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Highline Community College

# The Thunderword

## State Board approves 2 percent tuition increase

By Nick Bare  
Staff Reporter

Tuition will be on the rise next fall for community and technical colleges across Washington.

The State Board for Community and Technical colleges approved a 2 percent increase for all community and technical colleges in Washington last Thursday.

The tuition increase will be the same across every community college, but technical colleges have a little bit of leeway.

"Community colleges must all charge the same tuition. Technical colleges have more discretion because their Board of Trustees have statutory authority to set tuition," said Mary Alice Grobins, director for financial services for the State Board.

Technical colleges cannot charge more than the 2 percent increase set by the State Board, Grobins said.

The one difference between the prices of various colleges could be the services and activities (S&A) fees that each school

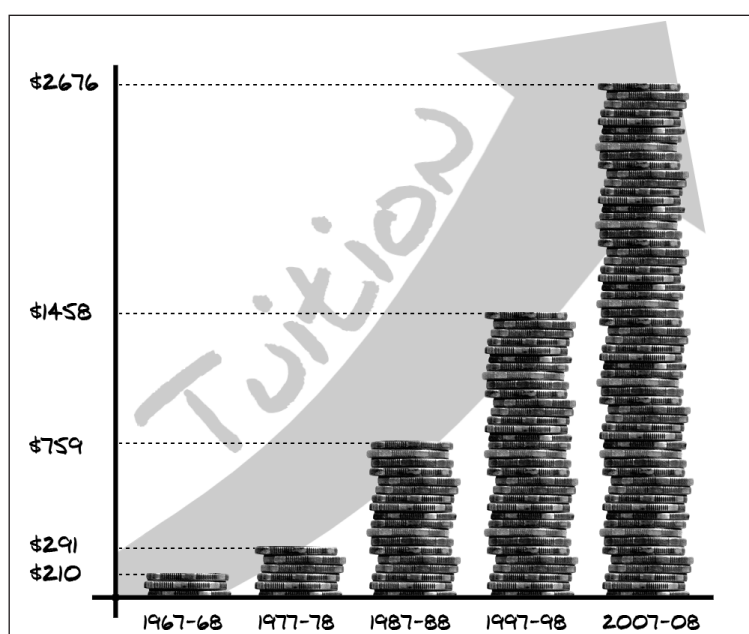
charges.

"They (the colleges) do have discretion on how much S&A they charge. They cannot charge more than the State Board-set maximum, but they can charge less," Grobins said.

The S&A fees are included in the tuition students pay and go toward any extracurricular activities.

Washington's community college tuition falls below the national average of \$2,737,

See Tuition / P20



## Board to name president soon

By Carrie Draeger  
Staff Reporter

Highline's Board of Trustees plans to name a new permanent president soon.

Five finalists visited Highline over the past two weeks to introduce themselves to the campus community and to have final interviews with trustees.

Board of Trustees Chairwoman Karen Vander Ark said that the Board hopes to hire a new president soon.

The five finalists were: Dr. John Garmon, chief academic officer of New Mexico State University-Carlsbad in Carlsbad, N.M.; Dr. Jack Birmingham, interim president of Highline; Dr. Julie Leidig, vice president of academic affairs at LoneStar Community College-Montgomery in Conrad, Texas; and Randell Lawrence, vice president of academic affairs at Olympic College in Bremerton.

Each candidate gave four public forums to introduce



Randy Lawrence

•Randy Lawrence was the last candidate to speak in public forums last week at Highline. If Lawrence is selected as Highline's president, he wants to be very active in the community. He won't come in with any preconceived ideas, and plans to look to others for what needs improvement on the Highline campus. **See story, page 19**

themselves to the campus, one for each classified and exempt staff, students, faculty, and the surrounding community. Each candidate also had an informal dinner and a formal interview with Board of Trustees.

Trustee Dr. Elizabeth Chen was the only board member who was able to attend all of the forums for each candidate.

Dr. Chen was the chairwoman of the Board when the Board fired Dr. Priscilla Bell in November 2006 citing "philosophical differences."

Dr. Birmingham has been serving as Highline's interim president since Dr. Bell's firing. He was also one of three presidential finalists when Dr. Bell was hired in 2001.

The five finalists were chosen

from a pool of 26 applicants. The pool was narrowed down from 26 to five by the Presidential Search Advisory Committee over a period of a month and a half.

The search was delayed by the death of Trustee and Committee Chairwoman Rita Creighton on March 16.

Vander Ark said that Creighton's death was a loss for both the college and the search committee.

"We couldn't have done it all without Rita," she said.

Vander Ark said that Creighton was a voice of inclusion and that her legacy for the search will be that she wanted to in-

See Search / P19

## High schoolers know finances just as well as Highline students

By David Olerich  
Staff Reporter

Highline students did about the same as a sample of high school students in Washington state on a nationwide financial literacy survey.

The five-question, multiple-choice surveys were given to 100 students on campus to find out how much Highline students really know about their finances.

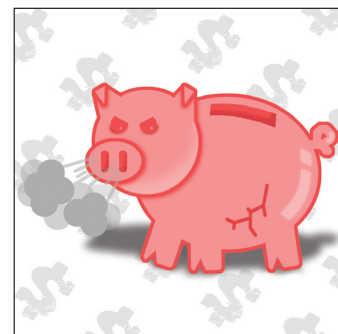
Overall, Highline students scored 95 percent correct on a question regarding savings accounts, 52 percent on health coverage, and 52 percent on fixed mortgage rates.

They were average in their comprehension of credit cards scoring 47 percent, while scoring a low 15 percent in the area of stocks and bonds.

For example, the first question talked about college expenses and saving up money asking what would be the safest place for saving college money?

Most students chose the correct answer which was a "bank savings account."

In the second question, students were asked which



investment would have the highest growth over an 18-year period while saving up for a child's education.

The majority of the students chose different answers such as a checking account, a U.S. Government. Savings bond, or a savings account.

However, the actual answer for the second question was stocks.

In the third question, students were asked about their health insurance benefits and what they believed to be true of their health coverage from their parents.

More than half of the students chose the correct answer which was that "insurance coverage stops if your

See Survey / P18



Karen Vander Ark



The Thunderword / May 8, 2008

CSI: **H**ighline**Never leave a purse behind**

A student found that her purse had been gone through on May 2.

Two credit cards, one debit card and \$40 were taken from the purse.

The purse was left on a table while the student went to use the restroom on the third floor of the library.

**Battle of the sexes**

A male and a female were involved in a verbal/physical altercation on May 2.

The Des Moines Police Department was contacted but upon arrival the dispute had de-escalated and a report was filed with the police department.

**Lost items need homes**

Highline Security has an ever-growing collection of lost and found.

If you have found anything throughout campus make sure you go to the Highline Security office and drop it off with one of the Security officers.

If you have lost anything come by the Highline Security office and see if it is there and get it back.

**Arrest made in Des Moines shooting**

The Des Moines Police Department arrested a possible suspect in a fatal shooting, a carjacking incident that took place on Friday, April 25.

The arrest was made at approximately 9:08 p.m. on April 25.

Police say that the victim was shot in the head outside a rental home around 3:30 p.m. on April 25.

Witnesses said that the suspect then took off in the vehicle that the victim had been driving.

The vehicle was 2004 Chevrolet Silverado pickup, and has been located and recovered.

Friday evening, a tip came in that the suspect was at a McDonald's on Pacific Highway South in Federal Way, and an arrest was made.

The Des Moines Police Department had located several witnesses at the scene but had a difficult time gathering information because most of the witnesses spoke in Spanish.

They were able to get a license number and a description of the truck they were looking for. Surveillance was set up on the stolen vehicle.

-Compiled by Jason Baker

**Avoid committing the crime of plagiarism**

The next two Writing Center workshops will focus on paraphrasing and citing sources.

"Summarizing, Paraphrasing, and Quoting" workshop will be held today from 1:30-2:20 in the Writing Center.

This workshop will explain how to integrate the ideas of someone else along with your own.

Learn how to use several techniques that strengthen your ideas while clearly summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting sources that are not your own.

"Citing Your Sources" workshop will be held on May 13, 14, and 15 from 1:30-2:20.

This workshop will inform you on the ways to avoid plagiarism. MLA and APA documentation will be discussed and how to credit and cite sources correctly without plagiarizing.

You will learn tricks that help cite sources and receive hands-on practice to alleviate plagiarism stress.

The Writing Center offers free writing assistance to all Highline students.

The Writing Center is located in Building 26, room 319.

The hours are: Tuesday 4-4:50 p.m., Wednesday 9-9:50 a.m., and Thursday 1:30-2:30 p.m.

**Explore the Pacific Islands on Highline's campus**

The Pacific Island Festival continue this week with activities today and tomorrow.



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

*Island Bound performed on Wednesday for the Blend. The band performed reggae music to an audience in the Bistro.*

Pacific Islander Culture Day is today.

Cultural booths, video presentations, and a fashion show will be in Building 7 from 12-1:50.

Sheryl Akaka will present Hawai'i ki Ho'alu, a slack key guitar concert with songs and "talk story".

The concert will be from 2-4 p.m. in Building 7.

Luau Night will be on Friday from 7:30-11 p.m.

Authentic food and dance performances by Highline students and local community members are the main events.

Tickets are on sale for \$10 in Student Programs. The luau will be in the Student Union.

**Manage your time to attend three workshops**

The Counseling and Career Resource Center Workshop Series has three workshops going on next week.

"Time Management" workshop will be presented by Lance Gibson, Director of Counseling and Career Resource Center.

The workshop will give information about time management techniques that can reduce stress and help with managing time successfully.

This will be from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Building 8, Mt.



# FREE TUTORING!

**Visit the Tutoring Center: Building 26, Room 319**

**We strive to help students to achieve their college success.**

**Sign up for help in:**  
Accounting/Business,  
Languages, Math,  
Science, Computers, Writing,  
and more subjects.

**Mon-Thurs**  
8:00am-7:30pm  
**Friday**  
8:00am-1:00pm

To neglect learning in youth  
is to be lonesome in old age. — Author unknown

<http://tutoring.highline.edu>

**Celebrate cultural diversity through GlobalFest**

The annual GlobalFest celebration is on Saturday.

GlobalFest celebrates international culture through several activities.

Activities include Chinese song, Japanese drumming, Pakistani, Russian, and Vietnamese dancing, and a diverse fashion show featuring attire from different countries all around the world.

Attendees can also participate in hands-on activities such as origami, chopstick lessons, and other games.

Culture booths and a buffet with food from different countries will also be available to everyone.

Tickets for adults are now sold out, but there are a few childrens tickets left. A child's ticket costs \$5.

**Economics go green**

This week Science Seminar presents "Going Green: Sustainable Economics".

Dr. T.M. Sell, Woody Moses, and James Peyton will discuss questions such as "How green is green?", "Are biofuels the answer, or just another problem?", and "How can the market be made to function in a way that serves not only short-term economic growth but long-term economic survival?"

Science Seminars are every Friday from 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**STUDENT JOBS:****Day Camp Counselor  
~Fulltime****Job #3679**

Become part of a day camp staff team for a fun and rewarding summer. Leading activities and field trips for campers in grades 1-6.

Location: West Seattle  
Wage: \$10-10.50  
House: M-F 40 hrs.

**Gym Dance Instructor  
~Part time****Job #3666**

Teach motor skill development & dance classes to children. A background in dance and/or children's tap and ballet required.

Location: Renton  
Wage: \$9-12 Hours  
Hours: 10-20 evenings and weekends

For more information log on to interbase at:  
[www.myinterbase.com/highline/student](http://www.myinterbase.com/highline/student)  
or visit Student Employment in Building 6.

**CO-OPPORTUNITY:  
Cooperative Education**

Get real world experience while earning real college credit. *Building 6, upper floor.*

Don't miss the Career Fair, Friday, May 16th.  
Visit 25 local employers.  
*Building 2,  
9am-11:30am.*  
**Bring a resume!**

HELP  
WANTED





Customers checking out all the plants at the 2004 Plant Sale

# Plant sale ready to blossom once more

By Nicole Claunch  
Staff Reporter

Highline’s annual Plant Sale blooms back to life starting next week.

The spring’s annual Plant Sale is back again this year and will be held on Friday May 9 from 9 a.m to 1 p.m in front of the large greenhouse next to Building 12.

There will be a variety of plants available for purchase at Friday’s plant sale.

These plants will include pumpkins, cucumbers, peppers, and a miscellaneous collection of flowers.

Prices will be based upon the size of the pot it is in.

Prices start as low as 25 cents to \$2. Plants that have unusual shapes will be marked with a price.

There are also several plants in the greenhouse that are not for sale, they will be marked with stickers.

Staff, students, and volunteers will be there to answer questions about the plants.

There will also be a binder listing all the different plants available at the sale, there will be pictures to go with them.

Each plant will be marked with a plastic tag to identify the type of plant it is.

The sale is sponsored by the

Biology Lab and Gerry Barclay’s biology students. The sale is put together by Gerry Barclay’s and Angi Caster’s coordinated studies course called BIOSHOCK.

In this class students learn about plant life focusing on the growth of flowers and vegetables.

Students have grown these plants for their course, and are now selling them in the sale.

It is not just the students who grew the plants for the sale; Donn Walter has helped to organize the plant sale’s at Highline for six years running.

This year his wife, Sabine Walter, is also contributing plants she grew for the sale.

Mother’s Day is just around the corner and plants make a great gift, Walter said.

“Where else can you go to a plant sale and walk away with a tray of plants for under \$10? Nowhere,” said Walter.

A major attribution that contributes to the success of the plant sale is the prices, he said.

The prices have never raised, we are not trying to make a profit. We are trying to make Highline a better community, said Walter.

The profit made from the sale goes toward purchasing supplies and seeds needed for next year’s projects.

“Where else can you go to a plant sale and walk away with a tray of plants for under \$10? No-where.”

– Donn Walter



# High schoolers get jump start

By Marin Bergman  
Staff Reporter

Puget Sound Early College is offered at Highline’s Federal Way campus for high school students wanting to achieve a college degree.

The Early College is a Running Start program developed to give high school students a complete high school diploma along with an associate of art degree from Highline by their senior year.

“I love the program. I have been working with the same students for the last two years; we know each other’s strengths and weaknesses. All the teachers know us by name, it’s a great environment,” Katrina Johnson said, a student attending Puget Sound Early College.

The program works closely together with the Federal Way, Kent, Highline, and Tukwila school districts to create courses to meet each schools standards of graduating.

Currently there are about 120 students enrolled.

There is a difference between the Puget Sound Early College and the Running Start program offered in Highline’s main cam-

pus.

When students apply for the Puget Sound Early College program they go through the same procedure as any other Highline student. They take the compass test and follow standard enrollment procedures.

But when a student joins the Early College program there is already a course designed specifically for them to follow.

Each class and credit is assessed, creating a specific schedule that each early college student has to abide by.

Less involvement with an adviser is needed; this is intended to create less pressure for the student to coordinate classes which fulfill both high school and college requirements.

Class size and environment has been a big focus of the program.

“Students here are privileged with a small-school setting, and with high school students that is very important, a smaller campus has brought together a very close relationship between students and faculty,” said Suzane Sittner, the program manager of Puget Sound Early College.

There are six teachers for the Early College program, so

having the same teacher at least twice is almost guaranteed. Teachers also are required to instruct one quarter a year at the main campus.

The Early College’s curriculum is structured differently than that on Highline’s main campus.

“Programs here are more project-based, grades are not determined solely on test scores. This gives students the ability to see why they are learning something and how they can apply it to real life,” said Sittner.

The Puget Sound Early College tuition is fully covered by the Running Start program at the participating high school.

The only fees that the students are accountable for are books.

“Students save a minimum of \$10,000,” said Sittner. “And a large number of these students are first generation college students. Not only are they earning a college degree, but saving money for their families and themselves.”

You can check it out for yourself, class schedules and applications for enrollment are available on line at [www.early-college@highline.edu](http://www.early-college@highline.edu).

# Striping work leaves roads skinnier

Crews began striping work on roads this week from downtown Seattle all the way to the Pierce County line during daylight hours all week.

Routes include: southbound Interstate Five, north and southbound State Route 169 and eastbound and westbound State Route 518, 516, and 164.

Sound Transit crews will close all but one lane of north and south bound SR 99 at the intersection of Southcenter Boulevard today while crews install traffic signals.

Crews will add a northbound high occupancy vehicle lane between 15th Street Southwest and 15th Northwest in Auburn to increase freeway capacity and improve traffic flow. Crews will close the following intersections and ramps from 10 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. the following morning to work on the new HOV lane: the on-ramp from South 277th Street to north and southbound SR 167, the on-ramp from 15th Street Northwest to northbound SR 167, the

180th Street on-ramp to north and southbound SR 167, the 167 SR off-ramp from South 180th Street, the left and right lanes of east and westbound South 212 Street, and the South 212th Street on-ramp to SR 167. The Washington state Department of Transportation will add a north and southbound lane to I-5 and SR 167. The Department of Transportation will also add one south bound lane on SR 167 between I-405 and South 180th Street, and extend the southbound SR 167 HOV lane from I-405 to the existing start of the HOV lane. These updates will close two lanes of northbound I-5 and SR 167 between 11:59 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow for striping, and two lanes of SR 167 between I-405 and South 180th Street from 8 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow morning for roadway widening work.

One lane of eastbound Grady Way near Oakesdale Avenue SW will be closed next week from 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. every day but Sunday.

One lane in each direction of Oakesdale Ave SW will be closed from 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. daily expect Sunday.

These two projects have been

a weekly occurrence for over a month, and commuters should be prepared for these closures to continue every day in the near future except Sundays.

The right lane of northbound and southbound SR 515 near 180th Street in Renton will be closed Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Crews will close the left lane of east and westbound SR 518 between SR 505 and SR 99 tonight and tomorrow from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. the following morning to install signs to improve safety and traffic flow from the Sea-Tac Airport.

Crews will close one lane of SR 900 at the intersection of Boeing Access Road and Ryan Way around-the-clock to repair and replace concrete panels. This project is part of the Central Link Light Rail project that will line light rail passengers directly into the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Expect delays in downtown Seattle this week as the Mariners close up a four-game homestand against Texas tonight and open up a two-game homestand against Chicago on Friday and Saturday and the Seattle Sounders will take on Portland at Qwest Field at 7 p.m. Saturday.





Editorial comment

Two candidates stand out

Its finals week in the search for president and Highline is left with a few good candidates and others who came with questions.

Three of the candidates, Dr. John Garmon, Dr. Julie Leidig, and Dr. Thom Armstrong, all looked good on paper, but had a difficult time answering questions directly.

Dr. Leidig has some of the right credentials, but didn’t teach at the college level very long, and has only been an administrator for a little over three years. Dr. Garmon and Dr. Armstrong both are experienced both as educators and administrators, but have had troubled relationships with colleges that they have already worked at.

An important part of being a college president is being able to effectively communicate the college’s mission to the surrounding community. The good news is that two of the finalists were articulate, had most of the right credentials, and actually answered the questions.

Randell Lawrence was one of two candidates who actually answered questions he was asked. Lawrence, the vice president of instruction at Olympic College in Bremerton, has the advantage of knowing the Washington state community college system. He was personable and is an experienced educator and administrator.

One issue with hiring Lawrence would be that he didn’t finish his doctoral degree. Lawrence was almost done when the chairman of his dissertation committee retired. Although this is an unusual circumstance, in an academic setting this ought to raise some questions.

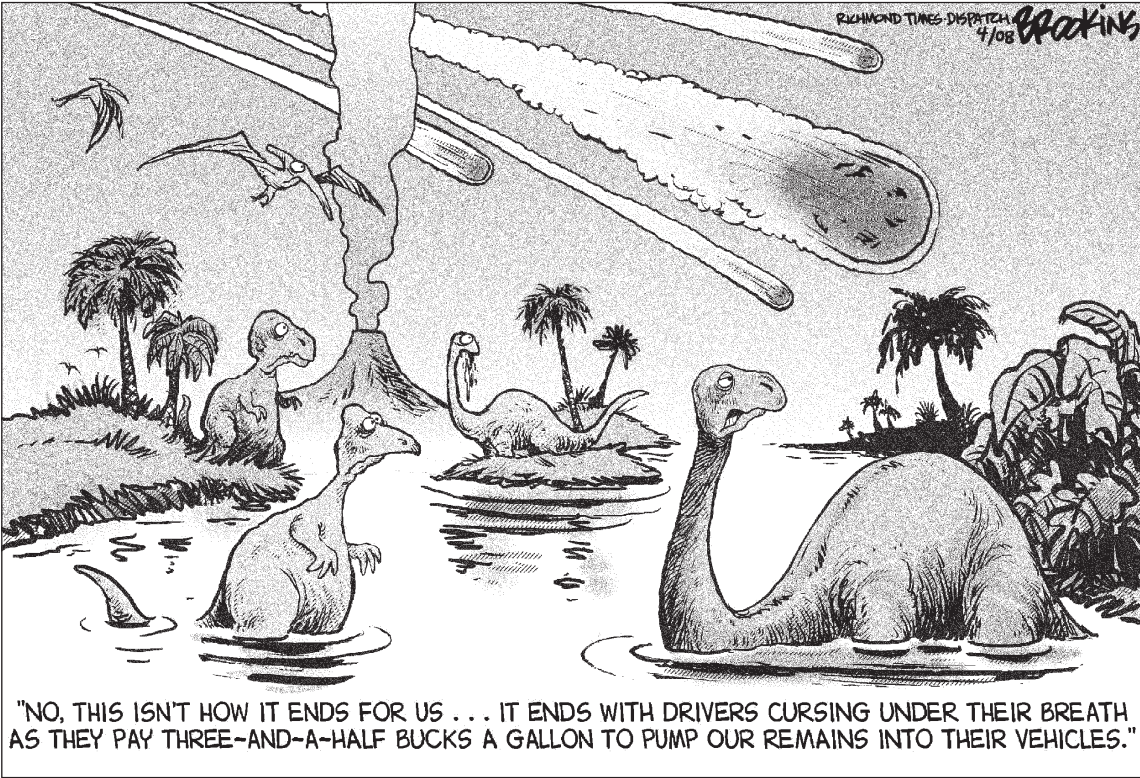
The other candidate who gave a good performance at the forums was Highline’s own Dr. Jack Bermingham. Dr. Bermingham’s greatest asset is that he knows Highline. He has been here for more than 12 years and has the experience with the campus and the surrounding community. Over the past 18 months Dr. Bermingham has helped Highline not just pull through through a difficult time, but move forward. A major part of Highline’s philosophy has been an emphasis on international education and this is largely thanks to Dr. Bermingham. Dr. Bermingham, like Lawrence, is also an experienced educator and has an extensive knowledge of the Washington state system.

Whichever candidate the Board of Trustees chooses, it would be in the college’s best interests to name the candidate soon. The longer the college has to wait, the more stress is placed on the campus and surrounding community.

Staff

“Don’t hate because you’re not an alcoholic.”

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"NO, THIS ISN'T HOW IT ENDS FOR US . . . IT ENDS WITH DRIVERS CURSING UNDER THEIR BREATH AS THEY PAY THREE-AND-A-HALF BUCKS A GALLON TO PUMP OUR REMAINS INTO THEIR VEHICLES."

Relationship compatibility demystified

Commentary

A divorce and a number of girlfriends have taught me much about the things I should look for when thinking about getting into a relationship.

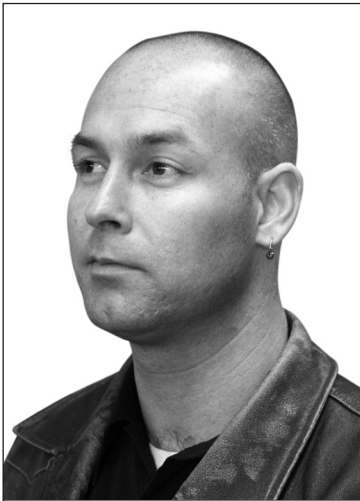
Common interests, maturity level, tolerance and current life situations are essential things to take into consideration when beginning an intimate relationship. When broken down simply and concisely these factors are easy to understand.

When two people meet there must be at least some form of physical attraction. However, physical attraction in itself will only go so far. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve found a woman attractive until I got to know her. Sometimes I just don’t find what a person has to say very interesting. There must be something non-physical that is alluring about a person, whether that interest is in conversation subject matter or the way a person presents his or her self.

After attraction is established the most tricky and subjective factor comes into play. Maturity is generally associated with but not exclusive to age. Supporting this is the more years a person has in existence, the more opportunities he or she has for life experiences.

Through experience, reflection and self discovery, a person develops a sense of identity. How a person reflects on his or her experiences and uses this knowledge to shape his or her persona, is maturity in the most general sense.

Although age can play a role in maturity, that doesn’t mean couples always have to be the same age to be compatible. I’ve had very successful relationships where there was more than a four-year age difference. It is important to keep in mind that no two people mature in the same ways, on the same timeline



Nathan Brown

or achieve the same viewpoints in all of the same areas.

If no other factors were involved, it would seem highly unlikely that anyone would be compatible. This is where tolerance comes into play. The word tolerance can send off a negative message but in reality is one of the few terms that is broad enough to cover patience, understanding, and being accepting of viewpoints that don’t always match your own.

Couples don’t need to agree on everything. If my partner agreed with me all the time, it would be a little annoying and I might think she was a robot. The submissive woman might have been attractive centuries ago but today it’s just plain boring. Our different experiences and insights are what make us appealing to each other. I absolutely love it when a woman challenges my way of thinking in an intelligent manner.

Tolerance bridges those gaps between subtle maturity and personality differences. It is a fine line, however; a person must take care in protecting his or her self from being taken advantage of during moments of

compromise. If one person is always giving in there is no longer compromise. Communication is the most important tool any couple has. Once I learned this skill, relationships became tremendously easier. The majority of issues can be resolved with a little talk and respect for the other person’s feelings.

Even with everything that has been said so far, couples who are a seemingly perfect match can have difficulty due to situations and circumstances that arise. Work obligations, financial situations, or tensions with relatives can all contribute to trouble in ordinarily healthy relationships. Even when couples seemingly do everything right, sometimes things just don’t work out. I had a great time with a young lady my last few months in Germany but knew that I would soon have to return to the U.S. A less extreme example was when I dated a woman that just didn’t have time for a relationship due to work and studies. That’s the way life works out sometimes and we must all keep in mind that these events are no one’s fault.

No relationship ever works out exactly as you envision it but that’s part of the fun. To ensure my relationships have the best chance to flourish, I strive for a healthy mix of communication, patience, self-assertion and compromise.

It’s a beautiful thing to share your life intimately with another person but it’s not something to jump into. Adequate time should be taken to get to know the person and find out if you are compatible with them. Although I wouldn’t say that I’m looking at the moment, I haven’t been known to pass up an opportunity when she sits down beside me.

*Nate is single, but not bitter about it.*







The Thunderword / May 8, 2008

# Chaet escapes Montana to climb Highline's hills

## Freshman pitcher finds home with fastpitch flock

By **Melissa Canfield**  
Staff Reporter

Montana is far from Des Moines but T-Bird softball ace Cara Chaet doesn't care.

Though Chaet hates hiking up hills to class, it's all worth it to her.

Chaet was raised in Helena, Mont. and played fastpitch at Helena High School. Though Chaet was a one-sport athlete in high school, she pitched year round and played summer fastpitch.

Chaet is now 19 years old, a freshman, and a pitcher for the Lady T-Birds fastpitch team, who are currently third in their division with a record of 29-20 overall, and 19-19 in season play.

Chaet currently has an overall ERA of 2.73, a record of 16-9, 161.33 innings pitched, and 126 strikeouts.

Chaet was also recruited by South Puget Sound Community College.

She decided to come to Highline because of the location, being close to Seattle, and because of softball.

"I wanted to get out of Montana and the freezing cold weather and I've always wanted to live in Washington. I love the rain as crazy as that may sound, and I like how beautiful it gets here," Chaet said.

"When I came on the recruiting trip all the girls were really nice and the coach seemed cool," Chaet said of Head Coach Anne Schmidt.

Another reason why Chaet decided to attend Highline was because the school is American Bar Association approved and she is working toward a paralegal degree.

"I really like Highline. The teachers are all really nice and always willing to help you out. The one thing I could do without is the campus. It's at a 45 degree slant and isn't too fun to walk when you're in a hurry," she said.

Chaet has been playing fastpitch for about nine years now.

"It's a lot of fun and you meet a lot of really cool people," Chaet said.

Chaet's favorite part of being on the fastpitch team is probably the friends she has made and the road trips.

"Being packed like sardines into those vans with all our bags and equipment is a definite bonding experience," Chaet said.

Chaet sometimes throws a curve or a drop ball, but her teammates say her rise ball is a solid pitch, which she uses effectively to set up her deceptive knuckle change-up.

Chaet says that's her favorite part of pitching: striking people out on her change-up, sometimes leaving batters just looking.

"They just stand there like 'Whoa, what just happened?'" Chaet said.

Chaet's biggest strength on the field is her pitching. Her weakness is fielding the ball in a hurry.

"I see the person running down the baseline and throw it way too fast without thinking. I think I have quite a few errors in that area," Chaet said.

"Overall, I am very happy with my decision to attend Highline. I've had a great experience here so far. I've met a ton of really great people here and had some great experiences in and out of the class room. I'm glad that I chose Highline and I will be back next year to do it all over again," Chaet said.

Chaet has always been a huge fan of Muhammad Ali and Michael Jordan. But the person she idolizes the most is her big brother Ben, who went on to play Division I football as a punter.



Lizeth Duran/THUNDERWORD

*Cara Chaet delivers a pitch at a home game recently*

In Chaet's spare time she loves to go snowboarding, wakeboarding, camping, listen to music, hang out with her friends and play the drums, piano and guitar.

After Highline, Chaet hopes

to attend UW or somewhere in California and become a lawyer.

The next time you can catch the Lady T-Birds in action is tomorrow at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. here at Highline.



*Cara Chaet chose Highline because of the paralegal program.*

## Program scores for young students

By **Whitney Iwasaki**  
Staff Reporter

Seattle Scores wants you to help local kids kick away problems such as juvenile delinquency and diabetes.

Seattle Scores, a non-profit organization sponsored by Adidas, is an after school program that helps children express themselves through soccer and poetry, said Natasha Trotman, the volunteer and outreach coordinator.

Seattle Scores is a year-long program that runs five days a week for 25 weeks of the year. Two days out of the week are

designated for poetry, and the other three days are designated for soccer.

There are two teams for boys and girls which each have 16 players on them at each elementary school.

"For the different seasons we offer different opportunities," said Trotman. "During the winter we focus on digital photography, during the spring we focus on soccer, and during the fall we focus on poetry."

Seattle Scores is located today in 13 different low-income elementary schools all over Burien, Tukwila, South Seattle, and White Center.

These schools include: Bow Lake, Cascade View, Cedarhurst, Dunlap, Emerson, Hazel Valley, Highland Park, Maple, Mount View, Roxhill, Tukwila, Van Asselt, and White Center Heights.

It is a free program to participating schools, students, and parents.

"Seventy-five percent of the children we get in our program qualify for free or reduced lunch," said Trotman.

The National Institute of Health stated that on average, about 35 percent of children

See Seattle Scores / P7

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# Non-profit organizations aim to help less fortunate

By Maxx Shelley  
Staff Reporter

Go up to bat for the less fortunate this weekend by attending the sixth annual Sports Night Dinner and Auction at the Des Moines Field House this Sunday.

This event is an auction and dinner dedicated to raising scholarship funds for underprivileged youth in the Des Moines area and will be sponsored by three non-profit, tax-exempt organizations: the Des Moines Legacy Foundation, the Des Moines Rotary Club, and the Des Moines Dollars for Scholars.

“This is a great way to write off some of your taxes,” said Bob Houston, director of the event and one of the many directors of the Des Moines Legacy Foundation.

The Des Moines Legacy Foundation is dedicated to raising money for parks, recreation, and senior centers to help make the community a better place.

The Des Moines Rotary Club is an organization comprising business and professional leaders who are connected worldwide to provide humanitarian services to help build the highest ethical standards in all oc-



The Sports Dinner and Auction focuses on raising money for underprivileged youth through auctioning off sports memorabilia and providing guests with a hearty meal.

cupations and to help provide peace and goodwill around the world.

There are over 32,000 Rotary Clubs around the globe. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

The Des Moines Dollars for Scholars is another non profit, tax exempt organization centered toward raising money for

underprivileged youths who otherwise can’t pay for a higher education by themselves.

The event will feature guest speakers including former Washington Husky Coach Jim Lambright, former KOMO 4 Sports Director Bruce King, and possibly a Seattle Seahawk.

“We usually have a Seahawk come, but we usually don’t know until a day or two before

the event,” Houston said.

The auction will feature a plethora of sports memorabilia ranging from autographed jerseys to autographed bats.

“We will have a lot of autographed Seahawks and Mariners jerseys, including an autographed Deion Branch jersey and an autographed Jay Buhner bat,” Houston said.

Houston said that they are

still accepting auction items and are hoping to have a high percentage of attendees because of the items that will be auctioned off.

The foundation is mainly targeted toward kids between ages 5 and 11, but will also help raise money for high school kids.

“This event is targeted toward younger kids but we will also be raising money for underprivileged high school students as well,” Houston said.

Houston said they raised over \$15,000 last year, and are hoping to raise even more this year.

“Hopefully we raise more this year,” Houston said. “Every year our goal is to raise more money than last but it all depends on the economy and how much people are willing to spend.”

The event will be on Sunday, May 10 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Des Moines Field House – the only full-log cabin in the State of Washington. Tickets cost \$10 and are going fast.

If you are interested in the event and looking to buy tickets you can contact Bob Houston at 206-870-6527.



Seattle Scores aims to help kids avoid problems such as being overweight or just in trouble.

By being an after school program, Seattle Scores hopes to decrease the amount of juvenile crime.

“Sixty percent of juvenile crime occurs after school,” said Trotman. “We provide a service that allows these kids to do something productive and learn how to better themselves through leadership and teamwork.”

Seattle Scores offers many different volunteering opportunities.

They are still looking for more volunteers to help out in their End of the Season Jamboree held on Friday, May 16 from 2:45 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.

They are looking for referees, team assistants, food distributors, family greeters, go-getters, and set-up/take down. You do not need to have any past experience to help out in this jamboree.

For more information about volunteering, visit [www.seattlescores.org](http://www.seattlescores.org)

## Seattle Scores

Continued From Page 6

from ages 6 to 11 that come from inner city communities are at risk of having type II diabetes.

Seattle Scores aims to change that statistic by empowering the children that participate through writing, creative expression, and soccer.

Soccer proved to be the obvious sport because of its small need for equipment and it allows children of all shapes and sizes to participate.



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The Thunderword / May 8, 2008

# Student actor takes role as director in spring one-acts

By Sam Boyd  
Staff Reporter

A seasoned veteran of the Highline theater department, Erik Hanson has acted in everything from the drama *Heart-break House* to the comedy *The Life and Death of Almost Everybody*. But he's never had a chance to direct — until now.

"I think directing is a lot of fun," Hanson said. "I love the experience, it helps me grow as an actor, helps me see things from off the stage; Seeing my own flaws in the actors will help me become a better actor."

Hanson is one of two students who will participate in the spring one-act plays as director.

Every year the Highline drama department gives students the opportunity to take the chair and experience acting from a different perspective.

The show will be on May 14-17 at 8 p.m. at the Little Theater in Building 4, room 122. Tickets are \$6 for students and \$8 for general admission



Satori Johnson/THUNDERWORD

Erik Hanson leads rehearsal for the one-act play *Last Resort* in preparation for the big show.



Erik Hanson

and are available at the door. Seating is limited so get their early to get a good view.

Directing alongside Hanson will be student Matthew Hopkins, guest director Patrick Allcorn and drama instructor Rick Lorig. In all, there will be five plays each 15-25 minutes long.

Hanson is directing *Last Respects*, a one-act play by the British playwright Colin Calvert.

This 25-minute comedy is

set in a funeral parlor, as the last wishes of the deceased are that his wife and his personal secretary meet over a glass of champagne. The results are nothing short of hilarious.

"If we do our jobs right, it should get some laughs out loud," Hanson said with a smile. "It's very obscure, I don't know if it's ever been performed in the U.S. before."

Hanson said his perceptions

of directing have changed now that he's not up on the stage.

"There's more to keep track of and keep organized than I thought," he said.

The play stars Highline students Brenan Grant, Ashlee Owen, Marlene Rodriguez, Jessica Richards, and Anton Sloboda.

"The hardest part of directing *Last Respects* is making everything flow together with new ac-

tors and experienced actors."

Hanson has applied to the prestigious London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art to pursue a career in acting. He's still waiting to hear back if he's been accepted to start this fall.

Hanson also is acting in the one-act play, *A Chalky White Substance*.

"It's the only one of the one-acts that isn't a comedy," Hanson said. "It should be good."

## Allcorn steps out of spotlight for his debut as director at Highline

By McKinzi Mortensen  
Staff Reporter

Patrick Allcorn has spent a lot of time on stage, but this quarter he'll take on his new role as director of two shows in Highline's Spring One Acts.

Allcorn, a Highline alumnus, will be directing *A Chalky White Substance* and *The Man Who Turned Into A Stick* this upcoming weekend.

After changing his major a couple of times, Allcorn graduated from Highline in 2002, but later decided to stay on for another year in order to take some more acting classes.

Allcorn said he finished with an embarrassingly high number of credits, somewhere around 215.

Originally when Allcorn came to Highline, his major was theater, but it had been both education and journalism that got him started in school.

"Unfortunately theater artists don't make a whole lot of money so I'm usually working a



Patrick Allcorn

day job and working on a show at the same time," Allcorn said. "That tends to take up about 13 hours a day, but when you get to do what you love, and make a little money at the same time, who needs a hobby?"

Although he doesn't have too much time on his hands, Allcorn said he loves golf.

Eventually leaving Highline in 2003, Allcorn went to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts to train further.

"Since I've been back from

The London Academy, I've worked at various fringe and professional theatres in Seattle. I love Shakespeare, so most of his work is in my plays," Allcorn said.

As for his newer direction in life, it is being one of the four directors of Spring Quarter plays going on at Highline next weekend.

Allcorn said he thinks the plays are both coming along rather nicely.

"*The Man Who Turned Into a Stick* was a little slow getting started, because one of the people originally cast ended up being unable to do it," Allcorn said, "but I think we're all caught up now and I'm excited to see even more growth in the next two weeks."

"I think that if you're happy with your life, you're a success," Allcorn said. "As it relates to theater, it's a little harder to define. I think a successful play is one that people are talking about as they leave the theater and continue to discuss on the

car ride home. We don't often get to hear these discussions but if we just tell the story we can trust that those conversations are happening."

Two members of the faculty, Christiana Taylor and Richard Lorig, approached Allcorn about doing the job of director. He just happened to have a hole in his schedule before his next show.

"I'm glad it worked out," Allcorn said.

"I feel like I owe those two so much, so it's a great feeling to be able to help out, and I haven't directed since I was a student here, so I thought it would be a good opportunity to apply what I've learned from working with professional directors and share that with the students here."

"It is the director's responsibility to serve the playwright," Allcorn said.

The director is sort of the middle man between the playwright and the actor and really just needs to stay out of the play's way and help the actors

tell the story.

"I think the text is the most important thing, and people find it annoying when a director tries to use a play, to tell a story other than what the playwright intended," Allcorn said.

A typical weekday in Allcorn's position may be a little intense.

"We don't have a lot of time to rehearse, so I try to get as much in as I can in a small amount of time," Allcorn said. "I usually arrive at 2:45 p.m. to rehearse *Stick* until 4:15 p.m. and then rehearse *Chalk* from 4:30 p.m. until about 5:30 pm or 6 p.m., but sometimes we just have to rehearse whenever we can."

"The plays are so different that it's really unfair to compare them," Allcorn said. *Stick* is probably a little more fun, but *Chalk* explores some pretty dark places and that can be fun too."

The one-act plays will run May 14 through May 17. They will be performed at the Little Theatre in Building 4, starting at 8 p.m.



# One of North America’s earliest distilled spirits has deep history



I’ll bet you weren’t thinking about the history of tequila as you were doing shots or drinking margaritas this past Cinco de Mayo.

The origins of tequila go back as far as the time of the Aztecs.

Tequila is a direct descendant of North America’s first distilled spirit and was around long before any Cinco de Mayo celebration.

In the village of Tequila, at the base of the extinct volcano also called Tequila, in the Mexican state now known as Jalisco, the Aztecs grew and harvested the agave plant. They then boiled the sap from the heart and fermented it into a beverage they called pulque. This beverage could only be consumed by religious authorities and kings.

When the Spanish Conquistadors arrived, they learned to distill the pulque into what we know as mezcal. Mezcal was not only easier to preserve, but it was twice as potent.

In the mid-1700s, a man named Jose Antonio de Cuervo bought a huge parcel of land rich in agave plants. Then in the late 1700s, Jose Guadalupe Cuervo, son of Jose Antonio, received from King Carlos of Spain the first commission to market mezcal.

In the early 1800s tequila production flourished and in 1835



the industry became regulated. Up to this time the production and quality of tequila had been inconsistent.

In 1911, the president of Mexico was overthrown and the new government encouraged more production of this drink. The film industry also influenced the spread of tequila and it soon became the most popular drink in Mexico.

An epidemic of Spanish influenza attacked northern Mexico in 1930 and tequila was the best medicine to fight it. It is said that from then on, tequila was drunk with lemon or lime and salt, because this was how the doctors prescribed it.

Tequila exportation to the United States increased during World War II and in 1987 Don Julio Gonzalez Estrada began developing higher priced tequila, leading the way to what are now known as premium te-

quilas.

For most people, the thought of mezcal conjures up images of a worm floating at the bottom of a tequila bottle. Yes and no. All tequila is mezcal but not all mezcal is tequila.

There are differences in the production of tequila and mezcal – for tequila, the agave is usually baked in a steam oven, while the agave used in mezcal is traditionally baked in underground ovens fired with wood charcoal. The pulque is distilled once to make mezcal, while tequila is generally distilled twice.

And the worm? It’s actually the larvae of one of two varieties of moth that live on the agave plant and can only be placed in mezcal – never in tequila.

But the biggest difference between tequila and mezcal is the agave. Mezcal can be produced from any of eight species of agave, but tequila can only be produced from the blue agave. In addition, tequila can only be distilled in the state of Jalisco and a few surrounding areas.

“If it’s not from Jalisco, it’s not tequila,” said Ignacio Robledo, bartender at Lago Azul Mexican Restaurant in Des Moines and former Jalisco resident.

To be labeled tequila, at least 51 percent of the fermented sugars must come from the blue agave. These tequilas are considered less-than-premium spir-

its. Premium tequilas are produced from 100 percent blue agave. These tequilas are smoother and more flavorful, and must be bottled within

Mexico.

“More people are drinking tequila than in years past and there are definitely more connoisseurs,” Robledo said.

“My most popular tequilas brands are José Cuervo Gold, which isn’t good tequila and usually drunk by people with no tequila knowledge, just wanting to get drunk, as well as Cazadores and Hornitos,” he said.

There are four tequila classifications: silver or blanco tequilas are clear and have been aged very little, if at all – no more than 60 days in a steel container. Gold tequila is an unaged silver tequila that has been colored and flavored with caramel.

Reposado, or rested, tequila has been aged in wooden tanks or casks for a minimum of two months, with the higher quality brands aging for 3 to 9 months.

Añejo, or old tequila, is aged in wooden barrels, usually old bourbon barrels, for at least 12 months. The best quality añejos are aged up to four years.

“Most people don’t know the difference between blanco, reposado and añejo, but they do know which brands are better,” said Robledo.

“My favorite is Corralejo. Tres Generaciones is also good and Patrón is the best you can drink – it’s our most expensive shot.

“More people are catching on to what good tequila is,” Robledo said.

With an understanding of tequila’s past, you can now enjoy a shot or drink accompanied by the all the rich history that surrounds it.

# Easy, cheesy Mexican enchilada recipe will make mouths water

By Catherine Dusharme  
Staff Reporter

In celebration of Cinco De Mayo week, here’s a muy delicious enchilada recipe.

An enchilada is meat or a meat mixture rolled up in a corn or flour tortilla, then covered with red or green enchilada sauce and cheese and baked.

Enchiladas are usually served with refried pinto or black beans, plus Spanish rice. Spanish rice mixes can be found on the pasta or rice aisle in the supermarket.

The most basic enchiladas can be made using just meat, tortillas, enchilada sauce and cheese, but adding vegetables, chilies and spices really makes them much more flavorful. In addition to adding heat, the chipotle chilies give the enchiladas a delicious smoky flavor.

You may substitute ground beef or steak in this recipe if you prefer. However, I always prefer to use corn tortillas because they stand up to the sauce and don’t get as soggy as flour

tortillas.

Enchiladas are an excellent dish to make when cooking for a crowd, as you can make as many pans as you need.

Plus everyone will think you’re a great Mexican cook.

If you happen to end up with leftovers, they keep well and taste even better the next day.

No matter what kind of enchiladas I make, I’m always sure to make extra.

- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 ½ lbs boneless skinless chicken tenderloins
- Salt and pepper
- 2 teaspoons cumin powder
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon Mexican seasoning
- 1 medium yellow or white onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 cup frozen corn or drained canned corn
- 6 canned whole green chilies, chopped
- 4 canned chipotle chilies, minced (for less spicy enchila-



Enchiladas are quick and easy to make. They are the perfect dish for a family dinner or a get together with friends.

- das, omit chipotle chilies)
- 16 - 20 corn tortillas
- 1 ½ cups canned mild red enchilada sauce
- 1 cup shredded cheddar and jack cheeses
- Garnish: chopped cilantro, canned sliced olives, chopped green onion, sour cream, hot sauce.

Preheat oven to 350° F.

Coat bottom of large sauté pan with oil.

Season chicken with salt and pepper. Brown over medium heat until no longer pink, sprinkling each side with cumin, garlic powder and Mexican spices before turning.

Remove chicken from pan to cool.

Using same pan, sauté onion and garlic in chicken drippings

until soft. Add corn and green chilies.

Stir to combine and heat thoroughly.

Shred chicken tenders by hand and add to sautéed vegetables in pan. Stir to combine.

Microwave tortillas on high for 30 - 45 seconds to make them pliable.

Coat bottom of two 13 x 9 inch baking pans with enchilada sauce.

Spoon ¼ cup of chicken mixture in each tortilla, folding over filling and placing in pan seam side down.

Place eight to 10 enchiladas in each pan.

Top with remaining enchilada sauce and shredded cheese.

Bake for 15 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Sprinkle top of enchiladas with cilantro, olives and green onions.

Serve sour cream and hot sauce in separate dishes, allowing each guest to garnish to taste.

Makes eight to 10 servings.



# From the stage to the page, Lorig creates quite a scene

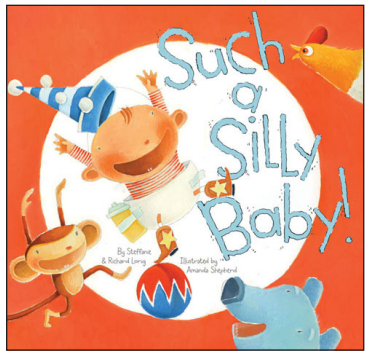
By Satori Johnson  
Staff Reporter

Highline drama instructor Richard Lorig hardly draws any attention to himself. He dresses plainly and has a soft and gentle voice. He works behind the curtains, and shies away from getting his picture taken. Lorig seems to almost disappear into his office hidden away in a far corner of the campus behind piles of miscellaneous theater props. One is almost fooled by his mundane exterior, but even a casual conversation with him will reveal that there is a lot more to him.

As a teacher, free-lance set designer and mentor, Lorig has worked behind the scenes as a driving force for imagination and creativity at Highline for more than eight years. He teaches many drama courses including set design, costume and make-up, and beginning drama.

Many of Highline's theater patrons have noted the quality and inventiveness of Lorig's designs.

Lorig recently added author to his list of achievements with the publication and release of a new children's book titled *Such a Silly Baby*.



Lorig's new book is titled *Such a Silly Baby*.



Rick Lorig teaches students the art of illusion with cosmetics in his *Theatrical Make-up* class.

a *Silly Baby*, which was co-written with his wife, Stephanie Lorig.

The book is a charming story about the adventures of a little baby who gets mistakenly switched with various animals. The baby comes back each time with a new sound it has learned.

"It's a book in rhyme that celebrates the acquisition of new sounds," said Lorig.

The colorful and lively illustrations are by Amanda Shepherd. Although Lorig and his wife were apprehensive about how well the artwork would reflect their vision, after seeing some of the preliminary sketches, they couldn't be happier, he said.

"Her work is so fantastic," said Lorig of Shepherd. "I think she's very, very clever."

The couple came up with the original story nearly nine years

ago, just after the birth of their son.

"We were spending a lot of time together after he was born, we started writing more together at that point," he said.

Lorig and his wife always had talent and love for poetry, but it brought them closer during their courtship while attending Northern Arizona University.

"We traded lines of poetry. She would write a few beautiful lines then I would add on a couple lines to the effect of Dr. Seuss's rhymes," said Lorig.

This method of exchanging creative ideas was how they wrote *Such a Silly Baby*, he said.

"Mostly for me, it was getting back to that great moment of fun with writing we had when we started dating."

Stephanie Lorig, who is the founder and executive direc-

tor of a non-profit organization called Art with Heart, submitted their stories to numerous publishing agencies.

They were denied, but with Stephanie Lorig's persistent determination Chronicle Book jumped in on the project and agreed to publish it.

"She's got that gumption that I don't have," he said. "She really believed that we had something that was fun and exciting."

Lorig said they learned that getting a book published was a lot more difficult than it seemed. It took the Lorigs four revisions and many mistakes to realize their dream of publishing a children's book.

"We were really blessed to have a number of great connections that really helped get our foot in the door," said Lorig.

The Lorigs finally received a final copy of their book a week

before Christmas.

"We joked that our son would be in college by the time the book came out," he said.

Although they faced many challenges, Lorig said that being so deeply and lengthily involved in theater has given him a great advantage to storytelling.

"Improvisation, dramatic structure, comic timing are all inherent in what we do in theater," he said. "That creative ability is engrained in my daily work experiences."

Another benefit he has gained from teaching drama is his confidence in his public persona.

"Being someone who has to share my work with a new group of people every quarter, I'm comfortable seeing people say about it and handling the feedback," he said.

Stephanie Lorig also had an advantage as a graphic artist. The non-profit organization she started has had great success in connecting local artists to the community in efforts provide therapy and artistic healing for hospitalized children and their families.

Lorig said that he doesn't write the books for money, he really loves what he does. A portion of the proceeds will go to the non-profit organization Art with Heart.

"For me, what's more exciting than finding the book in a book store is finding that it's in a library, and knowing that someone might take it home."

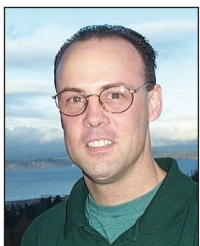
The book was released in the beginning of 2008 and is currently available for sale for \$15.99 at local book stores, amazon.com, and chroniclebooks.com.

## YouTube takes magic of Excel to masses

By Rochelle Adams  
Staff Reporter

Girl fights and the latest music hits aren't the only things you can find on YouTube thanks to Highline instructor Michael Girvin's Excel Magic Tricks videos.

For years Girvin has created video demonstrations online about how to use Excel for his classes.



Michael Girvin

Two months ago, he created the ExcelisFun YouTube website to post some videos for everyone, not just Highline students, to see.

"The purpose of the site is to share Excel knowledge around

the world and to showcase Highline in a positive way," he said.

He planned to use viral marketing, a term in the online world referring to an unconventional way of advertising through connections on the internet, to spread the word about Highline. So far, he is achieving his goal to an even greater extent than he had anticipated.

"The feedback has been overwhelming," Girvin said.

In the two short months his YouTube site has been up, he has received 2,408 channel views and his videos have been watched at an overall accumulative of over 25,000 times.

To add to that, the site has 127 subscribers from 25 countries around the world, including Qatar, Zimbabwe, USA, Afghanistan, Slovakia, Australia,

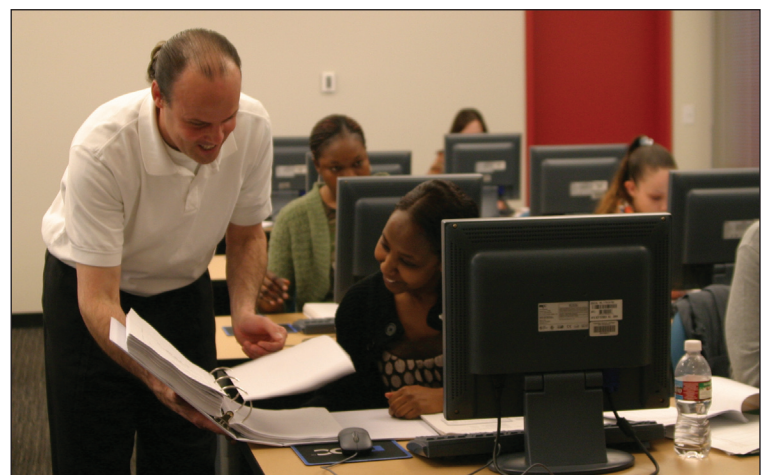
and the United Kingdom.

Through this YouTube site, he has been in contact with professionals, students and teachers around the world, from a teacher in New Zealand to a student in Seattle who now wants to take one of Girvin's classes, based solely on what he saw on YouTube. Girvin attributes the sites huge success with the growing need for Excel knowledge in the workplace.

"There's such a high demand for Excel, but they don't teach it as much in school," Girvin said.

That's why he teaches his classes, statistics, business math, finance, and accounting, with Microsoft Excel, which he said, "is a unique and real world approach to teaching these topics."

He believes there is no better



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Michael Girvin helps his students Excel in his business classes.

way to demonstrate Excel or to teach it than to show someone how to use it with a video.

While watching the video, you will see what Girvin sees from his own screen while he exuberantly narrates each step in each process.

He teaches everything in Excel from the "IF" function, which tells you what will happen if specific scenarios occur, to the

guidelines for smart spreadsheet construction, to questions viewers ask him on his site.

In addition to the videos, Girvin provides downloadable versions of the workbook he uses on his official site: <http://flightline.highline.edu/mgirvin/ExcelisFun.htm>

To check out his YouTube site visit <http://www.youtube.com/ExcelisFun>.

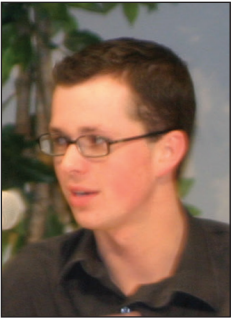


By Max Dubbeldam  
Staff Reporter

Julianne Versace has legs that go on for miles and a smile that'll make you weak in the knees. Alexys Champagne has curves to die for and a fire that'll blow you away.

But they aren't what they seem. They are really men.

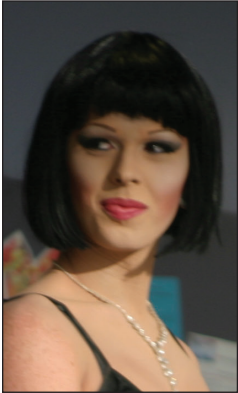
"Outside of Face, Looking Within the Performer: Panel on the Art of Cross-dressing" gave Highline an insight into the life and experiences of drag queens last Thursday.



Stairs

Isaac Stairs and Josh Magallanes were the speakers who let people see behind the make-up. Stairs and Magallanes were the stars of the Divas in the Spotlight drag show performance on the night of May 1.

Stairs' stage name is Julianne



Versace

convinced him how much fun it was.

Stairs said that he likes performing because it's exciting



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Alexys Champagne (Joshua Magallanes) unleashes his inner diva at the drag show.

# Kind of a Drag

## HOW TO BE QUEEN FOR A DAY: ALL YOU NEED IS THE WARDROBE, AND A SENSE OF FUN

and fun to do. Stairs performs around twice a week at a local club.

Magallanes has been a part of the drag scene since 2000. He said, however, that he's in semi-retirement now and only comes out for special events.

"It started when I did it for Halloween," said Magallanes. "It's very addictive."

Magallanes goes by the stage name of Alexys Champagne. "It's because I'm a little bubbly," he said.

Magallanes and Stairs explained how it is to be a drag-queen and shared their experi-

ences with the audience.

"It's nice to have the double life and put on a show," said Magallanes. "I'm able to pull off something that's near believable."

Stairs explained that most drag queens do it for entertainment purposes only. They like to go on stage and perform and have a good time.

At the Divas in the Spotlight show, both Magallanes and Stairs did four numbers each, with Sergio Ulloa emceeing the event during the costume changes.

"It was a unique, great atmo-

sphere. We did numbers from Chicago, Taylor Dane, Mariah Carey, and Fantasia," Magallanes said. "If I got the opportunity to do it again, I would."

Magallanes said that shows usually consist of the performer dancing and lip-syncing to whichever music they choose to do. He said that they come with a well-practiced and choreographed set.

This is the main difference between drag queens and other cross-dressers or transsexuals. Cross-dressing and transgender behavior is more associated with sexual fetishism.

Stairs and Magallanes also gave insight on how it is backstage before going on to perform.

Stairs said that it gets very chaotic backstage with everyone trying to get their hair and make-up in order.

"We're all helping out each other," Stairs said. "It's very much a brother- or sisterhood type of thing."

However, they did say that sometimes there is the one

quintessential "bitch" that you can't get along with.

"I try not to be evil," said Magallanes. "I believe in karma."

Being performers and having to go out on stage, they have quite a few nerves that they have to deal with.

"I was incredibly nervous the first time, hands shaking and all," Stairs said. "But when I came out and everyone cheered,



Magallanes

the nerves went away."

Stairs said that even though he does two shows a week, he still gets nervous every time.

"Once you get

over your nerves it's show-time," Magallanes added.

Magallanes said that he was most nervous the first time he went out shopping. But he said that the salespeople, especially the girls, get really into it and that it's really a lot of fun.

The process of getting dressed

up and putting all the make-up on is called "getting into face". Stairs said it takes him around two hours



Champagne

to turn into Julianne, while Magallanes said it takes him around 30 minutes to an hour to become Alexys.

"You've got to get into the mindset too," Magallanes said. "It's a whole transformation, not just the look."

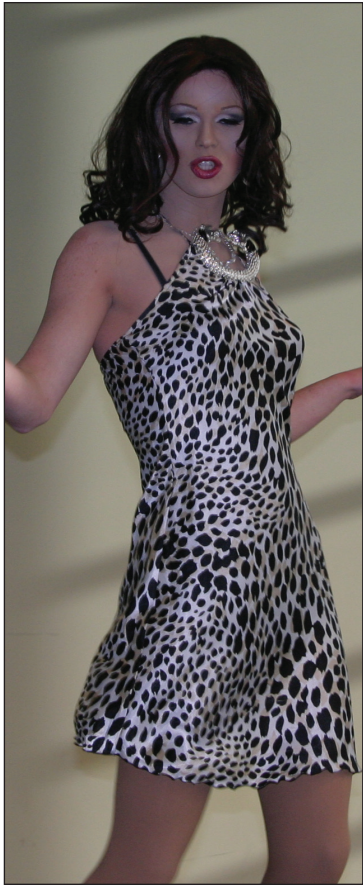
Magallanes explained how Alexys is a whole different personality that comes out whenever he's in face.

Stairs and Magallanes both want people to understand that being a drag queen is about entertaining and having fun on stage, and that they're not confused about being a boy or a girl.

"It's an act, pure performance," Magallanes said. "I'm all man."



Julianne Versace (Isaac Stairs) shows off the many moods of her outfits at the drag show.

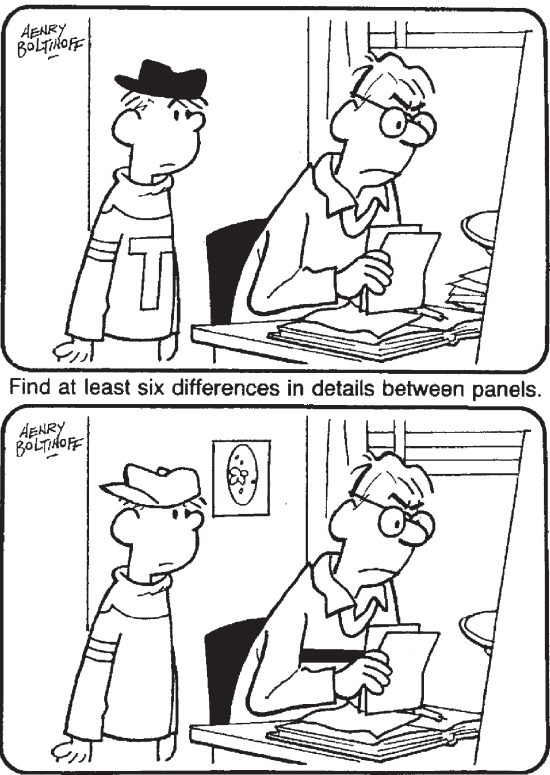


Versace works the crowd at the drag show last Thursday.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Boy's hat is different. 2. Picture has been added. 3. Blind's are lower. 4. Man's sweater has a stripe. 5. Desk papers are missing. 6. Boy's shirt has no letter 'T'. 7. Once every 20 years. 8. Abraham Lincoln. 9. 1880s. 10. White tie.

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?

Trivia

test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which U.S. state is known as the Hawkeye State?

2. MEDICINE: What also is known as a rhytidectomy?

3. MUSIC: Where is the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum located?

4. MOVIES: Who directed the film *American Graffiti*?

5. GAMES: If there is no winning combination of cards, which hand wins in poker?

6. MEASUREMENTS: About how much paper is in a ream?

7. TIMES AND DATES: How long of a period of time is a vicennial?

8. PRESIDENTS: Which U.S. president used the phrase "government of the people, by the people, for the people," in a famous speech?

9. LANGUAGE: In what decade was the word "skyscraper" first used?

10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the most formal type of attire for men?

Answers

1. Iowa

2. Facelift

3. Cleveland

4. George Lucas

5. The one with the highest card

6. 500 sheets

7. Once every 20 years

8. Abraham Lincoln

9. 1880s

10. White tie

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## Arts Calendar

•Highline's annual student-directed Spring One Acts return May 14-17 at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre, Building 4. Five one-act plays will be presented, including *Last Respects* and *A Chalky White Substance*. Tickets are \$6 for students and \$8 general admission.

•Centerstage Theatre presents *My Fair Lady*, May 9 - June 1, at the Knutzen Family Theatre, 3200 SW Dash Point Road in Federal Way. Showtimes are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for youth, \$20 for seniors and \$25 for adults. Call 253-661-1444 for tickets.

•Taproot Theatre Company will offer another Univer-

sity Night on 7:30 p.m. May 22 with a production of Joe DiPietro's *Over the River and Through the Woods*. Tickets for college students are only \$10. Taproot also offers a \$2 discount for students and a \$15 ticket to people ages 25 and under for all performances during the

Last week's  
Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Caddy Advice

Front Nine

Across

1. Grimm beginning

5. Gets under control

10. Ploy

14. Thug

15. Smells

16. Asia's \_\_\_ Sea

17. Apple variety

18. Advice to a dog fancier

"Try the \_\_\_"

20. Manage, with "out"

21. Bandleader Lawrence

22. Bridal path

23. Pilotless plane

25. Offering

27. Heads downtown

29. Constitution intro

33. Spanish hero

34. Pumps and clogs

35. Sought office

36. Pickle flavoring

37. Elegance

38. Gossip

39. \_\_\_ Dhabi

40. Pursue

41. ID for Friday

42. Free

44. Word with park or lone

45. Net-surfer's stop

46. Witch's threat

47. Sticky stuff

50. Dawber & Shriver

51. Pharmacy chain

54. Advice to a Franciscan

"Try the \_\_\_"

57. Dart about

58. Small change

59. "Great!"

60. Sand hill

61. Rice wine

62. Vampire killer

63. Aid's partner

Down

1. Shrek, e.g.

2. Cozy spot

3. Advice to Seinfeld

"Try a \_\_\_"

4. Compass dir.

5. Commuter's buy

6. One of the Astaires

7. Monastery resident

8. East ender?

9. Atlanta-to-Miami dir.

10. 2008 election topic

11. WWW addresses

12. Bellow in the library

13. Dresden's river

19. Priests of the East

21. Microsoft product

24. Churn up

25. Got up

26. Some jeans

27. Olympic award

28. Suspect's way out

29. New moon, e.g.

30. Advice to a civil engineer

"Try a \_\_\_"

31. T-shirt size

32. Go in

34. List of candidates

37. Casual conversation

38. Rather and Marino

40. Court TV's Catherine

41. Pubs

43. Heir's concern

44. Thunderous noise

46. Make watertight

47. Cpls. subordinates

48. District

49. Make, as a putt

50. "Not guilty," e.g.

52. Hollywood crosser

53. Leave in, to an editor

55. Draft org.

56. 100 lbs.

57. Rx watchdog

By Ed Canty

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

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

regular season. To purchase tickets, contact the box office at 206-781-9707. Half-price rush tickets are available at the box office to students 15 minutes prior to curtain when available.

Taproot Theatre is at 204 N. 85th St. in Seattle.

•Breeders Theater presents *Coriander*, July 11-27 at E.B. Foote Winery in Burien. Tickets are \$20; showtimes vary. See [www.breederstheater.com](http://www.breederstheater.com) for more information.

•Got arts news? Contact arts editor

Satori Johnson at [sajohnson@highline.edu](mailto:sajohnson@highline.edu), or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3318.

On-campus events get priority listing.

## Last week's crossword solution

WORKING WITH HOFFMAN

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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# WARNING: U cld gt a 411 msg via txt 4rm HCC

By Shalina Baldwin  
Staff Reporter

HCC Text Message Alert is the newest addition to Highline’s emergency alert systems. Created by Highline’s Instructional Computing, the HCC Text Message Alert was designed to rapidly communicate to students and staff in case of an emergency situation.

Subscribers’ cell phone numbers are kept in an HCC Alert database.

The database will send a text message to each subscriber simultaneously in the event of an emergency on campus.

All phone numbers within the database will be kept confidential.

The executive director of Administrative Technology, Dennis Colgan, said, “Many colleges and service providers have previously designed text message alerts systems, but Highline needed to design and implement a system that fits within our technology and budget structure.”

The new method of emergency alert is an effort to create the most efficient and easily accessible means of communication between students, staff and campus security.

The HCC alert system is not place-bound, allowing messages to be received on or off campus.

“This is one of the methods



Alice Moon/THUNDERWORD

we have of ensuring that people in our community are aware of what is happening in a crisis or emergency and what they should do,” Colgan said.

The alarm will be activated in the case of unscheduled campus closures due to weather or power outages, or if a student or staff member might be in danger.

Currently, there are 180 sub-

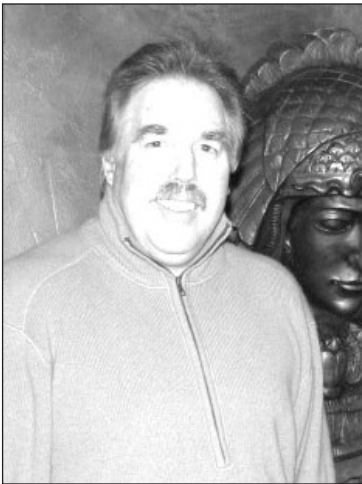
scribers to Highline’s new alert system.

Since its recent creation, the HCC Text Message Alert system has not yet had to be used.

Students can subscribe to this alert service if they are interested. To put your name in the database go to: <https://bob.highline.edu/hccalerts/> or by visiting Highline’s website, [www.highline.edu](http://www.highline.edu).

# Andrews redeveloping Des Moines’ downtown

By Kendall Cortese  
Staff Reporter



Scott Andrews

Scott Andrews is giving Des Moines a facelift.

Creating the opening for Butler Bar & Grill is just the beginning, he says.

Having been raised in Des Moines, Andrews has always been intrigued with the city on the sound.

“We’re one of the only towns on the water besides in Tacoma and a few up north,” Andrews said. “It’s a cool town in a great location, which is one of the reasons why I wanted to get property here.”

Andrews lives in Normandy Park and is a dentist who specializes in dentures.

When Andrews was in middle school he moved to Seattle with his family where he then attended Roosevelt High School. He then went to college at the University of Washington where he also attended graduate school, finishing in 1984.

Right out of grad school he got a job at Lacey Denture Clinic, which he later purchased, as well as two other clinics. After selling them, Andrews now runs a mobile denture business one and a half days a week and is teaching at the School of Dentistry once a week at the University of Washington.

Andrews has had a history of buying houses in the Seattle area and flipping them, turning them into homes that young couples can enjoy. This hobby has impacted what he thinks should be done with Des Moines.

In 2005 Andrews bought the majority of the property on the strip of shops that lie between

South 223rd and 225th streets on the west side of Marine View Drive, except for the Dragon Gate, the Des Moines Theater and AAA Liquidating.

Prior to this new purchase, Andrews already owned the Lighthouse Lounge, the Dog House, Eva’s Treasure by the Sea, and the Alterations shop.

Having purchased more land, Andrews was able to move his office above the Butler Bar & Grill.

Since the Butler project is done, Andrews’s next plan, starting in either June or July, is to remodel the former China Sea restaurant into a new Italian restaurant.

“It’ll have great food, and will also be in a good location where anyone can find it, right in the middle of Des Moines,” Andrews said.

Andrews says he wants to see dining that carries a comfortable yet attractive feel that welcomes anyone who happens to come through the south end to enjoy a night out.

“It’ll all happen, we’re just doing it one store at a time,” Andrews said.

## ‘Juno’ brings lightness to teen pregnancy

Movie Fridays presents *Juno* this week.

The movie is about 16-year-old Juno MacGruff and her

journey through pregnancy and the adoption process.

*Juno* will be playing in Building 7 at noon.

# Students hope to lay eggs - gently

By Nicole Claunch  
Staff Reporter

Highline’s first ever Egg Drop cracks open Thursday May 15.

The Society of Women Engineers is hosting the first ever Egg Drop competition. Students will be building a contraption which holds between one and five eggs. The contraption will be weighed by the judges and dropped off the third floor of the Student Union.

“This organization wants to expose students to the fun side of engineering,” said Judy Mannard, who is the co-advisor of the organization, and a part-time instructor of physics and engineering.

The Society of Women Engineers, founded in 1950, is a non-profit educational service organization.

“The society is trying to pro-

mote and encourage women in engineering,” Mannard said.

The competition will be held in the conference room on the third floor of the Student Union. The drop location will be the balcony of the Mt. Jupiter room. Drop time is at noon, but students should arrive at 11:45 a.m. to load the eggs in to their contraption.

The contraption can be no larger than 12 inches by 12 inches by 12 inches. Any material can be used except commercial packing materials such as bubble wrap and foam.

The competition is open to all students enrolled at Highline.

Students will be given between one and five eggs the day of the competition. Students need to mark which side of the contraption is down.

The student with the best score will win a prize. Scoring is based upon the number of

crack-free eggs after the fall, divided by the pre-drop weight.

First place winners will receive a \$30 gift card to Starbucks. Second place winners will receive a \$20 gift card to Starbucks. Third place winners will receive a \$10 gift card to Starbucks.

## Computer Science Computer Information Systems

### SUMMER 2008

- #6035 CSCI 100
- #6037 CSCI 102
- #6039 CSCI 142
- #6041 CSCI 242

- Survey of Computing
- Intro to Web Development (ONLINE)
- Object Oriented Programming w/Java
- Object Oriented Programming III

### FALL 2008 – Web Database Developer Entry Classes

- #6082 CSCI 102
- #6086 CSCI 111

- Intro to Web Development (ONLINE)
- Web Development w/Flash (HYBRID)





# Not-so-ordinary women honored at ceremony

**By Shannon Clary**  
Staff Reporter

Dana Craswell is a student at Highline who has overcome taking care of a son with spinal meningitis, a divorce, cancer, and being laid off from a job because she did not have computer skills.

But she has persevered, and last week was one of eight women who were honored at last week's Extraordinary/Ordinary Awards ceremony.

Women's Programs hosted the annual awards last Friday.

The ceremony was a part of Unity Through Diversity Week. Honorees were nominated by someone who thought they were living an extraordinary life.

The recipients of the awards included:

- Craswell, student in the Business Information Technology Department.
- Ashley Carey, a student and softball player.
- Karen Spaulding, Enrollment Services Assistant.
- Crystall Rodriguez, an employee in the Student Development Center and Women's Programs
- Candace Kruger, student and Thunderword business manager.
- Linda Quick, secretary for the Pure and Applied Science Department.
- Marie Zimmerman, interim vice president for Academic Affairs.
- Ruth Windhover, professor and Highline College Education Association president.

Sherrie Chun, faculty adviser in the Business Information Technology Department, nominated Craswell.

Craswell and her son now are both healthy and she is a student in the Business Information Technology Department. Chun said Craswell is the type of per-



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD  
*Carrie Draeger, top, gives teammate/roommate Ashley Carey a big hug at the Extraordinary/Ordinary Women awards last Friday in Building 8, as Jean Munro of Women's Programs looks on. Carey, right, accepts her award from Women's Programs Director Deana Rader.*

son who takes lemon and turns it into lemonade when dealing with a problem.

Ashley Carey was nominated by her roommate, Carrie Draeger.

Carey is the catcher for Highline's softball team, but has had a hard time getting on her feet. She has dealt with injuries and hardships but has overcome them and has been able to excel on the softball team and maintain eligibility.

Draeger described Carey as a leader and mentor. Carey has recently signed a letter of intent



to play softball at Northern State University in South Dakota.

Kate Bligh, associate dean for Enrollment Services, nominated Karen Spaulding.

"She is a warm, generous person," said Bligh.

Bligh described Spaulding as always being accessible and available to everyone. Spaulding was unable to attend the ceremony because she is recovering from surgery. Bligh said that despite Spaulding being in

constant pain, she has a smile on her face at all times.

Spaulding works at Highline, takes classes, and raises two teenage daughters with her husband Quinn, who received the award for her.

Lance Gibson, director of counseling, nominated Crystall Rodriguez.

Gibson described her as very open and energetic. Rodriguez was in foster care as a child and has struggled through abuse, a divorce, and drug problems. Gibson said Rodriguez is an inspiration to Highline's staff and students.

Diana Baker, student employment specialist, nominated Candace Kruger, who works at the Thunderword as the business manager.

Baker said Kruger takes charge of situations and goes above and beyond in whatever she does.

"It is possible you can achieve your goals. She's living proof," said Baker.

Kruger is getting her a degree from the paralegal department and currently has a 3.9 GPA. She is also a single mother to a 4-year-old daughter.

Angi Caster, a writing instructor, nominated Linda Quick, lead secretary for the Pure and Applied Sciences Division.

Quick was unable to attend the ceremonies as she was taking care of her ill mother.

Caster said faculty often refers to Quick as "Radar" because she knows what people need before they know it.

"When she retires the whole place will go to hell," said Caster.

Other than working for Highline Quick is a secretary and minute taker at an Alcoholics Anonymous group, and she uses her own time to mentor students and help them with their resumes.



Satori Johnson/THUNDERWORD

Award winners and presenters included Kate Bligh, left; Angi Caster; Marie Zimmerman; Candace Kruger and her daughter, Emma; Laquita Fields; Dana Craswell; Jeanne Munroe; Ashley Carey; Carrie Draeger; and Women's Programs Director Deana Rader.

## MATH

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# Move in your own direction - become extraordinary

By Shannon Clary  
Staff Reporter

Debrena Jackson Gandy says times are calling for women to move from being ordinary to extraordinary.

Gandy was at Highline last Friday as the keynote speaker for the Extraordinary/Ordinary Awards.

Gandy is an inspirational speaker and author.

She graduated from Pepperdine University and has worked as a business consultant and success coach for Boeing, Nordstrom, and Puget Sound Energy.

She lives in Seattle with her husband Joseph and her three daughters.

Gandy told the story of when she decided to become extraordinary.

It was her sophomore year in college and she was a tour guide at the Canadian Rockies.

She came across a stream thick with salmon all going the same direction.

"I watched all the salmon heading in the same direction. This is a kind of metaphor for life," said Gandy.



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Gandy spoke to the audience about her personal choices and how she made the decision to become extraordinary.

Gandy said she chose that moment to stop going in the same direction as everyone else.

She said most people are born ordinary and it is up to you to change.

"The seed of extraordinariness is planted in each one of us," Gandy said.

Gandy also said the movie *The Matrix* is a good metaphor for life.

She said by choosing to be extraordinary, you are choosing

to step out of the matrix.

"Once you choose to be extraordinary, there is no going back," said Gandy.

Gandy asked the audience to question their choices by always asking themselves "Why not?" and "Who says?"

"Fear is an illusion, it's not real. ... It becomes an excuse," said Gandy.

Gandy said everything she has done is because she was aggressive in the way she approached it.

She self-published her own book, and when she wanted to be in *Essence* magazine she mailed her article directly to the editor-in-chief.

"Why not go to the top?" she asked.

Gandy said if she would have asked the people around her if her approach was a good idea they would have said she was crazy.

She said the people you choose to hang around with will affect how you act.

Gandy said everyone gives off vibrations, and if the people around you do not have good vibrations, you should consider making them have a smaller role in your life.

This doesn't mean that you will be without friends; Gandy said that there are plenty of people who are extraordinary for you to be around.

"The friends you have will change but you will not be without many others," Gandy said.

Being extraordinary also means keeping your word, said Gandy.

She told the audience a story about the time she was pregnant and was scheduled to speak at a

conference.

Her due date was right around the time of the conference. Instead of backing out of it to stay home and prepare for the birth of her daughter, she decided to go.

When the time of the conference came she had already given birth to her daughter, but she still went.

Her friends watched her baby for her while she spoke and on her breaks she took care of her daughter until she needed to speak again.

"Extraordinary people keep their word regardless of circumstances," Gandy said.

Gandy gave the audience several characteristics of an extraordinary woman. She is able to say no and yes clearly, she loves to move and dance and is not afraid to look at her own naked body, she is comfortable bringing her voice forward, she laughs easily and often, and she has real orgasms, she doesn't fake them.

"Today I challenge you to choose to become extraordinary. Remember when you come to those moments when you can choose, ask why not and who says," Gandy said.

## Application deadline approaching for Student Programs positions

By Kandi Carlson  
Staff Reporter

Student Programs has a variety of paid and volunteer opportunities for the 2008-09 school year.

Student Programs creates "opportunities for people so they can glow with the radiance of leadership. The three things that make you glow are empowerment, compassion and an opportunity to do great things," said Jonathan Brown, associate dean, Student Programs and Leadership.

Applications are due May 12 at noon and may be dropped off in person. All positions average 15-19 hours a week and are paid at minimum wage.

Some of these positions include:

Club Consultant: Duties include club development, coordinating quarterly meetings and involvement fairs and help getting new clubs started.

Event Planning Consultant: This person will help clubs already started plan their events and activities.

Promotions Consultant: Duties for this position include advising clubs and individuals on how to successfully promote their club.

Speaker of the Caucuses:

Guide your peers in group discussions concerning world events and the different issues currently in the news.

Inter-Cultural Center Student Coordinator: (three positions available) Students will be responsible for coordinating quarterly multicultural events

and activities "reflective of the diverse populations of the Highline campus community," according to an advertisement for the position.

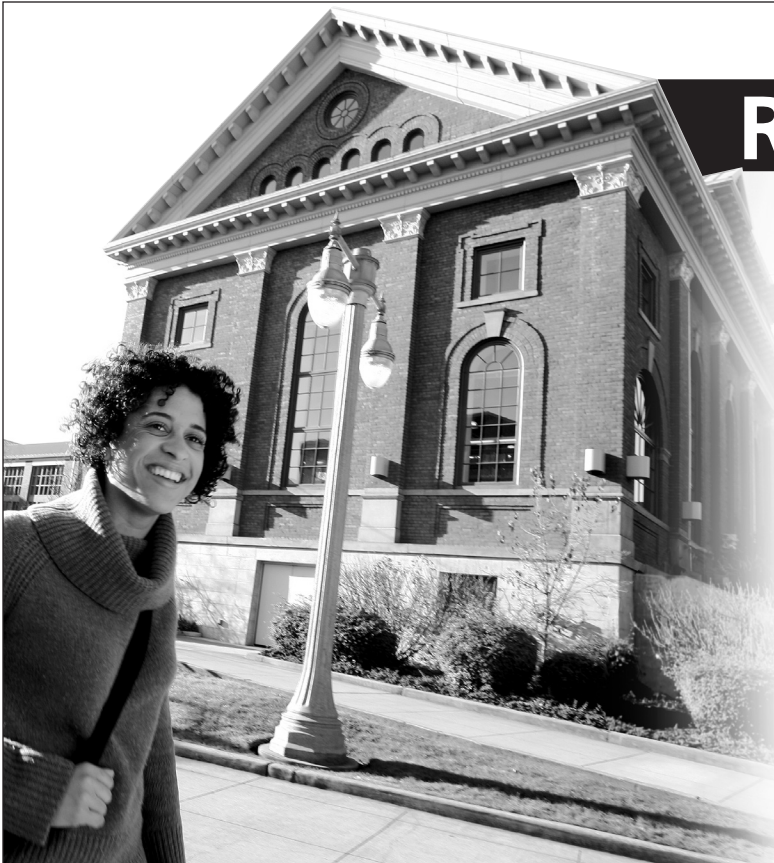
Front Desk Assistant: (four openings available) Students looking to fill this position will need excellent customer service

skill and strong multi-tasking skills. Work study students strongly encouraged to apply.

Along with your completed application you will need a copy of your resume and two completed Skill Evaluation Sheets and a copy of your transcript. Evaluation sheets are completed

by a faculty or staff member.

Students interested in applying may contact Marta at 206-878-3710, ext. 3255 or e-mail [mreeves@highline.edu](mailto:mreeves@highline.edu) or stop by the Center for Leadership and Service office located in the Student Union, Building 8, third floor.



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TACOMA

[tacoma.washington.edu/visit](http://tacoma.washington.edu/visit)





Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Members of the Washington state Supreme Court listen to testimony in a trial Tuesday in Building 7.

# Highline courts the Supremes during visit here

By Jaren Lewis  
Staff Reporter

The Supreme Court expects to be very busy in years to come.

Washington state’s Supreme Court visited Highline earlier this week.

On Monday, they toured campus, had lunch with students, faculty and staff, visited with Paralegal students, and met college officials at a reception Monday evening.

In between, the court held a public forum where six of the justices weighed in on current issues.

The Supreme Court is the highest court in Washington state; it is often called the “court of last resort.” Its nine members are elected to staggered six-year terms.

State Supreme Court decisions often define a precedent for cases in other courts, and are typically superseded only by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Washington Supreme Court’s decisions are the second-most-followed of the entire nation’s appellate courts, according to one study.

The six judges in attendance were Chief Justice Gerry Alexander, and Justices Barbara Madsen, Richard Sanders, Tom Chambers, Susan Owens and Mary Fairhurst.

“I’m a little embarrassed to say I’ve never been to Highline,” Chief Justice Alexander said.

At the reception Monday evening, Alexander praised the college for its diversity.

The panel considered the question of what issues might come before the court within the next 20 years.

Justice Owens said the Inter-

net will likely be a major topic, citing especially the legality of spam e-mail and how instant messaging technology interacts with freedom of speech as well as search and seizure law.

Justice Madsen said a more immediate issue could be how differing state civil union law is to be applied to same-sex couples who cross state borders.

Justice Sanders mentioned that issues could arise from giving consideration to the actions of the current administration, such as wiretapping and water-boarding.

“Courts should not simply be there to echo the executive branch,” Sanders said.

Another issue discussed was how the court chooses which cases to hear. Unlike lower courts, the Washington Supreme Court is obligated only to hear the cases they choose to; these cases are usually related to interpretations of the state Constitution, or more difficult appeals



Justice Charles Johnson questions an attorney during one of Tuesday’s trials, as Justice Richard Sanders, left, looks on.

to decisions from trial court.

Washington’s Supreme Court hears about 135 cases a year.

Chief Justice Alexander explained the “departmental hearing” process in which the court splits into two departments of five, the Chief Justice attending

both departments, to consider potential cases.

If either department unanimously votes to consider an appeal, it is guaranteed hearing; if an appeal is unanimously voted against, it is denied. In the case of a mixed vote the decision is postponed until all nine members reconvene.

Alexander also mentioned the kinds of cases they usually choose to hear, such as cases with little or no existing precedent.

“Is this a case of first impression?” Alexander asked. “We’re looking for cases of great public importance.”

The court travels to hold session at different places in the state about three times a year. Highline is only the third community college the justices have visited. At a luncheon on Monday, the six justices present chatted with students, answering questions about the court and its functions.

Buzz Wheeler, coordinator of the Paralegal Program, thought it was “a great visit,” that “was good for the campus as a whole.”

“I don’t think many people get the chance to see a Supreme Court at work,” Wheeler said.

“SUMMER OF SCIENCE 2008”					
Biology 100 (H) General	7/21-8/14	9:00-12:00	TTH	12-103 Moses	Last 4 weeks hybrid
Biology 100 Intro to Microbiology	6/23-8/14	10:00-11:20 11:30-1:20	TWTH W	13-105 Strohmaier 12-108	Traditional
Biology 110 (H) Marine biology	6/23-7/17	1:00-4:00	TTH	MaST Higley	First 4 weeks hybrid
Biology 118 (H) Human AP	6/23-7/17	9:00-10:50	TTH	12-102 Gan	First 4 weeks hybrid
Biology 119 (H) Intro to Plants	6/23-7/17	11:00-12:50 11:00-1:50	M W	12-103 Barclay 12-103	First 4 weeks hybrid
GESC 105 (H) Environmental Science	6/23-7/17	5:30-8:30	MW	12-103 Higley	First 4 weeks hybrid
Ocean 101 (H) Oceanography	7/21-8/14	12:30-3:30	TTH	MaST Moses	Last 4 weeks hybrid



# High court shuns drama in favor of careful argument

By Jaren Lewis  
Staff Reporter

The courts most of us know from television are radically different from their real-life counterparts, as Highline students learned last week.

The Washington State Supreme Court held session and heard three real cases in Building 7 at Highline on Tuesday.

The first case, which began at 9 a.m., concerned a local rental association suing the City of Des Moines over whether denying a request for public disclosure triggers a one-year statute of limitations.

The second case, which began at about 10:15 a.m., decided whether the Tukwila Municipal Court erred in selecting jurors from zip codes that are only partly inside city borders, meaning jurors weren't necessarily actual Tukwila residents.

The final case, which began at 1:30 p.m., settled the validity of the state seizing a hospitalized criminal defendant's property by "ex parte" order, or an order decided without input from the defendant.

The court was packed for the second case – there were at least 25 audience members beyond the room's normal 150 seats.

The nine justices were seated at the front of the room, with Chief Justice Gerry Alexander in the center. Though common tables stood in stead of the court's usual finished wood, the matter at hand was no less important than any case they consider in their halls in Olympia.

As crowded and excited as the room was, the hearing looked very little like the kind most see on television. There were no melodramatics, no surprise twists, no shocking testimony – just the nine justices, two attorneys and their statements.

The case began with a 15-minute opening argument from petitioner Michael Kenyon, representing the City of Tukwila, who said that the Superior Court was wrong to overturn the ruling, and that the Tukwila Municipal Court did nothing wrong in the way it chose the case's jurors.

His argument centered on a line in state law which states that "the jury panel may be selected at random from the population of the area served by the court." He said this line isn't binding but rather a suggestion, because it is phrased with the word "may," as opposed to the two sentences before it which use "shall."

Several of the Justices interrupted his statement, asking whether the line was entirely



Satori Johnson/THUNDERWORD

*The nine Supreme Court justices hear oral arguments in a case involving seizure of evidence from a hospitalized criminal defendant.*

meaningless if it was so non-binding.

He also argued that in an earlier case, *State v. Twyman*, the same court had allowed estimating the district's boundaries based on three zip codes. Chief Justice Alexander noted, however, that *Twyman* dealt with King County District Court, while this case involved Tukwila's municipal court.

This was followed by a 19-minute rebuttal from respondent Robert Boruchowitz, representing Kellas Garrett, who said that the original case violated state law by choosing jurors from outside city limits.

He argued that it would have been entirely possible to select

jurors based on city boundaries rather than zip code, because most of the jury pool is drawn from voter registrations, which list city as well as zip code.

He said choosing the jurors from outside city boundaries violated procedure because it meant the jurors were not selected from the "area served by the court."

Justice Madsen interjected to ask whether those nearby areas were, in fact, not served by the court; Garrett's representative was not prepared to answer.

After this rebuttal, Tukwila's representative was given four minutes to respond. He stressed again that the zip code selection process had been approved in

He also answered Justice Madsen's earlier question, saying that while Tukwila Municipal Court's scope was very limited, citizens from nearby areas could make use of the court, and therefore did meet the standard of the area served by the court.

Following this response, the justices held a short question-and-answer session with the audience, and then adjourned to decide the case. The court's written opinion on the case will be available in about three to six months.

Highline officials said they were very happy with the visit.

Michael Allen, a Paralegal professor, said he thought the visit was "extraordinary," a "unique opportunity for students, faculty and staff," and a chance to "showcase our campus to the justices, who are a very important part of our society's democracy."

Allen also commented on how well the campus responded to the visit - all three cases were standing room only.

"We had to turn people away."

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*Michelle Oquendo '08*

Michelle Oquendo '08  
Technical Management

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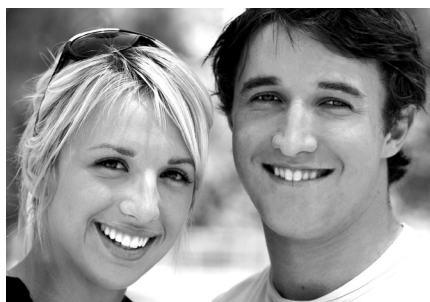
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## Survey

Continued From Page 1

parents become unemployed.”

In the fourth question, students were asked which credit card user would pay the greatest dollar amount in finance charges per year if each person was charged the same amount on their cards in the examples given.

Only half of the students answered this question correctly which was paying the minimum amount each month.

In the fifth question, it talked about “types of investments” and choosing which one would “best protect the purchasing power of a family’s savings” due to the rise of inflation?

More than half of the students chose the correct answer which was “a house financed with a fixed-rate mortgage.”

These questions were taken from a 31-question survey initially given by the Jump\$Start Coalition Organization.

Jump\$Start conducts financial literacy surveys every two years across the nation at high schools and college campuses.

The organization has been doing this to find out how they can improve financial education in schools.

In a report released by the Department of Financial Institutions, Washington state was shown to have done poorly.

The report showed that Washington high school seniors scored 48.6 percent correct in Washington state but were higher than the average nationally.

College freshman scored 59 percent correctly, while college seniors scored 65 percent correctly according to the same report.

Some of Highline’s students who had taken the survey responded hesitantly about whether they felt they know enough on their personal finances or not.

Esther Hamme moved to America at age 18 after leaving Thailand and had never been officially employed until then.

“I’d love to learn a lot more about finances,” said Hamme. “I am going to be taking accounting classes.”

Hamme said she learned about finances from what she’s heard “from life’s experiences” as she put it.

“You hear what others are saying about these sorts of things,” she said. “I just picked it up from listening to other people’s conversations.”

Cory Kataoka, majoring in business and finance, said he believes he now understands enough about his own personal finances.

“I have a mentor who is a financial adviser, so he teaches me all that stuff,” said Kataoka. “A lot of this stuff I got from my

accounting classes.”

He said that most of these questions are “common sense.”

“The credit card question is common-sense. I mean if you pay the minimum, you are going to pay more on the interest,” said Kataoka.

Lafe Altier said he does not understand enough about his own personal finances just yet.

“Honestly, I don’t,” said Altier. “Because I live at my parents’ house, I haven’t had to worry about it in reference to finances.”

Ryo Inoue, an international exchange student from Japan, said he believes he understands personal finances from his own experiences in coming to America.

“When I was in Japan I had quit my job and they gave me retirement money and I came here (America) and paid tuition to go to college here,” Inoue said. “The experience helped me understand how to use money.”

Inoue said that it was “from the company and my position as a sales representative in Japan” that helped him grow in his comprehension of finances.

Jenny Dunaychuk, a Running Start student, is not quite sure how much she really understands about her own finances.

“I don’t know what I need to know about all that stuff,” Dunaychuk said. “My parents, ‘Mama’ and ‘Papa’ usually deal with all of that.”

“I kind of learned financial stuff in fifth grade,” she said.

Shelby Hildreth, a Running Start student, also does not believe she understands her own finances well enough.

“Definitely not, I’m working for saving up for college and I’m not financially prepared to save and invest,” Hildreth said. “I don’t have the knowledge to be prepared.”

Hildreth shared a common explanation with some of the other students as to where she had learned a little bit about finances.

“My parents usually or online resources and basic details, but mostly just the fundamental aspects,” she said.

Abdi Fatah also agrees with the other students that his understanding is limited when it comes to finances.

“I don’t have a bank account and every bit of money I get I spend it. I don’t save it,” Fatah said.

## Green River Killer’s attorney speaks

By Liz Phillips  
Staff reporter

Forensic science helped solve the Green River Killer case, the killer’s defense attorney said here last week.

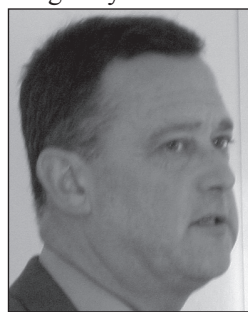
Mark Prothero gave Friday’s Science Seminar forensic insight to the conviction of the Green River Killer.

In 1990 Prothero’s name was literally “drawn out of a hat,” he told audience. This is what gave him the title of defense attorney for the suspected Green River Killer, Gary Ridgeway.

This opportunity permitted Prothero to fall “head over heels with cutting edge science as forensic science adapted to suit the law,” Prothero said.

Prothero, a Highline professor told audience about areas within the field of forensics that strengthened the case against Ridgeway and aided police in identifying the missing women.

Although the field of forensics was still evolving throughout his spree, eventually forensics is what sealed the deal for Ridgeway.



Prothero

These areas were forensic pathology, which provides details for autopsies, time of

death, and explicit information on any skin deficiencies.

Forensic anthropology was a crucial piece to many of the cases.

Forensic anthropology is an area that deals with the study of bones.

Due to the fact that throughout the case a lot of the evidence found was human bone, it made it a whole lot easier to identify these women, Prothero said.

Forensic odontology is another area that aided this case, Prothero said. This is the study that analyzes bite marks and dental records as well.

This area helped identify Denise Bush, who was one of the women that Ridgeway had hidden in Oregon.

Forensic psychology and



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Mark Prothero speaking at last Friday’s Science Seminar.

psychiatry were essential for testing Ridgeway’s sanity to withstand trial.

It was also used to test his ability to form specific intent and determine whether he was aware of what was right from wrong.

Trace evidence was also another major factor of a lot of his convictions he said.

This is when the scientist takes a microscopic look at evidence such as hair, soils, and paint fibers.

Paint fibers were found inside some of the women in this case, and later it was discovered that Ridgeway worked closely with this specific paint for his job.

The last field, DNA testing, was ultimately what identified Ridgeway as the Green River Killer.

On Nov. 1, 2001, a profile was developed from the tests that matched Ridgeway.

During this time Prothero had been having session after session with Ridgeway. They talked about his family, the Mariners, and really anything under the sun to get Ridgeway to start talking.

Prothero, being a part of the “death penalty team,” as he described it, felt that Ridgeway was likely the killer. It was crucial to get Ridgeway to see “the writing on the wall,” said Prothero.

Prothero was one of the first to have heard his well-kept secret.

“It was the ultimate ethical dilemma, keeping the secret. I couldn’t think about it,” said Prothero.

The confession that Ridgeway made to Prothero was used as a bargaining chip to nix the potential death sentence that was looming over Ridgeway’s head.

Prothero said that after, “five months of a drum roll” the deal was made.

Ridgeway contributed further information to the cases of the missing women and the death sentence was put to rest.

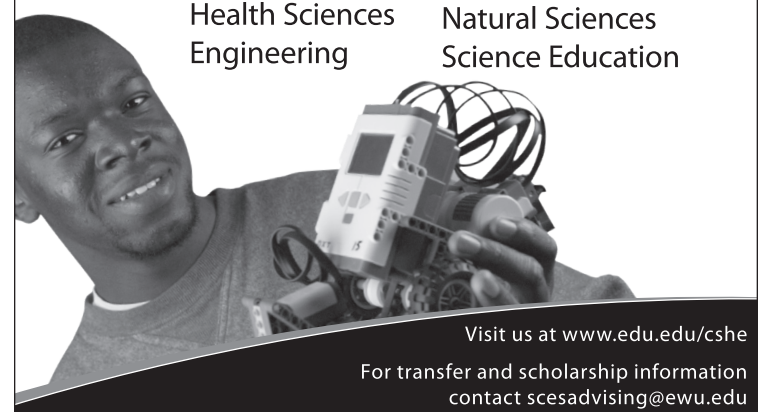
Ridgeway was found guilty, Dec. 19, 2003, of the murder of at least 48 women in the greater Seattle area and is now is incarcerated at Washington State Penitentiary in Walla Walla, Washington.



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# Presidential candidate hopes to be active on campus

By Shannon Clary  
Staff Reporter

Randell Lawrence doesn't want to sit at his desk all day if he becomes president- he wants to be actively involved in the Highline Community.

Lawrence was the last presidential candidate to Highline visiting last Thursday and Friday.

He is the vice president of instruction at Olympic College in Bremerton.

Lawrence said he is going to be vigilant about being personally involved with the Highline community.

He said he plans to have lunch, once a week, with students he doesn't know in the Student Union.

Lawrence told students he will be as available as they let him. He wants to attend as many sporting events, concerts, and student activities as possible.

"If you have any dances, you'll find out how bad your president boogies," Lawrence said.

He also said having strong relationships with the K-12 system will benefit Highline. Lawrence said using students to recruit will be extremely effective.

"You can tell people you made it, and so can they," said Lawrence.

At the student forum Lawrence told the students they should be proud and thankful to be in a diverse environment.

"There can be no learning without diversity," Lawrence said.

Lawrence said he wants to keep diversity at Highline, but he has some things he would like to see changed.

On the topic of scholarships Lawrence said he would like to see scholarships that are geared toward everyone. He said he would like to see money put aside for uncommitted scholarships and the college will get decide where the money will go.

Another change he would



Nick Bare/THUNDERWORD

Presidential finalist Randell Lawrence gets ready to speak at the student forum last Thursday.

bring to Highline is a change of appearance.

"One thing I've noticed is Highline looks the same from year to year," said Lawrence.

He said he would like to see old buildings rebuilt, and the entrance of Highline be made more visible.

Lawrence said he does not want to change processes that work for Highline.

At the faculty forum Lawrence was asked what his priorities and expectations are for the faculty.

"I don't have any," he said.

He continued to say that there was no point for him to come to Highline with a set of priorities and expectations. He wants to integrate his ideas with the ideas of the faculty and administration.

A faculty member asked about his role in hiring new faculty. Lawrence said he would have to hear from the faculty what they want his role to be.

He said his major reasons for hiring someone as faculty would be that the person has to have the same missions and values as Highline.

Lawrence said if the search committee is making sure those qualifications are covered, he

doesn't have to have a role in the interviewing process.

"I don't want to do something just because I want to. I'd ask how you are making the determination," said Lawrence.

Lawrence said he will listen to the faculty before he decides

to make any huge changes.

"What I have to do is learn from you all," said Lawrence.

He said he plans to avoid e-mails as much as possible and visit with faculty and administration to get to know them. He said he wants the trust to be built between himself, the faculty and administration and if their leadership style is not the same as his, he is fine with that.

"I'm not looking for clones, I'm looking for diversity," Lawrence said.

Lawrence addressed the changes that community colleges are facing in the next 10 years. He said he wants to figure out alternative funding sources for the college that are out in the community. He said it is important for him to raise knowledge of and the image of the college in the community.

"We have got to do something. We cannot rely on the state," said Lawrence.

Lawrence said he wants to press the state for more flexibility in faculty salaries. To do that, he wants the public to know the extent of what the faculty does.

He said he understands faculty deals not only with curriculum but with their students' emotional issues too.

"People don't realize that is a part of the job. ... The classroom time is a portion of what you do as a faculty member," said Lawrence.

Highline Community College

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[flightline.highline.edu/mast/SummerCamp.htm](http://flightline.highline.edu/mast/SummerCamp.htm)

## Search

Continued From Page 1

clude the entire campus community in the search process.

Highline's campus community had the opportunity to hear each candidate's forums online and comment to the Board of Trustees about each candidate on a feedback forum developed

for each candidate.

"A lot of it (our decision) is determined by the interviews and feedback from campus groups," Vander Ark said.

The Board met on Tuesday night in executive session to discuss the "qualifications of applicants for public employment," and will hold their monthly meeting today where they will also discuss the progress of the search process.

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## Tuition

Continued From Page 1

weighing in at \$2,676 before next fall's increase, according to data compiled by the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The students who pay the most community college tuition are from New Hampshire, who paid \$5,903 this year, compared to students in California who paid a mere \$600, according to the Education Board.

The tuition increase is driven by an overall inflation in the area, Grobins said.

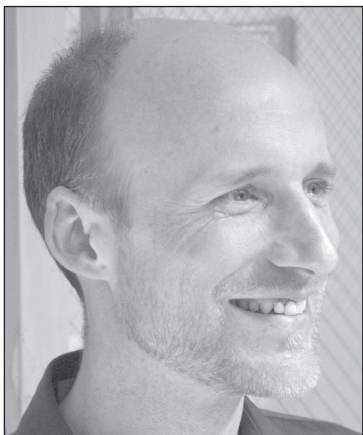
“We estimate inflation pressure on ‘goods and services’ costs. These include such items as energy and fuel costs (lots of upward pressure in this area), increased costs of office supplies, maintenance supplies, and other supplies that are not paid through student lab fees, increased costs for technology and software licenses, and library books,” Grobins said.

The costs associated with operating at Highline have increased lately, said Larry Yok, vice president for administration.

"The cost of operating the college increased an average of 6.6 percent over the past three years. Salary and wage expenses increased at a rate of 5 percent annually, and benefits expenses increased an average of 10 percent annually during that period of time. Other operating expenses (utilities, maintenance, supplies, etc.) increased at an average annual rate of 17.9 percent," Yok said.

The increase will not go toward pay increases, which are paid by the Legislature for state-funded employees, Grobins said.

## State funding for the college's



*Dr. James Peyton*

operating budget increased an average of 7 percent during the same three years, but has declined in the overall percentage of the budget for the college, Yok said.

The tuition increase will also help update current resources at Highline, Yok said.

“The college needs to replace and update its technology infrastructure, respond to new security concerns, and address staffing needs in student services, instruction, and institutional advancement that promote and support the college’s growth. These costs are largely met through income from tuition and other fees,” Yok said.

Another factor that plays a role in the tuition increase is that 41 percent of Highline's students are enrolled in programs like Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language, for which tuition is not paid, and state funding does not cover the full cost of instruction for these programs, Yok said.

The 2 percent increase will probably fall below the actual inflation rate for the area, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics website. Within the first couple of months, the labor stats show the Seattle metropolitan area with a 2.8 percent inflation rate.

“Relatively speaking, the

price of everything else is going up faster than tuition,” said Dr. James Peyton, economics instructor at Highline.

This hasn't been true in the past couple years though, as the tuition increase has been higher than the inflation rate, according to information from the State Board and the labor statistics. Between 2005 and 2007, the tuition increase was roughly 2 percent higher than the inflation rate.

Peyton has done research on the effect of increasing tuition on student enrollment. He found that higher tuition will have a negative impact on enrollment.

Highline's enrollment figures may prove otherwise though.

"It does not appear given our enrollment trends over the past few years that there is a direct correlation between tuition increases and a drop in enrollment. Over the past two years we've had tuition increases while enrollment has been steadily increasing. Since fall of 2006 we have not only met, but exceeded our target enrollment at the college," said Toni Castro, dean for student services.

Peyton said one reason that enrollment may stay steady is an increase in population in the



“The college needs to address staffing needs in student services, instruction, and institutional advancement that promote and support the college’s growth.”

– Larry Yok

area.

Castro said it's difficult to foresee the impact the increase will have on students.

"It's challenging to predict the effect that a 2 percent increase will have on students in fall 2008. The good news is that the increase is only 2 percent and not 3.5 percent or higher," Castro said.

Students who are eligible for financial aid will find that there will be more money to go around next year, Castro said.


“The institution will receive an increase in our Pell and state need grant allocations for the


2008-09 academic year, which is good news for those students who are financial aid eligible. The college contributes 3.5 percent of its tuition revenue to a Highline grant program for high-need students who don't have the resources to cover educational costs," Castro said.

Students who have to pay their own way through college will be the ones who feel the increase the most.

“It sucks. I don’t have any grants or anything. It (tuition increase) will really have an effect on me,” Highline student Diviya Joseph said.


Wrestling wins one, drops two / **P10**





Local artist creates mural for Student Programs / **P12**

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# The Thunderword

Highline Community College

Jan. 31 2008 / Volume 47, No. 14

## Focus on your future! Be a photographer for the award winning news team at Highline.


dents say they on voting in the 2008 presidential election, and a plurality say they would vote for Barack Obama.

Around the state, students said they would vote for Barack Obama.

survey, 58 percent of students made up 28 percent of the students were 2 percent, and 10 percent who were undecided.

percent.

"There a fair interest in politics. Not one party would completely win."



**By Prashant Verma**  
*Staff Reporter*

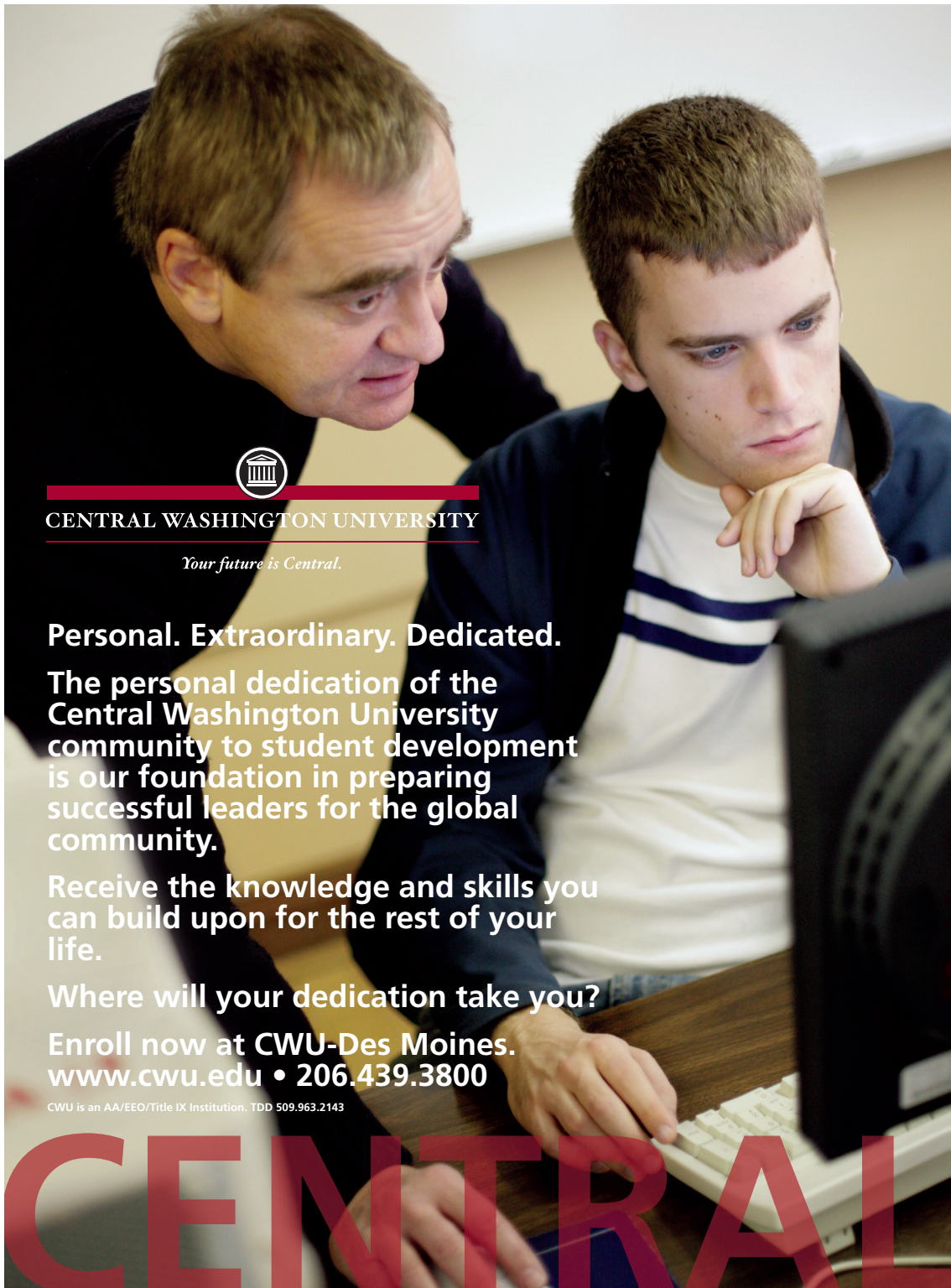
The citizens of Federal Way will vote Feb. 19 on whether to change the current form of government from council-manager system to mayor-council form.


Currently, the city has an elected council of seven people, who choose a mayor from among themselves. The mayor runs council meetings, but has no more authority than the other six council members.

The council usually hires a professional manager to oversee the day-to-day operation of the city.

Under a strong mayor form of government, a separately-elected mayor would be the city's chief executive, and wouldn't be part of the city council.

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A photograph of a man and a young man looking at a computer screen. The man is leaning over the young man, who is sitting at a desk. The young man is resting his chin on his hand. The background is a plain wall.

  
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