



**Students say  
mime professor's  
lectures too  
quiet/P8**



**Helium-filled  
basketball  
traps player in  
Pavilion/P16**

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Highline Community College

# The Thunderwerd

## Rights activists take over lab

By **DAX BUBBLEMAN**  
Staff Reporter

The nursing lab was taken over by a wild herd of PETA supporters last Monday.

The PETA supporters broke into Building 26 and had been hanging up banners smeared with what they thought was fake blood.

"Those dumb hippies actually smeared pig's blood all over their banners and themselves," Des Moines Police Officer Ernie Jones.

The PETA members, however, were not shaken up. Mortal screams came floating out of the nursing lab, as they started pelting the officers with small rodents.

"Witness the power of nature!" one PETA member yelled as he nailed Officer Jones in the face with an acouchi. Acouchis are adorable rodents that get up to 7 centimeters long in length.

After hours of being holed up in the nursing center, and one failed attempt by the police to infiltrate, the PETA members were starting to starve.

It was Chartwells, the new catering service at Highline, who saved the day. They made an abundance of tofu burgers and set them at strategic points around Building 26.

One by one the PETA members tried sneak out and snatch a burger, but the police tackled them like fierce jungle cats leaping on a baby zebra.



Chaz Bobblegun/THUNDERWERD

*Nursing student Card Pulmer argues with PETA leader DQ Berger at the height of the standoff on Monday.*

"You may do to me what you want," said PETA member D.Q. Berger when he was forced into the DMPD police car. "Just don't touch my piggy!"

"We told you guys, we're not Highline Hospital," Nursing Program Coordinator Ivana

Nursikkis said to Berger as he was piled into the DMPD Stationwagon.

The last of the PETA members got a hold of one of the tofu burgers and took a big bite right as he got nailed by Officer Tank Mammoth. This caused

the man to choke violently and everybody looked to Nursikkis and her nurses for help.

"This is the most ridiculous thing I've witnessed in my three-and-a-half years of teaching," said Nursikkis as the last of the PETA members was shoved in a police car. "Nurses don't do CPR; you'll need to call respiratory care."

Officials were unsure, later, however, which group the people calling themselves PETA actually represented.

Originally, it was believed that the group might be People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. However, upon questioning, some of the arrestees identified themselves as emblems of Persons Eager to Annoy.

At least one of the group said he was disappointed to find out that the group was against eating meat.

"I'm a meatarian," he said. "Salad is cruelty to vegetables."

Asked why he continued to support the group even after he learned they were anti-meat, the protester said he admired their sense of commitment.

"I've got a real steak in this group," he said. "They've got a legitimate beef. They know how to cut out the fat and bring home the bacon. There's nobody here who's hamming it up. Yes, they don't like me eating meat, but all I get from it is a little ribbing now and then. But we're going to stop this pork-barrel politics once and for all."

## College to expand enrollment options

By **LARRY LABRUM**  
Staff Reporter

College officials said they will admit students of any age beginning Fall Quarter 2009.

The new program will expand on the successful Running Start program and will be called Random Start. Students' age will not be considered in admissions any longer, Highline officials say.

"We have an open-door admissions policy already," said Random Start coordinator-designate Wyndham Hill. "This just opens the door a little wider."

Students will be placed in classes according to their Compass scores, Hill said. "We realize that we'll have to offer some more remedial classes, since a lot of the younger students probably won't be up to speed on subjects such as English, math, science, history, speech, business, engineering, arts, and social science," Hill said. "But a lot of them ought to do really well in courses such as early childhood education. Let's face it – they're experts!"

Hill acknowledged that some professors may be less than happy about having to teach remedial classes, but said that many on campus are already developing a talent for that in their work with Running Start students. "So for a lot of people, this is a natural progression," he said.

Some of the classes will be housed in the former Early Childhood Learning Center, which is being closed due to budget cuts. Hill said the classes also will be open to students 5 feet tall and under, of any age.

"You have to be able to fit in those tiny desks," he said.

Because of the change, the 10 a.m. class hour now will include a 10-minute "morning recess" period, and any class scheduled for noon or later will include a designated nap time.

## 'Reply all' keys to be disabled this month

By **WALLY MONROE**  
Staff Reporter

Officials with the Administrative Technology department have announced that they will disable the "reply all" function on campus computers later this month.

"Reply all" is costing the campus hours of labor every week," said Rupert Nano, assistant director of computing efficiency for Highline. "Just the processing of the repeated campus-wide e-mails literally raises the college's electric bill."

Nano admitted that the reply-all e-mail function is in fact use-

•College officials will host a "blood for cash" drive to help ease budget cuts. **Please see page 24.**

ful for ongoing group discussions.

"But most often it's used for people who want to share something with the whole campus that only needs to be shared with a few people."

Some on campus celebrated the move.

"It's like the students in class who say something just to say something," said Professor Gus Curmudgeon. "For some peo-

ple, it's almost like Tourette's."

Others were less happy with the decision.

"I have just so many things I want to tell people," said Professor LaWanda Wandermind. "It's a part of my computer. All those e-mails that won't be sent – those e-mails, they're like e-mails to me."

Others expressed similar frustration.

"This college sucks," said one employee who asked not to be named. "They keep trying to make me work."

In other tech news on campus:

•College officials said they

would try to schedule unexpected Blackboard crashes around midterms and finals so as to limit disruptions.

•Students will be issued "virtual laptops" along with their textbooks.

"They're virtually useless," Nano said, "but most students' heads are in the clouds anyway."

•Students using Library computers for gaming or MySpace will receive electric shocks from the computer mice, and Library staff will hold their souls in detention until all fines are paid in

Please see Reply, page 7

Please see Random, page 12





Juvenile caught studying in library

Students called Security to take care of a juvenile who was causing a disturbance by quietly reading his textbook at one of the library’s ukelele practice tables.

“We can’t function with people messing around like this,” said an aspiring ukelele hero.

Security office stolen

Security officers arrived at Building 6 last Monday, March 30, to discover the Security office had gone missing.

“We came back from a meeting, and it was just gone,” said Officer John Mustard.

MaST Center attacked by pirates

Highline’s Marine Science and Technology was attacked by pirates on March 17.

Lost and Found

The following items were reported lost: virtue, innocence, one bag of marbles, Rey Mysterio, three pair size extra-large women’s harem pants.

The following items were reported found: faith, hope, purpose, the internet, meaning, one case men’s Now Baby hair gel.



Lewis J. Ren/THUNDERWERD

The Nike swoosh on Building 8 will help make up for lost state revenue, college officials say.

College turns to ads to help pay the bills

By JAREK NARROWS  
Staff Reporter

Building 8 will be providing advertisement billboard space to help make up for budget cuts.

In a fund-raising effort to cover recent budget cuts, Vice President of Student Affairs Jeff Meetingwell has arranged for the window space on the sides of Building 8 to be converted to commercial ad space.

The plan was proposed by a group of students in the Business Program after the rash of cuts made to the S&A budget last quarter.

“I was really distressed by the announcement of the closure

of the Child Learning Center,” said Mike Philpes, a student. Philpes had hoped to be admitted into the center.

“Yeah, I’m 21,” he said. “But I’m short.”

“So many people hang out around the Student Union. We thought there had to be people out there wanting to reach that market,” he said.

“The idea just sort of hit us. I pulled out my Nokia 6720 Classic and called to meet with Meetingwell the next day,” he said.

Although the revenue from the ads is coming too late to save the child care center, Philpes said, he hopes that it will

keep other programs important to the school from being shut down, such as the TV in Student Union.

“We actually thought about putting ads on that, too,” Philpes said.

The ad space will be sold at competitive rates based on size, placement and printing quality.

“About 20 percent of the available space on the building has been prepared so far,” Meetingwell said.

“We’re hoping to prepare about 60 percent of the remaining space.”

“Apple has been a big buyer,” he said.

“We think we might be able

to make up at least 80 percent of the money that we thought we’d have to cut from the S&A if we can sell all the space,” Meetingwell said.

Student response to the idea has varied.

“I think it’s a shame,” said Cassandra Lorne, a chemistry major.

Lorne explained that the chemistry department had hoped to harness all of the glass on the side of Building 8 as a giant burning glass.

“But this totally ruins the building’s potential as a convex lens,” Lorne said.

“We want to be able to burn something large.”



New club hopes to make a splash

The new Old Ones Cthulhu Club will be holding its inaugural meeting Saturday, April 4, at Salty’s near the Highline MaST Center.

The meeting will begin at 11 p.m. with an open discussion of the topic, “are we worthy?”

Proceedings will conclude at midnight with a ritual in an attempt to summon an elder god.

Club President Frank Thurston said he was “very excited to have this opportunity.”

Light refreshments such as coffee and a vegetable assortment will be provided by the club.

Occult Seminar says ‘me too’

Occult Seminar has been announced for Spring Quarter.

Modeled after the already-successful Science Seminar and the new History Seminar programs, Occult Seminars will be held on Tuesdays in various rooms on campus.

The program was proposed by phrenology instructor Andrew Stewart.

“These seminar programs are really catching on,” Stewart said. “We wanted to get on board early while there were still days of the week free.”

The seminar’s schedule has not been determined yet, but Stewart said he will do the first presentation, “How to tell whether your students are zombies or just asleep?” on Tuesday, April 7.

Stewart said he is also interested in having seminars on astrology, palm reading and alien sightings in the King county area.

Movie Fridays isa very exciting, mon

Spring Quarter’s Movie Fridays program will kick off with *Star Wars 1.5: The Jar-Jar Binks Story*.

The film was directed by Alan Smithee and stars Ahmed Best as the voice of Jar-Jar Binks, a fan favorite character since his debut in *The Phantom Menace*.

The film explores Jar-Jar Binks’ troubled past through flashbacks interspersed into a winding narrative full of intrigue and deception.

*Star Wars 1.5* was a huge critical success, garnering a 94 percent “sweet” rating on review site Overripe Bananas.

Famed reviewer Zebert Rogers called it “a deep and satisfying biopic about the undoubtedly most beloved character in the Star Wars franchise.”

The film will be shown Friday, April 3, at 12:30 a.m. in Building 33, room 802.

Binks himself will be visiting Highline classes soon.

Corrections

•There was an error in last week’s paper on page 13: the correct spelling is “immortal

bear.”

•The bookstore will not be offering free textbooks this quarter. The story should have said “freak textbooks.”

The Thunderwerd

Just like a real newspaper.

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Fashion editor.....	Hottie Couture
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# Idolicious Sanjaya to perform at Highline

By **NICHELE NICHOLAS**  
Staff Reporter

Sanjaya Malakar is coming to Highline this weekend to perform works from his upcoming self-titled album, *Sanjaya*.

Malakar is a Federal Way native who rose to fame and infamy during his time on a popular television singing contest.

*American Idol* fans will remember Malakar from the sixth season of the series. The reality show discovered him during the show's Seattle auditions which were hailed by the judges, Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul, and Randy Jackson, as the worst auditions in the history of *American Idol*. Despite this, two of the top 12 finalists were from those auditions, including Malakar and season runner-up Blake Lewis.

Malakar made it into the seventh round of the competition through viewer votes despite much criticism from the judges and the media.

Malakar's performance at Highline will be his first since the American idol tour, which took place after the season aired from July 6 to Sept. 23, 2007.

He was approached for the performance by Highline's activities coordinator, Laren Jewis.

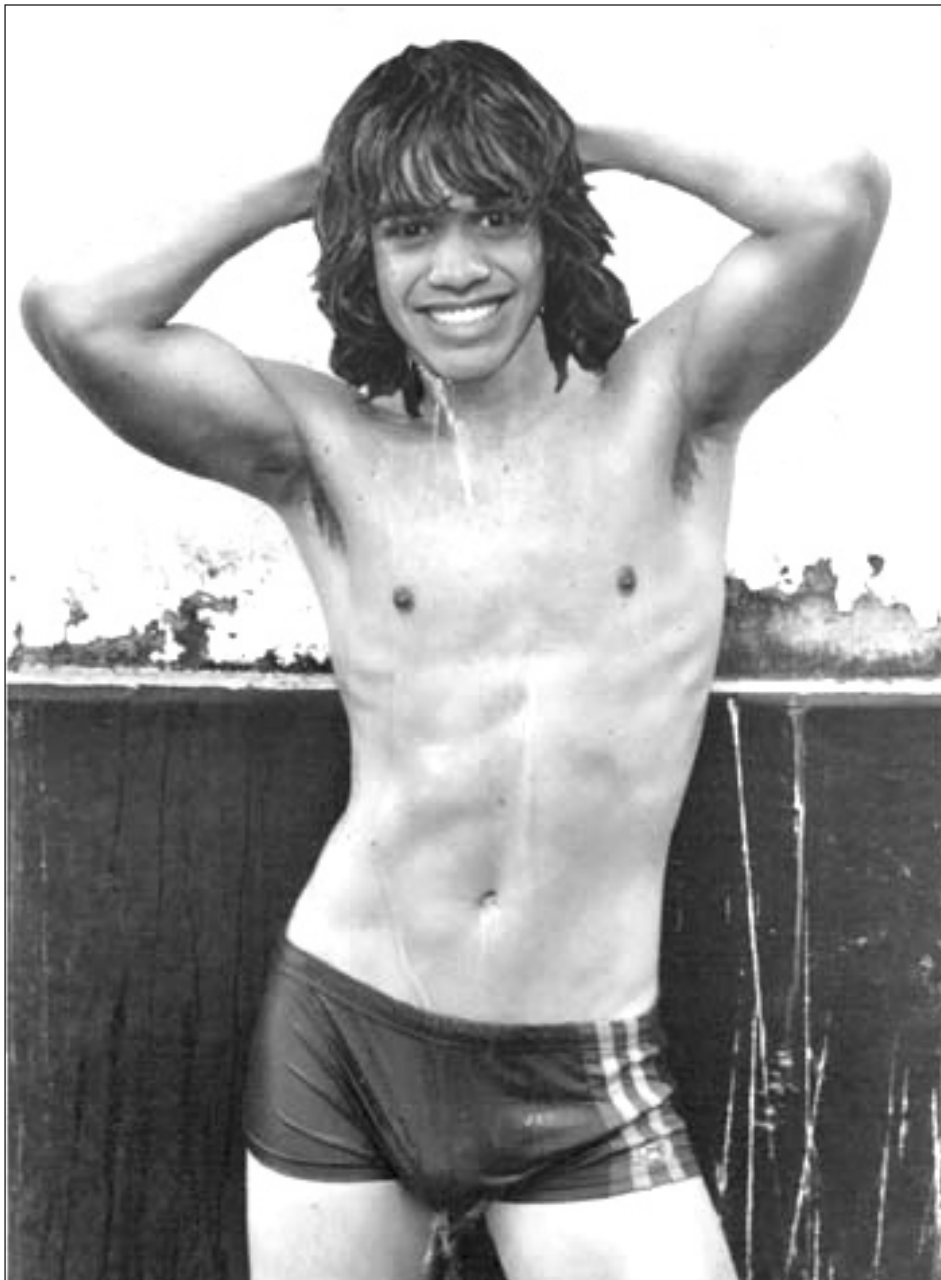
"I've known Sanjaya for as long as I can remember," said Jewis. "I knew he wasn't working right now and Highline could really do for some great entertainment, so it was a great fit for all of us."

Malakar is also excited about the upcoming performance.

"I'm really pumped," he said. "This is gonna be my chance to show everybody what I can do without *American Idol*."

This will be the first stop on Sanjaya's Reunion Tour.

"I was falling apart for a long time there," he said. "But now I'm coming back together."



Sanjaya poses for the cover of his next album, *Just Like Me -- But Better*.

News of the singer's upcoming performance has received mixed reactions from Highline students.

"I can't believe this is happening," Highline student Molly Sims said. "I

thought the whole Sajaya thing was over. It should have stayed that way. I can't believe Highline's trying to bring him back."

During Malakar's time on *American*

*Idol*, Sims was one of the viewers who protested the singer's inclusion on the show by starving herself until his eviction. She also ran on online video blog to share her fasting experience and encourage other viewers to do the same.

"I'm thinking about starting the blog back up," she said. "It was one thing when Sanjaya was on my TV, but him coming to my school is just not cool."

Sims is starting a petition to stop the performance and organizing a website to stop all future performances by Malakar. She said she is trying to make this a nationwide movement.

"This time, it happened to me and my school, next time it could be yours," she said.

Malakar isn't worried about the negativity his appearance at Highline is already causing. He considers the reaction a positive thing.

"Some viewers did the same thing when I was on *Idol*," he said. "If anything, it just helped me out and got me more votes."

To join the movement against Malakar, visit [JustsaynotoSanjaya.com](http://JustsaynotoSanjaya.com).

Meanwhile, an alternative group claiming that Sanjaya is being controlled by agents from UNESCO, say they plan to be at the concert to protest Sanjaya's continued exploitation by Western cultural forces.

They also have set up a website, [free-sanjaya.com](http://free-sanjaya.com). "Free Sanjaya," said the group's spokesman, Aldo Phat.

Malakar will perform in the Mt. Townsend dining room of Building 8 at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 4. With him will be his one lone fan, Ashley Ferl, who was fondly labeled "the Crying Girl" by Simon Cowell. Tickets will be sold in advance April 2 and 3 in front of both entrances to Building 8.

## 'Watchmen' musical to be spring production



The cast of the spring production of *Watchmen*, the musical, poses for a publicity shot over spring break. Highline officials hope the production will spur students to more acts of random vigilantism, and also to go to class more often.

By **WHIP WHINER**  
Staff Reporter

Highline's Drama Department will present *Watchmen*, the musical, for its spring production this quarter.

"We're really excited that we were able to get the rights to this," said guest director Frank Flopp. "The musical is even more oddly obtuse than the real thing."

Flopp said this is also a good way to prepare for next year's production, *V for Vaudeville*.

In the musical version of *Watchmen*, the madcap gang of would-be superheroes tries to fight crime while battling existential angst and the desire to land roles in the chorus line of *Bush War Drum Line*, the musical within a musical that may or may not help explain the plot of the musical outside of the musical.

But it's the music that matters the most, Flopp said.

Numbers in the show include

*Watchmen who Watch Watchmen who Watch, Wind Me Up, Watchboy, I'm Killing You Because I Love You*, and the lilting love ballad, *Give Me Back My Freakin' Movie Rights*.

"It's a story about stories within stories," Flopp said.

Flopp said they will be casting for all roles in the show. He said it's not necessary to be able to sing to sing in the show.

"It's more about the music," Flopp said. "It's about music that's inside of music, but more musical."

Flopp said he would like, however, an entire bass section, which will sing in falsetto.

Flopp said he hopes to find one strong singer to play the lead, Dr. Manhattan Transfer.

"It will help if he looks good in blue," Flopp said.

The Drama Department said that, in keeping with tradition, they will not promote the show until the last possible minute.

"We really hope people come to see the show," said Flopp.



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# Highline hunt club hopes to bag bigger game

By **WELLS LAMONT**  
Staff Reporter

The first official Highline Hunting Club is now in session.

After years and years of unsuccessful attempts by numerous people to get a hunting club, Cletus Hunter was the one that finally got it established.

Hunter, a fifth-year sophomore at Highline, said that getting the club going was a huge step for Highline.

"Getting this club going at Highline is amazing," Hunter said. "All the other big schools in the state have a hunting club and for us to finally get one here is really monumental."

Although Highline really doesn't have a so-called forest around it, Hunter said this is not a problem.

"No forest, no problem. We hold our club meetings in the woods out behind the soccer field. At the meetings we take practice shots at birds, squirrels and basically all other animals that show themselves," said Hunter.

Hunter said even if you don't have a gun you still could join.

"It doesn't matter if you're equipped or not," Hunter said. "I have several guns that I usually bring with me to the meetings that I allow all other members to use."



Pancho Grover/THUNDERWORD

*Highline Hunting Club President Cletus Hunter, right, and partner Bucky Sholtz show off their take of geese from the flock that likes to hang out near the soccer fields.*

Currently the Highline Hunting Club only has 10 members, but they are looking for more hunters, Hunter said.

"We want to get as many people out there as we can," he said. "If you like to hunt or

even would just like to learn, we want you."

The club not only has meetings, but they go on hunting expeditions as well.

"So far this year, we have taken one expedition up to Tiger

Mountain. Most of us picked off a few birds and a couple of raccoons," Hunter said. "Terry [Jackson] managed to rack up a huge deer with his Brown-ing Cynergy Sporting shotgun. We are planning on taking trips

every weekend from here on out to give others the opportunity to come out and join us. Basically we really like to shoot animals."

Hunter said that you don't have to do much to come out and join them.

"The only thing you have to do is fill out a release form, just in case something accidentally happens. We meet on Tuesday and Thursday every week, from 3 to 4 on the soccer field," said Hunter. "We do ask that you don't bring your guns on the first day as we need to process paperwork first."

The release form is standard for all clubs and Smith said if you e-mail him that he will send you a copy of what needs to be done.

"The best way for you to contact me is by e-mail. I like to take a shotgun approach, so I check my e-mail a lot and will be able to quickly respond. My e-mail is cletus80@hotmail.com," said Hunter.

With the decision just going final less than a month ago, Hunter said there is a few people he needs to thank.

"I can't thank the administrators at Highline enough for being so supportive in this epic decision," he said. "We are go-

Please see Hide, page 15

## Hide-and-seek team wants to bring sport into the open

By **Wink Blinkman**  
Staff Reporter

Highline's hide-and-seek team is looking forward to an exciting spring season.

The newest team was added to Highline's athletic line-up after the trashing of track and the softball team striking out in its quest for enough players, said Jeb Jingle, under-assistant athletic director for development.

"We needed something in a hurry," said Jingle. "And although this sport requires some skill, it doesn't require much training."

Coach Herman "Hidey" Holman said the squad is looking pretty sharp so far. "When I can see them, anyway," Holman said. "A lot of times, they're just hiding."

Team captain Alfred "Tiny" Freeman said he's gotten so good at hiding that he often gets missed when roll gets taken in class.

"I'm easy to overlook," he said.

Freeman said the team has recovered from the loss of teammate Rey Mysterio, who was hiding during practice one day



Henrik Schneaker/THUNDERWORD

*Hide-and-seek team captain Alfred "Tiny" Freeman warms up with some hiding practice in the Student Union on Monday.*

but was never found.

"We hope he's OK," Freeman said. "He was really good at hiding, I guess. We left some food out for him, and it does disappear every night. So I guess we'll keep feeding him until he decides to come out."

Some team members have

been working on a yoga-style move, the sideways-facing panda, in which the player wills himself into a state of invisibility.

"Can you see me now?" asked Freeman.

Although the team is particularly adept at hiding, Coach Hol-

man said they need to work on the seeking part of their game.

"You've got to be able to find the other team's hiders," Holman said. "Hiding by itself is not enough if you want to win a championship."

In the complicated scoring system for competitive hide and

seek, each found person of the other team counts as a frange. Three franges make a float, and the first team to reach four floats wins the match.

Teams lose a porgie for each of their own players found, however, and three porgies mean that team members must assemble for a ritual dance before play can resume.

Teams may subtract half a porgie for each hiding team members who remains unfound for the minimum time, which varies depending on the current year's lunar cycle and the cube root of the Dow Jones Utilities average.

"The students really learn something from playing this game," Holman said.

The Thunderhiders, as they like to call themselves, will have their first home match on April 5, at 2 p.m. near the Pavilion.

"Hopefully, you won't be able to find us," Freeman said.

The team's top seeker remains Victor "the snout" Vendetta, legendary for his ability to smell out opposing players.

"I'm gonna find those guys,"

Please see Hide, page 15