our house," Habte said that top ranking members of the Ethiopian army took over the house after he and his family were evicted. It was at that point the family was forced to go its separate ways.

Habte tried to leave the country, but he couldn't obtain any type of official documents. "The only thing I had was my [school] certificate," he said, the same one that had taken him to college earlier.

"I couldn't get a passport by my own," he said.

Habte turned to his athletic abilities to earn his way out of Ethiopia. "I started playing soccer for a team," he said.

Habte played for a total of three teams over a period of five years, including the Ethiopian National Team; he was forced to leave each team, however, when he was discovered to be Eritrean.

In 2003 Habte applied for the U.S. visa lottery and won.

"It's crazy," he said. "I couldn't believe when I first got it." Despite not having a passport or a green card Habte was able to make his way out of Ethiopia and found himself on American soil.

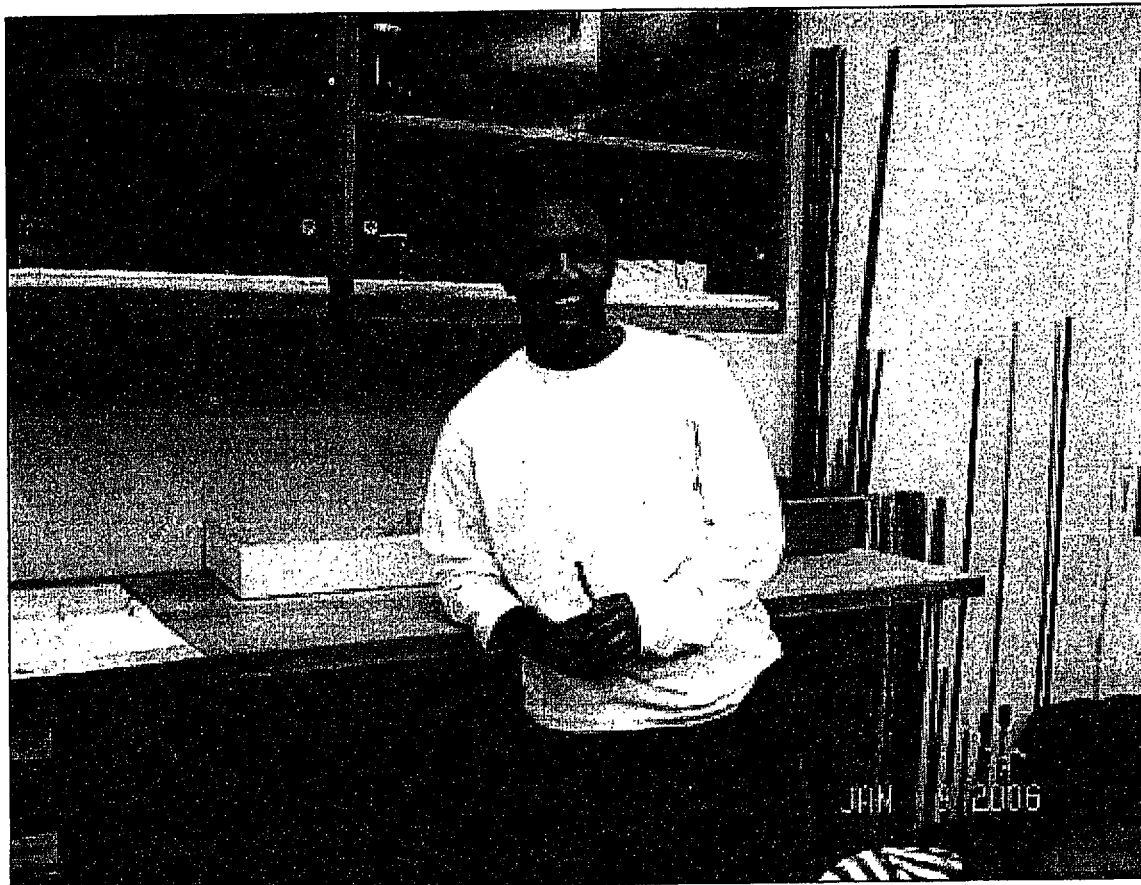


Photo courtesy of Igor Glozman

Betheal Habte has been studying engineering at Highline since 2004. He hopes to continue his program through Spring of 2007.

Soon after his arrival he was invited to practice with the Seattle Sounders soccer team by a member he had met by chance. Habte was offered a position on the team, but he declined, insisting that his primary interest was school.

Soon after, he was connected with the Highline soccer coach, Jason Prenovost.

"He always helped me when I had a problem," Habte said of Prenovost. "I had a lot of problems because I was new."

Prenovost, who still coaches men's soccer at Highline, remembers meeting Habte.

"He was a wonderful player," he said. "He [played] very hard."

It was Prenovost who helped Habte receive an engineering scholarship.

"He's a great example of how if you put your mind to something, you can excel," Prenovost said. "Not just succeed, but excel." That year Highline won the NWAACC, the first time in its history. It was the following August that Habte injured his knee.

Now, in his second year at Highline, he is facing another in his series of challenges. If Habte doesn't receive surgery, he may never be able to play soccer again. A group of friends don't want to see that happen though, and have put forth their

best efforts to help Habte.

Last Thursday his friends took him to dinner at Buca di Peppo, which serves Habte's favorite kind of food — Italian. At the end of the meal, Habte was presented with a card.

His five friends had gathered money to go towards his surgery (Habte asked that the amount not be disclosed). A check was placed inside the card.

"I didn't know there was a check inside," he said. "I was surprised."

Miliyard Gualu was one of the friends who took Habte out.

"He was out of words," she said. Habte and Gualu have been friends for two years.

"We always study together," she said.

"He's takes life really easily I guess," said Gualu. "He

doesn't complain — never."

Now Habte must wait to hear from DSHS as to whether he will receive the remaining aid for his surgery. While times are difficult, they're not as bad as they have been for him.

"Most people in the United States, they don't know war. They don't know the experience, they don't know the feeling. We have the feeling," he said. "We have the pain."

Habte, however, isn't one to dwell on negative experiences. His friends see him as a beacon of hope, a source of inspiration. He's recognizable on campus not because of his height, skin color, or clothes, but because of his smile, a smile that promises he'll keep going, no matter what.

## Sports

continued from page 1

to be cut.

"Although I am sure it will not impact our athletics program next season, there are definite concerns for the future," said Amber Rowe, women's basketball coach.

Dunn says he shares these concerns.

"Initially it should have no impact on our sports teams," Dunn said. "However, if it continues to climb, it could force the college and department to look at eliminating programs."

In turn, if the loss of entire sports programs were to occur, it has already begun to cause worries to surface that currently low enrollment could fall even lower.

"The only way it will affect retention is if we have to drop sports," Dunn said. "The NWAACC has done a study that states that for every two athletes that come to a community college, they bring with them one additional student. With that in mind, it could have a direct impact on retention and recruitment."

However, the financial problems facing sports are not completely unsolvable, and require more of students than staff or faculty.

"There are some possibilities, but ultimately we are driven by the state bidding process for the company we must use," Dunn said. "In relation to our campus, if S&A no longer wants to fund the premium and wants to look at alternate sources, it would be up to the student leadership to look into those possibilities. ... It would have to be student driven."

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THE THUNDERWORD

## NEWS

## Police

continued from page 1

Another reason may have been due to lack of exposure of what exactly the levy was attempting to do.

"We had about four weeks to get the message out that we were putting the levy on the ballot," Chief Baker says.

With the May 16 elections coming up, key supporters have been working hard to convince voters, including the Enhanced Public Safety Committee, a citizens' effort of 60 people formed by Mayor Bob Sheckler.

"We've been knocking on doors and passing out signs," says Wayne Corey, who is a member of the committee.

Flyers have also been mailed to citizens' homes in an attempt to persuade voters to say yes.

The group, in addition to City Council, had decided that public safety in their city was one of their top concerns.

"We're (the city of Des Moines) suffering the nearness we have with SeaTac and the airport," says Chief Baker.

"A lot of the activity go-

"A lot of the activity going on (in SeaTac) with gangs, drugs, and prostitution has come into Des Moines. I would remind everybody that in 2001, Officer Steven Underwood, a Des Moines police officer, was killed by a gang member."

-- Roger Baker,  
Des Moines police chief



ing on (in SeaTac) with gangs, drugs, and prostitution has come into Des Moines. I would remind everybody that in 2001, Officer Steven Underwood, a Des Moines police officer, was killed by a gang member," Baker says.

Since 2003, violent crimes such as homicide, rape and robbery increased by 10 percent, followed by a 23 percent increase in 2004.

Figures for 2005 show that such crime has increased by 9 percent, but that number is still being counted.

Despite concerns about safety in Des Moines, there are still concerns about whether raising property taxes will be the right

answer.

According to former City Councilman Richard Benjamin, the community is not "ready yet" for a levy lid lift.

He questions the decisions that his former colleagues have made in order to increase community safety.

One of those was the council's unanimous decision back in March to renovate a new police substation in Redondo in a separate issue from the levy.

"Is there a crime problem in Redondo?" he asks. "No."

Benjamin sees this as "taking resources away from the problem to help the people who need it the least."

He also likens it to a "reverse

Robin Hood."

Benjamin said the city would be better served by a substation in the Pacific Ridge neighborhood, which runs along Pacific Highway South from South 216th Street to SeaTac.

Much of the city's crime takes place there, and it was where Officer Underwood was killed in 2001.

"Kids need to know who the heroes are and we've got a damn good police department and personnel for it to happen. Pacific Ridge has been ignored for years and until the vocal minority addresses it, the problem will never be fixed," he says.

Current City Council members say the levy is needed, add-

ing that state law guarantees the levy money will go to police.

"It is a sorry state of affairs regarding trust in government that the question of 'guarantees' has to be broached, especially since the process is so clearly laid out in state law," said Councilman Dan Sherman.

"We could not reduce funding of the rest of the police budget and send the money elsewhere," said Councilman Dave Kaplan. "The money will be used to hire back most of the police officers that were cut during the past five years."

City officials warn that if the levy fails, more cuts will have to be made to other departments.

"If the City Council wants to restore police officers (if the levy fails) then we would expect that the city would need to cut approximately \$810,000 in 2007 and \$1.2 million in 2008," says Finance Director Henderson.

"There have been preliminary discussions on potential cuts in city administrative functions such as legal, finance, and personnel as well as parks and recreation," she said.

"These cuts do not total \$1.2 million and, therefore, other strategies would need to be identified."

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