By Jocie Olson

Staff reporter

With $400,000 at stake, the Highline administration is waiting to see if the Achieving the Dream proposal is accepted. Highline has already implemented the Achieving the Dream with an initial $50,000 grant by the Lumina Foundation in the summer of 2006. If the proposal goes through, the college will receive $400,000 more over the next four years.

"It's a national initiative primarily funded through the Lumina Foundation, whose goal is to make community college students more successful," said Vice President for Institutional Advancement Lisa Skari.

Highline is one of 58 colleges in 10 states to participate. Dean of Instruction for Transfer Programs Jeff Wagnitz explained that the proposal is for the money to be used for faculty and staff to make improvements.

"There's no aid for students. This is an administration grant," Skari said.

Wagnitz said after looking at a large amount of data, three issues were settled on.

The first area is in development.

The second issue is the number of Highline students enrolled in non-credit courses such as English as a Second Language (ESL). "There are 3,000 students on any given day enrolled in these courses," Wagnitz said. "Only one-fourth make the jump into credit courses and very few make it all the way through."

After looking through the data and talking with students and faculty, Wagnitz said a solution will be to train ESL faculty as advisers.

The final area of emphasis is students who have a low completion rate in key 100-level courses.

Wagnitz said intense advising will be given to these students.

SEE DREAM, PAGE 16

There is still time to cast your vote

By Becky Mortensen

Staff reporter

This is the last chance to vote for Highline's Student Government leaders for next fall. Michele Fitzgerald and Steve Simpkins are running for president. Ayan Qumane, Sergio Ullou, Skyler JM Nichols, Lucas Heath, Dave Gagnat and Jay Smith are running for vice president.

Voting started yesterday and continues today until 10 p.m.

"Voting is really easy" current Student Government President Jeff Pittman said.

There are three different places that you can go to vote: the third floor of the Student Union, outside the bookstore, and online.

The voting goes on from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Student Programs, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. by the bookstore and 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. online.

"It should take less than a minute," Pittman said.

A student identification number and pin number are needed to vote.

Each location will have information about each candidate.

"If you are a Highline student you can vote," Pittman said.

See RACISM, PAGE 16
CSI:

HIGHLINE

Sixth car stolen this quarter in parking lot

A 2000 Honda Civic was stolen from the north parking lot May 18. This is the sixth car stolen from Highline this quarter. The Des Moines Police Department is handling the case.

Student gets license plate stolen from car

A student had the back license plate stolen from their car on May 22. The case has been handed over to Des Moines Police Department.

Purse stolen in Student Union Building

A student had her purse stolen May 21 in either Building 25 or Building 8.

Student pulls fire alarm instead of light switch

A student accidentally pulled the fire alarm in Room 109 in Building 19 on May 17. The student had been searching for the light switch.

Found items

The following items were found on campus: a Python remote car device; a pink woman's cosmetic kit; a pair of brown, woman's sunglasses; an iPod charger; a cell phone; a blue umbrella; two jackets; a set of six keys on a plain, silver mote car device; a pink woman's watch; a ruby gem in the center; an iPod; a 25 or Building 8.

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Lost items

The following items were reported lost on campus: a TI-83 calculator; a Motorola cell phone; a graduation ring with a ruby gem in the center; an iPod; and a cell phone.

-- Compiled by C. Feeley
Many Highline students see her often and don’t even know her name. She is Jennifer Kim, the smiling, cheerful cook and cashier at HiLine Teriyaki on Pacific Highway, right in front of the East Parking Lot. Whether you’re grabbing food during the busy lunch hour or coming in when there’s only one other customer, Kim’s first priority is to greet you with a welcoming smile.

Many of Kim’s customers are Highline students. “I love to meet people,” she said. “I try to be very cheerful because I see people coming from [Highline] and they’re so excited.”

Whether they didn’t do so well on a midterm or they didn’t get a good grade on that paper, Kim said she does what she can to relieve them of that feeling, if only temporarily. “The moment they’re staying here, I want them to be happy with my food and service,” Kim said.

Kim was a Highline student herself, although she is not taking any classes this quarter. She said one of her favorite classes was Speech 100. “I really loved it. I learned a lot [about] speaking English,” she said. Kim said her family immigrated to the United States with her family when she was 19.

That was four years ago. Not only has she mastered English, she tries her hand – or more appropriately, “tongue” – at Spanish. As a Latino customer, who is also a regular, leaves with his order, he personally bids Kim goodbye in Spanish.

“Hola, como esta?” she asks back cheerfully. Kim has never taken a Spanish class, though.

“I bought a book and listened to tapes,” she said. She also has Latino co-workers who help her when there are words she has trouble with. Whenever Latino customers walk into her store, she enthusiastically greets them in Spanish.

“Hasta manana,” Kim says back cheerfully.

Kim grew up in Seoul, South Korea, and immigrated to the United States with her family when she was 19. “I have to put my hobbies behind me to study English and business [at the restaurant],” Kim said. But it is all good training for bigger goals of becoming a businesswoman.

“I want to open up a chain restaurant [someday],” Kim said. This was not her initial dream. “I was going to be a nurse because I thought I could make people happy [through doing that],” she said.

However, when she first began working at HiLine Teriyaki, she realized that she could do the same thing there, and she is happy with that.

“I serve people with my food,” she said. “I want people to be happy at that moment.” Kim said the money makes no difference to her as long as she can make her customers happy.

For students who are regulars, Kim probably knows your name. Now, you know hers.

Highline campus will be hosting future scientists

**By JUDY VUE**

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Highline campus will be hosting future scientists

**By JOCIE OLSON**

Move over college students, elementary school children are coming to Highline – at least for a week.

Highline is hosting a science-focused summer day camp for children in the first through sixth grades. “It’s a camp for grade-school students to have a fun time to develop problem-solving skills,” said James Loetterle, geology professor and camp director.

Camp Invention is a non-profit program founded by the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation. Since its foundation in 1990, the program has grown to host camps in 44 states.

“It’s the first time we have hosted a camp that’s not ours,” said Lisa Skari, vice president for institutional advancement.

During the week, campers will participate in activities such as creating games, make prototypes of roller coasters and other theme-park rides, and also improve the safety of a skateboard.

“It’s very hands on, very creative, and it is all science based,” Skari said.

The children will also be able to explore the world of science fiction.

Skari explained in one activity the children will create a fictional planet and have to work with other children to survive.

“It’s well structured, it’s going to have fun activities, and it’s a way of making science fun,” Loetterle said.

For another activity, children will bring in all sorts of items, such as broken-down appliances and during the week they will take them apart and create something else.

The highlight of the camp is when the inventors present their inventions to family and friends at the end of the week.

“I hope they learn that they can build something, work in groups, and learn what it takes to build something that works through trial and error,” Loetterle said.

The camp is still looking for more help.

“We have two teachers from nearby schools and a counselor, but we are [still] looking for another counselor,” Loetterle said.

Counselors can be anyone from the ages of 14-18 who has experience working with children.

Loetterle said the camp is looking for parents and responsible high-school aged brothers or sisters to volunteer.

Camp Invention will run July 9 to July 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost is $199 per camper if registered before June 29 and $219 after that.

Highline employees, returning campers, and campers registering with a buddy receive a $19 discount.

For more information, contact James Loetterle at 206-878-3710, ext. 6543 or at jloetter@highline.edu.

Photos courtesy of the National Inventors Hall of Fame

During a science summer camp for first through sixth graders, children are able to participate in activities designed to help them explore science and work with other children.

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Opinion

Editorial comment

Steve Simpkins has president potential

Voting for president and vice president of Student Government ends today.

There are a handful of qualified candidates running for vice president, but only two brave souls have stepped up to the plate to run for president - Steve Simpkins and Michele Fitzgerald - and they are to be commended.

However, at the candidates’ forum last Wednesday in the Student Union, Fitzgerald was absent due to a personal family emergency. Fitzgerald said she works in Bellevue, which made her unable to attend the forum.

While not official, it appears Simpkins will become president. “[Student Government] is not about implementing my plans but finding out the students’ plans and implementing theirs,” Simpkins said last week.

The fact that Simpkins has been the only visible candidate makes this an easy decision.

Students should also understand why Simpkins is qualified. His past may be questionable. He admits to suffering from past alcohol and abuse. He said being cited for a DUI was the turning point in his life and that he has learned from his mistakes.

Simpkins sobered up three and half years ago. At 40 years old, he is not your typical community college presidential candidate. However, it is clear he has changed and his past should not be used against him.

In fact, Simpkins has recently started a club for people like him: Sober Socialites, which is meant to provide services and activities for students so they don’t have to turn to drinking. Sober Socialites is not only open to recovering students, but anyone at Highline who is interested.

His concern for making students’ voices heard is important and he is not running for any personal agenda. Students should consider that factor as they go out and vote.

Also, Simpkins has another huge advantage going for him: he is readily available to anyone who wants to speak with him.

All one needs to do is walk to the third floor of the Student Union and if he’s not there, you can leave a message and he gets back to you immediately.

This trait is definitely becoming of a Student Government President.

Staff

“I’m not a quote-generator.”

Opinion

Monday is Memorial Day.

I could tell you how important it is to honor our veterans and our troops in Iraq. I could tell you that you shouldn’t see it as a day off from school, but a day to honor those who have died.

I should ignore this Memorial Day honoring American soldiers because, after all, it is an American holiday. It is something profound, but I can’t find it in me. I support our troops. I respect anyone who has been in military service. But it is hard for me not to think about other countries’ people who have sacrificed for the U.S.

I’m talking about a story during the Vietnam War that people never hear about. The CIA recruited the help of primitive people, including both of my grandfathers, who mainly resided in the mountains of Laos.

This “Secret Army,” as it is now called, was trained to fend off the North Vietnamese communists so that Laos—a neutral country during the war—would become a supply route.

These people were Hmong, and they fought bravely for the American side. They succeeded in killing 100,000 to 150,000 North Vietnamese troops.

They were trained to fly planes and fire guns—when the most advanced technology they had known before was probably a shovel.

They were considered some of the best fighter pilots, comparable to their American equivalents. They fought because they were promised food and safety for their families.

Instead, once defeat was inevitable, the United States cut and ran and left the Hmong people to die at the hands of an angry communist regime.

Both of my grandfathers fought this secret war. They were fortunate to survive and keep their families alive in time to safely immigrate as refugees to the United States.

I would not be here writing this if not for them.

You should be.

Are you also thinking of the soldiers whose lives were lost in wars in past centuries?

You should be.

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During class breaks, these guys dance

BY KELSEY SIMS
staff reporter

You have probably seen or heard the guys in the Student Union who break-dance. Isaac Park, Troy Diawata and Ariel Marlit are three of about seven break-dancers.

Whenever they don’t have class and have some free time they go into the Student Union, turn on some music and break out some moves. They don’t dance for long amounts of time. “It’s something I like to do,” Park said.

Break-dancing started in the 1970s in the Bronx just as the disco era was getting started. B-boys, what break-dancers were called, would battle other dancers to prove who had better moves.

Occasionally, these dance battles would substitute for the violence that often took place. Highline’s dancers just do it because they enjoy it, and they don’t classify their dancing as violence.

“I think people want to learn. It’s something everyone wants to try once in their life,” Park said.

Most people don’t mind that these guys do it in the middle of the Student Union.

“It’s fun to watch,” said Stephanie Vanderhoff, who is a student at Highline. “It’s pretty cool to watch because it’s like a competition between them. They go back and forth like a dance battle,” said Jesse Peterson, who is also a student at Highline.

Although for some people, they don’t appreciate as much. “It think it’s kind of annoying, but their doing it to entertain themselves, so it’s cool . . . It’s background noise, I don’t really notice it,” said Joanna Schwankke, who is a running start student at Highline.

It seems like the student body has a mixture of opinions toward the guys who break-dance, but they don’t plan on stopping anytime soon.

“In the end, they do this just because it’s fun, and it’s a way to express themselves,” said Peterson.

Some of the dancers say their way of dancing is just a way of life. It is all forms of dance mixed together, performed how they feel.

Local band soothes the Blend with soft tunes

BY NICK VANUNU
staff reporter

Jonathan Kingham and Ryan Smith brought an urban coffee-house atmosphere to the Fireside Bistro during Wednesday’s Blend with a soulful combination of soothing vocals and jazzy, old rhythm-and-blues guitar and piano music.

Twice a month, different musicians are booked to play The Blend in The Fireside Bistro. Highline’s sit-down musical performance showcasing talents from around the area.

Kingham and Smith write their music and have both released several solo albums, songs from which they play together at shows.

Kingham plays the acoustic guitar and sings lead vocals while Smith plays a keyboard and sings backup on most of their performance tracks.

Kingham possesses huge charisma on stage, chatting with the audience between songs and telling short jokes and anecdotes throughout the show. During one love song, he delivered a humorous soliloquy of sorts about finding the perfect girl.

Musically, Kingham played a mellow style of classic jazz rock that was spiced with a tinge of funk. His chord progressions, which were somber while retaining a laid-back groove, were made more interesting with consistent shifts in the individual shapes of each chord.

Smith played perfectly accompanying parts, his bluesy piano style juxtaposing nicely against Kingham’s guitar work. During the aforementioned love tune, Smith delivered an impressive and unique keyboard solo that enhanced the pace of the song.

One of Smith’s songs, entitled Piece, incorporated a bass melody with a treble rhythm which was an interesting and pleasant change from the standard style of songwriting.

Kingham played a fiercely emotive solo during Piece, which, although not technically particularly strenuous, brought a pained look to his face and a twang to his picking that gave it plenty of personality.

The two artists’ set list was comprised of mostly original pieces and a few covers. When Kingham was drawn away from the set by extenuating circumstances, Smith took over the acoustic guitar and played a poignant cover of Bob Marley’s Redemption Song.

Even without the presence of many familiar songs, Kingham and Smith kept the audience’s attention with their soulful songwriting and musical abilities.

Each Blend this quarter has brought something entirely new and this performance was no exception. Kingham’s ability to work an audience and the originality of both musicians’ material kept the Fireside Bistro groovy.

Suit-and-tie gentlemen rock out to raise funds

BY NICK VANUNU
staff reporter

A Battle of the Bands, organized by Highline’s accounting department and the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants (WSCPS), was held Saturday night in the Student Union building to raise money for Highline’s accounting department.

The event, with bands comprised of members from local chapters of the WSCPS, was emceed by Seattle disc jockey Mike West and was a definite success according to Tom Byrne, one of the organizers.

“It was just a really good evening altogether,” Byrne said.

It drew around 175 and raised about $2,000 for Highline’s accounting department.

The South King County, Bellevue, Pierce County, UW Beta Alpha Psi, and Seattle chapters put together bands called The Disregarded Entities, Accounting Crows, Industry Audit Guys, Facial Depreciation and Terminal Liability, respectively.

Each band played a series of three covers and the winners were allotted an encore of two songs.

Some of the more memorable songs from the evening were:

- Redemption Song by Bob Marley
- The Way You Look Tonight by Frank Sinatra
- The Way You Look Tonight by Frank Sinatra

SEE ACCOUNT, PAGE 16
Homemade jewelry brighter than store bought

The family jewels can make a mean bracelet. Jewelry making can be as intricate as you want it to be, or very simple. The trick to jewelry making, is to not over-think it. To start making necklaces, bracelets, earrings, or even rings you’ll need a basic supply of string and loads of beads. Materials can be purchased at a local craft store. Craft stores offer starter-sets that have a variety of beads, along with clasp you’ll need, and the string. Reading starter-sets start at about $30. If you buy each item individually, be sure to buy a beading needle, which starts at $3. The beading needle will help thread the needles onto the string you choose for your jewelry piece. There are many types of string for beading, but the beginners typically use nylon, and for a nicer finish you can use silk string. Keep in mind, silk string is usually used for crystal beads or pearls. A hefty set of pliers will help tying the ends together along with getting the clasp nice and firm onto the string. OK, here’s the deal. Beading, and making presents is nice and all. But the real fun is when you lay out all your beads, or throw them in a deep bucket, and just run your hands through them. Do it, really, it will make you appreciate your beads that much more. Now that you became one with your beads, onward with the jewelry making. If you’d like, pick out a pattern to make a bracelet or necklace. Arrange the pattern from the beads you’ve chosen, all laid out in order. Next, measure the length of the string. A nice measurement is your wrist; add a centimeter or two to play it safe if you think the person has a bigger wrist than you. Necklaces are much easier to measure; it just depends on how you would like it to hang on the person. Always add a little bit extra length to tie around the clasp. Thread your needle with the measured string. Before beginning to bead, attach the clasp on one end of the string. This is so the beads will land on something, rather than slip right off your string. When you’re attaching the clasp, your handy dandy pliers will come to the rescue. Attach the clasp as tight as possible to your string. The pliers will help you tighten the clasp around the string. This shouldn’t take long but requires a lot of concentration and hand coordination. Once that is in place, you can start beading. Now, add the other part of the clasp to the opposite end of the jewelry piece. Again, wrap it around the string the same way, and tighten it with the pliers. There is your finished product. You can see how lovely it looks by trying it on yourself.

What’s nice about remembrance wire is the ability to shape it. While it has its advantages, it also requires more concentration and hand-eye coordination. You can still add a clasp to the end of remembrance wire to give a more polished look. You’ll need memory wire end caps for that. If you’re interested in getting a more hands-on approach to learning how to bead, Michaels arts and crafts offers beading classes every Tuesday at 6 p.m. There is a $15 charge, and you are expected to bring your own supplies.

Highline Reads does the right things, chooses a new book

BY ASHLEY MESSMER
staff reporter

The Highline Reads Committee has chosen The Good, The Bad, and The Difference by Randy Cohen for next school year’s read. Cohen writes a column, “The Ethicist,” in the New York Times, on doing the right thing. In his book there are highlights from his columns, in which people write questions about life and many other subjects and he offers advice to them in this process it teaches people valuable information and lessons. “It’s a book based on doing the right thing and every conceivable thing,” said Matt Schwisow, one of the committee members and writing professor. “It’s a short book, made up of short sections,” Schwisow said. The committee said the book offers information that could come in handy and a lot of the questions asked are interesting, which one could learn a great deal from. The Highline Reads is three years old; the first year’s book was Fast Food Nation. One faculty member from each division takes part in selecting the book. The committee chose this book from faculty nominations of about 20 books. Once the field was narrowed to five books, everyone in the committee read the books. Cohen’s book was chosen through the list of criteria it has for selecting a book. “We try to stick to the criteria the best we can,” Schwisow said. “There is no way to make every one of them. “I think it would be a good book for everyone to read. It would be appropriate for any class.” Unlike last year, the college will not be getting free advance copies for the entire faculty and staff, however, Highline will be receiving a handful of books that will be placed on reserve in the library. “We encourage you to take part in this year’s Highline Reads,” Kim said.

Highline Reads does the right things, chooses a new book

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Big Jo’s making a delicious and quick dinner

Easy dinner recipes are something everyone is looking for. As the quarter continues on and dinner becomes less and less of a priority, let me help with a few easy recipes that will ensure you and your family get fed!

When I was little, I remember going to my grandma’s house for big family functions and the one thing on everyone’s mind was my grandma’s tacos. I can picture her standing in front of the stove with two frying pans and a pot of beans in front of her.

The way I see it, tacos are like hamburgers because everyone like them differently. But the basics are cheese, sour cream, salsa, guacamole, onions, and lettuce. The trick to making these tacos is preparation.

Make sure that you have everything done ahead of time before you start frying the shells. If you don’t want to spend time grating cheese, packages with grated cheese are perfect.

Onions and tomatoes can be diced beforehand and lettuce can be washed and shredded. Frying shredded lettuce is always an option.

Any type of taco shells can be used, so for a healthier taco, corn tortillas are the way to go. When frying the tortillas, make sure the pan and the oil is hot. Keep the burner on a medium to medium high temperature.

Before frying, have a stack of paper towels on hand to place between the cooked shells. For grandma’s tacos you will need:

1/2 pounds of hamburger (I use S&W Zesty beans)

Try this quick dinner of Big Jo’s grandma’s tacos.

1 1/4 cups of grated cheddar cheese

Brown beef in a pan and drain if necessary. Mix beans and hamburger together and heat on stove.

Fry taco shells in hot oil until golden brown on each side. Place shell on paper towel and stack shells on top of one another with paper towel in between.

Once shells are done all that is necessary is to put everything out and allow everyone to make their taco how they like. Makes 6 servings.

Quesadilla casserole is another easy recipe to make when you don’t have time to cook. This dinner can be made ahead of time and refrigerated so all you need to do is pre-heat the oven and stick it in.

This casserole is mixture of canned goods and spices between layers of tortilla shells.

The ingredients include:

1 can (16 ounces) of refried beans
1 can (8 ounces) of tomato sauce
1 can (4 ounces) of chopped green chilies, optional
1 teaspoon of ground cumin seed
1 teaspoon of chili powder
1 teaspoon of garlic powder
1 teaspoon of onion powder
4 8-inch flour tortillas
2 cups of shredded cheddar cheese
Sour cream (optional)

Salsa (optional)
In a small bowl, combine refried beans, tomato sauce, green chilies, ground cumin, chili powder, garlic powder, and onion powder.

Place a tortilla in a greased 8-inch round cake pan. Spread 1/4 of the bean mixture over the tortilla. Repeat with the second tortilla and bean mixture.

Sprinkle 1 cup of cheese over bean mixture. Continue with the rest of the tortillas and bean mixture. And sprinkle the remaining cup of cheese on the top. Bake uncovered in a 350° oven for 35-40 minutes or until heated through and cheese is bubbly. Serve with sour cream on top. Makes 8 servings.

HELP WANTED FALL QUARTER
The Thunderword, Highline’s weekly newspaper has openings for the following paid positions:

• Advertising Sales Rep
• Arts Editor
• Office Manager

Experience preferred, but will train the right person. Flexible hours.

Contact thunderword@highline.edu
for more information

Accounts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5
were What I Like as performed by The Disregarded Entities, Takin’ Care of Business as performed by the Industry Audit Guys, I’m the Only as performed by Terminal Liability, Facial Depreciation’s parody of Queen’s We Will Rock You that replaced “Rock” with “Audit.” The songs keep the audience on their feet, waiting to hear which members of the group plans on performing during halftime at a game next season.

The Accounting Crows feels the group is good enough to keep working at it, possibly writing songs and playing more shows, and Terminal Liability featured members who are the core in another band. “The camaraderie amongst the bands was really strong, lending to a fun atmosphere,” Byrne said. “I loved seeing a bunch of accountants getting a little crazy and wild over the course of the night.”

Fancy Nails

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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: ***

* Moderate  •  * Difficult

1. **8. ENGINEERING: What is a girder?**
2. **9. TIME: How long is a fortnight?**
3. **6. LITERATURE: In Greek mythology, who is Pandora?**
4. **4. MUSIC: What else did Art Garfunkel do for a living early in his career?**
5. **5. GEOGRAPHY: What is a girder?**
6. **7. ARTS: Why is a girder a girder?**
7. **5. GEOGRAPHY: Where are girder bridges usually found?**
8. **2. Riddle: What does a girder do?**
9. **1. What is the name of the Pittsburgh Rock Band formed for "Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.?"**

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**Crossword 101**

By Ed Canty

**Household Words**

Across
1. Catch a crook
2. Mute
3. Blue eyes or curly hair
4. Salt Lake City collegian
5. Mobil rival
6. Dressing option
7. Lawreence, in Stockholm
8. Crow's home
9. "Erie Canal" mule
10. Grammy category
11. Freud topics
12. Mower storer
13. Ted of "Monk"
14. Miracle drink
15. Dressing option
16. Presidential turndown
17. Rice, Beets, Carrots, and Broccoli
18. Catholic ending
19. One of three squares?
20. Nobel Peace Prize locale
21. "Will and Grace"
22. Part of a.m.
23. Archaeological dig
24. Be under the weather
25. Ginsu½
26. "Erie Canal" mule
27. Vermeer's painting
28. "Erie Canal" mule
29. Nobel Peace Prize locale
30. A.K.A.
31. Mower storer
32. Pink Ladies
33. A.K.A.
34. Mower storer
35. Miracle drink
36. Drive back
37. Be under the weather
38. "Hey, that hurts!"
39. A.K.A.
40. Ice skater Babilonia
41. Nobel Peace Prize locale
42. A.K.A.
43. Katmandu resident
44. Kings of a profit
45. ID documents
46. Brainstorms
47. Singer's submission
48. "Erie Canal" mule
49. "Erie Canal" mule
50. "Erie Canal" mule
51. "Erie Canal" mule
52. Be under the weather
53. "Erie Canal" mule
54. Pink Ladies
55. Presidential turndown
56. Pink Ladies
57. "Erie Canal" mule
58. "Erie Canal" mule
59. "Erie Canal" mule
60. Reader's guide
61. Calculate the total
62. Silent assent
63. Silent assent
64. Silent assent
65. Grace of
66. Off limits
67. Draft choice?
68. Brainstorms
69. Sarcastic
70. Spot for a scene
71. Spot for a scene
72. Farm tower
73. Farm tower
74. Farm tower
75. Farm tower
76. Farm tower
77. Farm tower
78. Farm tower
79. Farm tower
80. Farm tower
81. Farm tower

Down
1. Cell centers
2. Nearby of "Will and Grace"
3. Uncle Sam & Father Time add ons
4. Disfigure
5. Org. with an oft-quoted journal
6. Be under the weather
7. A.K.A.
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**Quotable Quote**

Horse sense is a good judgement which keeps horses from beoting on people.

*** W. C. Fields

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ***

* Moderate  •  * Challenging

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**Arts Calendar**

The Burien Strawberry and Arts Festival will be Saturday, June 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, June 24 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The festival will be held at the Burien Community Center.

The 10th Anniversary Boomer Blast will be Thursday, June 21 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event will be in downtown Kent. Food, booths, and music will all be offered. For more information contact Helena Reynolds at 253-856-5164.

Tickets are now on sale for Breeder's Theater's new production. Out of the West. The show runs July 13, 14, 18, 20, 21, 25, 27, 28 at 7 p.m. and July 22 and 29 at 2 p.m.

E.B. Foote Winery, 1278 SW 153rd St, Burien. Tickets are $20 and include wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are available at the winery and at Corky Cellars in Des Moines. Call 206-242-3852 for more information. www.breederstheater.com.

The Sumi Art of Lois Yoshida is in the Library's Fourth Floor Gallery for the month of May.

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 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.

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**Last week's crossword puzzle solution**

**HAIL TO THE CHIEF**

SHOE ISLAM MOLD MOVE SHAVE ALECE OPAL ROSE GARDEN GEOLEARS DISKS OGDEN LEOEN RAFAEL JUMBOET EDWIN GENIE ORR ALIT SHEAR THOU DOC STARR MINDS SWEETNESS HUMBLE DATA COSEC AWAIT WHANA CABS REDO AUNT TINA YEAR GREET ANDY

By GFR Associates •• Visit our web site at www.gfrpuzzles.com

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**Last week's SUDOKU Answer**

5 2 1 7 4 9 8 3 6
8 9 3 6 1 7 2 5 4
6 8 7 5 3 2 4 1 9
1 5 2 9 7 4 6 8 3
3 9 4 1 8 6 5 7 2
7 6 2 5 3 4 1 9 4
2 1 9 4 7 3 6 8 3
5 9 6 1 2 8 5 7 4
8 7 5 3 2 9 4 1 5
PORTLAND - The Lady T-Birds struggled to put runs on the board, going two and out in the NWAACC tournament last Friday.

Highline opened the 16-team tournament with a 7-1 loss to Clackamas, the eventual tournament runner-up. The T-birds were eliminated with a 4-0 loss to Peninsula.

"It was a learning experience, we'd never been to NWAACCs before," said shortstop Ashley Carey.

Highline finished the season with a 17-13 record. Lower Columbia walked away with the title for the second straight year over Clackamas in the final. Lower Columbia has won the title nine out of the last 10 seasons.

The entire West Division (Pierce, Highline, South Puget Sound, Grays Harbor) struggled to compete with the powerhouse South, East, and North, as Grays Harbor was the only team to make it to the second day.

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Against Clackamas, Highline was outhit 14-2.

"They're a very good team, they hit the ball well," Highline Head Coach Anne Schmidt said. "It would've taken everything we possibly had to beat Clackamas."

"Defensively we were solid," center fielder Alexis Nichols said. "[But] it wasn't our game. We need to connect our hits, get our bunts down."

Highline took a 1-0 lead in the first inning. Nichols reached base on a wild pitch. She stole second and third, and scored on third baseman Rachel Comstock's ground-rule double under the fence in center field.

Clackamas tied the score in the bottom of the first inning off of Highline pitcher Anna Herried, then took a 5-1 lead in the second on a three-run homer and a run-scoring triple. Herried and Highline's defense held Clackamas scoreless the next three innings, with the help of Carey, who pulled a double play in the third.

Nichols caught a Clackamas runner making for home with a cannon throw to catcher Caitlyn Ratcliffe in the fifth, and Ratcliffe saved a run by recovering a wild pitch and diving into the dirt to catch a Cougar trying to score in the sixth.

"The score definitely does not reflect the way that these girls played," former Highline player and statkeeper Leah Perkins said. "(Herried) pitched very well, defensively we had some great plays, but offensively I think they just psyched themselves out."

Outfielder Janice Ludington agreed.

"We need to know that we can hit anybody and go out there, be prepared, and play, and know we can do it," she said.

Against Peninsula, the T-Birds had a much better game offensively, but couldn't string hits together to score runs. Both Highline and Peninsula had eight hits apiece.

Ratcliffe opened up the game strong for the T-Birds, hitting a double off of the fence in center field. Nichols then hit a single and Ratcliffe was called out in a controversial call at the plate.

"I think it sort of deflated them in the first inning when we didn't score [with runners] on first and third, and Caitlyn was safe at home," Schmidt said.

Carrie Draeger pitched a complete game for the T-Birds, giving up one run in the second inning and three runs in the third.

The T-Birds had their best chance to get back in the game in the fourth inning, loading the bases with no outs. Highline was unable to score, however, popping out twice and ground-
PORTLAND - The Highline softball team was wrought with injuries and a short roster, but the women came together to finish third in the West Division.

The Lady T-Birds had a 17-13 conference record and an overall record of 19-26.

"I think it went really well, from the first game to the last game," said Head Coach Anne Schmidt. "Our defense improved dramatically. They came together defensively the whole season."

Shortstop Ashley Carey and pitcher/first baseman Carrie Draeger made first team all-league in the West and catcher Caitlyn Ratcliffe, center fielder Alexis Nichols, third baseman Rachel Comstock and sophomore left fielder Amanda Proulx made second team.

The Thunderbirds were two and out at the NWAACs, but defense was not the issue.

"It was a matter of not hitting," Schmidt said.

The Lady T-Birds were down to 10 players during the tournament.

"It was hard with (10) people on the team," said Nichols.

"It made us work that much harder," said sophomore right fielder Amanda Houser. "We had to suck it up and make it work."

"It was up and down like a rollercoaster," said Draeger.

"It was a matter of not hitting," said Ratcliffe. "Lead­ship, commitment, and make it all the way to the NWAACs for the last day," said Comstock. "I want to bring more leadership and a stronger bat."

"I want to bring more leadership," said Ratcliffe. "Lead­ership, commitment, and make sure the freshmen know what we’re about and how we work as a team."

"I want to bring more heart to the team, especially to the freshmen," said pitcher/third baseman Anna Herried.

Numerous injuries also put a lot of stress on the small team.

"The season was fantastic. Broken fingers, and torn ACL’s kinda brought us down but they also made us work harder," Rat­cliffe said.

"It put a lot of stress on peo­

"We’re hoping to have a full roster next year," said Schmidt.

Coach Schmidt said that ideally a team should have two catchers, and three pitchers.

"You’d like to have 15 (play­ers)," Coach Schmidt said. "It’s hard to find those kinds of num­bers. We already have three freshmen pitchers signed."

Coach Schmidt said that the last three years have been bad for recruiting.

"Some years you’ll have a lot of softball players, and some you won’t," Schmidt said. "I’ve sent out 15 letters of intent and so far I’ve got eight yeses. There are still other players we need to go and get."

In past years, there has been a lot of turnover on the softball team.

"There’s going to be a dif­ferent feel next year," Coach Schmidt said. "You have to work for your position. You can’t be lazy when there’s com­petition."

Seven Thunderbirds have said they will be returning. Dur­ing the course of the season, the players said they bonded and became very close as a team.

"We knew no matter what we were going to be playing that day," outfielder Janice Ludin­ton said. "We had to lean on each other. We had to be there for each other and work extra hard as a team."

Many of them said they hope to bring experience and leader­ship to next year’s team.

Ludington added that their level of playing, and level of bonding would not have been as high had they had so much adversity.

"It’s important to be friends and supportive on and off the field," said Comstock. "I hope we all bond again next year. I hope to become a better leader and lead (next year’s) team."

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Sole Lady T-Bird runner takes flight to Air Force Reserves

BY JAIME GUDJONSON
staff reporter

In November, Rosie Meeker will be taking her degree and years as a runner to boot camp. Being the only girl on the Highline track team, Meeker is used to challenges.

"I’m nervous and excited about boot camp, but can’t wait till it’s over," said Meeker, who is joining the Air Force Reserve.

Meeker ran two years for Highline, qualifying for the NWAACC Championships last year in the 5,000 meters but did not qualify this year.

"I thought that if I qualified last year that I would automatically qualify this year but there was stiffer competition and new girls," Meeker said. "This track season was very different. Being the only girl it is hard to push myself running alone on the trails during practice. Speed days and pace days are better because I get to run with guys and they push me."

Meeker said that being the only girl on the team gave her a chance to bond more closely with Coach Christina Loehr.

"I think she’s awesome and full of spunk and being the only girl I get a chance to relate to her more than the guys do," Meeker said.

Meeker said she enjoys distance running, keeping her mind occupied on her form, relaxing her arms and opening her stride.

"I count down the laps and keep my head up and there is usually a continual song in my head," Meeker said. "I like to be the front-runner of my group and will sometimes battle other girls for a pass, which isn’t very good because it wears me out faster."

Meeker, who went to Klahowya High School in Silverdale, will be finishing at Highline this summer and will be taking some time off before she goes to boot camp in Texas.

"I joined the Air Force Reserve to get money for school," Meeker said. "I registered in January but did delayed-enrollment so that I could finish school and start basic training in November."

Meeker will be spending six weeks in boot camp, get some time off and then return for another 13 weeks.

"I was placed in the mental health department, which was fitting because my major will be in psychology," Meeker said.

Once she has completed boot camp, Meeker is looking to enroll at Central Washington in the fall of 2008 but will be in the Air Force Reserve for the next six years.

"My mom wanted me to do full-service active duty," Meeker said. "She said that I should do this to help me make better decisions in life."

Meeker said joining the service is a good experience and a chance to give back.

"My dad didn’t think I would do it," she said. "He thought I was all talk."

JAMIE GUDJONSON/THUNDERWORD
Highline runner Rosie Meeker takes off her running shoes on the track she has run the last two years on.

Summer in the City

SUMMER QUARTER 2007

Summer Quarter is a great time to grab an elective or that extra class you need to graduate early. Classes are usually smaller and many meet in a condensed five-week term.

And you can use this summer to explore the city through education. Not just Tacoma but around the world. Travel-study trips to China, Mexico and Costa Rica are open to all students.

www.tacoma.washington.edu/summer
**Sports**

**T-Birds experience improvement**

College athletics are rough enough, but playing with barely enough girls to field a team is brutal.

"We had enough talent to be a good team this year, but we didn’t have enough people.

Our final record was 19-26 and we reached NWAACC tournament, but can you imagine what we could have accomplished if we would have had 11 players instead of 10?

We started with 12 signed players at the beginning of the year, and by the beginning of winter practice we were down to seven. We had to recruit from all over campus to have enough players to make a team. Our season was full of “what ifs” and “can you imagine.”

Can you imagine how good we could have been with just one more pitcher? Or one more infielder?

What if we hadn’t had so many serious injuries?

What if we had every player at every game and every practice?

Our season was filled with empty questions, games we could have won, and games we should have won. It’s hard not to think about what our season would have been like with more players, with more experience, with fewer injuries.

People on campus often come up to me and congratulate me on the great season we had despite our adversity.

I can’t count how many times I have heard, “imagine what your team would have been like if you had more players.”

At the same time it’s easy to be proud of what we accomplished with so little going for us.

As conference play started, we won five of our first six games and finished the first half of the season with a 9-5 record. Our final 20-26 record doesn’t seem very good, but considering we started the season with 1-9 pre-conference record, it’s something to be proud of.

We had very little going for us this season. The odds were against us from the beginning. We were short on leaders with only two sophomores at the beginning of the year and short on players at 12.

We were a threat to every team in our league and on a good day we beat them. We beat all of the teams in our league and we lost to but one.

We played two games this year that really showed us at our best.

Before conference, we lost to Everett Community College in extra innings despite only having eight players. Everett fin- ished in first place in the North league with a 26-4 record.

We beat Pierce, which fin- ished first in our league with a 26-4 record, in the second half of the season with nine players, two of them with their hands in casts.

It’s hard to reflect on our sea- son because it was so up and down. It’s hard not to be proud of what we did, but at the same time, with our talent, we could have been better.

We learned more about what we could accomplish as a team and as individuals, against all odds.

Carrie Draeger is a pitcher for Highline’s fastpitch team, and will be returning next season.

"The women have their sights set higher for next season."

"I kinda know what the season’s like and how tough it will be," said Carey.

"I think everyone in the league will be afraid of us next year," Carey said.

"I’m excited we’re going to be a good team next year," Comstock said.
Scheduling is key in balancing work, school, and free time

By JAME GUDJONSON
staff reporter

Writing down one’s schedule instead of trying to sort through it at the last minute will reduce stress and provide more opportunity to get things to get done, a Highline counselor said.

Dr. Gloria Rose Koeppeing, faculty counselor and psychologist at Highline, held a workshop last week for students addressing the increasing challenges of managing one’s life.

“We all have many lives — a home life, people we live with, school and relationships to manage,” Dr. Koeppeing said.

“Relationships are not stagnant; they need to be managed.”

Students encounter many problems trying to balance relationships, work and school and are daily feeling pulled.

“We need to ask ourselves, what things need to change to make things work,” Dr. Koeppeing said.

One way that was suggested was having family meetings at least once a week to discuss and divide responsibilities. Lists should also be posted so that family members can remember what they are supposed to do and when.

“Kids can help too,” Dr. Koeppeing said. “My 9-year-old folds and puts away the laundry and sets the table.”

Dr. Koeppeing stressed the importance of making sure that everyone is contributing in some way.

To help keep track of family schedules, Dr. Koeppeing suggested using a master calendar.

“A master calendar is a great way for people to get in the habit of checking before they commit to anything,” Dr. Koeppeing.

Scheduling efficiently also is important.

“Do as much homework at school as you can;” Dr. Koeppeing said. “At home we want to relax, therefore work is less likely to get done.”

Dr. Koeppeing suggested utilizing the library, because it’s a less distracting environment.

Also, breaks between classes can provide built-in study time.

“For most students, another scheduling concern is work.”

Dr. Koeppeing suggested working for One to two-minute video sessions.

“The college is looking for upbeat, charismatic students who can make factual statements seem exciting,” Kelly Maloney, Director of Highline’s Communications and Marketing Department said.

One- to two-minute videos will be shot and put on the Highline website. Longer videos will be shot by the Professional and Technical Education and the Outreach departments to be shown at area high schools and local events.

“We thought it would be a lot of fun to have the students participate,” said Maloney.

The selection committee will try to match the performers with their programs of study if possible.

“We want to give a higher understanding of what each program offers. Hopefully the potential student can relate to them (the performers),” Maloney said.

Auditions will be held on May 31 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Mt. Skokomish Room of the Student Union Building. Students interested in auditioning should memorize the following sample script and be ready to perform it in front of the selection committee during their audition.

“Have you heard the stereotype that engineers aren’t creative? I think it’s time to redesign that thinking. It takes an agile and creative mind to turn ideas into reality.”

Engineers make positive contributions to our day-to-day quality of life.

“We’re concerned with the creation of structures, developing transportation solutions, and systems for human use — generally for groups of people rather than individuals. And, that’s creativity to the nth degree.”

The videos are part of the college’s new campus wide image campaign, named “Dream it, Achieve it.” The campaign involves promoting Highline through billboards, transit posters and at local events, such as health or career fairs, and at chambers of commerce.

“The overriding purpose of the campaign is to reach out to the community at many levels, changing the perceptions about the value of a community college education,” said Maloney.

Highline plans on doing this by focusing on students, faculty and programs.

“We will be highlighting former and current students who have either achieved their dreams or are in the process of achieving their dreams by attending Highline,” said Maloney.

Marketing seeks student volunteers to promote Highline

By CARRIE DRAEGER
staff reporter

Calling all aspiring actors. Highline’s Communications and Marketing Department wants you. Highline is looking for 15 to 20 students who want to participate in videos to help promote the college’s image to prospective students.

“The college is looking for upbeat, charismatic students who can make factual statements seem exciting,” Kelly Maloney, Director of Highline’s Communications and Marketing Department said.

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Highline plans on doing this by focusing on students, faculty and programs.

“We will be highlighting outstanding students honored

Highline held its annual Student Awards Ceremony yesterday, giving awards to academic departments and organizations that made exceptional contributions to the college. Only 100 out of 7000 students at Highline receive these awards.

Joseph Ambler, Doris Martinez, Adriana Suarez, and Sergio Ulloa (right) receive awards for Outstanding Contributions in United Latino Association.

Vul Wu Lee (bottom right) accepts his award for Outstanding Contributions in Table Tennis Club.

Steve Simpkins (bottom left) is presented with his award for Outstanding Contributions in Gay Straight Alliance.
Kent Station is a community gathering place

BY MATTHEW MESAROS
staff reporter

The economic development train has pulled into downtown Kent.
The newly developed Kent Station, off Fourth Avenue North and
West James Street in Kent, offers a mix of food, clothing,
and entertainment. Designed by Tarragon Development, the
$100 million Kent Station proj-
ect occupies 470,000 square feet
of downtown Kent.
At its current state, the Sta-
tion employs more than 500
people. The first stores started
appearing in November of 2005
and have progressed rapidly
since.
"The Kent Station is a com-
unity gathering place," said
John Hinds, general manger of
Kent Station.
With 12 places to eat and
drink, the Station has quite a
variety including The Ram Res-
taurant and Brewery, Duke's
Chowder House, Zao Noodle
Bar, Pizzeria Fondi and The
Zephyr Grill and Bar. With 29
different stores, the Station can
accommodate all ages.
It has a variety of stores, from
Ann Taylor Loft to Zumiez.

The stores are close together,
and with street entrances on
both sides, the Station can be
described as a small urban vil-
lage in the heart of downtown
Kent. "Downtown Kent has be-
come a destination spot," said
Ben Wolters, head of Economic
Development for the City of
Kent.
"The Station has put confi-
dence in other businesses
around the area to invest in
property around Kent Station," said Wolters.
At the Station's heart lies a
new 14-screen AMC movie the-
ater. AMC offers discounts for
all students and seniors.
The theater is expected to
draw about 940,000 people a
year. The Station has two main
parking lots, along with a five-
level parking garage that holds
up to 350 cars.
"The Station is generating
significant revenue and is mak-
ing hundreds of thousands of
dollars in tax money a year for
the city," said Wolters.
"We are very pleased with
the results of the first two phas-
es of Kent Station," said Senior
Development Manager Kristin
Jensen of Tarragon Develop-
ment.
Tarragon plans to add a ho-
etel and condos to the Station
project, further developing the
downtown area.

Patrons don't let overcast weather stop them from enjoying a brisk walk through Kent Station.

Psychology can be mind-numbing career path

BY CARRIE DRAEGER
staff reporter

The road to becoming a psy-
chologist is not for the faint
of heart, according to Dr. Gloria
Rose Koepping.
Koepping is a counselor on
Highline's campus, spoke to
the Highline Honors Colloquy
Wednesday about her experi-
ences in the field of psychol-
y.
Koepping grew up in the
Des Moines area, and attended
classes at Highline while in high
school.
"It usually takes between
eight and nine years to get a
PhD in psychology," Koepping
said.
Koepping helps Highline stu-
dents struggling with anything
from depression, anxiety, sexual
abuse, sexual identity, chronic
mental illness and career plan-
ning.
"What I work on pretty much
covers the gamut. You name it,
I've done it," Koepping said.
Koepping said psychologists
usually spend four years in un-
dergraduate school, four years
in graduate school, and the last
year in an internship.
"The more education you get,
the more exciting and interest-
ing your job will be," Koepping
said of her nine years in school.
In most graduate schools, the
first two years focus on com-
pleting classes toward their
master's degree. Students then
spend a year taking exams and
one year writing a 70-page dis-
sertation.
After getting her undergradu-
ate degree in psychology from
the University of Washington,
Koepping spent two years doing
research and working for expe-
rience before attending graduate
school at Southern Illinois Uni-
versity and getting her PhD.
"You have to be able convince
people that you have some judg-
ment skills," Koepping said.
Koepping said having some
experience in the field of psy-
chology was key when getting
into graduate school.
"You've got to act in a ma-
ture manner," Koepping said.
"You have to be professional,
and sometimes it's hard to do
that without experience.
Koepping got her experience
before graduate school by work-
ing as a residential house parent
in a group home for mentally re-
tarded and autistic children, and
at Swedish hospital.
Koepping said looking into a
particular field of psychology is
a good idea before entering it.
"If you think you want to
work with a certain population
... it's a good idea to spend
some time with that population,
because it will be problematic
to change (fields) in the future," Koepping
said. "If you think
you want to work with kids,
you should actually work with
kids."
After getting her PhD, Koe-
pping spent time working at
research facilities at colleges
and in community mental health
before starting at Highline.
"I really liked going to school
and I never wanted to quit. It's
really fun for me being in an
academic environment," Koepp-
ing said.
Koepping breaks the field of
psychology into four categories:
teaching, research, counseling,
and applied psychology.
"I never come to work and
have the exact same day. It's
pleasurable to go to work," said
Koepping of her job as a coun-
selor at Highline.
Applied psychology breaks
down into two main fields and
most students that go into it fo-
cus on industrial psychology,
said Koepping.
Koepping said industrial psy-
chologists are usually the high-
est paid.
They work in large com-
panies helping to decide what
department an employee is best
suited for.
"They (the company) want
every employee to be as produc-
tive as they can. It's (industrial
psychology) all about making
the employee happy and the
company happy," Koepping
said.
"We present choices to
people. It's up to them as an
informed consumer to make
a decision," Koepping said of
psychology in general.
For more information, con-
tact Koepping by email at
gkoeppe@highline.edu.
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Spend your money for Cambodian charity

BY MEGHAN HOWEY
staff reporter

Purchasing CDs, greeting cards, and movies today at Highline could help young orphans a continent away.

Today, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the first floor of the Student Union, Phi Theta Kappa will be selling donated items, ranging from 25 cents to $2. All proceeds go to the educational development of a Cambodian orphanage and donations will also be accepted.

The money generated from this event will have a huge impact of the lives of 55 Cambodian orphans, ages 5 to 18, said Mooy-Ly Wong, a survivor of the Khmer Rouge genocide in Cambodia and the adviser of Phi Theta Kappa. The proceeds will be sent directly to the orphanage in an electronic funds transfer.

The Cambodian children are victims of AIDS, sex and drug trafficking, and have had little opportunity in their lives for education.

“Reading is a very special treat for them after a long day of working in the fields,” said Wong. “A single dollar could work wonders in their lives.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The proposal was sent in on May 15 and if it is successful then Highline will receive the first check July 1.

“We need to demonstrate to them that we are doing the work,” Wagnitz said. “As long as we are working they will continue to fund us.”

After the four years, Highline will not be eligible for the grant again. “The theory is if you concentrate on it for four years, you can create things that will sustain themselves,” Wagnitz said.

Science Seminar shows the truth is out there

BY AARON QUAM
staff reporter

Alien abductions, astrology, the Loch Ness monster and ESP. Things to believe in?

No, not according to Behavioral Science instructors Bob Baugher and Sue Frantz, who said understanding how people perceive their world can help explain a lot of the paranormal.

That was the topic of last Friday’s Science Seminar, which focused on demystifying a lot of the paranormal things that people may have experienced.

The message was clear. Don’t believe everything you perceive.

One of the best examples was horoscopes. Although a large portion of the people at the seminar said their horoscope was fairly accurate, it soon became apparent to all that the horoscopes were the same with just the order of wording being different.

“This is our tendency to accept the stock spiel,” said Baugher. “This is when general statements seem to point at you.”

Baugher said this is one of many tactics that psychics, mediums, astrologists, and palm readers use.

Baugher said that psychics ask general questions at first and broaden the questions in hopes of hitting on something that the client can associate with.

“One characteristic that most of these people have is a great self confidence in what they do,” said Baugher.

Baugher and Frantz demonstrated this point by showing a video clip of prominent psychic Sylvia Brown erring badly on how a women’s husband had died. Brown said his disappearance was associated with water or drowning. When told the man was a 9/11 World Trade Center victim, the psychic steadfastly maintained her story.

Frantz said a lot of the paranormal is based on perception and sensation.

Sensation is how information gets to the brain and perception is what the brain does with that information.

Another paranormal phenomenon is back-masking. “These are songs that when played backwards supposedly contain hidden or subliminal messages,” said Frantz.

Frantz played several clips of music backward and only one of the three seemed to have a message. The messages on the other two clips only became apparent after being told what the message was.

“People hear what they expect to hear, and they don’t hear what they don’t expect to hear,” said Frantz.

This can also be applied to what people can see.

Frantz demonstrated how perceptions can be wrong based on the percentage of people killed with firearms. Although most at the seminar chose murder as the highest cause of death, suicide actually accounted for almost two-thirds of all firearms related deaths.

The difference between perception and fact, Frantz said, is that people always hear about homicides and murders on the news but never of suicides that occur quite often.

Understanding how the brain works and perceives things, however, can help people see things as they are.

This week’s Science Seminar features Jonathan Betz-Zall, a part-time librarian at Highline who has a master’s degree in Environment and Community from Antioch University in Seattle.

Betz-Zall will speak on the topic of how dangerous paint can be and what you might do to reduce its impact on you and your family.

“Can You Paint and Breathe at the Same Time?” will be held in Building 3, room 102 this Friday at 2:20 p.m.

For more information, contact Dr. Eric Baer at ebaer@highline.edu or at 206-878-3710, ext. 3513.
Racism CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

life," said faculty member Ous­

ama Alkhalili, who is ofLeba­

nese descent. In Islam, women are encou­

aged to maintain modesty and simplicity for cultural reasons. How they interpret modesty de­

pends on them. Some Muslims, like Yosofi, don't wear a head covering.

"In my country, before the Taliban made burkas (a fully covered headdress) a require­

ment, the women would dress as freely as they wanted and I choose to do so as well, because it's my choice and this is my definition of modesty," Yosofi said. "It's between me and my God, no one else."

On the other hand, there are Muslims like Ruqia Khalif, who wears a hijab that covers her head and whole body.

"I have a choice to wear a hijab. Nobody forces me to do it, it's my decision," said Khalif. "My parents didn't force me to cover up, they couldn't if they wanted to because it's my choice.

The Quran gives women the choice to dress as they want as long as they are not so revealing as to degrade themselves. The subject of covering up is con­

troversial in Islam. It has much more to do with culture than it does with religion.

"I hate the towel-head re­

marks because we wear scarves on our head simply because it's hot, it's not a religious thing," said El-Himri.

Covering the head is a sym­

bol of remembering God, and all Muslims do so whether they are at mosque, but outside of prayer time, there is a lot of diversity among Muslim women when it comes to covering up.

Stereotypes of the prophet Muhammed are the most sensi­

tive, these misconceptions are the ones that Middle Eastern students at Highline are most passionate about.

"People think that Muslims follow a terrorist for a proph­

et," said Yosofi, who has heard negative remarks at the Student Union.

"They have no idea that he stopped racism, promoted peace, encouraged women's rights, progressed the economy, and taught us that we are not Muslims unless we want for our neighbor what we want for our­selves," said Yosofi.

"Does that sound like a terrorist to you?" "I believe that in spite of ever­

thing happening, they still don't know enough," said Amal Mahmoud, a Highline faculty member of Egyptian descent.

"There are 1.5 billion Muslims in this world, so when the who struggle, work hard and try to make a good living, but is the general public even aware of this."

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, dramatically altered many lives, including those of Middle Eastern students and staff members on campus.

"Two weeks after 9/11, I had a conference in Phoenix, but the airport came and lifted my car be­

cause of my name. They were giving me laces to escape and I got on the airplane," said Highline faculty member Alkhalili.

"Then they offered me money, and we held for 11 hours, even though I had been traveling over 10 years."

Anna Mahmoud also had similar experiences. "Last December, we had two first-class tickets," he said. "I was in the front, close to the pilots, and every time I would go to the bathroom they would interrogate my young son, ask­

ing us various questions about me."

Hamad Al-Adab also had a negative confrontation after 9/11.

"When I lost my luggage at the airport, I asked a worker for help and then he asked me where I was from," he said. "When I told him I was Saudi Arabian, he told me go to Pakistan myself and left. Things have changed since (9/11). It used to take me only three hours to get a visa, now it takes two years."

"I don't even feel safe any­

more because there is still a lot of ignorance and racism in certain places," said Yosofi. "I feel like I'm limited to where I can go," said Yosofi.

"After 9/11, at the local gas station, a Pakistani asked me to sell his station because he was constantly harassed in Federal Way," said Highline student Skyler Nichols.

Racial profiling has affected many Highline students, some of who are not even of Middle Eastern decent.

"One of my relatives was a Sikh was at the airport and they called security and gave him no reasonable explana­

tion for doing so," said Rashid Akhshalab, an Afri­

can-American student at Highline, has heard negative remarks on campus.

"One time, someone was criti­

cizing Muslims right in front of me," he said.

Highline students from the Middle East are speaking out, trying to show that the Middle East is an incredible place to visit, and the people are com­

pletely different than what most generally perceive.

"Learn about us from us, don't learn about us from oth­

ers," said Alkhalili. "The Middle East is a very welcoming area."

Professor Amal Mahmoud compared the difference be­tween the east and the west.

"In desert culture we are very kind to strangers, it becomes our duty to befriend you," he said. "In Cairo, when a cement truck hit my car, several civilians lit­

erally came and lifted my car by hand, but it's not the same here."

The Middle Eastern students at Highline say they want to bring awareness and knowledge about their culture, background and religion as it really is, which is far from how it's perceived.

"We're so tired of all the negative remarks associated with our people and especially our religion, because in reality, we are a very peaceful community. We just want to live our lives in peace."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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