Dr. Tricia Rose says the American dream creates a selfish attitude

BY SHURVON HAYNES
staff reporter

The American Dream and meritocracy are twin evil myths in the United States, structured to promote individualism and a “get mine” attitude, an expert said here on Monday.

Dr. Tricia Rose spoke about the destructive effects of individualism in our society as part of the 10th annual Unity through Diversity program. She said that some elements of American culture don’t help the less fortunate to empower themselves and make economic and social progress.

See Rose, Page 11

See more coverage inside

- Students say you can’t judge Africa by what you see and hear through the media. See page 11.
- Students, staff, and faculty take on race, religion, gender issues, and other taboo topics. See page 12.
- You can’t believe everything you see in video games. See page 12.
- Four Highline women are honored for their extraordinary accomplishments and the challenges they have overcome. See page 13.
- Getting to the meat of living a vegan lifestyle. See page 14.
- Burning up over second-hand smoke and its negative effects. See page 14.

Unity through Diversity

Funding cut for several programs

BY JAMES BERMINGHAM
staff reporter

Some college departments are unhappy with what they were given by the Service and Activities Budget.

The S&A budget funds student clubs, activities, and programs from athletics to drama, arts, and music.

In Dunn’s Athletic Director account, he requested $53,256 but received $45,150.

“These are stressful times for me because we didn’t get what we requested,” Taylor said. “It seems like the only time we get what we requested is when we have one of our students on the S&A Budget Committee.”

Taylor requested $44,285 and got $39,000.

“The money we didn’t get was going to cover the increase in prices due to inflation as well as student workers’ pay scale increased recently,” said Taylor.

Legislature worked on budget, textbooks

BY MICHELLE ERICKSEN
staff reporter

A measure requiring textbook companies to inform professors of what their products will cost students became law when the Legislature finished last Sunday.

The Legislature adjourned after 105 days of session and Legislators and Highline officials were generally pleased with results. But a few legislators are concerned about the overall level of spending.

Although the governor’s original budget had asked for a tuition freeze with a 3 percent cushion from the state, tuition will not be frozen. The Legislature capped it at no higher than 2 percent a year with a 1 percent fallback.

“The community colleges wanted tuition frozen and they wanted the state to provide them the equivalent of 3 percent,” said State Rep. Skip Priest, R-Federal Way. “The state will provide them with the equivalent of 1 percent and community colleges have the option to raise tuition 2 percent but no higher.”

No decisions have yet been made on tuition.

“It’s not a local decision, the college does not have the authority to change tuition,” said Interim Highline President, Dr. Jack Bermingham.

The State Board for Technical and Community Colleges has the authority and the option to make that decision.

“We were very pleased to see tuition increases kept to a minimum,” said Dr. Bermingham. “I suspect that they will decide in May at the State Board meet-

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APRIL 26, 2007/VOLUME 46, No. 24/HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CSI:

HIGHLINE

More vehicles stolen

A 1994 Nissan Seita was stolen from the east parking lot on April 20 and a Honda Civic stolen from the north parking lot on April 23. The Des Moines Police Department were contacted and are handling both cases. These are the second and third cars stolen this quarter and the third and fourth cars stolen this year.

Office Rich Noyer, the supervisor for security and safety at Highline, offered some suggestions to help protect your cars.

"You put away a lot of stuff and secure your care, that's a good start," said Noyer. "If you have a club, use it."

Raging over parking on Highline's campus

A student was yelled at as she tried to park her car on April 25. The student was pulled into a spot when a woman in another car honked her horn and began shouting profane names.

"You put away a lot of stuff and secure your care, that's a good start," said Noyer. "If you have a club, use it."

Electrical room falls quarry to theftery

Two pieces of copper cable measuring 200 feet each was stolen from the Facilities electrical room in Building 26 on the first floor on April 23.

Lost property

- A black wallet was reported lost on April 23 in Building 29 at 2:20 p.m.
- A wedding ring was reported lost on April 24 in Building 6 or the Student Union at 4:40 p.m.

Found property

- A white i-Pod was reported found on April 20 in the Student Union at noon.

Now is the time to run

Student Government will have positions available for President and Vice President of Administration for the 2007-2008 academic year. Election packets for students are due May 3 and are available in the Student Programs office on the third floor of the Student Union.

There will also be a candidates meeting on May 3, a candidates forum on May 16, and the elections will be held on May 23 and 24.

For more information, contact Paul Pittman at ppittman@highline.edu.

Bobby is coming

Bobby Kennedy will be at Highline tomorrow.

This week's Movie Fridays will be showing the film Bobby about Bobby Kennedy's run for president until he was assassinated.

Everyone is welcome to attend the free screening of Bobby on April 27 in Building 7 at noon.

Excelling at Excel

Get ahead with Excel. This week's Science Seminar will be presented by Accounting Professor Michael Girvin on The Wonders of Excel.

Seminar attendees will learn the basics and a few tricks to working the Excel computer program.

It will be held on April 27 in Building 29, room 309 from 2:20-5:10 p.m.

Let's count the votes

The deadline for nominations for Highline's 2007 Employee of the Year is coming up.

To nominate someone, send a letter addressing what sets the employee apart from their co-workers, their achievements, and their working relationships with others on campus.

To be eligible, the employee must be a permanent classified staff, including staff and administrative employees.

Nominations must be received by 5 p.m. on May 4. The winner will be announced at the Faculty & Staff Spring Luncheon on June 14.

Book Club is back for Spring Quarter

Highline's Book Club is returning for the new quarter with a new book.

This quarter the club is reading The Man in the High Castle by Philip K. Dick, a science fiction novel about slavery in 1962 when the U.S. is occupied by Japan and Germany after losing World War II.

Everyone is welcome to join in the discussion of the book and its themes today, April 26 in Building 6, room 164 from noon-1 p.m.

Sistas supporting sistas once again

Women are being empowered during Spring Quarter. Sistas Empowered, a women's group at Highline, will be holding a discussion titled Breaking the Mold about daring to be different and exceeding expectations.

The discussion will be held on April 30 in Building 6, room 164 from 1:30-3 p.m.

For more information, contact Dolly Babber at 206-878-3710, ext. 4350 or at dbabber@highline.edu.

Corrections

In an article about Science Seminar in last week's issue of The Thunderword, it should have said LonnieSommer is a professor of anthropology.
Highline re-defines traditional students

By SHURYON HAYNES
staff reporter

Renee Reiche was afraid. She had tried college before and it hadn't worked. She missed home; it was a lot of work.

But after 15 years of raising a family, she wanted something more.

Still, she was afraid to enroll in school after being a homemaker for several years. "At first I was really intimidated in class because of my age, but after a few weeks I realized I can do this, I can get good grades and I love it," Reiche said.

She plunged ahead. In January 2004 she decided to become a paralegal and enrolled at Highline.

Reiche is considered a non-traditional student, older, not fresh out of high school, someone with some life experience beyond K-12 and a job at McDonald's.

Non-traditional students are in fact something of a tradition at Highline.

There are approximately 4,176 students over the age of 24 enrolled at Highline, which is 51 percent of the student population.

This includes all programs such as ESL, Running Start and Extended Learning.

Older, returning students have long flocked to Highline, especially those who choose to enroll in professional-technical programs.

"Our students are usually mature adults who have been laid-off and lack the skills needed to obtain a new job. Many qualify for Work Retraining grants created for displaced workers or displaced homemakers," said John Huber, Highline's Worker Retraining manager.

To meet the needs of non-traditional students, Highline has created more evening, weekend and online courses.

"We also have the I-BEST program to help many immigrants who have done assembly or factory work, with little if any transferable skills," Huber said.

The Integrated Basic Education Skills Training program (I-Best) was designed to help ESL students to earn college credits, while improving their English reading and writing.

But after 15 years of raising a family, she wanted something more.

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ged program can bring success

By Judy Vee
staff reporter

The letters "GED" are usually not associated with success.

But if you're Steve Washburn, that "depends how you measure success."

Washburn is the coordinator and an instructor for Highline's GED program and is quick to throw aside the common stereotypes that usually stigmatize GED students.

GED stands for "General Equivalency Diploma" and is a degree that is pursued by people who are unable to or chose not to earn a high school diploma.

At the end of the quarter, students take a test on basic high school subjects - reading, writing, math, social studies - and the GED is rewarded to those who pass.

The test can be taken without taking the GED class, but it is wise to take the class to brush up on your skills, Washburn said.

"For a number of students [in the GED program], they don't have a positive opinion of education," Washburn said.

But for some students he's worked with in the GED program, that opinion gradually changes. "When they see success in themselves, they realize 'Maybe college is a reality,'" he said.

Many students who enter the program are at vastly different academic levels.

"We work on having (students) be successful in small measures," Washburn said.

"Some students might be high, some may be low," Washburn said. In any case, Washburn says he tries to "tailor to the needs of every student."

Washburn gives a ballpark figure of 25 percent of students successfully completing the GED program. While those figures may seem low, Washburn does not view it from that perspective.

"I don't focus on the 75 percent, but the 25 percent that are successful," he said.

Washburn said that the main reasons students end up leaving are due to work, child care issues or moving away.

"Those who do leave do come back," Washburn said. "Any student who's there till the end makes that progress [to become successful]."

Washburn said that most GED students' goals are to go to college.

"[They're] getting their GED just to prove to themselves they can do it," he said.

Former GED student Rebecca Schubert not only wanted to prove to herself she could do it.

"I wanted to prove everybody wrong," she said.

Schubert, 28, received her GED at Highline in 2005. She recently finished an associate of applied science in administrative justice, but is now in the process of completing an associate of arts degree.

"Since I'm doing really good, I might as well get an AA," she said.

Schubert was born in North Dakota but moved to Seattle when she was young.

"I had adjusted [to life in Seattle] and [then] my dad died," she said. Right after her sophomore year of high school, her family moved back to North Dakota.

It was there that she ended up dropping out of high school.

Patricia Carrillon/Thunderword
Renee Reiche, a non-traditional student, will be graduating from Highline this spring.

"The non-traditional student has changed in recent years. We are now seeing those who are coming to college for the first time and working. There are approximately 49 percent of students who work and attend school part-time and 45 percent full-time," said Laura Westergard, director of admissions and entry services.

Reiche is studying to receive her associate of arts and associate of applied science paralegal degrees, and hopes to eventually become an attorney.

"Initially I was just going to get a paralegal certificate, but then I thought 'Why limit myself?' I can go further to become a lawyer, there are so many opportunities and doors open for me," said Reiche.

At first Reiche wasn't sure how to relate to the younger students on campus, but after a while they began to see her as a mother figure and a friend who supported them in their endeavors.

"I feel good that they trust me for support and it has helped me realize that my life wasn't limited to just my family and that I could make a difference in the lives of others," Reiche said.

Reiche has held various positions on campus. She was a member of the club resource team, Students' Rights and Responsibility Review Committee, president of the Highline College Paralegal Association, a member of the United Latino Association, public relations officer and Phi Theta Kappa and the 2006-2007 Service & Activities Budget Committee chairwoman.

Reiche's children, now ages 14 and 16, have also benefited from their mother's education.

"I've seen how much they have grown as a result of my decision to attend college and be involved on campus. It has encouraged them to do better at their school," Reiche said.

Some students have returned to college after having worked at low-paying or unfulfilling jobs, which was the case for Scott Robinson.

Robinson dropped out of high school in the 10th grade due to family obligations; he then went to Job Corps before receiving his high school diploma at Bates Technical College at the age of 23.

See TRADITIONAL, PAGE 16
Opinion

Editorial comment

Guns may not kill people but they help

In the wake of the Virginia Tech massacre, we around the Western Washington area cannot forget our own shooting tragedies.

Nov. 20, 2006: Seven people were wounded at Tacoma Mall. The shooter, Dominick Maldonado, also took several people hostage before he was arrested. Victim Dan McKown was one of the most seriously wounded. Maldonado was armed with a MAK 90 semiautomatic rifle.

July 28, 2006: Five women were injured and one was killed by Naveed Haq at Seattle's Jewish Federation Center. Haq was armed with a 9-mm handgun. He said he attacked the center because he was a Muslim-American angry because of the situation in Israel.

March 25, 2006: Six young people were killed at a private house party after a rave on Capitol Hill. The killer, Kyle Huff, was armed with a 12-gauge pistol grip Winchester defender shotgun and a .40-caliber semiautomatic handgun.

Although the numbers were nowhere near to what happened at Virginia Tech, the pain is just as proportional. It's a tired argument that occurs every time something of this magnitude happens.

How did the killer get a gun? What about my right to bear arms?

And as life moves on, the argument slowly gets swept under the rug.

But we need to start listening. Our politicians—the people who should be working for us, the people who should be leading us—need to start listening.

In editorials across the globe, other countries have criticized or wondered why, after such tragedies, we don't tackle the source of the problem: The availability of guns.

The whole world seems to be on board but us. It's time to swallow and pride and dramatically reduce the easy availability of guns. Sadly, making such huge changes are difficult and many politicians will be chewed up before they even try.

How many more people must die before someone tries? Starting April 16, 2007, the count begins at 33 and seems likely to get higher.

***

Letters to the editor and guest columns are invited from the campus community. Letters should be no more than 300 words long; please include contact information for confirmation.

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"We're not that deep."

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Use the right words for adoption

I probably speak for many otherreadersoftheThunderword
when I say that I was amazed by
the story "Happy Ending" on the
cover of the April 12 issue. The
odds against half siblings born
nine years apart ending up at the
same college at the same time in
the same writing center—and
discovering their connection—
must be astronomical.

But I'll leave that to the math
instructors to try to figure out.

As a parent who adopted a
son, however, I wanted to com-
ment on several of the article's
improper and misleading refer-
ences to adoption in hopes of
helping to educate the Highline
community.

There is such a thing as "adoptive-language," and this article provides some
good examples of language that
is not.

First, Daniel Watson's moth-
er is referred to as "his pseudo
mother." I didn't say "Daniel Watson's adop-
tive mother." His mother is the
woman who raised him.

Even in the worst violations of adoption-friendly language, I have never seen a parent re-
furred to as "pseudo." "Pseudo" means false, counter-
feit, not real. What about his
father?

Second, the article states that
after Daniel's birth mother re-
linquished her parental rights,
his adoptive mother could fos-
ter him as her own.

This confuses two very dif-
ferent things: adoption and fos-
ter parenting. Parents who adopt
children are not foster parents.
Foster parents are "licensed
adults who provide a temporary home for children whose birth
parents are unable to care for
them" (www.adoptivefamilies.
com). His mother provided a
permanent home.

Finally, I was disturbed by
some of the comments Daniel
and his mother made. He re-
furred to his "mom that I grew
up with" as if he had another
"mom." A birth mother is not
a mother or a mom. His
mother, on the other hand,
commented that he was "old
eough not to be scarred by"
being told that she had ad-
opted him.

I understand completely
why they might speak that way. First,
they are adjusting to a new real-
ity in which his adoption is now
open and subject to discussion.
Neither has figured out exactly
how to verbalize that new real-
ity.

Also, both of them seem to be
reflecting an earlier under-
standing of adoption, one that
prevailed back when Daniel was
born—or even earlier.

That understanding assumed
that it was best to hide the fact
of adoption from the child, that
knowing the truth will create
psychological damage in a child
who was adopted, and that the
only "real" parents are birth par-
ents.

But Daniel Watson's mother
is his real mother, not simply
"the mom he grew up with."
Experts say that adoption
should never be treated as
something to be ashamed
of or come as a surprise to a per-
son who has been adopted.
Even though my son doesn't
understand words like "birth
mother" and "adoption," my
wife and I use them around him
and tell him how happy we are
that we adopted him. We have
told him the story of his own
birth and our efforts to get to the
hospital the very day he was
born.

We have told him what little
we know about his birth parents.
We have read him Jamie Lee
Curtis's beautiful book about
adoption, Tell Me Again about
the Night I Was Born. We have
shown him photographs of our
family members who came to
court for the finalization of his
adoption as well as photos of the
judge and our attorney.

In short, he knows who was
adopted even though he doesn't
quite grasp the concept. Once
the words do make sense to him,
he'll understand. This kind of
openness is becoming more and
more typical today.

Perhaps I might seem to be
too sensitive, but words mat-
ter. They carry meaning beyond
their mere definitions.

Negative language perpetu-
ates outdated beliefs and prej-
udices against adoption and
against adopted people just as
it perpetuates them in too many
other areas of the human experi-
ence.

I am happy that Daniel Wat-
son and Elizabeth Olin found
each other. It's a truly remark-
able story, and I can't even be-
gin to imagine all their thoughts
and feelings.

I only wish that their parents
did not hide the truth from them
all these years and that their story had been told with
greater understanding of adop-
tion.

Tim McMannon is a history
professor at Highline.
For more information on
adoption-friendly language,
McMannon can be contacted at
206–878–3710, ext. 3329 or at
ttimmcmannon@highline.edu.
U.S. needs to help end Ugandan violence

We need to carry guns to protect ourselves

Virginia Tech, like many colleges across the nation including Highline, are considered gun-free zones.

The question lies whether or not that is the "safest" method or not.

The latest shootings both at the University of Washington — where a female employee was shot and killed by a crazed ex-boyfriend — as well as the tragic mass murder in Virginia Tech where 33 people were killed could have been prevented if there wasn't a gun free policy and law abiding citizens were able to carry a concealed weapon.

The fact is that criminals are able to obtain guns regardless of whether or not it is legal. With this knowledge, why is it that we have such an attack on second amendment rights by not allowing students, who have gone through the proper steps that the state of Washington requires to carry a concealed weapon?

If there were students on that Virginia Tech campus that had firearms the situation would not have been so deadly and there wouldn't be 33 dead college students today.

We take into example the Virginia Tech campus that occurred, to what means do we students have to protect ourselves?

Even our campus security isn't armed and has absolutely no way to protect themselves, let alone other students. How many more people need to die before anyone takes any action?

Why is it so difficult to comprehend that law abiding citizens who carry guns are not a safety threat, and if the situation arose, would protect themselves and their fellow students?

I believe that this college, as well as all of the other colleges and universities need to re-look their policies on weapons.

Where is our "Public Safety Department?" If we don't allow students to carry weapons, why can't we at least give campus security the means to protect us?

Instead, our security officers are a group of employees who write out parking tickets and open buildings.

My high school even had a police officer, and because of that, I felt much safer. It is naive to think that crime cannot happen on campus.

Concerning Virginia Tech, I not only blame the shooter, but the weillustration and its policies as well.

Let's make our campuses a safer place by changing our weapons policy or at least provide our security officers the correct means to protect the public.

Paul Kalchik is the former president of Highline's Student Government.

Opinion

We take into example the Virginia Tech campus that had firearms the situation would not have been so deadly and there wouldn't be 33 dead college students today.

We need to carry guns to protect ourselves.

Paul Kalchik is the former president of Highline's Student Government.
Upcoming Hi-Liner show now auditioning

BY KELSEY SIMS

The Hi-Liners are holding auditions for their musical Bugsy Malone Jr. on April 23 and April 26.

The Hi-Liners are a long-standing theater company. They have done a range of shows including Grease, The Wizard of Oz, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown and many more. Just since 1994 they have done 16 shows. They are a committed group of young actors who have drawn in crowds for every performance.

"I've seen 42nd Street, West Side Story, Les Miserables, and Cinderella. I really like the way they do their shows," said Sam Boyd, who is a student at Highline.

The auditions will be held at Lake Burien Presbyterian Church which is on 15003 14th Ave, SW, Burien. If you are interested in trying for a spot then you will need to go to: http://www.hi-liners.org/current/aud-form.html

You will need to sing a short song at your audition. Songs like Twinkle Twinkle Little Star are perfectly acceptable.

The musical Bugsy Malone Jr. is a gangster story that is based off a book written by Alan Parker. There was also a movie made in the 1970s. However, this particular version of the story was directed by Kathleen Edwards. All the gangsters are children and instead of real bullets they use "splurge guns" that cover the victims in cream. It also involves a power struggle between two rivals, "Fat Sam" and "Dandy Dan."

"Their shows are always fun to watch," Boyd said.

It is supposed to be an entertaining and exciting show, filled with song and dance. The show will run from July 13-15 at the Renton Civic Theater.

Des Moines raises money to bring a library sculpture

BY ALICIA MENDEZ

The Des Moines Arts Commission is making an effort into bringing a sculpture to the Des Moines Library.

"Libraries are the storehouses of culture," said Barbara McMichael, a member of the Des Moines Arts Commission. "Visual literacy is apart of the library's mission."

Along with these two fundraisers, the commission have solicited for grants, and some local businesses have just been donating to the fund.

"We really wanted this whole effort to be a community effort," said McMichael.
Card making isn't just for the creative inclined. The art of card making can involve all kinds of crafts from stamps, to sewing fabric, to embossing, to a fancy flick of the pen.

**Artistic Pursuits**

"What crafters don't always understand is card making is very open ended," said Jane Yancey, card-making instructor for Impress in Southcenter. Impress is a store that focuses on making cards with stamps. However, classes are offered for different types of elements to bring into card making. The classes teach you the basics of putting together a card, the quick and easy way, or the slower and perfectionist way.

Making cards can be a little refined, with some basic materials, such as various colors of your choice of card stock paper, sold individually or in sets; paper trimmers, around $30; glue, double-back tape, hot glue gun and hot glue sticks starting at $4.99; an embossing gun and embossing powder starting at $19.99; scissors; stamps and ink; and markers or your choice of writing utensil. Once you have all your basic supplies you are free to begin slicing and dicing your greeting card. What's great about making your own cards is that once you have all the supplies, in the long run it is much cheaper, and more personal. Keep in mind if you need to just make a birthday card you can make it individually, or if you do not always have a lot of time on your hands you can always make a batch of cards and use those for the rest of the year. Making cards in bulk comes in handy during the holidays. "When I make cards for the holidays or events, I do each step one at a time," said Rochelle Holland, "Stampin Up" card instructor in Seattle. "First I cut all the paper down to size, then I fold each piece of paper I may need to add, and it just goes on from there." To begin, trim down the card stock paper to your choice card size with your paper trimmer. Fold the card in half. All cards can open any way you please; there is no set direction. The most common ways are right to left, and bottom to top. Next cut out the next piece of paper you may need if you are planning to layer pieces together. Once you have an idea of what you'd like your card to look like, get all those supplies ready.

Embossing adds a sparkly aspect to the card that makes it look more expensive. There is a special embossing pad, which resembles an ink pad, that causes the embossing powder to lift and harden. Using stamps as your art gives you the ability to include more detailed art that you can still personalize. Once you stamp a picture, you can color it in. Sewing fabric into the card also gives it a more personal and vintage look. Be sure to cover the opposite side of the card with the stitches with a piece of paper. Another way to decorate your card is using at-home products. If you have beads around the house you can hot glue them into a design or into the words you'd like your card to say. Personally, I prefer using vintage photos as a part of my decorating. Old fashioned pictures of people, which can be printed off of any computer with the internet, can be a cute way to add humor or emotion to a card. Whether you decorate the inside of your card is completely up to you. Generic sayings such as "happy birthday," "happy anniversary," or "I miss you," can be added with stamps, or embossed, or stuck on by sticker letters, or simply written.

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**Slowfolks are not so slow**

Slowfolks members Cameron Moulton on guitar and Robert Luminarande on piano play their moving song "Revelations." Slowfolks graced the Bistro with the Blend's second performance this quarter. Slowfolks are a local band out of Federal Way who trekked their way from California to Seattle to pursue a music career almost a year ago. Audience members were struck by this band's performance noticing the heartfelt words coming from each member's vocal chords. "If you like what you hear, you can catch Slowfolks at their next show at The Alley Upstairs at Cafe Allegro in Seattle on May 11 at 7 p.m. or just check out them out at myspace.com/slowfolks.

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**Gracie' premier today in Seattle**

Catch the first showing of Gracie today at noon at the Seven Gables Theatre. Gracie is a movie about a young girl who decides she wants to play professional soccer. The movie is set in the late 70s when a woman's professional soccer did not exist so Gracie must overcome a lot of obstacles. Gracie is directed by David Guggenheim, and is not yet rated.

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**A Tutors Tale' of love and mayhem**

The Tutor's Tale will be performed May 11-13 and May 18-20. The Tutor's Tale is a Russian musical based off of Chekov's novel. The show will be performed at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center in West Seattle. The first showing will be Friday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m.
The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: **
* * Moderate ** Difficult

8. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of animal is a macaque?
9. MEDICINE: What is the chief cause of cholera?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the biggest snake in the world, in terms of length?

---

**Crossword 101**

**Across**
1. Rights org.
5. Showboat
12. Unwilling
14. Moby Dick Captain
16. Yes _ (answer choices)
17. Farmer’s coop
18. Colada
19. Fridge attack
20. He was a good egg?
23. Social ending
26. Vac letters
27. Pics
28. Tommy Stout vs Johnny Flynn saga?
32. Foil maker
33. Expert ending
34. Pop the question
37. A feline with a bow tale?
42. Tolkien creature
43. Conclude
44. Two points in time
45. An infant on an oak?
49. Nest sounds
51. Row
52. “That’s a lie”
53. Town crier?
57. Dismounted
58. Fight site
59. Hose material
63. Faces over
64. The Dixie Chicks, e.g.
65. N.H. city
66. Gang ending
67. UFO crew
68. Get up

**Down**
1. Miss. neighbor
2. Machine part
3. Bar topic
4. 2002 Olympic site
5. _ upon (find)
6. “We want ___” (ballpark chant)
7. A whole lot
8. Medicinal
9. Family Singers
10. Fits of anger
11. Word before count and weight
12. Korean carmaker
13. 1956 movie with The Sphinx
14. 2-L-P go betweens
15. Like some tel. nos.
16. Korean carmaker
17. Judge’s deg.
18. Two-time loser to Dwight
19. Unkept ones
20. Weight
21. L-P go betweens
22. Like some tel. nos.
23. 1956 movie with The Sphinx
24. Ltrs. after Gov. John
25. Ref. work
26. George Burns role
27. 1956 movie with The Sphinx
28. Teacher’s deg.
29. 1956 movie with The Sphinx
30. Comic Radner
31. Teacher’s deg.
32. Nursery pet
33. Teacher’s deg.
34. Age of elephant
35. Unkept ones
36. Uganda neighbor
37. Napoleon, at times
38. 1956 movie with The Sphinx
39. Miss, neighbor
40. Buffalo Sabres workplace
41. Vital stat
42. Vitamins
43. Vital stat
44. Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row and each column contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**Sudoku**

**Quotable Quote**

*If you don’t know where you are going, any road will take you there.*

---

**Arts Calendar**

The Sumi Art of Lois Yoshida will be featured in the Highline Library Fourth Floor Gallery during the month of May. Yoshida’s art will help celebrate Asian Pacific American History Month.

An opening night party will be held May 3 at 7 p.m., with music provided by the award-winning Japanese music ensemble, Duo En, which performs on the koto and shakuhachi (bamboo flute), plus a performance by the Highline Yarno Daiko Club.

-Ushani Nanayakkara's landscape paintings will be on display from May 4 to May 31 at the Kent Centennial Center Gallery, 400 W. Gow St.

-The City of Burien's Moshier Community Art Center is holding its annual Spring Student Pottery Sale, Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Mosher Art Center, 430 S. 156th St. This popular event features work by more than 30 students, instructors and studio potters. Checks are accepted, and cash preferred. For information, call 206-988-3700 or 206-242-7752, or visit www.burien-parks.net.

-A spring plant sale, sponsored by Friends of Burien Parks, will be Saturday, May 5 at the Burien Fire Station, 15100 8th Ave. SW. Proceeds benefit improvements at Jacob Ambauam Park. To volunteer for the event or donate any surplus perennials or other plants, please contact Gloria Gould-Vanessen at 206-241-8142. For more information, visit www.friendsofburienparks.org.

-The Highline Swing Club offers swing dance lessons every Thursday, 3:30-4:30 p.m. in Building 27. Lessons are $5 for Highline students, faculty and staff and $10 for others. All skill levels are welcome.

-Go arts news? Send items to the Thunderword at tword@highline.edu. Deadline is Monday of each week for Thursday's paper. Listings in the arts calendar are free. Preference is given to on-campus events. Call 206-878-3710, ext. 3317 for more information.

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**Weekly Sudoku**

**Weekly SUDOKU**

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Fastpitch spites injuries for second place

**By Brittany Still**

Highline women's fastpitch team battled injuries and a weekend road trip but still managed to reclaim second place in the West Division of the NWAACC.

The west division is led by Pierce with a record of 12-2, followed by Highline (11-5) and South Puget Sound (10-4).

The Lady T-Birds battled Grays Harbor, losing their first game 3-2. Carrie Draeger pitched the first game. The ladies were leading 2-0 until the bottom of the 7th when Grays Harbor scored three runs to win the game.

However, the Lady T-Birds made a comeback into the second game with Anna Herried leading the team to a 7-3 win. The T-Birds were ahead in going into the bottom of the seventh 3-1. Grays Harbor tied the game and the winning run was on first base when Comstock caught a line drive with her bare hand before shoveling it into her mitt, ending the inning.

The T-Birds sent eight consecutive batters to the plate in the bottom of the eighth inning scoring, highlighted by a two RBI double down the line by Caitlyn Ratcliffe. Herried was able to shut down Grays Harbor in the bottom of the inning for the win.

In both games the Lady T-Birds were fortunate enough to have two pick-up players: Anya Serebryakov and Lindsey McLaughlin both from the Highline lady soccer team. Serebryakov and McLaughlin both contributed to the eighth inning rally. Serebryakov with a infield run scoring single and McLaughlin with an RBI walk.

Shortly after their split with Grays Harbor, Highline played April 21 and April 22 in Wenatchee for a crossover tournament.

The ladies faced Treasure Valley first, losing 4-2. Despite injuries last week Highline's division record remains in the playoff hunt, 11-5, 13-16 over South Puget Sound (10-4).

Former Highline coach earns NWAACC accolades

**By Kory Farrell**

Callero's team also made it to the NWAACC championship semi-finals. After playing for Highline, Callero transferred to Central Washington University, where he played ball from '83 to '86. Callero also earned his BA in psychology while backing two teams that went on to multiple NAIA national tournament appearances.

As a senior Callero was starting pitcher and captain. "I wasn't a big scorer," Callero said. "I was kind of the point guard. My claim to fame was that I was smart enough to get all the good players the ball."

A claim which has no doubt carried Callero to fame as a coach, as well.
Callero

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

"We've always been in the position where we've all worked very hard and surrounded ourselves with very good players and very good assistant coaches, and had great support from attorneys to athletic directors to players and parents," Callero said. "As a coach for 20 years now I've never scored a bank." Callero ended up as assistant coach for Highline after graduating from Central and earning his master's degree in education in post-secondary counseling from Seattle University.

After beginning as assistant coach for Highline from '87-'89, Callero took the position of head coach, and in two-three year stints compiled a career record of 116-49.

With an overall record of 63-2, Callero coached the T-Birds to back-to-back NWAAC championships in '97 and '98, and earned the title of North-West Division Coach of the Year both seasons.

"That was really an exciting team," Callero said. "We had the best talent the state's ever seen, including our NBA current player in Brian Scalabrine (Boston Celtics).

Callero then moved down to assistant coaching as a Trojan under Henry Bibby at the University of Southern California.

During his season coaching there, the Trojans earned a spot in the NIT postseason tournament.

But after his wife, Erika, got pregnant with their daughter, Malia, Callero decided to move back to his home state of Washington.

Upon his return, Callero took the helm at the University of Puget Sound from 1999-2001, leading them to an overall record of 22-25.

In his second season, the Loggers earned a record of 14-10, their first winning season in nine years.

They also won the first six games of their season, the best start the program had had in 20 years.

From there Callero went on to his self-described dream job coaching the Seattle University Redhawks.

In only his second season as head coach, Callero earned Seattle University its first winning season in nine years as well, and it's best winning percentage since the 1984-1985 season.

The Redhawks finished that season with a 16-11 record, a 10 game improvement from the previous season.

With their recent 20-9 '06-'07 season, including a second round bowing at the playoffs, Callero is hoping to push Seattle U from Division II into Division I competition.

"It's a lot of work, and a long haul, but it's been really exciting,[and] very rewarding," Callero said.

"I attribute it all to Highline Community College. It's where I got my start as a player, [and] it's where I got my start as a coach," Callero said.

"I'm a big supporter of the junior college system, I really believe that it gives kids the opportunity to bring their grades up, improve their game, gain some weight, whatever it might be," Callero said. "And my two years as a player and my six years as a coach helped me to polish my coaching skills and allowed me to go on to the four-year level."

"I had a great time at Highline. I have a lot of fond memories as a player and a coach," Callero said.

Despite all of his success, Callero said there isn't a real secret to it.

"I just think it's really perseverance. I don't think I possess any magical skills, I don't think I have secret plays or anything," Callero said.

"I think that we've been very fortunate to have recruited and identified very good players. And recruiting is a lot about perseverance and hard work," Callero said. "The harder you work the luckier you get."

"If you continue to work hard and be humble, I believe those good players will work hard and continue to have success."
Panel says there's more to Africa than you think

BY ASHLEY MESSMER
staff reporter

A panel of African students said that America's media portrayal of Africa is incomplete. The panel was combined of five students from countries such as Nigeria and Kenya. The event was presented with Kenyan Women's Association as part of Unity through Diversity Week.

Njumbu Gishuru is the President of the Kenyan Women's Association. During this meeting she asked a variety of questions to the student panel.

The student panel urged people to look beyond the media's portrayal of the wars and the famine in Africa, and research and ask people about Africa.

As awareness of Africa increases, so will understanding of Africa's culture and customs, the panel said.

"I have never heard anything about Africa that was ever really positive. I urge people to research Africa for themselves," Highline student Mohamed Ali said.

"If we get involved we can clear people's perspective of Africa," Vivian Nwankwo said. "We have a lot of people from Africa that go to Highline, so it's nice to get together and talk about things."

Nwankwo, an immigrant student from Nigeria, talked about her struggles when coming to the U.S. on April 24 as a part of Unity Through Diversity Week.

"I was so depressed, the first time I got here I couldn't understand anyone," Nwankwo said. 

Dr. Patrick Chapman will present the lecture titled Reparations for slavery. The lecture will take place today, April 26 in the Mt. Constance Room in the Student Union from 10-10:50 a.m.

GlobalFest will feature music, food

UNITY Week continues with music, food

Week Celebration, Empowering Communities: Moving Beyond Individualism.

"I want us to dismantle the destructive purpose of these myths. They seem productive but they actually serve a much more destructive purpose," said Dr. Rose.

Unity through Diversity Week continues with music, food

Dr. Tricia Rose speaks Monday at Highline to debunk the myth of the American Dream.

Although slavery is gone, economic inequality persists, Dr. Rose said.

"We have a level of inequality that makes democracy almost impossible because 70 percent of the wealth is controlled by 5 percent of the population... We are the wealthiest nation in the world yet we are unable to make a dent in the level of poverty and inequality that should be a crime. We cannot have a real operational democracy with the power of consolidation that we have today," Dr. Rose said.

"I want us to talk about reparations today, April 26 in the Mt. Constance Room in the Student Union from 11-11:50 a.m."

"None of us has ever achieved status and success on our own; someone else sacrificed and made connections. I don't have to be gay, poor or a minority to be able to relate to their struggle," she said.

Personal achievements, sacrifices and responsibility still matter, but it is how they are percent of the people... how those who are less fortunate that is important, Dr. Rose said.

"Our individual actions and endeavors should be guided by producing the greatest good for the largest number of people for the longest period of time. It is our responsibility to transcend our economic status and success on our own; someone else sacrificed and made connections. I don't have to be gay, poor or a minority to be able to relate to their struggle," she said.

Panel says there's more to Africa than you think
Campus members answer hard questions

BY BECKY MORTENSON
staff reporter

Women aren’t to blame, but Christians might be. These were two of the topics that were discussed last Tuesday as 120 students and a handful of faculty gathered together in the Highline Mt. Constance room as a part of Unity week.

These taboo topics are “an opportunity for people to discuss kind of sensitive issues in a safe place,” Professor Shawn McDougal said.

In the Mt. Constance room, there were four circles set up. Within each circle was an inner circle made up of eight chairs. The rule was that the only people who were able to comment were the people sitting in the inner circle. The people sitting in the outer circle were only observers.

“It’s really important—if you’re not in the inner circle, you can’t speak,” McDougal said.

After five or 10 minutes the facilitator of the circle would stop conversation and allow people to switch in and out of the inner circle.

The topics that were picked were meant to get a reaction out of people. “If it was all boring then we wouldn’t come together to talk about them,” McDougal said.

One of the questions presented was “Are women to blame for the way they are treated in society?” About 25 students sat in this group, three of them men.

“We should all be accepting of everyone automatically assumes because I dress up it is for someone else,” one student said.

“Women are way more worried about what others think than they think,” one male said.

“When a guy works hard he is called driven; when a girl works hard she is either aggressive or a bitch,” one student said.

“If a woman responds in a certain way, then people feel they have the right to make catcalls at them,” another student said.

The guys in the group did agree with this comment. However, they were more focused on how women dress to impress other women.

“Women have a monopoly on God? I would say no,” he said.

“This is not just a one way street. Men are just more vocal than women,” said one guy.

While the question “are women to blame for the way they are treated in society?” was not completely answered, some of the sub topics of this question were discussed.

Both the men and women said they were able to hear the other side of the argument and now they have a better understanding of why people do what they do.

Another question that was presented was “Do Christians think they have a monopoly on God?” About 20 people were in this group.

One of the comments that set off this conversation dealt more with religion in general versus a Christian monopoly.

“I think [religions] all come from the same God,” said one student.

“We should all be accepting and open and not criticize,” said another student.

This topic seemed to be discussing more about religion and acceptance until a professor stepped in and made a comment. “I believe that some say they do, but do they really have it? I would say no,” he said.

After that the conversation seemed to be centered on whether there is a monopoly.

“It depends on which Christian you’re talking to,” one student said.

“I think no one has a monopoly on God,” said one lady, who said she believed in God.

“Do [Christians] feel they have a monopoly on God? I would say very much so,” said another faculty member.

Stereotypes in video games don’t bother students

By Fereshta Noman
staff reporter

Video games can be violent and degrading, but Highline students seem to believe they shouldn’t be changed or limited.

Highline instructor Craig McKenney led a discussion on video games and their effects on media, race, and representation last Wednesday as part of Unity Week.

“We all are game players and we love to play games,” McKenney said.

Mt. Constance was filled with passionate gamers and McKenney’s students, all who were participating in a discussion about how video games portray certain races negatively, and promote stereotyping.

“I think it’s important by the way the video game is distribut,” he included, “it contains a lot of stereotypes.” McKenney said.

The speech included several examples of games that portrayed a community of people badly. Some examples are:

- Def Jam portrayed the black community as gangsters and thieves.
- Garga Farmer is a game about a Rastafarian soldier who protects his marijuana from federal agents trying to confiscate them. This portrays all Rastafarians as people who grow illegal crops for a living.

- Grand Theft Auto series is famous for its depictions of Italian mafias, Latino gangsters, and hip hop felons.

- Hitman 2 is a game that negatively involved people of the Sikh religion.

However the debate took a turn when students argued that video games should not be limited and censored.

“I know I’m not advocating censorship because I do believe in the art of expressing,” McKenney said.

McKenney said that society today encourages the depictions of violence, sex, and unreality. “We’re interested in crime,” McKenney said. “How many movies about Hannibal Lector are we going to make?”

Studies however said that not all video games have negative effects. Religious and educational ones were the most positively impacting, but also the least popular among other video games.

McKenney said it’s easier to focus on negative examples and there is a personal responsibility to know the difference between “character” and “caricature.”

People should look beyond perceptive retention and remember that games are not a reality, and that is the greatest thing about them.

Tutoring Center. located in Bldg. 26, room 319H, just inside the Tutoring Center. It’s all free!
Highline honors four extraordinary women

BY CARRIE DRAEGER
staff reporter

Highline’s Women’s Programs recognized three students and one staff member as Extraordinary Ordinary Women during their Annual Women’s celebration on Wednesday.

The four award winners are Shanelle Powell, Cheryl Carino-Burr, Penny Phair, and Jasmina Mulic.

Powell was born in Alaska to a mentally challenged mother who could not take care of her and her sisters. She spent many years in and out of foster care and by the age of 14, Powell was a ward of the state of Washington. At 16 she passed her GED tests. She then got an accounting degree from Renton Technical College. She married, had tests. She then got an accounting degree from Renton Technical College. She married, had two children and suffered from spousal abuse before getting a divorce and enrolling in Highline. Powell is a sophomore getting her associate arts degree with a concentration in Spanish and will graduate with honors in June.

Carino-Burr is the only staff member that was chosen to receive the award this year. She works in Educational Planning and Advising, and specializes in work with ESL students. She plans and coordinates orientations for GED and high school completion. She continued her education after joining Highline’s staff, getting her AA degree her and her bachelor’s degree from the University of Washington-Tacoma. She comes from a large, close family with eight kids. Three of her sisters have had breast cancer, and she often tells her sister story’s to students and the people she works with.

“I am a better professional and a warmer person because I am a lawyer. She and her family spent six months in Spain, believing that they would be able to return to Bosnia. She moved to America soon after and had to rebuild both her life and her career. “(Jasmina) carries a very high GPA, earning a 4.0 in many of her classes. She works in a physically demanding part-time job and has a family to care for as well,” said her nominator and fellow classmate Candace Bohonick.

Phair is a single parent who is currently attending school to pass her GED tests and is also working towards an I-BEST business Technology Certificate. She was a victim of domestic violence, battled substance abuse, and even spent time homeless. Her nominator Susan Greenlee, her pre-college studies instructor, describes her as an overachiever with a long list of goals, despite her situation.

“I have been to hell and back and I’m still standing,” said Phair.

State senator speaks about community involvement

BY CARRIE DRAEGER
staff reporter

Claudia Kauffman wants to know what’s going on in her community and what she can do to make it better.

State Sen. Kauffman, D-Kent, spoke to Highline students and staff about education, her political experience, and community involvement at Highline’s 25th Annual Women’s Celebration on Wednesday.

Kauffman was the first Native American female senator elected to the state Senate. She is the youngest of seven children who grew up on Beacon Hill.

“As Oprah Winfrey says there’s poor and po’. We were poor,” Kauffman said about her childhood.

Kauffman recalls always being involved in community service, although she didn’t realize she was involved in it.

“It (community service) was a way of life. ... Every time that you do something like that, you create something bigger and better. The impact you have is lasting and far reaching,” Kauffman said.

Her involvement in her community made the choice of running for political office an easy decision.

“I grew up wanting to serve my community; to me it seemed so natural a thing to do. A lot of folks think that elected people are doctors and lawyers, but they are just people. If they are just people, then why not me?” Kauffman said about her decision to become a politician.

Kauffman posed questions in her life, asking “what’s going on?” and “what can I do?” challenging others to do the same, describing those moments as “hands on hips” moments.

“It’s so easy to give up, its so easy to say that someone should do something. … Once you see all the things you can do, it isn’t all consuming,” Kauffman said.

Kauffman also spoke about the education reform within programs such as Head Start and early childhood programs, and improving upon the WASL Test.


Kauffman cited statewide math curriculum as an example. There are currently over 300 different math curriculum in the state of Washington. Kauffman said getting math curriculum down to a central core will help improve WASL test scores.

She also talked about the importance of honoring veterans and elders during her speech. Kauffman and her husband started a program that gives a dinner honoring veterans. The first year it began they had three people attend. The event now caters to 150 people.

“Everything that I have done has been paved by someone else. Everything they have overcome has allowed us to be where we are today. It’s important to get out there, it’s also important to recognize those before you and those in front of you,” Kauffman said.

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Don’t eat animals

BY ARIEL MCKENZIE
staff reporter

Eating animals and animal products has negative consequences for our planet and for animals, Dave Bemel, a vegan activist said last week. Bemel outlined the negative effects of factory farming and offered tips for an inexpensive vegan diet.

Bemel, president of Action For Animals, came to Highline promoting veganism and living a vegan lifestyle as part of Earth Week. Bemel said Action For Animals is an organization that strives to end animal suffering through educational outreach, demonstrations, and media involvement.

Bemel explained that Vegan is really a made-up word that has existed for about 50 years since around the time the Vegan society was formed. He also said that being a vegan means eating a purely plant-based diet.

Bemel, who is 30 years old, said he became a vegan 14 years ago after starting a recycling center at his high school. Bemel said he wanted to show people how much being was being wasted.

"Many environmental groups recognize that raising animals for food damages the environment," Bemel said.

"Factory farming produces more greenhouse gases than cars, trucks, and airplanes put together," said Bemel.

Bemel said that 4 million acres of land are being degraded annually by animal grazing. Referencing a 1997 USDA statistical bulletin, Bemel said that 80 percent of land in the U.S. is used to raise animals.

"Livestock is most damaging to earth's resources," said Bemel.

Bemel said that raising livestock degrades coral reefs and is depleting fresh water reserves.

Bemel said that the manure run off from livestock pollutes streams and rivers, possibly causing birth defects.

He said that not only could manure run off cause birth defects, it increases eutrophication, which stimulates the growth of algae and noxious aquatic weeds.

Bemel said that eutrophication decreases oxygen levels in water and kills fish.

Bemel said that he began a vegan outreach program to help the environment and animals.

While Bemel said that he recognizes the environmental benefits of being vegan, he became vegan for animal rights, not the environmental benefits.

Miranda Meier, an attendee of Bemel’s presentation, raised concerns about the affordability of living a vegan lifestyle.

In response to Meier’s question, Bemel said that he thought it could be affordable.

Bemel offered an idea to buy beans and rice in wholesale to make inexpensive vegan tacos.

Secondhand smoking still a significant danger, speaker says

BY BECKY MORTENSEN
staff reporter

Secondhand smoke is worse than smoking cigarettes, high school students said here last week.

Cheryl Blackford and Candice Swingle are two members of the Medical Assistant Club who spoke last Thursday as a part of Earth Week.

Secondhand smoke is a “mixture of the smoke given off by the burning end of a cigarette, pipe, or cigar, and the smoke exhaled from lungs of smokers,” Blackford said.

Secondhand smoke is dangerous in many ways. It does short and long term damage to anyone around a smoker.

The average cigarette burns for 12 minutes. The smoker only inhales part of that since the cigarette is not constantly in the smoker's mouth. Therefore, even standing next to a smoker places you at a higher risk since you inhale all of the chemicals emitted, Blackford said.

A single puff of smoke contains 4,000 known chemicals; 250 of those are known to be toxic. "The highest concentrations of these chemicals are in secondhand smoke, and have a huge effect on non-smokers," Blackford said.

Some of the chemicals found in secondhand smoke are arsenic (used in rat poison), formaldehyde (used in embalming dead bodies), cadmium (used to make batteries), ammonia, carbon monoxide and nicotine. A survey showed that most people could not name any other chemical besides nicotine and tar, Blackford said.

Out of all the chemicals in secondhand smoke, the most addictive one is nicotine. "It is one of the most addictive substances known to man," Blackford said.

A common misconception is that opening a window will cut down on the amount of chemicals ingested. "Opening a window, adding ventilation, fans, or air conditioning does not keep smoke away from you," Blackford said.

Some of the immediate affects of secondhand smoke include eye irritation, headache, coughing, sore throat and nausea. After only 30 minutes of exposure, secondhand smoke can cause reduced blood flow to the heart.

Just like a smoker, a non-smoker can also get lung cancer, heart disease and stroke from being around cigarettes.

While secondhand smoke has affects on adults, the affects teens and children get are much greater.

When teenagers smoke, they tend to underestimate how addictive smoking can be, Swingle said; there is concern that some teens might become addictive with smoking only one pack of cigarettes, she said.

If both parents smoke, teens are more likely to smoke themselves. "Currently, 23 percent of high school students smoke and more than 1,000 kids become regular smokers every day," Swingle said.

When a mother decides to smoke while she is pregnant, the baby will receive "lower amounts of oxygen and higher amounts of carbon monoxide," Swingle said.

Other problems that a child faces due to secondhand smoke include hyperactivity, ADHD, SIDS, ear infection which leads to hearing loss and a higher rate of severity of asthma attacks.

Lending a hand at the Volunteer Fair

Students look for a way to lend a helping hand at Highline's third annual Volunteer Fair. Students browse the various booths, left, to find a cause that interests them. One student runs a booth giving cotton candy, right, to anyone who visited three booths or more and gave their information.

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Chemicals in cosmetics could be linked to cancer

BY EBONEE WOODS
staff reporter

Cosmetics and personal care products we use everyday may be linked to cancer, a cancer survivor said here last week.

"I am a breast cancer survivor," Sarah Massey said at the start of her presentation on toxicology, presented as part of Earth Week.

Massey was diagnosed with breast cancer back in 2000 and said she needed answers.

"After my bout with cancer I wanted to know what happened," Massey said. "Not why me? But why does anybody get cancer?"

Massey claims that toxins and chemicals used in our everyday products can lead to cancer.

"Thousands of chemicals used in our products are banned in Europe, while only 10 chemicals have been banned in the U.S."

Massey said.

When she was first diagnosed, a friend gave her an article entitled, "The High Cost of Cancer Prevention," written by Dr. Samul S. Epstein.

The article explained how cancer prevention techniques such as mammograms emphasize on poor lifestyle habits, and downplay avoidable environmental links. After reading the article, Massey said she got involved with the Cancer Prevention Coalition and found more and more evidence linking cancer to environmental toxins.

"With less than 10 percent of cancer cases being hereditary, what does that leave?" Massey asked rhetorically. "Environmental effect."

Massey did a similar presentation a couple weeks ago at Pacific Lutheran University.

"It's always great to come in and see young faces with enthusiastic questions," Massey said. "One of the questions I get asked the most is: 'Why worry about my toothpaste; and my shampoo; and my soap; and all my other personal care products? Doesn't the FDA regulate that?'"

"The answer is no," Massey said.

"The FDA does not regulate what goes into the manufacture of our cosmetics," said Massey. "The FDA does not require pre-market testing for anything that goes into your personal care products."

A look of worry was painted on the face of the audience as students wanted to know why the FDA wasn't involved.

"Mostly because they're understaffed, budgets have been cut, and they do not have the resources for them to be concerned about personal care products," Massey said in response. "As we consumers and insurers to consumers companies have the power."

She went on to explain how boycotting products and writing letters to the cosmetic manufacturers is a way to fight back. "I have been involved in several boycotts," Massey said.

"If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer back in 2000 like Sarah Massey, you might want to know what your options are."

Improving the enviroment is easier than ever

BY FERESHTA NOMAN
staff reporter

You could eat it, wear it, drink it, use it, smoke it, and make a whole lot of money out of it.

This product is known cannabis sativa L. Coming from the cannabis plant, hemp is more than just a drug, a student said here last week in an Earth Week presentation.

"It's illegal to grow but not to process," said Frank Bagley, a member of the Environmental Club and the speaker at Friday's hemp lecture.

Hemp can be quite healthy for you, Bagley said. Despite the fact that you could smoke some varieties and get high, you could eat the seeds of it and get all of the amino acids you need, Bagley said.

Hemp is once used to make oil for lamps, cloth for clothing and sails, and rope, and for medicine, but because hemp has 10 times the tensile strength of cotton, it doesn't rot when it's wet and is more durable than many fabrics. Industrial-grade hemp contains less than 1 percent of THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, Bagley said, and contains a high amount of CBD, which counteracts the effects of THC. It's completely useless for recreational use, but it is completely usable as food, paper, oil, and clothing.

Bagley said that the United States' reliance on crops such as cotton increases the use of water and pesticides. Approximately 50 percent of all pesticide use in the United States is associated with the growing of cotton, he said.

The use of pesticides is harmful to the environment, Bagley said. Pesticides are used to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any pest, which can cause harm to humans, animals, and the environment.

The hemp used in products in the United States is grown in other countries and imported here.

Bagley claimed that has led to the illegal growing of hemp plants indoors, which consumes a lot of electricity.

Because hemp can't be grown here, the price is higher than it might be otherwise, Bagley said.

But even a higher priced item, the products seem to be making their way out of the stores and into consumers' homes, Bagley said.

Meanwhile, hemp products contain more nutrients, more amino acids, and it's healthier for you, he said; that's why so many consumers chose hemp products.

BY CHRISTY SAETEURY
staff reporter

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Frank Bagley

Improve the environment is easier than ever

BY FERESHTA NOMAN
staff reporter

People can improve the environment by using more reusable resources, interior design instructor Naoko Barker said last Friday as part of Earth Week.

Barker discussed some impacts we have on our environment such as the use of water for production of materials, depletion of landfill capacity, and pressure applied to the soil.

"We all need to get together to make a difference," Barker said.

Simple things people can do to help the environment are to turn off the lights when it's not in use; turn down central heating by 1 or 2 degrees; open the windows more often; use energy efficient lamps such as fluorescent lights; and just recycle.

By doing at least one of the things listed, people can slow down the depletion of our environment, decrease pollution, save more energy and water, become dependent on reusable resources and most importantly slow down the effects of global warming.

Community members worldwide are helping by building more architecture made of recycled materials, developing co-housing communities, using energy efficient sources.

A community development on Bainbridge Island, Winslow Co-housing, is experimenting with the idea of shared responsibilities with families in one household, and working together to build a safe community of reusable resources and an energy efficient environment.

Everyone can take a part in bettering the community, Barker said.

"Use wind power or geothermal energy to help our environment," Barker said.

Barker talked about a non-profit organization, Sustainable Design, that is trying to reduce ecological footprints, and minimize impact on natural resources by using our materials efficiently and working together.

Barker said many people perceive environmentally safe designs as tacky or unattractive.

"It does not have to be.gra­ noila," Barker said. "Sustain­ able design doesn't have to be dull looking.

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Student uses sobering experience to help others

BY BECKY MORTENSON
staff reporter

After 20 years of working in restaurants, Steve Simpkins wanted a change; after one DUI, Simpkins needed one.

Simpkins is a Highline student, a recovering alcoholic and is now starting a club for others like him.

While Simpkins was working at restaurants, it became increasingly harder to get sober. Alcohol and drugs were everywhere and readily available.

During this time, friendships were lost. “I had lost every single relationship; I became known as a geographical,” Simpkins said. When he felt that he had lost too much in the area that he was living in, he would up and move to another city and start over.

However, when he moved to Tacoma and was cited for driving while intoxicated, Simpkins said he started to think about his life.

He knew that he needed a change. He also knew that he could not make that change on his own. That is why he enrolled himself into a 30-day, in-patient, and recovery program, he said. By the time Simpkins went to court, he had been sober for five months.

Many people who had decided to take it ended up failing since they were not able to stop drinking. Also, someone is only allowed one deferred prosecution in his or her entire lifetime. The students said that just because other people had failed didn’t mean that he would.

You are what you eat, and the chemical we ingest into our bodies. “Our inspirations came from Al Gore’s film, An Inconvenient Truth. We wanted to imitate it in a sense,” Adams said. The film discusses the dangers of polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs). According to the Washington State Department of Ecology, PBDEs are chemicals used to reduce the flammability of everyday items and can be found in everything from furniture to carpet pads. The use of PBDEs has been banned in the manufacturing products in Washington. Lab test on rodents have shown that some PBDEs may cause problems in brain development and thyroid hormones.

The film also states that the levels of mercury in food, especially fish. The students say that federal regulations say that if the chemical has not yet been proven dangerous, then it can be used. In the film Adams went on a 24-hour all-tuna fish diet, to see if the amount of mercury in his system would change. Adams had blood drawn before and after he started his diet. After the 24 hours, the level of mercury in his blood had increased significantly. In the film Kirshenraum also went on an all-organic diet for one week. A food is considered an organic is when it is not sprayed with pesticides or preservatives to make it lasts longer or look better. Organic foods are considered a healthier choice because no pesticides or artificial flavorings are used in growing them.

The pesticides in non-organic foods can be very harmful to the human body and our environment. In the test Kirshenraum learned that only eating organic foods is costly and the selected food items weren’t tasty. For example the cost of an organic gallon of 2 percent milk at Albertson’s is $2.59, while a gallon of organic 2 percent milk costs $5.99.

By buying organic foods consumers are supporting the farmers who grow organic foods. “If you can afford to buy organic, go for it,” Adams said.

If consumers were to buy organic, it would decrease due to the high demand for organic foods. “Right now it’s not totally economic,” Adams said. France, Adams, and Kirshenraum said that making Pollution in People has changed their lives.

(We are) a lot more aware, and were a lot more involved,” France said. “Just going down to the legislators and them remembering us and our cause has made a difference,” said Kirshenraum.

“More issues need to be covered,” France said. “We have really gotten into the Washington Toxic Coalition, we just want to help out,” France said. If you missed this film and wanted to see it, it can be viewed online at: http://www.myspace.com/rwpollutionpeople

John Thompson/THUNDERWORD

Steve Simpkins is founder of Sober Socialites, a club that helps people find alternatives to drinking.

It was very negative to go into something thinking that failure will be the outcome, Simpkins said.

This was Simpkins’s chance to set his standards high and have an incentive to stay sober. It also gave him a chance to prove to himself and to others that he could get away from alcohol.

This was a good obstacle for him to accept to challenge himself to stay sober Simpkins said. After the DUI, Simpkins, now 40, decided to go back to school. He is now in his third quarter at Highline working toward becoming a nurse; he has been sober for three years.

When Simpkins came to Highline, he was looking for a club that would help support his decision to stay sober. Since he was not able to find one, he decided to start one.

“There is so much pressure on college students to use. I wanted to provide an atmosphere to stay away from that,” Simpkins said.

After three quarters of planning and searching, Simpkins has founded the club.

The Sober Socialites club is just the place to go for someone who is looking for a good way to spend their time. The club focuses on finding good alternatives to fill free time instead of turning to drinking.

Some of the activities that the Sober Socialites will be holding include sober bowling, laser tag, and pizza parties. Since the club is new and enrolled in several different schools before settling at Highline in 2005.

“I have no regrets about taking this long route in education because I appreciate my education more and understand the subjects better,” Robinson said.

Both Reiche and Robinson will be graduating this spring with their transfer degrees with hopes of attending the University of Washington or Seattle University.

“IT took me a few years to realize that the respect that I deserve does not always come, I had to get out of the box...I had to reevaluate myself and my situation and realize that I’m worth more and I want to earn what I deserve, that’s why I’m in college," said Robinson. Reiche encourages other non-traditional students who are struggling with their classes to not give up and enjoy their college experience.

“Don’t be shy about voicing your opinion, make new friends and get involved on campus because it will lead you to where you want to go,” said Reiche.
Video game club heats up from Pac-Man fever

By Ebonie Woods

Some members play, while others watch during a club meeting.

while other clubs at the recent spring Clubs Fair tried to tempt new members with candy and water bottles, the big draw in the Student Union was a Nintendo Game Cube.

Students played Super Bros Melee three at a time, while other students crowded around the Video Game Club booth with eyes glued to the TV in fascination.

"It's a way to relieve stress," said Nate Edgar, Video Game Club president. "They're (video games) for students to let loose."

Highline's Video Game Club was established last spring. The club offers a laid-back environment where gamers can just come and "hop on the sticks," said Nate Edgar, Video Game Club president.

According to a recent study conducted by Henry Jenkins, an MIT professor, video game play has gone from a solitary endeavor to a popular social activity.

The study concluded that nearly 60 percent of gamers play with a friend, 33 percent play with siblings, and 25 percent play with a spouse or parent.

That's what brings Highline's gamers together. The club currently has about 15 members, though membership tends to fluctuate. Many students join in the beginning of the quarter, but the closer it gets to finals week, the less people turn out, said Tyler Cummings, a current member.

Although a member, Cummings said he is not a gamer.

"A gamer is someone who will spend his whole paycheck on video games," Cummings said. "I play because I'm not old enough to go out to clubs and party."

The club meets in Building 17, room 105 on Wednesdays. During meetings, members vote on new games to play and on what game system they will play on.

"Most members like old school games," said Qwaysen Bradford. Bradford has been a member of the club from the beginning and said he plays video games to get a way from problems. "This is our fun. Like, if you have anger with somebody, you can just take it out on the controllers."

Last Thursday the club hosted a Super Bros Melee tournament in the Mt. Constance room in Highline's Student Union Building. About 20 people showed up, but only four people actually entered the tournament. The $10 entry fee seemed to be the cause.

"It should have been a lot lower buy-in fee," said Tyson Unrau, a student at Highline.

"But this didn't stop both of them from participating in warm-up games, and watching the few contestants compete."

With only four people entering at $10 each, and 50 percent of the entry fees going to the winner of the tourney, Nate Johns won a whopping $20.

A part-time student at Highline, Johns is a sponsored professional gamer who is ranked third in the state for Super Bros Melee, so it's probably no coincidence that he won the tournament. He plays in tournaments about once every two weeks.

"Compared to real tournaments, this is a pretty worthless tournament," said Johns. "I just came to have fun."

Johns is not a member of the club, but is friends with several members. Johns said people who play video games fall into three categories.

"You have nerds; your gamers; then everyone else." He has been a professional gamer for about a year and half and said he plays the game to win money.

"I know a guy that makes $60,000 a year playing this game," Johns said.

Playing video games continues to be a popular pastime among students at Highline. While some people such as Nate Johns play professionally for money, and others such as Qwaysen Bradford play to get away from problems, members of the Video Game Club agree that they all simply play to pass the time and have fun.

Only a few members admitted to pursuing a career in video game design, but they do admit they have better things to do than play video games—like studying.

For more info about the Video game club contact Nate Edgars via email at vgclub@hotmail.com.
Egos keep evolving in science, Somer says

By Aaron Quam

In the study of evolution, anthropologist's egos are evolving faster than the subjects that they study.

Anthropology instructor Lonnie Somer said some of the problems anthropologists face are the complexities of the history of science and the level of competition between anthropologists in an attempt to make the history books.

"One thing we don't lack in anthropology is egos," Somer said. "This leads to an extremely competitive field that can turn real nasty."

The one thing all anthropologists can agree on is the fact that we did evolve from apes and that these early hominids all come out of Africa.

Last week in the Science Seminar series, Somer spoke on "Human Evolution: Egos, Politics, Fossils, and Genes."

Somer spoke on various groups of hominids ranging from some of the disputed earliest ones known, to some of the most recent and controversial.

Somer said Sahelanthropus tchadensis may be the earliest known hominid.

They are believed to have existed somewhere between 7.4 - 6 million years ago.

The remains of these specimens were first discovered in Chad in 2002 by Michel Brunet of the University of Poitiers in France.

"The remains found were that of a nearly complete skull and it may be as close to ape ancestry that we have found to date," Somer said.

However, some scientists argue that it is an ape and not an early hominid. Those making these arguments are usually other scientists who themselves claim to have found the earliest hominid.

"Basically it all boils down to we just don't know for sure," Somer said.

Orrorin tugenensis was the next group talked about in the lecture and they were believed to have walked the planet roughly 6 million years ago.

They are considered to be the second oldest possible hominid ancestor related to modern humans.

The team that found these fossils in 2000 was led by anthropologist Martin Pickford.

The remains found were very small and they included just a tiny bit of a skull. From this Pickford claims to have found the oldest hominid to date.

"From these remains we can't even tell if it was bipedal," Somer said, "again, it gets back to the fact that we really can't be sure."

Another group further up the species tree is Ardipithecus. They are believed to have lived 5.8 - 4.4 million years ago.

They were first discovered in 1992 by anthropologist Tim White and an Ethiopian team.

White claims this to be the oldest known hominid to date.

Seventeen separate specimens were found but it cannot be told whether this member of the hominid family was bipedal as all of the hip-bones and femurs were missing.

Although not as old as Or­rorin tugenensis, Ardipithecus is much more widely accepted by the scientific community as a hominid and is thus considered by some to be the oldest known hominid.

"Not a single paper has been published on these subjects [White's finds] to the scientific community to date," Somer said.

Next in line was Australo­pithecus which in native terms means "southern ape".

They are believed to have existed 4 - 1.2 million years ago according to most scientists.

"This is a group that we do know a lot about," Somer said, "and this is my favorite and what got me into anthropology."

"These hominids are con­ sidered to be somewhere in the middle between today's humans and chimps."

Their brains were about the size of modern chimps and they were bipedal, just not as effi­ cient as today's humans.

"They probably spent just as much time in the trees to avoid predators as they did on the ground," Somer said. "They had big and powerful muscles and could have peeled me apart like a banana if they wanted to."

One are of huge controversy is the species Homo floresiensis. The first specimens of these were discovered in 2003 by an Australian-Indonesian team of paleoanthropologists and arche­ologists on the island of Flora.

"There were two things about them that were absolutely amazing," Somer said. "The first was there small size, the adults are thought to have been three feet tall grown.

"The second is how late they are believed to have lived," Somer said.

The skull of the first specimen was not even fossilized with the most recent specimen dating to about 18,000 years ago.

Previous to this the Neander­thal was considered to be the most recent hominid group to exist.

"There is the possibility that H. floresiensis existed on the island when the first modern humans arrived on it," Somer said.

"We still don't know how they got there, perhaps they paddled," Somer said. "We just don't know for sure yet."

Science Seminar continues with accounting instructor Michael Gurin showing "The Wonders of Excel." This will be a special "hands-on" presentation that will take place in Building 29, room 309 at 2:20 p.m. this Friday.
Highline is hoping to raise Veteran awareness

By Anne Maytum

staff reporter

A series of guest speakers will be discussing war and veterans issues on campus next week as a part of Phi Theta Kappa’s Spring Voice Infusion.

Highline faculty member Jim Glennon is a scheduled speaker. Glennon will be talking about a selection of wars throughout history, and their effect on our society.

His emphasis is expected to be on the wars in Iraq, Korea, Vietnam, and Desert Shield, said Phi Theta Kappa member Steve Simpkins. He will be speaking at noon on Monday, April 30, in the Mount Constance Conference Room in Building 8, and again at noon on Tuesday, May 1, in Building 2.

In addition, a panel of American Veterans will be making an appearance to share their personal experiences. The group will include war veterans of Highline as well as others who will be from the war in Iraq, Simpkins said.

The panel will be ready to share their stories at noon on Thursday, May 3, in Building 2. Simpkins said the solitary purpose of this event is to create awareness of American soldiers.

The goal is to respect and honor the individuals who fought for our country, not establish a political debate.

“Please, please, please come,” said Simpkins.

Simpkins also invites everyone to make donations for the USO (United Service Organizations) Drive, which is collecting hygiene and non-perishable food items for U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

Acceptable items would be things such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, deodorant, tampons, foot powder, granola bars, beef jerky, chips, cookies, sport beverages, or boxed meals such as Hamburger Helper, rice, pasta, or macaroni and cheese.

Donations can be dropped off from April 30 to May 3 in the Student Union Building, Building 6, or in the library.

Look for the barrels decorated in red, white, and blue.

For more information about the upcoming events or the donations contact Steve Simpkins at 206-878-3710, ext. 3536 or at simpkins@highline.edu.

Career opportunities await students

By Caitlin Feeley

staff reporter

Dozens of employers and colleges will be at the 10th annual Career Fair in the Pavilion on May 4.

And after looking through the Career Fair you could learn to salsa dance or have a barbecue lunch at the Spring Festival at the Student Union.

The Career Fair will run from 9-11:30 a.m. that day.

A number of employers, Highline programs, and four-year colleges will be represented at the fair.

Some employers that have already agreed to come are the Des Moines Police Department; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; King County Library System; and Manpower International.

Students who are interested in finding a career or just a job are encouraged to come.

“The best thing to do is have a resume, go down, and make a connection. That would be a great start,” said Jason Prenovost, director of Outreach Services.

Colleges will also be making an appearance at the Career Fair. Some colleges that have agreed to come are the University of Washington, Washington State University, the University of Idaho, and Trinity Lutheran College.

Nancy Warren, program manager for Instruction at Highline, said students are encouraged to come and learn about Highline departments, career opportunities, and transferring to four-year colleges after Highline.

Students are also encouraged to dress professionally.

“Don’t come in your flip-flops,” Warren said.

The Career Fair is one event held during the Spring Festival on May 4 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

GED

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“I figured I’d just get a job and move back to Seattle,” she said. At only 17 years old, she moved in with some friends back in Seattle.

“I was ill-prepared for living on my own,” Schubert said. “I partied a lot and it took me a long time to get back on track.”

The only jobs Schubert could manage to get as a high school dropout were in fast food.

Despite this, Schubert still tried to make something of herself. She attended Sea-Tac Occupational Skills Center, a vocational school for high school students. However, that didn’t work out well because “I didn’t show up.”

“Before my dad died, I was a good student,” Schubert said. “I got sick of people saying ‘She’s really clever but she’s not educated.’”

This drove Schubert to pursue her GED.

After successfully completing the program, she enrolled in college courses at Highline and is the first in her family to go to college.

Schubert said Steve Washburn drove her to continue her education.

“Steve said ‘You gotta go to college!’” she said.

“Steve is the man. He will definitely go out of his way to help. He’s one of the teachers a troubled person really needs,” Schubert said of Washburn.

Washburn himself is modest about his own role.

“I loathe to take credit for students’ success,” he said. “They help themselves and I’m just there to facilitate it.”

Around 700 high school students from surrounding districts including Auburn, Fife, Federal Way, and Kent have signed up to join in the festivities.

The Spring Festival will be on the back side of the Student Union Building.

This year’s theme is the beach and an array of theme-appropriate activities are lined up.

“A fun day for them,” said Liz Shimaura, event consultant.

Highline students were able to speak with potential employers during the Career fair last spring.

It is students such as Schubert that drive Washburn to enjoy his job.

“You wouldn’t do it for the money,” he said with a laugh.

Washburn estimates that about 200 students participate in the GED program per quarter.

For Rebecca Schubert, she is uncertain about what she wants to pursue, but there is no doubt in her mind that she is better off now than she was before.

She hopes to transfer to Seattle University or the University of Washington.

“Some people say they don’t accept GED students,” she said. But that’s not going to stop her.

“I’m the kind of person that’s defiant and [I hope] to prove everybody wrong.”

Manna Tereguk

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253-941-6096

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Redeem this coupon for $1.00 off any regularly priced lunch or dinner.

File Photo

News
Legislature

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"We continue to need more support for the colleges. We have lots of students in basic skills. We got some things that are specific for Highline focused on repairs," Dr. Bermingham said.

"We think the governor's budget was very supportive of community colleges and higher education," Dr. Bermingham said. "We were pleased with the expansion of access and that there was more support for our Adult Basic Skills and ESL population." Highline received $2 million for general maintenance and improvement.

"Altogether I think we did a good job at funding education," said State Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Des Moines.

"We balanced the budget without any increase in taxes and we have a rainy day fund," Sen. Keiser said. "We were fiscally responsible and prudent." Priest wasn't as sure. "I'm very concerned about the budget," said State Rep. Priest. "We spent too much." Priest said that there needs to be a new approach to textbooks. "Maybe a CD ROM approach, or electronically," Sen. Keiser said. Legislators were also concerned about the price students have to pay for textbooks. House Bill 1224 and Substitute House Bill 2300 both concern college text books and were both passed by the House and Senate. SBH 2300 has already been signed by the governor.

HB 1224 requires that community colleges provide students with unbundled materials when possible, provide for the disclosure of the changes to textbooks and costs, and promote book buy-backs. Faculty are required to look into the least costly practices when assigning course material. "I believe it will be signed by the governor. I've heard nothing to the contrary," said State Rep. Priest.

"Textbook costs outweigh tuition (in some cases) and it's really outrageous," Sen. Keiser said.

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"I'm concerned there's a situation close to four years ago when we're not careful," State Rep. Priest said.

"It's a little bit complicated and we have a rainy day fund," Sen. Keiser said. "We were fiscally responsible and prudent." Priest wasn't as sure. "I believe it would be signed by the governor," said State Rep. Priest.

"I think it would be good in information to have. I don't think it would effect my decision in selecting a new textbook because there are other factors that are more important to me than the price of a textbook," said Spanish Professor Monica Garton.

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"I I had that information it would help me to choose the most economic option between two equivalent textbooks." Other professors say that they already factor textbook prices into their choices.

"I want to choose the best choice. I did think about the cost of books this quarter," said Engineering Professor Bob Maplestone. "I bought one of the cheapest textbooks I could find.

Maplestone said that the textbook, which was about $29, wasn't the best book, but there was free software with the book that was really all the students needed.

"The students had the option to buy the textbook, and all they really needed was the software," Maplestone said.

"In the Math Department, we usually do talk about the price of the textbook. It's usually a factor in our decision," said Math Professor Erik Scott. "It (the bill) is not going to give us new information we didn't have before. We usually ask (for the price) and look at the different combinations."

Scott said often publishlers will throw in stuff like software for free.