

Washington anime fans flock to Sakura-Con/P8



Highline alum Cox is breaking through in the MLS/P9

April 16, 2009 / Volume 48, No. 22

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Highline Community College

The Thunderword

Running Start no longer a free ride Stimulus

By LIVIU BIRD Staff Reporter

Highline will be able to charge its 890 Running Start students certain fees thanks to a bill passed by the Washington State Legislature on Monday.

Under House Bill 2119, community and technical colleges such as Highline will be able to begin charging Running Start students for parking, technology, and lab fees, although low income waivers will be avail-

Also, Running Start students would count to ensure Highline's funds do not get cut, but additional money for them will not be available until the economy turns around.

This is significant because tuition only pays for 30 percent of a student's education at Highline. The rest of the money comes from the state. In order to receive the same amount of state funds, colleges must maintain a certain number of FTE (full time equivalent) students or the state cuts their funding.

"When the Legislature adopted the program in the early 1990s, it worked well because the students [in the] program were filling seats in classes that were already scheduled, but not full," said Chris Reykdal, deputy executive director of finance for the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges.

"Since then, the program has become wildly popular. Now, colleges need to adapt and grow their courses to meet the needs of that many Running Start students," he said.

The primary sponsor of House Bill 2119 is State Rep. Deb Wallace, D-Vancouver.

"I realize Running Start is causing challenges for community colleges with funding," she said. "At some point, we will have to provide them with additional funding for the pro-

The SBCTC has called for a study to help the Legislature come up with a more viable solution for the long term.

Please see House Bill, page 15

to boost loan, grant programs

By CODY STOLZ Staff Reporter

The Federal Government's economic stimulus package makes getting a student loan or receiving an educational grant easier than ever, according to a detailed report from the Federation of State Public Interest Research Groups.

U.S. PIRG, a consumer-advocacy group, said the higher education features of the stimulus package will benefit students directly.

"I especially like the work being done on the Pell grant," said Tessa Atkinson-Adams, a higher education field coordinator for U.S. PIRG.

The higher education section of the stimulus package has three main parts: making more students eligible for the Pell grant, cutting out subsidies and third party lenders from student loans, and providing lower interest rates on student loans.

The maximum Pell grant is rising from \$5,350 to \$5,550, with more students eligible for the grants.

U.S. PIRG says that 260,000 additional students could be able to receive Pell grant aid.

The program will pay for this by eliminating bank subsidies and third party lenders, which would save the government an estimated \$47 billion a year. The government would then redirect \$5 billion directly to student aid.

The government previously had been spending \$4 billion to banks to encourage them to make student loans. Ending the subsidy would save more than 4 percent in administrative overhead, according to Robert Borosage, co-director of the Campaign for America's Future, a Washington, D.C. lobbying group.

The Obama administration estimates that the program will save taxpayers \$200 over the

Please see Stimulus, page 16

A whole lotta Seoul

Korean-Americans find a new home in Federal Way

By YUN HWANG Staff Reporter

Federal Way seems to be the Korea of Washington state.

10,000 out of the 88,000 Federal Way population are Koreans

"You really don't have to speak English to live in Federal Way," said a Highline student, Michael Hong. "Just look at the signs on the streets. It's such a Korean town."

"Federal Way is able to provide a lot of amenities for Korean-Americans," said Mike Park, a former mayor and current Federal Way City Council member.

Park suggests that the location of Federal Way is the big-



Mike Park

gest attraction for Korean citi-

"I believe that Federal Way is conveniently located between Seattle and Tacoma," Park said.

His opinions on the reasons of continuing Korean immigration is education.

"Simply, they [Koreans] are looking for better opportunity, particularly educating their children," Park said.

Park's perspective seems to be true for Highline student Hyun Yong.

The "[m]ain reason we moved here is my brother's education," Park said. "He went to Thomas Jefferson High school.

Kyung Jung, the city's Korean community liaison says that the Federal Way school districts even offers services specifically for Korean families.

"Federal Way school district also attracts people by offering dedicated Korean language services for parents who are not native speakers," Jung said.

The economic development director, Patrick Doherty, also suggested a few reasons for the large Korean community in Federal Way.

"I think this has to do with the combination of proximity to Pierce County where many military men brought back Korean wives over the decades," Doherty said.

"Federal Way became sort of



Christy Choe/THUNDERWORD A hostess at the Kokiri restaurant in Federal Way prepares Bulgoki.

the cultural and commercial hub of the Edmonds to Lakewood Korean corridor," Doherty said.

The city of Federal Way also organizes one of the biggest Korean festivals in the Pacific Northwest, which is the Han Woo Ri Festival.

"The highlight of the year is the Han Woo Ri festival which showcases many aspects of Korean culture including art, music, and traditional customs," Doherty said.

The festival is scheduled for May 15 -17 at the Federal Way City Center.

"This year's festival will feature both traditional and contemporary performances, exhib-

its, activities, foods and more," Doherty said.

More information about the festival can be found at www. hanwoorifestival.org.

Two of the most popular Asian grocery stores, H Mart and Paldo World, are also located in Federal Way.

"I go there all the time," said Minji Kim, a Korean-American student from Federal Way.

H Mart is a nationwide Korean grocery store with stores open in 12 states.

"It's like an Asian Wal-Mart," Kim said.

Federal Way is also the home

Please see Federal Way, page 16



Juvenile throws punches near library

A juvenile was pacing on the east side of Building 25 on April 12. He was practicing throwing punches and kept checking the main library entrance as if waiting for someone. When approached he had cuts all over his knuckles as if he had been punching a wall.

The juvenile refused to show his ID and refused to tell who he was waiting for. When told to leave he complied.

A library official reported another juvenile being very loud on April 9. When Security arrived, he was already gone.

Ambulance called for seizing student

A Highline student had a seizure on Monday, April 13 in Building 10. The South King Fire and Rescue and Ambulance arrived. She was transported to St. Francis Hospital in Federal Way.

Police warn security about drunken man

Two Kent Police Department cars were on the east lot on Saturday, April 11. They advised Security to keep watch for a suspect who was reported drunk and tried to grope a female.

Student suffers injury

A Highline student tripped over a chair, fell forward against the wall and broke her arm on April 9 in Building 29. She was transported by an ambulance to the hospital.

Homeless man found sleeping in bathroom

A homeless person was reported sleeping on the second floor of Building 29 in the men's restroom on April 10. He didn't have ID. When asked to leave the campus he complied.

Items stolen from a student's locker

A student in Building 27 put his property in a locker on April 8. When he returned, the lock was missing and items including a blue bag with soccer clothing inside and a black hooded sweater were missing.



Meeting to be held for south jail project

A meeting will be held at Renton City Hall to discuss the new jail that may be built in Des Moines

The project, known as the South Correctional Entity Multijurisdictional Misdemeanor Jail, is intended to include 668 beds, with inmates staying an average of 14 days for misdemeanor offenses. Offenders from multiple cities in South King County would feed into the jail.

The preferred site for the jail is in Des Moines, but sits on Port of Seattle land. The project is meant to be finished by 2011, in time to house inmates when the King County facility closes its doors to misdemeanor offenders in 2012.

The meeting will take place April 22 at 8:30 a.m. in Renton City Hall. Details on the jail project can be found at www. scorejail.org.

Science Seminar gets paranormal

This week's Science Seminar is "Psychology & the Paranormal." It will be presented by Bob Baugher and Sue Frantz, and it will explore the reasons and causes behind belief in the supernatural, such as UFOs, ESP and ghosts.

Sue Frantz is the coordinator of the Psychology department, and Bob Baugher is a professor.

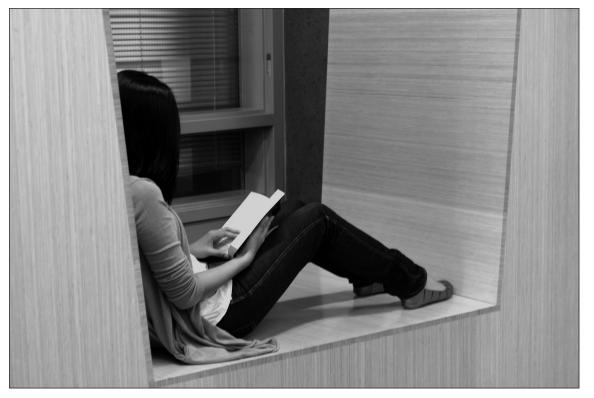
Science seminar is a weekly presentation by Highline faculty on current topics in science. Previous topics so far this quarter include "The Science of Sustainable Seafood" and "The Reform Math Movement."

The seminar will begin at 2:20 p.m. and run until about 3:10 p.m. on Friday, April 17, in Building 3, room 102.

History Seminar is set to discuss Duwamish

History Seminar will feature an environmental theme on Wednesday in celebration of Earth Week. Jonathan Betz-Zall, a librarian and member of the faculty here at Highline, will present "Justice and the Duwamish River."

The seminar is set to examine the history of industrial pollution of the river, and the ongoing fight of those living in Seattle's South Park neighbor-



Ami Nguyen/THUNDERWORD

A student reads a book in the wooden chairs on the second floor of Building 29.

hood against it.

The seminar will be held on April 22, in Building 3, room 102, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

Tasty cookie dough fund-raiser returns

Highline employees are offering dough for money. To benefit the WPEA Scholarship Endowment fund, Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough will be available in a variety of flavors from April 10-24, for \$15.

Buyers also can make purchases to benefit the fund from a Garden Party catalogue.

To order, participants may contact Lydia Bracco, 206-878-3710, ext. 3260; Carolyn Sinay, ext. 3785; Gerie Ventura, ext. 3134; or Lois Eriksson, ext. 3134.

MaST Center will host kid's science camp

Highline's Marine Science and Technology Center will open its doors this summer to young scientists with the Summer on the Sound Marine Science camp.

One session, for children ages 7-10, will be held on July 20-24, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The second session, for children ages 11-13, will be held August 17-21, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

The sessions are free, but limited to 25 students each. Applications can be found at http://flightline.highline.edu/mast/summercamp.html.

The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. on May 29.

Nursing Club's garage sale was successful

The Student Nursing Club raised approximately \$250 at its

recent garage sale.

Considering this was the first event of its kind the club did very good, said Theresa Trillo, a nursing professor and the faculty advisor for the club.

There were "lots of lookers, some serious shoppers and overall terrific weather made it a very busy day," said Trillo.

The money earned will go toward the pinning ceremony in June, Trillo said.

The garage sale was held last weekend.

Calendar

•"Dialogue: Using Conversations in Your Writing," a workshop, will be held at The Writing Center, Bld. 26-319, 1:30-2:20 p.m., April 16.

•"Completing the Square," a workshop for mathematics students, will be held in The Math Center, Bld. 26-319, 2:30-3:30 p.m., April 16.

•Movie Fridays presents *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, Bld. 7, 12:30 p.m, Friday, April 17.

Correction

In an article on applying for financial aid in the March 12 issue of the Thunderword, several quotes and comments should have been attributed to Director of Financial Aid Lorraine Odom.

CO-OPPORTUNITY: Cooperative Education

Want to find out more information about doing an internship? Check us out!

Contact Merridy Rennick, Career Specialist 206-870-3710 ext. 3148 mrennick@highline.edu Drop by for a visit: 2nd floor of Building 6 (room 222)

Lookin for a Great Experience?

Over 50 organizations will be on campus recruiting for volunteers and interns. This is a great opportunity to get involved, build your resume, and meet some awesome people.

Volunteer & Internship Fair Wednesday, April 15 9:30-1:30pm 1st Floor Student Union

For more information about co-ops, these jobs and more, log on to www.myinterfase.com/highline/student

Student government vice president happy to help

By DUANE VILLINES
Staff Reporter

Helping people is Kelli Tracey's greatest passion. It's part of why she decided to run for vice president.

"I love serving the community," said Tracey, who was elected vice president of student government last spring.

"Many people don't know this, but I'm actually a senior in high school," said Tracey. She is enrolled in the Running Start program, with only Spring Quarter to go until graduation.

Tracey originally decided to go to Highline because, she said, "I knew I'd have a lot of friends here," and it's "right in the neighborhood I grew up."

In fact, her friends were another reason she decided to run for vice president.

"I have a huge system of support at Highline," said Tracey.

However, her history with Highline goes back even further.

"My father is an electrical engineer, and he designed the electrical wiring for this building (the Student Union)," she said.

Only two weeks ago, she received a letter of admission from Biola University, her No. 1 pick

Biola is in Southern California, in the suburbs of L.A., and,



Hubi Dao/THUNDERWORD

Kelli Tracey is Student Government vice president and a member of the Campus Crusade for Christ.

said Tracey, "it's a beautiful campus."

"Also, it's a Christian college, which is really important to me," she said.

Tracey's faith has affect-

ed more than just her college choice.

"I'm involved in the Campus Crusade for Christ," she said, and she is also involved in community service through her church.

Tracey's passion for helping people is also reflected in her career interests. She says she's "thought about health care, or something in the communications field."

She is also interested in becoming a speech therapist, because "it combines my interests, health care and communication," she said.

Tracey said that she has "a passion for helping students achieve their goals."

When she first started at Highline as a junior, her first community participation was in the Giving Tree Committee. The Giving Tree Committee is a program that gives Christmas gifts to underprivileged children.

Tracey said her favorite part of being vice president is that "being VP has opened up the opportunity to talk to people from all different backgrounds." She loves to "hear the stories of students," and says her job has made that possible.

The best thing about Highline, said Tracey, is that "we're an open access institution," and "we're serving thousands of students who come from low income situations," and otherwise couldn't afford a college education

For anyone wishing to get involved in Highline Student Government, Tracey said that "it's an experience of a lifetime."

"Student Government opens up so many doors." Best of all, "You learn about big issues, and have fun doing it."

New hospitality services manager not so new

By JOSH KANE Staff Reporter

Donna Longwell's long career in the tourism and hospitality industry has brought her back to Highline once again.

Longwell began as Highline's interim hospitality services manager on April 1. The hospitality services manager is in charge of scheduling rooms for any event, such as club meetings, weddings, faculty meetings, or banquets, to name a few

"Anything that happens on campus goes through this office," said Longwell.

Longwell took up the position as interim hospitality services manager again after taking a year off to focus on her business endeavors and teach courses in hospitality and tourism.

"I felt a need to come back," she said. "I want to turn this office back into a full-service and customer service-driven event office."

Longwell may technically be new, but she has plenty of experience. She previously held the position of hospitality services manager for two years. On top of that, Longwell has run businesses and worked in the travel industry for years.

"I've run a travel/consulting business my whole life," she said. "I put together tours, market them, and escort them." As part of that business Longwell also owned a charter bus company.

"I owned a catering business as well," Longwell said. "I catered events for up to 5,000 people."

Longwell's career as a business owner has given her many rewards.

"In my travel business I've been fortunate enough to travel all over the world," she said. "My favorite place would have to be Dubai."

Longwell's travels first led her to Highline three years ago.

"I was searching for something and I really liked the idea of working with students," she said. "I saw an opportunity to have a dream come true, to work with students and do what I loved."



4 Opinior

The Thunderword / April 16, 2009

Editorial comment

Parking spots are elusive

Parking at Highline is ridiculous. Unless you are here before 9 a.m. you will most likely be driving aimlessly around or taking a long hike.

The lack of parking makes getting to class on time hard. The general complaint is that Highline students are paying money for two white lines and not getting them.

They are forced to take advantage of the muddy slope that leads up to the west lot and the Lowe's parking lot, despite the fact that Lowe's is towing.

Since the beginning of Winter Quarter, 997 parking/traffic citations have been issued.

Highline encourages students to carpool by offering free permits, and many students use public transportation. At the University of Washington all students are required to have bus passes. Highline should consider offering a higher subsidized bus pass to help alleviate the parking issue.

Supply and demand are not at equilibrium and Highline needs to make use of demand management. If demand is greater than supply, then the price of the supply should be higher.

Doubling the price of the permit would open up spaces, but would it be democratic if Highline only allowed the wealthy students to park?

Maybe the permits should be on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are a total of 2,125 parking spaces and yet in Winter Quarter alone, Highline issued 4,075 permits. One possibility would be for Highline to offer an equal amount of permits as spaces.

They could divide the number of students into full-time and part-time, and into morning, afternoon, and evening.

The easiest way to assure a space right now is to get to campus early. But if everyone gets here early, then the dilemma will continue.

This is a problem that doesn't have a definitive answer. It would be ideal to create more parking, but we are out of space resources. A parking garage could solve the problem but making one big enough would cost an estimated \$20 million. With the budget cuts Highline is facing, this is not a probable solution any time in the near future.

For now it's every man and woman for themselves.

Staff

"It's not the line for Space Mountain."

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Waiting for rejection stinks

Signed, sealed, delivered-- a rejection letter. An obliterated mess of scraps is all that remains of my small, white envelope.

Yes, it's that time of year for all of us students to watch our mailboxes like hawks, to stalk the mailman and to check our online status, because we are hearing back from colleges. And then we see a big envelope and let out a cry of excitement and relief only to discover it's the water bill.

Acceptance rates are plummeting. The most selective Ivy League schools have managed to become more selective. The University of Washington is rejecting an enormous number of students this year due to budget cuts and more applicants. Grades alone don't cut it anymore, standardized tests don't either. Schools want culture, individuality, and service.

It was last week that I nervously walked to the mailbox as I was to hear "by the end of March" from my top-choice school. I had already been waitlisted in December and since then had been trying to prepare myself.

I was hyperventilating as I approached the small gray carrier. I paused for a moment before opening it. No big envelopes.

My face fell as I shuffled through several small white envelopes and saw the small logo. Crap.

Gee, who would have thought that one small envelope could crush all your dreams?

All I thought about as I read of my fate was, "how frustrating."

There I was, standing at the mailbox, reliving the past year. I had worked my butt off to get into this school and in three paragraphs it was all over.

Don't mind that a ton of money was spent to fly to the

Commentary



Katherine Tacke

other side of the country. Or that countless teachers and counselors spent time writing letters of recommendation. It doesn't matter that I spent hours, days, weeks, years of my life writing statements, doing volunteer work, getting good grades, studying for standardized tests and worshipping the ground this institution walked on.

Too bad. It's over. I'm out.
To anyone else who has had
a similar experience, I would
like to offer my suggestions. To
start off, turn some music on really loud in the living room and
do a ceremonial obliteration of
the school that was not bright
enough to accept you.

Then (and this may be best with alcohol) dance (maybe with your cat or dog, maybe all alone) along with the music, stomping across the slivers of paper.

Next, get on Facebook and remove yourself as a fan from the school. Get rid of the posters, t-shirts, and memorabilia. Maybe consider burning them.

The next step is the most important. Accept it and move on. Don't waste any more of your time on this school. Go to the other school, the "back-up," and get on with your life. It's over

and you cannot do anything about it. So live the life that has now positioned itself in front of you.

And if you don't have a back-up, better luck next time around.

Even though right now I feel as though I've wasted my time with this school, I know that isn't really true. Because life will offer many failures and I cannot succeed if I don't even try. I'm certain that this experience will help me for the next time.

The next time came sooner than I expected.

I have my plans for next year at my back-up school. I applied to a program within the school and got the letter worse than rejection... the waiting list.

Great. Now I get to start the process all over again.

Katherine is just looking for acceptance, in all its many forms.

Write to us

The Thunderword invites letters and guest commentary from members of the campus community.

You could write a letter to the editor to express your opinion about something happening on campus, locally, or even something happening nationally.

Tell us your name and include your relationship with the college. Include whether you are a student, member of the staff, a member of the faculty, or other.

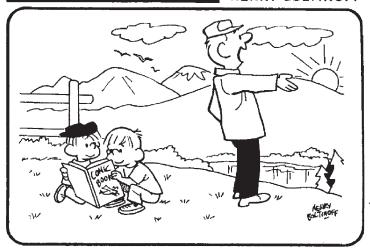
You could share your thoughts with the whole campus.

E-mail your submission to: thunderword@highline.edu. Please limit your submission to no more than 400 words.

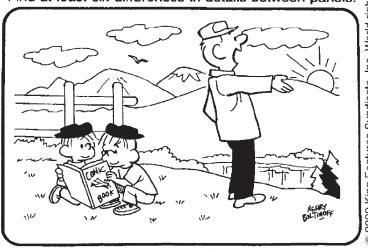
Please provide contact information for confirmation purposes.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



5. Two birds are missing. 6. Trees are different. Differences: 1. Both boys have hats. 2. Book cover is different, 3. Cloud has been added. 4. Fence is longer.



- 1. LANGUAGE: What does the word "plumose" mean?
- 2. GEOGRAPHY: In what body of water can the island of Mykonos be found?
- 3. ACRONYMS: What does the acronym CAD stand for?
- 4. GENERAL KNOWL-EDGE: What is a shillelagh used for?
- 5. POLITICS: What was the emblem of the Progressive Party of 1912?
- 6. ANATOMY: Where is the skin the thinnest on the human body?
- 7. ACADEMIA: What does a vexillologist study?
 - MOVIES: What film Inc.

features the line: "If you can dodge a wrench, you can

- was the name of the town that was the setting for Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman?
- 10. GAMES: How many playing pieces do you have to remove in the game "Operation"?

10. Twelve 9. Fernwood, Ohio derdog Story

8. Dodgeball: A True Un-

del that can be used as walk-4. Irish in origin, it is a cud-

3. Computer-aided design 2. Aegean Sea

Answers

dodge a ball"?

9. TELEVISION: What

7. Flags 6. Eyelids

5. Bull Moose

ing stick or a weapon

1. Feathered or feathery

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Arts Calendar

•A capella group The Main Attraction will perform in the final concert of the 2008-09 Waterland Music Series, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Highline Lecture Hall, Building 7.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the door, Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department, 1000 220th St., Corky Cellars, 22511 Marine View Drive or Des Moines Florist, 721 S. 219th St.

•This One is for You: The

Work of Tanya Domashchuk will be the featured exhibit in Highline's fourth floor Library Gallery through April 30.

Domashchuk specializes

Last week's Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

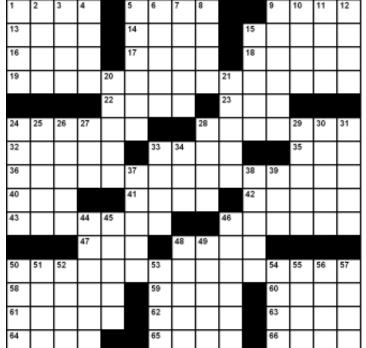
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| 6 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | | |

Crossword 101

Making Preparations **Across**

- 1. Thick slice
- 5. Coarse file
- 9. Some squirrels' digs
- 13. Prom transport
- 14. Sheltered, at sea
- 15. Cut back
- 16. It can be pumped?
- 17. Forest foragers
- 18. Follows fiber
- 19. Prepare for a basketball game
- 22. Crumbs
- 23. Mex. neighbor
- 24. Indiana cagers
- 28. East coast capital
- 32. Flu symptoms 33. Annoyingly self-promote
- 35. Be in arrears
- 36. Prepare for an auto race
- 40. Heavy weight
- 41. Long stretches
- 42. Helped the Tin-Man
- 43. Without curves
- 46. Hopeless causes
- 47. "If I Ruled the World" rapper
- 48. All square
- 50. Prepare a seafood dish
- 58. American symbol
- 59. Eye part
- 60. Heard in church
- 61. They, to Monet
- 62. Tiny insects
- 63. Exploring vessel 64. Singer Alicia
- 65. Dirty look
- 66. Precedes sign or watch **Down**
- 1. Evening gown feature
- 2. Old Italian bread
- 3. See 34 Down 4. Fido's treat
- 5. Detection devices
- 6. It may be red?
- 7. Sounds like

By Pete Canty



- 8. Bolivia neighbor
- 9. Oliver Twist or Huck Finn, e.g.
- 10. Pilot prefix
- 11. Make mittens
- 12. They make-up mins.
- 15. Western group
- 20. Poorest
- 21. Cleanse completely
- 24. Ziti, for one
- 25. Follow, as advice
- 26. Former tennis star Michael
- 27. Always, poetically
- 28. Fixes the road
- 29. Linen fabric
- 30. Timmy to Lassie
- 31. Requirements
- 33. Rude character
- 34. With 3 Down, go wild 37. Beer ingredient
- 38. High times?
- 39. Card table exclamation
- 44. Sam and Tom, e.g.
- 45. Minnesota's 10,000

- 46. Yellowstone attraction
- 48. Like a haunted house
- 49. Precedes mail or box
- 50. Look for
- 51. Hearty's partner
- 52. Not pretty
- 53. Bunker 54. Sits in the sun
- 55. Give off
- 56. Vegas alternative 57. Break a streak

Quotable Quote

There is nothing so likely to produce peace as to be well prepared to meet the enemy.

• • • George Washington

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

in photography, graphic design and pencil portraits. She was born in the USSR and immigrated to the United States when she was a child. She grew up in Centralia.

Gallery hours are 7 a.m. -10 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday; events get priority,

and 2-10 p.m. Sunday.

•Got arts news? Send your information to roadams@

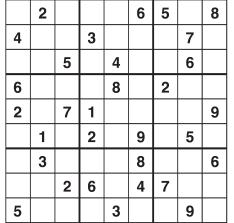
highline.edu or call arts editor Rochelle Adams at 206-878-3710. ext. 3317. Campus but all items are welcome. Please include contact infor-

Last week's crossword solution

PLAY BALL

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Weekly **SUDOKU**



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging * * * HOO BOY!

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Hip hop fans battle it out at Cypha

By NATHAN LUCYK Staff Reporter

The fight for mic supremacy will continue this Wednesday.

The Cypha is coming back to Highline for the third time this school year on Wednesday, April 22 in the Student Union, Building 8 at 2 p.m.

The Cypha is a collaboration of ACE Crew, Evolution of Art and the Hip Hop Club. The event features a concert and an MC rap battle.

MC is a term that became associated with rapping as well as hip hop music and culture in the late 1970s. It stands for Master of Ceremonies. Newer acronyms are Microphone Controller, Mic Checka, Music Commentator and one who Moves the Crowd.

An MC uses rhyming verses, whether pre-written or free-styled, to introduce and praise the DJ he or she works with, to hype up the crowd, to pay homage to his own stature or to comment on society.

The concept for the Cypha started when Hip Hop Club President and Cypha organizer Tony Innouvong was with a group of his hip hop interested friends.

"The group just wanted to reach out to the students and spread the word that hip hop is deeper than commercial and mainstream hip hop," Innouvong said.

Cypha is open to anyone. Registration is open until the day of the event.



Previous Cypha events drew in hip hop fans with live music, MC battles and art. Organizer Tony Innouvong wants to make it a regular event.

Non-students are also welcome to join.

The past two Cypha MC battle tournaments have been won by non-students. The winners of the MC battles are allowed to come back to do a concert for the next Cypha to showcase their talent.

Inexperienced hip hop fans are encouraged to participate, said Innouvong, also known as Illaphant on stage.

While most will be using a stage name, like Illaphant, it is not mandatory and participants

are welcome to use their real

The MC battles will be organized in a tournament bracket.

The MCs are encouraged to bring their originality and style to the battles, but are also asked to respect that they are in a school environment and act accordingly.

While the battles are freestyle and mostly off the top of the MCs' heads, the battles will be stopped and the MC ejected from the competition if any racism, homophobia or other tasteless material comes up.

The objective of the Cypha is to create a permanent event for hip hop fans.

"I want these shows to go on after I'm gone; I want to create a legacy," Innouvong said.

Innouvong added that he is hoping to make the Cypha a regular event at Highline.

The next Cypha is being planned for this June. For more information on the event or to register for the current Cypha, contact Innouvong by email at tinnouvong@hotmail.com.



If you're looking for something fun to do this weekend or later this week, check out the events that are going on in the area.

•Acoustic guitarist Stephen Ford will be performing at The Blend next Wednesday, April 22.

The Blend is a bi-weekly performance on the second floor of the Student Union in the Bistro. The event runs from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

"He's got a lot of material," said Blend coordinator Brad van Steenvoort.

Steenvort arranged for Ford to play after meeting and playing a jam session with him.

"It's kind of funny," said Steenvoort. "He's my neighbor."

•Knutzen Family Theater in Federal Way will play host to Carmona Flamenco & Correo Aereo in concert.

Flamenco is an award winner who has performed throughout Spain and the United States. Her style in music is contemporary and traditional flamenco music.

Aereo performs traditional music of Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, and Peru.

Their performance takes place Saturday at 8 p.m.

Tickets can be found at http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/53442.

Prices for tickets are \$16 for adults and \$12 for students, seniors, and military.

Graffiti artist displays work at Arts and Lecture

BY ALLIE LARD Staff Reporter

Artists Zane Noryu and Monica Meas will be featured in the upcoming Arts & Lecture event

"Arts and Lecture allows artists to express their thoughts and creativity, it gives them the opportunity to show the world what they're up to," said Arts & Lecture program coordinator Rashiid Abdullah.

Highline student Zane Noryu will be showcasing some of his artwork in this Arts & Lecture event. Noryu is currently attending Highline, but has aspirations to attend an art school or university to pursue a career as an animator.

The artists in this event are allowed to select which artwork they would like to display. Noryu picked pieces that he said he felt "give a general sense of me."

Noryu said he has many things that motivate and inspire him; he said that his art reflects



Zane Noryu

"confusion, and a mixed view on reality and society."

When Noryu was 16 years old, his 19-year-old brother passed away. He said he finds a lot of inspiration from that since he is now 19.

"It's weird to be older than he was," he said, but it's a prime source of his motivation and inspiration for him.

"The only thing that really

makes sense to me is my motivation," Noryu said.

"My artwork is trying to take what would be called graffiti and turn it into art, as well as mix aspects of scenery and characters. Though I know graffiti on a 'canvas' will never be fine art, because it is no longer graffiti," he said

His main focus right now is completing his general Associates of Arts degree and moving on to bigger and better things. He knows no matter what that he wants to be an artist, and always has wanted that.

Arts & Lecture will take place on Thursday, April 23, from 1 to 2 p.m., in Building 6, room 164. There will be displays of several pieces of work by both Noryu and Monica Meas, chosen personally by the artists.

Arts & Lecture is usually done three times a quarter, but is only done twice in spring due to how busy it is with graduation and other events. Arts and Lecture is open to anyone on campus.

Waterland Music Series Main Attraction Vocal Musicians



Tuesday, April 21, 2009, Building 7 at HCC

Doors open @ 7:00p Performance starts @ 7:30p

Tickets: \$15/General Public \$5/Student

Call (206) 870-6527 for information. For upcoming arts event information visit www.desmoineswa.gov/artscommission

Sponsored by the Des Moines Art Commission and the Highline Community College Music Department.

Waterland brings on the Main Attraction

By ERESALEM OCBAZGI Staff Reporter

If you're looking for live yet intimate entertainment, the Waterland Music Series will hold its last performance, The Main Attraction, at Highline next week.

The Waterland Music Series is a 2008-2009 fall/winter series of three indoor concerts. Acoustic jazz musician Billet-Deux was here in November. Brazil pianist Geisa Dutra performed in February. The Main Attraction will perform on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7.

The group has opened for acts such as Smokey Robinson and Eddie Murphy according to the group's website.

The group consists of four members: James Caddell, Ronnie Rowland, Lee Haldorson and Antowaine Richardson.

According to The Main Attraction website, they have been performing together for 23 years, all sharing their love for music early on in their lives.

The foundation for the group is James Caddell.

He spent one year performing in the *Pirates of Penzance* on Broadway. His well-known voice can be heard in commercials for Key Bank and Taco Time.



The Main Attraction performs in the upcoming Waterland event.

The group also features second tenor Ronnie Rowland. He iss a UW graduate; there, he was the first running back since Hugh McElheny to rush for 1,000 yards in a season.

"Early memories of his mother playing the piano around the house and in church influenced him to pick up the microphone after hanging up his cleats," according to the group's website.

First tenor Lee Haldorson began singing at the age of 8; he played the saxophone at age 16 in night clubs. He has performed with some notable jazz names, including Paul Horn and gospel artist Bob Bennett. Around 1989, he and fourth member of The Main Attraction

Antowaine Richardson worked together in pop group Band- X.

Los Angeles native Richardson "is the mortar that molds the The Main Attraction into a strong musical structure," according to the group's website. He was the All-American linebacker for the 1978 Rose Bowl champion University of Washington Huskies. Fans constantly request his *My Girl* California raisin commercial.

The Waterland Music Series is sponsored by the Highline Music Department and 4 Culture/Arts Commission of Des Moines.

Nic Lind, recreation coordinator of Des Moines Parks Recreation & Senior Services, screens the artists and negotiates deals, booking and getting the venue.

"We provide quality and affordable events right here in Des Moines," Lind said.

He has volunteers such as Highline's Dennis Steussy and Nancy Warren who are a tremendous help with these events, he said.

"We bring regional talent to Des Moines," Lind said.

Des Moines will also host a five-week series of performances of rock/rhythm and blues, July 22 to Aug. 12. Showtime is at 7 p.m. at Beach Park, 22030 Cliff Ave S.

"The Main Attraction will be a treat. This will be a crowdpleasing performance at an affordable price here in Des Moines. We are limited to 150 guests in Building 7 for a performance. It creates a very intimate setting," said Lind.

Tickets for the show are available at the door at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students.

Tickets are also available at the door at these locations: Des Moines Parks and Recreation 100 S 220th St; Des Moines Florist, 721 S 219th St cash or only; and Corky Cellars, 22511 Marine View Dr., cash or check only.

For further information call 206-870-6527.

Festival blooms for spring

By TIFFANY BELL Staff reporter

The International Cherry blossom Japanese festival returns to the Seattle Center this weekend. This event is hosted by Festàl at the Seattle Center Fischer Pavilion and Center Fun House April 17-19 from 10 a.m to 6 p.m.

The Cherry Blossom festival is a national festival that comes around once a year to commemorate the initial giving of 3,000 cherry blossom trees to Washington, D.C. by Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo in 1912, as a symbol of friendship and respectable diplomacy between the US and Japan.

The festival has been around for 35 years and has become the longest-running cultural festival at the Seattle Center, a widely popular event with 30,000 plus visitors attending annually.

The list of entertainment includes over a hundred displays and demonstrations of various arts such as ikebana (flower arranging), shodo (calligraphy), senryu (poetry), kimono dress up, buyo (dance), taiko drumming, koto music and food.

Rainier Symphony to perform concert

By COURTNEY SANKEY
Staff Reporter

World-renowned violinist Ilkka Talvi will be joining the Rainier Symphony for their third classical concert of the season. The concert will also be hosting guest conductor Darko Butorac.

The symphony will be playing three pieces in the upcoming concert: Wagner's overture to *Die Meistersinger von Nürnburg*, Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto in E, Op 64*; and Brahms' *Symphony No. 1*.

Mendelssohn's *Violin Concerto in E* will feature Talvi. Talvi was born in Finland and was self-taught initially, but later studied in Vienna, Paris and the United States.

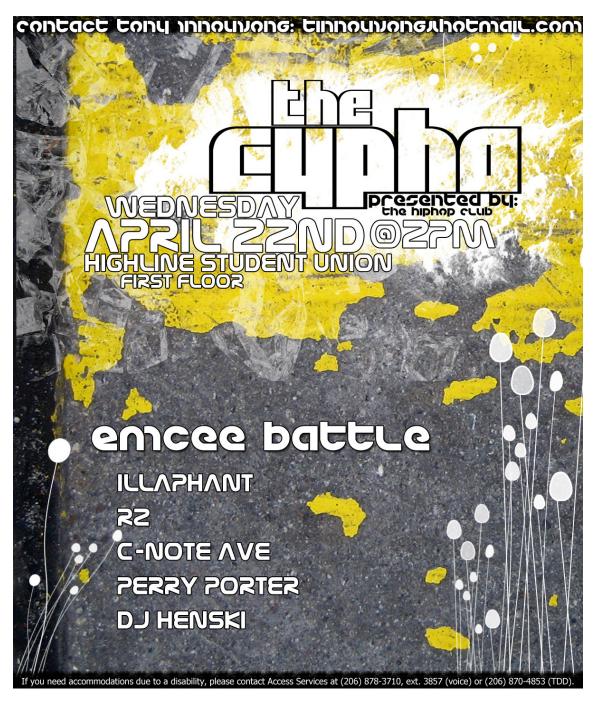
Talvi had his first teaching job at the age of 13 and at 20 became a faculty member at Finland's leading music conservatory, The Sibelius Academy. Darko Butorac studied at the American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Music Festival in 2003 and 2004. He received his master's of music degree from Indiana University.



Ilkka Talvi

The Rainier Symphony will be playing this program for just one weekend: Saturday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, and Sunday, April 19 at 3 p.m. at The Foster Performing Arts Center.

Tickets can be purchased at www.brownpapertickets. com, through the symphony's main office at 206-781-5618, or through e-mail at tickets@RainierSymphony.org. Ticket prices are \$17 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors and free for children 12 or younger.



<u>Arts</u>

The Thunderword / April 16, 2009









Sakura-Con draws anime lovers

By JAREN LEWIS
Staff Reporter

Over 20,000 fans flocked to the Washington Convention Center in Seattle for the annual Sakura-Con anime convention last weekend.

Sakura-Con is the oldest and largest anime convention in the Pacific Northwest; anime fans from around the country come to see panels, talk with other fans or show off their outlandish costumes.

The Asia Northwest Cultural Education Association, which holds the event, considers Sakura-Con an "older-style" convention, due to the large number of overlapping events as well as the 24-hour-per-day schedule.

Anime is the Japanese word for "animation," but in Englishspeaking countries it usually refers to cartoons made in Japan.

While anime conventions are normally focused on the anime subculture, Sakura-Con expands

its scope to a more general appreciation of Japanese culture – events this year included a room where guests could play go, a popular Japanese board game, and performances by Highline's own Yamato Taiko drum club. There was also a hall dedicated to video games, and a room that showed live-action Japanese film.

The anime subculture itself covers a wide range: it includes anime itself, manga or Japanese comic books, and video games from Japan – especially role-playing games and choose-your-own-adventure style stories called "visual novels."

It also includes derivative works, such as action figures of popular characters and "cosplay," or fans making and wearing costumes styled after their favorite characters. Cosplay is a very common sight at an anime convention – at Sakura-Con, in some places as much as one-third of the attend-

ees were in costume.

These costumes range among favorite anime or manga characters, video game characters, and even some American fictional icons. Some also design original costumes based on common themes, such as school uniforms or aristocratic dress.

Popular characters, whether from classic anime or the most recent hit show, will often be cosplayed by dozens of different people at the same convention, with varying levels of skill.

Most cosplayers dress up for fun: to make a bigger event out of the convention, to show their love for a character or simply to do something out of the ordinary; however, there are also contests in which attendees show off their costumes' craftsmanship.

Sakura-Con also hosted a variety of panel events, such as convention photography technique, and costume workshops for those who dressed up.

Jaren Lewis/THUNDERWORD
Attendees dressed up as characters ranging from (counterclockwise from top-right) classic anime such as Lum from Urusei Yatsura to video games such as Paul and Devil from Tekken 5 to current hits such as characters from Naruto. There were also a variety of original costumes in the popular "gothic lolita" style (above). Highline's own Yamato Taiko club performed multiple times over the weekend (right).



Sports

The Thunderword / April 16, 2009

Cox making a name for himself in MLS

Staff Reporter

Highline alum Raphael Cox says he is happy to be playing in Salt Lake City.

"Salt Lake is way better than I thought it was going to be. There is lot of stuff to do and see here. Not a bad place to live at all," Cox said. "I'm glad I was drafted to a place with such a great staff and fans."

Cox was taken with pick 54 of the Major League Soccer Super Draft in January.

The Super Draft was held on Jan. 15 and was 60 picks deep with four total rounds. This year only 26 of the 60 players drafted were given a professional contract by a Major League Soccer team.

Cox, 22, was signed to a professional contract on Feb. 27 by Real Salt Lake. Although having played forward and midfield all of his life, he was signed on to play defense.

"Right now I am playing



Julie Harper/REAL SALT LAKE Raphael Cox on photo day.

By CHRIS WELLS more left back than anything else. I think I'm adjusting well. I have never played there before so I'm trying to learn new stuff everyday and trying to improve as well," Cox said.

> In their first game of the season, Real Salt Lake traveled to Seattle to face off with Sounders FC in what would be a night to remember for Cox.

> Although Real Salt Lake fell to the upstart Sounders FC 2-0, Cox not only got into the game, but played in front of his family and friends. He said that helped him adjust to the pressure of his first game.

"I can't explain how cool it was to play my first pro game in front of my family and friends," said Cox. "I felt more comfortable than I think I would have otherwise."

Cox came on to play fullback for Tony Beltran in the 84th minute of that match.

In the next game, Cox didn't make an appearance in a 4-1 victory over Columbus on April

On April 11, Cox came on early in the game as a sub for Beltran in the 59th minute. Real Salt Lake won 2-1 over DC United to improve to 2-1 in the young season.

Real Salt Lake will be making a trip back to Seattle on April 28 at 7 p.m. for a U.S. Open Cup play-in match. The game will be held at the Starfire complex in Tukwila instead of Qwest Field.

The general manager of Real Salt Lake, Garth Lagerwey, said he expects big things out of



Julie Harper/REAL SALT LAKE

Raphael Cox kicking a ball during a recent Real Salt Lake practice.

"He is a really humble kid and has a great head on his shoulders," Lagerwey said. "He is a very quick player and likes to run at players. I think he has some real talent. I think he is a guy who could start in the MLS

and if he works hard and challenges himself, that is the potential that he has."

Having defied expectations thus far, Cox says he is just trying to focus on taking one step

"I'm just looking forward to being a professional every day," Cox said. "Going to training and having the chance to improving my game and helping the team as much as I can, while trying to have a good time."

To truly understand soccer, it must be seen in person

As with any sport, it's always more interesting to see the game in person than it is on television. More than any other sport, soccer lives up to this statement.

Soccer, well-known as the world's game, has never picked up momentum in the States.

The game itself is often considered slow and boring, which doesn't fit the fast-paced environment of its viewers here who want constant action.

Soccer is a game that is 90 minutes long and has no television timeouts, and much of those 90 minutes isn't pressing action. But the lack of pressing action is what makes the game beautiful.

Every pass they make in a game has a purpose. Even passing it around the defense, there is a purpose of wearing out the strikers of the other team and hoping for a player upfield to break away from his mark and create an offensive opportunity.

At a soccer game, you can see the build-up for everything Commentary



Chris Wells

happening. For example, just like being at a football game and seeing a wide receiver getting open on a pass play downfield, at a soccer game, you can see the forwards making runs and breaking away from their defensive marks and getting open for that potentially game-changing

Although the Seattle Sounders FC is a expansion team, their fans are seasoned in their understanding of the game and knowing the proper times to cheer and stand up like a traditional European crowd.

Seattle even has its own fan group in the Emerald City Supporters, who sing songs at the games while the Sound Wave marching band plays.

For Ely Allen, a graduate of Kentridge High School, and former Los Angeles Galaxy player and current Seattle Sounder FC reserve player, it's the fans that make the game more interesting to see in person.

"Watching soccer in person and on television are two totally different things. It is much more interesting to watch soccer in person as opposed to watching it on television because in person, the atmosphere of the game catches you and brings you in much more then it would on television," Allen said.

"For example, hearing the crowd chant and scream, seeing the players up close and in person and just knowing that everybody at the game is crazy

about soccer makes it an unbelievable experience."

Major League Soccer started in 1996 and is still a developing sport in this nation. Where on the other hand,

England has had a top professional league since 1888.

Just for comparison, Major League Baseball was founded in 1876.

Although soccer fans in the United States are making strides in understanding the game, Cam Weaver, a Kentwood graduate who formerly played for Haugesund in Norway and currently plays with the San Jose Earthquakes, says there is still a big difference between fans in Europe and fans here.

"I can't take anything away from MLS fans, they are great

"One thing I notice is that European fans are more organized as a whole. You can hear the entire stadium singing and chanting," Weaver said.

United States soccer legend

and North Thurston High School graduate Kasey Keller says that competing with European soccer history will be hard.

"There is a lot of competition for the viewership and a lot of history you have to go through. I think what's difficult is to get to that level because there will always be hardcore football fans or baseball fans.

"I think really what we need to do is get to the point where we are equal with the other sports. We are only 14 years into it and at the same time, I think you have to be appreciative that the NFL isn't what it was now that it was in 1960," Keller said.

"The NBA, when I was watching the Sonics when I was a kid, is a whole lot bigger now than it was back then. So you have to take some time and you have to grow it the right way.

"We can't think that we can compete with 120 years of European history after only a couple of years. It just doesn't work that way."

Geving given hoops tiller at Portland State

By BRIAN GROVE sons. Staff Reporter

Former Highline basketball player, coach and student Tyler Geving is now head coach of the Portland State University men's basketball team.

The opportunity opened up for Geving after former Head Coach Ken Bone accepted an offer from Washington State University to take over its basketball program, following a successful 23-9 season and a trip to the NCAA tournament with the Vikings.

portunity to keep the program where it's going. I just feel fortunate to be the head coach," Geving said.

Geving played basketball and was a student at Highline during the '91-'92 and the '93-'94 sea-



Tyler Geving

He sat out the '92-'93 season for another year of eligibility as he planned to transfer to Sheldon Jackson University in Sitka, Alaska. He ended up changing his mind and decided to stay at Highline.

Geving was a McDonald's All American guard out of high school. He was a two guard, a

He started out on the bench his first year, but was a starting guard on the court by his second

Geving played basketball for "I was excited for the op- two years under current Highline Athletic Director John Dunn.

> "I was an assistant coach his first season and his head coach the second season," Dunn said.

> "He was a basketball junkie, he was always around basketball. That was his life, he loved everything about it."

> While at Highline, Geving had the nickname of "Bucket," which had nothing to do with his offensive prowess on the basketball court.

> "It's actually my dad's nickname. He had a personalized license plate that said 'Bucket' on it, but I always ended up driving the truck. People started calling me 'Bucket'. It has nothing to do with basketball," he said.

> After Geving finished his collegiate basketball career, he joined the coaching staff at Cen-



Coach Geving celebrates with his team after winning the Big Sky tournamnet two years in a row.

tral Washington University and was an assistant coach for the '94-'95 season.

Geving said that coaching was something he's wanted to do all his life.

"I've just always had a passion for basketball and I knew I wanted to coach. I had the opportunity to be a student coach at Central and after that, I got the opportunity to coach at Highline for four years," he said.

"It was a good place to get a jump-start on my career in coaching."

Geving has coached at Central Washington University, Highline, Seattle University, Seattle Pacific University, Edmonds Community College and Portland State University.

As head coach, Geving said he has high expectations for the PSU basketball program.

He is most focused on keeping the program at an even pace after winning their second straight Big Sky Conference title and going to the NCAA tournament.

"I want to keep it where it's at right now. We've gone to the NCAA tournament two years in a row," Geving said.

"Hopefully we'll win a firstround game somewhere down the road, but more importantly let's keep it at that."

Portland State also beat nationally ranked Gonzaga University last season, the basketball program's first ever win against a nationally ranked

Scoreboard

Featuring schools that actually have spring sports

Men's baseball standings

North Division League/Pct/Season

Sk. Valley 8-0 1.000 19-1 Edmonds 8-4 .667 16-2 Bellevue 6-5 .545 11-12 Everett 6-5 .545 18-10 Douglas 3-5 .375 10-13 Olympic 0-4 .000 12-13 Shoreline 0-8 .000 11-13

East Division

League/Pct/Season Col. Basin 10-2 .800 28-4 Wen. Valley 7-5 .583 12-12 Big Bend 6-6 .500 17-13 Blue Mt. 6-6 .500 17-15 T. Valley 6-6 .500 16-15 Walla Walla 5-7 .317 18-11 Yak. Valley 5-7 .317 13-16 Spokane 3-9 .250 11-11

West Division

League/Pct/Season Lower Col. 8-1 .889 16-6 7-1 .875 16-6 Gr. River Tacoma 6-3 .667 12-8 Grays Har. 3-6 .333 7-19 Pierce 2-7 .222 5-17 Centrailia 0-8 .000 1-20

South Division League/Pct/Season Mt. Hood 10-1 .909 17-3 Lane 7-4 .636 15-11 Clackamas 7-5 .583 15-12 Chmeketa 6-6 .500 15-14 Linn-Benton 3-7 .300 8-11 SW Oregon 0-10 .000 2-15

Men's scores

Big Bend 8, T. Valley 7 Big Bend 12, T. Valley 6 Mt. Hood 7, Linn-Benton 0 Mt. Hood 7, Linn-Benton 2 Clack. 5, SW Oregon 0 Clack. 6, SW Oregon 0 L. Col. 9, G. Harbor 0 L. Col. 12, G. Harbor 0 Gr. River 6, Centralia 1 Gr. River 7, Centralia 5 Yak. Valley 4, Spokane 3 Yak. Valley 6, Spokane 5 Doug. vs Olympic (rainout) Doug. vs Olympic (rainout) Doug. vs Olympic (rainout) Tacoma 6, Pierce 1

Tacoma 6, Pierce 5 Col. Basin 17, Blue Mt. 5 Col. Basin 2, Blue Mt. 1 W. Valley 8, Walla Walla 6 W. Valley 12, Walla Walla 2 Chemeketa 5, Lane 1

Lane 7, Chemeketa 3 Edmonds 16, Shoreline 5 Edmonds 12, Shoreline 2 Bellevue 5, Everett 4 Bellevue 10, Everett 3

Women's softball standings

North Division League/Pct/Season Everett 7-1 .875 10-11 Shoreline 7-1 .875 14-8 Bellevue 4-2 .667 10-6 Olympic 5-3 .625 10-6 Peninsula 2-8 .200 2-17 Sk. Valley 1-5 .167

East Division

League/Pct/Season Blue Mt. 14-4 .778 19-7 Sokane 14-4 .778 24-6 Wen. Valley 14-4 .778 23-6 Walla Walla 11-7 .611 19-14 Col. Basin 6-11 .353 10-17 Tr. Valley 6-11 .353 10-15 Yak. Valley 6-12 .333 9-19 Big Bend 0-18 .000 0-28

West Division League/Pct/Season Pierce 5-1 .833 9-10 Gr. River 4-2 .667 4-2 Centralia 5-3 .625 6-10 Gr. Harbor 2-6 .250 4-14 SPS 2-6 .250 2-18

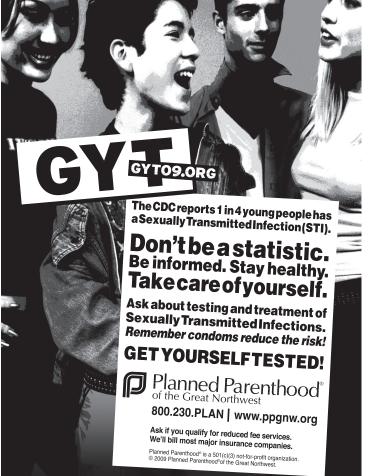
> South Division League/Pct/Season

Lower Col. 6-0 1.000 18-1 Mt. Hood 5-1 .833 15-2 Chemeketa 2-4 .333 13-10 Clackamas 2-4 .333 9-11 SW Oregon 2-4 .333 22-6 1-5 .167 14-12 Clark

Women's scores

4/11

Wen. Valley 9, Blue Mt. 1 Col. Basin 14, Big Bend 1 Col. Basin 13, Big Bend 4 Wen. Valley 7, Blue Mt. 2 Spokane 1, Walla Walla 0 Walla Walla 4, Spokane 2 Tr. Valley 2, Yak. Valley 1 Tr. Valley 5, Yak. Valley 3 Shoreline 13, Edmonds 3 Shoreline 14, Edmonds 0 Bellevue 8, Peninsula 0 Bellevue 9, Peninsula 0 Olympic 14, Everett 3



Start Zone helps people get a jump start

BY ANDREA VASSALLO Staff Reporter

Highline's Start Zone program helps start small business.

The program started last April as an idea to help new entrepreneurs get started.

Start Zone is funded with a federal earmark granted to them by United States Small Business Administration. Start Zone currently employs one project manager, two outreach specialists, and four business specialists.

"We look for people who are new to the process and new to the country," Program Manager Mike Skinner said.

Start Zone offers a free membership. Potential members must be either of the following: female, minority, immigrant or a person with disabilities.

In October of 2008 Start Zone started opening its doors to people who are looking for a starting place for a small business. Start Zone offers a variety of services.

"We figure out where they are and where they are trying to go," Skinner said.

While most of its work is done with one-on-one business consulting, Start Zone helps its members create a business plan, get financing and most importantly creating jobs by hiring employees.

Start Zone is partnering with leaders of low income communities, hoping to gain the trust of its people.

Partnering with these leaders has brought Start Zone to



Vita Mulyarchuk/THUNDERWORD

Above, left, Start Zone looking to become future business owners. Mike Skinner, right, talking to members at a recent meeting.



Start Zone clients meet at a recent day discussing networking and future business plans. Start Zone's upcoming event is their "starting a business in Washington" workshop.

other business owners within those communities, creating a network called Start Net. This network within Start Zone gives support to its members by linking them with business owners in the markets they are tapping

"One of the big things for the newcomer population is they don't know where to start," Skinner said.

Start Zone's member population consists of 70 percent minorities, 51 percent are women, and 67 percent first-generation immigrants.

One of Start Zone's biggest success stories is of a female student at Highline who immigrated to the United States and has no use of her legs.

Ruth Tialpar started her own sewing business with Start Zone. By being a member of Start Zone she was able to utilize Start Net to get her an electronic wheelchair and find a company who is working with her on a business plan.

By summer Start Zone plans on having a full swing of activities such as business workshops, and orientations for its members and Start Net to interact.

Skinner said that Start Zone is looking to help people who have an idea of what they want for their business and find a way to achieve it. With the present economy, it's really hard to get financing on your own from a bank with Start Zone getting financing is one of the services it offers, he said.

"Start Zone is part of the recovery effort," Skinner said.

Their next featured event is "Starting a business in Washington" workshop. The event is on Thursday, April 23 in Building 99 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

For more information contact: Mike Skinner at mskinner@highline.edu Or visit the web page at https://bob.highline.edu/startzone/index.php. You can also call 1-253-878-3710, ext. 3344

Café Mia not only surviving but thriving and looking to expand

By RYAN PETERSON Staff Reporter

Pushed back from its original grand opening in fall and in the midst of an economic crisis, Normandy Park's Café Mia has

opened its doors with an Italian

"We were pushed back two months," said Allison Jester Café Mia's general manager. Mainly due to small setbacks and weather issues, the grand opening was scheduled for November of 2008 but didn't take place until Jan. 15, 2009.

Jester is experiencing how tough it can be to run a new business in a recession.

"The flux of the markets have a big impact," she said.

Despite the ailing economy and the delayed opening, combined with being located in a largely residential area with few commercial businesses, Café Mia has thrived.

"There was a huge void in Normandy Park for a good restaurant," said Todd McKittrick, co-owner of Café Mia. "We created Café Mia specifically for Normandy Park, tailoring it 100 percent to the needs of its residents."

Menu items include soups, salads, sandwiches, pasta, pizza and pastries. There are also several Italian style entrees available after 4 p.m.



Christy Choe/THUNDERWORD

Café Mia's general manager Allison Jester ringing up a customer one sunny afternoon.

"We make everything except our gelato," said Jester. All menu items are available for takeout as well as large party and event catering.

The cafe also features free wi-fi and is kid friendly. As well as all of the menu items have the option of dinning in or taking out.

In addition to the menu Café Mia offers an extensive wine cellar. "We plan to add a full service bar in the next couple of months," McKittrick said.

Café Mia is located in the Normandy Park Towne Center at 19803 First Ave S, Suite #104.

Business hours for Café Mia are Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The restaurant number for take-out is 206-429-3145



Jessie Gracic/THUNDERWORD

On of Cafe Mia's friendly staff serving a customer during their busy rush one afternoon.

Donn Walter's prescription is optimism

By SHANNON SEVEREID

Staff Reporter

It's a good day for Donn Walter: he can breathe.

However, the pain is always in his

Walter, who coordinates and supervises experiments in the biology lab, was diagnosed with sarcoidosis in June of 2006. Sarcoidosis is an autoimmune disease affecting the lungs and lymph nodes. It causes scar tissue to build up in the lungs and depletes Walter of energy. This chronic disease leaves Walter with 70 percent lung capacity and an oxygen exchange of 50 percent.

Walter's illness is on the inside – it is not visible in his appearance. Wire glasses frame kind eyes as silver hair parts to the side. A bushy beard grins from ear to ear with cheerfulness and enthusiasm.

Walter takes prednisone, a steroid, to reduce inflammation in his lungs and calm his immune system. Though this helps his lungs, it makes him susceptible to all other types of illnesses.

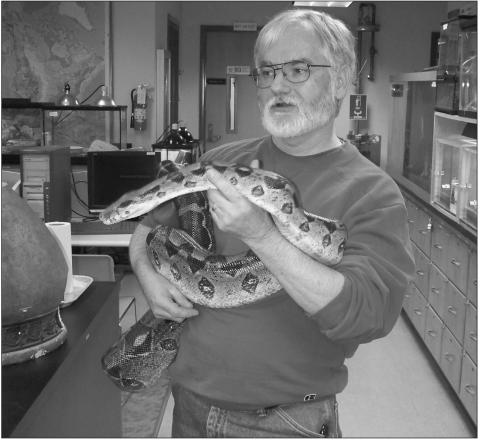
Although Walter has a positive outlook on life, he said, "I haven't reached that point yet where I have accepted it."

Walter says he has to think and pace everything out before he does it to make sure he conserves his energy.

"Having a chronic illness makes you look at life differently – seriously," Walter said.

Even though his quality of life will never be the same again, he still looks forward to each day.

Walter began attending Highline in September of 1998, at 45 years of age. He graduated from Highline in 2000



Monika Hammon/THUNDERWORD

Despite a condition that robs him of 30 percent of his lung capacity, Donn Walter looks forward each day to caring for the creatures in the biology lab.

with an associate of arts degree in environmental science. Later that same year, he enrolled in The Evergreen State College. After two years of dedicated work, Walter graduated with a bachelor of science degree in environmental analytical chemistry.

In January of 2002, he began a six month temporary position at the Highline biology lab, and has continued working there ever since.

"In my personal opinion, I think I have the best job on campus. I get to play around all day long with plants, animals, and students. And I tolerate instructors," Walter said.

Walter keeps inventory of all supplies and equipment in the lab and makes repairs as needed.

Walter is an essential element in the biology lab, and an invaluable asset to teachers such as Gerry Barclay and Carol Hernandez.

Barclay explained that a lab supervisor must have a multifaceted understanding of chemistry, zoology, botany, human anatomy and physiology, and microbiology, as well as an awareness of the newest lab techniques.

"Donn is not only an expert at all of these disparate tasks; he does so with a positive attitude that makes him a pleasure to work with," Barclay said. "I've worked at schools that have two people doing the same job as Donn – only not nearly as well. He is, hands down, the absolute best lab supervisor I've ever worked with."

"Having Donn around lets instructors concentrate on teaching, and our students not only benefit from quality labs, but quality teaching," Hernandez said.

Walter's wife, Sabine, also works at Highline. She is a secretary for the Health, Physical Education, and Education Division in Building 15.

Walter and his wife are members of the Pacific Northwest Herpetological Society. The society rescues abandoned and neglected reptiles and amphibians, which the Walters foster until they can be adopted. The reptiles, in addition to fish, a bird, and a cat live in the biology

In his spare time, Walter has many hobbies including: woodworking, beer making, gardening, kayaking, and collecting conifers.

In spite of the difficulties Walter has faced over these last few years, he says he is positive and optimistic about the

"I like challenges, and life certainly presents them," Walter said.

Campus will celebrate Earth Week April 20-24

By MELISSA SMITH

Staff Reporter

Highline's fourth annual Earth Week Celebration will be April 20-24 with events scheduled all over cam-

Earth Week is organized by the Environmental Club. Their advertisements this year will include eye catching statistics such as:

"If one in 10 Americans used public transportation it would reduce foreign oil dependency by 40 percent."

The Environmental Club is preparing many activities, similar to their advertisements, to promote ecological awareness and encourage people at Highline to reflect on what it means to promote a greener environment on the Highline campus.

"I hope that by the end of Earth Week everyone is a lot more conscientious and inspired to make a difference in the environment," said Environmental Club President Jaqui Trillo of her expectations for Earth Week's impact on Highline students and staff.

Earth Day, April 22, is a holiday that was established in 1970 by U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson, D-Wisconsin. Highline adopted that entire week as Earth Week with the formation of the Environmental Club in 2006.

"A lot of people care about the environment but don't know how to connect with it," Trillo said of involvement this Earth Week.

There will be many opportunities for students and staff to get excited about the environment and actively participate this Earth Week.

Email Trillo at wacke jacke@hotmail.com for more information.

HIGHLINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE EARTH WEEK EVENTS

Monday, April 20

- "Does the Earth Care?" from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Highline Student Union, Building 8. Displays will show students what actions can make a difference in the environment.
- "What's your Carbon Footprint?" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Union. Laptops will be set up so that people can calculate their carbon footprints.
- The film "Flow: For the Love of Water" will begin at 12:10 p.m. in Building 7, it is a movie about water pollution, a discussion will follow.

Tuesday, April 21

- "Clothing Swap," from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Student Union. People can exchange clothing to reduce consumerism.
- "Tasty Difference," takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Student Union. Samples of organic, local and vegan food will be available to try. The Medical Assistant's Club will also be providing information about nutritious foods.

Wednesday, April 22

- Recycling tips and information about oncampus recycling will be taught from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Student Union.
- "Campus Clean Up," will go from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Union, outside of the west entrance. Bags will be available

- so that groups can pick up litter around campus.
- "History Seminar," is from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Building 3, room 102. Jonathan Betz-Zall will present a lecture on the history of environmental justice and the Duwamish River.

Thursday, April 23

- Live Music by H.A.R.D. is scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the Student Union stage. The band will perform songs written especially for environmental week. The group is made up of Highline students Dio Jean-Baptiste and Thomas Tobin accompanied by musician Jose "Corn Maze" Canos.
- "Caucus about Environmental Careers," is from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union Building, third floor.
- "Sustainability Task Force," will begin at 2 p.m. location TBA, featuring an open discussion on sustainability in school curriculum.

Friday, April 24

- Movie Friday is at 12:30 p.m. Building 7. The film "Who Killed the Electric Car?" will be shown.
- Science Seminar is from 1:30 to 2:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102. Chemistry professor Dr. Heather Price will lecture on air quality.

Angel will replace Blackboard starting next fall quarter

By JOSH KANE Staff Reporter

Blackboard is getting replaced by a new piece of software called Angel.

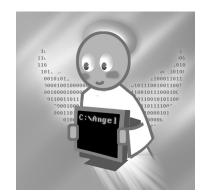
Blackboard and Angel are both course management systems (CMS), software aimed to supplement teachers' courses. They provide students with access to handouts, assignments, grades, and discussion boards. Some classes are entirely online through Blackboard.

Currently more than 400 courses at Highline utilize Blackboard, with approximately 5,000 students enrolled in them.

On Tuesday, April 7, an open forum highlighted the factors that motivated the change and showed a short demonstration of Angel.

Highline's contract with Blackboard ends this year, which presents an opportunity to change software. Members of the Distance Learning Committee, the Instructional Computing, and the Instructional Design department gathered on a review team and participated in a state-wide review last year, comparing 13 different software brands in a formal process.

"It amounts to asking vendors a ridiculous amount of



questions and scoring their response," said Marc Lentini, director of the Instructional Design department. Angel came up on top after the hail of questions.

"Two things won it for Angel," said Lentini. "They were the only ones who could successfully import a Blackboard course, oddly enough, including Blackboard. They also thumped the others on the grading scale. All the CMS failed, but Angel failed with the best score."

The choice of Angel has benefits. Many local colleges have also switched to Angel, so it will make it easier for students or faculty who move between schools to adjust. The cost is less than the new version of Blackboard as well.

"Angel is going to save us about \$10,000 a year," said Lentini. "Our Blackboard costs are all estimates. They were not responsive throughout this process."

There have been several incidences where Blackboard's customer service has been lackluster, Lentini said.

"My personal favorite was the call six hours before the allcampus meeting saying 'Sorry, we can't make it today," said Lentini.

Angel will tentatively be available to faculty May 1. There will be workshops and demonstrations to help members of the faculty learn the new software. Videos from Lower Columbia College walk through Angel and show which knobs and buttons do what.

Blackboard will be turned off Aug. 31. There is a possibility that Angel will see a test run in a few summer courses, but Angel will not enter full use until fall.

Angel is not completely different from Blackboard. It has some similar features. Lentini compared it to getting a new car.

"You've been driving a Chevy. Now you're driving a Toyota," he said. "They moved the window buttons, they moved some console buttons around."

Highline professor Jeff Ward agreed, saying "They put a lot better engine in it."



Monika Hammon/THUNDERWORD

The new printers in the library will be able to print on both sides.

Library gets new 'green' printers

By KANDI CARLSON Staff Reporter

The library is making a double-sided effort to go green. The new printers were installed at the beginning of Spring Quarter.

The new printers replaced three "aging printers that were having maintenance problems," said Hara Brook, faculty reference librarian.

Highline IT Specialist Peter Ferrell was responsible for doing the research on the printers.

The new printers are set to print double-sided automatically.

Students who need to print single-sided documents may still do so.

Students may ask a reference librarian to assist them in changing the printer settings at

the workstation.

"We are available and more than willing, without exception, to help," said Brook.

"The faculty are happy to accept double-sided documents," said Brook. She sent out a faculty wide e-mail and the "response was encouraging," she said.

Since "printing is free in the library, this should make a big impact," said Brook.

The use of the new printers should lower paper costs as less paper will be needed. The significance of the impact will not be known until next quarter since they are brand new, Brook said.

The library is open from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. every weekday. They are also open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 2 to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

Student elections approaching

By DAN BOZE Staff Reporter

Applications are now being accepted for the Student Government president and vice president positions.

The election packets are due Monday, May 4 on the third floor of Building 8.

The president represents the student body when speaking with the administration and Board of Trustees. The president also oversees all student committee appointments.

The vice president is the administrator of Advisory Council affairs and directs advisory council sessions and annual projects. Annual projects include blood drives, awards ceremonies and faculty tenure review.

Applicants for either position must have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA, take at least eight credits and be returning for the 2009-2010 school year.

Candidates must collect 50 signatures to get on the ballot.

There will be a mandatory candidate meeting on Tuesday, May 5 held in the Student Programs office of Building 8. This meeting is for those who are se-

rious about running.

Both the Student Government president and vice president earn minimum wage and work 15-19 hours per week.

The job "pushes you a little bit, gives you pretty rare and amazing leadership opportunities," said Lance Frank, Student Government president.

Frank said that these are the "experiences that form who you

are for the rest of your life."

They also give you a "huge confidence boost," Frank said.

Vice president Kelli Tracey has "been involved since the very first quarter," she said. "Being in this role forces you to grow as a leader."

"More than anything, it's been a great opportunity to serve and empower future student leaders," Tracey said.

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Speaker of the Caucus

Jobs start in August and September 2009 Positions pay 15 hours a week, minimum wage Contact Natasha Burrowes at 206-878-3710, x3256

Learn more about these positions at the annual Spring Leadership Luncheon, April 21, 2-3 p.m. RSVP to 206-878-3710, x3536, or stuprog@highline.edu 14 News

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Hunger Action Week highlights battle against poverty

By RACHEL MARSH

Staff Reporter

A large number of people in King County do not have enough to eat and United Way of King County is doing something about it.

From April 20 through April 24, they will be raising awareness for this major issue through Hunger Action Week.

The week will include a Hunger Challenge, education and awareness about hunger, and a community rally.

"Seven dollars. This is the maximum food stamp benefit for an individual in Washington," Lynnette Hynden, member of Federal Way's Basic Needs Task Force said.

The Hunger Challenge is to eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner, spending only \$7 a day for five days.

"This is really quite an awareness to understand that people really truly do eat on seven dollars a day for three meals. I mean, you can't even eat fast food for that, or go into a convenience store like 7-eleven anymore."

United Way of King County believes that services have not kept up with the cost of inflation, causing many people to go to bed hungry.

"You know, it's really incredible, I think of it as awareness for those who haven't had to depend on the food stamps program to really understand. People talk about being on food stamps like it's a major luxury, but it's not really a lot," Hynden said.

"This challenge is really an exercise of empathy—to live in someone else's shoes for one week and learn how you can help fight hunger in our community," Hynden said.

There are other ways to get involved with Hunger Action Week as well.

Dozens of volunteer opportunities are available on the United Way of King County website, including stocking food pantries and mentoring programs.

They encourage everyone to learn the facts about people in need in local communities so that they will be inspired to make a change.

"I would just encourage people to get involved with this," Hynden said. "Take the Hunger Challenge, make yourself aware."

For more information about Hunger Action Week, or to sign up for the Hunger Challenge, go to www.uwkc.org.

Student Caucus weighs in on marijuana

By DAN BOZE Staff Reporter

Students agreed last Wednesday that marijuana should be decriminalized.

They said so at the Student Caucus, a weekly meeting where students gather to discuss serious issues. Topics are chosen by students.

The discussion bounced around various thoughts, such as whether government knew how to regulate marijuana and how it would be regulated.

Students suggested studying other countries such as Canada and Holland to get a better understanding of how to deal with legalizing marijuana.

"It would have to be government regulated," one student

Students suggested that they should be able to grow it in their backyards for personal use.

A bill now in the Washington State Senate would decriminalize marijuana, making possession of marijuana up to 40 grams a \$100 ticket.

Students were concerned about the effects of marijuana on the individual. It was agreed that effects were on an individual basis, whether it was how long it takes someone to get high and how each person's body reacts to marijuana.

Some said they were able to focus more when using the substance.

"Alcohol is a lot worse, and over the long term it has worse effects than marijuana," said Nathan Deman, a student who attended the caucus.

"I would say it slows people down and slows a person's progression," said Jonathan Brown, associate dean of Student Programs.

The idea of corporations taking part in production, selling, and distribution was brought up. Brown said he was concerned about that.

"I do have a problem with profiteering with companies who know it's highly habitual or addictive, and not stepping up and paying for my health care," he said.

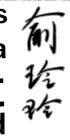
The Student Caucus is run by Highline student Ifrah Ahmed, the Speaker of the Caucus.

Student Caucus meetings are held Wednesdays in the Leadership Resource Center on the third level of Building 8 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Meetings are open to all students.



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News

The Thunderword / April 16, 2009

County recycling center temporarily closed

By LIZ PHILLIPS
Staff Reporter

For the next few years you won't be able to utilize the dump closest to Highline for recycling purposes.

The Bow Lake Transfer Station is being remodeled, forcing the closure of its recycling operability.

The recycling portion of the station, located off of I-5 at the Orillia road and 188th street exit, was closed as of March 16 and will not re-open until the multi-year project is finished.

The Bow Lake Transfer Station is in need of updates, said Polly Young, communications planner for the King County solid waste division.

"To improve safety, to increase operational efficiencies, including installing garbage compactors which will reduce the number of truck trips to and from the station, to meet current building and environmental standards, to accommodate projected future growth in the region, to provide increased recycling opportunities and to upgrade the aging infrastructure of the county's regional solid waste transfer system," she said.

Young said that the planned improvements to the transfer station include:

•An expanded recycling collection area where customers



Cody Nguyen/THUNDERWORD

A truck pulls out of the Bow Lake Transfer Center after dropping off a load of garbage.

can bring materials for recycling and composting, including separate yard waste and wood waste areas

•A larger transfer building that will have larger waste unloading areas, which will reduce customer wait times.

•An enclosed transfer building that will protect customers and workers from weather conditions, as well as contain noise, dust and odors.

•A new site layout that will improve on-site traffic flow and add more on-site vehicle queuing space.

•Two pre-load compactors to

improve operational efficiency and decrease the number of transfer trailer truck trips required to and from the station.

•Sustainable building design features that will improve energy efficiency and result in lower life cycle costs than conventional building design.

•Environmental enhancements to the storm water and wastewater systems.

"The new recycling area will be designed for flexibility so we can collect different recyclable items as market conditions and recycling legislation change," Young said. Young said that the expansion of the station will accommodate the collection of more items for convenience. The recycling center will be considerably larger and will be collecting items such as yard waste, wood waste, scrap metal, and other materials to be determined.

The extension of the transfer station will make the station almost double the size it was. "The current Bow Lake transfer station is located on an eight-acre parcel. The King County Solid Waste Division purchased an additional 6.6 acres of property to the north of the existing station.

The new station development will cover approximately 11.5 acres of site area," Young said.

The price of the project is currently set at \$80.58 million but may increase due to additional project needs, Young said.

Although the recycling center is closed because of the construction, there are other recycling options that can be utilized at several different locations including Kent, Renton and South Seattle. Addresses and driving directions can be found at www. Kingcounty.gov/solidwaste.

"The Bow Lake Transfer Station was built in 1977 and most of King County's solid waste transfer stations were built even earlier, in the 1960s. The rebuilding of the Bow Lake transfer station is part of an overall plan to upgrade the aging infrastructure of the county's solid waste transfer system," Young said.

This project will be in construction until the later months of 2011 and possibly the early months of 2012.

"During the multi-year construction of the new station, the station's recycling areas (the appliance recycling area and the basic recycling area for paper, cans and bottles) are being used as staging areas for construction materials. When the new station opens, basic recyclables will be collected in the same area as they have been," Young said.

House Bill

continued from page 1

Reykdal said the \$9 billion deficit in the state budget will not allow for more funding at this time, so the State Board has ensured the colleges do not suffer too much by allowing them to count Running Start students and charge them fees until the economy picks up again.

"The colleges receive approximately \$4,600 per FTE from the K-12 school district from which the student originated.

"Unfortunately, the average revenue from a traditional, tuition-paying student is about \$7,500," Reykdal said.

Reykdal said colleges should be able to cope with the pressure of adding more Running Start students, despite budget problems that may lead to a cap on enrollment.

"Colleges have successfully grown Running Start and traditional college-level enrollments for almost 20 years now," Reykdal said.

"Colleges [will continue to] work hard to ensure access for all students," he said.

The College in High School program will also be expanded under the bill.

At the moment, Federal Way Public Schools and Highline School District offer AP (Advanced Placement) and IB (International Baccalaureate) classes.

The College in High School program is a separate entity from those more widely-known programs.

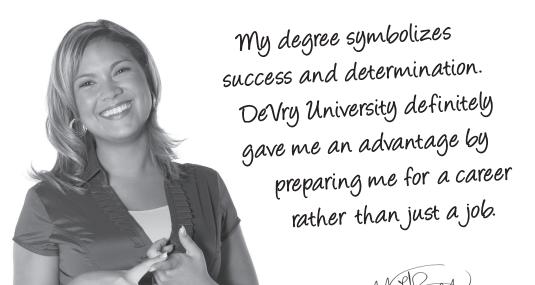
"I wanted to expand [College in High School] throughout the state, especially in rural areas," Rep. Wallace said.

"The College in High School program is provided on the high school campuses with high school teachers who have met qualifications to teach collegelevel classes," Reykdal said.

"The teacher is certified by the higher education institution as qualified to teach the class, and in most cases, the colleges and universities provide the curriculum," he said.

"The bill calls for [a] report on all of the dual credit programs, which includes College in High School, Running Start, Advanced Placement, Tech Prep and Running Start for the Trades," Reykdal said.

"I would like to encourage more students to take advantage of the dual credit programs," Rep. Wallace said. "I believe they are the best financial aid programs we have."



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Federal Way

continued from page 1

of a number of Korean restaurants.

"Federal Way is the place to go for home [Korean] food," said Stephanie Choi, a University of Washington, Korean-American student from Federal

"You can find just about any Korean food you like," she said.

Jung also provides a lot of help to the Korean community in the city of Federal Way.

Originally from Seoul, South Korea, Jung provides translation services, guides citizens through city procedures and coordinates meetings and events that enable the Korean community to participate in city government.

"I was hired by the city to provide assistance to those newly relocated Korean citizens with language and/or cultural challenges," Jung said.

A number of Korean associations exist as well, including the Korean-American coalition, Korean Women's Association and Korean Writers' Association.

KO-AM TV is a Korean-American Broadcasting station located in Federal Way.

"KO-AM TV has been a voice to the Korean communities in Washington state," said Fred Park, a spokesman for KO-AM TV.

Park says the reason for the Korean concentration in the

area of Federal Way is due to the many businesses which preexist in the area.

"Many Koreans live near the area because there are many Korean businesses like KO-AM which hires Korean employees," Park said.

The strong sense of cultural bonding which many Koreans share also seems to be drawing more and more Koreans closer together.

"Always there is a lot of a different opinions," Park said. "But I believe, so in general the bond is strong."

Doherty also agreed to the strong bond within the Korean communities.

"I've noticed the Korean community is consisted of many 'sub-communities' based on businesses, churches, and other associations," Doherty said. "The bonds within those sub-communities appear to be strong."

Stephanie Choi said her family moved three years ago from Mukilteo to be with more of their family and friends.

"Our family has a lot of friends here," said Choi. "So we moved closer to be with them."

Hong also agrees to the strong sense of kinship Koreans have.

"Kind of connections, I guess," said Hong. "There already were a lot of us here, and we all know each other."

Jung said the fact that Koreans are highly concentrated in Federal Way continues to bring more and more Koreans into the community.

"Federal Way is one of the largest Korean communities in the state of Washington; therefore it is an ideal place for Koreans to live and/or start up businesses," she said.

The popularity of Federal Way for Koreans seems to be international as well.

"Federal Way became a 'known' place to Koreans to move from all over the Northwest," said Doherty. "When I was in Korea last October, it was amazing how many people had heard of Federal Way."

"I think that's due to the fact that Korean Broadcasting Station did a documentary about Korean-American politicians which featured our former mayor Mike Park," Doherty said.

Stimulus

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life of a \$5,000 loan.

The program also ties Pell grants to inflation. As it is now, increases in the size of grants have to come through the congressional budget process, according to Campus Progress, another lobbying group.

The program creates a \$2.5 billion fund for federal-

state partnerships to support students from "under-served backgrounds," and improve graduation rates at colleges and universities.

Also included are improvements to tax credits and the Perkins loan program. That includes a partially refundable \$2,500 tax credit for tuition, books and college-related expenses.

The Perkins reforms will provide more options for stu-

dents who need emergency assistance.

If you want to learn more about getting loans directly through the government you can visit their website at, www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan.

Another feature of the stimulus package will cut interest rates on subsidized Stafford loans in half, from 6.8 percent to 3.4.

When this cut kicks in it

would save the average student approximately \$2,000-\$4,000 over the life of a \$15,000 loan.

U.S.PIRG says about 5.5 million students take out subsidized loans every year, and the vast majority of these loans are made to lower and middle-income students.

"Students really need to look into whether or not they qualify for these grants because most do and just don't know about it. If you don't know whether or not you qualify for all this added aid, do your research. This is a lot of money you could potentially save," said Tessa Atkinson-Adams of U.S. PIRG.

If you want to know more about the Pell grant or apply for it, or see if you qualify, it's as simple as going to www. educationconnection.com/matching, and putting in an application.

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