



MMA livens up Highline's Pavilion / **P10**



Marie Zimmerman set to retire from Highline/ **P17**

June 5, 2008 / Volume 47, No. 29

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Highline Community College

The Thunderword

Never too old to return to school



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Anna Stephens is graduating from Highline at age 69.

Meet Highline's oldest graduate

By **Melissa Canfield**
Staff Reporter

At the age of 69, Anna Stephens will be graduating at the age of most of her fellow students' grandparents.

Stephens is a mother of three, grandmother of seven, and a full-time student at Highline.

She is currently taking Accounting 145, Accounting 124

and BTECH 109, totaling 12 credits, and is planning to graduate this Summer Quarter with a degree in bookkeeping.

It's been a long journey for Stephens to get to where she is today.

Stephens was born in 1938 in the small rural town of Cavell in Saskatchewan, Canada. She grew up on a farm and loved her days as a youngster.

"It was wonderful. Life seemed to be so much simpler for us than it is for the children of today," Stephens said of her childhood.

Stephens' first education was in a one-room schoolhouse.

"There were between 25 and 30 students covering all eight

See Stephens / **P18**

Top 10 investment scams revealed

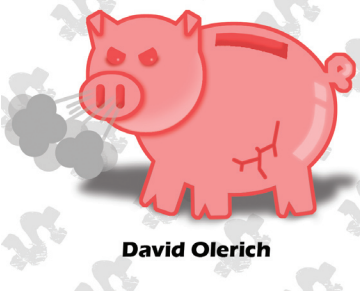
Some people in the world of finance and investment want your money and are unwilling to give you any sort of return on it.

Financial investment scams are running rampant these days, troubling many different people and creating great losses in their wake.

The state Department of Financial Institutions has been keeping a close eye on investment scams every year and recently released a report on the top 10 investment scams in the state of Washington this year.

The report said that Washington residents have reported losses between \$50 million and \$100 million from these types

MAD ABOUT MONEY



David Olerich

of scams each year.

These investment scams include: Ponzi schemes, senior fraud, promissory notes, unscrupulous brokers, affinity fraud, unlicensed securities sellers, prime bank schemes, internet fraud, free lunches and dinners and telemarketing fraud.

See Scams / **P19**

Highline makes decision on new food contract

By **Max Dubbeldam**
Staff Reporter

Highline has chosen Chartwells, a British firm, to be its new food service provider.

Vice President Larry Yok confirmed the choice on Tuesday.

Chartwells and the French-based company Sodexo were the two finalists. Yok said that Chartwells had an excellent presentation and that he thinks that they would be a better fit for the college.

"Their track record with other community colleges is good, and their financial proposal was realistic," said Yok.

Although Chartwells has been chosen, no contract has yet

been signed.

Yok said that Highline started negotiations for the contract on June 4, and that they will last about a month until they are fully complete.

Current food vendor Cater Seattle's contract continues through July 31, so Chartwells will have time to set everything up. Cater Seattle did not seek to have its contract renewed.

Yok said that Chartwells will have time to set up during the first through third week of August during the break between Summer Quarter and Fall Quarter.

Chartwells is a part of the

See Food / **P18**

INSIDE SCOOP



•Seven of Highline's most outstanding graduates performed like superheroes while here. Make sure to check out the B section to see these members of the class of 2008.

The Thunderword /June 5, 2008

CSI: **H**ighline**Rear-end collision**

A Highline student driving a BMW rear-ended another student driving a Nissan in the North lot on May 29. The student in the Nissan was leaving the lot and stopped when the student in the BMW was behind her and hit her rear bumper causing slight damage. Security was notified and the two students exchanged information and departed.

Student taken to hospital

A Highline student fell down a flight of stairs, scraping both her knees. She said that her knees were throbbing so South King Fire was called. At her request she was transported to Highline hospital on May 29.

Juvenile steals food

A custodian witnessed a male juvenile in the Library on the fifth floor in a break room on June 3.

The custodian notified Security that the male had taken food out of the fridge and off of the counter and then placed it into a white bag.

The male was described as slender with bushy hair.

Security contacted Des Moines Police Department and did a check of the area for the suspect. No one was found.

Lost and found items

Over the past month these are some of the most commonly lost items:

Lost:

Backpack, calculator, camera, dictionary, cell phone, wallet, keys, USB Drive, laptop, internet card, purse, picture of self, school books, binder, umbrella, black pants, flower accessories

Security has had the following items turned in over the last month.

If you feel any of these belong to you, you can go claim them at the Security office in Building 6.

Found:

Battery charger, backpack, cell phone, keys, metal cash box, pinky ring, glasses, wallet, coffee mug, Washington State ID card, Highline ID card, Metro Puget pass, make-up case, skull cap, Radio Shack shirt, blue pen case, pink Tweety folder, school books, CD case, jacket

-Compiled by Jason Baker

**Science Seminar goes out with a bang**

The last Science Seminar this Friday is the Fifth Annual Chemistry Show.

Chemist, John Pfeffer, is leading the seminar with a surprise special guest.

The show will have many experiments that include elephant toothpaste, mirrors, smoke, and a lot of excitement.

Science Seminar will be from 2:20-3:10 p.m. in Building 7.

All are welcome to the last seminar of the year.

The Arcturus debuts today

The 2008 edition of the Arcturus comes out today.

The Arcturus is annually published, it includes work by students, alumni, faculty and staff.

The publication has poetry, fiction, non-fiction and photography.

Works from the Arcturus will be read today from noon to 12:50 p.m. and again from 7:30-9 p.m.

The Arcturus has works by over 20 students, staff and faculty.

Free editions of the Arcturus are going to be handed out, and there will also be refreshments.

Pump it up at open house

An open house for information on the Personal Fitness Trainer program will be held today.

Students who are interested in a career as a personal trainer



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD
The Global Heath Fair was on Wednesday in Building 8. Students presented information on AIDS, hunger, and modern day slavery.

should attend.

The open house will be located in the Student Union Building in the Mt. Skokomish room from 12:30-1:30 p.m. and again from 5:30-6 p.m.

For more information about the open house or the Personal Fitness Trainer program contact Josh Baker, personal fitness trainer program manager, at 206-878-3710 ext. 3997, or at jbaker@hightline.edu.

Uncover treasure and secrets this Friday

The last Movie Friday of the quarter is presenting *National Treasure Book of Secrets*.

The movie is the sequel to *National Treasure*, and stars Nicolas Cage as Ben Gates.

Gates and his team go on a journey to clear his family's name after his great-grandfather is accused of being involved with the murder of Abraham Lincoln.

The movie chases them to Buckingham Palace, the White House, Mount Rushmore, and through the kidnapping of the President.

Movie Friday's will also provide free popcorn.

FREE TUTORING!

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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
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"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet." ~ Aristotle

<http://tutoring.highline.edu>

Understand elections

Attend a quick Defining Democracy planning meeting today to help prepare Highline for the upcoming fall elections.

The meeting will be held in the Mt. Skokomish room in Building 8, from 2-2:30 p.m. Join James Peyton in this quick political discussion.

Commencement under way

Commencement will be on June 12 at 3 p.m. at the WaMu Theater in Seattle.

If students have any tickets they are not using, please return them to Student Programs in the Student Union, Building 8. There is a long list of students who have requested more tickets.

Buy a parking pass today

Parking passes are available to be picked up for Summer Quarter.

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The price for the parking passes depends on how many credits students are taking.

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Full time staff and faculty do not have to worry about new passes, their current passes are good through Dec. 31, 2008.

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

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STUDENT JOBS:**Children's Spanish Teacher
3862 ~ Part-time ~**

Instruct and facilitate a class of up to 20 English and Spanish speaking students ages from 2 to 6 years of age, developing curriculum, creating age appropriate centers, and leading circle time and structured activities.

Location: Des Moines Wage: DOE Hours: Class is 1-3, one day per week plus planning time.

**Office Clerk
3844 ~ Part-time ~**

Prepare mailings and packets, sort and file records, proofread records or forms. Count, weigh, or measure material. Prepare bills, statements, receipts, checks, or other documents, copying information from one record to another, and other clerical duties.

Location: SeaTac Wage: \$10 Hours: 8 am - noon

*For more information log on to Interfase at:
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Bid money to help orphans

Phi Theta Kappa is having a silent auction today to help Ethiopian orphans.

Former Highline student and Phi Theta Kappa member, Meheret Debebe, started an organi-



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD
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zation that provides educational and recreational resources to orphans in Ethiopia who were affected by HIV/AIDS.

The funds will go to support Debebe so she can continue to do her work helping the orphans.

The auction will be today from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Building 8 on the third floor in the Leadership Resource Center.

The items up for auction include: water toys, gardening supplies, artwork, and a massage certificate.

Donations over \$50 are tax deductible, and checks should be made to the Tudor Foundation. Cash donations are also welcomed.

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Lincoln.

The movie chases them to Buckingham Palace, the White House, Mount Rushmore, and through the kidnapping of the President.

Movie Friday's will also provide free popcorn with several different toppings.

National Treasure Book of Secrets will be showing in Building 2 at noon.

Division chairs appointed

Highline President Dr. Jack Bermingham announced two division chairs on Wednesday.

Alison Green has been appointed as the Chair of Division for Arts and Humanities. She will serve from Sept. 1 2008, through Aug. 31. 2011.

Keith Paton has been ap-

pointed as the Chair of Division for the PE and Educational Division. He will serve from Sept. 1, 2008, through Aug 31, 2011.

Both were recommended by their divisions and Marie Zimmerman, Interim Vice President.

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For Student Government, it’s the Lance and Kelli show

By Jaren Lewis
Staff Reporter

Highline’s new Student Government has some big plans for next year.

Last week, Highline chose president-elect Lance Frank and vice-president-elect Kelli Tracey by vote on the Highline website. Their campaigns were coordinated together.

“We both tried to promote each other,” Frank said.

“Lance and I have been working together since December when we started on the S&A budget,” Tracey said. “I think that we will work well together.”

Tracey was chair of the Services and Activities budget committee, which decides where funding goes for programs on campus; Frank sat on this committee as well.

Tracey says she considers this one of her most important qualifications to be vice president.

“\$2.3 million is a lot of responsibility,” she said.

Frank lists his time at a construction apprenticeship as one of his major qualifications. He served as a class representative.

However, he says, “This is definitely on a much larger scale, and more organized.”

Both Frank and Tracey hope to address issues with Highline’s bookstore, in particular with book buy-back prices.

“Getting paid \$3 for your book and having someone sell it



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

President-elect Lance Frank and Vice President-elect Kelli Tracey share a laugh in the Student Union.

for \$60 is B.S.,” Frank said.

Tracey mentioned plans for a student book buyback. As she explained, the program will allow students to buy and sell their books directly with other students, which would mean sellers get a more reasonable return and buyers would get a fairer price.

She also said it was to let

students get together in a safe place, instead of over the internet, for more secure sales.

Frank also mentioned possible developments with e-book texts and doing away with bundle packages.

Frank said he is also interested in trying to provide Highline students with health insurance.

He stressed that this was

“not just because it’s a political hot topic,” but because he “consider(s) good health a right, rather than a function of the caliber of your job.”

“I think that next year we can get a lot done,” Tracey said.

Both said that time will be a major issue next year.

“Getting used to the time requirements will be a challenge

at first,” Frank said. “[Being president] means a whole list of responsibilities.”

“Both Lance and I want to make sure we have time for students,” Tracey said. “We sort of have to figure out what students need first.”

“Students have to let me know what they want to see changed,” Frank said.

ASL Club hosts Deaf-Blind woman

By Nicole Claunch
Staff Reporter

Highline’s American Sign Language club has invited Deaf-Blind community leader Jackie Engler-Morris to present this Thursday in the Mount Constance room.

The presentation will be given twice from 11 a.m to noon, and from 12:10 p.m to 1:10 p.m. This is the second time Engler-Morris has presented here.

Over the years Highline has had many presenters from the Deaf-Blind community come to share their stories.

Engler-Morris is deaf and blind, and will be working with interpreters who will assist the presentation.

“The club decided they wanted to have a presenter who was Deaf-Blind to find out about the experience firsthand,” Roman Wright said, who is a professor here at Highline. Wright has been teaching ASL for 20 years.

He spent 11 years at Everett



Roman Wright

Community College, and almost 10 years at Highline.

Engler-Morris’ presentation will inform students about the Deaf-Blind culture, and the history of the Deaf-Blind community in Seattle.

Highline’s ASL 103 class has spent two weeks learning how to use American Sign Language hand-to-hand, which is one way that people who are deaf and blind communicate.

Engler-Morris is the program director of the Deaf-Blind Service Center in Seattle.

She joined the center in August 2003. She is in charge of the senior citizens projects, the Deaf-Blind interpreting mentorship project, and the day-to-day businesses.

The center is fully committed to assisting the Deaf-Blind community.

“Jackie is a highly regarded leader in her community who has been living and working in the Seattle area for a number of years,” Wright said.

Previously, Engler-Morris was employed at the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation for seven and a half years in accounting.

Later she became a self-employed educator and presented about the Deaf-Blind culture to various groups.

“She is a perfect ambassador from the Deaf-Blind community and the students will add the inspiration they get from her to what they have learned over the last two weeks in class. I hope Highline will turn out to meet Jackie,” Wright said.

Pacific Highway slowdowns continue

Drivers should continue to expect daytime closures on Pacific Highway South in Federal Way.

Electrical subcontractors will continue to install street lights on the southbound side of the highway. Cables will be installed and the new lights will be working once the new sidewalk is poured.

An additional lift of asphalt pavement will be placed beside the new curb sometime between Thursday, June 5, and Tuesday, June 10, weather permitting.

This will allow crews to shift traffic up against the new curb during a restriping operation on Wednesday, June 11. Traffic will be shifted to the south side of Dash Point Road at the same time.

Patch paving of driveways for various businesses will continue from June 5, to June 10.

Crews will layout and cut the median north of South 288th

Street beginning today. Pavement removal is scheduled to begin next Tuesday.

Drivers will also battle delays on area freeways and some surface streets this week.

Crews will close two lanes on southbound State Route 167 between I-405 and 180th Street from 8 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow morning for widening.

One lane eastbound and one lane westbound will be closed on State Route 900 from Sunset Boulevard to Park Drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. today and tomorrow to set up a barrier.

Crews will close the left lane of eastbound State Route 518 from State Route 99 to I-5 from 10 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow for survey work. Flaggers will direct traffic on 42nd Street as needed.

The eastbound ramp from SR 518 to SR 99 (the ramp that heads into the airport) will be closed from 11 p.m. tonight to 5 a.m. tomorrow morning for construction work. Crews may also close the westbound ramp as well, depending on work progress.



Editorial comment

The ups and downs of 2007-2008

Another year has come and gone at Highline and it has been nothing short of eventful. We’ve seen many events take place around Highline this year that were positive, saddening and that were learning experiences.

A new college president was appointed, Board members have been lost, the continued tradition of excellent student government leadership, the MaST Center reopening, impending food contracts, successes and hardships in sports, a new track coach, non-students taking over the library, exciting festivals and many other events around campus. After a couple years of having an interim college president, Dr. Jack Bermingham was recently appointed to the permanent position this year. Most people on campus that made comments on the selection of Dr. Bermingham have had many positive things to say. The selection process of finding a new president was important but Highline should look at ways that it can be revised. Whether costly advisers were needed and a tedious timeline should both be examined. Highline also lost two Board members this year. The unfortunate death of Rita Creighton and the retirement of Karen Vander Ark have left the Board of Trustees incomplete.

Steven Simpkins was an excellent example of student leadership this year. We hope that future student body presidents can follow the model executed by Simpkins. The MaST center reopening after renovations is also a very positive event this year. The MaST center promotes education and research about the Puget Sound and is a valuable asset to the entire area. Highline’s food service contract is set to change in the near future. Cater Seattle didn’t bid for the contract this year and a new company named Chartwells is set to take over after July 31. We hope that Chartwells will be an improvement for Highline’s food service. They will at least have to maintain the current standard that has been set. Men’s basketball was able to make it as far as the playoffs this year while the women’s basketball team had a rough time this season.

Although the women’s soccer team suffered a season that was riddled with injury, they managed to pull through, win their division and take fourth in the NWAACC tournament. Men’s soccer made it to the quarterfinals but lost to Whatcom in a penalty shootout. An amazing victory for Highline this year was how the table tennis team dominated the competition at the Oregon State University tournament.

It’s certainly been an event-filled year at Highline. We hope that everyone on campus enjoys the break and will come back refreshed or continue on to bigger and better things.

Staff

“Bye for now!”

Editor-in-Chief	Nick Bare
Managing Editor	Shannon Clary
Assistant Editor	Carrie Draeger
News Editor	Max Dubbeldam
Arts Editor	Satori Johnson
Sports Editor	Maxx Shelley
Opinion Editor	Nathan Brown
Graphics Editors	Charlie Dubbeldam, Alice Moon
Photo Editor	Didn't get one
Reporters	Jason Baker, Catherine Dusharme, Rochelle Adams, Shalina Baldwin, Marin Bergman, Melissa Canfield, Kandi Carlson, Nicole Claunch, Whitney Iwasaki, Jaren Lewis, Stephen Marcum, McKinzi Mortensen, David Olerich, Elize Papineau, Liz Phillips, Katie Weythman
PHO	David Hsu, James Bermingham
Photographer	Lisa Visintin
Advertising Manager	Molly Gentry
Advertising Rep	Maybe in fall
Business Manager	Candace Kruger
Librarian	Jennifer Hawkins
Adviser	Dr. T.M.Sell
Newsline	206-878-3710 ext.3317
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Advertising	206-878-3710 ext. 3291
E-Mail	tword@highline.edu



Change the view of our place in the world

Humans have evolved over time to create the modern diverse cultures we have today. These differences have brought innovations and a wide range of perspectives that have advanced the human race into the complex creatures we now see in the mirror. Although biologically, these variations in humans are necessary to weather the storms of natural selection, they can be problematic when dealing with political and social issues.

Since roughly 10,000 B.C. some humans began to develop from more of a hunter-gatherer way of living into agrarian societies. Over time societies evolved and developed different methods of living that eventually became what we know today as being civilized.

Civilized cultures have disagreed about the many details of how to live including religious beliefs, roles of government and ways to run an economy. We could move toward ending the arguments and reasons for discrimination by dissolving the fear of the unknown. Naturally we’re afraid of different methods of living and often preach that they’re evil. If we could use positive aspects of various cultures and leave those that aren’t useful, through education, we could break up discriminatory stigmas.

In reality however, dissolving fear is too simple and idealistic of a solution if we don’t fully understand the dilemma. The problem is much more deeply seated than education and tolerance of others. In fact the word tolerance, although widely used in the context that I just did, can still carry a negative connotation.

“Acceptance and openness rather than tolerance,” are the words that should be used according to Highline biology professor Woody Moses. To

Commentary



Nathan Brown

tolerate a person isn’t the same as accepting who he or she is as a person, Moses said.

It is important for all species to have variability in order to survive, Moses said. The reason the potatoes died off during the great famine in Ireland is because there were only two types of potatoes. The potatoes on the island were not able to withstand the pathogenic water mold. If there had been other types, there might have been a chance that some could have survived the mold.

We know now that having people and other organisms of multiple varieties are not only positive but also a necessity. Accepting the differences in other humans is important but more importantly we must understand how humans fit in with the rest of the world. This is especially important when dealing with the environment and preservation of resources.

Because humans are the most cognitive beings we are aware of, we have a sense that we are the most important life on the planet. Some would argue otherwise but it is very evident within our religion, history, sci-

ence and folklore. Evolution and creation stories are all centered on the arrival of humans.

Since our history and theories teach that the evolution of the universe was completed by the arrival of humans we feel a sense of entitlement on the Earth. This entitlement fervor is ingrained into every child, from the day he or she is born into “civilized” society. We use up as many natural resources as possible and when concern is raised, it is often soon forgotten due to this lavish and entitled lifestyle we lead.

However, it is natural for most species to increase in numbers and utilize as many resources as possible, which often exceeds the carrying capacity of the environment, said Moses. The problem is that we take advantage of this instinct and accelerate it with our high mental capacity. The harsh reality is that there are no guarantees for the continued existence of human beings. I’m sure the great dinosaurs never expected to die off.

“Mother Nature bats last,” Moses said. Although the Earth appears to be in bad shape, we are at least much more aware of the problem with our environmental relationship than our ancestors were.

If we can begin to see ourselves as a part of the world rather than above it, some serious problems could be solved. Viewing ourselves, the trees and every organism as equally important would allow positive progression in the areas of racism, sexism, religious bias, mistreatment of animals and destruction of the rainforests.

Write to us

E-mail your submission to thunderword@highline.edu. nbrown@highline.edu

Breeders adds flavor to summer with 'Coriander'

By Satori Johnson
Staff Reporter

Breeders Theater is spicing up summer with their new play *Coriander*.

Always offering a different and freshly original perspective to current events, Breeders doesn't shy away from dealing with some hot topics.

Written by T.M. Sell, professor of journalism and political science at Highline, *Coriander* is a comedy that pokes some fun at local government and religion.

"He's (Sell) very good at capturing current issues and problems and satirizing them to the point where it doesn't offend

people," said director Martin Mackenzie. "The play is very entertaining, yet gets people to think."

The story takes place in the ancient Greek city-state of Aurora, which although is a beautiful place to live doesn't have enough housing.

A developer sees an opportunity to build new homes on a hilltop outside of Aurora, but faces opposition by a religious zealot and an environmentalist/feminist in building a route to the new development.

Should they build a road? A bridge? A tunnel?

The arguments go in circles and no decision making gets accomplished.

The gods follow the dispute from afar and debate whether to intervene.

"(In the play) there are mortals, like you and me, and gods who are played by the same actor," said Mackenzie. "It's interesting to see how their mortal character relates to their god characters."

The plot parallels Seattle's own Alaskan Way viaduct controversy.

"It's funny (because) the play really shows that things are the same now as they were back in the ancient times," said Mackenzie. "Things never really change."

Breeders Theater was founded by Sell and debuted at High-

line in 1999. Since then, Sell has been the source of all their original scripts.

"He (Sell) gets people to think, in an entertaining way," said Mackenzie.

Breeders' winter production, *Crazy/Naked*, was a success with the audience with its witty political satire.

"This show (*Coriander*) is not quite as politically overt as the last show," said Sell. "(But) there's always something there to offend and amuse anyone."

Breeders' venue is E.B. Foote Winery located at 127-B SW 153rd St., Burien. The winery is one of Washington's oldest and boasts many award-winning wines.

A variety of wines will be available for purchase after the show.

Tickets are \$20 and include three wine tastings for those 21 years old and older, before and after the show and during intermission. Light hors d'oeuvres will also be provided.

The show will play June 11-14, 16, 18-20, and 23-27 at 7 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m.

Doors open a half hour before curtain and guests are advised to dress casually.

Tickets are available for purchase at the winery, 206-242-3852, or at Corky Cellars, 206-824-9462, in Des Moines.

Blend finishes year with Highline favorite



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Society's Child blew into the Blend yesterday with a mix of songs with many different instruments and even had a couple dance routines. *Society's Child* is an R & B sextet from Seattle featuring Professor Ray Jay (Arthur Ross) on the keyboard, Lenny Epps on bongos and vocals, C-Bone (Cornell Robinson) on bass, and Netty Jackson (Annette Jackson), and Lady Vee (Vanessa) on vocals.

Old pots, forgotten artwork to help raise money for art department

By Rochelle Adams
Staff Reporter

Rob Droessler hopes to unite abandoned pottery with new owners at his pottery sale this Friday.

Droessler, who is a Highline ceramics instructor, calls this a "clean out the studio" sale because he will be selling abandoned work that has been hanging around the studio for the last eight years.

The work of advanced students as well as some of Droessler's own work will be available for purchase also.

"I have some very talented advanced students," he said. "You will be amazed by the pottery they create."

Don't be afraid that these works of art will cost a fortune because Droessler promises low prices on some of the art.

"All the abandoned student pottery will be on sale for \$1 a piece," he said.

The art from the advanced

students and Droessler will each be individually priced.

The sale will be an opportunity for buyers to not only get their hands on the work of some of Highline's up incoming artists, but will also give them the chance to help out the school.

All the proceeds for the event will go towards paying for equipment and supplies for the studio.

"I am very proud of our studio and the students," he said.

This will be the first time the pottery sale has taken place in the ceramics studio.

Even though it is usually held in the Student Union, Droessler wanted to show off the studio to the public in the sale/open house.

"We have one of the best ceramics studios in the area," he said.

So come by Building 16 room 171 on Friday June 6 from 9 a.m. to noon to get a look at the studio and the pottery and put some old pots to good use.

Graphic artists create quite a show

The Portfolio Show for the Graphic Design and Interior Design departments was held on Monday and Tuesday this week.

Students from the two departments showcased their work in the Mt. Constance room.

The show was coordinated by Gary Nelson, visual communication instructor, and his Graphic Design class.

The designs showcased by the students were done in their graphic design or interior design classes.

The variety of work included photos, paintings, logos, and many students displayed their resumes.

Some of the students stood by their work and answered questions from the viewers.

The Portfolio Show was also

a contest. The judges were a group of industry professionals who volunteered.

The departments were judged separately on things such as presentation and skill level. The winners will be announced either today or Friday in class.

First place will receive \$500, second place will receive \$300, and third place will receive \$100.



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Two students admire a presentation at the graphic design show.

Des Moines Farmers Market returns in time for summer

By Catherine Dusharme
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Farmers Market is getting ready to open for its third season.

“Our market is unique – it’s very community oriented and very fun,” said Season Market Manager Rikki Marohl.

The market will feature approximately 40 vendors per week, including local family farmers selling their fruit and vegetables, crafters, dessert makers, honey makers, salsa and other condiment vendors, flower vendors, plus ready-to-eat vendors.

Miro’s, a Polish food vendor, will be returning, selling pirogi, stuffed cabbage rolls and potato pancakes.

“We also have a new ready-to-eat vendor that we’re very excited about,” Marohl said. “They’re going to be making fresh pad thai and dim sum.”

Another vendor will be selling ready made deli lunchboxes.

“Eggs and cheese are a big thing this year, too,” said Marohl. “We only had cheese last year. And we hope to start doing monthly chef demos as well.”

There are also a variety of musicians booked for every day of the market.

Marohl said that although the market is on a very tight budget



The Des Moines Waterfront Farmers Market will open for their summer season on June 7.

this year, they’ve already gotten lots of support from the community.

“One of our best forms of advertising is the banner over Kent-Des Moines Road, but because the city’s bucket truck is broken, we weren’t going to be able to put it up until July. Then one of our regular market volunteers, Wayne Corey, got the Des Moines Fire Department to volunteer their two fire engines. They came out, along with two

police cars and the Medic One unit, and put it up last Sunday. Plus they put up our three flagpole banners downtown.”

This year the market will also be hosting a unique fund-raising opportunity.

They are renting a ship from Argosy Cruises and will be doing a fireworks cruise in the evening of July 4. The ship will depart from Des Moines Marina at 8 p.m., cruise to Seattle and then back to Des Moines, taking

in firework shows along the way and docking at 11 p.m.

“We’ll be able to see all the shows from Burien, Des Moines, Federal Way, Vashon and Tacoma,” said Marohl. “I think it will be a great night.”

The cruise will also feature desserts from market vendors and live music.

Tickets are \$49 for adults and \$39 for children and all proceeds benefit the market.

There are only 150 tickets

available and they will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.

They can be purchased at the farmers market, at www.DMFM.org, at the Des Moines Field House, located at 1000 S. 220th St., and from the City of Des Moines, located at 21630 11th Ave. S., Suite A.

Marohl is also looking forward to the opening day festivities on June 7.

The market will host the Waterland Children’s Art Festival, a strongman competition, and Safety on the Sound, which is put on by the Fire Department and the marina.

The Des Moines Art Commission will also be dedicating a new mural, called The Spirit of Des Moines, which will be hung on the back of the market wall.

Other market events include Earth Stewardship Day on July 26, Health and Fitness Day on Aug. 9, Back to School and Kid’s Safety on Sept. 13 and A Chili Cook-Off on Oct. 25.

“It’s very exciting – it’s going to be a great year,” Marohl said.

The Des Moines Farmers Market is held at the Des Moines Marina, located at South 227th Street and Dock Street, and is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., from June 7 through Oct. 25.

Make a fancy feast for a fantastic Father’s Day

Grilled butterflied Cornish hens with rosemary potatoes is a great grilled Father’s Day meal that’s sure to make Dad feel special. The hens and potatoes are easy to prepare and make a wonderful presentation. He’ll think you worked on the meal all day.

- 2 Cornish game hens
- 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary, removed from stalk and coarsely chopped, plus 3 or 4 extra sprigs for garnish.
- 2 small fresh chilies, such as jalapenos, seeded and diced (optional)
- Coarsely ground sea salt
- 16 small new potatoes
- ¼ cup butter
- 2 sprigs fresh rosemary, finely chopped (about 2 tablespoons)
- Sea salt and freshly ground pepper

To butterfly the birds, cut through the backbone lengthwise with a very sharp knife or poultry shears, then turn the bird breast-side up on the cut-



ting board and press hard to flatten. Do not cut through the breastbone.

Preheat the grill pan over high heat.

Place the hens skin-side up on the grill pan.

Brush with olive oil.

Sprinkle with rosemary, diced chili (if using) and sea salt.

Cook the birds for 10 minutes, or until the undersides are seared.

Turn and sear the skin sides, then reduce heat to medium.

Continue cooking the hens for 30 minutes or longer, or until the juices from the leg run clear when pierced with a toothpick.

While the hens cook, start the potatoes by cooking them in

boiling salted water for 12 to 15 minutes, or until just tender.

Drain well and gently rub off the skins.

Melt the butter in a small pan with the rosemary.

Toss the potatoes in the melted butter until well coated.

When the birds are done, remove them from grill pan and let them rest while you grill the potatoes.

Wipe out the grill pan with a paper towel.

Reheat the grill pan over medium heat.

Transfer the potatoes to the grill pan and cook until golden on all sides (5-10 minutes), turning often and basting with the rosemary butter.

Remove from heat.

Transfer the birds to a cutting board and cut through the backbone so you have 4 halves.

Arrange on a serving dish with the potatoes.

Sprinkle the potatoes generously with salt and pepper and garnish the serving platter with the remaining rosemary sprigs.

Serve with a green salad.

Prepare for lots of compliments and hugs from Dad.



Grilled butterflied Cornish hens with rosemary potatoes is a delicious dish that will be much appreciated by the whole family.

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Wherever you go this summer, music is in the air

By **McKinzi Mortensen**
Staff Reporter

Concerts ranging from Scottish fiddling to funk will tickle your ears in local cities this summer.

The shows are free and take place in local parks, weather permitting.

•Normandy Park is offering a family summer series scheduled for several Sundays in July through August.

The free concerts are scheduled from 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and are held at Marvista Park, 20000 4th Ave. SW.

On July 20, The McKassons, a contemporary Scottish fiddle band, will be taking the stage.

On July 27, WHOZYAMA-MA, a group from Bainbridge Island, will perform music from south Louisiana.

Nancy Stewart and the Cheaters take the stage on Aug. 3.

Supersones will hit the park on Aug. 10 with their Latin music.

On Aug. 17, the Erin McNamee Band will perform.

The last performance will be by Island Bound on Aug. 24.

For more information visit www.normandyparkwa.gov/office2.com. Under the City Departments link, click the Recreation, Arts and Community Services link, then click on the Events and Activities link.

•The Des Moines Arts Commission is a major sponsor of the Snohomish Artists Guild's concert series, featuring rock, jazz and blues artists.

Soundwaves Summer Concert Series, also known as the



Becky Sue and Her Rockin' Daddies will be performing for the Soundwaves Summer Concert Series at Des Moines Beach Park on July 26 at 7 p.m.

Snohomish Artists Guild's Beach Park Jazz & Blues Series, will take place at Des Moines Beach Park 22030 Cliff Ave S.

The shows are on Saturday

evenings this summer from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. and are free to the public.

Nationally-acclaimed group Becky Sue and Her Big Rockin' Daddies will perform on July 26.

Lady A & the Baby Blues Funk Band will play old-school jazz and Motown Fever on Aug. 2.

On Aug. 9, Alice Stuart will be showing just exactly what she can do with a guitar and her voice, even in her late 60s.

On Aug. 16, Michael Powers will display his love for the blues and jazz at the Des Moines series.

Kim Archer finishes up the series with her heavy soul and groove music with a little hop on Aug. 23.

More information is available at http://66.175.4.144/dept/parks_rec/events/soundwaves.html.

•From Latin to Blues to Reggae, the city of Burien livens it up this summer with artists straight from Seattle.

Concerts will be held from July 3 to Aug. 7 at the Lake Burien School Park, Southwest 148th and 16th Ave Southwest.

Ballard Sedentary Sousa Band will perform on July 3.

Ruby Dee and the Snakehandlers perform on July 10.

Correo Aereo and New Future's Dancers will represent the traditional and original music of Latin America on July 17.

On July 24, the Jelly Rollers are coming to town and they're bringing some delta blues along with them.

The Geoffrey Castle Band will be performing on July 31.

Wrapping up the Burien summer concert series on Aug. 7 is reggae artist Adrian Xavier.

Visit <http://www.burienwa.gov/parksrec/index.htm> for more information.

•Kent has a huge variety of artists performing at Kent's free Summer Concert Series.

The first show is on July 23 with the Blue Berries.

On Aug. 6, Recess Monkey will blend various musical influences with clever and comical lyrics for all those who listen.

On July 8 the award-winning group Correo Aereo performs.

Bluegrass band Head for the Hills will show all they've got on July 15.

The Senate will perform on July 22; the catchy Seattle trio pushes the boundaries of acoustic rock.

On July 29, Gypsy Soul, a California-based Celtic soul band willing to give it all they've got, will perform.

Little Bill and the Blue Notes will be there Aug. 5 and it's something you don't want to miss.

Darren Motamedy is coming to the series on Aug. 12.

•Newberry Realty's Thursdays at the Lake is scheduled for Lake Meridian Park, 14800 SE 272nd St, Kent from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. coming up this Summer.

It starts off with the Dirk Powell Band on July 10.

On July 17, Newberry takes off with Tingstad and Rumbel,

who are King County locals and Grammy Award winners.

Redhead performs some rocky, jazz-tinged fusion on July 24.

On July 31, Men of Worth is coming to town. Scotsman Donnie MacDonald and Irishman James Keigher will perform traditional and contemporary Irish and Scottish folk music.

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband will be playing Aug. 7. This quintet delivers a whole lot of fun with their energetic mix of acoustic, rock, and country music.

The last concert of all includes Lulu LaFever, stepping onto the stage Aug. 14, with sultry blues and a juke joint swing.

The Summer Concerts are presented by Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services and the Kent Arts Commission, with support of local sponsors.

For more information, visit <http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/arts/>.



Head for the Hills will be performing on July 15 at noon at the Kent Station Plaza as a part of the Kent Summer Concert series.

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News

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A crowd favorite, the Kent Cornucopia annual parade and Dragon Boat Race on Lake Meridian will be back this year for fun for the whole family.

Summer Fun

Outdoor festivals to entertain and amuse the whole family this summer

By Rochelle Adams
Staff Reporter

Several local festivals mean gas prices won't be a factor when looking for fun this summer.

Events include:

- Normandy Park's annual Arts Festival is being held on June 7 and 8.

This popular festival brings in hundreds of people a year.

Walk-in-the-Park, the event's annual 5.7 mile walk, will leave City Hall Park at 2 p.m. and will return about 2 hours later.

All-day musical entertainment will be provided by local groups, including Melanie's Dance Unlimited, four student solo performances, Muller-Ho Trio, and four members of the Normandy Park Youth Orchestra.

The Arts and Crafts Fair will give attendees the opportunity to buy and sell artwork.

Finally, the main event of the festival is the Juried Art Show, where both amateurs and professionals can submit their work for prizes.

For more information, contact the Normandy Park Arts

department at artscomm@ci.normandy-park.wa.us.

- Burien's Strawberry and Arts Festival will be held on June 28, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, June 29, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Attendees should expect food, activities for the whole family, art, music and fun surprises.

Modern dancers dressed as apes will be prowling among the guests on all fours picking up trash as part of the strolling surprises. Other examples of the fun oddities to be found during the festival are stilt walkers, the Anunnaki project, Mariachi Fiesta Mexicana, and many others.

The Burien Art Gallery will be holding a contest, a chalk

drawing demo and a muralist in action.

For more information on other activities and schedules check out the festivals website: www.burienstrawberryfestival.org/

- To celebrate our nation's birthday, Kent is rolling out a plethora of entertainment, games, contests and, of course, fireworks at the Fourth of July Splash.

The event takes place on July 4 from noon to 11 p.m. at Lake Meridian Park.

While there, you can take part in any of the event's challenges, including athletic skill contests as well as watermelon- and pie-eating contests.

There will also be games for the whole family, old-fashioned games, a classic cars display,

and a boat parade.

Music will be provided all throughout the day on the Valley Medical Stage. Performers include local talent, Jim Abernethy, the Po' Boys, the local rock group Sub-Motive, Steve & Kristi Nebel, and the Rainier Symphony.

The Polygon Northwest Lake Meridian fireworks display will start at 10 p.m. and finish off the day.

For more information, call Kent's Cultural Programs at 253-856-5050.

- Fireworks Over Des Moines and the Spirit of Des Moines Festival will be held on the 4th and 5th of July.

The July 4 celebration will be at the Des Moines Marina, where there will be entertainment from Joey Jewell & the Swing Session, followed by the fireworks display.

The next day, the Marina will

then play host to the Spirit of Des Moines Arts and Music Festival where there will be food, music, and arts and crafts.

Featured entertainment will be the local bands Randy Oxford and Junior Cadillac.

For more information on this two-day event, check out the website at http://66.175.4.144/serv_res/artscommission.html

- Come celebrate the 37th modern annual Kent Cornucopia Days from July 10 to 13.

The Lion's Street Fair, the hallmark of the festival, will have more than 600 vendors selling food as well as handcrafted and commercial items.

There will also be many sporting events such as the Dragon Boat Races, a soccer tournament, the 5K Fun Run and the skateboarding tournament, among others.

For more information, visit <http://www.kcdays.com/>

This week's crossword solution

WAY TO GO

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

This week's solution

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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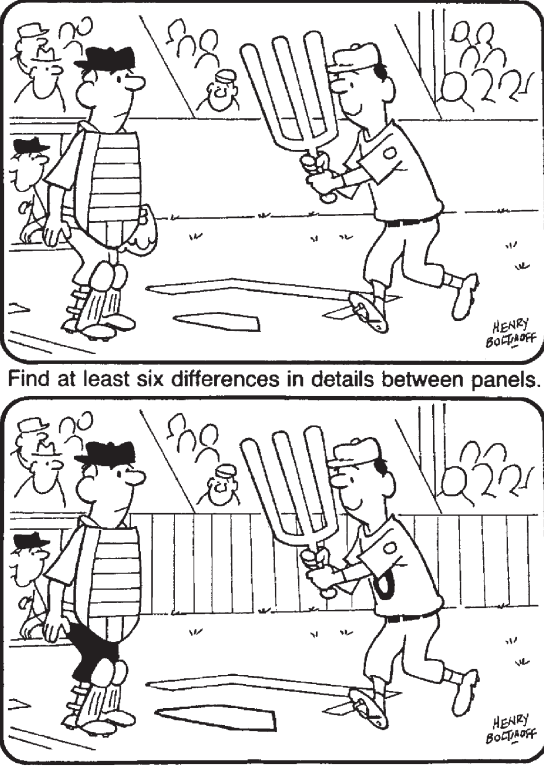
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Batter's shirt has number. 2. Catcher's mitt is missing. 3. Catcher's pants are black. 4. Part of crowd is missing. 5. Fence is different. 6. Home plate is bigger.

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1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of owls called?
2. U.S. STATES: In which state is the Adirondack Park and Forest Preserve located?
3. LANGUAGE: What is a pangram?
4. MOVIES: What movie contained the famous line "They're here"?
5. MEDICAL: What was Viagra originally developed to treat before it became a popular drug to combat erectile dysfunction?
6. GEOGRAPHY: What country has a region called Lombardy?
7. GAMES: Skittles most closely represents what other game?

8. LITERATURE: How many tales are contained in *The Canterbury Tales*?
9. TELEVISION: On which show did the phrase "Sock it to me!" originate?
10. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What company's slogan is "Can you hear me now"?

1. A parliament
2. New York
3. A sentence that contains all 26 letters of the English alphabet.
4. *Pollergest*
5. Angina
6. Italy
7. Bowling
8. 24, aside from the prologue and ending
9. *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*
10. Verizon Wireless

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Arts Calendar

•The Music Department Chorale Concert will be held Thursday, June 5, 7:30 p.m. in Building 7. Featured on the program is Vivaldi's *Gloria*, with Highline student soloists, and contemporary pieces by Piazzola and Whitacre.

All Chorale concerts are free and open to the public.

•Auburn Regional Theatre presents *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* June 6, 7, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29 at the Auburn Avenue Theatre, 10 Auburn Ave., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Call 253-929-6680 for tickets, or visit www.brownpapertickets.com.

•E.B. Foote Winery, 127B SW 15rd St., Burien,

hosts its annual Father's Day weekend special June 12-14. Enjoy complimentary wine tasting and snacks, with special prices on wines for the weekend. Hours are 7-9 p.m. Thursday, June 12; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14; and

Last week's
Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Way To Go

Across

1. Chip dip

6. Blue eyes, e.g.

11. N.J. summer setting

14. Chose

15. Accord maker

16. Balloon filler

17. Boston weather concern

19. Stop on a line: Abbr.

20. Says it isn't so

21. Page of music

23. Bounties

26. "Miss" of Broadway

27. Rugged ridges

28. Big hit

30. Bud holder

31. Bond player

32. Stat for Sosa

35. Repair shop fig.

36. Flower box

38. Syndicate

39. Ruby or Sandra

40. Place to practice driving

41. Ballpark figures?

42. ____ scholar

44. Mooch

46. Marbles, so to speak

48. Small bag

49. Concur

50. Dance energetically

52. Carnival city

53. Long Island village

58. Completely

59. Rich dessert

60. Shindig

61. TV remote button

62. Secretly watch

63. Deli order

Down

1. George W., to George

2. G.I.'s address

3. Env. contents

4. Prescribed time

5. Stick

6. Bangkok residents

7. Wine choice

8. Farm workers?

9. Chemical suffix

10. Roofing material

11. Noted wall builder

12. "Likewise"

13. Get in shape

18. Concludes

22. Feel sick

23. Went wild

24. Clear, as a disk

25. Precursor of Fosbury flop

26. Father

28. Hammer's partner

29. Learning method

31. Locks in a barn?

33. Hands on drum

34. "A Doll's House" playwright

36. Strikes, e.g.

37. Lord's mate

41. Rover's offering

43. Hasten

44. It's a long story

45. Preens

46. Teasdale and Lee

47. Nimble

48. Humorist Myron

50. Hide well

51. "Beetle Bailey" dog

54. "Alley ____!"

55. Prefix with angle

56. Tiebreakers, briefly

57. Gov. Patterson's place

Crossword 101

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												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				

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Quotable Quote

A period of travel and relaxation is when you take twice the clothes and half the money you need.

• • • Anonymous

noon - 6 p.m. Sunday, June 14.

•Breeders Theater presents *Coriander*, a spicy little tale about policy, July 11-27 at E.B. Foote Winery in Burien, 127B SW 153rd St., 206-242-3852. Tickets are available at the winery and at

Corky Cellars in Des Moines, 206-824-9462. Tickets are \$20, including wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres. Showtimes are 7 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Visit www.breeders-theater.com for more information.

•Got arts news? Contact arts editor Satori Johnson at sajohnson@highline.edu, or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3318.

Last week's crossword solution

GLOBAL WARMING

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	2		5					3
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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The Thunderword / June 5, 2008

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

Highline's first ever mixed martial arts event delivered a knock-out evening of entertainment and athletics last Saturday.

Fight fans of all ages were amassed outside the Pavilion, and the event was delayed because of all the people trying to get tickets. Tickets were \$20 for general admission, which was the seating in the stands, and \$35 for VIP seating, which were chairs surrounding the cage itself.

A total of 1,200 fans packed into the Pavilion and all of the stands were completely filled. With heavy metal music blasting and the crowd growing louder and louder in anticipation the scene was set for a night unlike any Highline has ever witnessed.

The event was set up by the West Coast Fight Team and was in part a fundraiser for the Highline and Yakima Valley wrestling programs, which are the only two community college wrestling programs in the state.

Highline Wrestling Coach Scott Norton refereed the first few bouts.

The fight card consisted of 12 all-amateur fights with a lot of fighters making their debut in the cage.

"It's a well organized and a pretty classy operation," said Athletics Director John Dunn. "It's a great fund-raiser for the wrestling team."

The night started off with a bang when WCFT's Armond Allen knocked out Tad Sit-Chaisai in six seconds with a vicious high kick. This was a new record for fastest knock-out for the WCFT.

The fight set the pace for the rest of the evening. All of the fights included intense attack-styled fighting with seven of the 12 fights ending in the first round.

"Amateurs tend to fight more offensively than defensively," said the night's emcee and producer of the event, Christopher Cope.

Cope also explained that many of the fighters are trying to make a name for themselves and get recognized, so they go all-out when they're in the cage.

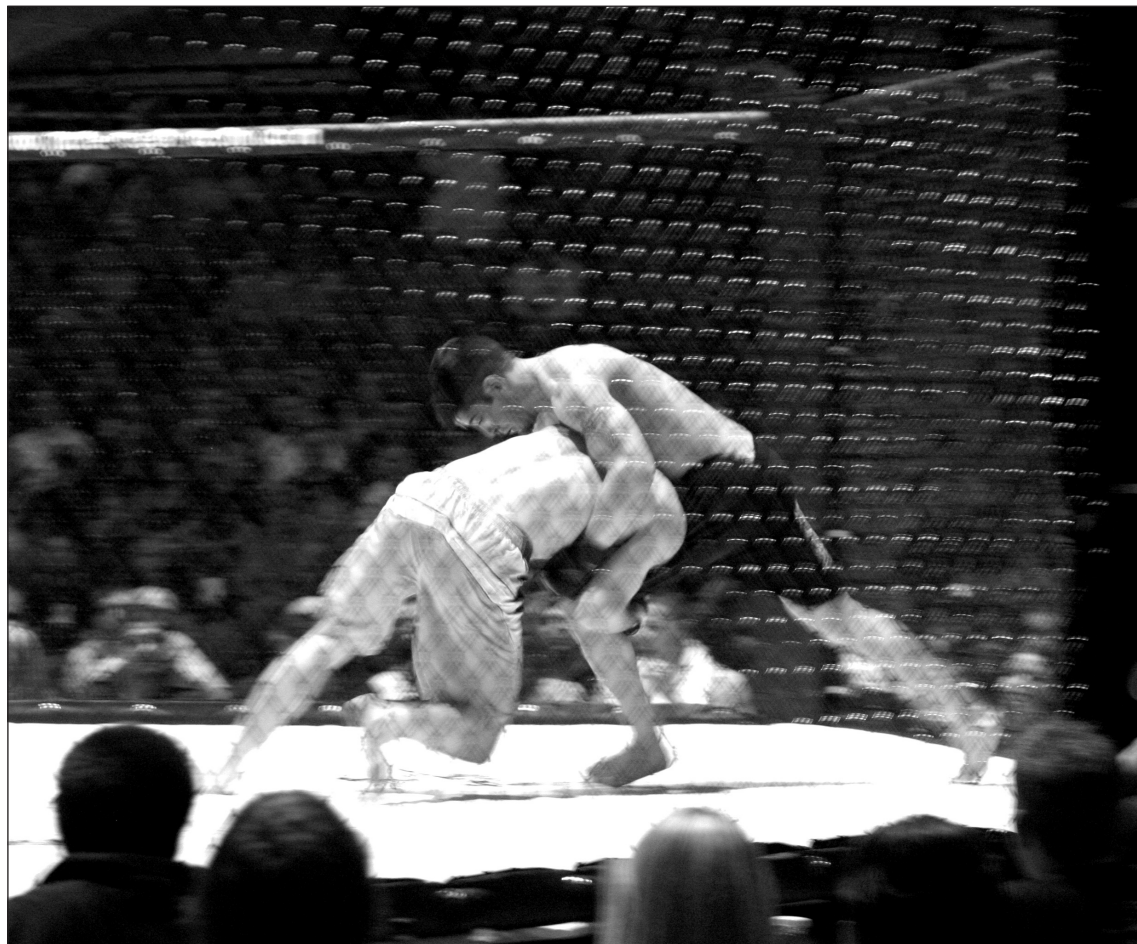
The third bout of the evening showed off the groundwork that is incorporated with MMA.

The featured fighters in this match were Lincoln Taitano from WCFT and Nick Peterson.

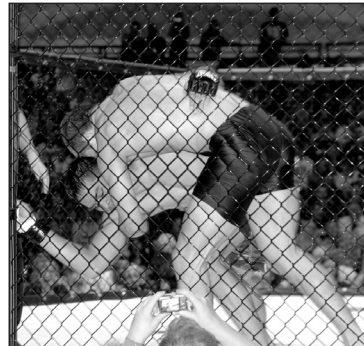
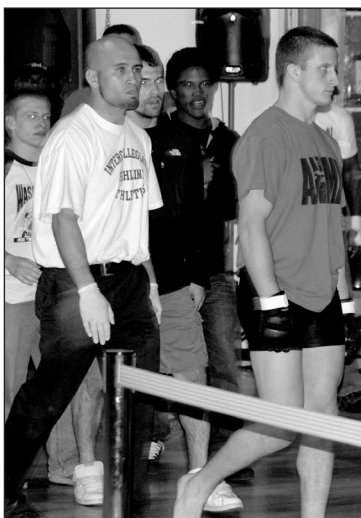
The fight started on the feet Peterson landing a number of knees from the clinch. Taitano quickly recovered and reversed the situation and pressed Peterson against the cage.

The fighters then scrambled

CAGED HEAT



MIXED MARTIAL ARTS FIGHTERS TAKE THEIR LUMPS AT HIGHLINE



Charlie Dubbeldam/THUNDERWORD

Two fighters grapple, top, in a match. Highline's own Pano Dreves, heads for his match, middle left, while Lincoln Taitano puts the hurt on Nick Peterson, right. Todd Schaben, bottom left, gets his attention between rounds in his corner. Dreves struggles against Joshua Calvo, right, while the audience watches two fighters, lower right.

and Peterson got a takedown.

Taitano, however, seemed much more comfortable on the ground and eventually sank in a triangle choke to which Peterson had to tap.

"I was really confident and energized," said Taitano after the match was over. "The Jiu-Jitsu came as an instance. I'm well coached."

In the seventh bout of the evening Highline wrestler Pano Dreves, who trains with the WCFT, fought in his debut fight.

Dreves entered the cage to the music of Eminem's *Lose Yourself*, and he was set to face Joshua Calvo.

The fight was well contested and could've gone either way. Dreves, however, was unable to utilize his wrestling prowess because of Calvo's excellent take-down defence.

Calvo ended up winning the bout with a TKO after two minutes and 53 seconds of the first round, and Dreves ended up wobbling to his stool, shaking off the cobwebs.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Dreves about his first fight. "I made a lot of silly mistakes, but I had a lot fun." Dreves is planning to get back into the cage in August.

Both the fighters and the staff of the events were impressed with the venue and the fans at Highline.

"There were a lot more people than I anticipated," said Medical Assistant Sean Eker-son. "There was no alcohol served so people stayed awake and stayed loud."

Kickboxer James Staich was also impressed by the venue and he said that it is one of the best venues that he's seen around the area.

Cope was happy that the event took place. He said that there was some hesitation on Highline's part, and he added that it's because of the common misconception that only "crazy people" go to the fights and that there's always patrons fighting in the stands.

Cope also thanked the fans during an intermission for being intelligent MMA fans and proving the stereotype wrong.

"I'd love to come back as soon as possible," said Cope.

If you are interested in MMA and want to learn more about it or start training you can go to WestCoastFightTeam.com to check out their program.

"We have six coaches on staff with three of them being pros," said WCFT Instructor Reese Andy. "We train in all the different styles."

If you want to learn more about upcoming MMA events in the area, and everything that has to do with the sport, you can also check out USAMMA.org.

THUNDERWORD
MAGAZINE
June 5 2008



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INSIDE SCOOP



SEVEN OF THE MOST AMAZING
GRADUATES OF 2008

Cheryl
Blackford
finished
one career
but found
another

By Max Dubbeldam
Staff Reporter

Cheryl Blackford is the type on woman that likes to go a million miles an hour, and after her painting career slowed down she jumped on the opportunity to go to Highline to start a new one.

Blackford is a 48 year old grandmother who is graduating with an Associate of Applied Science degree, and a 3.9 GPA, after being out of school for nearly 30 years.

Blackford was born in Seattle and has lived in Washington all her life. She’s been married for 30 years to the same man that she calls a “bad boy”. She lives together with her two daughters and two granddaughters.

She was a house painter for many years and owned her own painting business together with her husband. But one day she realized that her body wouldn’t be able to climb ladders and carry five gallons of paint around forever, so she decided to enroll in the Medical Assistant Program.

“It was winter time and work was slow,” said Blackford. “It was just a good time to go for a change.”

Blackford also spend six years in working at Tice Ranch, which is a 350 acre ranch/resort in Twisp, in eastern Washington. She said that her husband’s brother owned it but that she and her husband ran it for him. She said that she met Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard when they performed there, and she said that she loved it in the “country.”

“It was a totally different lifestyle, but not quiet at all,” said Blackford. “I loved that I could sing at the top of my lungs.”

Blackford said that she might look her age but that she certainly doesn’t act it. She said that she loves tulips, the ocean, snuggling her grandbabies, good food, and most of all dancing.

“On the weekends if I’m not dancing with my babies, I’m at the club on the dance floor,” said Blackford. “I’ve got a lot of energy.”

She said that whenever she’s out dancing at the clubs she struggles to find people that can



keep up with her.

It’s not just on the dance floor that people have trouble keeping up with her. Academically she also pushes the pace hard.

Blackford has a 3.9+ cumulative GPA and is a PTK member. PTK is the Phi Theta Kappa society which is the international honors society for academic excellence in community colleges.

She was also awarded the Program Contributions Award for Highline, and she is on a number of different committees.

She also started the Medical Assistant Club together with her friend Nichole Coggins and she was appointed president.

She was also the team captain for the March of Dimes two years in a row, and was the team captain for the AIDS walk in 2007.

She has organized and promoted the Baby Blanket Drive for the Madigan Army Hospital and the Diaper Drive for the Pediatric Interim Care Center.

“I have had such a great time leading the way in the Medical Assistant Club events, planning and organizing, creating and decorating,” said Blackford about her Highline experience. “But I didn’t get here by myself.”

Blackford pointed to Carolyn Eldridge as being her “right hand gal” and her “partner in crime”. Eldridge is a 61-year-old student who joined the Medical Assistant Club and helped Blackford out.

Now that she is graduating from Highline she has to do an externship, and she is thinking of doing it at Franciscan Medical Group in Federal Way.

“I hope to go to work at a place where I can still do some fund-raising,” Blackford said about her future job. “If they don’t [do any fund-raising] I’d like to get them to.”

She said that she will miss Highline very much when she does leave, and she said that she likes Highline so much that she’s always trying to get her son and his friends to go to school here too.

“Highline has been a great experience for me,” Blackford said. “I’m really lucky and blessed. I’ll miss this place for sure.”

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June 5, 2008

Highline's Superstudents

SERGEANT STUDY

Joseph Burnett left the Marines but joined Highline

By Shannon Clary
Staff Reporter

Being a sergeant in the Marines, a world traveler, and a photographer isn't enough for Joseph Burnett. He wants to add college graduate to his resume.

Burnett will graduate from Highline this year. He is receiving an associate of arts degree with an emphasis in political science.

This summer he is moving to Medford, Massachusetts, with his partner Melissa Todd, to study economics and computer science at Tufts University.

Burnett is graduating from Highline with a 4.0 GPA, and is the recipient of several scholarships.

He was awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Scholarship, which is the largest transfer scholarship for community college students in the United States.

Other scholarships are the Martin Family Foundation Scholarship, the Director's Scholarship from the Highline Foundation, and three quarterly tuition waivers.

Recently he was given an award for outstanding performance in physics at the Pure and Applied Science Department awards.

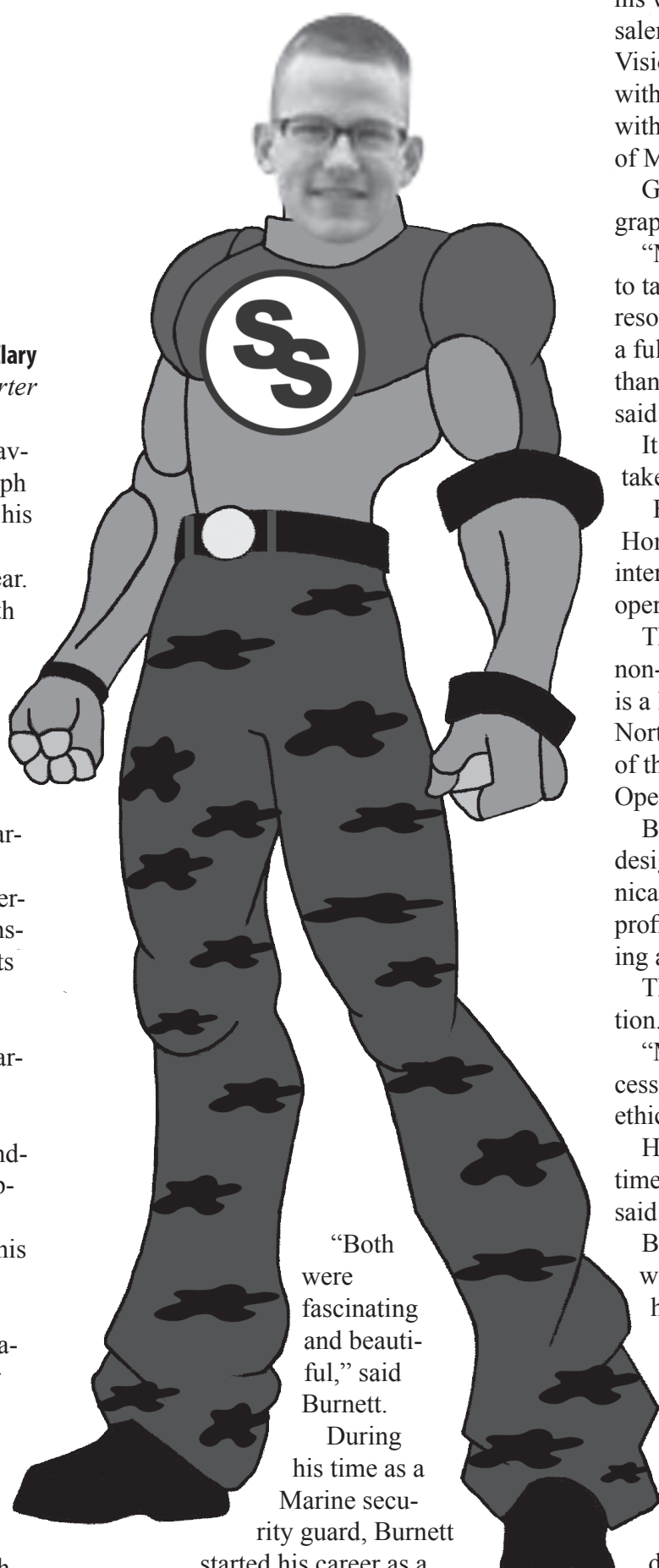
Burnett's bright future has a lot to do with his past.

From 1998-2006 he served in the United States Marine Corps. While serving in the Marines, he had the opportunity to travel all over the world.

In Jerusalem and Santiago, Chile, Burnett worked as a Marine security guard. He worked as an electronics technician in Japan, Australia, East Timor, and Kuwait.

Burnett's personal travels include the Czech Republic, India, Egypt and Paraguay.

Jerusalem and Ladakh, located in Northern India, were his favorite places, Burnett said.



"Both were fascinating and beautiful," said Burnett.

During his time as a Marine security guard, Burnett started his career as a

photographer.

He has his own website, www.JosephBurnett.com, which showcases

his work, and he has had solo exhibits in Jerusalem and Chile. His show in Chile was called Visiones de Vinedos. It was a traveling exhibit with a series of 22 photographs of making wine with a mosaic of wine labels forming the image of Malbec grapes.

Going to college will interfere with his photographic work.

"My photography career is probably going to take a back seat until I have more time and resources. Besides, it's better as a side job than a full time occupation. Nothing repels me more than that idea of doing wedding photography," said Burnett.

It is surprising that Burnett has found time to take pictures, since he has such a busy schedule.

Burnett has done two internships for the Honors Department at Highline. Currently he is interning at the World Affairs Council for a co-operative education credit in downtown Seattle.

The World Affairs Council of Seattle is a non-profit and non-partisan organization that is a leading foreign affairs forum in the Pacific Northwest. Burnett is working for the Director of the International Visitor Program and Chief Operating Officer, Autumn Cutter.

Burnett's other projects include a new website design company called Joseph Burnett Communications, pro-bono work for Netsebrak, a non-profit organization in Ethiopia, and he is building a website for a new construction company.

There is a source for all of Burnett's motivation.

"My motivation comes from the taste of success I had in the Marines and my personal work ethic," Burnett said.

His new mantra is "I'm doing one thing at a time, just like a normal human being," which he said helps him from getting overly stressed out.

Burnett said he is excited about his future, and will miss Highline, especially the people who have motivated him the most.

The significant people at Highline who have been instrumental in his success were Jim Glennon, Barbara Clinton, Laura Manning, Igor Glozman, Angi Caster, and Rod Stephenson.

"I was completely surprised and delighted to find at Highline such intelligent, diverse and supporting body of faculty, staff and students. This college has been my reintroduction to higher education and has set a very high bar," said Burnett.

Government Guys

Steve Simpkins fell, then soared

By Carrie Draeger
Staff Reporter

Student Government President Steve Simpkins is always quick to smile and laugh.

His sunny disposition and friendly nature are a stark difference to the man that Simpkins was four years ago, when Simpkins was struggling with alcoholism.

"I started drinking at 13 and by the time I was 37 I was about as close to walking death as possible," he said.

Simpkins knew he needed a change when he got a DUI while driving at Ft. Lewis one weekend when Vice President Dick Cheney was visiting the military base.

"A week after than I admitted myself into rehab," he said.

Simpkins spent 28 days in extensive rehab after the incident. He describes himself as dissociative, and out of touch with reality while he was still drinking.

"It took me a couple of years to get my health back," he said.

After getting sober and healthy Simpkins spent time working in food service, including managing a grocery store, but knew that he needed to continue making changes to keep away from drugs and alcohol.

"I needed a new career. There was too much access to drugs and alcohol," Simpkins said.

Simpkins enrolled at Highline shortly after and was surprised how well he did.

I really shocked myself that first quarter. ... I got a 4.0 and said 'holy crap, I could really do this'," Simpkins said.

Simpkins surprised himself even more when he got involved on campus.

"I thought I would be one of those students who got in their car, went to class, and drove home," he said.

In his first year at Highline Simpkins served as president of the Gay-Straight Alliance and even started a club called Sober Socialites, to help provide students with social gatherings that were drug-and alcohol-free.

Starting a club and serving as its president of another weren't enough for Simpkins. He decided to run for Student Government president.

"I wanted a challenge, I'd proven myself in the classroom," Simpkins said of his decision to run for president.



Some might think that the age difference between Simpkins and the typical Highline student would hinder him, but Simpkins doesn't think his age is that big deal when it comes being president. "I think I fit in well with the younger crowd," he said.

Simpkins thinks that his age and life experience has helped him in dealing with authority figures on campus.

"I think I'm better able to deal with older people

on campus," he said.

Simpkins said that his work in developing the International Leadership Summit has been one of his favorite memories at Highline.

The International Leadership Summit was created to recognize student leaders from other countries.

The program began during Fall Quarter when leaders from Indonesia presented at the inaugural summit. After that the students who presented from Indonesia were in charge of organizing the next leadership summit and the process continued.

"It kind of builds upon itself," Simpkins said.

The program is still growing and next year Highline plans to send a student leader to study abroad and share their leadership skills with others from around the world.

Next year the leadership summit will have to continue without Simpkins, who has been accepted to the nursing school at the University of Washington.

Simpkins will graduate from Highline with his associate of arts degree with an emphasis in biology. Even though he will miss Highline, Simpkins is excited to take on the challenge of moving on to a four-year school.

"This is just taking it up a notch," Simpkins said.

Simpkins, who once had aspirations of becoming a doctor, thinks that nursing is a better fit for him.

"By the time I got out of med school, it would be time to retire," he said.

He also believes that nursing will be a better fit with his passion for servant leadership, where leaders are encouraged to serve others while still achieving results within the organization.

"(In our time) everybody's so cut-throat, (I think) we should be focused on our constituencies," Simpkins said.

Once he is through nursing school Simpkins said that he would like to be a part of finding a cure or a vaccine for AIDS.

"We are starting to get this stigma on people with AIDS. ... There are so many people who are miseducated," he said.

Simpkins said that he is excited to finally apply what he has learned at Highline at nursing school.

"Everything we learn in our classes we can apply (in real life)," he said.

His ability to apply what he has learned helped Simpkins earn a 3.99 GPA. His favorite class, microbiology, happened to be the class that ruined his chances of graduating with a 4.0.

Simpkins isn't disappointed with his GPA though. He said that his passion for Student Government and servant leadership gives him a sense of accomplishment that a perfect GPA could not.

"Everything I do is with passion. ... None of those other 4.0 students can say they have done what I've done," he said.

June 5, 2008

Highline's Superstudents

Judy Eckland battled lupus and cancer to achieve her dreams

By Rochelle Adams
Staff Reporter

Judith L. Eckland is a self proclaimed "miracle of modern medicine" and that's no exaggeration.

This paralegal student, who will graduate next week, has survived lupus, a fatal disease that causes the body to turn against itself by killing healthy tissue.

"As a child I was told that I probably wouldn't live to be an adult," Eckland said. "Wrong!"

She is currently in remission and feels healthier than she's ever been.

Though her body is no longer under attack from the disease, it wasn't always that way.

When Eckland was in junior high she was diagnosed with cancer in her throat.

"Radiation and chemotherapy successfully vanquished my throat cancer at age 15," she said.

Unfortunately, the radiation scarred her around the trachea. Lupus multiplied the effects of the scarring, causing her throat to close until it had "the diameter of an upholstery needle."

This latest tragedy forced her to give up the activities she loved such as ballet and bike riding as well as normal human functions like crying and what she refers to as "that delicious sensation they call 'topping your breath.'"

What finally helped her was a tracheotomy, a surgical procedure on the neck to open a direct airway through an incision in the windpipe.

"Breathing was pure joy," Eckland said. "The air went in and out that hole in my neck like nothing."

For 12 years, she breathed easy with the hole in her neck (the trach), but she eventually gave it up in favor of a new passion: the stage.

"I had fallen like a brick for the world of acting," she said.

This career path required her to use her vocal chords so that meant no more trach.

Four doctors tried and failed to help her close the hole in her neck. The fifth doctor proved to be the charm.

A new throat was made for her using a part of her rib. This new throat isn't as good as a real throat because it doesn't have the reinforcing circles that stop a real throat from collapsing. Still it allowed her to pursue acting which the hole in her neck had made inconvenient.

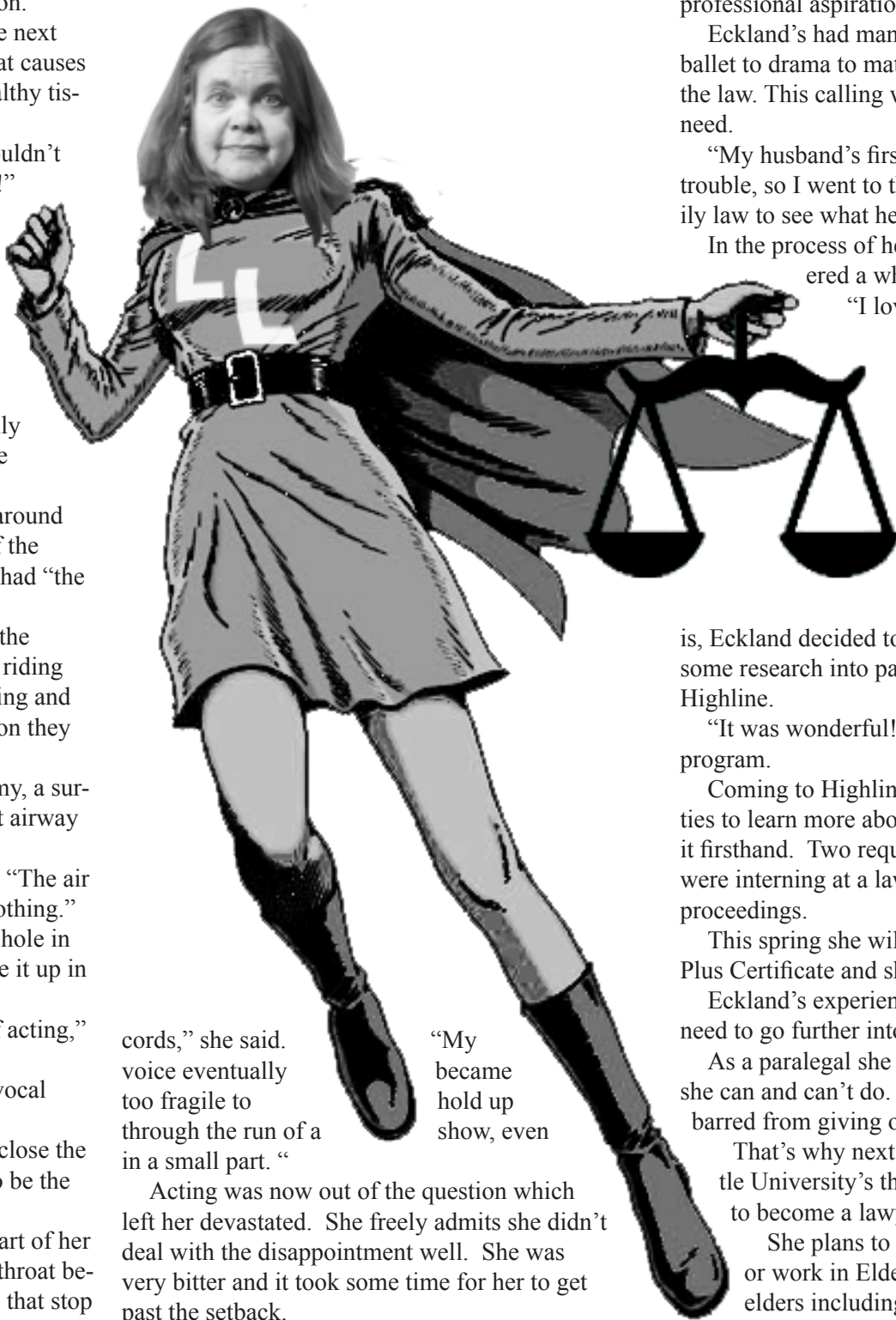
With the regained ability to bring air through her vocal cords, Eckland thought she was ready for the next step in her path to becoming an actress.

She relocated from California to Seattle where she became a University of Washington student.

Despite the surgery and the big move, Eckland still couldn't attain her dream.

"It should have occurred to me that the radiation that had caused my trachea to constrict, would probably have had some kind of effect on my vocal

LADY LAW



cords," she said. voice eventually too fragile to through the run of a in a small part. "

Acting was now out of the question which left her devastated. She freely admits she didn't deal with the disappointment well. She was very bitter and it took some time for her to get past the setback.

One thing that helped her was throwing her attention into another school subject.

"I escaped into the sane, rational, unemotional, and delightfully intricate puzzle called math," Eckland said.

She graduated from the University of Washington with a bachelor's degree in Pure Math as well as one in Drama.

She then became a math tutor at Seattle Central Community College as part of a program where she would work with low income, disabled, and first-generation college students. They were targeted by the program because those types of students are sta-

"My became hold up show, even

tistically the ones who need the most help, she said.

Many of them were international students from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and Central America.

"For them, learning math in English is doubly difficult especially given the variation of English language usage peculiar to mathematicians," Eckland said.

She found the experience extremely rewarding and is still in contact with some of the students she helped.

While still enjoying her work as a math tutor, she soon found yet another professional aspiration.

Eckland's had many passions in her life from ballet to drama to math. Her newest one has been the law. This calling was stumbled onto by personal need.

"My husband's first wife decided to give him trouble, so I went to the library and delved into family law to see what he could do about it," she said.

In the process of helping her spouse, she discovered a whole new passion to pursue.

"I love the law," she said. "It's a perfect blend of math and drama. It has a defined space that you work within and try to prove things. But it's not just abstract; it's about people and the important stories in their lives."

After realizing how high the tuition for law schools is, Eckland decided to become a paralegal. She did some research into paralegal programs and found Highline.

"It was wonderful!" she said when describing the program.

Coming to Highline gave her many opportunities to learn more about the law and experiencing it firsthand. Two requirements for the program were interning at a law firm and attending live court proceedings.

This spring she will have finished her Paralegal Plus Certificate and she couldn't be happier.

Eckland's experience here has only fueled her need to go further into the law.

As a paralegal she will be restricted as to what she can and can't do. Unlike lawyers, she will be barred from giving official legal advice.

That's why next year she will be joining Seattle University's three-year program and working to become a lawyer.

She plans to be a criminal defense lawyer or work in Elder law, laws specifically for elders including abuse and wills.

Though she has big plans, Eckland stays realistic in her pursuits because of the lupus she still has, though it is in remission.

"I certainly could not be a stereotypical, overworked, rookie lawyer," she said. "Lupus holds a stop-watch to my energy, which stays fine until it runs out. If I persist, I become nauseous and dizzy, and my joints swell. For that reason, I have almost always worked part time."

Part-time lawyers are a rarity but she still plans on making it work. After all, this is the same "miracle of modern medicine" who survived lupus, cancer, and dashed dreams.

Joseph Timoteo brought Highline an island beat

By Satori Johnson
Staff Reporter

The veins in his forehead were pulsating. His face glistened with sweat. Fumes seemed to be radiating out from his eyes. His exposed chest was raw from his hands beating on it. The choker of spikes made of bone he wore around his neck seemed to be slicing open his flesh.

The audience sat mesmerized almost expecting him to explode as he leaped across the stage in his yellow grass skirt.

Joseph Timoteo made his statement loud and clear at Global Fest and the Pacific Islander Club Luau; he and the members of the Pacific Islander Club are proud of their heritage, and want their culture recognized and appreciated by Highline.

The character on stage is a stark contrast to the quiet and observant student he is while in class, a guy who could almost go unnoticed among a crowd in the Student Union Building.

"I'm just a laid back person," he said. "But when I make my mind up about something, I see it through."

Timoteo started the Pacific Islander Club earlier this year with but a few members and a lot of determination.

"It started as a mere idea," he said.

"There are lots of countries that get represented here, and I saw a lot of Islanders on campus who don't get recognized."

Timoteo was born in 1988 on the small Polynesian island of American Samoa in the middle of the South Pacific Ocean.

"(I) pretty much grew up in a jungle," he said reminiscing of his homeland. "It's a beautiful place, and the ocean was always so close. I spent a lot of time there."

Timoteo lived in a modest yellow house at the end of a long and winding road with his mother and father, three sisters, and brother. In Samoa, his family farmed tropical crops including taro and bananas.



"On a small island like Samoa, you know everyone you live around," he said. Timoteo said that compared to the United States, the small island he comes from hardly offers any educational

opportunities.

"(Many) believe to have a good future, you have to leave the island to go to school and come back to be of service on the islands," he said. "That's what I eventually want to do."

Timoteo said he really looks up to parents and their influence has guided many of the decisions he's made.

When Timoteo was a young boy, his father accepted a scholarship to pursue a degree in

Radiology in Hawaii. His family was separated for nine years, while his father was away from Samoa.

"He would always pull through the bad and put school first."

Timoteo's mother kept his family grounded with love, discipline and patience for all those years.

"My mom is Mormon and raised us with strong Mormon values," he said. "She taught me what it is to be humble."

While his father was away, Timoteo's extended family filled the void.

"I was raised in the Samoan way, I had a very close-knit family," he said. "My grandmother, cousins, aunts and uncles ... they were always there for me whenever I needed anything."

In 2005, his family permanently moved to Washington state, where his father became employed by the Highline Medical Center as a radiologist.

Timoteo will be finishing his last quarter here at Highline with an associate of arts degree. He plans to go on a two-year mission trip coordinated by his church.

"I don't know where I'm going yet," he said. "It's a long process and they won't tell me where I'm going until I'm ready."

After his two years of service, Timoteo said he wants to go to a university and work for a degree in architecture.

"I consider myself as a very artistic person. I have a passion for drawing and creating new things."

Wherever Timoteo goes from here, his impression on Highline will not fade.

His effort in advocating cultural diversity and awareness in our society and on the Highline campus by forming the Pacific Islander Club has gained him recognition and gratitude.

He was nominated to attend the National Young Leaders Conference in 2006 and recently received an award from Highline acknowledging his contribution to the programs at Highline.

"Everything came out far better than I expected," he said. "A lot of people have complimented me on how well we did this year. It reaffirms how much an impact it made on the campus."

June 5, 2008

Highline's Superstudents

THE HISTORIAN

Jason Flint found his future in the study of history and language

By Nick Bare
Staff Reporter

Jason Flint never anywhere for too long before he ended up at Highline.

"I never had anything more than what could fit in two suitcases," Flint said.

The 34-year-old sophomore will graduate this spring with a 4.0 as a Highline Honors Scholar, but that wasn't always in the books for Flint.

Flint was raised in the small town of Tomahawk, Wisc., with a population of only 3,000 people.

After high school he attended the University of Chicago, but dropped out after only a year.

After dropping out of college, Flint moved all over the country, used drugs and alcohol, and never really had a steady home.

"I've lived all sorts of places. I just picked up and moved when I wanted to," Flint said.

In 1997, Flint moved to Portland and immediately liked what he saw.

"I loved it there (Portland)," Flint said.

But the lack of job opportunities in the Portland area forced Flint to move to Atlanta.

While in Atlanta, Flint met the woman who became his wife, and they had a son. The birth of his son made something click with Flint.

"I had to really stabilize my life. My son was the catalyst for the change. I quit drinking and smoking," Flint said.

Flint and his family relocated back to the Northwest, and settled in Seattle.

He thought about attending

stayed

Seattle Central, but after visiting the campus, he changed his mind.

"It looked like a box," Flint said.

The Highline campus is definitely not a box, and Flint liked what he saw when he visited.

"I loved the campus, and all the instructors were cool," Flint said.

Getting back into college was something he had wanted to do after dropping out of the University of Chicago.

"I was so ashamed. It had haunted me for years and years. I knew I had to get back," Flint said.

He's made the most of his time on campus,

including being on the President's List the past four quarters. He won a Highline Academic Achiever Award Scholarship in winter, an Honors Scholar Foundation Scholarship this spring, and an award for Scholastic Achievement in History.

Flint is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for two-year schools.

He found a home on campus with the Honors Program working as an intern for Dr. Barbara Clinton.

"I assist her with class instruction, look over people's work, and suggest ways things can be made better," Flint said.

Flint is also a tutor in the Writing Center.

He is transferring to the University of Washington next fall and will be majoring in history and Slavic language literature.

"I have an interest in Eastern European history because of my mom's background," Flint said.

Flint turned down \$46,000 from Seattle Pacific University to attend UW because of their program offerings.

"They wooed me with the study abroad program," Flint said.

If he takes part in the study abroad program, it could take away from one of his favorite hobbies, playing with his son.

He also admits he has kind of an odd hobby.

"I like to write research papers to be ready in case I ever have to write about the subject in the future," Flint said.

Other than that he likes to read and watch lots of movies.

"I couldn't do it without my Netflix," Flint said.

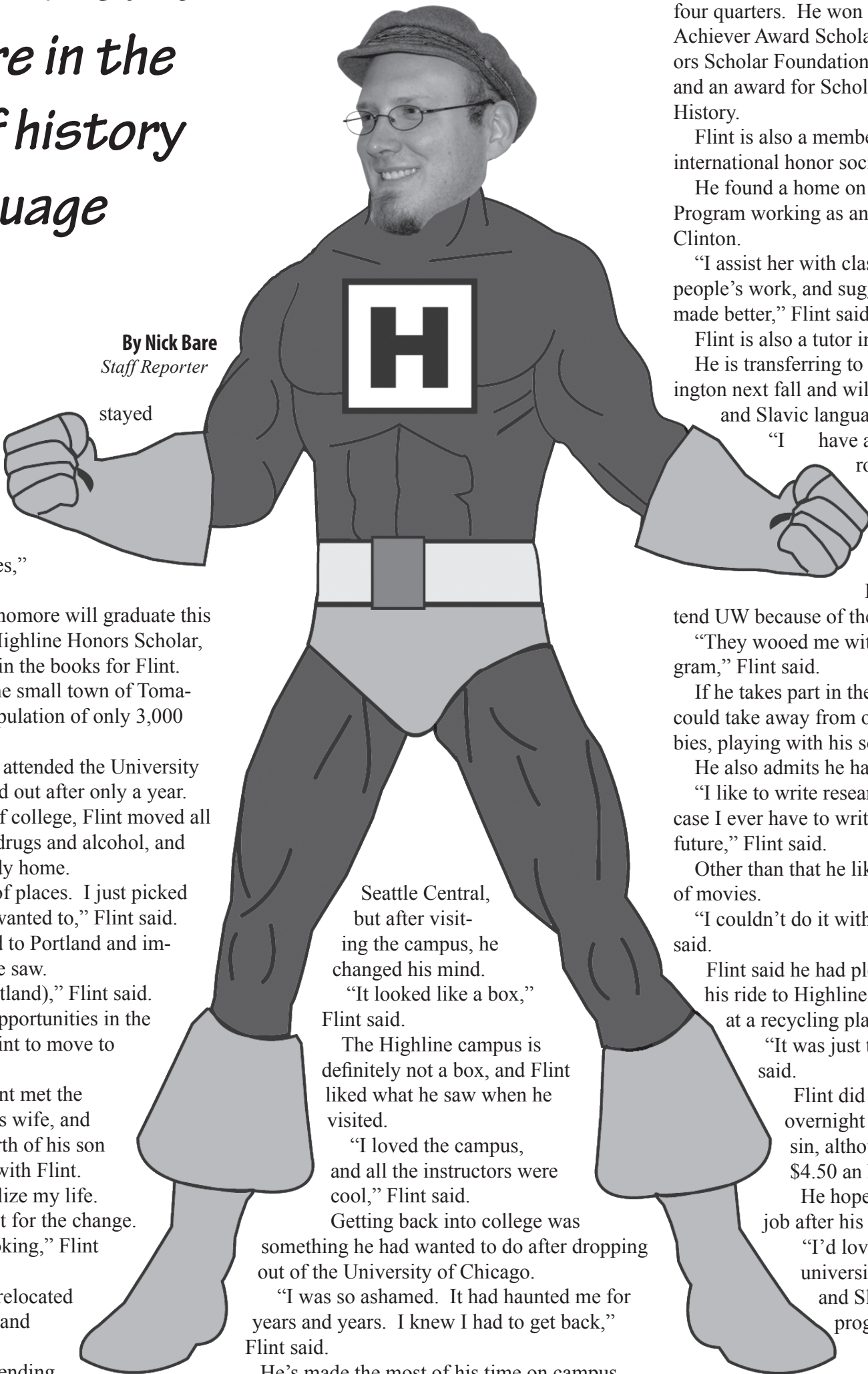
Flint said he had plenty of boring jobs along his ride to Highline, including a one-day stint at a recycling plant.

"It was just too disgusting," Flint said.

Flint did enjoy his time as an overnight disc jockey in Wisconsin, although he wasn't fond of his \$4.50 an hour wage.

He hopes to have a much better job after his time spent at UW.

"I'd love to be a professor at a university with a great history and Slavic language literature program," he said.



Super Mom

Teresa Fuller left the streets and found herself in the classroom

By Shurvon Haynes
Staff Reporter

Teresa Fuller came to Highline and found herself.

Fuller, 24, will graduate this year with an associate of arts degree in general studies, though her journey through life and college hasn't been easy she persevered.

"I've learned from the hard times that I've gone through, it has made me a stronger and humbled person," said Fuller.

Fuller spent most of her childhood and teenage years as a ward of the state of Washington, living in several foster homes and with different relatives because her own parents weren't stable.

"I was always a child that always looked for love and for someone to care for me, because I didn't have a real family, therefore I had to raise myself," Fuller said.

As a result she began to look for stability in the wrong places; she dropped out of school at the age of 14 and started hanging out on the streets of downtown Seattle.

"During that time I would spend the whole day just hanging out with my friends, doing whatever seemed like fun," said Fuller.

Fuller spent many nights just wandering, going to youth shelters, or riding the Metro bus around town until daybreak because she had nowhere else to go.

Despite her unstable circumstances, Fuller always caught the bus to Grace Apostolic Temple in Seattle to attend Sunday morning service.

Church was the only place where she found peace and safety.

"God has always been in my corner," she said.

"I've always enjoyed praying, Bible study and singing in the choir," Fuller said.

At the age of 16, she went to live with her older sister in --.

Although Fuller had a roof over her head and a

warm bed to sleep in, it was hard to abide by the strict rules her sister tried to enforce.

"My sister and I clashed because she wanted me to stay in the house and go back to school, but it was too late, the streets had already become my home and education."

Soon afterward she became pregnant with her now 6 year-old daughter, My'A, becoming a teenage mother was a new reality for Fuller but she had the support of her sister and her boyfriend to help her transition into motherhood.

"I was very rough around the edges but my sister taught me how to be a responsible young lady.

I also had the support of my child's father, he was very supportive of my decisions and accepted me for who I was" Fuller said.

During her pregnancy Fuller soon realized that she needed to provide a better life for child by continuing her education.

She started by taking her General Education De-

Social Services.

"I've always loved helping and supporting people because I know what it is like not to have that and it hurts," Fuller said.

Soon after enrolling at Highline, Fuller became pregnant with her son Anthony, now 2, the arrival of a new baby made her even more determined to obtain her goals.

"Having children motivated me to be example and give them the love and stability that I didn't have as child," Fuller said.

Everyday was a new learning experience for Fuller; she loved the atmosphere at Highline and began to thrive as a student and as an office assistant in the Counseling Center with Kathy Day.

"Coming to Highline and working with Kathy was such a blessing because she allowed me to be myself, which helped me to flourish as a person," Fuller said.

One of the highlights of her college experience was attending the Student of Color Conference last year, sponsored by the Multicultural Center.

"Going to the conference was a turning point for me as a student. I learned so much from the workshops and meeting people from other colleges," Fuller said.

Since then Fuller has become more involved in student activities on campus such as the Winter Leadership Retreat and the Diversity Poetry Lounge that meets bimonthly in the Inter-Cultural Center located in Building 6.

"Writing poetry is a creative outlet that allows me to share my story and express myself in a different way," Fuller said.

Fuller credits these activities for giving her a since of belonging and strengthening her character.

"I see myself as leader now and I feel more connected with other students," Fuller said.

Fuller takes her role as a leader seriously and makes it her responsibility to help others continue their education.

"I've given several of my friends quarterly catalogs, financial aid applications and other materials needed to enroll in college," Fuller said.

"That's what life is all about reaching out and embracing each other. Having love and compassion for people, helping others better themselves," Fuller said.

As a student and mother, Fuller has also learned the importance of self-love and acceptance.

"I'm a smarter person and I feel more secure and comfortable with myself, which makes it easier for me to communicate my feeling more effectively without fear of rejection," Fuller said.

After graduation Fuller plans to take a break before attending the University of Washington, to concentrate on her role of being a mother.

"I want to dedicate a whole year to just being a mommy and spending quality time with my children, without having to worry about studying, because they are the reason I've made it this far," Fuller said.



Golfers will swing for Athletic Department next week

By Maxx Shelley
Staff Reporter

Drive yourself up to the Elk Run Golf Club in Kent next Friday and tee-off your summer by participating in the 15th annual T-Bird Golf Classic.

The event is a fund-raiser for the athletic department and costs \$105 to partake.

"It started as a fund-raiser, and still is one, but has really just turned into a fun time," Athletic Director John Dunn said of the event.

Check in for the event begins at noon with a putting contest at 12:30, and the actual tournament starts at 1:30 p.m. sharp.

The fee will include cart, lunch, dinner, beverages on course, and prizes.

Prizes include a chance to win some golf clubs, a vacation, a shot at \$5,000 and \$10,000, and the Dave Hill Award.

The Dave Hill award will be given to the person who is voted most inspirational at this year's tournament. Hill is rumored to



John Dunn

a former Highline golfer.

Dunn said that the winner will receive an "old school" Wilson golf bag, a sports coat, and free admission to next year's tournament.

"This year's winner will keep the bag until next year when they pass it down to next winner," Dunn said.

There will also be grand prizes handed out to the winner of each division.

"We don't know the grand prizes yet," Dunn said. "All I

know is that they'll be awarded to the winning group of the division."

The tournament is going to be broken up into three divisions and will be made up of four person teams.

Dunn said that you have to make your own team and that the people in the groups should at least be in the same general skill range.

Division I will be comprised of participants with the lowest handicap, Division II will be comprised of people with the highest of handicaps, and Division HCC will be entirely made up of Highline faculty and staff.

"We'll look at their handicap, but won't really use it," Dunn said. "It's mostly just so we know what division to put people in."

People in Division I and Division HCC will play 18 holes of Las Vegas Scramble.

Las Vegas Scramble is a team-based golf game where you have four players with designated numbers between one

and four. After each player tees off, they proceed to roll a 6-sided die. If it lands on any number between one and four, they'll use the drive of the team member with that particular designated number. If it lands on five or six, the team is welcome to choose whichever drive they want.

People from Division II will play traditional scramble which is like Las Vegas Scramble but instead of rolling a die to see which drive they use, they just use the furthest drive.

However, Dunn said that there might be a possibility that he'll change his mind and actually have Division II players play Las Vegas scramble as well.

Now the tournament will be for adults only and no students will be allowed to participate.

"This is only for adults," Dunn said. "It's the end of the year, it's after graduation, and everybody just puts their hair down and has a good time."

Highline is offering donor

packages to anybody interested in donating.

There are four packages ranging from \$150 - \$5000.

The packages offer a number of exciting deals such as a 4' by 8' professionally made, full-color plywood outfield sign to be posted on a fence at the Highline softball field.

"We generally get three or four \$1,000 donors to support the college and the program," Dunn said.

The event is selling out quickly.

There are already 36 groups lined up to take part in the tournament, nearly maxing out the number of participants allowed.

"We already have 36 groups, 144 players, which is almost a full tournament; but I think we'll end up going over anyways because I know more people are going to want to join."

If you are interested in going to the event you can contact John Dunn at jdunn@highline.edu or you can call him at his office at 206-878-3710, ext. 3455.

Fitness program opens its house to pump up some interest

By Maxx Shelley
Staff Reporter



Josh Baker

The physical fitness trainer department will host an open house today hoping to find students interested in pursuing a career in physical fitness.

Whether you've been hitting the weights since you could first use your fingers, or you don't know what a dumbbell is, the fitness trainer department wants anybody and everybody who is interested in physical fitness to come check it out.

"Anybody can enter regardless of their background," said Josh Baker, physical fitness trainer program manager. He

said that it doesn't matter how much exercise you've had in the past. As long as you're interested in getting fit and helping others, they want you.

"A personal trainer should enjoy exercise and should enjoy helping people reach their goals," Baker said. "They should be outgoing and easy to relate to."

The open house is for potential students looking to pursue a career and know more about the program. It's the student's chance to talk to the instructors and learn more about what they'll be doing.

"Anybody can come in and learn to do it," Baker said. "We

have kids who had rarely exercised before they started the program."

Baker said that the program includes spending time in class, learning about health sciences and proper workout techniques, but there will also be time spent in the gym.

He also said that there will be a number of internships at different gyms.

"Aside from class work, students will have an internship on campus, training students and faculty," Baker said.

The internship on campus is the first step before they put you out into a real gym

As you get farther in the pro-

gram you'll move up to doing internships at local gyms around the area.

Baker said that Highline Athletic Club is one place that they send a lot of their students but they'll also send them to a number of other local fitness clubs

"Students who join the program will get a lot of practice applying the health sciences taught," Baker said. He said there will be a bunch of hands on practice on campus and off.

If you're interested in attending the open house it will be today from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. with a second session from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will be in the Student Union near the bookstore.

Volleyball coach holds open gym to recruit players ready to spike the competition

By Maxx Shelley
Staff Reporter

Women's volleyball Head Coach John Littleman is an ace when it comes to recruiting his team for the next season.

With only two returning players from last season, Stephanie Rojas and Amanda Harker, Coach Littleman already has 10 players set to play next year. But he's not done yet.

"We like to have 14 players so we're able to scrimmage and do the drills we need to do," Littleman said.

He said that he'll be hold-

ing open tryouts throughout the entire summer, giving him the opportunity to choose his squad from a solid core of potential players.

"There will be open gym tryouts all summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays," Littleman said.

Littleman and his coaching staff share a very successful coaching history since he was hired to be Highline's head volleyball coach in the early '80s.

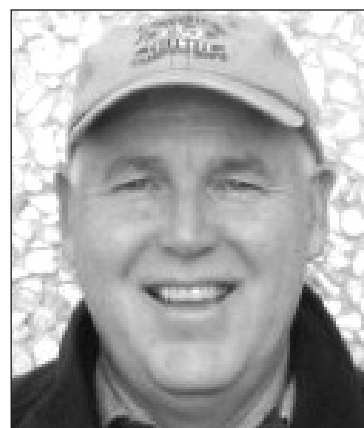
Littleman and his staff have won the NWAACC tournament five times, been runners-up twice, and have been to the final four 11 times.

"We have a tradition of being successful, and I think players always want to play on a team that is good," Littleman said.

Littleman has also been the NWAACC coach of the year three times and has been inducted into the NWAACC Hall of Fame.

"We've had the same coaching staff (Littleman, and assistant coach John Wilson) since I began and a lot of four-year universities know of us," Littleman said. "I think recruits like that about our team."

He said he's looking for players who are passionate about the



John Littleman

sport of volleyball and who are looking to continue their college

career at a four-year school.

"For someone to play volleyball at a community college they have to aspire to play for as long as they can," Littleman said. "I want a player who has love for the game, likes to work hard, and wants to play at a four-year school."

If you are interested in joining the team you can contact Coach John Littleman at 206-878-3710, ext. 6290 or you can e-mail him at jlittleman@sportsforyouth.com.

He can also be reached at jlittlem@highline.edu if you wish to contact him through there.

Five campus buildings to get a summer facelift

By Stephen Marcum
Staff Reporter

Some major construction will be done to improve the Highline campus this summer.

“It will cost around \$2.5 to \$3 million in roughly 100 days,” said Director of Facilities Pete Babington.

One project already in progress is the Marine Science and Technology Center. This is the only marine center that is dedicated to education in the state of Washington.

The Marine Science and Technology Center will be opening on Monday, June 16 at 9:30 a.m. The Center is located at 28203 Redondo Beach Drive, Des Moines, right next to Salty’s Restaurant.

The other projects might not be as exciting, but also are important, college officials say.

No finals will be held in Building 19 due to construction on the building. In order to finish by Fall Quarter, all the things from Building 19 must be removed during finals week.

This is the biggest project of the summer, coming in at around \$2 million.

Highline will get some help from the Port of Seattle with the remodel.

“The Port, in the interest of being good neighbors, funds the college’s noise remedies because they operate an airport that flies noisy airplanes over



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Building 19 will be one of five buildings getting construction upgrades over the summer.

the campus,” said Babington.

Highline receives an average of \$500,000 a year from the Port of Seattle for similar projects. This money only covers features that are affected such as windows, exterior doors, air conditioning, and roof insulation.

Highline will have to pay for anything that isn’t affected like walls and lights. However, Highline is working on a grant with Puget Sound Energy to help pay for the lights.

Building 16 will have a new computer lab at the end of the summer, while Building 19 will

have its computer lab transformed into a large classroom.

“Presently, we have two smallish, underutilized rooms in 16 and a computer lab in 19 that is larger than it needs to be. By converting 16’s two small rooms into a right-sized computer lab, we free up the larger classroom in 19 for instruction. It results in a much better and more efficient use of space,” said Babington.

Some minor remodeling may occur in the Tutoring Center in Building 26. However, details are unavailable at this time.

The south parking lot has a bad problem with water seepage.

The water tends to seep out onto the pavement and turn to ice in the winter. This is a very dangerous issue and in order to fix this, trenches will be put in to keep the water from seeping.

“The South Lot seepage project will employ trenches to

capture the groundwater while it is still underground, before it seeps out onto the pavement. The bottom of the trenches will contain a perforated drain pipe that will collect the water and direct it into the campus storm drain system. The trenches will be back-filled with gravel and paved over, so the surface will remain usable for parking,” said Babington.

Facilities will try to solve the heat problem on the second floor of Building 9.

“Highline doesn’t have the budget to put air conditioning in Building 9, so holes will be put into the roof to help vent the second floor. The holes will allow hot air to move out and cold air will come in to cool the second floor,” Babington said.

A new team room will be installed in Building 27. This room will be separate from both locker rooms and will be utilized for team meetings and as a film room for Highline’s athletic teams.

The new team room should be up and running in time for Fall Quarter.

Grad crosses world to finish degree

By Catherine Dusharme
Staff Reporter

Anna Kojevnikova is focused.

In addition to recently applying to become a United States citizen, she is graduating from Highline this June with honors.

“I knew what I wanted,” said Kojevnikova. “I set a goal to make sure I completed everything on time, and I didn’t take random classes. I just stayed on my path.”

A former classmate suggested that she enroll in the honors program and after meeting Honors Scholar Program Director Barbara Clinton, she decided to take on the challenge.

“It’s been hard sometimes, but Barbara teaches you how to open doors,” said Kojevnikova.

After not being able to complete her degree in her home country of Moldova, she came to the America to visit family and decided to stay. She worked for eight years, and then decided it was time to go back to school.

“I remember coming here in



Anna Kojevnikova

the beginning and being unsure if two years of school would be enough, but I decided to go for four years.”

Kojevnikova has been accepted at the University of Washington at both the Seattle and Tacoma locations and wants to major in either international business or business management.

She is also considering completing her master’s degree.

“After I graduate from U.W., I’ll take a break and then decide. I don’t want to have any regrets.”

“My goal is to get it done in

two years,” she said. “If I decide on a double major, then I’ll give myself one more year.”

During her time at Highline, Kojevnikova has been the recipient of a Foundation Scholarship, as well as the High Achievement Scholarship twice.

She is fluent in Moldovan and Russian and has worked in Admission Entry Services for two years.

Kojevnikova has also been working for many years to get the rest of her family here to America.

After coming to the United States 10 years ago, she has been joined by other family members, including her sister and her sister’s family, and her mother.

Although most of her family is here now, she still travels to Moldova twice a year.

“I still have really strong connections to my home country,” said Kojevnikova, “and travel is the passion of my life.”

She will spend the coming summer in Moldova before returning in the fall to start her schooling.

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I feel more **accomplished**.



Michelle Oquendo '08
Technical Management

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Student Government apologizes for racial graffiti

By David Olerich
Staff Reporter

The Student Government formally apologized on behalf of the student body for racial graffiti recently found on a sandwich board sign.

Student Government President Steve Simpkins said he felt strongly about addressing this issue at the Student Government meeting on Tuesday afternoon.

“I want to reaffirm our mission regarding diversity and multiculturalism that we as a community and as a student body want to have as an embodiment,” Simpkins said.

“I want to basically apologize on behalf of the student body if it was a member of our student body that was the perpetrator.”

Simpkins believes that this was not a targeted effort but a random act of ignorance.

“I think it was someone being stupid,” he said.

According to the report taken by Highline’s Campus Security, the N-word was written on the



Student Government President Steve Simpkins formally apologized for graffiti put on signs for the Muslim Student Association.

top left corner of a plastic sandwich board sign in permanent marker outside of Building 8.

Simpkins said that he had discovered the graffiti early on the morning of May 27.

“I came in about 7 o’clock and one of the signs had been

8 where the Muslim students’ station was, so I brought it upstairs and called security. They came over and took pictures and did a report,” Simpkins said.

Simpkins went so far as to clean off the sign and get it ready for the Muslim club to be able to use again.

The Student Government encourages and promotes the culture of all ethnic group clubs, Simpkins said.

Simpkins’ message for students on campus was clear and simple.

“We want to make sure that that club knows we respect them and totally denounce anything like that going on in our campus. We want to look at it in a positive way, not criticizing whoever did it, but lifting up all of our groups on campus, reaffirming our diversity and respecting each other,” said Simpkins.

“We just want to be sure that everybody on this campus knows that that is not acceptable and that we respect each other’s cultures and celebrate them.”

Shannon Clary/ THUNDERWORD

Summer hours change for certain offices

By Whitney Iwasaki
Staff Reporter

Summer hours are changing slightly for the students.

At Highline, many of the buildings have almost the exact the same hours over the summer as they do during their regular hours. Here is a list of the hours of some of the buildings and programs that will be open over the summer.

Located in Building 6 you will find the Registration Office, Educational Planning, the Transfer Center, Women’s Programs and Security.

Over the summer, registration has no changes in its hours. It is still open Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. till 7 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

“Out of all four quarters, summer is the least busy,” said Eric Cook, a registrar in Building 6. “This year’s enrollment is up for the summer compared to last year, but it is down compared to some of the previous years.”

Educational Planning has changed hours starting June 16 until Aug. 29. It is open Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday it is open from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Thursday it is open from 8 a.m. till 2 p.m., and Friday it is open

from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m.

The Transfer Center is located in the upper part of Building 6 and does have some hours changed for the summer.

Monday and Tuesday the center is open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Wednesday it is open from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. Thursday the center is open from 8 a.m. till 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. Friday it is open from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

All of the above times are used for drop-in visits. You can also make appointments at a more specific time to make sure you get in. The visits are on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Women’s Programs is located in the lower part of Building 6. Over the summer, this program is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m. Evening sessions are by appointment only.

Campus Security is located in the lower part of Building 6 and also has no changed hours for the summer. It is regularly open Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. till 9 p.m. and Friday from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.

The Bookstore, located in the upper part of Building 8, has changed their hours slightly for the summer.

The bookstore is open from 7:45 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, and on Wednesday and Thursday it is open from

7:45 a.m. until 5 p.m. On Friday, the store is open from 7:45 a.m. until 4 p.m. It is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

“The summers are usually pretty quiet around here,” Laura Noel, the new Bookstore manager said. “We are rearranging the store this summer to be more customer friendly.”

The bookstore’s hours will be different due to inventory June 16-20. Monday through Thursday of that week, the store is open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on Friday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Located in Building 25, the library will start its new summer hours on June 23 through Aug. 16. On Sunday, the library is open from 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday it is open from 8 a.m. till 9 p.m. It is now closed on Friday and Saturday.

The Tutoring Center is located in Building 26, room 319. It will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. and on Friday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Math tutoring is open all hours that the center is open. Writing is open all day, but you must make an appointment. Other subjects you need help with must be scheduled by an appointment and will be posted on the website. The website for the tutoring center is:

www.tutoring.highline.edu

Nine new teachers to join faculty ranks starting Fall Quarter

New teachers will be joining the Highline faculty this fall quarter.

According to Betsy Cruver, Human Resources Consultant, Highline has already hired nine faculty members on tenure-track positions, and are still in the process of recruiting more.

The nine faculty members that have already been hired are

filling positions in nine different departments.

The positions that Highline is currently recruiting are five one-year positions, two interns, and one more tenure-track position for Respiratory Care.

Highline students will also be seeing some recognizable faces, due to the renewing of many one-year contract positions.

Wrestling wins one, drops two / P10

Local artist creates mural for Student Programs / P12

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Highline Community College

The Thunderword

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

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.

On Campus
Paid Position
Flexible Hours
Work Study Eligible
Some Experience Preferred

Speech professor hopes to be heard in Legislature



Todd Gibson

By Jaren Lewis
Staff Reporter

Part-time speech instructor Todd Gibson is running for the state House of Representatives. The House of Representatives is half of our state's Legislature; its members gather in conjunction with the state Senate to consider new laws. The state is divided into 49 districts, and each has two representatives. Gibson is running for the first seat of the 33rd district, which comprises Des Moines, SeaTac, Normandy Park and parts of Kent and Tukwila. "More than anything, it's the opportunity to represent an area that you care about," Gibson

said. He says his extensive history in the area is very important to him. Gibson noted that he's aware of some challenges he might face here, and that some people have advised him to run in different districts where his odds might be better. Both of the 33rd District's current representatives, as well as its senator, are all Democrats. The district hasn't elected a Republican since the 1990s. But, Gibson said, "Why would I want to go somewhere else?" "I'm from here, my kids go to school here," he said. Gibson said he has found response to his candidacy warm. "People like that there's somebody local who cares,"

he said. "When someone says, 'You can represent us,' I consider that an honor." Gibson mentioned that his experience both in teaching and advertising should serve him well. "I do the work, I'm not afraid to roll up my sleeves," he said. "Unless somebody feels that you can care, why would they want you to represent them?" He cited as an example one lesson he uses in his classes: he assigns each student to a business, and asks, "What is XYZ company doing to give back to the community?" "It creates a spirit of giving back," he said. Gibson mentioned that it also gives students a chance and a reason to connect

with these businesses to expand their personal "network." That isn't the only way Gibson is utilizing his teaching position, though – he's gotten a lot of response from students volunteering for his campaign. "About 27 students have offered to help me," he said. Gibson mentioned that because of Washington's "top two" primary, which means that the two highest-voted candidates for the position go through regardless of party affiliation, it is important that he mobilize his voting base quickly. "Every day is important in a campaign, every day's important in life," he said. Gibson has a campaign web site at votetoddgibson.com.

Community leader, school board member tries to help others

By Melissa Canfield
Staff Reporter

Sili Savusa tries to instill in everyone's mind that anyone can make a difference in this world. Savusa, a local activist and member of the Highline School Board, came to Highline recently as part of the Pacific Islander Community Awareness Day. Savusa said she has been dedicated to helping the community and school systems and bettering the lives of children for over 15 years. Savusa, a mother of three, was elected to be a member of the Highline School Board last January, and is currently the only person of color. Ever since Savusa was a child, she has never been shy



Sili Savusa

about her opinions. Savusa grew up in a Samoan community and frequently went to chief meetings. She often disagreed with things that were going on and spoke up even though she had no say.

The men in the meetings repeatedly told Savusa that she should become a chief, due to her strong beliefs and ability to take charge, and she did so at the age of 25. Savusa said that her father and the people in her community had a great deal of influence on her, and helped her become who she is today. Currently, Savusa is the Family Center coordinator for Southwest Youth and Family Services. Southwest Youth and Family Services is a non-profit group that offers free services to susceptible youth and families; the service's main location is in Seattle. As the Family Center coordinator, she manages over 30 staff members. She also helps refu-

gees and immigrants gain needed skills in order to succeed. Savusa is also part of a group of people representing the diverse ethnic communities in the area of White Center, called Trusted Advocates. The Trusted Advocates are a part of the White Center Early Learning Initiative, which is a plan where community members and organizations work to produce a center that helps children grow and develop, while providing parents support services in the diverse neighborhood of White Center. "Don't underestimate the power you have, especially multicultural and collectively," Savusa said. Savusa later talked about how the school systems are in a crisis stage.

"We need to get back to the basics on how we are going to make schools better," Savusa said. The dropout rate and weak performances of Samoan children in the school system was unacceptable to Savusa, and as a result she arranged the first Samoan Parent Teacher Organization in the country. Savusa didn't want to replace the existing local school PTA, but rather wanted the Samoan Parent Teacher Organization to become more official and recognizable. Savusa said it is a great opportunity for more Samoans to get involved in their children's schooling. "We need to think about what is right for the children," Savusa said.

The Thunderword will suspend publication for summer, but return in fall 2008. Send inquiries to tword@highline.edu

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No whining, just wining

Highline alum Sherrill Miller helps make one of Washington's oldest wineries one of its best

By **Marin Bergman**
Staff Reporter

A husband and wife liked wine but didn't know how to make it, so they bought a winery and learned how.

Sherrill Miller, a Highline alumnus who became a school teacher, and husband Rich Higginbotham, who previously worked at the King County jail, decided to get into the wine business in 1991 when they bought E.B. Foote Winery from founder Gene Foote.

Foote founded E.B. Foote Winery in 1978.

"When we bought the winery, we weren't wine makers," Miller said. "But Eugene told us anyone could make wine, they just had to learn how. ... And he was right."

With the help of volunteers, all the wine sold at E.B. Foote is made in Burien at the winery.

The process starts with Miller and Higginbotham renting a U-haul truck and making their way east of the mountains to the Columbia Valley.

"We make four or five trips back and forth between Eastern Washington and here, getting up

to five tons of grapes. We bring the grapes back to the winery where we crush them and start the fermenting process; that's where the volunteers are the biggest help," Miller said.

Miller and her husband throw a dinner once a year to thank the volunteers.

"Everyone has a lot of fun. It's a lot of work, but when we get together and start crushing the grapes it's more like a party," Miller said.

Twenty-five to 50 people come to volunteer each year.

After the crushing of the grapes, the wine sits and ferments in oak barrels anywhere from five months to two years.

Every single bottle of wine is bottled and labeled at the winery by Miller, Higginbotham, and volunteers.

"I personally taste every type of wine that we sell. It's not done until I get the taste I'm looking for," Miller said.

Washington has become the second-largest wine producing state in the country. E.B. Foote produces about 2,200 cases of wine a year.

"We sell our wine out of the winery, not out of stores. We're

E.B. Foote Winery occupies a basement warehouse below a strip mall in Burien. But their wines win numerous awards.



Rich Higginbotham and Sherrill Miller with their line-up of wines.

small enough that the big wine producers don't hurt our business," Miller said. "Our customers are loyal. I have made a lot of friends working here; I wear a name tag with my first name and like to know as many of my customers as I can on first name basis."

In the process, they've also learned how to manage the business carefully.

"Everything we profit from our company we put right back into the winery. If we make more money one year, we save it for a bad year," Miller said.

Customer friendship and networking introduced the winery

as the host of the Breeders Theater.

"A customer who is a writer said to me, 'Sherrill, we should put on a play here.' I said 'OK, let's do it.' That was the beginning of Breeders Theater. Everyone loved the play, so I decided to make it an annual event. That was seven years ago. Now we put on shows twice a year in January and July, and tickets sell out every time," Miller said.

Customers can watch the play while enjoying wine, cheese and other snacks which is included in the ticket price.

E.B. Foote has a wide range of award-winning wines.

Seven of E.B. Foote's red wines have won more than 100 awards. Two white wines have received more than 10 awards

since Miller and Higginbotham bought the winery.

Available wines include: Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, Zinfandel, red blends, and Sweet Sherrill.

Sweet Sherrill is a Riesling equivalent that was introduced first as a mistake by Miller herself when she forgot to add yeast to some Chardonnay. It became one of their top-selling and award-winning wines.

In celebration of the 30-year anniversary, select bottles of wine will be 30 percent off throughout the year.

E.B. Foote is open for tasting Tuesday and Thursday from 7-9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The winery is located at 127-B SW 153rd St., Burien.

University students flock to Highline for summer

By **Jaren Lewis**
Staff Reporter

Students enrolled in Summer Quarter might notice a few new faces this year. Highline is seeing a major spike in enrollment for Summer Quarter from university-level students.

"I think it's largely economic for some students," said Gwen Spencer, director of the Educational Planning and Advising Center.

EPAC helps new and current students to ensure they keep on track for their educational goals.

"These students are moving wherever they can to keep their costs down... particularly in science fields," Spencer said. "It's a pragmatic group of students."

"One student said it's one-

third the cost of what they pay at the university," she mentioned.

For a Washington state resident, a 15-credit course load at Highline costs about \$892; the same load at the University of Washington costs over \$2,100.

Spencer said she hadn't noticed a trend of this size in the eight years she's been here. However, some professors have regularly noticed university students in online classes.

Spencer said she noticed the trend thanks to a spike in requests for entry codes. She attributes the trend to a new process called "swirling."

Swirling is a new process in which students spread their classes across multiple colleges, sometimes for economic reasons, and sometimes to get prerequisites or parts of series


classes that they can't get at their own college.

Summer enrollment is up 4 percent so far since last year.

"It's a nationwide phenomenon," Spencer said. She added that students as far away as New York are registering after hearing good things about Highline.

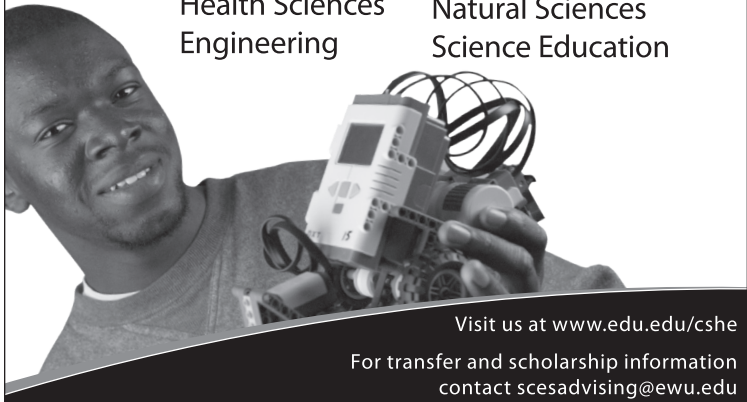
"A lot of these are post-baccalaureate students coming back to community college - or coming for the first time," Spencer said. She said that some students, who have finished their four-year degrees but want to enter the job market instead of or before continuing on to a graduate degree, study at Highline to do so quickly.

"Highline students may find it competitive," Spencer warned. "Register as soon as your appointment time."



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Life lessons

Highline’s outreach coordinator shares his college experience with middle school students

By **Katy Weythman**
Staff Reporter

The fidgeting and squirming middle school students seemed like they are too young for college but Highline’s Outreach coordinator, Rashad Norris, wouldn’t let them off the hook. “Education is the foundation of your house,” Norris said to students from Dimmitt Middle School in Renton.

“You try to put up a window without your foundation and then wonder why it falls out,” Norris said.

Dimmitt recently had a career day at which Norris spoke, promoting Highline and the importance of an educational foundation.

“It’s something that I call too cool status,” Norris said. “It’s those students who sit in the back of the classroom and they don’t know what is going on in class, but they look cool.”

The audience of students started to sit up and pay attention when they realized Norris was talking about them.

“Too cool got me Cs and Ds in college,” said Norris, who went of the University of Puget

Sound on a basketball scholarship.

“I was a rock,” Norris said. “A rock can’t talk back or do anything.”

After almost flunking out of college, he went to his adviser, who told him to get his grades up by sitting in the front row of his classes and to ask questions.

A second didn’t even pass before three to four students raised their hands to ask questions.

“What was the most useful class you have taken?” asked one the students in the back row.

“Communications,” Norris said. “This helps me connect with my audience because I was in your shoes and I know how you feel.”

After this question not a single student raised their hand and they were looking down at the pamphlet in their hands.

Norris pointed out one student and asked her to ask a question. She asked, “How do you use math in your job?”

“Who wants to make money?” Norris asked. Every student in the room raised their hands. “Well you have to like math if you want to make mon-



“Too cool got me Cs and Ds in college.”

-Rashad Norris, Outreach Coordinator on his college experience

ey.”

Students laughed and smiled as Norris continued, “There is a big difference between being rich and being wealthy.”

Students were then saved by the bell, as it rang signaling them to go to lunch, which brought the career day to a close at Dimmitt.

This is the one of many field trips that the Outreach staff takes each week to promote Highline and the need for a higher education.

The Outreach staff includes Norris, the program director;

Tanisha Williams, the program coordinator; and Norma Finsterbusch, the program assistant.

“We are the first face of Highline,” Williams said. “Outreach is a liaison between the high schools, middle schools, surrounding community, and the college.”

Outreach visits the surrounding community through high schools, middle schools, and even elementary schools.

“It is never too early for kids to start thinking about college,” Norris said. “Even if it is elementary school, I am still trying

to get Highline out there.”

Outreach has one to three field trips every week which are planned out at least a month ahead of time, Norris said.

Events, such as the recent Spring Festival, are used to provide sources for students and the community with education and employment opportunities, Norris said.

“Students often wonder, ‘What is on campus? How do I make it through college?’ And we want to help so students can go to college,” Norris said.

One way Outreach helps incoming students is by giving campus tours, ranging from a single person to large groups.

“We are always giving campus tours and doing field trips constantly,” Williams said. “Spring and Fall Quarters are the busiest time for us.”

Outreach brings in large numbers of students, which allows Highline’s campus and classrooms to expand, as well as its parking lots to get full.

“Education is so important to us [Outreach staff],” Norris said. “It is your foundation and you can always fall back on it no matter what happens.”

Rotary Club celebrates 50 years of serving Des Moines

By **Kandi Carlson**
Staff Reporter

The Des Moines Rotary Club just celebrated its 50th anniversary recently at the Poverty Bay Wine Festival Gala held Feb. 29.

The Rotary received a 50-year citation from Rotary International and Don Gregory, the district manager. All proceeds from the festival go to local area charities and into international humanitarian projects.

This year the money raised is being donated to the Des Moines Parks and Recreation department for a new playground at the Field House Park.

“We probably support about \$50,000 a year in charitable types of things,” said Jane Ipsen, Rotary President.

Jane Ipsen is the current club president and is the president and CEO of the retirement community, Landmark on the Sound.

Ipsen became involved with the Rotary because she felt “it was an opportunity to get involved in the community.” She said she “felt it was important.”

“Our motto is service above self,” Ipsen said. It was this motto that first attracted her to

the idea of joining.

The main focus of the Rotary is “really education,” said Ipsen. One example of how the Rotary demonstrates this importance is through the donation of dictionaries.

Each year the Rotary gives new fourth graders their own brand new dictionary.

The Rotary is also the sponsor of the after school program at Pacific Middle School. “They offer full scholarships and mini-grants to those who qualify,” said Ipsen.

Education is not the clubs only focus. Ipsen said their service ranges from, “painting folks homes to holding the Poverty Bay Wine Festival every year.”

For more than ten years the Rotary’s largest fund-raiser was the haunted house. The haunted house has raised more than \$500,000 over 16 years.

When plans were announced in 2004 to close the city building that held the haunted house for renovations, Rotarians began thinking of a new way to raise money for the various charities they support.

The Poverty Bay Wine Festival was started in 2005 as a result. The festival now attracts



“Our motto is service above self.”

-Jane Ipsen, president of the Des Moines Rotary Club

people from all over the Puget Sound who want to sample wine and listen to jazz music.

The festival was started by Rotarian Ric Jacobson, owner of Corky Cellars, a wine shop located in downtown Des Moines.

The Rotary is “intended to be a professional leadership community,” Ipsen said. Members consist of area business owners within the city limits if Des Moines.

However, the Rotary is currently working with Mt. Rainier High School students to begin a club at their campus. Their hope to get the youth involved in their community at a young age.

Ipsen expressed interest in the idea of starting a club at the

Highline campus when asked. All you need is to have “a direct connection to the community,” said Ipsen.

Individuals attending classes at Highline are considered to have this connection.

Ipsen said, “the Des Moines Rotary is a likely sponsor “for students interested in starting a club on campus.

If there is anyone interested in starting a chapter here at Highline all you need is a minimum of five individuals who would like to be involved.

Information on how to join can be found at the club website; <http://www.dmrotary.org>.

The easiest way to contact Ipsen is through her e-mail: jipsen@landmarkonthesound.com.

GSA looking for parade marchers

The President of the Gay Straight Alliance is looking for people to join them in Seattle for the Gay Pride Parade.

The parade will be in Seattle on June 29 and Chris Newcombe is looking for more Highline students to join him in the march. He said that everyone is welcome to participate and that they’ll get a free t-shirt if they join the parade.

“I want to show off Highline’s diversity towards the LGBT community,” said Newcombe.

Newcombe said that they are also looking for all student clubs, faculty, and executive staff of the college to participate.

“It’s very important in the college showing its support and diversity,” said GSA advisor and running start coordinator Josh Magallanes.

For more information, or if you want to join in the parade, you can call Magallanes at 206-878-3710, ext. 3886; Mandy Mineard, ext. 3934; or Cesar Portillo, ext. 3704.

If you are interested, you can also e-mail Newcombe at highlinegaystraightalliance@yahoo.com.

Zimmerman sees Highline through interesting times

By Carrie Draeger
Staff Reporter

Marie Zimmerman has no regrets about her time at Highline.

“Its been a great adventure,” she said.

Zimmerman will retire from her position as interim vice president of academic affairs this summer. During her retirement, Zimmerman hopes to become involved within Olympia, where she and her husband live.

“I am looking forward to being more connected within the community of Olympia,” Zimmerman

She and her husband plan to spend some time in Nebraska with her two step-daughters and three granddaughters.

Zimmerman lived in Nebraska and Iowa before she and her husband moved to Washington in 1983.

“It’s both way too hot and too cold in the Midwest. This suits us better,” she said.

Before coming to Highline, Zimmerman worked as a federal grants administrator at the Washington State Library.

Zimmerman said she started working in libraries because they promote democracy.

“After I came to a community college I learned that community colleges have a big part in that as well,” she said.

When Zimmerman was hired



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs Marie Zimmerman is retiring this summer after 17 years of working at Highline.

in August of 1991 as the new Library director, the Library was just beginning the process of converting from a card catalog to the integrated online system the Library uses today.

“We had one computer in public service (when I started at Highline). ... Working with the change within the library was pretty exciting,” she said.

Zimmerman moved from the Library to serve as dean of instructional resources.

Patricia Overman, an administrative assistant and application developer for instruction development, worked with Zimmerman while she was dean of instructional resources and director of the library.

“Marie has always wanted

people to learn and grow. She has always done whatever she could to assist anyone towards that end,” Overman said.

Overman said that Zimmerman’s intelligence and her understanding of people made her an “excellent communicator and facilitator.”

“She (Zimmerman) chooses the right people for the right

jobs and her timing for implementing action is impeccable,” Overman said.

Zimmerman’s leadership skills led the Board of Trustees to appoint her as interim academic vice president when Dr. Jack Bermingham was appointed to the role of interim president.

Bermingham praised her work.

“As academic vice president, she has strengthened relationships across units and has helped define key collegewide initiatives. ... I will miss Marie’s (Zimmerman) excellent problem-solving skills and her wise counsel,” Dr. Bermingham said.

When Dr. Bermingham was appointed as Highline’s permanent president, Zimmerman thought that it was a good time for her to step down.

“I can’t imagine a better end to one’s working career than to step up and do something new and have success at it,” Zimmerman said. “It feels good to know that the job that I do has an influence on society in general. ... My friends get bored hearing me talk about what great things community colleges do.”

Zimmerman said that she will miss her colleagues and students a lot.

“The people that work here are great. It’s just a very positive atmosphere.”

Highline’s new MaST center finally set to take sail this month

By Shalina Baldwin
Staff Reporter

The Marine Science and Technology Center is re-opening with a splash after two years of extensive remodeling.

The grand opening will take place on June 16, 2008. The center will be open during the grand opening from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Several distinguished guests will speak at the grand opening on June 16. The dedicatory speeches for the MaST Center will begin at 10 a.m.

U.S. Rep. Adam Smith, D-9th district, will kick off the dedication ceremony with a speech, followed by Highline President Jack Bermingham, Highline Community College Foundation MaST Campaign Chairman Dan Altmayer, and Des Moines Mayor Bob Sheckler.

In 2006, the Marine Science and Technology Center, also known as the MaST Center, was closed for major reconstruction. Now that it is re-opening, the center will once again be available to the public and the stu-



File photo

A picture of the MaST center under construction earlier this year. The center opens June 16.

dents of Highline.

Situated on the shoreline at Redondo, the MaST Center is ideally located for the students of Highline to explore and discover the wonders of marine life.

Lisa Skari, Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Highline, said, “Our goal is to promote understanding, appre-

ciation and preservation of the marine environment through hands-on research, education and community activities that highlight the beauty, complexity and importance of the South Puget Sound ecosystem.”

Refreshments will be served throughout the day.

“After the dedication, we invite guests to tour the aquarium

and facility,” Skari said.

Many positive changes have occurred at the center. Highline’s means of exploring the ocean since its creation in the 1960s, has seen many positive changes.

The MaST Center has undergone many improvements and additions. It has nearly doubled in size. The completed area

of the center will total 2,700 square feet.

“It has an updated lab and classroom, offices and research areas,” said Skari. “The aquarium has also increased in size and will feature more tanks. The gallery has display space to share information and news.”

The re-opening of the center will clear the path for many anticipated programs to take place, including one shortly after the grand opening.

Water Weekends will resume on June 28. During Water Weekends, the center will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday. This event is free to the public, who are encouraged to participate.

Highline’s Summer on the Sound Camp for 11- to 14- year-olds will take place at the MaST center. It begins on July 14, and will run for a week.

To find out more about the MaST center and the events and activities that it will host in the future, visit www.highline.edu/MAST/ or contact MaST faculty by e-mail at mast@highline.edu.

SUMMER

Highline Students are ready to head off into the sun

By Melissa Canfield
Staff Reporter

Summer break is only a few days away and students are more than ready for it. For a number of students, attending Summer Quarter is a ridiculous idea; they say that they really need a time-out from school. “It would be so hard for me to focus on school during the summer time. I’m not foolish enough to put myself in that situation,” Kyle Rogers said. “With two jobs and school, it is time to relax. Since I am graduating with my AA and from

high school this June, I need to get a lot of things organized and prepare for my future,” Brandy Metzler said. “Summer vacation is the only thing that’s pulling me through Spring Quarter. Only a little bit of school is left, and when it’s over, I’m out of here,” Adam Lee said. For some, summer is a time to work. “I’m going to try and work full time, I can’t afford to take a break,” Crystall Rodriguez said. “I’m probably going to be working a lot of hours this summer. I need to save up for next

year when I attend UW,” Claire Lundy said. A few students see the summer as an occasion to spend quality time with friends and relax the days away. “This summer all I want to do is lay back, relax, wake board, and kick it with friends,” Spencer Chambers said. “I’m thinking about going on a couple of road trips with my close friends, like to Leavenworth, maybe Canada. I’m totally stoked about it. I’m looking forward to having a fun time,” Sara Lentz said. “Camping and hiking with family and friends is what I’m

going to do with most of my time,” Brandon Hudson said. Some are planning getaways for leisure and to visit family and friends. “I’m going to France, England, and Italy with about five of my friends. I’m also going to Indianola church camp in July with some friends,” Melissa Gillies said. “I might go to Southern California or Georgia to visit my aunt,” Dana Knudsen said. “I’m going to Vietnam in the middle of June to visit family and get away from everything,” Hiep Nguyen said. Others just dream about go-

ing to their ideal vacation spots. “I would love to go to Australia. A family friend moved down there and I want to visit her. I’ve always wanted to see a kangaroo too,” Nicole Kay said. “I totally want to go back to Italy and visit all of my old friends. I haven’t seen them since I moved from there a couple of years ago,” Whitney Lynch said. “I love going to the beach and enjoying the sun, but since we barely have those up here in Washington, I want to go to Hawaii or Mexico,” Jordan Hale said.

Stephens

Continued From Page 1

grades and were taught by one teacher,” Stephens said. Since there was no local high school, and her family could not afford the correspondence courses offered. Stephens didn’t go to school after the eighth grade until she moved to Spokane when she was 16 years old. Stephens attended Lewis and Clark High School from 1954 to 1958, and was the only one of four children in her family to graduate high school. After high school, Stephens attended Cheney College, now known as Eastern Washington University, for two years. Stephens currently resides in the city of SeaTac. There she loves to cook, sew, watch baseball, grow flowers, and read.

“I love to be outside and only do housework out of necessity,” Stephens said. She has been employed at H&R Block for the past 34 years as a seasonal tax preparer, but now her company is offering bookkeeping services along with tax preparation. Stephens decided to go back to school due to the company’s bankruptcy of her additional job of 28 years and to help subsidize her retirement. When Stephens told her family and friends she was going to enroll in college again, they supported her all the way. Stephens said her family said things likes,



Anna Stephens hanging out in the outdoors, which also is her favorite place to be

“Way to go Mom” and “Go Grandma.” Stephens decided to attend Highline because she had never heard any bad press about the school and it is close to where she lives. Even though Stephens is much older than the other students in her classes, she loves being around and interacting with the youth. “Younger people keep you thinking young. I have always loved to spend time with younger people. I would love to be their age again with their pos-

sibilities,” Stephens said. “Anna brings a world of experiences (work and personal) to my online class environment,” said Newton. “Anna takes the initiative and responds to other student’s questions and concerns and attempts to assist the younger students in their understanding. She typically relates times when she actually worked in situations identical to the materials being discussed in the discussion board and provides real world solutions to these difficult issues,” said Newton.

“It is just a pleasure having her in class and I look forward to attending her graduation. It is never too late to finish a dream of attaining one’s degree and Anna could be the poster child for such a diligent life-long pursuit,” Newton said. “It is a blessing because she shares her accumulated wisdom with the team (class.) She is an amazing teammate. She asks great questions and helps others on the team,” said Girvin. Overall, Stephens is happy with her decision to continue her education at Highline.

Food

Continued From Page 1

larger Compass Group and it had a \$ 20 billion in revenue last year. “I’m quite excited to have them on campus,” Yok said. “They have a good reputation.” Yok said that he’s hoping that a bigger company like Chartwells will bring with them a wider variety of food, a broader range of services, good quality and freshness as well as good customer service. “I think it’s going to be a good change for us,” said Yok. “I’m excited to work with them.” Yok also wanted to thank Cater Seattle for the three years that they worked with the school. “I wish them the best of luck with all their future operations,” Yok said.

“My teachers have been the best; they really seem to care if we learn. The teachers are a part of this experience I am really going to miss. The learning environment is great. I have never been made to feel I was too old to be here or set out from the rest of the class,” Stephens said. Even though Stephens is going to graduate this summer with her degree, it may not mean that it’s the end of her education. “I would like to take classes for fun but do not intend to continue to enroll full time again,” Stephens said.

Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD

KOAM sets up in Federal Way

By Shalina Baldwin
Staff Reporter

Korean television station KOAM TV has found a permanent home in Federal Way.

In celebration of the station’s 25th anniversary, and its recent move to their new facility, Gov. Christine Gregoire appeared at a dedication last week.

The governor spoke about the philosophy of KOAM, saying that they are the voice for minorities throughout the region. She saluted their commitment and great works, and proclaimed that she was honored to share their happy day. Governor Gregoire also said that now that they were in their own building, their voice would be stronger than ever.

Founded by Korean immigrants Shelley Ko and her husband Chong Che Ko in 1983, KOAM is one of the top Korean TV stations in the nation.

The Kos were troubled at the lack of Korean media in the

Pacific Northwest, and specifically the Seattle area where they lived. At the time they arrived, only one weekly Korean newspaper was local.

Ko said that she felt it was important that the Korean immigrants had some way of feeling at home again. She said that the TV station was their way of providing that much-needed comfort, and not just to Koreans.

“KOAM is focused toward all immigrants to help them transition into the U.S. more easily,” Ko said.

KOAM provides helpful information for community awareness. Geared toward helping immigrants, they provide information such as how to file a tax report, or where to go for medical help.

In addition to helping newcomers transition into a new life, the station also strives to educate second- and third generation Koreans, as well as all other Americans, about the customs and cultures of Korea.

“We want our children, the second- and third-generations, to learn about their heritage. We want them to understand where their parents came from, and to carry on their roots,” said Ko.

KOAM is aired on Comcast channel 257. All programs are presented in Korean, but for Americans’ benefit, 85 percent of the content has English subtitles.

“We also keep in mind the elders. The old Koreans who have shorter memories need some way to feel comforted away from their home land. A TV station in Korean makes them feel at home again,” Ko said

KOAM is also for the younger Koreans who might go back to Korea every once in a while, and need updates, Ko said. Many Korean-Americans feel out of place in Korea or the U.S., like they aren’t fully part of either one. KOAM’s goal is to educate and keep them informed so that they can feel comfortable when they visit Korea.

Diggin’ through the trash



Shannon Clary/THUNDERWORD
A squirrel enjoys a meal on one of the trash cans on campus.

“These Koreans who come to this new land work so hard and have little time to educate themselves,” Ko said. “Our station is an effort to let them be educated about many subjects, as well as give them very accurate and up-

dated information from Korea, Ko said.”

KOAM is located at 3208 32nd Ave. S. Federal Way, WA 98001. To contact the station, call 253-946-5537, or visit their website at www.koamtv.net.

Scams

Continued From Page 1

ing inflated returns.

- In promissory notes, little-known or non-existent companies promise high returns by issuing short-term debt instruments.
- Investors are often lured by the higher fixed returns that promissory notes offer. These notes become vehicles for fraud because the issuer cannot pay, or will not pay, the returns promised by the salesperson.
- Unscrupulous brokers are stockbrokers who poorly assist investors, causing financial problems for them and being unhelpful.
- Affinity fraud is when a con artist joins a victim’s religious or ethnic identity and earns their trust, using it as leverage in order to steal their life savings.
- Unlicensed securities sellers deal in fraudulent and high-risk investments like promissory notes, oil and gas deals, gold or mining stock and viatical settlements, without a license.
- A prime bank scheme is where con artists promise investors triple-digit returns through access to the investment portfolios of the world’s elite or “prime” banks. Scammers often use the allure of “tax free” money by using “offshore accounts” to entice investors.
- Internet fraud comprises scams done online, rather than through the mail, using spam e-mails, chat rooms and online

investment “newsletters” with promotional information.

Investors should ignore e-mail offers from individuals posing as Nigerian or West African government officials, business officials or people in need of help to deposit large sums of money in overseas bank accounts.

- Free lunch and dinner scams are a recent trend where many seniors are being targeted with free lunch and dinner seminars advertised as “educational,” but that instead involve a heavy sales pitch.
- Telemarketing fraud is where high-pressure telephone sales operations peddle illegal or fraudulent investment products nationwide. These individuals will gladly accept the life savings of elderly persons who will never be able to recoup their losses.

DFI’s securities criminal and enforcement unit program manager, Martin Cordell, said he believes that con artists are well aware of the weaknesses we all have in our human nature, which is to trust people who are like us.

“People are trusting, and the con artist understands human nature,” he said.

Cordell specifically noted that seniors are particularly targeted because they have lots of money and are susceptible to investment scams.

“Part of the reason is because of a lack of education and knowledge on finances,” Cordell said. “They (seniors) let their guards down because they

think they know more than they actually do.”

Cordell said that there have been countless financial losses over the past several years.

“In the last 10 years, if you look at the cases in Washington (state) overall, it would be literally in the billions of dollars of all the losses in some of those scams,” said Cordell.

The Attorney General’s media relations office manager, Kristin Alexander, said that she receives several reports every year on financial investment scams.

“Each year, statistics show that Americans lose \$1 billion every year to fraudulent investments,” Alexander said.

She said that many people do not do their research when being offered these fraudulent investment opportunities.

“It’s important to gather as much information before getting involved in any kind of investment,” Alexander said. “Many people are duped into something by someone who earns their trust.

“The kicker is that they did not sense the red flag and they didn’t do their shopping around,” she said.

Alexander said she has heard of all types of different scams, but one in particular she has heard more often.

“The No. 1 scam we are hearing about is through wire transfer fraud,” she said.

This kind of scam falls into the same category as internet fraud.

Alexander said there are sev-

eral red flags to pay attention to in order to determine whether a financial investment is a scam. Some of the red flags she mentioned include:

- High pressure sales tactics; promise of exorbitant profits; claims of no risk; people that can’t answer questions; and any kind of unprofessional conduct.

Alexander also has some helpful tips when investing your money. Some of them are:

- “Know who you’re dealing with”
- “Make sure you get everything in writing”

- “Talk to a trusted expert or accountant”

If you or someone you know has fallen prey to a financial investment scheme of some kind, you can contact the Attorney General’s office at 1-800-551-4636 or the hotline for DFI at 1-877-746-4334.

One of the first things to do, Alexander said, is to “file a complaint and contact the Attorney General’s office or the Department of Financial Institutions.” She said you can also go onto their website at atg.wa.gov for more help and information.

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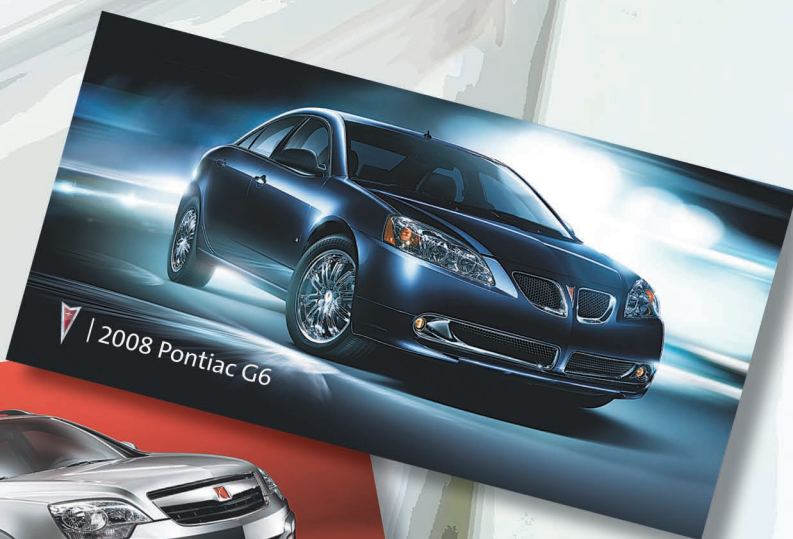
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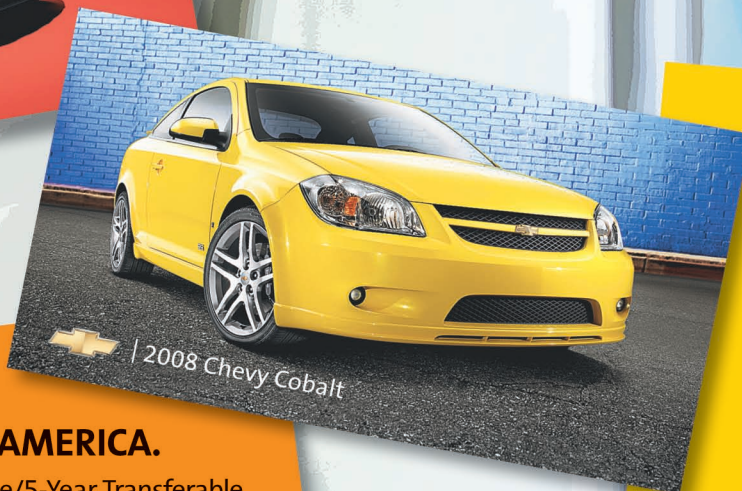
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