Opinions differ on search for president

BY MICHELLE ERICKSEN and SIMONE SNOW

Many Highline professors say they want a candidate search to fill the position of permanent Highline president.

Interim Highline President Dr. Jack Bermingham was a finalist in 2001 for the position of permanent president, but Dr. Priscilla Bell was chosen instead. He was appointed interim president following the firing of Dr. Bell in November 2006.

"I'm very interested in becoming the permanent Highline president, but I'm not a part of the selection process," Dr. Bermingham said in an interview two weeks ago.

The process is beginning with a faculty forum to discuss what professors are seeking in a permanent president. One or two members of the Board of Trustees will be in attendance to compile comments on May 24 in the Mt. Constance Room in the Student Union at 3 p.m.

At a recent Board of Trustees meeting, former Highline president Dr. Ed Command said faculty support for the Highline president is key to his or her success.

In a non-scientific survey conducted by The Thunderword, Highline faculty members were asked whether they want Dr. Bermingham to be made permanent president, or if they would prefer a search for multiple candidates.

Highline has 166 full-time faculty members. Out of the 48 faculty members surveyed, 13 said they wanted a search, nine said they did not want a search, 22 declined to comment, and four said it was not appropriate to comment at the time.

"Selection of a college president is a very important issue and the college will be involved in this process for the next six to eight months. The trustees will be talking with campus groups soon about beginning the process," said Dr. Ruth Windhouwer, writing professor and faculty union president.

Candidates have plans for Student Government

BY BECKY MORTENSON

Students will vote next week on who will be president and vice president next year.

Eight candidates are running: two for president and six for vice president.

Students who are running for president are: Michele Fitzgerald and Steve Simpkins; Ayan Quinane, Sergio Ullou; Skyler M Nichols, Lucas Heath, Dave Gagnat and Jay Smith are running for vice president.

The two candidates running for office this year both feel that they can make a difference on campus.

Michele Fitzgerald, 20, is in her third quarter at Highline. She is working toward getting her associate of arts transfer degree in political science with a minor in chemistry for military affairs.

"I became involved in Student Government because I wanted to utilize my knowledge..."
CSI:

HIGHLINE

Truck found with a smashed window

An abandoned car was found in the lower south lot on May 9.

The Isuzu truck had its passenger side window smashed out and the doors were unlocked with the key in the ignition.

The license plate came back clean through the local police network.

Elevator gets stuck with woman inside

A woman was stuck in elevator B on May 9 in the Library. She was removed from the elevator in about 20 minutes.

Fire started on campus but put out quickly

A bark fire was started by the southwest corner of Building 30 on May 10.

The fire was put out safely.

Skateboarders leave without a fuss

Two boys were found skateboarding by Building 25 on May 13.

They left campus without incident upon request.

Lost property

The following items were lost on campus: a backpack with two books and legal research papers; silver Razz cell phone; Acura car keys; a necklace; a blue umbrella; a blue Cingular cell phone; keys; an LA Fitness pass; two Coach key chains; a black Spirit Flip phone; a US history book; a USB drive; and a silver Samsung cell phone.

Found property

The following items were found on campus: a tan Gap coat; a white Gap jacket; an orange backpack; a Motorola cell phone; a TI-89 calculator; a key ring with two keys; a pink Coach umbrella; a black umbrella, a single key; and a Washington Mutual Debit card.

Sistas Empower are hosting a potluck

Brothers and Sistas will be trying to create one “Vision.” Sistas Empower and Men of Vision will be discussing issues that are not usually part of everyday conversations.

All are welcome to attend the meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite dish to the potluck during the discussions.

The meeting will be held on Monday, May 22 in Building 6, room 151 from 1:30-3 p.m.

For more information contact Dolly Babber at dbabber@highline.edu.

Movie to raise awareness of racism

The issue of racism will be prominent at this week’s Movie Fridays.

During the film Once Upon a Time, We Were Colored, a narrator tells his story of his childhood growing up in an African American community in the south during time of segregation.

Everyone is welcome to attend the free screening on May 19 in Building 29, room 216 at noon.

For more information contact Roman Wright at 206-878-3710, ext. 3999.

Paranormal topics presented at seminar

There’s something strange at Highline, who you gonna call? Bob Baugher and Sue Frantz will be speaking at this week’s Science Seminar on “Psychology of the Paranormal.”

During their discussion, Baugher and Frantz will examine different psychic phenomena.

The seminar will be held on May 18 in Building 3, room 103 from 2:20-3:10 p.m.

For more information about Science Seminar contact Eric Baer at 206-878-3710, ext. 3513 or at ebaer@highline.edu.

Learn how to be professional at work

Watch you P’s and Q’s at Highline.

Professional Etiquette will be the topic at this week’s Counseling and Career Resource Center Workshop.

Faculty Counselor Theresa Alston will cover a variety of topics regarding ethics and appearance, including: being responsible, having a positive work ethic, civility, manners, developing skills and expertise, and much more.

The workshop will be held today in Building 6, room 151 from 11 a.m.-noon.

For more information contact Kathy Day at 206-878-3710, ext. 3353 or at kday@highline.edu.

Appreciate mom during breakfast

Highline’s Breakfast Club will be showing mothers appreciation today.

Attendees are encouraged to bring in a poem about moms or bring questions to ask the group.

The meeting will be held today in Building 6, room 164 from 9-10 a.m. Muffins, coffee, and tea are provided.

Honors opens doors in psychology

Next week’s Honors Colloquy is focused on opening doors for students interested in becoming a psychologist.

Dr. Gloria Koepping, a Highline counselor, will discuss what students need to study to get into graduate school, and the many settings that employ Psychologists.

Honors Colloquy is held every Wednesday from 12:10-1:15 p.m. in Building 7.
Student learns to balance responsibilities

By Simone Snow

Katie Nikkel once had to remind herself to breathe.

Nikkel, 18, took care of her brother while he was ill. She had to balance that with being a student.

Nikkel was a student at Highline in the Puget Sound Early College Program, a full-time Running Start program at Highline's Federal Way campus. She will graduate this spring.

"I chose to come to PSEC because I didn't like other kids copying off my paper," Nikkel said. "It's a lot different than high school because it's full of students that want to come to school."

However, school became less of a priority for Nikkel over a year ago when her brother, Bear, was infected with bacterial meningitis.

"It was like 15 different bacteria that ended up in his brain fluid," Nikkel said. "It caused his brain to swell."

Nikkel sat on the edge of her seat while staring intently at her hands neatly folded in her lap. As her dark brown locks fell across her face, Nikkel recalled that she and her family were unaware of his illness until one morning when she and her other two brothers were unable to wake up Bear, then 14.

"My brothers and I called 911 because my mom was at work and the ambulance came to Children's Hospital," Nikkel said. "I learned how to balance her time going to school and looking after her brother."

By Ariel McKenzie

Japanese students at Highline are about more than just eating sushi and watching anime.

At the Cultural Café, Highline's Japanese students gathered with their American neighbors in Building 2 on Tuesday.

The room was arranged in such a way that attendees could focus their attention directly to the middle of the room where the Japanese panelists were sitting.

Appearing very relaxed and un-intimidated despite the many eyes upon them, a dozen Japanese panelists began by pointing out their place of origin on a map of Japan.

The Highline community showed its appreciation for a culture unlike their own at this quarter's Cultural Café.

The room was packed full of almost 90 attendees and a shortage of chairs left some without a place to sit.

The Japanese community came together with the American community this quarter with hopes to build bridges, share their culture, and build deeper respect for one another.

Highline's Japanese community had much information to offer other students.

From values and attitudes important in Japanese culture to what Highline can offer them, they were lively and open to sharing their culture with Highline's staff and students.

Mariko Fujiwara, director of International Student Programs, led the discussion sharing what she saw as the most important value of Japanese culture.

She said that in Japanese culture there is so much respect for elders and ancestors because no one would be here today without them.

She explained that there is an altar in the house in memory of the family's ancestors that is offered fresh water and rice every morning.

"Respect older people and parents. Without parents and ancestors we are not here today," said Fujiwara.

Another important part of the Japanese culture are the many celebrations and festivals. Among the many, one celebration stands out to Yukiko Nakada. This is the coming of age ceremony.
Board should take action quickly

It’s a laborious but vital task that needs to be done: The process of finding a new president for Highline. Recently, former president, Dr. Ed Command told the Board of Trustees to commence their search quickly.

The question is whether the Board of Trustees will heed Dr. Command’s advice.

It is a task the Board has not had to worry about since 2001, when they initially hired Dr. Priscilla Bell.

Many Board members viewed Dr. Bell’s hiring as something to be very proud of.

However, Dr. Bell was fired without warning in November 2006, due to “philosophical differences.”

Whatever the Board decides, it is clear that action must be taken now and no time should be wasted. If the process takes longer than it should, that could cost Highline a good candidate who might accept an offer from another institution or company.

According to Dr. Command, the potential top five candidates may also be getting offers from other institutions. So the hiring of a new president potentially becomes a competition between Highline and other institutions or companies.

Also, we cannot forget our current Interim President Dr. Jack Berningham. He has expressed interest in pursuing the position and the work he has done since Dr. Bell’s firing should not be overlooked by the Board.

However, all this work to find a new president should be done in a timely fashion.

Any further inaction will only weigh them down and make their job harder.

The computer is not my friend

I want to be somebody’s No. 1.

Some people work tooth and nail to be No. 1 and to those who can weather the bad times, they can often achieve that goal.

MySpace and Facebook are both social networking sites that allow users to customize an entire page to fit their personality, to meet new people through these online profiles, and to keep in contact with anyone else you know who may have one.

MySpace’s “Top Eight” enables the user to post their top eight friends in full view of the rest of the world. What better way to show someone how you feel about them, than by showing them exactly where they rank among your other friends? No. 8 must feel especially appreciated knowing that even though they are near the top of your friends list, just one slip up and you might be booted out.

A scream will sometimes echo through my house, followed by a gathering of all family members to see what the commotion is about. We find my sister in tears sitting in front of the computer.

“What’s wrong?” we ask.

“I’m Erica’s No. 4, I used to be No. 3,” she tearfully replies. My mother adds the remainder of the evening consoling her. With any luck, her social growth will not be stunted.

I believe modern science could prove that more friendships were ended by situations like this, than the next three causes combined. I think it is safe to say that a friendship ruined in this fashion, probably wasn’t that strong to begin with.

It might be a good idea to take into account the spontaneity of life while keeping up with your online profiles.

Facebook’s newsfeed feature allows users to see changes their friends have made to their profiles, including their relationship status with others.

That means if your friends Stacy and Matt are together Monday and Tuesday, but not Wednesday and Thursday, but back on for a few hours on Friday, you’re going to know about it. You can post your favorite song on your MySpace profile, so every time someone visits it they’ll be able to hear that song while viewing it.

So in the unfortunate event that you encounter sudden death, your best friends can still rock out to Who Let the Dogs Out? while they mourn you.

Let’s walk down a path to a time when these sites make up a majority of social interaction. Imagine a world where people just sat at their computers all day, and never went outside. People would get lists from computer screens and gas prices might just go down. It’s not so bad at first.

Then comes the rapture: Grass lawns begin to overgrow, turning residential areas into jungles. Soon after Starbucks all across the country begin to close, after people learn to harness the power of caffeine IVs.

OK, it’ll probably never get that bad. It’s puzzling though why people spend the time they do constantly updating their profiles, when they could be out with friends, or making new ones.

We should get out more and explore the world around us. The level of interaction even on the most feature-rich of Web sites is limited, and in the end it will only dull your ability to work with others face to face.

And yet the lure of No. 1 stalks me the way that a Star Wars geek stalks Princess Leia at a convention.

David is No. 8 in life.

Submissions to Thunderword invited

The Thunderword encourages letters to the editor and columns from the college community. Editorial cartoons on timely subjects also may be considered.

Submissions will be decided for style. Due to limited space, please limit your submission to 500 words or less. Submissions that are too long will not be considered.

Material that labels others will not be considered for publication. Letters and columns can be on any subject. Topics of interest to the campus community will take priority.

Please include contact information as all submissions must be confirmed as belonging to the author(s). Deadline for submissions is Monday of each week.

E-mail your submission to thunderword@highline.edu.
The One-Act Plays offer a more mature humor.

BY ALICIA MENDEZ

Staff Reporter

The risqué One Act Plays are a short and sweet production. The One Act Plays opened yesterday at 8 p.m. and are well worth the $5. The actors gave preview on Tuesday, May 16. While the cast, directors, sound and lighting crew had a few kinks, the overall performance was impressive for a run-through.

The One Act Plays are an annual production that consists of four or five one-act shows that are student-directed. This year’s directors are Michael Bacalzo, Kate Muldoon, Creighton Oliver, and Jared Thomas. By coincidence each director chose a play that was slightly dark, but humorous nonetheless. Each play has its moments of vulgarity and sexual connotations.

The first play is Judgment Call, was directed by Bacalzo. Its cast consisted of Mathew Hopkins (Joe), Erik Hanson (Harvey), and newcomer Anjelica Wolf. The directors play the roles.

Erik Hanson playing Harvey, and Muldoon chose to direct Judgment Call, and Muldoon chose to direct The Ex. Bacalzo has been acting and directing in Highline’s productions for over five years. He said he chose this show because of its dark humor, which seems to be a theme chosen by all of the directors.

Two of his actors who were originally cast for his show “dropped out,” so he was busy scrounging for new actors to play the roles. Bacalzo’s cast was finalized with Erik Hanson playing Harvey, Andrew Cardenas playing Frank, and Mathew Hopkins who plays Joe.

Newcomer Cardenas went from a smaller role, to a much bigger role, and had to learn a new part in less than two weeks, he said.

Judgment Call tells the story of an umpires’ life, and their inhuman duty that is unsparing.

Muldoon’s show The Ex is a show about two young men venting and bickering about women.

Muldoon has been apart of Highline’s drama production for almost two years now, and this is her second time directing. Before this chance at directing, Muldoon directed a local elementary school play.

While Muldoon said she prefers acting, she has learned a lot from a director’s eye.

“You see everything as a complete picture,” Muldoon said. “The stage as one entity.”

The show opened yesterday at 8 p.m. It will continue running tonight through Saturday at 8 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m. in Building 4 in the Little Theater.
Local artists need some good lovin', too

By Shervyn Haynes
staff reporter

Local hip-hop artists are worthy of support from the community, a panel of experts said here last Friday at the Second Annual Hip-Hop Summit. The influence of hip-hop has expanded across racial, social and class boundaries to become one of the most controversial forms of music today, panelists said.

The panel included Julie Chang Schulman, Northwest regional coordinator of Hip-Hop Congress; Wyking Allah, founder of Hip-Hop Summit Youth Council; Jawaan LaRue, former Highline student and rap artist; and Silas Blak and Jace Ecaf from the Silent Lamb Project.

They each spoke about the struggles of being a positive hip-hop artist and how it has impacted their lives.

"Hip-Hop took me full circle as an individual. It has been my foundation, formed my life experiences. It has deepened my perspectives and given me a means by which to process my sense of self and identity," Schulman said.

"Hip-Hop builds a power base for a real social justice movement globally. Communities globally are dealing with the same issues: poverty, disparities in education, media consolidation and police brutality, panelists said.

"Hip-Hop is not just a form of entertainment but is also a vehicle to promote social activism and political awareness about these issues," she said.

As a result many organizations have been formed to target local youth within the Pacific Northwest such as the Hip-Hop Congress, 206 Zulu, Seattle Urban Debate League and the Think Big Foundation.

Local organizations strive to give hip-hop artist a stronger voice in their own community, something the corporate music industry has failed to do say panelist.

"If we want to use hip-hop to have a positive influence on young people then we must develop the tools for them to thrive as writers, activists, educators and organizers outside of the entertainment industry," Schulman said.

You can't be a real hip-hop fan without supporting local artist, it is the key element to their longevity and positive impact panelists said.

"Local artist are starting to work together while paving the way for younger people showing them an example of the what it takes to be a part of the local hip-hop scene," said organizer Rashid Abdullah.

The first step of supporting local hip-hop artist is to purchase their music instead of mainstream artist and demand to hear it on your local radio stations such as the X104, 91.3 KBCS and KEXP.

"There are pioneers within our own community and across the world that we haven't heard about because the historians of Hip-Hop have not yet evolved from the 'Outta the Bronx' theory. It is my responsibility to help get those stories heard," said Schulman.

Reclaim hip-hop, sociology professor says

By Krista White
staff reporter

Rap — and hip-hop, the culture that spawned it — are struggling to maintain their authenticity, a sociologist said here Friday.

Dr. Mako Fitts, a professor at Seattle University, talked about the need to reclaim hip-hop and rap because their roots have been lost amid their commercialization.

She spoke as part of Hip-Hop Summit, an annual event on campus to promote hip-hop awareness. In two presentations, Dr. Fitts spoke about the need to keep hip-hop authentic, counterbalanced against the need for hip-hop artists to make a living.

She pointed to rappers' labels, the conglomerates that hold them, and ultimately the capitalist structure of America as the thieves of hip-hop's true identity.

Rap music prides itself on being real and values artists' authenticity, she said.

"We need to question the extent to which we hold rappers accountable for keeping it [more] real than other entertainers," she said.

She said rap artists are pigeonholed into a gangster, pimp, super-masculine stereotype and are not free to be themselves.

Dr. Fitts' second presentation focused on the local hip-hop scene in the Seattle area, which she said, is struggling to strike a balance between artists' need to make money and the community's need for hip-hop.

"There is a lot going on with the Seattle hip-hop culture," Dr. Fitts said.

She spoke about the problems that underground artists face in the area, posing questions like, "How do they take [their] artistic abilities and use it for other means?" and "How can they command livable wage salaries?"

She said that non-profits unintentionally exploit hip-hop teachers and artists by not paying them for the work they do. Many artists have huge hearts and a passion for what they do, and believe in the cause of hip-hop.

Because of this, many artists are willing to work for free. However, as Dr. Fitts said, they should be paid to do workshops and other events, instead of being constantly asked to help out for free.

Their skills and time are just as valuable as those who get paid to teach workshops or entertain. In order to be able to do what they do, they said, artists need to get paid.

At the outset, Dr. Fitts asked, "Is hip-hop dead or alive?"

She concluded with an answer.

"Hip-hop is more alive than ever," she said. "It is up to us to reclaim it."
Dance club takes steps to get you moving

BY ARIEL MCKENZIE
staff reporter

Highline's groovy Swing Dance Club has a funky move for everyone.

At a recent session in the aerobics room next to the PE lockers, men and women, ranging in age from 18 to over 30, lined up to share a dance with a partner.

With swing jazz calling from a boom box in the background, the steps started out slowly, but quickly swung into more complex moves. The instructors, patient and understanding of the beginners, eased their students into ever more difficult combinations.

The class seemed initially skeptical of what they were being asked to do. But after a few rounds of new steps, the class was smiling and enjoying the dance. Although they were dizzy from all the twirling about, the class was eager to learn more new steps. At the end of the hour, class members seemed exhausted, yet satisfied to have learned to dance in a way they never thought they would.

Erin Hovland, swing dance club president, said that no dancing experience is needed to come join the lessons. She said that after the first lesson, attendees had already learned moves they never thought they could do.

More new moves will follow in future swing dance lessons, Hovland said.

Hovland said that her goal for this program is to get as many people dancing as possible. She said that she wants more people dancing, and although she will not be at Highline next year, she hopes the club continues.

"I want everyone to experience swing dancing. It's a fun hobby," said Hovland.

The largest challenges Hovland has encountered are leads calling in to say they can't make it to the lessons, and finding an instructor.

Hovland said she hopes more people will attend the lessons, and the group of individuals participating is growing.

M meantime, she said the instructor problem has been solved. She found Kevin Buster and Lizzy Boyer to fill the slot as a swing dance instructors.

Buster and Boyer are instructors for the Abbey Ballroom in Tacoma. Hovland met Buster in a class they shared at Highline, and asked him to become the instructor for the swing dance club.

"(Buster) is fantastic. He is the best dancer I know," Hovland said.

Hovland shared that she did not come from a background of dancing. She said that she feels people who do not have a dancing background usually stay away from dancing activities. She would like people to see that even if they have no dancing experience, they can do it.

Frank Bagley, a swing dance club member, said that he has only been dancing a couple weeks after being invited by a lady friend. He also said that he would like to see the program continued next year.

"It's fun. Everyone seems to enjoy it and have fun," said Bagley.

Hovland hopes that more faculty will attend and share information about swing dance club with their students. Hovland said that she will be putting up more posters around swing dance club around campus soon.

Swing dance club hosts weekly swing dance lessons that are offered to everyone in the community. Swing dance lessons are every Thursday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in Building 27. Lessons cost $5 for students, faculty, and staff and $10 for anyone else.

Buster and Boyer both teach swing dance lessons at the Abbey Ballroom. Buster says he has been dancing for about eight years and teaching for about six to seven years, while Boyer has been dancing for about two years and teaching with Buster for about a year and a half. Boyer is in charge of the swing program.

Buster and Boyer said that there is a swing dance offered every Wednesday for only $4 at the Abbey Ballroom. A free lesson is available before the dance from 8:30-9 p.m. and the dance is from 9-11:30 p.m.

The Abbey Ballroom is located at 1901 S. Fawcett St. in Tacoma. More information on this event and the instructors can be found at www.lindybom.com.
Roll the credits: Local store outlasts competition

BY BRIONNE BEETS

In the land of video chain giants Normandy Park Video continues to thrive. Amidst a strip mall of grocery stores and hair salons, Normandy Park Video opened in 1992 by owner Dennis Glenisky. Normandy Park Video continues to have success against the mainstream video chains simply because “we have better service,” Glenisky said.

Employee John Johnson also agreed that Normandy Park Video relies on its customer service for keeping the business alive. “We try to stay on a first-name basis with the customers. It’s rare that we don’t know a customer by name and know their family,” Johnson said.

Glenisky recalled a Blockbuster being put in across the street from Normandy Park Video to run them out of business. The Blockbuster is no longer there.

Johnson noted that chains like Blockbuster are not as good in customer service compared to Normandy Park Video.

Another difference between Normandy Park Video and the chain stores is Normandy Park’s charitable donations to the community. Normandy Park Video donates movies for fundraisers to aid local little leagues and schools.

“We give back to the community because it benefits both us and the community,” Johnson said. "We try to stay very competitive with the chains,” Johnson said.

Dennis Glenisky, owner of Normandy Park Video stands proudly outside of his video store that has been open for about 15 years. Glenisky doesn’t plan to keep Normandy Park Video in the family. “Nobody stepped up to the plate so I’ll sell it in four to five years.”

After selling Normandy Park Video “I have a house in Mexico and I plan to retire gracefully,” Glenisky said.

Normandy Park Video is located at 17845 1st Ave S.

Fiddlers to string it up in Des Moines

BY NICK VANUHU

The Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association will be playing a student benefit show at Pacific Middle School on Saturday, May 19 at 1:30 p.m.

The non-profit organization, formed in 1965, is devoted to preserving and promoting the art of old time fiddling for current and future generations.

A fiddle is essentially a violin, often featuring a modified bridge, but fiddling is considered much different than playing the violin because of the way that it is played and the music produced.

Violins are used in classical and symphonic compositions, whereas fiddling is most often present in folk-style music.

“The fiddle is jazzy and unstructured; it gives you more freedom to explore and do what you want with the music,” said Roy Calvert, president of the organization and chairman of the King County branch.

The concert is one of several charity events held throughout the year, many of them being annual affairs. It will feature dozens of performers, most of them playing the fiddle, but also a few guitarists, a bassist, a pianist, and an accordionist amongst other musicians, as well as singing from several of the performers.

“Fiddlers who appear in the show range in age from 11 to 92,” Calvert said.

The Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association is completely volunteer and all proceeds aside from operating costs are put toward charity.

“The performers donate their time and talents to creating scholarships for Pacific students,” said Mike McLeod, a teacher at Pacific.

McLeod doesn’t play the fiddle and is not a member of the actual organization, but because he teaches at the school and is friends with several of the members, he helps to organize the concert, he said.

“I’m just an admirer,” McLeod admits, but because of his appreciation for the music and his desire to help a good cause he also donates much of his time every year.

Proceeds from the concert are also donated to the Young Anglers, a program that pays for inner city children to go on fishing day trips with positive role models.

The day before the concert, many of the younger performers play a small show in the Pacific Middle School cafeteria during lunch. This entertains the students and gets many of them interested enough in the music to attend the concert.

More information on the Washington Fiddlers Association and future performances can be found on their website at www.wotfa.org.

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WANTED

Picture yourself as an Advertising sales rep, Office manager and Arts Editor.

For one of the most exciting places on campus.

Come join us at The Thunderword and put your creativity to use!

Positions are paid, work study eligible, and offers flexible hours. Arts Editor experience preferred but not necessary.

Come visit us at the Thunderword! Ask for TM or Candace in bldg.10 rm.106 or contact us via email tword@highline.edu
**Arts Calendar**

- The Highline Drama Department's annual One Act plays will be 8 p.m., May 16-19 in the Little Theater, Building 4. The plays are student-directed one-act works. Tickets are $6, and $5 for students and seniors.

- Rainier Symphony presents its annual pops concert, featuring music from Hollywood and Broadway. Shows are 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 19, at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, 400 S. 2nd St., and 3 p.m. Sunday, May 20, Foster Performing Arts Center, 4242 S. 144th St., Tukwila. Tickets are $17 and $12 for students and senior citizens. Call 206-781-5618 for more information.

- **Trivia test** by Filipe Rodriguez

1. BOOKS: Who wrote the best-seller Unsafe at Any Speed in the mid-1960s?  
2. GEMS: What color is lapiz lazuli?  
3. GEOGRAPHY: The Falkland Islands lie off the coast of which continent?  
4. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What does a speleunker do?  
5. U.S. STATES: What is the official slogan of the state of Illinois?  
6. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin term "semper fidelis" mean?  
7. ART: What is chiaroscuro?  

**GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY:** • • • •

**Hail To The Chief**

Across  
1. Monopoly token  
5. Faith of a billion plus  
10. Home owners' concern  
14. Turn in a game  
15. Lose one's shadow?  
16. Nautically safe  
17. October birthingstone  
18. Ceremonial spot, often  
20. Styling stuff  
21. Dumbo's "wings"  
22. If they slip it can hurt  
23. Poet Nash  
25. Boxer Spinks  
27. Baseball's Palmiero  
29. Boening product  
33. Like a munchkin  
35. Keeps an eye on  
36. Landed  
37. Wind phenomenon  
38. Dollar word?  
41. Keeps an eye on  
42. Adds sugar to  
43. E.B. Foote Winery, 127B SW 50th St.  
44. Rollerblader's protection  
45. Spreadsheet content  
46. Trig. function  
47. Antichrist  
50. Comedic Carvey  
51. "Survivor" artwork  
54. Location of 18A and 3D  
55. Load for Jack and Jill  
56. Give a makeover to  
57. A city haze  
58. Shuffleboard's "I swear!"  
59. Some wedding guests  
60. Dollar word?  
61. TV's funny Fey  
62. Partner of meet  
63. Monument Valley feature  
64. Monument Valley feature  
65. Elton John musical  
66. Price tag  
67. Dublin darling  
68. Sushi option  
69. Ryan of film  
70. Palmeiro's quaterback  
71. Evergreen state  
72. Rugby player  
73. Quotable Quote  
74. "I swear!"  
75. Some wedding guests  
76. "I swear!"  
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100. "I swear!"  
101. Some wedding guests

Down  
1. City haze  
2. Rhode Island's motto  
3. Symbolic center of US government  
4. Sushi option  
5. State since 1948  
6. Fleece  
7. Dublin darling  
8. N.Y.C.'s A, B, C, or D  
9. Ryan of film  
10. Dodgers' half of fame  
11. Automotive pioneer  
12. Soup veggie  
13. Comfy rooms  
14. Acrobat producer  
15. Sniffin' spot  
16. Trot or canter  
17. Enjoys a book  
18. Ceremonial spot, often  
19. Acrobat producer  
20. Beat the heat  
21. Hopi spot  
22. If they slip it can hurt  
23. Poet Nash  
24. Trot or canter  
25. Kind of eclipse  
26. Quotable Quote  
27. Baseball's Palmeiro  
28. Bleacher boos  
29. Bleacher boos  
30. Hopeful resident of 54A  
31. Eat into  
32. Dollar word?  
33. Like a munchkin  
34. Kofi Annan's land  
35. Keeps an eye on  
36. Landed  
37. Wind phenomenon  
38. Dollar word?  
39. Sleepy coworker  
40. Clinton investigator  
41. Keeps an eye on  
42. Adds sugar to  
43. E.B. Foote Winery, 127B SW 50th St.  
44. Rollerblader's protection  
45. Spreadsheet content  
46. Trig. function  
47. Antichrist  
50. Comedic Carvey  
51. "Survivor" artwork  
54. Location of 18A and 3D  
55. Load for Jack and Jill  
56. Give a makeover to  
57. A city haze  
58. Shuffleboard's "I swear!"  
59. Some wedding guests  
60. Dollar word?  
61. TV's funny Fey  
62. Partner of meet  
63. Monument Valley feature  
64. Monument Valley feature  
65. Elton John musical  
66. Price tag  
67. Dublin darling  
68. Sushi option  
69. Ryan of film  
70. Palmeiro's quaterback  
71. Evergreen state  
72. Rugby player  
73. Quotable Quote  
74. "I swear!"  
75. Some wedding guests  
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- Center Gallery, 400 W. Gowe St.
- 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.
- Got 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. Items also can be delivered to 10-106 or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3317.

**Puzzles**

**GO FIGURE!** by Linda Thistle

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: ** • • • •

8. CARTOONS: What is the name of Porky Pig's girlfriend?
9. SCIENCE: What kind of gases are neon and helium?
10. MOVIES: Which three comedians starred in the movie The Three Amigos?

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Lady T-Birds finish third in west

NWAACCs pose stiff competition

**BY KORY FARRELL**

Highline’s fastpitch team has a tough NWAACC tournament ahead of them. The Lady T-Birds travel to Portland today to participate in the season-ending NWAACC tournament at Delta Park. The top four softball teams of the West, East, North, and South divisions will all compete for their shot at the NWAACC title.

After finishing third in the West Division, Highline will face off against Clackamas in the opening rounds on Friday, May 18, at 11:30 a.m.

Highline Head Coach Anne Schmidt said that one of the keys to victory against Clackamas is handling their pitcher.

“We have to be patient at the plate and hit the pitches that are strikes,” Schmidt said. “I’m assuming they’re going to be throwing their No. 1 pitcher. They’re in it to win.”

Clackamas has Renee Santos, the best pitcher in the NWAACC, according to many coaches in the South. Santos has an overall earned run average of 1.80 in 26 games pitched.

“She throws a lot of rise balls,” Schmidt said. “It’s impossible to hit if it’s good, and apparently she pitches a good rise ball.”

A rise ball is a pitch that goes in straight as a level strike, but rises at the last second.

“That’s probably why she’s considered one of the No. 1 pitchers, because she has a great rise ball,” Schmidt said. “There were no pitchers in our league with a good rise ball.”

“We have to hit, score as many runs as we can,” Schmidt said.

Clackamas (23-7) was recently voted No. 2 in the NWAACC in a recent coaches’ poll.

In their only meeting in the regular season, Clackamas defeated Highline 7-1.

But Schmidt said Highline is going into the tournament playing strong defense.

“We have very solid infield defense,” Schmidt said. “When they play together everything sort of falls in place.”

Highline also isn’t going in without offensive weapons. As a team Highline has an overall season batting average of .397, with 210 RBIs.

“Our batting is really strong,” Schmidt said. “We have a lot of potential to score a lot of runs.”

Clackamas isn’t the only team to cause potential problems for the T-Birds, though. Ahead of Clackamas by 23 votes in the coaches’ poll is No. 1 Mt. Hood (25-5), despite posting a losing record (2-4) against their division rival.

Most coaches agree that the South Division is the strongest moving into the tournament, as all four of their qualifying NWAACC teams were voted into the top eight in the coaches’ poll.

“The South Division is always the toughest,” South Puget Sound Head Coach Matt Luxor said.

“The three strongest teams are the top teams in the South,” Olympic Head Coach Clay Blackwood said.

Mt. Hood and Clackamas take the No. 1 and No. 2 spots, followed by defending champions Lower Columbia in fourth with 41 points, and Chemeketa in eighth with nine.

Also breaking into the top eight were Wenatchee Valley (No. 3) with 49 votes, Walla Walla (No. 5) with 31 votes, Everett (No. 6) with 30 votes, and Bellevue (No. 7) with 14. Wenatchee Valley Head Coach Shelley Pfugrath believes that her team’s strengths are offensive power, speed, and solid defense, and feels her team is prepared for the tournament.

“We’re working on maintaining what we’re doing,” Pfugrath said. “Time for learning is over, now is the time for playing.”

At No. 5, Walla Walla Head Coach Mike Staudenmaier said that his team’s strength is “swinging bats.”

With a team batting average of .380, and 74 home runs over the course of the season, the stats back up that claim.

SEE NWAACC, PAGE 11

Highline falls to Chokers, still takes third place

**BY BRITTANY STILL**

The Highline women’s fastpitch team finished third in the NWAACC West Division, after losing a doubleheader against Grays Harbor last Friday.

The Lady T-Birds finished off their season 17-13 in league play and 19-24 overall.

“We did good this season even with all of the injuries that we had. We did better than I predicted,” catcher Caitlyn Ratcliffe said.

At Grays Harbor, Highline lost the first game 7-1 and the second 10-2.

“We had good defense and good pitching, we just didn’t hit the ball,” Ratcliffe said.

Despite Highline’s eight hits the ladies couldn’t pull off many runs. Ratcliffe was the only one to score.

The Lady T-Birds only made one error in the first game.

Anna Herried pitched in the second game against Grays Harbor and the Lady T-Birds again couldn’t battle offensively with only two hits to the 13 by Grays Harbor. Again Ratcliffe scored both runs.

Tomorrow Highline will be in Portland for their 11:30 a.m. game against Clackamas.

“We feel pretty good. We are really excited and as long as we hit we should do really well,” Ratcliffe said.

“I’m so excited and I think that we’ve worked really hard for this. I think [the tournament] will be a great way to end the season,” pitcher Anna Herried said.

Highline’s offense has improved over the course of the season, as they have a team batting average of .397 with the ninth highest RBI count in the NWAACC with 240.

Depending on the results of the Clackamas game the Lady T-Birds will either play Wenatchee Valley with a record of 20-8 or Peninsula with a record of 22-14.

“I think that it’s all mental. We need to go in prepared and confident, and play our game,” center fielder Alexis Nichols said.
Spark plug Carey leads Thunderbirds

BY MICHELLE ERIKSEN

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Ashley Carey

really played in high school," Coach Schmidt said.

Schmidt said that Carey went from a pre-season batting average of .136 to her now overall average of .338.

"It's really hard to improve your batting average, usually it drops," Coach Schmidt said. She improved by about .300 in the span of 32 games.

Carey has 8 doubles, 2 triples, a homerun, and 38 RBIs.

As Highline's utility player, Carey can play third, catcher and shortstop.

"The outfield is difficult because it's something I haven't done much of," she said.

Carey was catching earlier in the season, but is now playing shortstop.

"I grew up playing shortstop, and I started catching in seventh grade," she said.

Carey prefers being catcher because it involves more action.

"As a catcher you're involved in every play, shortstop you have to wait for the ball to come to you," she said. "As catcher you have a feel for all the positions, and the team relies on you."

Carey said it is scary being the catcher sometimes.

"You see the ball coming fast, and you have to jump in front of it," she said.

"I don't really care what position I play, as long as I'm playing," Carey said.

Carey said she rarely thinks about her injuries on the field.

"If you love to do something that much, you can't sit out and watch," she said. "You wanna play as much as you can before you get old and can't play anymore."

Carey has been playing softball since T-Ball. She also played basketball and soccer in high school.

Although softball just might be the love of her life, one of her biggest sports achievements came in soccer.

"I eat, breathe, and sleep softball," she said.

"And that's what it's about, I work as many hours as I can between practices and games," she said.

"I work as many hours as I can," Coach Schmidt said.

"As a catcher you're involved in every play, shortstop you have to wait for the ball to come to you," she said. "As catcher you have a feel for all the positions, and the team relies on you."

"I grew up playing shortstop, and I started catching in seventh grade," Carey said. "I don't really care what position I play, as long as I'm playing," Carey said.

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"I work as many hours as I can between practices and games," she said.
Highline runners complete final meet before NWAACCs

By Jaime Gujdonson  
Staff Reporter

Highline’s T-Bird runners timed personal bests at the Ken Foreman Invitational last Saturday at Seattle Pacific University.

“All the runners did great scoring personal bests in many of their events,” Coach Christina Loehr said.

Trevor Jennings ran a personal best in the 5,000 meters with a time of 15:39 and a time of 4:08 in the 1,500 meters.

Rosie Meeker also ran a personal best in the women’s 5,000 meters timed at 29:49:21.

Not only was the Ken Foreman Invitational a shining point for many runners improving their times, it was also a meet where runners felt the urge to try new events.

Noah McDonald-Robbins ran for the first time in the steeplechase.

“Noah has never trained for the steeplechase event so it was a big jump to take,” Coach Loehr said.

The steeplechase entails runners running a length of 3,000 meters. The number of laps depends on whether the water jump is located to the inside of lane one or to the outside of lanes eight or nine. Each runner encounters a total of 28 barriers over the course of the race, as well as seven water jumps.

Another runner to try a new race was William Anderson, who competed in the 10,000 meters with one other runner.

“It was a very intense race,” Coach Loehr said.

With the NWAACC Championship coming up on May 24-25, Coach Loehr is thinking positively.

“I think that everyone will do well being able to compete at their own level,” Coach Loehr said. “I expect there to be many personal bests made.”

With the track season drawing to a close this will be the last time a handful of runners will compete for Highline.

John Hurblurt, Brandt May, McDonald-Robbins, and Meeker will be moving on.

However, this still leaves a little under half of the team returning including Anderson, Tyler Eidsmo and possibly Jennings.

“I talked with Seattle University about the recruitment of Trevor so this might be his last time running for Highline as well,” Coach Loehr said.

Coach Loehr plans to return next season to continue to build a foundation in the hopes of rebuilding Highline’s track program.

“For next season I plan on getting new equipment so that the runners can properly train for the steeplechase as well as for some distance relays,” Coach Loehr said.

“Hopefully with these plans in the work we can continue to recruit for a larger team and then expand the track program to include more events with this foundation,”

For the Thunderword and plays fastpitch for the T-Birds

Carey

Continued from page 11

as tough as she looks, but her contagious smile and easy laugh make her the kid of the team.

“They always make fun of me because of my Superman blanket when we travel for games and because I have a Superman poster on my bed,” Carey said.

Although Carey wants to work with kids, she never wants to stop being involved in softball.

“I think if it’s been a part of your life for so long you can’t just let it go after college,” Carey said. “When I grow older and have kids, I wanna coach their teams.”

Team thrives amid diversity

If I had a quarter for every time someone asked me if I was nervous for NWAACCS, I still would be broke. It seems to be a popular question. The truth is I don’t think we have time to be nervous.

Yes, we play the second highest ranked team in the NWAACC for our first game, and yes they beat us at midseason, and yes, the tournament in itself is enough reason to be nervous, set aside playing Clackamas right off the bat. But we don’t have the luxury of being able to worry about it.

Everyone has stepped up and fulfilled a role this season that they never expected to. Our fielders and catchers have become infielders, and vice versa.

Neither Anna Herried or I had planned on pitching Clackamas this year, but when you lose both of your signed pitchers, someone has to step up.

Lexi Nichols has played six out of the nine positions without complaint. Janice Ludington and Dana Hall joined the team right before season started after years of not playing. Amanda Proulx joined us and is only able to play two days a week.

Rachel Comstock spent two weeks in a cast. Ashley Carey injured her knee and bobbles across campus on crutches. Despite this Comstock and Carey led our team in RBIs.

Andi Rosen has played most of the second half of the season in a splint. She has taken on a huge leadership role as one of our two sophomores and never complains about anything, cheering us on and helping us through our own hitting struggles.

She goes up to the plate and does exactly what she needs to do, whether that be moving a runner or fighting for a walk.

We are often scrumming around another player, just so we can play.

Crop: Carrie at the bat

CARRIE DRAEGER

Mercedes Fernandez of Highline’s volleyball team, Anya Serebraykov of women’s basketball and soccer, and Lindsey Mcคลathy of women’s soccer came through for us on many occasions.

Serebraykov and McClathion were instrumental in an 8th inning rally to beat Grays Harbor with a base hit and a walk.

Fernandez played a solid right field against South Puget Sound with a hit and a couple of walks.

We have had to deal with things that no other team in the NWAACC has thought about. We have had to overcome obstacles that never should have come up.

We are odds against us; make no mistake about it. They have been ever since the beginning. We are the underdog against Clackamas and probably against anyone else we will play.

The one thing we have to do this weekend if we want to have any kind of success is hit the ball. Our team batting average is .397. If we hit the ball well, we give ourselves a good chance of winning this weekend.

We know what is at stake in Portland and we are ready for it. Clackamas is a good team, but so are we. We have the talent and the heart to beat anyone in the NWAACC.

Carrie Draeger is a reporter for the Thunderword and plays fastpitch for the T-Birds.

Scoreboard

Women’s Fastpitch Standings

NORTH League/PCT/Season

Everett 35-3 917 44-10
Bellevue 31-5 86136-10
Olympic 22-14 611 24-21
Penin. 22-14 611 26-17
Shore 19 561 36-13
Sk. Vall. 27-9 194-8-32
Edmon. 0-36 000 0-36

EAST League/PCT/Season

W. Walla 20-8 714 35-12
W. Walla 19-9 679 36-16
Spokane 16-12 571 22-20
G. Basin 15-13 536 19-24
B. Mount 15-13 536 25-22
Big Bend 13-15 464 20-21
Y. Valley 8-20 286 15-27
T. Valley 6-22 214 13-38

WEST League/PCT/Season

Pierce 26-4 887 36-16
SPS 26-4 880 30-14
Highline 17-13 567 19-24
G. Harb 16-14 533 16-23
Centralia 6-24 200 6-24
G. River 1-29 333 1-37

SOUTH League/PCT/Season

Mt Hood 25-5 .833 40-5
Clackam. 23-7 .767 35-10
L. Colu. 21-9 .700 33-11
Chemek 15-15 .500 27-20
SW Ore. 6-24 .200 11-33
Clark 0-30 .000 0-34

Results

05/12/2007

Spokane 5, Big Bend 2
Big Bend 8, Spokane 7
Wen Valley 8, Yakima Valley 0
Wen Valley 6, Yakima Valley 1
B Mount 13, Clackams 0
Tr. Valley 14, B. Mountain 7
W. Walla 15, Col. Basin 4
W. Walla 8, Col. Basin 6
Everett 12, Skagit Valley 0
Everett 11, Skagit Valley 7
Bellevue 20, Shoreline 1
Bellevue 9, Shoreline 1
Clackams 19, Clark 1
Clackams 19, Clark 0
Chemek 10, SW Oregon 1
Chemek 7, SW Oregon 3
Mt Hood 5, L. Columbia 4

Mt. Hood 15, L. Columbia 7

05/11/2007

Peninsula 5, Skagit Valley 4
Peninsula 13, Skagit Valley 3
Everett 2, Bellevue 1
Bellevue 12, Everett 3
L. Mount 11, Cl. Basin 0
Clackams 4, L. Columbia 0
Mt. Hood 15, Chemeketa 4
Mt. Hood 10, Chemeketa 7
Grays Harbor 7, Highline 1
Grays Harbor 10, Highline 2
Pierce 10, Centralia 2
Pierce 11, Centralia 0

NWAACC Schedule

05/19/2007

Grays Harbor vs. Mt. Hood
9 a.m.
Chemeketa vs Pierce
9 a.m.
Olympic vs Walla Walla
9 a.m.
Spokane vs Bellevue
9 a.m.
Highline vs Clackamas
11:30 a.m.
Environmental Science and Biology instructor Woody Moses spoke on the topic of the possible collapse of modern civilization compared to the collapse of some of history's well-known societies.

Moses used the event to highlight the book Collapse by Jared Diamond.

Previous to Collapse, Diamond wrote the book Guns, Germs, and Steel in which he outlined the rise of modern societies.

"These books are really well done," said Moses. "They come across with really good information and remain objective so that the reader can assimilate the information and then make their own judgments."

In Collapse, Diamond discusses the collapse of societies and some of the common characteristics they all shared with other failed civilizations.

Moses decided to use the book as a reference point in an attempt to make people aware of the current conditions and if there is anything that can be done to change the path today's society is on.

Moses said that there are five factors in common with all of these civilizations declines.

The first is the damage that people inflict upon the environment that they live in. The second is a change in the climate (often due to the first factor).

Living in the presence of hostile neighbors and/or states or neighbors is the third factor.

Decreased support with friendly neighbors would be the fourth. And finally how these societies choose to respond to the situations that faced them.

"The first society Moses talked about was the Rapa Nui. They lived on Easter Island and are most well known for the massive stone heads (Moai) that dot the landscape of the island. Moses said that is hard to say exactly how these Moai were for.

Most likely they may have been a combination of idol worship or community status symbols.

The first settlers were Polynesians that traveled from the Cook Islands around 900 A.D.

"These people were rock solid," said Moses. "They did amazing things."

"Students have seat covers," Trimmer said. "We should have a little more concern for our students when they enter their restrooms."

In Collapse, Diamond discussed the collapse of Mayan civilization and the demise of the Viking outposts in Greenland.

In both these cases both groups shared many common problems that brought about the end of their societies.

Damage to the environment they lived in, hostile neighbors, climate change, and most importantly, the failure of how these societies responded to their situations were all major factors that led to their downfall.

"There is not much of a guarantee that civilizations will last based on historical evidence," said Moses.

Moses said that there are both many reasons to be pessimistic and many reasons to be optimistic about the future.

People can be pessimistic because today's society has damaged the environment to the point that it has impacted the climate negatively.

Global warming is on the rise and it is estimated that by 2050 half of the snow pack will be gone.

"They come across with really good information and remain objective so that the reader can assimilate the information and then make their own judgments."

--Woody Moses, science professor

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 17, 2007/PAGE 13

Science Seminar says end of the world is avoidable

BY AARON QUAM

student who is passionate about this project is Tamara Trimmer.

"Since we're in the Medical Assistant Program, we believe in hygiene," Trimmer said.

"Hospitals and corporate offices have seat covers," Trimmer said. "Why the heck do schools not do that?"

They (the administration) should have a little more concern for their students when they enter their restrooms."

Along with the uncertainties of administration, students involved in this project have had to work through other doubts from their own peers.

"Some people try to solve this problem by saying 'Don't sit,'" said medical assistant student Alli Chikh, with a frustrated look on her face.

"The main cause is that people are not looking at it logically," said Trimmer. "We should have more concern about microorganisms out there."

Trimmer said that all the research they've done in the program has shown that dangerous bacteria is widespread in public restrooms.

One thing in particular causes her great concern.

"There's a presence of hepatitis," Trimmer said. "It's a fact from our studies that hepatitis lives for several days."

Hepatitis is the abundant presence of inflammatory cells in the liver tissue, which causes potentially severe damage to the liver.

There are several types of hepatitis, ranging from A to G. According to TheBody.com, common transmission of hepatitis is caused by sexual interactions — commonly anal and oral or "through shared needles used for drug abuse."

Nothing was mentioned about transmission via toilet seat.

However, in a section called "Women's Health Myths" on the Swedish Medical Center's Website, www.swedish.org, Dr. Sherry Marts said that "It's OK to sit down... Most organisms that cause STDs will not survive for long on a toilet seat."

In addition, Dr. Marts said that a woman would have to make genital contact with the actual seat in order to contract hepatitis.

Many students said they would want seat covers and sanitizer in the restrooms.

"They come across with really good information and remain objective so that the reader can assimilate the information and then make their own judgments."

--Woody Moses, science professor

proof that included the implication that they live in. The second is a change in the climate (often due to the first factor). Living in the presence of hostile neighbors and/or states or neighbors is the third factor.

Decreased support with friendly neighbors would be the fourth. And finally how these societies choose to respond to the situations that faced them.

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"These people were rock solid," said Moses. "They did amazing things."

"They come across with really good information and remain objective so that the reader can assimilate the information and then make their own judgments."

--Woody Moses, science professor

reasonable distances they traveled to even make it to the island to settle.

Some of the primary reasons they settled the island was the abundant supply of foods such as fish, birds, and eggs.

The island also had a lot of trees when it was first settled.

In fact, the largest specimens of palm trees ever seen have been found in fossil records on the island.

In contrast to this, the island today is completely devoid of trees.

This is to be believed to be one of the major factors contributing to the fall of the Rapa Nui society.

Moses said that deforestation led to much of the island losing its soil making it impossible for new trees to grow.

Along with the shortage of trees, the Rapa Nui could not build any more living structures and the boats that they needed to harvest their food.

Combined with a fickle climate and the inability to change their philosophy, the Rapa Nui society failed by 1722 A.D.

"Evidence points to the fact that there was widespread cannibalism towards the end of their society," said Moses. "It could not have been pretty."

"The more stubborn you are, the harder things get," said Moses in relation to a society's inability to change its ways.

Moses also went on to discuss the collapse of the Mayan civilization and the demise of the Viking outposts in Greenland.

In both these cases both groups shared many common problems that brought about the end of their societies.

Damage to the environment they lived in, hostile neighbors, climate change, and most importantly, the failure of how these societies responded to their situations were all major factors that led to their downfall.

"There is not much of a guarantee that civilizations will last based on historical evidence," said Moses.

Moses said that there are both many reasons to be pessimistic and many reasons to be optimistic about the future.

People can be pessimistic because today's society has damaged the environment to the point that it has impacted the climate negatively.

Global warming is on the rise and it is estimated that by 2050 half of the snow pack will be gone.

"They come across with really good information and remain objective so that the reader can assimilate the information and then make their own judgments."

--Woody Moses, science professor
news

Nikkel
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"He would wake up at 8 and then we'd get breakfast and brush his teeth," Nikkel said.

The rest of the day would include eating, walking, and watching sports, her brother's favorite pastime.

Eventually, Nikkel said it became easier, despite how daunting it could be at times.

"Taking care of my brother over the summer was a lot of work, but to be able to see him everyday instead of being in a rehab center made me feel a lot more at ease," Nikkel said.

Still, Nikkel said, it was difficult.

"It was hard, and in the beginning I was more afraid of me messing up than of him falling and hitting his head," Nikkel said.

"But over time I realized that if we just took things 20 minutes at a time everything would be OK." Taking things slow was the key lesson Nikkel said she had to learn.

Nikkel's mother repeatedly told her to breathe, and Nikkel even went so far as to have the lesson tattooed on her wrist to serve as a constant reminder.

On her right wrist in black cursive letters is the word "breathe," the action Nikkel's mother kept reminding her to do.

Nikkel said it also reminds her of when she and her brother called 911 when Bear was struggling to breathe.

"It has a lot of meaning," Nikkel said while tracing the lettering with her index finger."It's really just kind of a reminder. ... One day maybe he'll realize why I got it."

When school resumed in the fall, Nikkel shared the responsibility of looking after Bear with one of her other brothers.

Once Nikkel got home in the afternoon, she looked after Bear.

Nikkel said "Rehab Without Walls, an organization that brings neurological rehabilita-

tion to patients' homes, was also very helpful to Bear and herself."

During that time, Nikkel said her brother's health improved a great deal and "The only thing we [had] to watch him for is when he [was] in the shower (without his helmet)."

Bear no longer had to wear any helmet at anytime after his surgery, Nikkel said.

"As far as immediate plans, sometime next month he hopes to attend a Mariners game," Nikkel said.

"Eventually, Nikkel said it feels great to have her brother healthy."

"I'm finally relieved and I feel like I can breathe easy," Nikkel said.

"I don't need to look at my tattoo anymore to remember to take it slow. I can rest assured that everything is OK."

Nakada explained that this festival takes place on the 20th birthday of a young man or woman. She said that an average of $15,000 to $20,000 thousand dollars is spent on a Kimono alone.

A Kimono is a traditional Japanese gown.

While some find the values and celebrations important, the most important part of Japanese culture to Ryota Hosaka is eating sushi.

Meanwhile, some panelists thought of some things that Highline could do as a community to help the Japanese community.

Fujiiwara said that Japanese students tend to be very quiet and shy, and that sometimes it is hard for them to show their feelings and emotions. She suggested that American students invite Japanese students to participate in activities with them. She said that if this happened, Japanese students could share their emotions more openly.

Nakada said that sometimes she feels she might be annoying people because of the way her English sounds.

While some Japanese students might have found speaking English their biggest challenge when coming to the United States, others had some different problems.

Yuka Hamada, a Japanese panelist, said that her largest problem when coming to the United States was learning English.

Hamada said that in her country, everyone usually eats a healthy diet, but in America, there are many foods such as McDonald's.

"I really miss eating Japanese food. I want to eat fresh fish," said Hamada.

Fujiiwara also expressed her food concern when first coming from Japan.

She added that she gained 10 pounds her first year in the United States.

Food was not the only major difference for the Japanese students.

An audience member asked why so many Japanese people smoke cigarettes when they seem to make such healthy conscious food choices.

Fujiiwara said that many of the working class people in Japan are put under so much stress due to long work days.

She said that smoking an outlet for the stress, offering them relaxation in such a busy life.

With the many differences between the United States and Japan, some Americans may have misconceptions of Japanese people.

The Japanese panelists agreed that there are many beliefs about Japan that are not true or are not a direct reflection of their culture.

Although not providing many examples, they said they also feel that sometimes they are grouped into one homogenous category, when their culture is very different from other Asian cultures.

"Kung-Fu is not Japanese culture. All Asians are different," said Nakada.
of the school in a way that could positively affect the student life at Highline," Fitzgerald said. Fitzgerald has many goals that he hopes to achieve while in office. Some of them are "enabling a new sport added to Highline, particularly baseball"; "government students get involved in extra curricular activities" and implementing "student health plans and thinking about poor students in their living," she said.

Simpkins, a junior at Highline, was treasurer of her high school's journalism and finished 70 credits this past three quarters while juggling extracurricular activities, she feels she is more than capable of being a president. "Also, I am a multi-tasker, I can juggle more than most," Fitzgerald said. "With saying that, the 19 hours required for this job are probably not so hard, even my personable personality allows me to speak with others."

Steve Simpkins, 40, is in his third quarter at Highline. He is working toward getting his bachelor's a's and, hopefully master's, in nursing. Simpkins' main goal in office would be to "try to bring all the different programs together.

"I don't think we hear enough of student input," Simpkins said. "[Student Government] is not about implementing my plans but finding out the students' plans and implementing theirs."

"I think that is the whole point of Student Government here on campus: to represent the students' voice," Simpkins said. Simpkins said that he feels he would be a good choice for Student Government because he can communicate well. "I have the ability to communicate with staff and students on all levels," Simpkins said. Simpkins said that he has had a lot of practice already since he currently works in Student Programs.

Frank Bagley was planning on running for president, but decided there was not a need when he found out another candidate, Simpkins, is backing the same things he was.

"After speaking with Steve [Simpkins], I realized his and my views were very similar," Bagley said. "Then I decided to back him because my interest [for running] wasn't for prestige, rather to make sure certain issues were represented." The six candidates running for vice president have many similar qualities, but each feels that they have the extra quality that makes them more qualified for the position.

Sergio Ullow, 21, is working toward becoming a biology teacher. This means that she is going for two majors: biology and teaching. Ullow is now completing her second year at Highline. She has decided to take it slow here and get some extra classes to transfer over to the University of Washington.

Qumane said she is a good communicator and "people person." She said this is important in working with Student Government. "I love communicating with people. I am very much a people person," Qumane said.

Qumane said she really just wants to help the students. "I would like to know the students more," she said. "I am very open and would like to give them my full service."

"I look at this as an opportunity to gain more knowledge about how to become a better leader," Qumane said.

"My main goal is to always tell the truth to the people," Heath said. "I would rather lose the election than lie to people. I am here to help them not hurt them."

Dave Gagnat, 23, has been attending Highline for a year. He plans to go into business with an emphasis in entrepreneurial studies and a sub emphasis in Law.

Gagnat's main goal is to get students heard; to let them know that they matter. "[I have] that innate drive inside of me to inspire people and give them a chance to get involved."

"It's about acknowledging their success, what they want and how I can get for them," Gagnat said.

Gagnat said that he wants to start summer jobs fairs, poetry jams and other events that help include people from all over campus.

"I am better than anyone else," Gagnat said. "I took the first step, you take the next vote for Dave."
"During this period, the faculty will have the opportunity for lengthy public discussion and deliberation, as will staff, students, trustees, and the community," Dr. Windhover said. "Since all these groups have not yet come together to contribute to the job description for the presidency, there is no excuse to discuss this issue.

Some professors agreed with Dr. Windhover.

"I agree with Ruth’s response. We need to be respectful of the process, which hasn’t officially begun yet," said Rosemary Ang, coordinator of cultural, gender, and global studies.

"I have some strong personal ideas/opinions, but I agree with Ruth that it’s not a good idea to be spouting our personal opinions at this point," said Writing Professor Susan Landgraf. "Once the process begins, all information you can gather about the meetings and the discussions will be news — and important news."

Many professors declined to comment citing a variety of reasons from feeling unqualified to give an answer to having been encouraged not.

Several said a search would be an unnecessary expense.

"The open evaluation of Dr. Bermingham would be the right thing to do, and if he passes that evaluation with good marks, there is absolutely no reason to embark on a very expensive national search, with hiring of useless ‘consultants’ and what not in one way or another taking that money from the college, from the students, from the teachers," one professor said.

"In my opinion, committee work is often synonymous with inefficiency and allow all involved to avoid the accountability that goes along with making an important decision like this," said paralegal professor Che Dawson.

"Ultimately, there’s going to be a segment unhappy with the decision and a segment happy with the decision regardless of when or how the decision is made. Let’s appoint Dr. Bermingham and get on with the business of the college rather than wasting a lot of time and money," Dawson said.

"Do not hire a search firm, most of which have a data base of people who paid the service to promote them. In fact, more times than not, they are comprised of presidents who have left other colleges for undisclosed reasons," another faculty member said. "Finally, Jack, has paid his dues, he has worked hard to make the instructional side of the college one of the most respected and highly regarded in the state.

Several professors said they would be happy to have him as the permanent president.

"His future is that of a college president, so why not take advantage of that and keep him here," said Dr. Christiana Taylor, Chairwoman Dr. Helen Burn.

"The board has the power to appoint Jack, and in my opinion they should. At the same time, I respect that many people believe there are benefits in doing an open search.

"I think he has done a good job since I’ve been here. I believe he is quite connected to the campus community... To have not been selected last time but to have stayed shows some commitment to Highline," another professor said.

"Jack has added a wealth of experience to our system and reached out to all branches of the college. Although I am not certain how the college Board is planning to fill the position, but they ought to give Jack the chance to keep the college moving in the right direction," said Business Technology instructor Sam Akhali.

"The other thing he’s been great for the college is international relations. Not just symbolic ones, real ones," said political science instructor Dave Dodd. "If he’s not made president, will he stick around? My feeling is probably not.

Without Dr. Bermingham, Dodd said he thinks the success Dr. Bermingham has had in international relations and multi-cultural issues would “slowly dissolve.”

A few professors said they were concerned not having a candidate search could create a division among the faculty.

"Some people are huge Jack fans and other people aren’t that happy," an anonymous professor said. "If all the sudden [the Board of Trustees] were to appoint without a search it would feel like... there was this group that didn’t listen to the voices of the campus. Without a search, morale will really be low on campus.

"Dr. Christiana Taylor, coordinator of art, drama, and music, said she agrees. “I doubt much the faculty would acquiesce without considerable protest to such a move. It makes no difference whether one is for Dr. Bermingham or another candidate, it is the process that is imperative," Dr. Taylor said.

"For the sake of fairness, many professors said they are in favor of a search.

"There’s just the actual deed of fairness... Following the whole Dr. Bell fiasco, it would just look bad. It would look like Dr. Bell was fired to hire Dr. Bermingham," an instructor said.

"I believe that there should be, most definitely, a search with a full, objective, and transparent process," said Paralegal Program Coordinator Buzz Wheeler. "Given the present enrollment situation and other issues facing the college, the president needs to be an accomplished executive who has the full support of the entire campus community.

"Some faculty members said they were interested in a search if only to explore all the options. It’s fair to the whole process that we go out and find the best candidate," an instructor said. "I’m certainly in favor of a search, the sooner the better."

In addition to faculty forums, staff forums will be held on May 31 in Building 7 at 9 a.m. and again at 10 a.m.