

THE Highline Community College Thunderword

A suitable arrangement

Highline student finds arranged marriage fits her nicely

By **BRIANNA HOLT**
Staff Reporter

Highline student Maureen Sumer wanted to get married. Instead of meeting a man here in the United States, she, by her parents' suggestion, pursued an arranged marriage.

"I told [my parents] at 18 that I wanted an arranged marriage," said Sumer, who is now 20.

"It was my decision who I married, but it was my parent's advice to get married now," she said.

She preferred to find a man from Fiji, where she was born, rather than from the United States. "Here it's hard to find an Indian guy who wants a relationship, they just want relations," she said.

Additionally, she said she finds it hard to trust guys from the United States because of things in her life that she has been through. Therefore, she looked elsewhere for a husband.

As an encouragement in choosing the right man, her father told her that she would know him when she saw him.

"My family [in Fiji] looked for suitable men for me and sent me choices in an envelope full of their pictures," Sumer said.



Marcus Daniels /THUNDERWORD

"[My family] would tell me their names after I said I would consider them," she said.

She eventually learned about their family and religious background if she considered them possibilities.

"To me it didn't seem like an arranged marriage because I was allowed to choose," said Sumer.

To her, it was like Fijian online dating, without the online part.

Normally Fijian women do not choose their husbands.

"Culturally, girls have no say -- the parents make the final decision, or the man chooses," she said.

Sumer was able to make this decision because she is in the

United States and he is in Fiji.

If she would have been in Fiji she would likely not have been able to choose her own husband. Her family would have chosen for her.

Sumer made her decision last

Please see Marriage, page 12

Bookstore squeezed by market

By **KANDI CARLSON**
Staff Reporter

Highline students are stuck in the middle of a battle between used book sellers and publishers.

The head of Highline's bookstore said her staff is trying to help students not get burned in the crossfire of that battle.

"Used book wholesalers started doing a better job and started taking textbook dollars away from the publisher," said Laura Nole, Highline bookstore manager.

Nole has been in the textbook business for more than 30 years and has witnessed the struggle firsthand.

As the used textbook business took off, publishers found they were losing money and countered by coming out with



William Schlepp /THUNDERWORD

A Highline student purchasing an item at the bookstore.

new editions faster and faster, said Nole.

These tactics have resulted in used books becoming obsolete as instructors choose the new

textbook.

If an instructor chooses to use a new textbook, students are not able to sell back the books they just used.

Students are left to either find another vendor to purchase their book or they are stuck with it and unable to return it.

The Bookstore can only buy back books they know will be used in the upcoming quarter, Nole said.

Another weapon publishers use is "bundling," she said. Bundles include the textbook, "often-useless information" and an access code that is required for the course, Nole said.

The access code can usually be purchased separately but publishers have increased the purchase price for those as well.

Unfortunately, since the materials are a bundle they cannot be returned at the end of the quarter, it prevents students

Please see Bookstore, page 12

INSIDE

October 15, 2009
Volume 49, No. 4



Your guide to all local elections/P B1



Trip to Egypt has brought new world views to Highline professor/P A3



Volleyball in three-way tie for first/P A9

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Weekend Weather




Heavy showers Friday and Saturday. Few showers on Sunday.

Crime and Punishment



News Briefs



Car towed due to too many parking tickets

The driver of a red Mazda Protégé called Security at 10:40 p.m. to report her car was towed. Security informed her that her car was towed due to excessive parking violations. Her vehicle was taken to Pete’s Towing Yard. Students with fines that exceed \$100 will have their cars towed if the fines are not paid within one week.

Older man lost and confused on campus

A male in his early 60s was seen stumbling near the Metro stop outside Building 29. He could only tell Security his name and did not know where he was or what day it was. Security called 911 and an aid car transported him to an area hospital at his request.

Unidentified man worries students

Two Highline drama students reported a suspicious person by the drama area. A white male wearing blue sweats and a white hat was wandering around talking to himself. The subject departed shortly before Security arrived.

Argument leads to fist fight before class

An instructor reported to Security that six females were having an argument between class. She heard third-hand from a student that another student had been punched in the face during the argument. No names of any subjects were given. The instructor was told to have the victim report the incident to Security.

Neighbors are not behaving neighborly

Security was notified by an unknown pedestrian of an altercation. Neighbors in the apartment complex next to Building 99/ East Parking Lot and Midway Dry Cleaners were arguing loudly. The reporting pedestrian feared the argument would soon turn physical. Security notified the Kent Police Department of the incident.

--Compiled by Eric Moehrle

Math competition for scholarships

The first session of the competitive mathematics exam the AMATYC will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 28. The test, which is referred to as the AMATYC for the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges, gives students the opportunity to compete for scholarships based on their ability in pre-calculus math. The top five students’ scores at each college are scored together as a team to determine intercollegiate standings. The test is held in two sections, once in fall, and then again in the spring.

The test will be held in Building 7 on Oct. 28 at 2:30.

Pride foundations offers scholarships

Applications are now open for scholarships presented by the Pride Foundations and the Greater Seattle Business Association for LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer) and straight-ally students. One application signs students up for consideration for 50 different scholarships, with awards up to \$10,000. Applications are due Jan. 31, 2010 at 5 p.m. Students interested in applying can visit pridefoundationscholar.org.

Winter Quarter full ride up for grabs

Full time students who are interested in getting winter tuition paid for and have a 3.5 GPA or better should apply for the HCC Academic Achievement Scholarship. The deadline is Nov. 11.

Students who have already received this scholarship are not eligible to benefit.

For more information and



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Students walk through the rain to class on Wednesday while trying to avoid getting soaked.

an application, students can contact Laura Manning at 206-878-3710, ext. 6037.

Discussion group has a vision for men

The Inter-Cultural Center will host a discussion group just for men. On Thursday, Oct. 15, the Men of Vision Discussion Group will meet in Building 6, room 164 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the group is to provide leadership and mentorship to men as well as foster relationships with the campus community and the community at large.

Students who have questions can contact Ismail Yusuf, Student Leader at the Inter-Cultural Center at 206-878-3710, ext. 4350.

Young professionals meet the candidates

South Sound Young Professionals, an affiliate of the Federal Way Chamber of Commerce, will be hosting their monthly meeting Thursday, Oct. 15th at 6 p.m.

This month’s meeting will be a round robin, meet the candidates, political forum at the Palace Korean BBQ Restaurant located at 31525 20th Ave. South, in Federal Way.

All Federal Way contested race candidates will be there.

Award goes to one of Highline’s own

Associate Dean for Student Programs Jonathan Brown was selected as the 2009 recipient of the Lori Rhett Professional Award. The Lori Rhett award is considered the highest honor for someone in the Student Programs field and who works at a Washington state community or technical college.

Brown has been with Highline in his current position since 2001. One of the contributing factors he believes won him this award is his service to not only campus based students but to state-wide community college students. He established two training conferences for Washington student leaders on legislative issues, the Legislative Academy in fall and the Student

Voice academy in spring.

The Lori Rhett award was first handed out in 1997 to a person who is recognized for their work in the development of student leadership skills and creativity.

In a nomination letter, a faculty member wrote “After many years in the student affairs profession, Jonathan still thinks out of every box and identifies creative solutions to continue to better his department and the institution he represents. He is a visionary leader.”

Correction

•In the Oct. 8 edition of the Thunderword, the story “Pool could be closed soon” should have said Normandy Park’s Proposition 1 will take over their entire parks system, plus provide a subsidy for the Mount Rainier Pool while Des Moines’ Proposition 1 will only finance and operate the pool.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Lawrence returns with new outlook on culture

By **REBECCA BALL**
Staff Reporter

Living in Egypt for three years has brought Kaddee Lawrence a new view of the world and a fresh appreciation for diverse cultures.

Lawrence, a biology instructor, recently returned from Egypt to resume teaching at Highline. Three years ago, in August of 2006, she stepped out of her boundaries, took a leave of absence from Highline for three years, and accepted a position as visiting professor in Cairo, teaching biology and scientific thinking.

"There were vast differences between Cairo and Seattle," Lawrence said.

Lawrence said some of the differences are more obvious. It is rainy in Seattle and dry in Cairo.

It is green in Seattle and brown in Cairo and there are forests in Seattle but desert in Cairo.

Seattle is a fairly liberal place compared to Egypt, she said. Egypt did have a certain liberal side to it, but it was lower scale and a different kind of liberal.

"Poverty in Egypt is huge," she said.

Nonetheless, everyone still treats each other equally. In Egyptian culture there is a belief that it is God's will for a person to be poor, but rich tomorrow, then that is the way it is, Lawrence said.

The people from that culture have a certain respect for each other that is different from Seattle. So much of what they believe in is life is the will of God, she said.

There are also more subtle differences between our cultures.

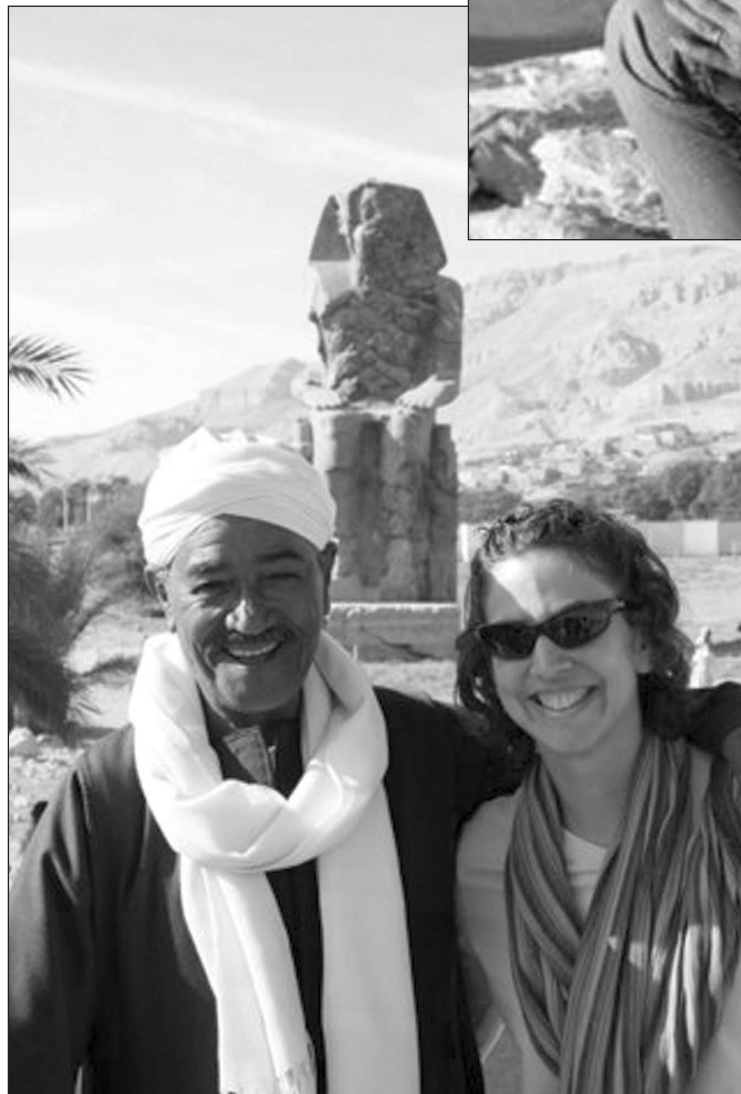
Like the way Egyptians dress compared to the way Americans dress, Lawrence said.

For example, Egyptian wom-

en always had their shoulders and knees covered. "The men almost always wear pants, they don't wear shorts unless they are age 7 or 70, or an American tourist," she said.

Cairo's culture is also different from Seattle's in that Egyptians have more social interaction. If there is a class or place Egyptians need to be, they don't rush by people they know to get to where they need to be, they stop and take the time to see how they are doing, Lawrence said. Person-to-person contact is important in Egyptian culture.

"America is very efficient and fast paced," versus Egypt which is slower and laid backs, she said.



Highline professor Kaddee Lawrence spent three years teaching in Egypt.

"They take their time," Lawrence said.

Lawrence was able to cope with the differences in part because she didn't have to go alone. Her husband is a software engineer and his work allowed him to live in Egypt with Lawrence.

"Going into a job and having my husband with me kept me grounded," she said.

Despite the differences, when Lawrence came home she began to miss certain things about Egypt.

"I miss the regularities to pray," she said, referring to the Muslim religious practice of salat, or praying five times a day.

"It set the rhythm to life."

Lawrence said she could set her watch by it and it was the

one constant thing that never changed. "It became a part of my life," she said.

She said she missed taking her time. In Egypt, there was not as much stress to get certain things done.

"If you didn't get them done it wasn't a big deal. I don't want to stress about getting things done. I miss being able to take my time to get things done," Lawrence said.

Lawrence said she feels more aware and compassionate toward students who are from another country, and who are experiencing the American culture.

"Highline is such a diverse place and being in the Egyptian culture gave me a much better view into students who go here," Lawrence said.

Get and stay connected with new Wi-Fi options at Highline

By **DYLAN FEELEY**
Staff Reporter

Highline's wireless network now provides four options for Wi-Fi connections.

The wireless network also covers the majority of the campus. These changes were completed over the summer.

Last year the only Wi-Fi choice was HCC Public, which is limited to basic websites such as http and https.

It was also limited in bandwidth, and operated from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. This Wi-Fi connection is available to anyone on campus.

The wireless coverage on

campus has been expanded. In the past students have had difficulty getting a connection but now "every building has wireless access," said Tim Wrye, director of Instructional Computing. This has made most outside areas on campus Wi-Fi hot spots.

Since the changes to Highline's wireless network, HCC Web Portal, HCC Secure Connect and HCC Visitor have been added.

Both HCC Web Portal and HCC Secure Connect are recommended for use by students and employees of Highline, according to an Instructional Computing official.

The No. 1 choice is HCC Secure Connect, making HCC Web Portal the second option and HCC Public a last resort.

When connecting to HCC Web Portal students will need to open a browser and enter their Highline login. Each time a wireless device is restarted or goes to sleep it must be reconnected to the network for internet access.

This network provides better security than HCC Public along with more access to websites and is very easy to connect with.

The most advanced wireless network is HCC Secure Connect, which has the best secu-



Tim Wrye

urity, internet accessibility and more bandwidth. Once a wireless device is setup for this network it automatically connects the device to the internet.

Students who want this network will need to contact the

Helpdesk for instructions on how to set it up, mentioned Wrye. An myHCC account is needed in order to use the HCC Secure Connect network.

The HCC Visitor network is for official visitors to the campus, providing more bandwidth and better internet access than HCC Public.

Connecting to this network also requires assistance from the Helpdesk.

For any help accessing wireless networks or problems with the networks, students can visit the Technology Helpdesk in Building 30, or email the Technology Helpdesk at helpdesk@highline.edu.

Editorial comment

Voting this time is important, too

Ballots were mailed yesterday, Oct. 14 to all registered voters in King County for the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, which will be done entirely on mail-in ballots.

Although the state governor and U.S. president will not be on the ballot this time around, voting in this election is just as important, if not more important, than voting in the national elections.

Candidates and initiatives in this election will have a larger impact and their work will be seen by more people in a given area than that of the president.

The president will probably enact some widespread reform that will be felt all over the nation – hopefully soon, with the health care debate that has been raging for months.

However, because of the deliberately slow nature of American government, there shouldn’t be too many times while any given president is in office that there are drastic changes.

City councilmembers, on the other hand, can affect their districts on a daily basis with decisions on funding and resources that they can make.

For instance, city governments will ultimately determine how many police officers are hired and which potholes are filled. Seattle city government decided in summer 2008 that there will be a 20-cent fee on any plastic bags provided by grocery stores.

These changes are immediately noticed by all citizens, and are why it is important to vote in city and county elections.

Unfortunately, just as with the national elections, voter turnout in King County general elections is traditionally poor.

In 2000, at the time of the last US Census, there were 1.7 million people living in King County. Of those, just under 550,000 turned out to vote in the 2002 King County general election.

That’s a 32 percent turnout.

Even though that doesn’t account for those that have legitimate reasons for not voting, such as criminals who are legally forbidden from doing so, it’s still a less than impressive number.

If these people are going to be in charge of our lives for the next four years, we should be out in force to decide just who we want in that kind of position.

Staff

The thought of a potato in a courtroom is absolutely hilarious.

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Ref. 71 opposition misleading

Sometimes, an issue comes along that is so hugely misleading in every way that it takes me effort not to just spit at it like an angry cat.

Referendum 71 is one of those issues.

Earlier this year, the state Legislature passed a proposal that grants the majority of the rights that married couples enjoy to seniors and gays in committed partnerships. It was signed into law by Christine Gregoire.

I will repeat this for the benefit of anyone who is particularly vague on the workings of our government: it’s been signed into law.

Referendum 71 asks voters to kill the law and the rights it grants after the fact.

It’s the brainchild of the Protect Marriage Washington group. Protect Marriage believes that, despite the fact that the law that was passed only establishes that registered domestic partnerships will have the same legal benefits as married couples, it threatens the existence of heterosexual marriage.

Protect Marriage points to a segment of language within the bill which states that, for the purposes of interpreting other laws conferring benefits onto married couples as they would apply within domestic partnerships, sections featuring gender-specific language will be converted into gender-neutral language.

Laws, by nature of having authority over people, frequently include a lot of technicalities to try to prevent misinterpretation.

This particular one is necessary, since the bill exists in order to give partnership benefits to a separate category of relationship from marriage that, because it is not marriage, includes same-sex partnerships. It guarantees that domestic partnerships will not be denied particular benefits



Commentary

Nicholas McCoy

due to gender-specific wording in other laws.

It does not, in any way, redefine the term of marriage away from being between a man and a woman. The man-woman thing is, in fact, a part of Washington state law, and has been a part of Washington state law for a while.

The existence of the domestic partnership law, more than anything, probably strengthens the Defense of Marriage law since it reduces the impact of arguments that say it should be thrown out because it’s discriminatory (it in no way actually makes things equal, but it still makes the man-woman law less of a priority for gays to dispute.)

So, that’s misleading stupidity No. 1.

Misleading stupidity No. 2 is that, in case you were wondering, a same-sex partnership under the law Referendum 71 does not need to actually be a gay partnership.

It could be two elderly people of any gender combination, heterosexual or otherwise, with or without a sexual or romantic interest in each other who live together and intend to continue to do so.

The most misleading aspect of Ref. 71, however, is the way it’s presented on the ballot.

To keep the law already on the books, you have to vote YES. The ballot says asks whether the person voting thinks the law should be kept, not if it should be gotten rid of.

This might not sound completely pig-headed if you’re only just tuning in. But before

it got on the ballot, supporting Ref. 71 meant you were against the domestic partnership law. Saying “no” to 71 meant you supported the law. The groups working to keep the law on the books used the phrase “no on referendum 71” publicly for a significant amount of time.

However, when the petition garnered enough signatures to make it to a vote, everything was reversed. Those who want to preserve the law had to switch to “Yes on Referendum 71.” This means that, to those not involved in politics of this specific law, the message has been mixed.

Weasel tactics like this have no place in legitimate politics.

It’s dishonest, and it makes me want to gnaw on things.

Unlike Ref. 71 Nick is never misleading

Letters

Dear Editor:

Your photo on page 2 of today’s [Oct. 7] Thunderword shows students relaxing in the smoking section by Building 26.

This area is not a designated smoking area. The closest designated smoking area is on the southwest corner of Building 25.

Admittedly, many students choose to smoke in non-designated areas, but I would hate to give the impression that the area in your photo is a designated smoking area when it is not.

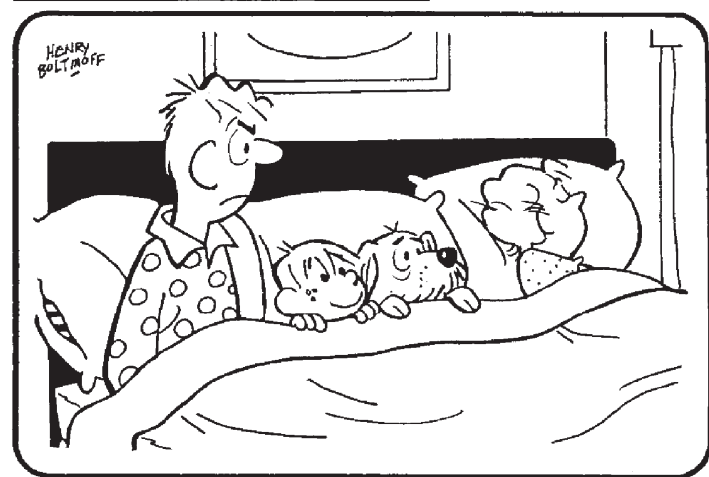
I’m sure in any future publicity, the Thunderword can give the actual locations of our designated smoking areas. It would be much appreciated by all of the non-smokers on campus.

They can be seen on the campus map.

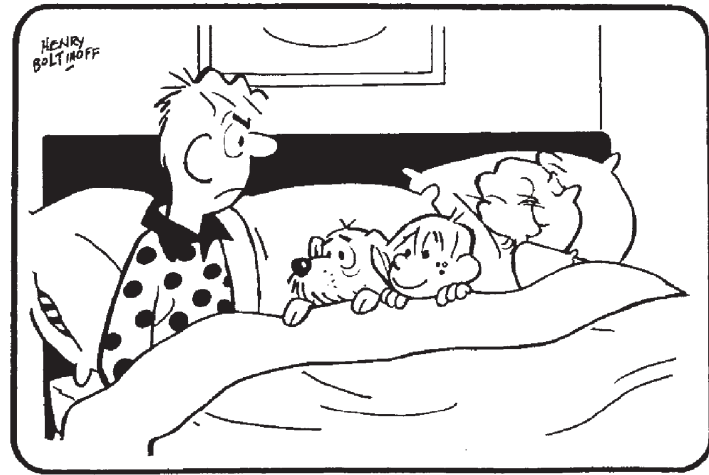
– Keith Paton, division chairman, Health, Physical Education and Education

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy and dog have switched places. 2. Woman's nightgown is different. 3. Curtain is missing. 4. Pajamas are different. 5. Sheet fold is wider. 6. Picture is different.

? Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. ANATOMY: What is the largest bone in the foot?
2. MUSIC: What did the title of the song "Pennsylvania 6-5000" refer to?
3. GEOGRAPHY: What is the westernmost point in the contiguous United States?
4. LITERATURE: How many daughters did the king have in Shakespeare's play *King Lear*?
5. HISTORY: Who founded the abolitionist newspaper "The North Star"?
6. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "non compos mentis" mean?
7. PSYCHOLOGY: Someone who suffers from didaskaleinophobia would have an

- abnormal fear of what?
8. COMICS: What is the name of the family dog in the *Dennis the Menace* comic panel?
 9. SCIENCE: How fast can a bolt of lightning travel?
 10. TELEVISION: In what fictional city does the soap opera *All My Children* take place?

- Answers
1. The heel bone, or calcaneus
 2. A telephone number
 3. Cape Alava, Wash.
 4. Three
 5. Frederick Douglass
 6. Not of sound mind
 7. Going to school
 8. Ruff
 9. Up to 130,000 mph.
 10. Pine Valley, Pa.

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Arts Calendar

•Autoharpist Evo Bluestein will perform in concert 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at d'Aigle Autoharps, 19016 Des Moines Memorial Drive, SeaTac. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

•The Waterland Music Series returns to Des Moines with three concerts, beginning Tuesday, Nov. 17 with jazz guitarist Michael Powers.

Presented by the Des Moines Arts Commission, Powers plays at 7:30 p.m.

Last week's
Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

at the Highline Lecture Hall, Building 7. Tickets are \$30 for the entire series, \$15 per show and \$5 for students.

Fruity Concoctions

- Across
1. Ace, e.g.
 5. Up or pay follower
 10. "Pow!"
 13. Jai _____
 14. Spelunker's milieu
 15. Petri dish gel
 17. Common bicycle feature
 19. Give up
 20. Entice
 21. Pressed
 23. _____ League
 26. Mourn
 28. Waiting for the operator
 29. October birthstone
 30. Beavers' home, abbr.
 33. Narrow valleys
 34. Thieves count
 35. Cemetery inits.
 36. Agree
 37. Uncas's vessel
 38. Tail movements
 39. Singer DiFranco
 40. Famous sidekick
 41. English Poet John
 42. Ryan of film
 43. Noted fashion magazine
 44. Wal-Mart competitor
 45. Trout catcher
 47. Ones on the trail
 48. Force yourself?
 50. Carbonated drink
 51. Equinox mo.
 52. Powerful firecracker
 58. Like a bull
 59. Tennessee athlete
 60. Den
 61. Was ahead
 62. Attempts
 63. Sicilian spewer
- Down
1. Subway alternative
 2. _____ mode
 3. Did a marathon
 4. Telephone sound

Crossword 101

By Pete Canty

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

5. Stiff preceder
6. It can be open and shut?
7. St. crosser
8. Open field
9. Mechanic's figure
10. Strip in a club?
11. Vietnam War chemical
12. "You've got it _____"
16. Merlot, e.g.
18. Cancels
22. Depend
23. Messy pileup
24. Waiting for tickets
25. Nickname for an eastern city
26. Not as sane
27. Stage part
31. John Hancock, notably
32. Like Super Bowls III and XLII
34. Aesop's tale
37. Gathers
38. Not hopeless, as a plan
40. Rules, for short
41. Like some papers
44. Rose parts
46. Jotted down
48. Belief
49. The Last Supper, e.g.
50. King or hermit
53. Single, e.g.
54. LAX info
55. Horse bit
56. Hr. division
57. Bikini piece

Quotable Quote

You never know how many apples there are in a seed.

...Source Unknown

Last week's crossword solution

BALL PARK SHOUTS

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

You can also get the series price by purchasing any six tickets covering the entire series.

Tickets are available at the Des Moines Field House, 1000 S. 220th St., and at the door.

For more information, contact Nic Lind, Des Moines Park & Recreation, 206-870-6527, www.desmoineswa.gov

•Got arts news? Send your information to csankey@highline.edu or call the

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

arts editor, Courtney Sankey, at 206-878-3710, ext. 3317.

Campus events will get priority, but all non-campus items are welcome.

Basketball not the heart of 'More Than a Game'

By COURTNEY SANKEY
Staff Reporter

Newcomer Kristopher Belman, director of the documentary *More Than a Game*, brings more than just basketball to the big screen.

More Than a Game follows the lives of five young basketball players and their coach, Dru Joyce II, in Akron, Ohio.

Those five men are Willie McGee, Dru Joyce III, Sian Cotton, Romeo Travis and LeBron James. James, who went on to NBA stardom, however is not the key to the story, Coach Dru is.

The documentary follows the boys on their quest for the National Championship and everything that happens in between. Belman started filming the boys in their junior and senior year from 2002 to 2003.

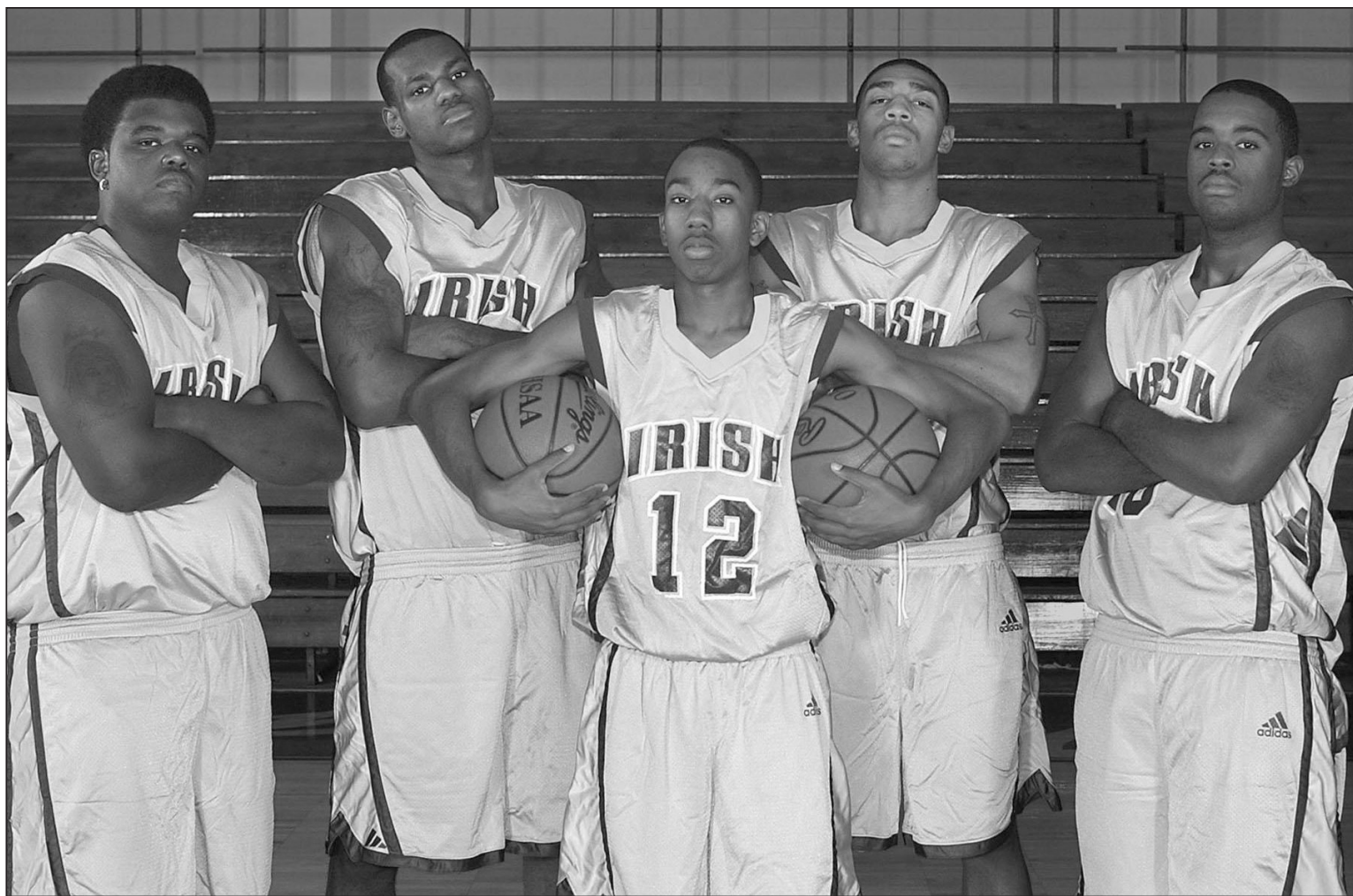
The most important thing to take into this movie is it's not about James. It is about the brotherhood and family that these men create together from their early years all the way up to today.

"These were the six most compelling individuals I had ever met," Belman said in an interview in Seattle last week. "This was about all of them, together. I wanted to tell a story about friendship."

Belman, who was born and raised in Akron, was attending Loyola Marymount University when he was assigned the task of creating a documentary for class.

In his junior year at the university, Belman was given the task of creating a 10-minute documentary. Belman decided that he was going to go back home to try to capture a brotherhood of four friends that were inspiring a community and each other.

Despite the fact that the entire media world was going after James even though James was still in high school, Belman fought the odds and trusted that



Lions Gate

Above: The "Fab Five" from left to right; Sian Cotton, LeBron James, Dru Joyce III, Romeo Travis, and Willie McGee. Below: Coach Dru leading the team of St. Vincent - St. Mary's basketball team in prayer before the national championship game in 2003.

everything would be fine and sought a meeting with the famous five - some.

"I always approach things as if they are going to work out," Belman said. "I just kind of believed that I would be able to do this, even though a lot of people didn't. I felt like I could do this because my story was so different. Everyone else was going after LeBron and I was more interested in the friendships."

The fact that Belman was still in college and wasn't a journalist worked to his advantage. After three weeks of trying to get an interview with the team, he got a call saying he had a meeting with Coach Dru.

He went into Coach Dru's office and the first thing out of Dru's mouth was how LeBron just denied 60 Minutes and The David Letterman Show interviews. His reply, "It's not about



LeBron."

That got Coach Dru's attention and they sat down and talked about his idea for his documentary and asked if he could come and sit in on a practice to film the young men.

Coach Dru told him that practice the next day started at 7:30 a.m. He went and was able to get footage of these young men building momentum on and off the court.

After practice, Belman was looking over his footage and overheard Coach Dru telling his team about practice the next day. He decided to be there when the team got there.

"They never gave me the green light," Belman said. "But they never gave me the red."

He kept showing up and no one told him to leave. He eventually became an unofficial team member, known to the guys simply as Camera Man. He started traveling with the team, staying in the same hotel and started to blend in as one of the guys.

"It is a documentarian's

dream to become invisible," Belman said, "allowing the subjects to act like themselves in front of the camera."

The movie took more than six years for Belman to complete. He met with producer after producer, but no one was willing to go for the type of story he wanted. They wanted him to lose the other five characters and do the documentary solely about James.

Finally music producer Harvey Mason Jr. stepped up to the line.

"He [Belman] had this amazing footage and an idea for a story that really struck a chord with me," Mason said. "At the heart of the film is their friendship, and what these guys sacrificed for each other."

Each individual character was able to have his story told throughout the film. Each got his own amount of screen time to explain their personal struggles with family, basketball, or even each other, and then to talk about how Coach Dru and the

rest of their teammates helped pull them back up.

Consequently, the central character of the story is not James, but Coach Dru. It is apparent that all the boys on that team looked to Dru as their male role model and it also shows that Coach Dru loved those boys like they were his own sons.

The documentary is a well told story that offers an insight to the five boys that turned into men during the course of their decade long friendship, with Coach Dru helping them along the way.

The time line at times can be a bit confusing, jumping from one high school year to another, then back again. That being said it is the only downfall to this movie.

Each character is well developed and you get to see them completely as themselves, not acting for the camera. Even if you are not a sports fan you will find something or someone that you can relate to in this film.

All the amazing basketball sequences will please any sports fan and impress anyone who isn't, especially when 5'2" Dru Joyce III made seven 3-pointers in a row, within the time span of 10 minutes.

But with all of the fancy graphics and intense, fast-paced basketball drama, it is the friendship that the men forged together and the sacrifices that they had to make for each other and the team that makes this film worth seeing.

More Than a Game will open nationwide on Friday, Oct. 16.



Lions Gate

Director Kristopher Belman (left) and LeBron James (right) talking during filming of *More Than a Game*.

Election 2009



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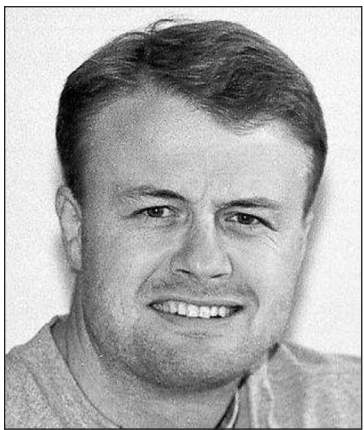
Eyman pushes another tax cut with I-1033

By LIVIU BIRD
Staff Reporter

Washington Initiative 1033 would reduce taxes, said its author, but opponents are worried it would cause a money crunch that would make higher education even more expensive. I-1033 would limit the amount of money city, county and state governments could receive, according to a description prepared by Secretary of State



Sam Reed’s office. This limit would be adjusted annually, based on inflation and population and would not include any spending that is ap-



“In my 12 years of doing initiatives, I’ve never seen one that better fits the times than this one.”
—Tim Eyman

proved by voters. “Our goal is to stop state, county and city politicians from raising taxes or fees of any kind without voter approval,” Tim Eyman, co-author of the initiative, said. Eyman cited three major reasons the initiative would help the state: it would ensure city, county and state budgets become more sustainable; it would prevent the increase of taxes in the current recession; and mandate that any surplus of state revenue would go toward reducing the state’s property tax. “Raising taxes in the middle of the recession will only make the recession last longer,” he said. Because of the recession and the difficulty for citizens to make ends meet in more desperate times, Eyman said the initiative is well-timed. “In my 12 years of doing initiatives, I’ve never seen one that better fits the times than this one,” he said.

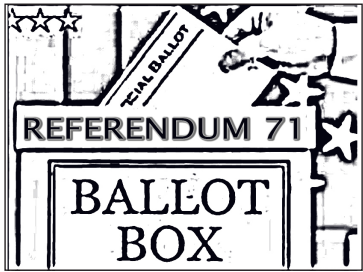
“It seems like voters are looking for some control on the government.” Scott Whiteaker, communications director for the No on I-1033 Committee, had a different perspective. “When people understand the damage that the initiative would do, they will vote no,” he said. Whiteaker went on to explain how higher education would be impacted negatively if the initiative succeeds. “It would cause more crowded classrooms, higher tuition and less teachers in schools,” he said. Whiteaker cited the Colorado Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) Act of 1992 as a reason for citizens to vote no on I-1033. “We know I-1033 is a proven failure,” he said. In Colorado, the TABOR Act allows only a certain amount of revenue, and therefore, there is a restricted amount of money that can be given to any government

concern. Since the TABOR Act was passed, Colorado has dropped to 47th in the nation in higher education funding. The No on I-1033 Committee has tried to warn voters of a similar result in Washington if I-1033 passes. Nonetheless, he said it will be a difficult campaign. The polls agree. A Rasmussen Poll conducted on Sept. 22, polling 500 voters in Washington, saw I-1033 passing by a 61 percent to 31 percent margin with 8 percent undecided. A KING-5 News/SurveyUSA poll on Oct. 6 polling 548 voters also found I-1033 passing, but only by a 45 percent to 32 percent margin, with 22 percent undecided. In the two-week gap between the two polls, 16 percent less people said they would vote for the initiative, while 1 percent more of those responding said they would vote against it. However, for now, the polls still have I-1033 passing.

Referendum puts domestic partner law to the test

By AMBROSIO AGUSTIN
Staff Reporter

Same-sex couples and elderly domestic partners may soon be granted the same rights and protections enjoyed by married couples if Referendum 71 is approved by voters next month. If approved, Referendum 71, would as it appears on the ballot, “expand the rights, responsibilities, and obligations accorded state-registered same-sex and senior domestic partners to be equivalent to those of married spouses, except that a domestic partnership is not a marriage.” The ballot measure comes after Governor Christine Gregoire approved the “everything but marriage” law, senate bill 5688, in May. After extensive petitioning, Protect Marriage Washington,



who runs the opposition campaign, successfully gathered enough signatures to force the bill to a public vote. Hence, Referendum 71 was born. Protect Marriage Washington, did not respond to requests for an interview. Their website bears an image of a campaign sign that reads, “Marriage = One Man, One Woman,” and talking points that include speculation that K-12 public schools will “likely be forced to teach that same-sex marriages and homosexuality

are perfectly normal.” The bill in its full text clearly states that, “a domestic partnership is not a marriage” and nowhere in the bill is there mention of any education legislation. Sue Evans, Approve 71 spokesperson, declined to comment on the subject of gay marriage, instead focusing on the bill itself. “It’s about ensuring that all families are protected under the law,” she said. Washington voters will decide whether to approve this bill, which would afford same-sex couples and domestic partners over the age of 62 the right to take leave from work to care for a sick member of their family. The referendum will also give death benefits to the partners of police and firefighters

killed in the line of duty, the right to retain Social Security benefits and private pensions, as well as victims’ right to workers compensation benefits if a partner is killed in the course of employment. The statement against the bill, which is available on the Secretary of State’s website, <http://wei.secstate.gov/>, argues that Washington cannot afford the \$4 million price tag. “It will mean another massive expansion of government and Washingtonian taxpayers will be stuck with a multi-million dollar bill,” the statement reads. Evans said that the benefits extended to same-sex couples and senior domestic partners would be paid for by the workers themselves, benefits that they are already footing the bill

on. “Those benefits in that fiscal note reflect the benefits earned by the people generating them,” she said. “In other words, if I’m a state worker or a firefighter, and I have to pay out those death benefits, those are benefits that belong to the workers that generated them.” Evans said that the bill is about benefits and protections, which include health insurance, social security and unpaid wages. If passed, it would grant same-sex couples, senior domestic partners as well as married heterosexual couples equal protection under law. “All workers and all families,” she said, “should have access to the benefits that they generate.”

Kent City Council candidates cite their experience

By AMBROSIO AGUSTIN
Staff Reporter

Kent City Council Positions 2, 4 and 6 are on the ballot this election cycle and only the latter two races are contested. When Kent voters mail their ballots in on Nov. 3, the elected members will have a hand in enacting city laws, and in managing resources for Kent’s public services and programs. Those seated on the seven-member council are elected to staggered four-year terms.

Jamie Danielson, who holds Position 2, is unopposed. She was appointed to her seat following the death of Councilman Bob O’Brien in 2008. Dennis R. Higgins is running for Position 4 on Kent’s City Council. Higgins is the client services manager for King County Geographic Information System



Higgins

Center, an agency that compiles aerial photographs and other geographic information within King County. Higgins has never run for or held public office, but was a finalist in the consideration for Position 2 before Danielson’s appointment to the seat. “I believe my experience in information technology management, and my long record of community volunteer work,” he said, “along with having a young family and being a commuter, give me a unique per-

spective that would add greatly to the Kent City Council’s deliberations.” As the threat of flooding from the Green River looms near, Higgins said that his work

with the King County GIS center makes him well suited for the council seat.

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Mayor candidates argue over city finances

By **AMBROSIO AGUSTIN**
Staff Reporter

Where there used to be a sports field, Kent's ShowWare Center stands a vast expanse of concrete, steel and glass.

The facility, which opened in 2009, remains a point of contention between two candidates who hope to be elected to the mayoral office on Nov. 3.

Jim Berrios, who hopes to take the office of mayor of Kent, maintains that as of July, the city's venue is operating at a \$369,000 loss. His opponent, Suzette Cooke, says that, "ShowWare Center, in its first year of operation, during this recessionary time, will either break even or make money."

Cooke, who has held office since her election in 2005, has a political career that stretches back 34 years, and through four cities: Kent, Burien, Seattle and Bellingham. She was elected three terms to the Washington state House of Representatives, and among other numerous positions, served Kent for 11 years



The finances of Kent's Showare Center are an issue in the Kent mayor's race.

as executive director of the Kent Chamber of Commerce.

City spending is at the top of the issues for the mayoral race, and both candidates recognize that the city's budget is yet another victim of the recession.

They agree that tax revenues are down, and that as a result, changes in the budget need to be made.

In March, under Cooke's ad-

ministration, union-represented city workers voted to accept five-and six-day furloughs and reductions in benefits that amount to about \$1.3 million in order to save 20 of their colleagues from being laid off.

So far this year, major layoffs have been avoided. Municipal court, law, fire and police departments were declared protected from cuts, a point emphasized by Cooke in her State of the City address this year.

"For the first time in Kent's history," Cooke said, "our police and fire departments are fully staffed. In spite of the city's economic situation, I can assure you I'll do everything I can to see this remains the case."

Indeed, Cooke has increased police spending, hired a new police chief, and introduced new public safety programs that she says includes police "working directly with residents, businesses and apartment managers to prevent crime and to better

report suspicious activity."

"Crime has gone down dramatically in Kent," Cooke says.

Berrios agrees with the budget protections. Berrios, who is currently president of the Kent School Board, has been a Kent resident for the past 16 years and is the owner of Kent's Golden Steer restaurant. He is a former vice president of operations for Denny's Corporation and at one point during his career was responsible for a half-billion dollar budget, and 20,000 employees.

"I think that its a good move," he says, "you really need to protect public safety." But extending protections to those departments place a lot of pressure on the remaining city positions, Public works and Parks departments chief among them, he said.

As of July 31, 2009, the city's general fund budget reflects a negative balance of \$1.7 million dollars, albeit before tax collection.

"My concern with this budget," Berrios says, "is what's go-

ing to happen for 2010. It's going to be a train wreck. You're going to have to do so many cuts that its going to jeopardize the quality of service that the city provides to its community."

According to Berrios, the city has been navigating the recession, attempting to mitigate cuts and layoffs for a long time. But he says that staving off major cuts now will lead to more damaging results.

"When they saw the trend, they should have laid off some people," Berrios says, "because the longer they wait, the more people they're going to have to lay off."

Berrios says that he is prepared to make those cuts, working directly with city department heads, and making those cuts where necessary. He wants to "make sure that, you know, we're making the best decision and yet providing the best possible service given those circumstances."

On Nov. 3, Kent voters will decide who will hold the mayoral office.



"For the first time in Kent's history, our police and fire departments are fully staffed."

—Suzette Cooke, Kent mayor



"My concern with this budget is what's going to happen for 2010. It's going to be a train wreck."

—Jim Berrios, mayoral candidate

Kent

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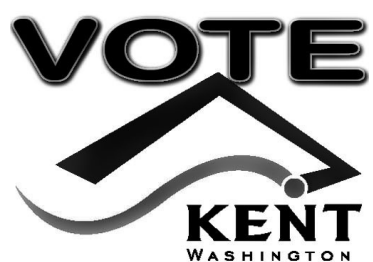
"I have recently been working long hours conducting analyses and compiling information regarding the potential flooding," Higgins said. "I have many years of emergency preparedness and management experience that I believe will be valuable once on the City Council."

Experience, Higgins said, is what Kent needs. The city's budget is on all candidates' agendas, and in the short term, Higgins says that "we are unfortunately faced with postponing and cutting programs."

At the King County GIS center, Higgins manages a million-dollar budget, experience that he said will help him "lead a process that is fair and responsible."

Dana Ralph is running against Higgins for Position 4.

Ralph has never held an elected office, but serves the



appointed positions of both the chairwoman of the Land Use and Planning Board and president of the Kent Arts Commission.



Ralph

Ralph said that her "experience and proven dedication" to the city make her the best candidate for the position.

"I have volunteered at the city level for over six years now," Ralph said. "This provides me with insight and direct knowledge of the issues facing

the City of Kent."

And of those issues, Ralph sees Kent's budget as the biggest challenge.

She said that she is "prepared to give a fresh set of eyes to the process," and is "willing to take a hard look at current spending and evaluate existing programs."

She said that Kent, like many other cities, has fallen on hard times.

"We also need to work to jump start the economy in our City," she said. "This can be done by attracting new business and development."

Kent City Council Position 6 is also contested, with incumbent Elizabeth Albertson opposed by Geoff Koepp for the seat.

Neither Albertson nor Koepp

responded to requests for an interview.

Elizabeth Albertson has held Position 6 on the city council since 2005 and is running to retain her seat. She is the executive director of Communities in Schools of Kent.

During her term, Albertson has served on the Parks and Human Services Committee, and among serving on other various boards and committees, is the council representative to the city's Weed and Seed initiative.

The program administered by Kent Police aims to curtail drug abuse, violent crime and gang activity in the city, and "seed" the area with treatment centers and neighborhood restoration programs.

However in August, Albertson was removed from the Planning and Economic Development Committee by Council President Debbie Raplee, citing time commitment issues.

In a Kent Reporter article in August, Albertson said that she

has two family members living with cancer. She said that it has taken up a lot of her time.

Geoff Koepp, who works as a financial planner in Bellevue, hopes to unseat the incumbent Albertson.



Koepp

On the King County Elections website, <http://kingcounty.gov/elections>, Koepp's statement reads, "Geoff has dedication and follow-through. He will attend council meetings and fulfill his commitment to participate."

On Koepp's Facebook page, he stressed his focus on adjusting city spending.

"My fear is that if spending isn't prioritized that we will see tax increases instead," he wrote. "My goal would be to look at everything the city is doing from the perspective of 2009-10 not through the eyes of 2007-8."



Albertson

Des Moines candidates promise improvements

By **ANDREW SIMPSON**
Staff Reporter



Des Moines residents will have a chance to vote on who holds City Council positions 1, 3, and 7 in this year's election.

Matt Pina and Anne Farmer are both seeking Position

1. Incumbent Councilwoman Carmen Scott is being challenged by Melissa Ponder for Position 3. Incumbents Susan White and Dave Kaplan are facing off for Position 7. Newcomer Melissa Musser is unopposed for Position 5.



This will be *Anne Farmer* Pina's first time running for council, after serving two terms on the Highline School Board.

"I've worked at all sorts of levels with citizens, keeping the interest of the city at mind. I know how to make partnerships," Pina said.

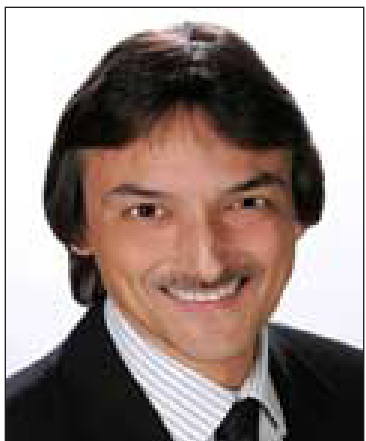
Pina would like to help

solve the economic shortcomings of the city of Des Moines. City government continues to face a shortage of tax revenues, as Des Moines has a very small tax base for a city its size.

Pina said he will put his bachelor of science in business administration to use by helping to strengthen businesses in the downtown area.

Pina said he plans on resolving the problem by smart spending.

"The first thing we need to do in this financially challenging time is watch the checkbook. We need to watch and make sure the city is spending money wisely," Pina said.



Pina is a manager for Alaskan Airlines information technology quality assurance.

"The one thing I would like people to know is that I want to bring my business, finance, technology and government experiences to the Des Moines City Council," he said. Farmer did not respond to re-



"We need new conditions for businesses to not only survive, but succeed."

— **Carmen Scott**

quests for an interview.

However, Farmer said on her campaign website that she wants to market and promote the city for potential businesses and visitors, reduce frivolous spending and improve the safety of the community by increasing the presence of police officers.

Farmer said that "the current council is inefficient and desperately needs new ideas."

With her master's degree in business administration, Farmer said she would like to run "Des Moines as a city rather than a charity."

Competing for Council Position 3 are incumbent Scott and newcomer Ponder.

Scott is seeking a third term on the City Council.

After working as a real estate agent for 30 years, Scott said she now spends a great deal of time dedicated to her community.

Scott said many obstacles are keeping downtown Des Moines from economic prosperity.

"We need new conditions for businesses to not only survive, but succeed. We need to overcome some existing problems for this to happen," Scott said.

Scott said she works personally for the benefit of the community. For example, she helped create a calendar to raise money for the Des Moines Legacy Foundation (a group that raises money for youth and senior citizen programs.) Scott was also involved in the opening of the Redondo police substation.

Scott said she likes to listen to members of the community.

Every Saturday when it's not raining, Scott said she mans a booth at the Farmers Market.

She is there to listen to the voices and opinions of the public.

"I want to understand what the community is thinking and needs," she said.

Ponder also said she wants to listen to the citizens.

She is currently finishing up her second term with the King County Civil Rights Commission.

Ponder graduated from The Evergreen State College with a bachelor's degree in liberal arts.

In the past, a lot of her work was focused on education, she said.

Currently she is a program coordinator for the Seattle and King County Reach Coalition,

which helps reduce diabetes health disparities experienced by communities of color.

Ponder said the council must be more creative. Connecting with those living in the city of Des Moines is part of her main focus.

"When we talk about the future of Des Moines, it's critical that we get the community's input," Ponder said.

Currently, there is no real genuine outreach to the citizen, she said.

"We must prioritize what we spend money in, and be willing to make reasonable and rational changes."

— **Dave Kaplan**



Having lived in the community for 18 years, Ponder said that she has the experience and character it takes to represent the citizens of Des Moines.

Pursuing Council Position 7 are incumbents Dave Kaplan and Susan White. Kaplan previously occupied Council Position 5, but opted at last minute to run for Position 7.

The unexpected change angered White.

"I think it was a real wimpy thing for Dave to change seats at the last minute and I have no respect for him for doing that," White said.

White remains optimistic about the future of Des Moines

"History is made by those who feed the future," she said.

In the past, White studied business and marketing at a junior college in Colorado.

White is now retired after working as a real estate agent for 10 years. She has been on the council for eight years, and is running for her third term. If elected, White says that she

would like to connect Highline with the downtown area, and attract the younger generation.

"I want a walkable, livable, downtown. People strolling around, eating and shopping," she said.

White is proud of her previous work on the council.

"I have great rapport with the community, and clear vision for the city," she said.

"I think I am the better candidate. I am nicer than Dave, and I am more even-tempered," White said.

Kaplan makes his living as executive director of Washington Self-Insurers Association.

Kaplan has a bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of Washington, and a master's of business administration from George Washington University. He hopes to combine his previous involvement on the council with his business savvy.

If elected, Kaplan wants to boost the city's economic potential by attracting new businesses.

"The city is in crossroads economically and budgetarily," Kaplan said. "We must prioritize what we spend money in, and be willing to make reasonable and rational changes."

Kaplan said that he understands the process of making a city more business friendly, and would like to help lead the city into the future.



"When we talk about the future of Des Moines, it's critical that we get the community's input."

— **Melissa Ponder**

"I've worked at all sorts of levels with citizens. ... I know how to make partnerships."

— **Matt Pina**



"I want a walkable, livable, downtown. People strolling around, eating and shopping."

— **Susan White**

Federal Way weighs change in mayor's role

By **CAITLYN STARKEY**
Staff Reporter



Letting voters choose Federal Way's mayor will be more democratic, supporters of Proposition 1 say.

However, the opponents say electing a "strong mayor" for the city of 88,000 people will only be more expensive.

Federal Way citizens will decide whether to elect their mayor or keep the same city manager format on Nov. 3. Proposition 1 on Federal Way's ballot will change city government from a council-manager form to a separately elected

"strong mayor."

Currently, Federal Way elects seven City Council members; from there the council chooses a mayor from among themselves and hires a city manager.

The mayor would have power to hire and fire, something the City Council currently does, along with all the administrative and political responsibilities of

a traditional mayor.

Supporters prefer this system because it fully dedicates an individual to the task of running the city, unlike the City Council members who often have other employment along with their elected office.

Councilman Jim Ferrell supports the "strong mayor" system.

He prefers the term elected mayor, "strong mayor" sounds like a dictator, Ferrell said.

Farrell said he would like to be mayor.

"I really believe it's a simple concept," Ferrell said. "People should be able to vote for the

leadership."

"Eighty-two percent of all cities in Washington have elected mayors: Renton, Kent, Auburn, Issaquah, Seattle, Tacoma," Ferrell said.

Ferrell said the city has wasted money under the council-manager form of government, citing the frequent turnover of hired city managers over the last several years.

Opponents say having a "strong mayor" will invite corruption and generally just cost citizens more money.

"What we have now works and has for 20 years. Why change?" said Jim Burbidge of

Federal Way Works, the group leading the opposition to Proposition 1.

One of the biggest problems with the "strong mayor" form is the money, said Burbidge.

Currently the city of Federal Way's mayor makes approximately \$24,000 each year, according to the city's website.

Mayors from other cities in the area, such as Renton, Kent and Auburn, are paid between \$130,000 and \$160,000 a year, Burbidge said. But because of the size of the cities, Kent, Renton and Auburn, also hire a city manager with the same range of salary as a mayor.

Council candidates debate city's direction

By **CAITLYN STARKEY**
Staff Reporter

Six candidates are campaigning for three open seats on the Federal Way City Council.

Linda Kochmar and Sonia Sciscente are vying for Position No. 2; Jeanne Burbidge and Mike Peterson are competing for No. 4; and newcomers Roger Freeman and Diana Noble-Gulliford are running for No. 6.

Kochmar is a 12-year incumbent. Her involvement in Federal Way began with the incorporation of the city, and she has been politically active ever since. She currently works at the Lakehaven Utility District as the risk manager.

Not only does she hold a full-time job and act as a council member, she recently has gone back to school as a part-time student at Highline.

"You should always update your skills," Kochmar said.

"Because of the economy it is quite a challenge," Kochmar said of the city's budget.

"No fat is left in our budget. It's a challenge to provide services at the same level we did. We have a plan in place now."

Even though Federal Way is fine for now, Kochmar still insists that the budget is in need of attention.

"Budget, budget, budget, jobs, jobs, jobs," Kochmar said.

Her campaign relies on her

previous political experience.

"I have 12 years of planning, 12 years of City Council, and 12 years of experience," Kochmar said.

After so long on the City Council she said she knows how the system works.

On the other hand, her opponent Sciscente has no direct political experience, but has been a resident of the city for 20 years.

"I feel like it's time for change," Sciscente said. "We need to step up together to make Federal Way better."

Because she lives near Steel Lake Park, Sciscente sees firsthand the level of crime and violence in Federal Way. This is her biggest campaign issue and motivation for running.

"We don't notice little things until they become big things," Sciscente said.

"The city needs to change," Sciscente said. "I want to get in and work hard. What can I say? Give me a chance."

Running for Position No. 4 are Burbidge and Peterson.

Like Kochmar, Burbidge has served on the council for 12-years. She has previously been employed as both a teacher and counselor; and is also the guardian of some disabled adults.

Burbidge also serves on several regional and local transportation boards, including chairing the South County Area Trans-



Jeanne Burbidge



Roger Freeman



Diana Noble-Gulliford

portation Board.

"I am happy to do it. It gives Federal Way a place at the table," Burbidge said.

She said she is very proud of the city and its accomplishments over the years, specifically in regard to violence.

"A good story to tell is in our crime rate," Burbidge said. "It is the smallest in the region except for Bellevue."

Though crime has dropped, so has the economy. This concerns Burbidge the most.

"We have the lowest tax revenue per person, so we have to be very efficient," she said. "We don't have the revenue of Kent or Auburn."

Burbidge, like Kochmar, said she knows what she is doing after serving for so long. She has a vision for Federal Way that involves better roads and strong economical development, specifically in the downtown area.

Running against Burbidge is newcomer Mike Peterson.

He is a local businessman and a father of four. This family connection fuels his reason for campaigning.

"I think we [Federal Way] could reach out to the junior colleges and high schools to funnel them [the students] into internships," Peterson said.

Peterson said he is not looking for a long political career.

"I'm looking at the next three to four years, what is this city looking like?" Peterson said.

He wants to focus on economic development, but to do this, the citizens have to be the energy behind the change, Peterson said.

However Peterson has taken the first step to stimulating the local economy.

"I buy my scones at Great Harvest [Bread Company], my employees always ask why we eat lunch in Federal Way," Peterson said with a laugh.

Last on the ballot for the city council of Federal Way is position No. 6, Freeman against Noble-Gulliford.

Freeman is an attorney at law and former candidate; he ran in 2007 but did not win. He said he wants to inspire Federal Way to bigger and better heights.

Freeman also said that crime is a major concern.

However, instead of increasing police presence or other tra-

ditional methods, he encourages face-to-face interaction.

"Just arresting and prosecuting is the not answer," Freeman said. "Just mentor a young person and you will see crime go down."

"It's really about supporting local businesses," Freeman said.

Freeman's opponent, Noble-Gulliford, agrees.

"Small businesses should be the foundation of downtown," Noble-Gulliford said.

While Freeman's focus is on crime, Noble-Gulliford wants to balance the budget, supporting ideas proposed by Kochmar and Burbidge.

Noble-Gulliford works in real estate, and her previous education supports her current work.

After 40 years of residency, Noble-Gulliford has seen the development of Federal Way from unincorporated King County to a city, she said.

Noble-Gulliford was active with the Federal Way Planning Commission and the Historical Society, as well as establishing Hylebos Wetlands Park, located on First Way.

Not only should the budget be balanced, but citizens should also shop locally to create economic development in the city, she said.

"Encourage citizens to shop locally," Noble-Gulliford said.



Linda Kochmar



Sonia Sciscente



Mike Peterson

Port candidates see jobs, environment as big issues

By **BRIANNA HOLT**
Staff Reporter

Pro-union and pro-business candidates are vying against each other for two positions on the Port of Seattle Commissioners Board.

The Port is responsible for managing international trade, transportation and travel in the Pacific Northwest, as well as supporting industries such as commercial fishing and tourism.

The candidates running for Port of Seattle commissioner Position 3 are Rob Holland and David Doud.



Holland

Holland graduated from Seattle University with a master's degree in public administration. His current occupation is a truck fleet fuel salesman. Holland said he wants to continue with the Port's vision to be the greenest port in the nation.

"I am uniquely qualified to bring accountability and a renewed focus on job creation, community protection and environmental stewardship to build a world class port that drives our regional economy," Holland said.

He also plans to create jobs.

"The Holland 'Green' Jobs Plan calls for advancing trade and commerce in our region by putting people to work right away," he said.

Two goals that drive Holland's plan are to reduce emis-



sions and increase export through green manufacturing, he said.

David Doud, a graduate with a master's in business administration from Thunderbird School of Global Management, is currently employed as an investment properties broker. He did not respond to a request for an interview.

Doud said on the King County Elections website that he also wants to continue with the Port's reform and ensure that work at the Port is done ethically, as well as work to create jobs.



Doud

He said he is not someone in the back pocket of the union bosses; he is an independent voice, running for the taxpayers of King County.

The candidates running for the Port of Seattle commissioner Position 4 are Tom Albro and Max Vekich. Neither candidate responded to requests for an interview.

Albro graduated from the University of Washington with a bachelor of science in civil engineering, and owns a small business.

"Lots of other ports want our



Port of Seattle Photo

business and our jobs -- from Los Angeles to Vancouver to the Panama Canal: our job is to be more competitive and not be beaten by ports with lower worker or environmental standards," Albro said on the King County Elections website.

Albro also wants to reduce the port's environmental impact. He will accomplish this "by implementing smart operating practices, more innovation and wise stewardship," he said.



Albro

Albro's opponent, Max Vekich has similar concerns.

Vekich is a longshore worker, and former four-term Democratic state legislator. He has a bachelor of arts from the University of Puget Sound.

Vekich said he wants to move the port forward, and is committed to reform as well as job creation and environmental stewardship.

"Instead of another insider, we need an advocate who will open doors to trade, improve accountability, and be a true partner for Puget Sound cleanup," he said on the King County Elections website.

Implementation of new tech-

nologies that reduce the emissions of ships and trucks, as well as assisting in the Duwamish River cleanup, is part of Vekich's plan to make the port a lead agency in environmental issues.



Vekich

"I'll fight to preserve and create jobs at the port and in the many port-dependent businesses," said Vekich on the King County Elections' website.

John Creighton is running unopposed for Position 1.

Former Senator and ex-newscaster vie for executive

By **NICHOLAS MCCOY**
Staff Reporter

Political novice and ex-news anchor Susan Hutchison is running against veteran King County council member Dow Constantine for the position of King County Executive this year.

Dow Constantine is currently on the King County Council as the representative of District 8, which includes Burien and West Seattle.

Constantine worked as an attorney for 19 years, and was elected to the state House of Representatives in 1996. He was re-elected in 1998, and then was elected to the state Senate in 2000. Constantine joined the King County Council in 2002, taking the seat of Greg Nickels, who had been elected mayor of Seattle.

"Dow [Constantine] has a long track record as a reformer and as independent minded," said Sandeep Kaushik, the



spokesman for Constantine's campaign.

"Since joining the council he's actively pushed to reform the way the county does business. That includes things like implementing performance measures to make the government more transparent, responsive, and efficient," Kaushik said.

"He knows there's much more work to be done in terms of the culture at King County," Kaushik said.

Constantine has advocated that the county end its involve-

ment in programs that aren't working well, he said.

"The most recent example is the county's role in providing animal control services. That's an area where the county has not been successful in providing service, and where there are other organizations that can do a job better, which will mean not only animals get better care but taxpayers save money," he said.

Other priorities Kaushik said were important to Constantine include the county continuing to be aggressive in pursuing the annexation of unincorporated King County neighborhoods into nearby cities.

"The county has jurisdiction over them, but it's very inefficient," he said.

The unincorporated areas are spread out throughout the county. Kaushik compared it to a patchwork quilt. The sprawl of the unincorporated areas spreads the resources of the county throughout the en-

tire area; the county sheriff, for example, polices all of the unincorporated neighborhoods exclusively even though they are spread in between many different cities.

"He [Constantine] wants to prioritize people, parks, and public safety," he said.

Constantine would make the cuts needed to bring the county budget in balance, Kaushik said, without closing public parks.



Dow Constantine

"He has said clearly that we need to keep the public parks open, we need to make sure that we're offering help to the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly in this economy, and he does not support taking officers off patrol or off the streets," Kaushik said.

The council would, with Constantine at the helm, work on identifying administrative savings to bring the budget under control, by "streamlining bureaucracy so that we keep the focus on providing core services to tax-payers," he said.

"He has extensive experience in local government and his opponent [Susan Hutchison] does not; that means Dow is in a position to actually implement reforms and change," he said.

"The county is currently facing some serious issues in the threat of flooding into the Green River valley, and swine flu;

Please see Executive, page B7

School board candidates hope to bring change

By **PAUL PARK**
Staff Reporter

Federal Way has two positions and Kent has one position on the school board up for election.

In Kent, Tim Clark and Dale Smith are running for Position 5 on the school board.

In Federal Way, Bill Pirkle is running against the incumbent Ed Barney for Position 1, and incumbent Angela Griffin is running against Steve Skipper for Position 4.

Federal Way voters will have to choose between new candidates who are for extreme changes in the Federal Way school district or the returning candidates who are for little or no change in the Federal Way school district.

"This school board is doing nothing and needs to do a lot more. I proposed many more changes but they just don't want to talk about it," said Pirkle, the new candidate for Position 1 on the Federal Way School Board. Pirkle's opponent, Barney, is incumbent.

"He's been on the school board for eight years. If he gets on again, he'll be on for twelve years," Pirkle said.

"I talked to him many times, and he doesn't want to change



Ed Barney



Bill Pirkle



Angela Griffin



Steve Skipper

anything that changes the status quo. In eight years he has done nothing. Things have to change because school is not working for the kids. I am for changing things, changing things to make things work," he said.

Pirkle said his priorities are to require teachers to dress more formally, require only education related wall decorations in classrooms, have students get all grade-affecting tests signed by parents and have dogs sniff student's lockers for drugs while class is in session.

Barney, Pirkle's opponent, said schools are fine as they are. There aren't any policies he would focus on, he said.

Barney said his priorities are to continue programs, such as

AVID.

AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, and it "is a program designed to help underachieving middle school and high school students prepare for and succeed in colleges and universities," according to the AVID website.

"When one individual becomes adversarial or controversial and begins to fight the other board members, nothing can happen but put the board in a bad light. To argue just for the sake of arguing accomplishes nothing," Barney said.

Position 4 of the Federal Way School Board has new candidate Steve Skipper running against the incumbent candidate Angela Griffin.

"They shouldn't [vote for me] unless they want their schools to change," said Skipper, the new candidate for the fourth position of the Federal Way School Board.

"If they are happy with the schools, how they are operating now, they should not vote for me. If they are unhappy, then they should vote for me," he said.

Skipper said his priorities are to publicize students results for state tests, for example the WASL and SAT scores, and publish the percentage of students

taking advanced courses or any more academically inclined courses in the local paper.

He also said he will try to eliminate most of the group activities and group projects in the schools.

Angela Griffin is the incumbent for Position 4 of the Federal Way School Board.

Griffin has been on the board since last year.

"Well, I probably am more passionate about actually serving on the school board, about being part of the school board team and working with my team members to make changes," Griffin said.

"I believe I am more passionate because the issues are closer to home to me as I still have kids still in school and I have been a teacher for many years," she said.

Griffin said her priorities are to find ways to get parents involved with their child's education, motivate the teaching staff to respect cultural diversity and to be more strategic on how they work with individual students and to influence the Federal Way School Board to investigate for more strategic ways to use advisory time for the students' benefit.

Tim Clark and Dale Smith are both new candidates for the

fifth position of the Kent School Board.

"The catch is now that with less money, we are facing more cuts," said Clark, the first candidate for the fifth position of the Kent School Board.

"There are certain things that I am trying to protect, such as student success and the things that contribute to that. For instance, those involved in the high school level and are in extra co-curricular activities do better in school than the general population of the students," he said.

"I am a former classroom teacher, the only candidate that is working the classroom. So, I think I have an understanding of the challenges of giving the kids on a daily bases the support and services they have to have in order to be successful," Clark said.

He said his priority is to "hold onto the fine arts, music programs, bands and things like that."

He would focus on pressuring the state legislature to provide more school funding in order to protect the co-curricular activities and to fulfill the requirements stated in the new Basic Education Act, which reflect what the schools need to do, Clark said.



Tim Clark



Dale Smith

Executive

continued from page B6

Dow has the experience to lead on those issues and his opponent does not," Kaushik said.

Kaushik also said that Constantine shares the values of those in King County and that Hutchison does not. He said that Constantine "has been a leader on environmental protection," which he said that Hutchison is not a strong candidate for.

Another value he said the two differ on is the matter of abortion rights. "Dow is pro-choice, while our opponent is not. Dow shares the values of the voters in King County."

Susan Hutchison is currently the executive director of the Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts

and Sciences philanthropy, a private organization that arranges grants by invitation.

Previously Hutchison worked as a news anchor for KIRO-TV.

The Susan Hutchison Campaign had not responded to requests for an interview at time of publication.

Hutchison's priorities as council executive are similar to Constantine; promote efficiency, reduce the budget through cuts and promote annexation of the remaining unincorporated urban areas, according to the campaign website.

"My administration will use a bottom up approach to budgeting, by taking a fresh look at the costs of providing essential services," she said on her campaign website.

Hutchison would implement "a true county-wide hiring freeze for all general fund or distressed enterprise funds except for critical positions in law, justice, and public safety."

She said that she would also have a review conducted of county publications such as brochures to "crack down on unnecessary postage, production and communications expenses."

She said that she would "keep parks operating by working with user groups such as swim teams, school districts, little leagues, adult recreation teams, as well as local municipalities and regional leaders to explore creative private-public partnerships."

She would, as a long term



Susan Hutchison

an amnesty reporting system to ensure that employees and managers can report wasteful spending to my administration."

To promote transparency, she said that she would have the creation of a budget disclosure website featuring analysis and statistics as a goal.

Susan Hutchison has been endorsed by Lt. Governor Brad Owen, State Attorney General Rob McKenna, and State Auditor Brian Sonntag, as well as the Eastside Business Alliance.

Constantine has been endorsed by both Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and Governor Christine Gregoire, as well as King County Democrats, the Sierra Club (an environmental group), and other organizations.

Local government veterans face off in Burien

By **JORDAN HALE**
Staff Reporter

Sue Blazak and Jack Block Jr. both promise the people of Burien change for the better if elected.

Block is running for Burien Council Position 1 against incumbent Blazak.

Blazak has been on the Burien council four years now. A main priority for Blazak is to stay involved. "I make a strong effort to make it to all council meetings and activities so I can help keep Burien on the radar

to build a stronger community," Blazak said.

Blazak has a bachelor's degree in social welfare and a master's degree in public administration. Outside of the City Council she works in the Highline school district, and has lived in the city of Burien since 1988.

Previously, Blazak was on the Burien parks, recreation, and cultural services board. She wished more projects in this area would be funded and carried out, which inspired her to become involved with the

council.

Major overall goals addressed by Blazak include creating more job opportunities locally, especially in health care; helping improve low income areas of downtown Burien; Also, to continue the improvement of the transit system, with the major overall goal of bringing the light rail to Burien.

"I would say I am a good collaborator and I really work well with other councils at both the regional and city levels," Blazak said. Blazak believes that working with other councils and expanding and involving the influence and voice of Burien is how Burien will continue to grow as a community.

Blazak's opponent Jack Block Jr. was previously in Position 6 on the council for four years.

Block has lived in the Burien area for 46 years, and is a graduate of Mt. Rainier High School. When not on council, Block is a full time longshoreman.

Block has served on the park board for a year, and was an officer for his present union, as



"I make a strong effort to make it to all council meetings and activities so I can help keep ... to build a stronger community."

— Sue Blazak



"I promise to deliver back to the people if elected. No more stalling on projects."

— Jack Block Jr.

well as being on the election committee for Teamsters 141 in their effort to provide services after Hurricane Katrina.

Block said that when you are in office you should do as much as you can to help your community and city. If elected, some major goals Block wishes to achieve are to complete stalled projects including First Avenue and Town Square.

Also, Block wishes to fully fund police services so that the city of Burien is able to provide

active rather than reactive public safety. As well as trying to improve the living conditions of low income housing by the Port of Seattle to expand noise insulation efforts.

"I promise to deliver back to the people if elected. No more stalling on projects," he said. "The citizens of Burien are in need of help now in these tough economic times, and it is vital the city provides a strong community and opportunistic base to help its citizens."

Upthegrove says Referendum 71 is about equality

By **REBECCA BALL**
Staff reporter

The Caucus Program and Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) sponsored a meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14, about Referendum 71.

Passage of Referendum 71 will affirm a bill already passed by the State Legislature earlier this year. The bill would give rights to domestic partners and seniors who are in committed relationships legal protections.

Opponents of the measure gathered signatures to force the measure onto the Nov. 3 ballot.

The meeting was for anyone who wanted to know about the bill and guest speaker State Rep. David Upthegrove, D-Des Moines, spoke about what Referendum 71 is.

Upthegrove's speech was not all neutral.

"I'm going to throw my opinion in there," he said.

"This isn't about moral question. It's about all families needing protection."

"That's why I support it, equal treatment under the law," Upthegrove said.

If it's approved it would guarantee that protections would not be taken away from committed couples, Upthegrove said.

Several large firms, including Nike and Boeing, have come out in favor of the referendum. Support also came from several religious organizations.

The meeting was held in



Representative Dave Upthegrove talks about Referendum 71.

William Schlepp/THUNDERWORD

Building 7 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Roughly 30 people attended.

GSA posted eight flyers last Wednesday and the next day six of the eight flyers were missing.

"The meeting is not to sway people to believe a certain way,

but to inform them of what referendum 71 is," Joshua Magallanes, from Student Services.

Opponents of the measure did not respond to requests to present at the forum.

A series of Citizen Awareness events will follow the Ref-

erendum 71 Caucus Forum.

These events include the Des Moines City Council Candidate Forum and the Caucus Forum on Initiative 1033.

At both forums, the public can come and see what the candidates have to say.

The City Council Candidate Forum takes place on Monday, Oct. 19, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Building 7.

The Caucus Forum on Initiative 1033 is on Wednesday, Oct. 21, in Building 7 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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Creativity on display at the Library Art and Exhibition Gallery

By SARAH DUPRE
Staff Reporter

Featuring a Disability Time-line and a display of “outsider art,” the fourth floor of the library is hosting an exhibit that compliments Disability Awareness month in October.

Inclusive Arts Instructor Shariana Mundi is teaching classes on “outsider art,” which is displayed in Highline’s library.

Mundi teaches five art classes in Kent at The Resource Center, and one class in Burien at Moshier Arts Center.

Especially for disabled students who just want to make art, outsider art is art with no rules, boundaries, or guidelines, said Mundi.

Lines, textures and shapes all becomes art when you just give someone the supplies.

The art displayed is very colorful and freely painted or drawn.

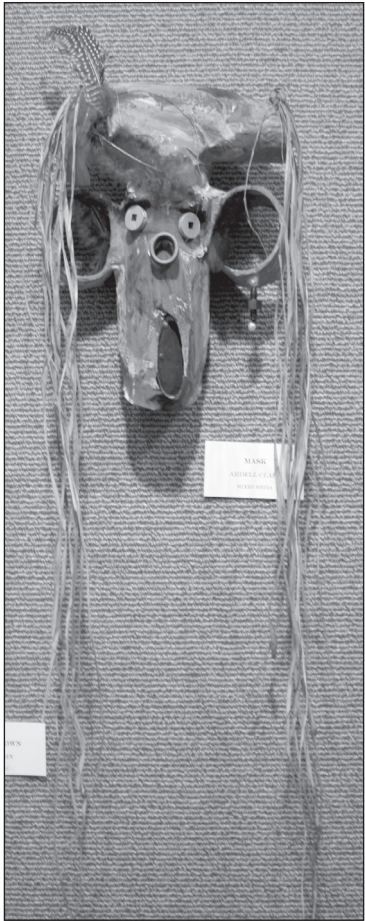
Without rules or guidelines, these students can paint anything that comes to mind, so expand the imagination.

“It’s not about creating a big deal, it’s about having fun,” said Mundi.

Especially the non-verbal students get extremely creative.

Mundi says it gives them the opportunity to give a voice to the world with their art.

Highline has an outreach



Sara Rosario/THUNDERWORD

Left: Mask by Ardell Clapp Above: Einstein by Rchelle Willette Below: Tiger in India by Jean Cavanaugh Just some of the many pieces of artwork being displayed during the month of October at the Library Art and Exhibition Gallery.

partnership with the city of Kent, This allows Highline’s library to have several different art pieces from the community.

Some of Mundi’s students’ art is displayed in the Burien Art Gallery, SeaTac Airport, and offices that work with the disabled.

The second half of the exhibit is the Disability Timeline, which Highline is borrowing

from an organization. The timeline shows the history of the disabled all the way up to the year 2000.

Director of Media Services & Library System Administrator Tom Pollard said that the themes of each exhibit complement an event, holiday or celebration going on that month.

Since this is Disability Awareness month, both parts of the exhibit correlate with that distinct theme.

The outside art will be displayed until the end of October.



Library Gallery hours are Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. If you have further questions about the exhibit, go to www.flightline.highline.edu/exhibits.

Cultures unite for a mix of song and dance

By SARAH DUPRÉ
Staff Reporter

Musician and educator Jah Breeze performed at an Arts and Lecture Seminar on Monday, Oct. 12, demonstrating his reggae talent and culture.

Jah Breeze is an international performer, percussionist, freelance journalist and photographer. He is a musician and an educator, who teaches music classes at summer camps and student retreats.

He talked about African culture and the culture of African music from songs of slavery, to blues, to R&B and then reggae, Jah Breeze also spoke about what reggae music has added to culture.

“Music affects culture, and culture affects music” says Jah Breeze. He demonstrated his skill on a steel drum, a vital instrument for the original reggae sound.

From the very beginning of African music, music helped slaves escape through the Underground Railroad. Follow the Drinking Gourd, for example, is a song that slaves sang that told them to follow the North Star in order to escape, he said.

All the way up until more re-



William Schlepp/THUNDERWORD

Aztec dance group Groupo Tloke-Nahuake preforming cultural dances Wednesday, Oct. 14 in the Lecture Hall.

cent types of music like reggae, it’s always been about culture.

The reggae style is all about “liberation, respecting Africa, and loving your culture” said Jah Breeze.

In addition to Jah Breeze, Gabrielle Ochoa, a local artist and student at Highline, showcased some of her paintings.

Ochoa said that coming from a multi-cultural family helps her to see that you don’t need to stick with your own culture without experiencing others’.

“I want to use my art to touch up on global issues and reach out to make people feel the way I feel about my culture,” Ochoa said. Maureen Somer, from the Inter-Cultural Center, said that since Highline is the most diverse community college in Washington State,

“I want to enhance the cultural awareness on this campus,” Somer said. For further information about Jah Breeze, go to www.jah-breeze.com.



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Highline men’s soccer frustrations continue

By KURTIS LOO
Staff Reporter

Highline’s men soccer frustrations continue as they extended their winless streak to four games.

Treasure Valley defeated the struggling T-Birds 1-0 on Saturday in a physical game that featured five yellow cards, three from Treasure Valley and two from Highline.

Highline dominated Treasure Valley, allowing one shot on goal. It turned out to be the only shot they needed to defeat the struggling T-Birds in what is coming to be a recurring theme.

“We were dominating the game and they got a lucky goal. We had a lot of opportunities to win the game but one mistake cost us the game,” Highline forward Bundu Koroma said.

“We were unfortunate, the first half was sloppy. We did better in the second half, but we gave up one goal and that was all they needed. We need to score to win and we didn’t do that,” Head Coach Jason Prenovost said.

Daniel Nam, leading scorer for the T-Birds, suffered a mild foot sprain in the second half.

The consensus feeling of the team is disappointment and frustration.

Players say it’s frustrating to work really hard and have no results to show for it.

“It’s frustrating. Talent wise we can compete, but it’s just the little details that we need to work on,” Nam said.



Kurtis Loo/THUNDERWORD

Highline midfielder Marco Heredia gets undercut by a Treasure Valley defender. The T-Birds lost 1-0 on Saturday.

“We’ve been losing. Everyone is feeling bad,” Highline forward Rudishi Muschett said.

The T-Birds are tied for third in the West Division with a 5-6-3 overall record and 0-4-3 league record.

For the defending West Division champions, expectations for the T-Birds were set high going into the season.

Prenovost has no doubt in his mind that his team is playing

hard, but the bottom line is that they can’t seem to find ways to win.

Questions Prenovost had about the T-Birds’ effort were answered in the Treasure Valley game.

“I like the fact that they care. There were times during the season where I would question their effort, but I’m not doing that anymore,” Prenovost said.

Prenovost and Nam said that

the best thing to do is move on because what has already happened can’t be changed and all you can do is learn from the past and continue to keep playing.

“There are a lot of worse things than losing a game. We just need to work through it,” Prenovost said.

“We need to pick it up. We can’t dwell on the pass and we have to move forward,” Nam said.

“The great thing about sports is that there’s always another game,” Prenovost said.

The T-Birds played Olympic yesterday. Results from the game were unavailable at press time.

The men’s soccer team will play a home game against Tacoma on Saturday at 4 p.m.

Tacoma is tied for third in the West Division with Highline. They are 1-5-0 in league play.

Women’s soccer prevails over Olympic

By KURTIS LOO
Staff Reporter

Highline women’s soccer fought off first-place Olympic 1-0 yesterday.

Highline forward Shelby Devol hit a shot from 20 yards out into the top corner of the goal in the 55th minute. An assist was credited to Brittany Gannaw.

The Lady T-Birds were able to hold off the relentless attack of Olympic in the final 10 minutes.

“We dug deep and played together. We were tired but we kept pushing,” Highline forward Alicia Adams said.

“We played with a lot of effort and we had good communication. The last 10 to 15 minutes of the game are always the hardest,” Highline midfielder Ava Taylor said.

“It was good to beat the No. 1 team in our division,” Highline defender Devon King said.

The win against Olympic moved Highline into third place in the West Division.



Bill Schlepp/THUNDERWORD

Krystal Rios (left) and Ava Taylor (right) shield off an Olympic player.

The Lady T-Birds have been playing well after a slow start of the season where they went 0-4-1 in their first five games and 2-1-1 in their last four.

The overall play of Highline has improved greatly and is seen in their stats.

Their offense has scored four goals in their last four games. They only scored one goal in their first five games.

Their defense has allowed only four goals in their last four games. They allowed 21 goals in their first five games

The Lady T-Birds fell to Treasure Valley 1-0 on Saturday. Their overall record is 2-8-2 with a 2-5-2 record in league play.

A lot of the credit goes to the playes becoming more cohesive with one another, players say.

Scoreboard



Men’s soccer standings

North Division

League/Pts/Season

Edmonds 3-3-1 10 3-5-1
Shoreline 3-4-0 9 4-6-0

East Division

League/Pts/Season

Tr. Valley 5-2-0 15 5-2-0
W. Walla 5-1-0 15 8-1-0

West Division

League/Pts/Season

Peninsula 4-2-1 12 7-4-2
Bellevue 3-1-2 11 7-3-2
Highline 0-4-3 3 5-6-3

South Division

League/Pts/Season

Clark 6-1-0 18 7-2-0
Chemeketa 5-0-1 16 10-0-2

Women’s soccer standings

North Division

League/Pts/Season

Shoreline 3-1-3 12 4-2-3
Edmonds 3-2-2 10 4-3-2

East Division

League/Pts/Season

W. Walla 7-0-0 21 10-1-0
Tr. Valley 6-0-1 19 5-0-1

West Division

League/Pts/Season

Olympic 4-4-1 13 6-5-1
Tacoma 3-5-0 9 2-5-0
Highline 2-5-2 8 2-8-2
Bellevue 2-5-1 7 2-7-1

“We have more trust in one another. We have lots of young people and we’re coming together to play as one,” Adams said.

“In practice, we do a lot of one-on-ones, corner kicks, free kicks and key plays,” Taylor said.

With only five games left in the season, Highline is in the hunt to make the playoffs.

The Lady T-Birds will have another league game at home against Tacoma on Saturday at 12 noon.

Tacoma is second in the West Division with a 3-5-0 record in league play.

Highline and Tacoma are separated by only one point and a win agaisnt them will move the Lady T-Birds into second place.

Lady T-Birds drop No. 1-ranked Tacoma Titans

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s volleyball team is tied for the top spot in the West Division after taking out Tacoma and Clark.

The Lady T-Birds, 4-1, are in a three-way tie with Tacoma and Pierce for first place in the West.

On Wednesday, Oct. 7, Highline brought the Tacoma Titans back down to earth in four games, 25-22, 18-25, 25-23 and 25-21.

Tacoma, who was first place in the west, 4-0, was also listed as the top team in the Horizon Air / Coaches’ Polls.

Jennifer Mooth, Ashley Nguyen and Paula Miles headed up the offense for the Lady T-Birds with 13, 12 and seven kills, respectively.

Davina Fuiava had 28 assists and Whitney Hodge was an outstanding factor on the defense with 10 digs.

Highline Head Coach Chris Littleman said the win against Tacoma was a big boost for the team.

“It was good for the team because taking out a supposed top team gives them confidence and



Brian Grove/THUNDERWORD

Ashley Nguyen goes for the kill against Clark on Oct. 9.

erases any self doubt they may have as an individual or as a team,” he said.

Littleman also said the win gives the team a new standard of play as well as a lot of mo-

mentum.

“We knew the way we played at Pierce was not at any level we play. We can play better, but it’s just a matter of doing it,” he said.

“It gives us huge momentum because they were supposedly the top team and we beat them. We thought we were supposed to win. It gives us confidence against good teams.”

The Lady T-Birds displayed that confidence on Friday, Oct. 9, when they took on the Clark Penguins.

The Penguins were unable to rise to Highline’s level of play and were sent packing in three games, 25-15, 25-23 and 25-18.

Mooth, Nguyen and Miles were again the kill leaders for the team with 15, 12 and seven, respectively.

Fuiava had 37 assists and Mooth and Alessa Johnson had 10 and seven assitsts and Nguyen and Fuiava had six assists.

Whitney Hodge also blocked two attacks.

While the Lady T-Birds beat the Penguins in three games, they didn’t have the complete control the coaches are looking for.

In the second game, Highline was down early to Clark. They came back to make the score 19-18 Highline, before the Penguins called a time-out.

Littleman said he told his players to finish the game strong.

“The first game we were aggressive, everything was going good,” he said.

“They second game, we just kind of played with them, not trying to take control. I told them all good teams take a lead, hold a lead and know how to finish a team.”

Littleman said the team still needs to work on being a dominating force on the court.

“Playing up beat, killer instincts and wanting to win every point are things we need to want more. But not just wanting it, doing it,” he said.

On Wednesday, Oct. 14, the Lady T-Birds squared off against the Lower Columbia Red Devils in Longview with results unavailable at press time.

Highline women’s volleyball will also play in the Spokane Falls Crossover Tournament from Oct. 16 – 17. They will go against Spokane in their first game on Friday, Oct. 16.

Ashley Nguyen is making a name for herself at Highline

By BRIAN GROVE
Staff Reporter

Lady T-Birds outside hitter and aspiring dentist Ashley Nguyen has a game with some serious bite.

Nguyen, a freshman from Kentridge High School sports Highline’s second best kill total with 109 kills in 42 games.

While at Kentridge, Nguyen broke the school’s record for most kills in a match with 35. The old record was 31.

Nguyen began playing volleyball eight years ago when she was 10.

“I started out just for fun, nothing competitive, but I guess you could say when I hit high school, that’s when it got really competitive,” Nguyen said.

As well as being an outside hitter and middle blocker for Kentridge, Nguyen played on two club teams during her high school career.



Ashley Nguyen

“I played for the Saturday Warriors for two years and then for Wahine on their U18 national team, their best team, in the Puget Sound League,” she said.

Nguyen said she decided to play volleyball because it was something that came natural to her.

“Volleyball was the first sport that kind of came easy to me, so it allowed me to get better at a faster rate,” she said.

“I used to play middle blocker practically my whole life until my junior year in high school because she [her coach] wanted me to get more sets.

“I like outside hitter better because it gives me a different perspective of the court and I get more kills.”

Nguyen said as an outside hitter you typically get a better angle on the ball as well.

Every athlete has something that gets them going before the start of a game.

For Nguyen, that something is a good warm up.

“A good warm up always gets me in my zone. If I have a bad warm up, I have to work harder to get up to my level of play,” she said.

“If my teammates are fired up, it gets me fired up. If you’re intense in volleyball you usually play well because you have the momentum.”

Off the court, Nguyen is also



Highline’s Ashley Nguyen serving it up in a club game.

fired up about her education. She is taking a full schedule at Highline and is aspiring to be a dentist.

“I am currently taking chemistry, calculus and writing, and I want to major in biology. I want to transfer to the University of Washington or Western to finish my four years.

“Then I want to apply to dental school because I want to be a dentist,” she said.

Nguyen’s interest in dentistry started when she had the opportunity to job shadow a family

dentist.

“I find dentistry a fascinating career and I got to see a whole bunch of different procedures which was really interesting. I have a thing for teeth,” she said.

Nguyen said her parents play a big role in her drive for education.

“My parents definitely emphasize getting a good education and doing well in school,” she said.

Nguyen is part of the first generation of her family to live

in America.

“My family’s Vietnamese and my parents came over here I think in the ‘70s. Practically my whole family is in the states now and the majority live in Washington,” she said.

Her parents also attended community college when they came to the states.

“My dad works for Avis Car Rental and my mom does information technology for Boeing.”

Nguyen said between her education and volleyball, she’s not sure whether she will be able to pursue both at the same level of intensity in the future.

“I haven’t really decided if I want to play later because studying to be a dentist requires a lot of work, but it would be hard for me to drop the sport,” she said.

“Even if I don’t play when I transfer, I want to play recreationally.”

Even if she doesn’t play after she transfers, Nguyen said she is having a great time playing for Highline.

“I really like the experience and the group of girls we have are a great bunch. We all get along really well and everyone’s level of play is really high up there,” she said.

“I like competitive teams and Highline really is one of the most competitive teams I’ve played on. Because of that, I think we’ll go far this season.”



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Highline medical assistant students practice the fundamentals of drawing blood in their lab class.

Medical Assisting offers careers

By **RACHELLE ECKERT**
Staff Reporter

Students who might be interested in the medical assisting field are invited to an open house on Oct. 21.

Highline's Medical Assistant Program will be highlighting the Medical Assisting Week by honoring Medical Assistants Recognition Day, Oct. 21.

On this day, the program will be hosting an open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 23, room 210.

Medical students and teachers will get the chance to practice and educate as they take blood pressure. Eye checks will be performed on anyone who is interested.

Medical students and teachers will also present information on self breast exams.

Snacks will be provided.

Medical Assisting Week is a national event recognized by the American Association of Medical Assistants, and is geared toward educating the public.

Highline is celebrating 20 years of participation in this event.

The theme of this year's fes-

tival is At the Heart of Health.

Highline's medical assistant program has approximately 245 students enrolled.

Highline's 90-credit medical assistant program usually takes two years to complete, but clinical class online students can finish in less than two years, said Laurel Lunden, an instructor for the Medical Assisting Department.

The Medical Assisting field is one of the fastest growing occupations, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Medical assistants contribute many services to the medical field, including administrative work – checking in patients, setting up patient charts, and scheduling appointments; clinical work – drawing blood, giving injections, specialty exams; and assisting in minor surgeries.

Once fully trained, medical assistants are qualified to work in ambulatory care settings, medical offices, clinics, urgent care and medical labs.

Highline graduates are eligible to take exams for national certification.

Lunden said she hopes that people will come out and see what medical assisting is all about.

"We would just like to make people aware of their health, see the classroom, and see that there are other health care professions other than nursing," Lunden said.

Phlebotomists need volunteers to practice drawing your blood

By **RACHELLE ECKERT**
Staff Reporter

It's getting close to Halloween and Highline Phlebotomy students would like to take your blood.

Highline Phlebotomy Integrated Basic Educational Skills Training (IBEST) students need volunteers to practice their blood drawing techniques.

Students will be looking for arms to draw from, under the supervision of instructors, Oct. 21-22 from 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in Building 23, room 206.

Highline's Phlebotomy IBEST program pairs English as a Second Language (ESL) and phlebotomy instructors with ESL students to make sure students understand the material.

This two-quarter program is open to 16 qualifying ESL students two times each year.

"It is a very diverse group of students, and is a very team-oriented program," said Babs Cerna, a phlebotomy instructor.

All of the students started practicing this week, getting



close to five draws in one day.

Highline phlebotomy student, Stephanie Stewart said, "I'm getting better and feeling more confident in drawing blood every day."

After students complete the two-quarter program, they receive a certificate of completion and can practice anywhere in Washington state.

Graduated students "can practice in hospitals, clinics and blood donation centers," said Chris Foertsch, an ESL instructor.

Cerna and Foertsch hope students and faculty will come lend phlebotomy students their arms to practice on.



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Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Phlebotomy is one of many careers in the medical assisting field.

Enviromental club is looking to make a difference

By KUMIKO YOKOTA
Staff Reporter

The Highline Environmental Club invites students who are interested in environmental issues to join in this year.

“We are looking for anybody who has an interest because one of our goals is to educate and to let people know what’s going on. Anybody who wants to make where they live a better place [is welcome],” said Christina Dawson, the president of the Environmental Club.

“Everybody has different strengths that they can bring to our club and participate. You know, like if they have a business major, they can give us some economic statistics. Communications will help us to communicate with other organizations that are bigger than us,

stuff like that,” Dawson said. The club focuses on both big projects and small steps to protect the environment.

“Our big project usually is Earth Week, and then, it kind of forces us to have everything else to be smaller events that we want to do, but I don’t want to limit the club to just Earth Week and small events. So, if anybody shows a real passion for something really big to do, then I feel OK with encouraging them to take initiative in order to take on something big,” Dawson said.

Dawson said she pays attention to new ideas and new suggestions that the club’s members have.

“Since the Environmental Club is such a big topic, there are a lot of different things that we can focus on.

“So, I want to make sure



File photo/THUNDERWORD

Environmental Club members will work on the Duwamish soon.

nobody’s passion is being ignored,” Dawson said.

Dawson said she had a positive response from activities the club did.

The last event the club participated, Kent Rock the Bulb, is helping people save money

on their electric bills.

“The volunteers that were working at the booth, they could feel the amazement and shock when people learned how much they would be saving by switching light bulbs,” Dawson said.

Rock the Bulb presented by

Puget Sound Energy delivers free compact fluorescent light bulbs that save energy and money and help protect the environment in Puget Sound Energy’s residential electric service area. Kent Rock the Bulb was held on Oct. 3 and 4 at Low’s of Kent.

The next event the club is going to participate in is with the International Student Program called Duwamish Alive on Oct. 17. It is a clean-up project on the Duwamish River.

They will remove plants that are not good for the environment.

The Environmental Club meets on Wednesday at 2:30-3:20 p.m. The club has a website, <http://hccenviroclub.ning.com/>, and a location of the meeting is to be announced there. Also, Dawson can be reached at chrssyd@gmail.com.

Change looms for the computer science field

By TAYLOR GARFIELD
Staff Reporter

With a low number of women in computer science fields, teachers around the United States have been inviting kids to wonderland to join in on Alice, a computer program aimed at middle schools to increase awareness of the field.

Alice was created by Randy Pausch and a team of researchers from Carnegie Mellon University. It allows people of all different ages to have fun and create 3-D animated worlds without having to go through all the steps of making command scripts, and other technical computer programming.

Tina Ostrander, a computer science professor at Highline, presented this week’s Science Seminar on the computer program Alice. She focused on how Alice was used by teachers to “decrease the huge gender gap,” in computer sciences.

With around 150,000 to

160,000 job openings available in the computer science field, a lot of them paying high salaries, it was puzzling why there aren’t more women in computer science jobs, Ostrander said.

Researcher’s beliefs of why there aren’t more women in computer science jobs vary.

Is there some kind of ability gap? Do women tend to not have the personality of a computer programmer? Do they tend to stray away from the work field because of what some have claimed to be a sexist work place? Some even claim that there was unequal access to resources in the field, or maybe they just don’t want to have the perception of what society views a computer programmer to be, a nerd who stays in their mother’s basement playing games all day.

Ostrander said, “Girls normally have decided what career path they want to take before entering college.”

That statement points to the

lack of computer science classes in middle schools and even high school. Girls are not getting introduced to computer sciences while they are young, so therefore not choosing a computer science major.

Teachers everywhere are introducing Alice to middle

school students, in hopes that in time, “It [Alice] will be a tool that we are hoping will attract more women into the computer science field,” Ostrander said.

For more information on Alice, or to download it for yourself, you can go to their website at www.alice.org.

There will be no Science Seminar this week because of the campus closure on Friday. The next scheduled Science Seminar is on Oct. 23, in Building 3, room 102 from 2:20 to 3:10 p.m. The topic will be on “Food Addictions” by Professor Anne Whitson.

UW SEATTLE TRANSFER

Planning to transfer to the UW in the future?
Don't miss out on this event:
UW Seattle advisors will be at Highline CC to meet with you and answer questions.

The following UW departments will be represented:
Admissions, Academic Advising, Financial Aid, Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, UW Tacoma, UW Seattle Evening Degree Program.

Tuesday, October 27; Anytime from 10 am-1 pm
Highline Student Union, Bldg 8, first floor-Mt. Constance

Interested in majoring in psychology at the UW Seattle?
An advisor from the UW Psychology department will be on campus to give a presentation on applying to the major. She will cover required grades, application deadline, prerequisite classes, etc.

When: Tuesday, October 27 at 1:30 pm (Bldg 21, Room 201)



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Bookstore

continued from page 1

from getting back much of the money they originally may have spent.

Students can still return the textbook, but not the other materials within the bundle. Students are always encouraged to see if they can sell back whatever they bought, Nole said.

Another tactic publishers use is offering "chopped up" versions of textbooks, Nole said. These are texts that contain chapters of specific interest to the course instructor.

These texts are considered specialty and can only be purchased from the publisher.

Nole said that students caught onto this and have realized that they can still buy the used version of the entire text at a cheaper price.

Nonetheless, Nole said the bookstore is hard at work trying to provide incentives for students to purchase and return books.

Students will receive 50 percent of the cost of a new book whether the book they return is new or used. This is specifically meant to encourage students

to sell back their books to the bookstore.

A brand new incentive this quarter is gift cards. The bookstore has offered students a 10 percent cash incentive for returning their textbooks if they put the money on a gift card instead of taking cash.

For example, if students bring in their textbooks for the buyback and the books are worth \$100, a student will receive \$110 if he or she puts that money on a gift card.

The money on the gift card can be used to purchase any item in the bookstore.

The gift card incentive is not only meant to get students to sell back their books, but to bring in money to the bookstore, Nole said.

"The bookstore is a self support, non-profit," Nole said.



Laura Nole

That means the bookstore is not looking to make money off the students, she said. Any money they make goes to the college.

"We only want to make enough money to pay our own expenses," she said.

The bookstore costs \$185,000 a year to operate.

This total includes \$100,000 to help pay off the construction debt for the Student Union Building and \$85,000 in overhead, Nole said.

"The bookstore is responsible for these debts whether they make the money or not," Nole said.

"We are working hard and finding all the resources we can to keep prices as low as possible and still keep operating," she said.

As of late, Nole has been researching e-books. Although e-books cannot be sold back to the bookstore, the prices are low enough that it offsets the cost, she said.

Nole said she thinks e-books might work best for online courses since you do not need to take a textbook to an actual classroom.

"But in the long run it's still best to buy a used book and sell it back," she said.

Marriage

continued from page 1

spring. This decision was based on the fact that she had met her prospective husband before.

She met him five years earlier at a family party, and was surprised and excited to see that his picture was among the photo proposals her family sent her.

Also, she knew of his family and how his parents raised their children. She respects her husband's family and was excited to be a part of it.

The couple talked for two weeks before she flew to Fiji. The day after she landed they got engaged and the week after she arrived they got married.

Sumer was married to her husband in Fiji, June 6, 2009.

"You are supposed to cry during the ceremony, but I couldn't stop smiling," she said. Though her wedding day did not go exactly as she envisioned it, Sumer was happy to be marrying the man of her choosing.

Now she is waiting for her husband's papers to come through so he can be with her in Washington. Until then, he remains in Fiji.

"Waiting for my husband's



Maureen Sumer

visa is hard," Sumer said.

She did not anticipate the paper process for entrance into the U.S. taking this long, but there were some filing issues that have given the couple a setback.

She expects his arrival by the end of this year. "I haven't seen my husband for four months, and that's sad," Sumer said.

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