Two runners place at NWAACCs See page 8



Art festival will have crafts for kids See page 5



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The Thunderword

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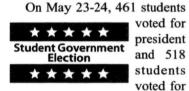
MAY 31, 2007/VOLUME 46, No. 29/HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Simpkins, Ullou have been elected

BY BECKY MORTENSON staff reporter

The votes are in.

Steve Simpkins has been elected Highline's Student Government president and Sergio Ullou the vice president.



vice president. Three ballots were invalid for failure to follow instructions.



Steve Simpkins

Simpkins received 363 votes (61 percent) and Michele Fitzgerald got 98 votes (19 per-

cent).

The vice president election was much closer, with 18 votes separating the top two.

Ullou won with 179 votes (35 percent) and Ayan Qumane received 161 (31 percent).

Dave Gagnet was third with 72 votes, followed by Skyler J M Nichols with 44, Lucas Heath with 30 and Jay Smith with 29.

Both Simpkins and Ullou have the same main idea for government next year. They both want to see the campus become more united and involved.

In interviews a few weeks

ago, Simpkins and Ullou shared their goals for office. Simpkins said his main goal in office is 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.

Ullou said his main goal is to connect the campus.

"I want to see a united campus," Ullou said. "We have an opportunity here at Highline; we just need to enhance it."

Students are struggling to crunch the numbers

BY JUDY VUE

staff reporter

Math is proving to be a huge problem, and not just for students.

From the high number of college students enrolled in remedial math classes to the low scores of high school students on the math portion of the WASL, solutions run low while the struggles continue.

During Winter Quarter, enrollment of students in Math 97 or lower was approximately 917, compared to approximately 903 students enrolled in a college level math class of 107 or above.

This Spring Quarter, 719 students were in Math 97 or lower and 798 students were in Math 107 or higher.

Math 91 and 97 are cited as the highest-enrolled classes on campus with high failure rates, according to Highline officials.

Dusty Wilson is a math professor at Highline who teaches pre-college level math classes. Wilson said the high numbers of students in lower-level classes "frustrates" him.

"We let students get away with it [not doing well in math] and they come here and they aren't allowed to get away with it," he said. "It's frustrating that we have a system that has let that happened so pervasively." Wilson also had his theories about why so many students are in low-level math classes.

Living with discrimination

Gay students say they have trouble being accepted by friends, peers

By JAIME GUDJONSON staff reporter

For many Running Start and college students, maintaining an academic schedule is enough of a day-to-day stressor without adding the battles of being accepted for being gay.

For Kristine Winchell, Kip Brookbank and Casey Oliver, their experiences as gay students and how people react to m have been different. But π hasn't been easy for any of them.



dent from Federal Way High, had an especially hard time with people accepting her in high school.

"I hated high school," she said.

Winchell came out at the start of high school.

"When people found out, they went from being 'Oh my god' to it not being such a big deal," Winchell said.

Winchell said for some people it was a hard thing for them to accept.

"Some people thought it was cool and others thought it was weird," Winchell said. Gay students say high school was especially difficult since they often had to deal with rude comments and harassment from their peers.

Winchell said the one thing that was most difficult to deal with was people who tried to hide their feelings toward her. "That is what made things become a problem," Winchell said.

What hurt Winchell the most was losing some longtime girlfriends after coming out.

"The girlfriends that I lost were mostly the ones who were very religious," Winchell said.

"They would make the assumption that I wanted them."

Winchell talked about a childhood friend whom she played soccer with. As soon as Winchell came out, the friend's attitude toward her changed.

"When things like this started happening I didn't cope with it in the most constructive ways," Winchell said. "Anytime that I saw her or those other people coming, I would grab my girlfriend and start making out with her in front of them."

DAVID HSU/THUNDERWORD

After awhile, Winchell said she was able to admit that this was not the way to cope.

"Now I've come to the realization that it's their problem, not mine," Winchell said. Despite this realization, though, some people took their problems and made them hers.

SEE STUDENTS, PAGE 10

"There's a bit more students who go to college now," he said.

Before, college used to be for the privileged and affluent, he said. Now, doors are open for everybody.

"It doesn't change standards here [but] it makes it difficult to succeed," Wilson said.

Despite this, Wilson does find some positive aspects about his job.

See Math, Page 16

Campus Life

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 2

CSI:



Fight in Student Union ends in security escort

A student was confronted by a man outside Building 8 on May 24, and was punched in the temple and the mouth.

Two students broke up the fight and the man ran off. Security was contacted and escorted the student to his car.

Gun chase ends, no suspects found

A person was chased by three assailants in the East Lot at midnight on May 26.

One of the assailants was brandishing a .22 caliber handgun. The victim ran to the Security office in Building 6. The Des Moines Police Department responded. Officers were unable to find the suspects.

Caught in the act

Security found a man and a woman participating in explicit acts in a parked car in the Administration parking lot on May 28 at 10 p.m.

Security contacted the individuals, checking in on the woman's welfare.

The two were told to leave and they complied.

Man found sleeping in the South lot

Someone used the call box in the South Lot on May 27 to call about a man lying on the ground and he appeared unresponsive.

When Security came, they found a man sleeping; they woke him up and told him to leave



Deadline for award has been moved

The deadline to submit an application for the Academic Achievement Award has been extended.

The Academic Achievement Awards are given out every quarter to 15 full-time students attending Highline with a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Winners will receive a 15credit tuition waiver for Fall Quarter 2007.

Students have to apply to be eligible for this award and submissions can now be turned into Building 6 no later than June 6.

For more information about the Academic Achievement Award contact Mouy-Ly Wong at 206-878-3710, ext. 3690.

Federal financial aid deadline is today

Students planning on applying for federal financial aid are almost out of time.

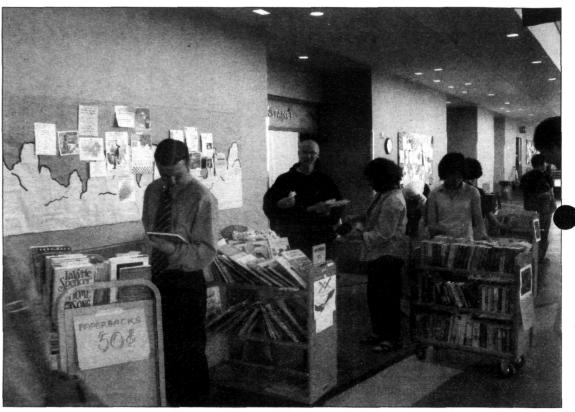
The deadline for students to submit their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAF-SA) for 2007-08 is today.

Students must complete or renew their FAFSA on the official website at http://www.fafsa. ed.gov.

For more information about FAFSA contact Kim Wasierski at 206-878-3710, ext. 3302.

Scholar reception has been moved

Highline's Honor Scholar reception has been moved to a different location.



JOHN THOMPSON/THUNDERWORD

Students' browse through carts full of children's, fiction, and non-fiction books at a book sale last Thursday in the Student Union Building. The sale was hosted by Highline's Phi Theta Kappa chapter in order to support the Cambodian community.

A reception will be held next month to celebrate the accomplishments of the scholars, and the success of the program.

Light refreshments will be provided, accompanied by short presentations about the students being honored.

The reception is June 6 and will now be held in the Mt. Constance Room of the Student Union, at 12:10 p.m.

Bus is provided to commencement

If you need a ride to commencement, just hop on a bus. A bus will be provided to take anyone participating in

commencement from Highline to the KeyArena and back.

The bus will depart from campus at 1 p.m. and arrive in time for a pre-commencement event at 1:30, followed by commencement itself at 3 p.m.

The bus will leave KeyArena at around 5:30 p.m. for the return to campus.

Anyone who wants a place on the bus, contact Carrie Jolicoeur by 5:00 p.m. on June 1 at 206-878-3710, ext. 3711 or cjolicoe@highline.edu.

Forums to assist the search for president

Highline is holding a series of forums to aide in the search for a permanent replacement President.

The forums are designed to gather input from campus and a list of qualities, characteristics, and qualifications of the President.

Interim Vice-President of Academic Affairs Marie Zimmermann, will facilitate forums and will provide the opportunity for additional input to be heard.

Members of the Board of Trustees will be attending the forums.

Anyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

There will be a forum today at 9 and 10 a.m. in Building 7.



Lost items

The following items were lost on campus: a leather black and silver purse; a plus drive; three keys; and a Canon digital camera.

Found items

The following items were found on campus: a blue shirt; a book bag; a pair of glasses and a case.

-- Compiled by C. Feeley



overwhelmed? Get help!

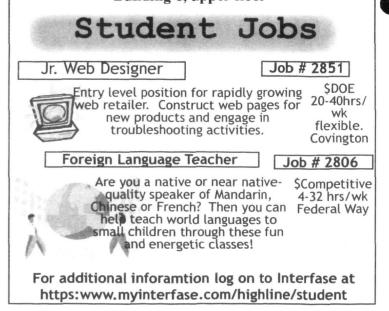
Visit the Tutoring Center in Building 26, Room 319.

We specialize in turning good students into better students Tip of the Week: "The aim of education is the knowledge not of fact, but of values"

Free Tutoring!!!

Dean William R. Inge

Sign up for help in: Accounting/Business, Languages, Math, Science, Computers, Writing, and more subjects! Mon-Thurs......8:00 am-7:30pm Fri......8:00am-1pm http. flightline.highline.edu/tutoring



Campus Life

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 3

The key to Franklin's success is in the stars

By Shurvon Haynes staff reporter

At age 25, Starr Franklin was a single mom living in St. Louis with little opportunities to make a decent living and provide for her young son.

To become more independent, Starr moved away from her friends and family in St. Louis and came to Seattle to start over.

She found a job at an ice cream manufacturing company and worked there for 13 years until she was laid off.

At that point, Starr realized that returning to school would be the key to her future success.

After being away from school for more than 20 years, she made a strong comeback to gain a spot on the Vice President's list reserved for students who have 3.5 GPA or higher.

"I strive to do my best, because I love learning. I maintain a high standard to make sure that I succeed," Franklin said.

Being unemployed provided Franklin with an opportunity to have her tuition paid by the Worker Retraining program which helps people update their educational skills before they pursue another career.

"I didn't know how financial aid worked, but they took me by the hand and guided me through the process," Franklin said.

Returning to school was a dream come true for Franklin who had always wanted to become a teacher, but her responsibilities as a working mother consumed most of her time.

"When I first came to school I was focused and determined," Franklin said. "I was very comfortable because I knew this is exactly where I should be."



Starr Franklin came to Highline after being away from school for 20 years. She will graduate with three degrees, an associates of arts in education and two associates of applied science degrees.

Starr is studying to receive an associates of arts transfer degree in education and two associate of applied science degrees in Para-Education and Early Childhood Development.

The atmosphere at Highline has allowed Franklin to thrive and reach her goals.

She immediately bonded with her instructors and built valuable relationships with her

neers.

"I would advise other students to be serious about their education which means making sacrifices with your time.

Communicate with your in-

JOCIE OLSON/THUNDERWORD

structors and utilize all the resources available on campus," Franklin said.

Starr also works part-time as a teacher's aide at the Fred Hutchinson Child Care Center and hopes to transfer to Central Washington University or The Evergreen State College to receive her bachelor's degree in education after she graduates next spring.

Afterward she plans to teach third through fifth grade because she believes this is the most critical time in a child's education.

"I love to learn and I had great teachers as a child. They inspired me to become a teacher," Franklin said.

The greatest challenge for Franklin was learning how to balance work, school and her duties as a parent.

"My focus is to make good grades, which sometimes limits the amount of time I can spend with my children," Franklin said.

She studies several hours per day, but she still makes time to read a book to her 3-year-old daughter every night and help her 16-year son with his homework.

When not in class, Franklin attends Maranatha Seven Day Adventist Church where she serves as a council member and teen advisor.

"I have a large family in St. Louis and I do miss them, but I have a very supportive and encouraging church family here in Seattle," Franklin said.

In addition to studying, attending church and being a mother, Franklin still finds time to play basketball and is considering joining a team in the near future, so look out for this bright shooting star.

Faculty discuss characteristics of a president at forum

staff reporter

By SIMONE SNOW president's job description.

"[The Board of Trustees is] nomics Instructor Dr. James the planning to plan phase," Peyton. said Marie Zimmerman, interim

of students we serve," said Eco- Landgraf agreed.

his or her door open to faculty,"

to avoid a president who uses "I'd like a president who has Highline as a "stepping stone in

Faculty said they want a permanent Highline president who values students.

Highline professors discussed the job description of the Highline president in a faculty forum on May 24 as part of the Board of Trustees' search for a permanent president.

The position is currently held by Dr. Jack Bermingham who was appointed interim president following the firing of Dr. Priscilla Bell in November 2006.

Board of Trustees members Rita Creighton and Karen Vander Ark were at the forum to gather comments to form the

vice president of Academic Affairs. "That critical next step is a job description."

A timetable for the search has not yet been announced.

Zimmerman led the discussion by asking the approximately 50 faculty members in attendance: "What qualities,

characteristics, and qualifications [are you seeking in a permanent president]?" Many professors said they want a president who appreci-

ates Highline students. "[The president should have] recognition of the broad types

"A president would have to understand we take great pride in our students," said Benjamin Montoya, Puget Sound Early College professor.

Several professors also stressed the importance of an accessible president.

Computer Science Instructor Amelia Phillips said Highline is the first community college she has worked at where the president lacks an open-door policy for faculty. She said she wants an accessible president so "you can actually talk to them oneon-one."

Professor Writing Susan Landgraf said.

Leadership was a quality faculty members said they wanted in a president.

"They have to be effective leaders, however you define that," said Paralegal Professor Che Dawson.

Dawson also said while candidates may have experience as a community college president, it does not mean they are good leaders.

"I'm looking for a leader with loyalty and longevity," said Nursing Instructor Teresa Trillo.

Trillo said she also wants

their career."

French Instructor Ellen Hofmann said she was looking for a president with strong communication skills, knowledge of how to interact with the State Legislature, and experience with budgets.

"It's not just public speaking ... it's also listening," Hofmann said. "It seems to me the president should have skill with the legislature. ... [A candidate should have a] good awareness of budget numbers and the

SEE FACULTY, PAGE 12

)pinion

Editorial comment

Congrats to newly elected leadership

The students have voted and Steve Simpkins and Sergio Ullou are our new president and vice president for 2007-2008.

Along with their own personal victory, all candidates who ran - Michele Fitzgerald for president and Ayan Qumane, Jay Smith, Lucas Heath, Dave Gagnet and Skyler Nichols for vice president - deserve a pat on the back for their efforts.

Now that the hard part is over, the harder stuff will have to be faced come Fall Quarter.

Let us hope that Simpkins and Ullou can truly do what they said they would do if they were elected.

Simpkins said he would reach out for more "student input" around the campus.

Ullou said he wanted to see a "united campus" and wanted students to reach out to him.

Both appear to have students' concerns at heart above all else. And that is vital for the roles they are now in.

Along with that, tough decisions will have to be made.

For example, let us hope either Simpkins or Ullou are prepared to sit on the Services and Activities Budget Committee and make difficult and reasonable decisions about which programs students' money will go to.

When Highline officials forgot to book the Tacoma Dome for Commencement earlier this year, it was the efforts of Daniel Nordstrom, Paul Pittman and Jennifer Graybill - our current Student Government - that pushed the administration to find a new and better venue for Commencement.

They are the reason Highline students will be walking at the KeyArena and not sweating to death in our own Pavilion on campus.

If a situation as vital as this were to happen, we can only hope that Simpkins and Ullou are ready to tackle it.

Right now, though, Fall Quarter is still a long three months away.

Simpkins and Ullou have the whole summer to not worry about all the stress they will have to face.

But when Fall Quarter begins, let us hope both of them are ready to make hard choices and to accept constructive criticism.

In the meantime, congratulations to Highline's new president and vice president: Steve Simpkins and Sergio Ullou.

Staff

"Do you want to lick my envelope?"

Editor-in-Chief	Simone Snow
Managing Editor	Jocie Olson
News Editor	David Biehn
Arts Editor	Alicia Mendez
Sports Editor	Kory Farrell
Opinion Editor	Judy Vue
Graphics Editors	Patricia O'Neill,
David Hsu, Jeremy Kochel	

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 4 ABUCLERCOVE EVENAL



Slavery did not end 150 years ago

"It was then the men told me that my employment would consist of having sex with men for money."

-- Rosa, age 14

"We mostly had to serve 32-35 clients a day. Weekends were worse.'

-- Maria, age 18

"While still hanging from my wrists, I was told that unless I agreed then to sign a contract, I would never be let down. This threat was followed...by being hit, punched, whipped and penetrated with a beer bottle.

-- Jill, age 15

"We lived; 36 people in one room.

-- Vi, age 28

All of these women are victims of human trafficking, also known as modern day slavery. Where did they come from? Surely some far away, third world country, right?

Many may be surprised to know that each of these women was found here in the United States.

75,000 slaves are brought into the United States each year, which doesn't even include those who are trafficked from within United States borders.

Guest Commentary



JENA LADENBURG

the sooner we can make a difference.

There are different types of human trafficking, but the most common now is "debt-bondage."

This means that a person takes out a loan with someone, using themselves as temporary payment until they can pay the loan back.

However, they inevitably are forced into slavery, because either their interest rates are impossibly high (one woman's was 50 percent) or the terms of the contract aren't clear, therefore easy to change or alter.

Many slaves are forced to sign a contract and never see it

America for higher paying jobs to help out their families, only to find that once they get here, they won't be working in a restaurant as promised.

First, they are told they need to pay back their debt, by working as prostitutes in traveling brothels. They are threatened that if they go to American authorities, they will be arrested and locked up in prison for life.

If they do decide to take that chance, when found by their captors, they are brutally raped and beaten.

If a girl becomes pregnant, she is forced to get an abortion, and that cost is added to her debt.

This is no small issue, and with the public's help, slaves can be rescued.

To learn more about slavery, go to one of the Websites listed below.

Tell your friends, relatives, co-workers. Spread the word, donate, and volunteer.

Slavery still exists in the US and around the world. Let's make a difference together.

Jena Ladenburg is a student at Highline.

For more information about human trafficking, visit the following Websites:

To hear more testimonies, go to www.humantrafficking.com.

Photo Editor	N	11	C	he	lle	E	TIC	KS	e
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So many people are unaware

that this problem exists within our "land of the free," and the more people that know about it,

again.

of the slave problem.

Girls are enticed to come to

To see what you can to put The sex industry is a big part a stop to human sex trafficking and slavery, please visit www. polarisproject.org

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 edited for style.

Due to limited space, please

limit your submission to 500 words or less.

Submissions that are too long may be subject to editing for length.

Material that libels others will not be considered for publication. Letters and columns can be on any subject. Topics of interest to the campus comunity 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.

Arts

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 5

Food fresh from the crop at local farmers market

By ALICIA MENDEZ staff reporter

The Des Moines Farmer's Market is back in business this Saturday.

This is the market's second year, and with all its vendors returning, along with a couple new ones, they could not be more excited, said Wendi Dyson program director for Farming & the Environment.

"What I'm most excited about is we have nearly 100 percent of our vendors coming back this year," Dyson said.

The Farmer's Market is located at the Des Moines Marina, in Des Moines. It will run every Saturday, starting June 2 until Oct. 27.

Akin to last year, each Saturday the market will feature a musical act and a non-profit vendor.

This year, the market will add a cheese vendor to its list of available foods.

"The big news is we just got an artisan cheese vendor," Dyson said.

Blue Rose Dairy is from Winlock. They are a four-yearold farm, and all its dairy products are from goats.

Other vendors will be selling fruits, vegetables, bread, honey, and even some arts and crafts. Each week the vendor will car-



A combination of carrots, beets, green onions and radishes from a local farm vendor at the Des Moines Farmers Market opening this Saturday, June 2.

ry a different variety of goods from their crop. It all depends on when it is in season.

Some vendors travel more than 100 miles to sell at the Des Moines Farmers Market.

Along with a couple new

food vendors, the market has gotten more support and participation from local businesses.

The local Kiwanis club will also be offering warm drip-coffee in the morning

Local coffee shop Marine

View Espresso will be offering cold espresso drinks and sandwiches in the afternoon.

Dyson said that last year she ran a survey asking the community what it thinks the market could do to improve the atmosphere. The input influenced the market to add a piazza-styte sitting place for eating and relaxing.

All of the market's vendors

SEE MARKET, PAGE 6

Children's Art Festival brings community closer

By ALICIA MENDEZ staff reporter

The Children's Arts Festival will be this Saturday in the South Marina Park. The festival will coincide with the opening of the Des Moines Farmers Market on the Marina.

"The kids will be able to make beautiful butterflies which will be pre-constructed, and the kids will have a chance to decorate them and take them home," said Nic Lind, Recreation Coordinator for Des Moines Park and Recreation. "We'll have a necklace making booth. They can make wild flower bouquets. We'll have a sidewalk chalk station. We're going to make a big flower around the flag pole. There will be a temporary tattoo station," he said. "There will be what's called Bags o' Fun. The kids will have a chance to decorate paper bags and take them around the market and take them home. There will be a stamping booth with stamp art. They'll use decorative stamps to decorate a piece

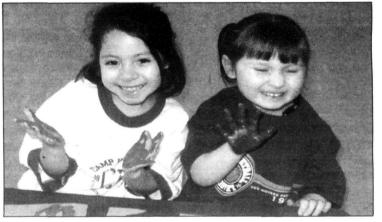


PHOTO COURTESY OF DES MOINES PARKS AND RECREATION

does what they call "we play what you brung."

"...Which means whatever the kids bring they'll try to play as an instrument. It will be fun," Lind said.

"If the kid brings a bowl full of rice, they'll try to play it," Lind said with a laugh.

The festival will also have a special performance by Japanese drumming group Yamato Taiko.

The Taiko group is from Highline, and will teach the

Art becomes a science

By Kelsey Sims staff reporter

A curious combination of art and science is happening on June 1.

Science as a Humanity: Passion and Process is a science seminar and art gallery that is happening on Friday.

The science seminar will be held in Building 3, room 102 from 2:10-3 p.m. Joy Strohmaier, a microbiology instructor, will be presenting the seminar. Immediately after the science seminar Angi Caster, a writing and literature instructor, will be holding an opening reception for the month-long art gallery also called Science as a Humanity: Passion and Process. The reception will be held on the fourth floor of the Library at 3:15 p.m.

Two girls finger paint. Children will have a chance to do arts and crafts similar to finger painting at the Children's Art Festival this Saturday.

of paper."

With the newly formed Des Moines Art Commission, and the second year of the farmers market, Lind said the commission and Des Moines Parks, Recreation and Senior services

are really trying to get the community involved in art.

"With the arts commission, we're trying to sponsor not only arts events like concerts and plays, we're also trying to reach out to the community and make some community events for

children and family so the children can get involved in the arts at a young age," Lind said.

During the festival the band Emerald City Jug Band will be playing on the entertainment stage.

"They not only provide music that's good with the market, but it's kid friendly," Lind said. The Emerald City Jug Band children how to play.

There will also be a hip hop dance exhibition by Melanie's Unlimited for the children.

"It should be a beautiful ven-

ue," Lind said.

The art festival will be put on by the Des Moines Parks, Recreation and Senior Services and sponsored by The Des Moines Arts Commission.

There will be a \$5 fee for each child who participates in the arts and crafts portion of the festival.

With eight arts and crafts for the children to participate in their hands should be full. Caster will be sharing her poetry and the current drafts of her book-in-progress *Catching Fire*

SEE SCIENCE ART, PAGE 6

Arts

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 6

Short-film festival exposes other forms of film Arcturus

By FERESHTA NOMAN staff reporter

Aspiring Highline film producers have a place to show their work, and many did at Film Alliance Network's short film festival, which included six films, consisting of drama, comedy, music videos, and a documentary, all submitted by Highline students.

The Film Alliance Network started more than a year ago by Rashiid Abdullah, a determined artist in film making, who created the group to give fellow aspiring artists the opportunity to expose their work to the community.

"Somebody will walk out and know me by my work," he said.

However, Film Alliance Network is for more than the purpose of entertainment and film making. Members of the group are concerned that Highline students may not understand what the network is trying to pursue on a broader level.

"I would like people to come here and just see how we view the world, and how film as an artwork can change how we view each other," said Derya San, a member of the Film Alliance Network and main director. "It's important to the community because people need to see small movies and realize that they are as good as big screen films."

"I want to inspire people to do what they want to do through this club and otherwise," said Malcolm Bryant, vice president of the F.A.N club. "Our films are for all audiences."

Last fall, Film Alliance Network had more resources and



The Film Alliance Network Flyer that promoted their recent short-film festival.

therefore more students attended.

Unfortunately, this Spring Quarter, the club didn't have as much exposure, but members of the club are optimistic and certain that next quarter will be different.

"Last fall we didn't have as many resources, this quarter as well. Next quarter we will have a lot more resources," said Rashiid Abdullah.

Short Film Festival was held on Friday, May 25 from 3-7 p.m. at Building 26, room 213. Film Alliance Network will continue on to Fall Quarter with bigger events and even more to offer.

"Fall Quarter will hit them hard," said Abdullah. "I got something big coming." "We are looking forward to Fall Quarter and we are expecting great things for it," said Malcolm Bryant.

gains more readers

By KRISTA WHITE staff reporter

A high number of students are reading their Arcturus submissions during two readings.

The Arcturus 2007 includes short stories, poems, essays, photography, art, and a drama piece, which is similar to a script.

On Thursday, June 7 about ten students will be reading at noon, and about 14 students will be reading at 7 p.m. in Building 2.

A free Arcturus 2007 will be available at the reading, and will be available for purchase at the Highline bookstore for students who don't attend the event.

About 300 submissions were considered for this year's Arcturus; only 26 were published in book, which is about 80 pages.

According to Shannon Gaines, a student who helped put the book together, "It's just a lot of fun. We're going to have food, drinks, coffee, water."

She also said, "It's actually just fantastic, it looks so good on a resume. You can say to [people], 'Hey look, I'm a published author.""

Any past or present Highline student can submit work to the next year's Arcturus.



Market

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

are local farmers, selling organic food.

"We really want to take this



Science art

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

and Burning Out: Students and Faculty at Community College

chance to educate people about local food," Dyson said.

This year, the market will be working with Des Moines Parks, Recreation and Senior Services for its season kickoff with the Children's Art Festival. The festival and its music are sponsored by the Des Moines Arts Commission.

The art festival will held in the South Marina Park behind the Des Moines Marina, and will offer eight different arts and crafts for children with a \$5 charge.

The musical performance will be by Emerald City Jug Band. The band is local and PHOTO COURESY OF BLUE ROSE DAIRY Rhonda Rider of Blue Rose Dairy Farms cuts up her American Feta cheese.

is known to "play what you brung," meaning that any object or sound-maker the band is offered it will try to use in its musical performance.

"We have a great line-up of events, musicians, and special events," Dyson said. "I think that we had such an incredible opening year and I only expect it to get better this year, and with years to come. And that is thanks to the community, the vendors, and all of their support." in 21st Century.

Along with her writing, her artwork will also be displayed including abstract ink drawings. According to a press release, Strohmaier has a passion for color ink drawing.

She has combined that with science and her drawings will be on display in the Library Art Gallery for the month of June. Other artwork, such as electron microscopy, will also be displayed, courtesy of microbiologist Chris Gan.

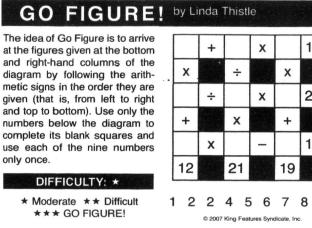
Most people would separate science from art, but on Friday the whole point of this occasion is to mix them together. positions:
Advertising Sales Rep
Arts Editor
Office Manager

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

Contact thunderword@highline.edu for more information.

Puzzles

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 7





7. ART: Where is the Uffizi museum?

8. **MEASUREMENTS:** What does a kelvin measure?

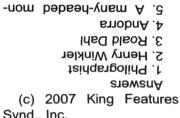
9. MOVIES: What spell is used to disarm opponents in the "Harry Potter" movies?

10. ANATOMY: Where is the latissimus dorsi muscle located on the human body?

10. Back 9. Expelliarmus 8. Temperature V. Florence, Italy stun bne fiurt 6. Breakfast cereal with back if they were cut off ster whose heads could grow 5. A many-headed mon-4. Andorra

> 2. Henry Winkler 1. Philographist Answers

Synd., Inc.



is muesli? Arts Calendar

Rodriguez

KNOWL-

GENERAL

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"Matilda"?

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EDGE: What is the term to

describe someone who col-

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wrote the children's book

tiny country, a principality

only 120 kilometers square,

lies between Spain and

mythology, what was the Hy-

5. MYTHOLOGY: In Greek

6. FOOD & DRINK: What

"Fonzie" on "Happy Days"?

2. TELEVISION: Which

3. LITERATURE: Who

4. GEOGRAPHY: What

•Eric Belvin will be the last Blend performance of the quater next Wednesday, June 6. The performance will be at 10:30 a.m. in the Bistro in Building 8.

He will play classical piano music for two hours.

•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 urien Community Center.

•The 10th Anniversary Boomer Blast will be Thurstion contact Helena Reynolds at 253-856-5164.

 Tickets are now on sale for Breeders Theater's new production, Out of the Nest. 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., at E.B. Foote Winery, 127B SW 153rd St., Burien. Tickets are \$20 and include wine tasting and hors d'ouerves. Tickets are available at the winery and at Corky Cellars in Des Moines. Call 206-242-3852 for more information. www. breederstheater.com.

16 Right-hand man 17 Dines 18 Mover & shaker? 20 Freudian topic 21 Like some details 22 Vegan's no-no 23 Type of type 25 Mediocre 27 detector 29 Gym rat's quest 33 Coffee allure 34 Donnybrooks 35 " . . .a man mouse" 36 Be too fond **37 Headlights?** 38 Trade **39** Commotion 40 Big test 41 off the old block 42 Gatherings 44 Wacko 45 Like some SoHo shops 46 Swim stroke 48 Washington's successor 51 Superman lover Lane 52 Lamb's mom **55 Mediators** 58 Blacken 59 Always 60 Dodge 61 Nickelodeon's explorer 62 Match parts 63 Andrea Bocelli, for one 64 Friday & Bilko:Abbr. **Down** 1 Sporting sword 2 Strip opener 3 Square off?

On The Go

1 Beat by a nose

5 Part of BLT

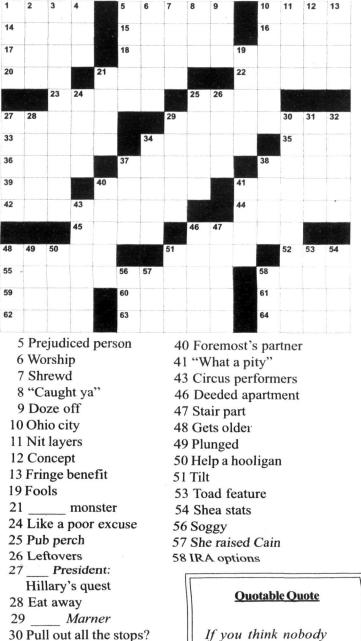
10 Football foul

15 The Gem State

14 Old hands

<u>Across</u>

Crossword 101 By Ed Canty



If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

• • • Flip Wilson

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

32 One of the Seven Dwarfs

31 Bride's follower

34 Tall and slender

38 Flat bottomed boat

37 A little help

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

Last week's crossword puzzle solution

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.

V	Weekly SUDOKU										
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- 4 Count ender

day, 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 informa-

•Today is the last day that Ushani Nanayakkara's landscape paintings will be on display at the Kent Centennial Center Gallery, 400 W.

Last week's

A	nswer	

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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 THIS WEEK: * * *

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging * * * HOO BOY!

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- Go Figure!

Sports

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Thunderbirds take six, place two at NWAACCs

Participating in distance events with a team of six, **T-Birds** earn five points for Highline

JAIME GUDJONSON staff reporter

Brandt May and Trevor Jennings each had a seventh-place finish as the Highline men's track team wrapped up its season at the NWAACC Championships.

May, Jennings, John Hurlburt, Tyler Eidsmoe, William Anderson, and Noah McDonald-Robbins competed in individual events last Thursday and Friday. Highline scored five points and finished seventh.

In the men's 800 meters, May, finished seventh with a time of 1:58.75 in the preliminaries, qualifying him for the finals where he placed seventh again at 1:57.23. May did not qualify for the 400 finals.

Jennings was seventh in the

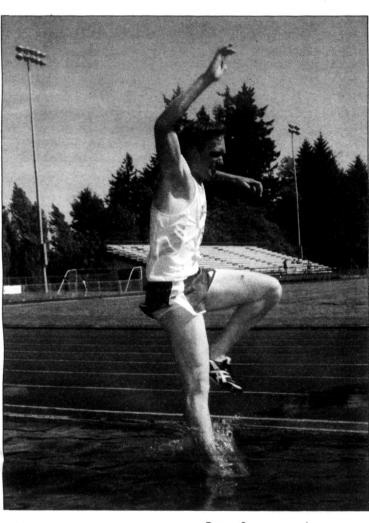


PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFFHINDS.COM Highline runner Noah McDonald-Robbins lands in the water trap in the 5k steeplechase.

5,000, finishing at 15:49.68. He 38:02.10, and McDonald-Robwas eighth in the 1,500 with a time of 4:04.67.

Anderson finished ninth in the 10,000 with a time of bins was ninth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at 11:00.14.

Hurlburt and Eidsmoe did not qualify in the 800.



JAMES BERMINGHAM staff reporter

Highline track and cross country runner Tyler Eidsmoe plans on running through colI die," Eidsmoe said. "I want to be able to run my whole life." For now, Eidsmoe is getting ready for next fall cross country

season. Eidsmoe, a freshman, quali-

"I'm thinking about going to Central when I'm done with Highline and run there," said Eidsmoe.

Eidsmoe began running in his freshman year in high school.



JAIME GUDJONSON/THUNDERWORD The I-90 corridor from the summit of Granite Mountain.

Hiking Viking



KORY FARRELL

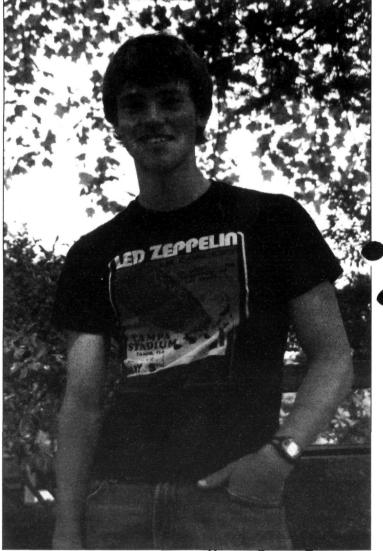
Like its name, Granite Mountain is a hard hike, but one well worth it for the views.

Normally I'm not too impressed by seeing the world from high up and far away, but Granite Mountain is definitely an exception. The higher you climb, the better your vantage of the I-90 corridor and the surrounding mountains. The last two-thirds of the four-mile hike is almost all out in the open.

My photographer Jaime and I started off the hike from Pratt Lake trailhead, about 45 minutes east of Seattle last Friday. The trail beings in thick tree cover for about a mile before it reached the Mason trail Granite Mountain intersection. Take the fork on the right, leading straight up to the summit, and you will face the second most difficult 30 minutes of the hike.

A lot of hikers say that Mount Si is one of the most difficult

SEE GRANITE, PAGE 9



lege and life. "My goal would be to run till



Tyler Eidsmoe

fied in the 800 meters with a time of 2:03.28 but was unable to place at the NWAACC cham-

pionship.

Eidsmoe also runs cross country in the fall, but was sidelined last season because of a knee injury.

"The doctor said I had an overstressed knee," said Eidsmoe. "I've had the knee injury in the back of my mind this season.

"I haven't improved as much throughout the year compared to other years because of the knee injury."

Still, Eidsmoe has running goals beyond Highline.

"Running is just something I started doing and it went on from there," said Eidsmoe. "My dad used to run so I think I got some of it from him. I like running because of the sense of accomplishment I feel when I finish."

With the knee injury becoming less of a factor, Eidsmoe is looking forward to competing again next school year in cross country and track.

"My favorite part of running cross country is the different terrain we get to run on," said Eidsmoe. "My favorite thing in track is you can compare your times better."

MICHELLE ERICKSEN/THUNDERWORD

Highline distance runner Tyler Eidsmoe in the shade outside of Building 10 after study hall.

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Highline softball player defies explanation

BY MICHELLE ERICKSEN staff reporter

Simply dressed and soft spoken, Janice Ludington is everything and nothing you would expect. Her passions are widely varied from nursing to softball to death metal music.

Ludington is happiest when she is busiest. She was an outfielder on the Highline softball team, worked part-time at Highline Medical Center, maintained a 3.9 GPA, and in her off time attended death metal shows.

"That's how I live my life. I want to be busy and productive," Ludington said. "As long as I don't get overwhelmed it's okay."

Nursing, not softball, brought Ludington to Highline.

After high school, Ludington started working as a nursing assistant at the Highline Medical Center.

She said at first she didn't want to be a nurse but after working there she decided to pursue a career in nursing.

"I was a CNA and actually saw how it was. I felt the feeling you get when you help someone like that," Ludington said. "I think it's a very noble career, and very needed. It makes me feel good at the end of the day to know that I helped someone."

Ludington, 22, had been attending Highline for three quarters when Softball Head Coach Anne Schmidt walked into Ludington's total fitness class and asked if anyone wanted to try out for softball.

"When coach walked in I was really excited," she said. "I was at practice the next day at 6:30 a.m. and I've been with the team ever since."

Ludington stopped playing

Granite

MICHELLE ERICKSEN/THUNDERWORD

softball after high school and hadn't played on a team for four years.

"I always wanted to play college ball," Ludington said. "I didn't think it was possible. I started out just to play softball again and it turned out to be a bonding experience with the

T-Bird Ludington out of uniform near the end of the season. girls and a commitment to the team. It was a once in a lifetime

> opportunity for me." Ludington was a utility player on the softball team, though she mostly played outfield.

> She was also the D.P. (designated player) for sophomore center fielder Amanda Houser.

a steep ravine to the base of the mountain.

After another half an hour, you'll reach some serious snow blanketing the mountain at this time of year. At this point we could no longer discern where

"When she broke her finger she could only hit the bat with one hand," Ludington said.

When not DPing, Ludington split her time playing right and left field.

"She's improved dramatically," said Coach Schmidt. "She's pretty darn smart."

The Lady T-Birds finished the season with an overall record of 17-13.

"I've improved a lot over the course of the season," she said. "I've definitely improved a lot and I owe that all to the coaches and girls. It was tough at times, what kept me going was my commitment.

"I value the opportunity I was given and wanted to take advantage of it," she said.

Ludington was voted Most Improved by the softball team last Tuesday at the team's end of the year banquet.

Competitive softball is over for Ludington, but she'll always have her experiences and memories with the team.

Ludington said the main reason she enjoyed the season were the other softball ladies.

"I'm really glad I had the opportunity to play with really incredible athletes," she said. "I can't wait to see what they do next year. I plan on attending as many games as possible."

She said she might start playing softball again, but only for fun and not at a competitive level.

Ludington has a couple of quarters left at Highline and will be taking classes over the summer at Renton Tech.

"They're offering microbiology, and I don't want to wait till next winter to take it (at Highline)," she said.

though, the last 10 to 20 minutes

is in scrubby plant life. This

section isn't without its own pitfalls, as there are numerous

anthills scattered around, forc-

ing you to pay extra attention to

where your feet fall.

"If I get into an associates

program I want to get my bachelor's as well," she said. "I also might want to teach one day so I might continue my education."

Sports

Ludington said her dream job would be to teach nursing at a college level.

She plans on applying to nursing programs at the University of Washington, Highline, Shoreline Community College, Seattle University, and Bellevue Community College.

"My ultimate goal is to get a bachelor of science in nursing," she said.

Family is very important to Ludington, and was the reason she moved back from Oregon. She had attended Linfield College before coming to Highline.

"I originally wanted to be in their nursing program. I was there a year and did a lot of prenursing classes," she said. "It was too far away from my family."

Ludington's younger brother is in a local Seattle death metal band Black Sovereignty. They are currently in the Emergenza Music Competition which takes the finalist bands to San Francisco, and the winner gets to go to Germany.

"I would like to go but it depends on how long they would be there," Ludington said.

"I don't look like the type of person who would listen to it, but I do enjoy it," she said. "The girls came with me to his heavy metal show at Studio Seven," she said. "They'd never really listened to that kind of music."

Ludington said her brother wrote a death metal softball song for them.

"I've never liked to be put in categories, there's not one thing that defines me," Ludington said.







hikes around, but Si is a gradually elevating picnic compared to this stretch of the mountain.

ONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

But once you break through this section, you'll hit some less intimidating switchbacks.

At about an hour and a half into the hike, you'll run into some downed trees on the trail, but there is a steep, improvised shortcut around it going straight up the hillside for about 15 feet. Its tough, but there are plenty branches to aid in your footing.

At this time of year, you're likely to come across a decent amount of snow on the trail, but it's nothing that you can step over or trudge through without



JAIME GUDJONSON/THUNDERWORD The flowing mountain stream.

too much difficulty.

In another 15 minutes, you'll come across the stream you've been hearing off to your right for the past mile and a half, as it cuts across the trail and down the trail was, so we followed the trail of a hiker we spotted farther up the mountain, who had passed us 20 minutes earlier.

This was actually the most difficult aspect of the hike, as we were climbing up an extremely steep incline covered in snow.

We were able to climb only about 10 feet at a time before slipping and falling. Not to mention that if we ventured too close toward the boulders littering the hillside, we would fall into snow-covered holes surrounding them. It was in one such hole that my photographer fell in up to her waist.

After you get out of the snow,

All of the effort, though, was worth it in the end as you can see for miles and miles in all directions. We were lucky it was a clear day (see the accompanying photographs), as we could see Rainier perfectly.

The trip up took about four hours, but the trip down only forty minutes, a good deal of which we spent running to avoid being stuck on the trail at night. We started our hike at around 2:30 p.m., the trailhead parking lot and the trail itself was practically deserted (compared to the more popular Si).

To reach the trailhead, drive east on I-90 from Seattle. Off of

JAIME GUDJONSON/THUNDERWORD View between the trees after leaving the switchbacks.

exit 47, take a left over the overpass, and then another left at the end of the road, which will take you right to the trailhead parking lot.

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Breathing and painting have never been easier

By AARON QUAM staff reporter

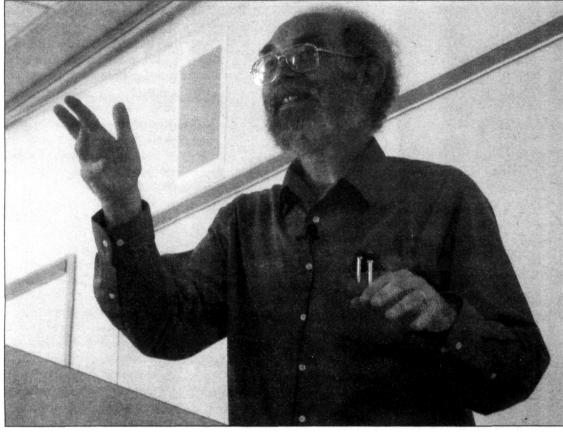
You can now breathe and paint at the same time without many of the harmful effects of normal paint fumes if you instead use some of the "green" paints that are out on the market.

That was the message of Jonathan Betz-Zall, who spoke at Friday's Science Seminar. Zall, a part-time Highline librarian who has a master's degree in environment and community from Antioch University, spoke on the hazards of conventional paints and some of the ways people can find paints that are safer for both the environment and themselves.

Paint consists of three main ingredients, Betz-Zall said. Pigments, binders, and additives combined with water make up most paints today.

"That chemical smell comes from the toxins and chemicals that are used in the additives and binder part of the paints," said Betz-Zall.

Betz-Zall said that some of the negative health effects associated with the chemical in



MICHELLE ERICKSEN/THUNDERWORD

Jonathan Betz-Zall, part-time Highline librarian, discusses the different toxins in paint at last week's Science Seminar.

paints includes headaches, nausea, and respiratory complications. "Green paints" are made without petroleum solvents, vinyl, or other toxic components that are found in most normal paints. Betz-Zall said using these paints can cut down on the risk of exposure to harmful toxins.

The production of green paints also has less of an impact on the environment, Betz-Zall said.

Betz-Zall cited several online sources people can check out for more information on green paints. Specifygreen.com and Bestpaintco.com are sites that deal with environmentally safe paints. Environmentalhomecenter.com is a leading source of all things "green" when it comes to homebuilding.

"We can breathe and paint at the same time," said Betz-Zall. "We just need to do a little more research to find the right products to do it."

Joy Strohmaier and Angi Caster are presenting "Passion and Process: Science as a Humanity" in this Friday's Science Seminar Building 3, room 102 from 2:10-3:10 p.m.

Science Seminar will be followed by an reception for a display of 40 plus pieces of Caster and Strohmaier's work on the fourth floor of the library from 3:15 -4:40 pm. Refreshments will be served, along with inedible Winogratsky tubes.

Users need to take big bytes out of their e-mail

BY DAVID BIEHN

staff reporter

Students, staff, and faculty will have to do some digital spring cleaning before summer quarter begins.

Beginning June, people who have surpassed the 100 megabyte (MB) limit on their campus e-mail, will be unable to send e-mail until they cleanup their mailbox.

Those who have exceeded the 100MB limit will receive an "Over your size limit" warning e-mail from Administrative Technology, informing them to clean out their mailbox. strictions," McCune said. "We sent out the warning in the spring, but we felt it wasn't the best time to do it."

Administrative Technology found out that one out of six email users were over the limit.

"We discovered they were way over," McCune said.

It was then decided the limit would be delayed until the end of Spring Quarter.

McCune said there are about 1000 kilobytes (KB) in a megabyte, and that an average text e-mail can be 10KB. E-mails that size can add up over time, and when e-mails contain photos or graphics, it can easily push a

Students

Continued from page 1

"I was waiting at the bus stop one day and I was wearing a gay pride shirt and this guy came up to me and started yelling at me for his girlfriend cheating on him with another girl," Winchell said. "He blamed me for what happened and then beat me up."

For Winchell, facing the battles of acceptance did not end at school. It followed her home.

"At first my mom was upset when she found out," Winchell said. "She invaded my privacy, such as, reading my MySpace to find out if everything was than that of his high school.

"I have been out since the beginning of high school," Brookbank said.

Brookbank said until that point he never knew he was gay. "I have just never been attracted to girls," Brookbank said.

Brookbank said the only discrimination he faced throughout high school was from his friends who were religious.

"They would come up to me and tell me that I was going to burn in hell for being gay," Brookbank said.

"After awhile, I just got annoyed of people coming up and saying 'you're gay," Brookbank said. "So I started to respond by saying 'OK, well you're straight.""

For Brookbank, the discrimiation didn't follow him home. of the diversity," Oliver said. "There are adults here and they come to be educated so they are more accepting of the whole gay thing because they understand homosexuality."

Oliver said high school students are more preoccupied with being popular and appreciated by the popular people.

"You just deal with a lot of that in high school," said Oliver. "But college is fantastic."

Oliver said when he came out during his sophomore year in high school, people treated him better because he went public with something they already knew.

"I got more flack in school from being closeted than I did when I came out," Oliver said.

Oliver said it was a relief to come out.

Gary McCune, who works in Administrative Technology, believes the 100MB limit, which is more than the current limit of 90MB, is high enough.

"We were able to add more space, so we did," McCune said. Our restrictions are pretty good for campus. You need to manage that e-mail; even on Gmail you have to manage it on some degree."

Originally, Administrative Technology had planned on enforcing the limit at the beginning of Spring Quarter.

"When spring came around, we went to implement those re-

mailbox over the limit.

"I've seen people with 2,000 messages and then they delete just a few, and they are under the limit," McCune said.

McCune said that it would be too costly to add the kind of space that a provider like Gmail has.

Administrative Technology has received positive responses about their warning e-mails.

"The only feedback we've gotten is people appreciated that they have the warning," McCune said.

"Last time we had a few people that were afraid they weren't going to make it." true."

Despite the initial turmoil between Winchell and her mother, Winchell said her mother became accepting. Winchell said that coming to Highline has been a positive experience for her.

"Everyone here is just more accepting of homosexuality," she said.

Not every homosexual faces the same trials as Winchell after coming out.

Brookbank, a graduate from Todd Beamer High School, said he found the atmosphere at Highline to be no different "My family was very accepting," Brookbank said. "They love gays."

Brookbank was raised with a strong religious background, but said he lost his faith because of the troubles he faced with his religious friends.

Oliver, a Running Start student from Mt. Rainier High School, said being accepted at home was not a problem because his father is gay.

High school was where the frustration stirred. It is much better here.

"There is a big difference of atmosphere at Highline because

"Coming out gave me an acceptance of myself and I was able to no longer care what other people thought," Oliver said.

Even though Oliver's close friends gave him flack for not coming out when they all knew he was gay; he still faced some discrimination from his peers.

"People who felt that being gay was wrong made an effort to let it be known to me that they thought it was wrong," Oliver said.

"It was exhausting having to explain myself over and over to them in order to get them to accept me."

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Speech professor thanks those who helped her

By Carrie Draeger staff reporter

Dr. Rolita Ezeonu's journey to Highline had taken her through many doors.

Dr. Ezeonu, a speech professor at Highline, spoke to the Highline Honors Colloquy out her life experiences in njunction with the colloquy's series on Opening Doors.

"When I think about opening a door, it's symbolic," said Dr. Ezeonu.

Dr. Ezeonu was born in Hawaii to two immigrants from the Philippines.

Her father immigrated to Hawaii at the age of 15 to work at a sugar cane plantation and at the age of 56 married her mother, who was 22 years old and still in the Philippines.

Dr. Ezeonu's grandparents wanted their daughter to marry a citizen of the United States and arranged her marriage.

Soon after, Dr. Ezeonu was born and her parents wanted to open every door they had not had opened to them as children.

"He told me that because he went through this very hard life, he wanted me to get an education," Dr. Ezeonu said of her father.

By the time Dr. Ezeonu had passed the eighth grade, her father had retired from plantation work and her mother was working as a maid at a hotel in Waikiki.



PATRICK CABELLON/THUNDERWORD Dr. Rolita Ezeonu speaks to about how she came to Highline.

"In my mind, I believed that I was rich because my parents provided for me," Dr. Ezeonu said.

After high school, Dr. Ezeonu enrolled in the University of Hawaii to study nursing and her parents couldn't have been more excited.

"They thought this was going to be an open door to a mansion," Dr. Ezeonu said.

After one year at the University of Hawaii, Dr. Ezeonu transferred to Washington State University to pursue a degree in communications.

"Coming to eastern Washington was just total culture shock," Dr. Ezeonu said.

In addition to having to deal with a complete change of scenery, Dr. Ezeonu had to deal with living in a culture with very little diversity.

"It just became this very big issue for me because they were saying I was a minority," said Dr. Ezeonu, "I was frustrated because people can shut doors on you.'

While pursuing her master's degree at WSU, Dr. Ezeonu had to deal with the hardship of losing her father to a massive heart attack. This put Dr. Ezeonu in a difficult position, being the oldest of three girls.

"I kind of felt like the door (to my master's) was shutting on me. People were saying you are the oldest, you are the one that has to take care of your mom, There was a lot of fighting in my mind, because I didn't want that door to close," said Dr. Ezeonu.

Dr. Ezeonu stayed at WSU, and earned her master's in a year and a half.

"I felt obligated to help my mom, but my mom was really graceful. She said 'Rolita it's OK, you can go.""

After graduating, Dr. Ezeonu worked many jobs before starting at Highline, including working at the airport as a cashier and teaching physical education at a local elementary school

"I was humbled because I had to go through this experience to pay my bills," Dr. Ezeonu said.

While still working at the elementary school, she got a job offer to teach one class at Highline in 1998. T' is one class soon turned into a full-time teaching position.

"It wa. great. I was able to share my passions with my students," Dr. Ezeonu said.

While teaching at Highline, Dr. Ezeonu decided to return to school to get her Ph.D in 2001. She taught classes during the day, and attended night classes at Seattle University.

"There was a lot of effort from myself, my husband, and my husband's mom," Dr. Ezeonu said.

Dr. Ezeonu's mother-in-law traveled from her native country of Nigeria to help Dr. Ezeonu and her husband with childcare during her four years pursuing her doctorate.

"She crossed global boundaries to come and stay with us. She was in her seventies. She was holding the door for me," Dr. Ezeonu said.

Dr. Ezeonu doesn't consider her Ph.D her own, giving credit to those around her that helped her to earn it.

"It helps me to be able to open doors for my children too. It goes full circle here," Dr. Ezeonu said.

Dr. Ezeonu gives lots of credit for her success to those around her who opened doors for her.

"The journey is not easy, yet we have to continue to find ways to go through this journey," Dr. Ezeonu said.

Crusaders want to promote their beliefs, not force them

BY EBONEE WOODS staff reporter

Campus Crusaders for Christ has been a part of Highline's clubs program for about 10 years and continues to be well known on campus. Members say they're helping people learn out Jesus, but not forcing their ws on anyone.

"Were promoting Christianity, not pushing it," said Amanda



"I can't say it's all me because for one it's God using me, and I have a lot of support and help from other people," Belvin said

Dusty Wilson, the club's faculty adviser said the success of the club depends on the students

"So when there's a strong committed leader, the club tends to be strong and has more regular people attending," Wilson aid. "Right now we have a really good group of student leaders who care about it and are putting time into it."

club does not recruit its members

"There is no agenda to build up membership," said Wilson. "We don't recruit, we try to make sure people know that were here (on campus) if they're interested.

"I don't consider this year to be a successful year because we have 25 people and last year a failure because we had five people," said Wilson. "It's not already a Christian and are looking for other Christians on campus to encourage or be encouraged by. The second involves those who are not Christians, but are interested in Christianity and want to talk about spirituality and what's in the Bible.

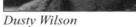
"I think students need to address the question: 'who is Jesus?' " said Wilson. "Campus Crusaders for Christ provides one of those places where the question can be addressed."

Williams.

You might have passed by their booth in the Student Union Building, or even snuck a peek at the many fliers posted up around campus, so it probably comes as no surprise that the students that make up Highline's Campus Crusaders for Christ are not shy about sharing their faith.

"Sharing your faith requires you to really believe in your faith and not just say you believe in your faith," Club President Gary Belvin said. "It has to be completely real."

Belvin has been the club president since last fall and said he got involved because there



was a need for leaders.

"Being the president of any club means it's up to you to decide what to do, where to go, and kind of carry the passion for it," Belvin said. "My impact on the club has been growth, excitement, and vision.'

Belvin said when he first started there was a regular attendance of about 10 members, and now they have a regular attendance of over 20.

Yet, he was adamant about not taking full credit.

Although the club is grow-

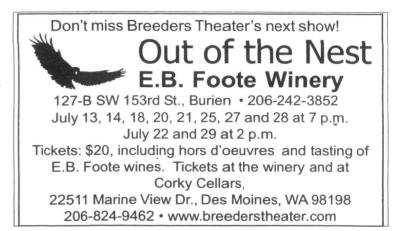
ing, there is a lack of diversity. Wilson said in the past the club has had a number of African, Ukrainian, and Russian students actively involved, but right now the club consists of mostly white males between the ages of 16 and 20.

"There is a theory that the guys are not good looking enough to attract girls," Wilson joked.

Wilson said there is not a formal membership list and the a numbers game.

Wilson said people join the club for one of two reasons. One reason involves those who are

The club holds bible study every Tuesday at noon in Building 8, room 301.



In some places, nodding your head means no

By CARRIE DRAEGER staff reporter

Imagine going to Germany, giving someone what you think is the universal hand signal for OK, and learning it is an obscene gesture there.

Students gathered on Tuesday to discuss culture shock and how it has affected their transition into the United States at The Culture Shock discussion forum held by the International Leadership Students Council.

The forum, led by Emmanuel Ahru and Hwi Kyeong Ra of the International Leadership Student Council, discussed topics such as table manners, hand gestures, and greetings used in different countries.

Ahru, originally from Africa, lived most of his life in Italy and spoke about his experiences coming to America, while Ra spoke of emigrating from Korea.

"I don't think there is any country that has more hand gestures," Arhu said of the Italian culture.

Ahru, Ra, and students at the forum talked about the differences between seemingly universal hand gestures. For their index and middle finger, commonly known in the United States as the victory or peace sign, its is considered a rude or obscene gesture in Australia and some parts of Europe.

example, when a person puts up

The OK gesture in the United States is a symbol for money in China, a sign for zero in France, and an obscene gesture in Australia.

One student talked about how an open palm with spread fingers pointed at another person while driving is considered a rude gesture, the equivalent of flipping someone off in the United States.

Even the most common nonverbal gesture, the nodding or shaking of the head, is not universal. In Bulgaria the meanings are opposite, with nodding the head meaning no, and shaking it meaning yes.

Another topic widely discussed was greeting differences between countries and why certain greetings are used.

In most of Asia, the common form of greeting is bowing. Ra explained that bowing originated as a greeting during times of war. A person was defenseless from an attack from a sword

Faculty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

economy."

Math Professor Dr. Helen Burn said a candidate should have an understanding of community colleges.

"[A candidate should] demonstrate knowledge of the community college system. ... I really want the president to understand the vice president role because that is very important for faculty on a day-to-day basis," Burn said.

Other traits faculty members said they value included dedication to education, teaching experience, and administrative experience.

"Perhaps it's obvious, but I'd like someone with an advance degree. I think it shows their commitment to education," Math Professor Dusty Wilson said.

"I'd like to see candidates who have substantial teaching experience, as well as

"It was a sign of trust," Ra

The handshake is another

form of greeting that originated

in times of war. Soldiers held

shields on their left arm and

reached to a fellow soldier with-

out a sword in the right hand. It

A student native to Honduras

while they were bent over.

said.



PATRICK CABELLON/THUNDERWORD

Marie Zimmermann, interim vice president of Academic Affairs, led the faculty forum on May 24.

administrative experience," Humanities Instructor Tommy Kim.

"I'd like the Board to keep in mind ... someone who can capture the spirit of Highline," Psychology Professor Dr. Bob Baugher said.

Chemistry Instructor John Pfeffer said the Board should "keep briefing every person that comes into contact with the candidate."

Pfeffer said Highline once had a candidate who impressed people during the forums, but ignored a student

When greeting someone in

Both Ra and Ahru spoke

Europe, it is often acceptable

to kiss a person on each cheek

about returning to their respec-

tive countries and how their

cultural tendencies had changed

twice, regardless of gender.

tour guide and did not engage the student at any time on the tour.

The formation of a job description will continue with staff forums on May 31 in Building 7 at 9 a.m. and again at 10 a.m.

Comments can also be made via e-mail to selectpres@highline.edu, or can be written and delivered to Sandy Moser or Marie Zimmermann.

Anonymous comments will not be submitted to the Board of Trustees.

said that when greeting an elder, since living in the United she was required to bow and re-ceive a blessing from the elder. "My dad came to the airport"

"My dad came to the airport and was trying to kiss me and I tried to pull away, saying what's wrong with you?" Ahru said of a recent visit to Italy.

When Ra was asked if he still bowed in greeting he smiled and said, "Not any more, I'm too Americanized."

Students of the world are coming to Highline

was also a sign of trust.

BY JUDY VUE

They're coming from around the globe as part of a newly developed program.

staff reporter

These 12 students – from Turkey, Egypt, Indonesia and Pakistan – are separate from Highline's normal International Student Program and will be at



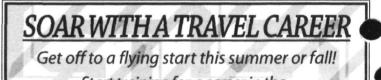
"Highline is recognized for efforts in international relations," said Dr. Erik Tingelstad, director of Workforce Development Services "It's a neat opportunity to be a part of international efforts."

According to Hasselblad, it will be more than just neat.

"One of the key elements of this program is the creation of figure is still being worked out.

If you and your family are interested in applying, contact Dr. Erik Tingelstad at etingels@highline.edu, or at 206-878-3710, ext. 3599.

For more information, contact Kathleen Hasselblad at khasselb@highline.edu or at 206-878-3710, ext. 3019.



THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 12

Highline for Fall Quarter.

A new program – the Community College Summit Initiative Program, or CCSIP – has been developed to "expand our relationships within [new] countries," said Kathleen Hasselblad, director of International Student Programs and Grants.

"One of Highline's core values [is to foster] global perspectives," she said. "Having [international]* students on campus ... provides everyone with the opportunity to learn about how it is to live and work in other places."

Another aspect that makes

Dr. Erik Tingelstad

this program different from International Student Programs is that the 12 students will be solely studying hotel and tourism management at Highline.

"All of them have some work experience [in this field] and [will] gain academic training that will enable them to advance their careers," Hasselblad said. alumni networks in each of the target countries," she said. This in turn will lead to more international students at Highline and possibly "professional development" for faculty.

Applications are being accepted to find host families for the 12 students.

Tingelstad said that this is a good opportunity for families to host a student without a long commitment. The students will be here from "mid-September through December," he said.

In addition, monetary compensation will be given to families who host a student, but that Start training for a career in the exciting travel and tourism field. Summer Quarter Trans 103 Careers in Hospitality/Travel MW 9:00-10:20A Item 2221 Online course Item #2222 Fall Quarter Trans 100 Intro to Travel and Tourism MW 12:10-2:30P Trans 103 Careers in Hospitality/Travel Online Course Item #2280 Trans 110 Cruise Operations

M-F 9:00-9:50A Item # 2282 Trans 165 Managing Customer Service Online course Item #2286

Travel & Tourism Industry Management Program

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Jonathan Koehler returns to Highline

BY KRISTA WHITE

staff reporter

Jonathan Koehler loved his job but hated the commute.

For seven years, he commuted from Tacoma to Port Angeles to work at Peninsula College here he managed the bookore and food services.

Tired of the more than 100mile one-way trip, Koehler wanted to find work closer to home and is now part of the Highline staff.

Koehler is Highline's new director of Auxiliary Services. With a friendly smile and warm handshake, he oversees food services, parking, security, emergency management, vending machines and the bookstore.

Koehler is returning to Highline. He was the bookstore manager here from 1983 to 1997.

His office in Building 8 has pictures of him and his wife on the beach in Hawaii, and a white board hangs on the wall, full of things to remember and things to do.

Koehler said he had a good relationship with the student



JOHN THOMPSON/THUNDERWORD

Jonathan Koehler takes a quick break from his duties as Highline's new director of Auxiliary Services.

population at Peninsula College in Port Angeles, and that he is eager to build a similar bond at Highline.

"I'm willing to meet with individuals, students, groups or clubs about anything," Koehler said. "If I don't have an answer,

I'll tell them I'll get back to them. I like working with students and trying to make campus an interesting place."

On campus, many students have voiced their frustration with the bookstore, with complaints about textbooks arriving

late and being able to find them cheaper online.

Koehler said that though the bookstore has not always maximized its potential, he plans to make sure it is as efficient as possible in the future.

He said the market for text-

books is changing, and that the bookstore needs to adapt to this change.

He also said many students purchase their books online where they can often find them cheaper, and this has left a number of books sitting on the shelves at the bookstore collecting dust, costing the bookstore money.

According to Larry Yok, vice president of administration, "the bookstore is required to produce at least \$100,000 each year as its contribution toward retiring the debt for Building 8."

Yok also said the position of Director of Auxiliary Services was created in response to budget cuts, combining the three previous positions of security director, conference services director and bookstore director.

Koehler said he is, "reviewing each department and looking at budgets, procedures and policies, trouble spots and items that need immediate attention."

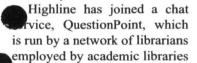
When not in his office. Koehler can likely be found with his wife and three dogs at their home in Tacoma.

Get homework help from librarians anytime online

BY CAITLIN FEELEY staff reporter

Pulling an all-nighter or just off-campus, and you need access to librarian help for projects and papers?

Students, staff, and faculty now have free access to help from a librarian 24 hours a day, seven days a week.





Lauren Ray

more students **By JAMES BERMINGHAM**

staff reporter

Now that Highline is a Center of Excellence, the International Trade, Transportation and Logistics Program is hoping to increase enrollment.

As one of 11 Center of Excellence programs in Washington, Highline's ITTL program gained prestige and a \$120,000 grant.

"We get about 90 students a year and we would love to double it," said Professor Raegan Copeland.

"We're hoping that the Cen-

nity College by the Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges.

"We are hoping they will be a strong partner in expanding this program," said Madsen of the colleges Highline was awarded the Center of Excellence over.

"We were awarded the Center of Excellence because of our strong program and international partnerships, said Madsen. "This should help us become a state-wide resource for the industry,"

"One in three jobs in Washington are related to the industry and almost all require a two-year



ITTL is seeking

involved with the program.

"All of the reference librarians from Highline will be on at certain times," said Lauren Ray, a reference librarian for Highline.

The rest of the librarians are from other libraries across the country.

"Students should [use the service] because they can talk with a knowledgeable source," said Ray.

This chat service is available to help students with their research.

The librarians can help you find materials for coursework and recommend online tools for

students to find the information that they need.

> The librarians can also recommend the student to other libraries that have more resources.

Questions can be e-mailed to refhelp@highline.edu, but allow at least 24 hours for your response.

For more immediate help, reach the chat service at www. flightline.highline.edu/reference/AskUs.htm.

The chat service can also be reached through Highline's homepage by clicking on the "Ask a Librarian" link.

ter of Excellence will help give us some visibility," said Copeland.

'We see this as a good recruitment opportunity," said Alice Madsen, dean of Instruction for Professional-Technical Education.

The primary components of this sector include air, sea and freight transportation and related operations, shipping and handling, product storage and associated support services.

Highline was awarded the Center of Excellence earlier this year over Bates Technical College, Tacoma Community College and South Seattle Commudegree or less," said Copeland. The program offers two degrees: a one-year, 54-credit certificate, and a two-year 94-credit International Business degree.

"That is geared toward freight forwarding," Copeland said of the one-year certificate.

"The great thing about the two-year degree is you can transfer to The Evergreen State College or City University if you wish to get a bachelor's degree in international business," said Copeland.

information, For more contact Raegan Copeland at 206-878-3710, ext. 3026 or at rcopelan@highline.edu.

News

THE THUNDERWORD/MAY 31, 2007/PAGE 14 Highline contributing to giving gift of sight

By ASHLEY MESSMER staff reporter

Highline is collecting used eyeglasses to donate to the Gift of Sight, an organization that redistribute eyeglasses to people who can't afford eyeglasses.

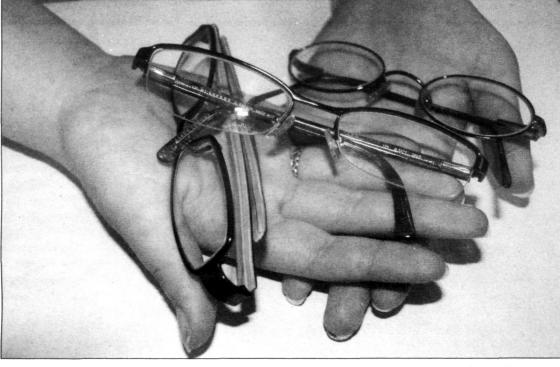
Global Health, taught at Highline by Tracy Brigham, has started collecting them as one of many class projects.

At the end of the quarter, the class's donated eyeglasses will go to LensCrafters, and that company will label and package the eyeglasses before sending them to the Gift of Sight.

"Basically a lot of people cannot afford glasses so the Gift of Sight gives them a chance to get a pair for free," Brigham said.

Global Health student Cory Kataoka, an employee at LensCrafters, was one of the students to come up with the idea.

"I had helped out with the program before," Kataoka said.



JOCIE OLSON/THUNDERWORD

Tracy Brigham's Global Health class is collecting used eyelasses for a charity called Gift of Sight

Gift of Sight also works in many different parts of the world. "I Believe, They just got back from a mission in Guatemala," Kataoka said. "LensCrafters is

one of many companies donating eyeglasses. They have donated I think over 820,000 pairs of glasses that have been given out to the people who need them."

Highline is working to add to that number.

"Highline has just started collecting the glasses and have only about 20 pairs," Brigham said. "Were shooting for about 100, but the more the better."

This will be Highline's function time donating used eyeglasses, so the class would like to get as many as possible.

Global Health will be collecting the glasses until the end of the quarter in Building 14, Room 105. The class has a donation box set up.

The classroom is open from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. and you can also donate them by placing them in Tracy Brigham's box at her office in Building 15.

The Global Health class encourages everyone to take part.

"Give the Gift of Sight to the ones who don't have it," Kataoka said.

After doing the math Roberts decides to retire

BY JUDY VUE

staff reporter

If you enter Building 11 and ascend the stairs to the second floor, you'll see that Office No. 202 has a sliding glass door, slightly ajar, with keys dangling from the keyhole.

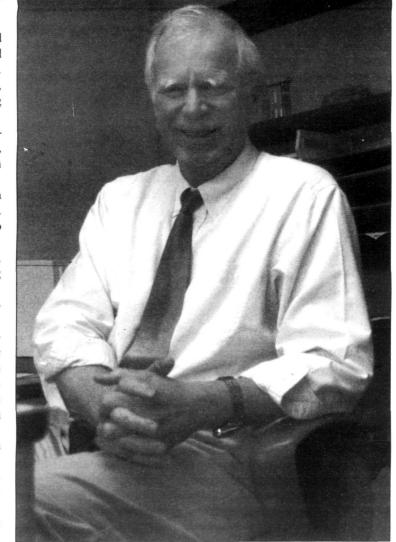
You'd usually see economics professor, Bruce Roberts, behind that glass, writing up an e-mail or grading papers.

Soon, Office No. 202 in Building 11 will be empty. Those keys will dangle no more.

After 32 years at Highline, Bruce Roberts will be retiring at the end of this year.

"I've enjoyed teaching economics," he said.

Roberts said the interaction with his students will be one of the things he will miss the most. Roberts said that although some faculty members "divorce" their school when they retire; he won't do that. In fact, he plans to keep this marriage a long-lasting one.



"Maybe not 'great' – I was an average basketball player," he said.

Roberts played four years of high school basketball, although he did not play in college.

He received his bachelor of arts at the University of California and completed his master's degree at San Francisco State University. He did additional graduate work at the University of Washington. Movie Fridays will deliver children

The future looks grim at this week's Movie Fridays.

Children of Men is a film about hope, redemption, and faith set in the year 2027.

There is a free screening on June 1 in Building 29, room 216 at noon.

For more information about Movie Fridays, contact Roman Wright at 206-878-3710, ext. 3999 or at rwright@highline. edu.



"I won't say I miss my colleagues," he said, "because I [still] plan to see [them]."

Roberts has no immediate plans after he retires.

"I have lots of time to think about that," he said with a laugh.

Roberts never envisioned himself as a college economics professor when he was growing up.

He never envisioned himself as president of the Faculty JAIME GUDJONSON/THUNDERWORD

Bruce Roberts sits in his office in Building 11. Roberts has been at Highline for 32 years teaching economics.

Union, chair of the Faculty Senate or Division Chair of Social Sciences. He was all of those, but it wasn't his first aspiration. "I was going to be a great bas-

ketball player," Roberts said. The thought amuses him as he laughs wholeheartedly about the prospect and pokes fun at himself. Delicious Vietnamese Food Dine in-Take Out Open 7 days a Week Mon-Sat 10:00am-9:00pm Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

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Young students get college credit with Tech Prep

BY BECKY MORTENSON taff reporter

Without ever leaving high school, nearly 700 students started working toward their college degree this year.

These students are part of a program called Tech Prep, which gives students a chance to help make the transition from high school to college easier.

"It's a wonderful relationship building program," Program Manager for Instruction Nancy Warren said.

Tech Prep, like Running Start, allows high school students to receive free college credits.

The main difference between the two is that Running Start students come to Highline and Tech Prep students stay at their high school.

There will be a Tech Prep outreach event June 5 that will give Tech Prep students a chance to "have some focused time with programs at Highline, and maybe find a more solid path that could lead to employment," Warren said.

This is the first time that an event has been held for Tech Prep students.

Last year, 639 students were

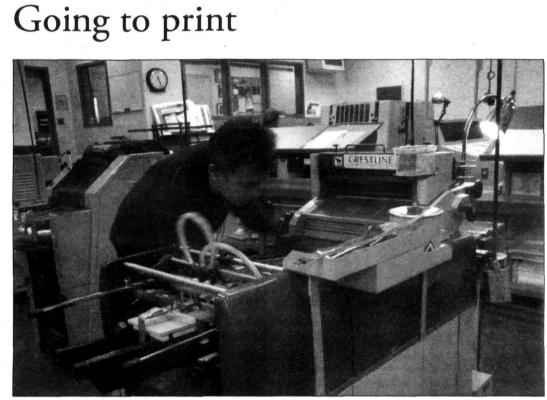


enrolled in Tech Prep, with many of them earning five to 10 credits. Warren said that at \$75 per credit, that gave Tech Prep students about \$240,000 in college credits for free.

Tech Prep is part of the educational reform movement that was started in the early 1980s. The educational reform movement was the shift from the industrial age to the age of technology.

The first act of this program was adopted in 1990. The newest act, which was signed into law in 1998, is called the Perkins III. Tech Prep is a major component of the Perkins III act.

"[Tech Prep] is designed to



DAVID HSU/THUNDERWORD

Roman Klimenko, a Highline student, operates printing machinery as part of the Highline Printing Program. According to the Printing Program website, students spend 12 hours every week participating in printing production. The program prints items such as business cards, full color books, and postcards. For more information, go to http://flightline.highline.edu/print.

help students make the connection between high school and college and then from college to employment," the Diablo Valley College website said.

"It's a fantastic model, in my mind, because it can show high school students that they can indeed do college-level work so they feel they can transition into a community college," Warren said.

The main goal of Tech Prep is to show high school students

that they can succeed in college.

"I hope that they recognize that going to college can be more than a dream -- that it's a reality," Warren said.

Each fall, meetings are held where the college and schooldistrict leaders come together to see which classes will count for college credit.

As long as students receive a letter grade of B or higher, they receive college credit.

Any student who has received credit from Tech Prep is encouraged to attend the June 5 attend, but anyone is welcome.

The event will begin on the first floor of the Student Union building from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tech Prep students will then get the opportunity to walk around the campus to see what it looks like and to let them feel like they are a part of this school.

New certificate offered for digital photography

By James Bermingham staff reporter

Digital photography is now offering a one-year certificate in digital photography.

"We are expecting this to be a popular program once students earn about it," said Professor Brian Morris.

"It should be a fun three course combination," said Morris.



"The last class is going to focus less on Photoshop and more in how to manage an office and other duties you would have if you had a job in this field," said Morris.

The digital photography classes are planning on changing departments sometime during the next school year.

"As of now we are consided to be apart of the printing program which doesn't make sense to a lot of students," said Morris

The first course is digital photography.

The course will cover basic photographic procedures, basic composition, and the practical application of creative imaging, the use of Adobe Photoshop, understanding different electronic file formats, proper studio and location lighting, as well as combining digital photography and scanning.

"It's a good course for anyone who likes photography. Even if you don't want to take all three classes, some students take it as one of their elective

MICHELLE ERICKSEN/THUNDERWORD

From left to right: Marie Taylor, Patricia O'Neill, Roman Klimenko, Katrina Day, and Trevor Pryor prepare for their digital photography class.

work with studio lighting as

courses," said Morris of the first photography course.

The second course is digital photography two. That class is

for intermediate to advanced well as advanced Photoshop training for digital photogratechniques. phers. This course includes

The third class has not been finalized yet.

"I'm hoping next year we'll merge with visual communications," said Morris.

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Math

Continued from page 1

"When a student gets it and that light goes on, I think it's really cool," he said.

Highline math professor, Dr. Helen Burn, had her take on the situation.

"What you do with students in class time makes a difference," she said.

Dr. Burn said that, despite personal issues that a student may go through outside of the classroom, "it matters what [teachers] do during that 50 minutes."

Dr. Burn also said that "brainstorming is lacking among math teachers."

Dr. Burn said it is important to know how to apply mathematics in a practical way.

"Understanding what you're doing is important," she said. "People who can push symbols around without understanding [aren't learning]."

"A specific area where we are failing is in math and science education," said Bill Gates at a March 27 conference in Washington D.C. "Our goal should be to double the number of science, technology, and mathematics graduates in the United States by 2015." Area. For a kid to get a D and move into Algebra II, that's not competence." Right now, Lamb, Smith and

In addition, Gates has been a

constant critic of American high

school education, constantly

making comparisons to other

countries such as India and

low scores in the math portion

of the WASL - Washington As-

sessment of Student Learning -

from students in previous years,

especially at schools with high

minority populations, among

students in Washington state

met the standard for the math

portion of the WASL and 49

at Tyee, said that the WASL was

don't know English [here at

Tyee] and that's not fair," Smith

Terry Smith, a math teacher

"There's lots of kids that

Patrick Lamb is another math

"Most kids aren't ready," he

said. "They can't do fractions

in high school. Kids need to

show competence in a certain

percent did not.

"culturally biased."

teacher at Tyee.

said.

In 2005-2006, 51 percent of

those being Tyee High School.

Many students were showing

China

Right now, Lamb, Smith and other teachers have a bit more breathing room.

• On April 22, the Legislature voted to delay the passing of the math portion of the WASL as a graduation requirement until 2013.

With the WASL delay, Smith said that some pressure has been lifted from his shoulders, but it is still no cause for celebration.

"We still want our kids to pass the WASL, whether it is required or not," he said. "But, I am not an advocate of one test that determines whether a student graduates high school or not."

Dr. Burn is also no fan of standardized testing, saying that "it's never going to be very effective."

Not only is she talking about the WASL, but she is also referring to Highline's own COM-PASS test.

She said that a few years ago, a crude study was conducted in which a select number of Highline students who had completed Math 97 re-took the COMPASS test. "They still didn't place in 97," Dr. Burn said.

However, Burn said that the study was biased, so the results were not of valid use to anyone.

Highline students had their own say on the COMPASS test and their high school math experiences.

"[The COMPASS test] is a little ridiculous," said student Alex Burkhart.

"I could not remember for the life of me all the stuff I was asked to answer.

"Unless you are pursuing math as a career... there is no way that you will retain the knowledge from previous math classes that you had no interest in," he said.

Kelly Lynn Beasley considered her high school math experience a "joke."

"I don't remember anything we did, and I was at the point where I just wanted to get a passing grade," she said. Beasley also said she was mostly an "A and B type of student."

"We never got around to even mentioning square roots in my high school classes," Beasley said.

Despite this, Beasley said that her Highline math classes

-81, 91 and 97 – "were so much more fulfilling than my high school classes."

However, she said it was still "annoying" that she had to take them "because now I'm behind 10 credits in my AA. But I knew I was so far behind in math, I had... to catch up."

Andrew Lee also said his high school math education was a joke.

"I've bounced around roughly five school districts in three different states before I was 15, and since there is no national centralized curriculum... most of my education in math was a pain and very disjointed," he said.

Jessica Taylor said that her math ability was dependent on the teacher.

"I really enjoy math when I have a good teacher," she said.

"I understand why the school needs to have the [COMPASS test]," she said.

Taylor said that she would have failed other classes if she did not have to take remedial math classes.

"But it also sucks because sometimes all you need is a little refresher, not an entire class," she said.



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