

## INSIDE

May 13, 2010  
Volume 49, No. 26



### Theater students yell 'Action!' as directors/P6



### Lady T-Birds snag victories to avoid last-place finish/P10

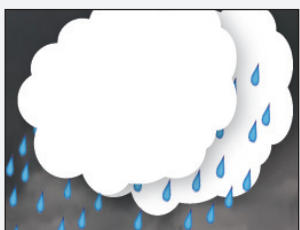


### Student finds niche in fencing academy/P12

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#### Weekend Weather



Partly cloudy on Friday, rain on Saturday and showers on Sunday.

For full forecast, see page 16.

## Graffiti taints Highline campus

By **OTHMAN HEIBE**  
Staff Reporter

Graffiti has increased on Highline's campus as more buildings get tagged on a daily basis.

"Graffiti has long been an issue on Highline's campus, but, as of recently, the volume has increased. It happens daily and a number of buildings, such as Building 27, 25 and 29 are graffiti magnets," said Barry Holdorf, the director of Highline's Facilities Department.

These buildings are all on the lower part of campus.

Campus Security is responding to the matter, however, in variety of ways to thwart the taggers. It has increased its routine foot patrols to areas plagued with graffiti, and it is getting help from Highline students, faculty and staff, who are reporting it as soon as they notice it.

"I consider here at Highline like home," one student said. "I spend many hours here and certainly broken windows or graffiti decorated all over the walls won't make anyone feel safe here, does it?"

Campus Security and the Fa-

cilities Department try to quickly remove graffiti as they spot it. This strategy has worked and made graffiti writers frustrated, officials claim.

"It makes them really frustrated," said Sergeant Demetria Guillen at the Campus Security office, "because we're taking it down really fast, and after a while, they probably just get tired and bored with the whole thing."

The Des Moines Boys and West Side gangs are the most active participants, scribbling

See Graffiti, page 15

## Candidates contend for Highline's election vote

By **DANIEL HOWELL**  
Staff Reporter

Five candidates are vying for the opportunity to be the two new leaders of Student Government next fall.

The candidates made their cases at a forum Wednesday in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union

The three contenders for the office of President are Olga Afichuk, Shaquita Pressley and Jagdev Singh.

Olga Afichuk is currently serving as vice president and is running in part to continue work on issues she has been a part of during her current tenure.

"There are initiatives that we started this year, such as the Highline Classifieds for book and other resource-trading for Highline students, the Sustainability Policy and the statewide tuition and financial-aid reform, that I want to pursue further on a more legislative level," Afichuk said.

Afichuk also says she is an advocate for college accessibility at the legislative level and worked on what issues that students wanted presented to state leaders at the Legislative Academy Winter '10.

"I was one of just over 10 people in the state of Washington to help write the proposed issue concerning tuition affordability, and financial-aid accessibility. As president, I hope to present this issue to our legislators and pursue college accessibility," she said.

Shaquita Pressley is currently the president of the Black Student Union and says she wants to improve the student experience on campus.

"I plan to work very hard. It's good now, but there is room for improvement," she said.

"I hope to change the parking situation," Pressley also said. "The worst times for parking are between 9-11 a.m. Maybe we can work with teachers to



Afichuk

## Dancing around the globe



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Highline students *Phuong Vo* (left) and *Mike Le* perform a traditional Vietnamese dance during their performance at the eighth annual GlobalFest last Saturday. They were among nine other performances. See page 8 and 9 for story and pictures.

## Ex-student faces murder charge

By **CAITLYN STARKEY**  
Staff Reporter

A former Highline student is one of four people charged in the murder of an Edgewood man last month.

Joshua Nathan Reese, 20, of Tacoma, who briefly attended Highline a few years ago, was

charged with the first-degree murder of James Sanders, first-degree robbery and second-degree assault.

According to documents filed in Pierce County Superior Court on April 28, Reese, along with Kiyoshi Higashi, Clabon Berniard and Amanda Knight, showed up at Charlene and

James Sanders' house. They arrived on the pretense of buying a diamond ring from the couple after they had posted it on Craigslist.

After Charlene Sanders answered the door, the four entered the house and proceed to

See Reese, page 16

See Election, page 3



## Crime and Punishment



### Highline's softball team van vandalized

Security was called on Saturday, May 8, reporting that Highline softball team's van was vandalized while the team was playing.

It turns out, theft had also occurred. The team left the van unlocked and someone had gotten into it. The thief took several students' bags along with equipment and personal items.

The Des Moines Police Department was then contacted to make a report.

The team left several contact numbers in case any of the gear is found on campus.

### Vehicle stolen from East Parking Lot

A student's car was stolen from the Highline East Parking Lot.

The gray Ford Escort was stolen at around 1:40 p.m. on Friday, May 7.

A security officer conducted a cursory check of all the lots, then notified Des Moines police of the theft.

### Bottle thrown at back door of library

An employee from the Library contacted Campus Security reporting that someone had thrown a bottle at the back door of the library.

The employee said that he found glass thrown out from the back door, but no one was in the area. When Security arrived the library was quiet.

### iMac stolen from classroom

A faculty member reported an iMac computer was stolen from Building 16, room 156.

There was no sign of forced entry according to Campus Security. The incident was reported on May 7, but it took place on May 4, between 6 and 7:30 p.m.

### Restroom graffiti found

Grffiti was spotted on the second floor of Building 29 on Monday, May 10, in the men's restroom stalls.

Pictures were taken and Facilities was notified to clean up the graffiti.

— Compiled by  
Othman Heibe

# Student leadership positions open to all

By VICTORIA SADDLER  
Staff Reporter

Student Programs is hiring people for the fall. Applications are due May 17.

"We're looking for students who will give back to the community. We want the students we're hiring to know that they're dealing with their fellow students and helping to shape the student body," said Natasha Burrowes, assistant director of Student Programs and Diversity.

Student Programs is looking for students to be leaders among their peers, and not be afraid to mingle with their fellow classmates.

Student Programs wants them to stand out from the rest of the student body, Burrowes said.

A total of 14 positions are

open, including positions in Student Government and the Design Team.

The Student Government application, which covers the position of caucus chair, president and vice president, club consultants, Blend music coordinator and Volunteer Fair Committee chair, is due on May 17. There are 11 open positions.

The Design Team is made of graphic designers who have knowledge of graphic design computer software to make flyers, posters, banners, invitations, handbills and other materials to help the program. There are three positions available and applications are due May 14, Burrowes said.

Training for Student Programs and the Design Team will run Aug. 30 through Sept. 17.

"The training consists of

workshops and preparing you for the work you will do during the year. In addition, students will spend time doing advance planning for the year's events and activities," Burrowes said.

For the Student Programs application, students need a resume, an essay, one complete application information form.

Two completed skills evaluation sheets, one from a employer or community member, and one from a school faculty or staff members and a Highline transcript, Burrowes said.

For the Design Team students need a cover letter, a resume, three professional references, (names and contact information), computer skills summary sheet and a portfolio including three to five projects the feel represent his or her best work.

Students should attach a note to their portfolios explaining

why they think these three to five projects are their best work. Also, indicate what programs you used to create the projects, Burrowes said.

In addition, if they are turning in an application for the Design Team, students will have to take a timed design test (approximately two hours), utilizing one or more graphic design programs (for example, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign or Macromedia Freehand, Burrowes said.

All applicants will attend a group interview on Monday, May, 24 from 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Finalist for these positions will be selected from the group interviews, Burrowes said.

Applicants must drop off application materials in The Center for Leadership and Service at the Student Union, on the third floor.



## News Briefs

### Former Highline employee dies

Services will be Friday for Wilma Barton, a longtime Highline worker who died this week.

Barton worked for Highline as a fiscal technician lead in accounts payable for over 25 years.

She began at Highline in June 1971 and retired in February of 1997.

She received the Highline Employee of the Year Award in 1995.

She died at age 80.

The memorial for Wilma Barton will be at 11 a.m. at the Federal Way United Methodist Church, 29645 51st Ave. S., Federal Way.

### Officials expect computer interruption

All Highline network servers and services will be unavailable on Friday, May 14 from 3 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.

All of the following services will be unavailable: E-mail, network shared drives, web servers, online services for students, Angel, access to Administrative Systems and access to the internet.

Facilities will be doing some work on the electrical system in Building 26, which may suspend the power source to the server room.

The server administrators are

using this time to perform upgrades and patches, Highline's systems.

Everything should be back to normal by 7 a.m.

### Donate shoes to help souls in need

Donate unwanted shoes to those in need.

All kinds of shoes are needed: sandals, athletic, dress shoes, boots and flip flops.

Deposit boxes are located in the Student Union Building, outside the Bookstore, the upper and lower levels of Building 6, inside the main level of Building 29 and other locations.

The shoes will be sent to Soles 4 Souls, which distributes shoes to over 125 countries and Dress For Success, in the United States.

### Clothing available for graduating students

Free clothes are available at the Clothing Closet.

The Clothing Closet is a program for graduating students who have little funding to get free clothing.

The closet will be held all day in the Student Union's Mt. Skokomish room on Friday, May 28.

### Calendar

•This week's Science Seminar is titled "Sonic Booms, Skulls and Tsunamis: some examples from the world of wave physics."

The seminar will be presented by Andy Piacsek from Central Washington University and



Photo by P.J. Chen

Highline Professor Susan Landgraf teaches English at Shanghai Jiao Tang University. She will be there for all of Spring Quarter.

will take place on Friday, May 14, from 2:20 to 3:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

•An Arts and Lecture will be

feature Gary Nelson on Tuesday, May 18, from 11 a.m. to noon in Building 6 in the Inter-Cultural Center Lobby.

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# New energy meters to be installed across the campus

By **ANDREY PILIPCHUK**  
Staff Reporter

Metering of energy and gas systems are no longer just a desirable feature for buildings, it is now a necessity.

Washington State has adopted legislation and is requiring Highline to put gas and electric meters in every building over 10,000 square feet to help the college's carbon footprint.

College officials will enter all energy use in a database required for all state agencies, colleges and universities.

"These meters will help us specifically identify how much electrical consumption each building uses," said Barry Holdorff, the director of the Facilities Department.

The Environmental Protective Agency Energy Star Portfolio Manager is an interactive energy management tool to track and assess energy and water consumption across the entire portfolio of state agency buildings in a secure online environment.

The portfolio manager software, database, data storage, technical support and training will be provided by EPA at no cost to state agencies.

Agencies will use the portfolio manager to identify underperforming buildings, verify efficiency improvements, track agency goals for reducing energy use, and collect building energy use data for reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

Highline will install 18 electric meters total on campus and 16 gas meters will also be required but that won't happened anytime soon because there is no money for gas meters right now.

Building 26, the Administrative Technology Building, will have two meters installed.

"The only reason we are put-



Chuck Kibbie/ THUNDERWORD  
*Meter of energy and gas use will be installed across the campus with the hope of decreasing Highline's carbon footprint.*

ting two meters in 26 is because between that AT and Facilities departments we felt it important enough to know what kind of specific electrical energy we are using to power the AT server room and the other meter will measure the entire building's electrical energy usage," Holdorff said.

The AT building provides the equipment and hardware necessary to server up software such as Angel and day to day networking services such as connectivity and wireless connections.

The financial issue is the biggest problem in order to install all these meters.

"Using operating money from the budget, 18 electric meters with labor, design and material will cost \$73,000 and 16 gas meters will cost even more, over \$100,000," said Holdorff.

"It's challenging because it's a nonfunding mandate, while we want to be in compliance the budget typically dries what we can or can't do."

All buildings that are 10,000 square feet or larger are required to be in the Washington General Administration Energy Star Portfolio by July 1, 2010.

"Our goal at Highline is to have all of it done by then but I am hoping we will finish as early as mid-May," said Holdorff.

## Election

continued from page 1

adjust the times of core classes."

Other leadership activities that Pressley has been involved with include being a regular attendant of the Student Caucus, a student ambassador as well as helping gather volunteers for Global Fest.



Pressley

Jagdev Singh is new to Highline politics but is eager to become involved.

"I have a lot of leadership experience, it would not be hard for me to adjust to the position of president," he said.

He said his main goal is: "to build a student body that is ready to accept the diversity of our world."

His prior leadership experience includes fundraising for U g a n d a n children and being an officer in his high school DECA club, which helps s t u d e n t s learn the skill



Yin

of marketing.

The two candidates running for vice president are Jenny Yin and Vince Dominguez.

Jenny Yin, 18, is the youngest of all the candidates running.

While admittedly shy, she said becoming involved in the extra-curricular activities has been one of the best things she has done in her life.

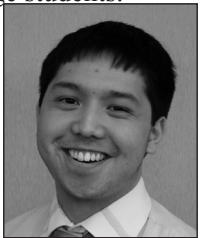
"I am not the strongest, but I think if I become vice president I can become the voice of our students. I want to be there to help because when I came here I did not know who to talk to," she said.

Yin is currently a member of the WISE/SWE club, which supports women interested in

the fields of engineering, physical sciences, math, and technology and also helped with the annual egg drop held in front of the Student Union.

Vince Dominguez wants to unite all college students.

"I really hope that we can unite students from different campuses to advocate for their *Dominquez* educational needs," he said.



Some of his other goals include making it a priority to meet with students as well as to network with faculty in order to retain the quality of education at Highline.

He said his dedication makes him qualified to hold office. He commutes to Highline at 5:30 every morning from Lynnwood.

Dominguez's current campus activities include being a part of the Student Legislative Action Committee, a front desk assistant, the decoration committee for Global Fest as well as a member of the S & A budget committee.



E l e c - *Singh* tions will be held on May 19 and 20.

Students can vote by picking up a ballot at the polling booth in front of the bookstore, or at [www.highline.edu](http://www.highline.edu) where there will be a link to vote.

"I really hope that we can unite students from different campuses to advocate for their educational needs."

-- **Vince Dominguez,**  
**Vice President**  
**Candidate**

# Planning day for students to connect with advisers

By **JEREMY LEE**  
Staff Reporter

Highline is planning another campus-wide advising day to encourage students to meet with faculty advisers.

The event will be held for May 20 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and it will be in the Mt. Constance room in the Student Union building.

"The purpose of the advising day is twofold: First we want all of our faculty to be more involved in student advising. As faculty we are expected to fill this role as part of our contrac-

tual obligation," said Rod Fowers, a psychology instructor at Highline.

"Second, and perhaps more important: we want students to be able to meet with a representative from any department on campus even if they only think they might be interested in a particular discipline," said Fowers.

"The advising fair will make all of the departments visible in one area so that students can 'shop around' or get specific advice for their degrees," Fowers said.

Jeff Ward, department coor-

dinator of the business program, said seeing a faculty adviser can help students avoid some of the pitfalls of self-advising so they don't end up having to take extra classes when they thought they'd be graduating.

Tables will be set up with laptop computers, course schedules, and academic planning sheets and each student will sit and talk with the advisers about their academic goals.

"Individual instructors can offer specific advice to students who plan to either complete a certificate here or who are planning to major in a specific dis-

cipline at a four year school. Each program and discipline has unique requirements and it's best if students meet with someone who knows what those requirements are," said Fowers.

"For example, if a student is planning to major in Psychology at the University of Washington, any of the Psychology faculty can advise students specifically in that area of study," Fowers said.

"Students should talk to advisers because advisers have knowledge, experience, and the desire to help and can help students focus on an area of study,

then navigate the best possible route towards achieving their educational goals," Ward said.

This event gives all of the programs and departments on campus an opportunity to be visible to students and to answer questions.

"We think it's very important for every student to have an adviser. Advisers were once students too, and can help students think through their areas of personal interest with educational goals and future career possibilities in mind," Ward said. "To every student: Get an adviser; he or she wants to help you."



Editorial comment

We must challenge ourselves

Diversity is a big thing at this college. We're majority-minority. The racial demographics alone in the 2008-2009 school year broke down to 19 percent Asian, 19 percent foreign/other/multiracial, 14 percent African-American, 12 percent Hispanic, 2 percent native and 34 percent white. Most of this campus' students are non-white. Those numbers do not, however, represent the full breadth of diversity on campus. Uncounted are the number of students that consider themselves gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered. Still more students may consider themselves simply "queer," a once-offensive moniker now taken back by many of the younger generation. These numbers are all inherently hard to track. Other areas of diversity can include age, religion, ability and background. With a majority-minority population attending campus, the Unity Through Diversity Week events represent an important opportunity for us all to challenge ourselves about our assumptions concerning discrimination.

Although the response people have when confronted by their own prejudices are not always ideal, they are important nonetheless. Some ideas are hard to take in. Not everyone is ready or willing to try to grow and learn, or to listen to ideas that make them feel uncomfortable or even guilty.

The thematic center of this year's Unity through Diversity Week, the exploration of privilege, is especially hard for many to accept. The idea that oppression can come not just from what is said, done, or thought, but what some people do not have to say or do or think, is hard to swallow.

Despite the denial many people feel, however, the really important thing that Unity through Diversity Week sparks is conversation. When we're faced with ideas that challenge us and our assumptions, we grow and learn, even a little. We sit down and talk about what's still wrong with the world.

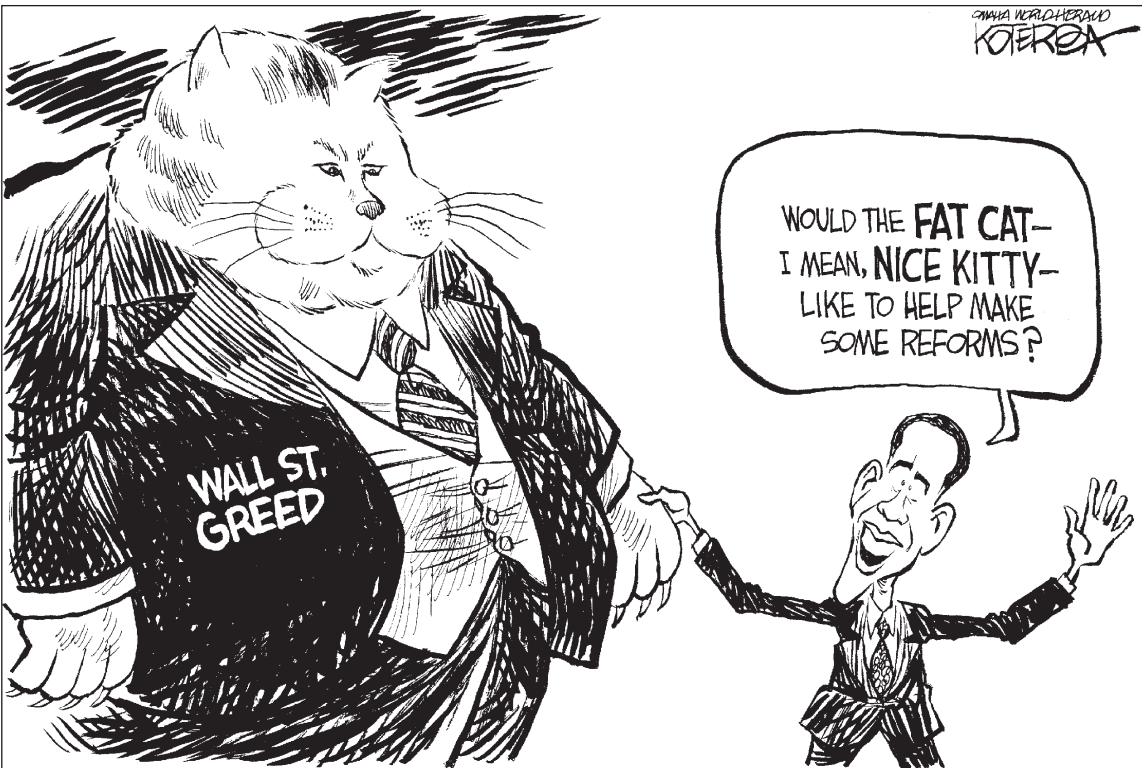
There is a lot of inequality that still remains. Racial and sexual slurs are still thrown at people every day. Economic disparity is still rampant. Hollywood and shows on TV still perpetuate hurtful stereotypes and we still, all too frequently, buy into them. That's why events such as those held during Unity through Diversity week are so important. It's a trap to only think of how far we've come, or even how far we have to go.

We should aspire to go further and be better, not dread it.

Staff

I've never seen so much gold lamé in my life.

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Arizona law is just a symptom

I feel like I'm in the Twilight Zone. That's the only way I can articulate the way I feel. It's the twilight zone and it's all up in my American politics.

The recent law in Arizona requiring the police to inquire about the citizenship status of anyone that could potentially be an illegal alien is ugly.

There's just something innately wrong when it sounds like a law in the U.S. is authorizing, even requiring, figures of authority to demand your papers--and not just demand them, but demand them for reasons that most people agree are almost always going to be based on race.

The situation seems to be much worse though.

I know in some ways other states are almost as foreign as other countries, but at least when weird crap happens in another country, you don't have that sickening sensation that they're in some fundamental way your kin. Intellectually, you know you're the same species, but you can pretend that your culture, and the other country's culture are somehow intrinsically different. You can write it off.

Not the case with American craziness.

So when a GOP candidate for the Iowa state legislature, Pat Bertroache, was recently quoted



Commentary  
Nicholas McCoy

advocating for the microchipping of illegal immigrants, I had the unfortunate experience that I can't just stick my fingers in my ears and pretend it's not happening.

His exact words were: "I think we should catch 'em, we should document 'em, make sure we know where they are and where they are going. I actually support microchipping them. I can microchip my dog so I can find it. Why can't I microchip an illegal?" Bertroache said.

Although this yahoo is not in a position of power, and hopefully after making that comment, won't be any time soon, this showcases the sort of thinking that is a plague on this (and every) country.

That thinking is the idea that the basic human dignity of others is somehow less than your own.

This thinking is evident in the Tea Party protestors who, a few months back, spat on black and gay congressmen, shouting violent, hate-filled epithets at

them. It's evident in a recent Newsweek column, "Straight Jacket," by Ramin Setoodeh, that launched into a tirade about how gay actors are somehow lesser than straight actors, insisting that straight men can play gay convincingly but that gay men can't play straight.

It's evident in the CBS news program that featured bigoted commentators calling transgendered people unfit to be school teachers, in some ways mirroring the hate-filled attempt decades ago to prevent gay people from teaching in schools.

And it is evident in the recent law in Utah that, in attempting to prevent some women from trying to induce a miscarriage on purpose, actually introduced a law that could potentially criminalize any miscarriage.

All of these are symptoms in a larger trend that has been going on for a long time of denying others the dignity we ourselves demand. If we are to consider ourselves civilized, we must strive to recognize and correct these injustices.

Write to us

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

Tell us your name and include your relationship with the college.

Letters should be no more than 200 words.

Commentaries should be 600 words or less and arrive no later than Monday for publication that Thursday.

Please provide contact information for confirmation purposes.

Submissions may be condensed and/or edited for spelling, grammar and length.

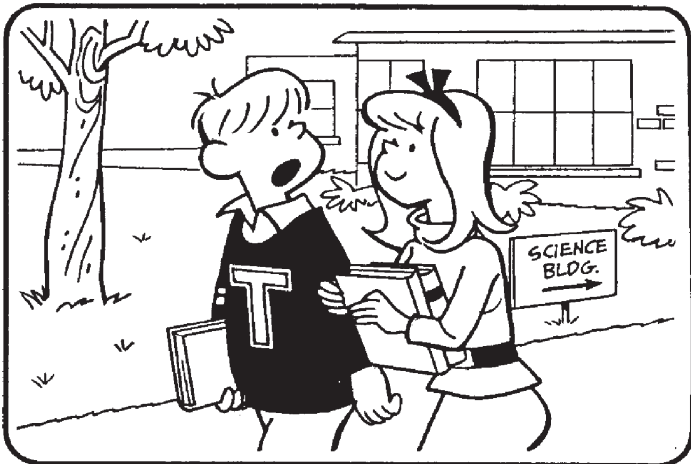
To provide a submission, contact nmccoy@highline.edu.



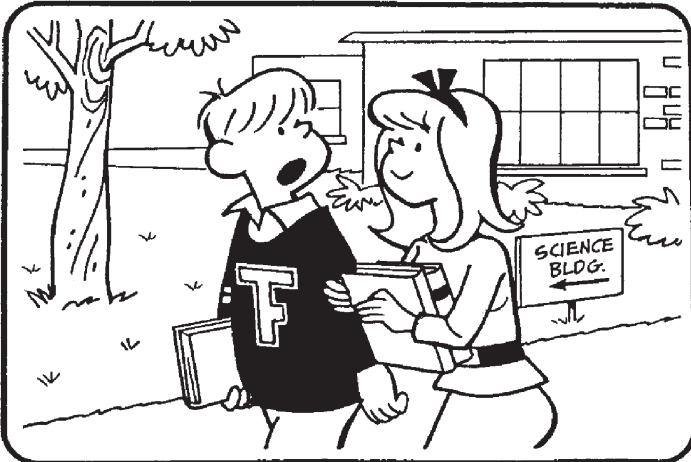


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Letter is different. 2. Arrow direction has changed. 3. Girl's collar is different. 4. Window is missing. 5. Bricks added to building. 6. More tufts of grass by tree.

Animal Products

Across

- March marchers
- Soothing ointment
- Doozie
- Compel
- Primp
- Keats creation
- Kids who are easily frightened
- New York player
- Actress MacGraw
- Old French coin
- Yoga class need
- Asleep
- With brevity
- \_\_\_ standstill
- Part of CNN
- Big name in computers
- DII doubled
- TV lawyer Van Susteren
- Indian title
- Some wings
- Upturned, as a box
- Coloring
- Happy hour seat
- Certain palms
- Genetic inits.
- Null's partner
- Pottery oven
- Fixed
- Most likely winner
- Runaway pair
- Legal scholar's deg.
- Ending for Pam
- Carpentry tool
- From \_\_\_ Z
- Bathtub toy
- Frank
- Wheel turners
- Skylit courts
- Naval rank: Abbr.
- English university city
- One's early years

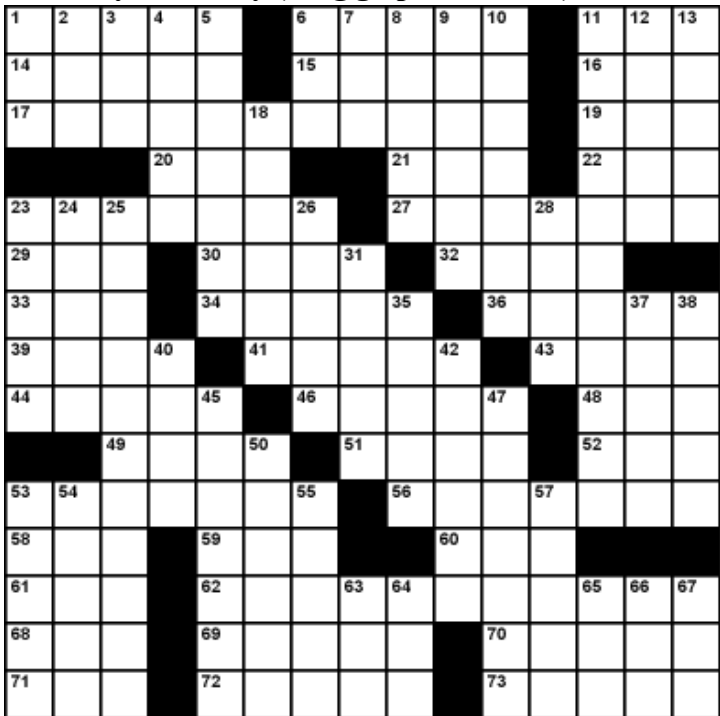
Down

- Conditions
- Mythical bird
- George Gershwin's brother
- Throw out
- Obeying a dog school command
- Mole
- Circle segment
- Smallest
- Rejected by Obama
- Guarantees
- Gym apparatus
- Perfect
- Small-minded
- Mexican moola
- Handles
- Listing
- Conditioned reflex subjects
- TV's Ifill & others
- Bed support
- Porterhouse, e.g.
- Actress Dickinson
- Word before ear or peace
- Defeats
- Chimney coating

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Crossword 101

By Ed Canty (Ed@gfrpuzzles.com)



? Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: The country of Belize is located in what part of the world?
- HISTORY: In what country did the 1960 Sharp-ville massacre occur?
- LITERATURE: In what city and state did poet Emily Dickinson live almost her entire life?
- MEDICAL: What part of the body does Bell's palsy affect?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: A strong, cool wind called the Mistral is associated with which country?
- MYTHOLOGY: What kind of creature was a griffin?
- TELEVISION: Which character on *The Addams Family* spoke the catchphrase "you rang"?

- THEATER: Which play's title character was nicknamed The Demon Barber of Fleet Street?
- LANGUAGE: What is an ewer?
- MOVIES: In the Disney movie *Aladdin*, how long was the genie inside the lamp before Aladdin released him?

Answers

1. Central America
2. South Africa
3. Amherst, Mass.
4. The face - Bell's palsy causes paralysis of facial muscles on one side.
5. France
6. A lion's body with an eagle's head, wings and claws
7. Lurch
8. *Sweeney Todd*
9. A vase-shaped pitcher or jug
10. 10,000 years

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Last week's crossword solution

ALL THAT GLITTERS



May 21, 22, 28, 29, June 4, 5 at 8 p.m. and May 22, 23, 29, 30, June 5, 6 at 2 p.m.

The theater is located at 3200 SW Dash Point Road in Federal Way.

To purchase tickets call 253-661-1444.

•Got arts news? Contact the arts editor, Stephanie Kim by calling 206-878-3710, ext. 3317 or by e-mail at [skim@highline.edu](mailto:skim@highline.edu).

highline.edu. Campus events get priority but all events are welcome. Please include time, date and location of the event, plus contact information.

Arts Calendar

•Highline's Drama Department will be hosting one-act plays directed by Highline drama students. Performances will take place on May 19, 20, 21, 22 at 8 p.m in Building 4. Tickets will be \$8 for general admission, \$7 for students. To purchase tickets call 206-878-3710 Ext. 3156. •Center Stage Theatre presents *'Aint Misbehavin'*, a look into the swing era through the eyes and music of Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller. Performances will be on

Last week's												
Weekly SUDOKU												
Answer												
8	9	3	6	5	7	2	1	4				
6	2	7	1	8	4	5	9	3				
1	5	4	9	3	2	7	6	8				
4	6	5	8	1	9	3	7	2				
9	3	2	4	7	6	8	5	1				
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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The Thunderword / May 13, 2010

# Theater students take stage as directors

By THUNDERWORD STAFF

Five theater students will sit in the director's chair for Highline's annual Spring One-Acts next week.

The event will run from Wednesday, May 19 – Saturday, May 22, starting at 8 p.m. in Building 4, room 122.

The event will feature seven plays, two directed by drama professor Rick Lorig and the rest by student directors.

Tickets are \$8 for the general public and \$7 for students and can be purchased 30 minutes prior to the shows.

Directors of this year's shows include:

**Jared Stratton** - *The Still Alarm*

Stratton has spent the last three years at Highline and this year, he has the opportunity to direct one of the acts for this year's Spring One-Acts.

Being the youngest of four children in his family, Stratton always felt like he had to do something to outshine his older siblings.

"I'm the youngest of four and I always had to find ways to fight for attention," Stratton said.

"I always liked [acting] since I was a kid so it never really confused me," he said.

It was in elementary school Stratton had his first opportunity to be on stage, he said. However, it wasn't until he

reached high school that he was on stage to act.

Stratton got interested in acting after watching the movie *Ace Ventura*.

"I always wanted to be like Jim Car-

ey," Stratton said.

Stratton hopes to expand his acting skills by going beyond just Jim Carey movies.

"I'm still discovering new movies and actors to look up to," he said.

Stratton credits British actor Sir Laurence Olivier as one of his inspirations to act.

"I want to be as talented as him," Stratton said.

Although Stratton is directing *The Still Alarm*, he will also have the chance to show his acting skills in both of Rick Lorig's plays *The Spot* and *Funeral Parlor*.

"I would love to keep acting," Stratton said.

"There's some aspects of directing I'm not particularly good at," he said.

Although Stratton hopes to focus on acting, he believes having directorial experience will help him become a better actor.

*The Still Alarm* is set in the early 1920s in a British hotel room. Two businessmen learn there's a fire in the hotel and the storyline is based around that.

"People should expect to relax a little and be prepared to laugh," Stratton said. Theater attendees are never sure when it's appropriate to laugh, but "with these shows, it's OK."

**Brenan Grant** - *Making the Call*

Grant is no stranger to the theater world. He has been doing theater since high school and has spent the last three years with the drama department at Highline.



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

Megan Krogstadt and Spencer Wright during a rehearsal of *Wonderful Party!*

He directed one of the acts for last year's Spring One-Acts, but took Winter Quarter off to focus on his acting.

The actor has done two shows with local theater Breeders Theater and, most recently, with the Tacoma Little Theatre.

"I did a lot of the performance side and technical side," Grant said. He will be designing lights

for this year's One-Acts.

"You learn a lot about acting by directing," he said.

"*Making the Call* is about two people who are very different and are thrust into an awkward talk," Grant said. "I don't want to give away too much."

"It's a very indecisive person... I can't say any more," he said.

Grant found his passion in theater when he was in high school. He played guitar for four years, but realized he couldn't make a career from it because "I was terrible at it," he said.

"Theater's the only one that'll have me right now," he said.

**Tyler Arns** - *The Tarantino Variations*

Student Tyler Arns chose theater as a very "last-minute" choice.

After taking two quarters off, Arns decided he wanted to come back to school.

"I was trying to get back in school after taking maybe two quarters off and I felt that if I didn't get into a class that quarter, I wasn't going to come back at

all the next quarter," Arns said.

His theater professor at the time, Dr. Christiana Taylor, pushed his limits and that's what kept him doing theater.

"I wanted to see how far I could push myself as an actor and to see how far I could push myself as a director," Arns said.

As a third-year student at Highline, Arns was finally given the opportunity to direct one of the plays for Highline's annual Spring One-Acts.

Arns will direct *The Tarantino Variations*, a spoof of Quentin Tarantino's film *Reservoir Dogs*.

"I liked the pace and the comedy the play had and the way it spoofed, but paid respect to the work of Director Tarantino," Arns said.

Although Arns is working with theater right now, he hopes to take his experience in a new direction.

"My real goal is to publish comics that I

wrote and drew, but I really do want to build this off as a career," he said.

"I would like to be credited first as a writer/director, but if acting builds off first, I'm fine with that."

**Megan Krogstadt** - *The Actor's Nightmare*

One actor's nightmare is fueling the dreams of another.

Megan Krogstadt is the 20-year-old director of *The Actor's Nightmare*, one of Highline's Spring One-Acts.

The play's theme is centered on the consequences of not following your dreams.

Krogstadt got involved in drama in elementary school. During one play, she was scouted for an acting school, and although she attended for a few weeks, it was too expensive for her to attend permanently.

"[I thought,] 'I want to be an actor. It'll be so awesome,'" Krogstadt said.

In high school, she joined the drama club, and in the two years she has been at Highline, Krogstadt has focused on drama.

"Drama has become my life," she said.

Majoring in drama, Krogstadt plans to either teach drama or do theatrical make-up.

"I fell into it last quarter," she said. With some encouragement, Krogstadt started her directing class, where she said she got a culture shock.

"All of the sudden, you're responsible for a whole bunch of people," she said. Instead of only worrying about her part, Krogstadt now has an entire cast to manage, as well as the design aspects of costumes and lighting.

Krogstadt plans to start auditioning in Seattle to get some new experiences.

**Ashlee Owen** - *Wonderful Party!*

Ashlee Owen has found her passion in theater.

Owen has been a student in Highline for three years and has never stopped taking drama classes or acting.

"I spend most of my time in the Drama Department and all my friends are here with me," said Owen.

For the first time, Owen will be directing a play, called *Wonderful Party!*, by Howard Korder, as part of the Spring One-Act shows.

"It's a lot more work than I thought it would be but it's also really fun and it has definitely helped me to gain leadership skills," Owen said.

Owen will also be

acting on stage. She will play Betsy in *The Spot*, directed by Rick Lorig, and playing Ellen in *The Actor's Nightmare*.

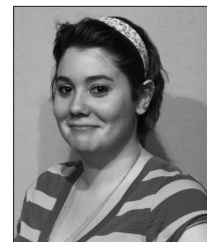
"This is my first and last time directing because I love acting more," Owen said.

"I wish more students came to the shows because we do have a lot of talent and everyone has been improving," said Owen. She also said she enjoys acting for many reasons.

"The biggest reason I love acting is that it's so fun and if you're not having fun, then you shouldn't be acting and that's what I've been taught and always try to keep in mind," she said.

After Highline, Owen wants to transfer to a Western Washington University to take acting again and pursue her passion.

Reporters Stephanie Kim, Alisa Gramann and Andrey Pilipchuk contributed to this story.



Krogstadt



Stratton



Grant



Arns



Owen



# Redemption offers thrills and kills in Old West

By **SAMUEL E. TIMLICK**  
Staff Reporter

Set your spurs in place for game developer Rockstar's latest attraction, *Red Dead Redemption*, an open-world, western-style action/adventure game.

*Red Dead Redemption* is a third-person shooter set in 1911 in various parts of Mexico and the southern United States. It is a new take on the classic western setting because it takes place later than most westerns, just as the mythical old west was dying out.

*Redemption* will offer a single-player story along with a well-designed multiplayer version, both with a surfeit of items and customizable options.

An open-world game is one that is not set on a linear path. It gives the entire landscape of the game for players to roam at any point in the game.

A third-person shooter is a game in which the camera is set from a third-person perspective where players watch the main character as they control his actions.

"I'm really looking forward



Gunfighters duel at high noon in a screen shot from the new game Red Dead Redemption.

to running around the west, shooting people and getting involved with the story. [The story] looks well-done and complex," said Louie Villalobos, editor of [www.thegameraccess.com](http://www.thegameraccess.com), a video game website.

The story of *Red Dead Redemption* traces the tales of John Marston, a reformed outlaw, through his search for members of a gang he used to belong to.

For many gamers, *Redemption* may appear to be *Grand Theft Auto* with horses, but it offers much more than that.

An unprecedented amount of items and options will accompany *Redemption*'s single player and multiplayer.

"I think the online game play will be a major step up for the sandbox genre [a sandbox game is an open-world game with a plethora of items in the environment the player can freely interact with at any time] with

much more customization," Villalobos said.

*Redemption*'s multiplayer version is innovative and compelling in that it allows up to 16 players to join an online game and complete tasks anywhere in the game's world as a group.

This flexibility allows players to roam the game's world freely (gamers would call this a free-roam game) before choosing a different game mode with all characters in the game.

"Although I'm mostly looking forward to the single player, mainly for the story, I think the online will be really good because of how much there is to do," Villalobos said.

Villalobos said what makes *Redemption* unique is the vast, open world Rockstar has created, explaining that Rockstar has a lot of experience with open-world games, so, "*Red Dead Redemption* should be great."

*Redemption* is also very aesthetically pleasing, thanks to its vast open territory, high level of visual fidelity and accurate representation of historical items.

Besides a few game play elements and small similarities in the main characters' visual appearances, *Red Dead Redemption*'s story has nothing to do with *Red Dead Revolver*'s story, also a western-style shooter made by Rockstar San Diego, a unit of New York-based Rockstar.

Whether playing single player or multiplayer, gamers will have the option to kill and skin wild animals and sell their furs to locals of any nearby town. Players may then use their profits for buying new weapons or outfits for their character.

A special and unique feature of *Redemption* Rockstar has implemented into both the single-player and multiplayer versions

is known as dead-eye-targeting, which has three levels.

The first level of the dead-eye-targeting system allows players to slow down the action while shooting enemies for a short period of time.

The second level allows players to mark a single enemy with multiple bullets while time temporarily slows down. The marked enemy is then riddled with a fury of bullets.

Finally, the third level of dead-eye lets players mark multiple enemies at a time, while time is slowed, for multiple takedowns at once.

Many gamers may see the dead-eye-targeting system as a good, fun idea, but Villalobos isn't as sure.

"Any sort of auto-aim in online can be problematic. In single player, it's OK, but for online it can turn into an entire match of auto-aim. If it's available only in certain situations, then that's cool."

At its core, *Red Dead Redemption* is a massive shooter for players with different preferences and play styles.

"If you like sci-fi shooters and care most about online multiplayer, then this might not be for you," said Villalobos. "If you like third-person shooters like *Gears of War*, open world games like *Grand Theft Auto*, or old westerns, then give *Red Dead Redemption* a try. If you don't like it, then it's not for you but you can at least give it a shot by renting it."

*Redemption* will ride into retailers this coming Tuesday for \$59.99 on PS3 and Xbox 360.



## Rainier Symphony imports music from Hollywood

By **JIN YOON**  
Staff Reporter

The Rainier Symphony is having a Symphony Pops concert with a movie theme.

"This is our final concert for the 2009-2010 season. This is our Symphony Pops concert, which is always very popular," said David Waltman, music director and conductor of Rainier Symphony.

"This year, we will be playing music from several movies, including *Titanic*, *Star Wars*, *ET*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and *Superman*. We will also be playing a lot of familiar marches and other exciting music," Waltman said.

"I have been conducting for about 28 years and I wanted to be a conductor since the first time I heard Richard Strauss's *Eine Alpensinfonie*, when I was about 7 or 8 years old.

"We just performed that piece on our last concert and that was the first time I have gotten to conduct it," he said.

Waltman will conduct with Ilkka Talvi, who is concertmaster at Rainier Symphony.

"Talvi will perform all pieces with us, since he is the principal first violinist of the orchestra," Waltman said.

Talvi was initially a self-taught violinist, beginning his studies in elementary school.

He first soloed with an orchestra at 10 years old and played a recital in Helsinki at the age of 15.

Talvi has performed as a soloist and in recital in many European countries, as well as in many U.S. cities.

At age 13, he received his first teaching position and at age 20 became a faculty member at the Sibelius Academy, Finland's leading conservatory.

The first show will be Saturday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, 400 S. Second St., Renton.

Sunday's showing will be at 3 p.m. in the Foster Performing Arts Center, 4242 S. 144th St., Tukwila.

Tickets can be purchased at [www.rainiersymphony.org](http://www.rainiersymphony.org) or by calling 206-781-5618. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for students/seniors and free for 12 and under.

## Blend performer mixes different musical genres on one instrument

By **ADRIAN SCOTT**  
Staff Reporter

Local musician Dante Wallen will perform in Highline's Student Union next Wednesday.

Wallen will perform in The Blend, Highline's series of free concerts in the Bistro, Wednesday, May 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Performers are usually college students.

Wallen is a trumpet player and plays many different types of music.

"I play jazz, classical, pop and international music," he said.

Wallen has attended many schools and also has won awards when he was enrolled.

"When I attended Shoreline

Community College, I received an award for outstanding performance," Wallen said.

Wallen said after a while, playing a song becomes easy.

"After practicing a song, it later becomes natural," he said.

Wallen said he is ready for his performance and expects a good show.

"I plan on playing La Virgen De Macarena for sure," Wallen said.

"Accepting the gig was the hardest decision," he said. "I'm a student at the same time as well."

Wallen is currently a student at the University of Washington.

Wallen hopes everyone will have good time and enjoy his performance.

"Everyone is invited to attend these performances," he said.



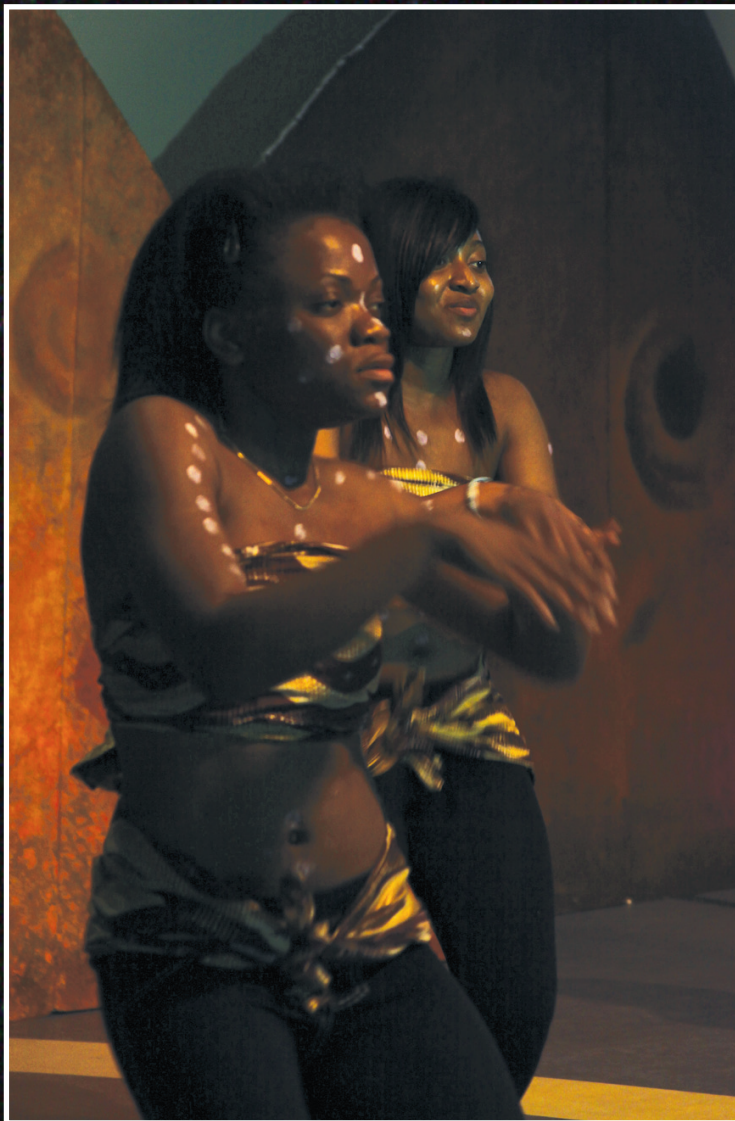
The Thunderword / May 13, 2010

# GlobalFest glimmers with



Photos by Cody Warf

*Clockwise from top left: Suel Lee playing Korean drum (Buk); Ryan Smith singing his original song It's Raining in Seattle; Yusaku Nagata, Mizuho Matsumoto performing a traditional dance (So Ran Bushi); Luna Cheng writing names in Chinese characters; Mira Kim, Dahe Kim, Sarah Kim, Seung Min Hwang, Liz Kim, Jessica Chang performing a traditional Korean dance (Talchum); Thelma and Liz Odoh dance to the rhythm of African drums; Viviana Penaranda, Laurent Anaya dance with partners in a Latin dance.*





# h food, music and dance



**By STEPHANIE KIM**  
Staff Reporter

Guatemalan pyramids and kites, Brazilian masks, African drums, traditional Asian dresses and dances from all over were present to celebrate Highline’s eighth annual GlobalFest.

With 10 performances and a fashion show, the International Student Programs hosted GlobalFest last Saturday, May 8 to celebrate the diverse cultures and traditions that make up Highline.

Highline has more than 400 students from 35 different countries.

“One of the great things is that students have a rich education through diversity,” Highline President Dr. Jack Bermingham said at GlobalFest.

Students are able to experience firsthand the different cultures at Highline by attending events like GlobalFest, he said.

Associate director of International Student Programs, Amee Moon, has been directing the annual GlobalFest for the past four years.

This year’s GlobalFest is different from the past ones because “we had a lot more countries from the Arab world,” Moon said.

“Japan, Korea, Vietnam and China went all out [this year],” she said.

Students said they had a variety of reasons as to why they wanted to participate in this year’s GlobalFest.

Student Zozan Shamdeen was born in Iraq, but has been living in the United States for the past 14 years.

She wanted to do an Iraqi culture booth because Iraq

has not been represented in past GlobalFests.

“[Iraq] is not just what people see on the news,” she said.

Hiroaki Matsuzawa of Japan wanted to participate in GlobalFest to remember his Japanese identity.

Lesly Aguilar represented Guatemala. Unlike other countries, she was the only one representing her country.

“She’s proof you don’t need to have 25 people,” Moon said.

Student Anja Cazacu of Germany wanted to represent her country to break German stereotypes and also to represent a European country.

“There are no other European country representation [this year],” Cazacu said. “Everyone thinks we walk around with sausages, sauerkraut and beer,” she said.

“In America, people say, ‘America is the land of freedom,’ but in Germany, we say, ‘Germany is the country of poets and thinkers.’”

People such as Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Friedrich Schiller, Martin Luther, Emmanuel Kant and Karl Marx are all from Germany, she said.

GlobalFest 2010 was Liz Odoh of Nigeria’s third time participating.

“I love to dance, I like being creative and getting other people involved in the creativity,” Odoh said.

“It’s fun seeing all the different cultures,” said Mercy Tolo of Liberia. “Some people don’t have the opportunity to see different cultures [otherwise].”

Student Ricky Ulim of Indonesia wanted to represent his country to educate people.

“[Often I hear], ‘Indonesia is India, right?’ What? No,” he said.

Paul Park of Korean heritage participated in last year’s GlobalFest, but felt this year’s was more successful.

“Last year was more limited,” Park said. However, this year, more returning members came back who know what has to be done, he said.

Last year, students of Korean heritage were not able to perform the traditional dance, talchum, but because there were more returning members this year, they were able to perform it.

In preparation for GlobalFest, they practiced their dances every day for about two months.

Similarly, Taiwan practiced their dances extensively.

“The weekend before GlobalFest, we practiced six hours a day,” said Taiwanese student Luna Cheng.

“I saw the video from last year’s GlobalFest and I thought it would be cool to be a part of it,” she said.

“I don’t think a lot of people understand U.S. culture; how eclectic [it is],” said Theophilus Human, who represented the United States.

“[Our culture] is pretty much people coming from all over the world. We’re creating a new culture,” Human said.

“[The event] gets bigger each year, very spectacular,” Dr. Bermingham said. “It’s so great for so many different reasons.”

“There are a lot of things going on with diversity, but with GlobalFest, it is different. There are more international students with GlobalFest,” Moon said.





# Fastpitch shows promise for next season

By **BRIAN GROVE**  
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s fastpitch team began the season with a common goal: to get better and be competitive.

And after two and a half months of softball, Highline Head Coach Gary Graf said the team has done just that.

“Their total knowledge of the game has really gotten better,” Graf said of his team. “They’re not making the mental mistakes that they were at the very beginning. We still drop the ball every once and a while, but that’s just outright practice and sometimes focus. But honest to goodness their total game has really improved.”

Highline, 4-24, squeaked out of the lastplace spot in the West Division, which buried the team for most of the season, after beating Grays Harbor, 5-4 and 5-2 last Friday, May 7. Grays Harbor, 3-25, finished in last place in the West.

The next day, May 8, Highline took on the Pierce Raiders in their final two games of the season. Pierce clinched the West Division title, sweeping the Lady T-Birds handily, 7-0 and 13-3.

In the first game, Highline was tied with Grays Harbor at two runs a piece when freshman centerfielder Evan Tullis hit an inside-the-park home run to put the Lady T-Birds up 3-2. This was the first Highline home run of the season.

Tullis said she just thought to “run fast” after she hit the ball.

“It wasn’t in my head that it was going to be a home run. He [coach Graf] stopped me at third, but then I still saw that they were fumbling with the ball. I was like, ‘I’m going. You’re not taking a home run away from me by telling me to stop,’” she said. “I mean I knew I could make it, so I did and I was stoked to get the lead and we stayed up after that.”

Highline Pitcher Faith Baldwin



Hoang Nguyen/THUNDERWORD

*Sable Moton swings at a pitch from Maggie Stamper of Grays Harbor. The Lay T-Birds had 12 base hits against Stamper in their 5-4 victory against the Chokers.*

win said she thought the team played well against Grays Harbor.

“As for the team, I think we did really well and it definitely showed we can be competitive and we can work our hardest and win.”

However, Baldwin was more critical of herself.

“For me, I think I could have pitched a little bit better. But even then I think I had 13 strikeouts [she did] with both games though, so I was really proud of that.”

Baldwin also said she was glad she didn’t have very many walks.

Throughout the season, Baldwin has arguably gotten more experience than any other pitcher in the NWAACC.

She said her attitude toward pitching has changed throughout the season and has somewhat embraced being the team’s only pitcher.

“Before I was like ‘I don’t want to do this at all,’ but now it’s like ‘This is really fun,’ and I think the fact that I have faith in

myself to be able to pitch different pitches like my change-up and drop ball.”

Baldwin added a drop ball to her repertoire over the season.

Although the season didn’t end on a high note in the losses to Pierce, Graf said he was still happy with how the year went.

“This has just been a blast, I’ve had a great time. I love these girls, they work hard. It’s a great group and they’ve improved tremendously. Overall, I’m real pleased with the season,” he said.

Even though Graf has coached softball for 13 years, he said has still learned new things. Not necessarily about the game, but about coaching at the collegiate level.

“You’re always learning,” he said. “You’re learning how to handle the girls a little bit better but the game is a game, it doesn’t really change much. You learn how to leverage what you have a lot better. Learning how to help the balance with their work and their school is something I’ve never had to

deal with before, so that’s something else I’ve got a better understanding for.”

Graf said his focus is still the same now as it was at the beginning of the season.

“As far as coaching goes, it will always be more about their growth than it is about the wins.”

With regard to next season, Graf also said the future of Highline softball looks bright.

“We’ve been recruiting, and right now if the verbal agreements I have out right now come

through, we should be looking completely different next year,” he said.

After having only one pitcher this season, Graf has focused on taking care of the issue.

“I’ve got some more pitchers and some real solid catchers, and some real solid athletes coming down here that I believe will really fit our mix well.”

Still, Graf said he’s looking for attitude over skill.

“I’ve been very careful about recruiting great attitudes and good athletes because I believe if you’ve got a good attitude and you’re a great athlete I can help make you what we need you to be here. I’m actually really looking forward to next year because the talent I have on verbals right now is really good, real strong.”

Highline fastpitch will resume next September when the Lady T-Birds start their fall season.

If you are interested in playing softball next season, contact coach Graf at 206-369-8659 or [txfarg@hotmail.com](mailto:txfarg@hotmail.com).



Gary Graf

## Scoreboard



### Women’s fastpitch standings

East Division	
League	
Wenatchee Valley	21-5
Walla Walla	18-8
Columbia Basin	17-9
Spokane	16-10
Blue Mountain	10-16

Treasure Valley	10-16
Yakima Valley	8-18
Big Bend	4-22

#### West Division

League	
Pierce	23-2
S. Puget Sound	18-8
Centralia	18-12
Green River	17-12
Highline	4-24
Grays Harbor	3-25

#### North Division

League	
Shoreline	20-2
Bellevue	17-5
Everett	16-6

Olympic	12-10
Peninsula	6-16
Skagit Valley	4-16
Edmonds	1-21

#### South Division

League	
Clackamas	14-4
Mt. Hood	14-4
Lower Columbia	10-8
SW Oregon	10-8
Chemeketa	3-15
Clark	3-15

### Men’s baseball standings

#### East Division

League	
Columbia Basin	20-4
Yakima Valley	18-6
Treasure Valley	15-9
Walla Walla	13-11
Spokane	10-14
Blue Mountain	9-15
Wenatchee Valley	7-17
Big Bend	4-20

#### West Division

League	
Lower Columbia	18-3
Tacoma	13-8
Green River	12-9
Centralia	10-11
Pierce	9-12
Grays Harbor	1-20

North Division	
League	
Edmonds	14-6
Everett	13-7
Skagit Valley	12-8
Bellevue	14-10
Douglas	9-11
Olympic	5-15
Shoreline	5-15

#### South Division

League	
Chemeketa	16-8
Clackamas	15-9
Lane	15-9
Mt. Hood	13-11
SW Oregon	9-15
Linn-Benton	4-20



# Warming up: a dynamic part of exercise

By **BARB GILGER**  
Special to the Thunderword

Although they tend to be neglected by many people, a proper warm up and cool down are integral to most athletic activities.

Proper exercise preparation not only warms the muscles and prepares them for work, but also decreases the risk of injury and facilitates optimal muscular performance.

Unfortunately, many people don't know how to correctly prepare their bodies for physical activity.

For example, many exercisers still engage in the outdated practice of performing static stretching prior to exercise instead of doing an adequate warm up.

A static stretch is performed when isolated muscles are stretched and typically held for 10 seconds or longer. The current research on pre-exercise static stretching indicates that it may be counterproductive and possibly dangerous to stretch a cold muscle.

In addition, static stretching isn't sport specific, since most athletic activities don't require a large range of motion to perform them.

It may also contribute to decreased force output and hinder the performance of explosive movements due to micro-tears in the muscle fiber.

A more appropriate approach for most activities would be a dynamic warm up.

This is done through move-



Chuck Kibbie/THUNDERWORD

*Darin Smith demonstrates the leg swing, a dynamic stretch, which has different purposes and effects than static stretching.*

ment of the muscles about to be worked and generally tends to warm up the whole body.

An example of a simple dynamic warm up sequence would be arm circles, high knee walk,

butt kicks (jogging while kicking your butt with your heels), jumping jacks, walking lunges, and leg swings.

These dynamic movements get the blood circulating, el-

evate the heart rate, lubricate the joints and warm the muscles and body core. Essentially, you are preparing to move by actually moving.

When performing a dynamic

warm up, you should progress from low to higher intensity movements.

It is also important to always maintain control and attempt smooth, fluid movements instead of using bouncing or momentum to extend the range of motion.

This type of uncontrolled movement can place strain on muscles and other tissues, causing injury.

Vigorous exercise, such as running, should be followed by a short five to 10 minute period of a low intensity cool down, such as walking.

This helps move the blood that has pooled in the legs back to the heart and generally helps ease the body back to normal functioning.

This would also be the appropriate time for static stretching since the muscles are still warm and elastic.

When doing static stretching, slowly move into the desired position until you feel tension, but not pain. Hold the stretch in that position for 10-30 seconds and then relax.

Since it is typically not nearly as enjoyable as our chosen athletic endeavors, many people may be tempted to skip a proper warm up, cool down and post-exercise stretch.

However, warming up and cooling down the body, as well as stretching at the appropriate time, can help improve performance, decrease the chance of injury and can be a challenging and fun addition to your overall workout routine.

# Students learn new skill that may save lives

By **NEELI ABBASI**  
Staff Reporter

A group of students at Highline have been taking blood from other students.

Volunteer students from Highline have been helping Highline's phlebotomy I-BEST students practice and demonstrate their blood-drawing skills.

The phlebotomy Integrated Basic Education Skills Training (I-BEST) program at Highline is designed to help English as a Second Language students who want a career in phlebotomy.

It is a two-quarter program; the first part is the introduction to phlebotomy and is taught by an ESL teacher, Christopher Foertsch.

"I help the students understand the basics of phlebotomy and main parts," said Foertsch.

The second part of the program is taught by lead instructor Babs Cerna.

This part is mostly hands-on



Cody Warf/THUNDERWORD

*Shannon Crowl looks on as Terren Pubque draws her blood for the phlebotomy program.*

and the students are tested accordingly.

"When drawing blood or just

getting prepared, we divide the students into three groups. One group welcomes the volunteers

and the other draws blood, while the third team stocks [gets lab ready for the next group of

patients]," Cerna said.

Every phlebotomist needs to do the steps in a certain order, Cerna said.

"I enjoy my class and have a close relationship with my classmates. I also like how my instructors teach and are so helpful," said Rosa Lopez, a student in the phlebotomy I-BEST program.

"When it gets closer to the end and the students are getting ready to graduate we help them by having an office day once a week so they can work on their resumes to find a field job for when they go out," said Michael Green, phlebotomy instructor.

"Students keep track of how many times they drew blood by writing it on the board and the more blood they draw the better it looks on their resume," said Green.

For more information about this program contact Babs Cerna, lead phlebotomy instructor, at [bcerna@highline.edu](mailto:bcerna@highline.edu).



# Fencer learns new skills to help his academy

By **MAX DUBBELDAM**  
Staff Reporter

Highline student Kevin Mar is sharpening skills for his fencing business.

After a lifetime of studying, Kevin Mar turned his 13-year passion for fencing into his profession.

Mar started the Washington Fencing academy together with co-founder Serge Timacheff. Mar created the curriculum used at the academy and is the executive coach.

Mar has accumulated around 500 college-level credits over his college career, and when he walks after Summer Quarter, he will receive six different degrees and certificates that he plans to apply to his fencing academy.

Mar will receive a business degree, an international business and trade degree, a marketing and sales degree, a small business and entrepreneurship degree, a tutoring certificate and a project management certificate.

“Obviously I enjoy schooling or else I wouldn’t have taken so many classes, but that’s a part of who I am,” Mar said.

Before studying at Highline, Mar studied a variety of different subjects at both Shoreline Community College and Seattle Pacific University.

When Mar originally went back to college he checked out all of the different physical education classes and was bored with the selection because he had done all of them before.

“When I saw fencing I went like ‘ooooohhhh’, what boy doesn’t want to do fencing?” Mar said. “I always wanted to be a pirate.”

After the class had ended, though, Mar didn’t know if there was any way to continue fencing. He said that years later a friend of his went fencing and asked him if he wanted to come along.

Mar practiced with his friends there and found out that he was pretty good at it.

Mar spent a number of years competing at local, regional, national and international levels. But together with coaching,



*Executive coach and founder of the Washington Fencing Academy Kevin Mar, right, scores a point against his opponent during a bout.*

it became too much work.

“I got to the point where I had to come to a decision,” Mar said. “I would rather do coaching because I could have a larger impact on people.”

It was four years later (2002) that Mar met his now business partner, Serge Timacheff, and decided to try and start a fencing academy.

Mar said that he was at a fencing camp when Timacheff contacted him about starting an academy but said that he only wanted to do it with him.

“His feeling was that if [he] worked on all the business stuff, and if he never had to run a class he’d be OK with it,” Mar said. “On the other hand, if I never had to any of the business stuff and I could run the classes I’m okay with that.”

The academy Mar and Timacheff set up is called Washington Fencing Academy.

Washington Fencing Academy has about 10 different locations in the Puget Sound area. They teach in schools, churches and community centers since they don’t have a fixed facility yet.

“We’re kind of in our first stage of our business plan. The second stage is that we’ll have a fixed location with satellite locations surrounding it,” Mar said. “We’re constantly looking for places because for business it’s location, location, location.”

Washington Fencing Academy currently has five coaches who travel from location to location.

Mar said that they brought in other coaches with a lot of talent. These include former Venezuelan world team epee fencer Eugenio Salas and former Israeli national champion Arthur Urman.

“I wrote a curriculum that is a mix between martial arts and the Boy Scouts,” Mar said. “Right now in fencing, unless you’re competing, you don’t know you’re getting better.” Mar said that only about 15 percent of the fencing population competes actively, and that the other 85 percent don’t know if they’re getting better.

“The new executive director for the USFA (United States Fencing Association) is actually looking at my curriculum as something to roll out,” Mar said.

“I was a youth leader for a long long time over at the church where I grew up. So I just grew up teaching and mentoring,” Mar said. “And when I started developing our curriculum, what I wanted to do was build things so that they’d build on one another.”

Mar’s curriculum has 101 different levels. The first five levels are: body, mind, spirit, teamwork, and competition. He said that the next five levels depend on what the student wants to learn.

“In essence what happens is that after you go through the full curriculum is that by the

end you will be nationally rated in two weapons, you’ll be a nationally rated referee, you’ll be a nationally rated armorer, and you’ll know how to compete and know how to teach,” Mar said.

Mar said that fencing is a good workout and more importantly a fun workout. He said that the youngest student he’s ever had was 5 years old, and that the oldest one was 85 years old.

If you are interested in learning more about fencing, or if you want to enroll in a class, go to [WashingtonFencing.com](http://WashingtonFencing.com), or call them at 425-922-6388.



“I got to the point where I had to come to a decision. I would rather do coaching because I could have a larger impact on people.”  
- Kevin Mar

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**For more information, contact Nancy at [nwarren@highline.edu](mailto:nwarren@highline.edu) or 206-878-3710, ext. 3343**



# Speaker reveals crisis in Congo

By **ANDREY PILIPCHUCK**  
Staff Reporter

The ongoing crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo is an enormous issue that demands attention worldwide, a speaker said here last week.

It has been the world's deadliest conflict since World War II and some 5.4 million people have died from war-related causes since 1998 due to the fight over the rich natural resources of the country.

Kabale Musavuli, a guest speaker from the Friends of Congo, visited Highline to explain this concern to students and how everyone could play a role to make a change.

"This is the greatest humanitarian challenge of our generation and each and every one of us can do something to make a difference in Congo," said Musavuli.

The Friends of the Congo is an advocacy organization based in Washington, D.C., and was established at the behest of Congolese human rights and grassroots institutions in 2004, to work together to bring about peaceful and lasting change in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The minerals found in Congo such as coltan, the blood mineral of Congo, is a key to the technology industry worldwide, said Musavuli.

Coltan is a black, tar-like mineral found in major quantities in Congo and the country possesses 64 percent of the world's reserves of coltan.

Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi are the primary exploiters of coltan in the Congo, Musavuli said.

When coltan is refined, it becomes a heat-resistant powder that can hold a high electric charge.

The properties of refined coltan are vital elements in creating devices that store energy or capacitors, which are used in a vast array of electronic devices, especially in mobile phones, laptop computers, video cameras, pagers and many more electronic devices, according to the Friends of Congo website.

Once the coltan is processed and converted to capacitors, it is then sold to companies such as Nokia, Motorola, Compaq, Dell, Sony, Ericsson, Alcatel, and Hewlett-Packard for use in a wide assortment of everyday products.

The minerals go through a whole chain of buyers, traders, companies and middlemen. Foreign multi-national corporations have been deeply involved in the exploitation of coltan, Musavuli said.

Tens of thousands of people are working as miners in Congo, including children.

Child labor and widespread rape of women by soldiers is becoming an increasing problem in the region.

The work conditions are horrible and civilians work long hours with rarely any breaks.

Starvation and disease have killed hundreds of thousands and the fighting has displaced 2 million people from their homes, he said.

Mined much like gold, coltan is found by digging large pits in riverbeds, with armies of miners scraping away dirt to get to the coltan underground.

Most of the mines are controlled by the rebels, and some are controlled by the army, and there is competition between corrupt generals and rebels.

Local militias get supplies of food, money and military hardware in exchange for smuggled resource riches, he said.

Reports from the United Na-

## Look out below



Cody Warf/ THUNDERWORD

*Highline students watch as a raw egg, along with its protective landing material, fall apart in midflight from the third floor of the Student Union onto the ground below. This drop was part of the annual Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) Egg Drop that occurred this last Monday, May 9.*

tions Security Council said the huge coltan profits are fueling the war and allowing a large number of government officials, rebels and foreigners to amass as much wealth as possible.

All this can be prevented and solved peacefully if people take the right actions, Musavuli said.

According to Musavuli, this

is a historic opportunity for this generation to positively affect the change in Congo.

"One day, Congo will see an end to this and realize enormous human and natural potential," Musavuli said.

Students at Highline can do many things to help the crisis in Congo, he said, such as learning

more about this issue and sharing with friends, reaching out to elected officials and asking for help, gathering on campus to do fundraisers, recycling electronics and doing equipment drives.

"This generation could be a part of history and leave their mark on humanity," Musavuli said.

# MaST opens doors for free elementary school camp

By **ELIZABETH ELTRICH**  
Staff Reporter

Elementary-school children will have the opportunity to learn about marine life in the Puget Sound this summer.

Highline's Summer on the Sound 2010 Marine Science Camp will be held this July for students entering fourth, fifth and sixth grades.

The camp is offered to only 25 students and will focus on scientific exploration of the Puget Sound and the intertidal zone in particular.



Rus Higley

The campers will have the chance to learn about many dif-

ferent topics.

Topics that will be discussed will include methods for measuring the chemistry of seawater, sampling biodiversity, fish anatomy and marine ecosystems through art.

"I hope that [the students] discover a passion and a sense of ownership, making them want to take care of the Sound," said Rus Higley, an oceanography and marine biology professor.

It is a week-long camp beginning on Monday, July 12 through Friday, July 16 from

9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The camp is free, but donations can be made through the Highline Foundation.

For the application, the students will need a one-page letter explaining their interest in science and why they want to attend the camp.

Students will also need a letter of recommendation from a teacher (preferably science) or someone besides a family member.

Lastly, the students will need to submit a hand-written lab report for an experiment they have

done inside or outside of school.

The experiment should demonstrate their understanding of the scientific method.

"We will be judging the lab write-ups against applicants from the same grade.

"We won't be comparing apples to oranges, just apples to apples," Higley said about the lab reports required as part of the application.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on May 28.

For applications and more information, go to [www.highline.edu/mast](http://www.highline.edu/mast).



The Thunderword / May 13, 2010

# New grants will help students get up to speed

By **EMILY INNOUVONG**  
Staff Reporter

Highline has received two grants from the Gates Foundation to help faculty ensure students succeed in college-level classes.

In February 2010, Highline applied for a math grant and received news this month that it will get a total of \$120,000 over two years.

The program has already begun, starting with Math 81.

“Full redesign goes into effect with all classes in fall of 2010,” said Dr. Helen Burn, a professor in the Mathematics department.

The focus is on precollege math because math is one of the “major barriers to students completing degrees,” Dr. Burn said. The success rates are less than 60 percent in general.

The grant will help instructors and fund summer institutes that will help with the execution of the precollege mathematics curriculum redesign.

With the grant, Highline’s



Dr. Helen Burn

overall goal is to improve the teaching and learning environment of the precollege curriculum and to establish the “process of faculty inquiry around outcomes assessment that will lead to better student engagement and learning,” Burn said.

The grant will benefit students in the precollege courses by reducing the number of precollege classes needed by most students, focusing on topics that will be immediately useful and actively help students develop successful learning habits and attitudes.

Highline has been part of the Achieving the Dream program

for more than four years. The initial focus was on a mentoring program, with a plan to move toward a more significant curriculum redesign during the final part of the grant.

The second grant Highline has received is for the Integrated Basic Education Skills Training program or I-BEST. This program integrates college-level classes with Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language class. In I-BEST, there is an overlap time with both teachers in the classroom for some of the instruction.

“All the I-BESTs are certificates and typically are at 19 credits; students are job ready and also have completed college-level classes where they can then continue on towards a bigger certificate or degree,” said Joy Smucker, chairwoman of Highline’s Business Division.

I-BEST received a developmental education grant from the Gates Foundation in late March 2010, which is run through the State Board of Community and

Technical Colleges.

The grant amount is \$160,000 over the next two years, \$80,000 beginning Fall of next year and an option to renew the other half in fall 2011.

The money will be allocated among faculty in order to provide greater resources for both educators and students. Their primary goal is to enhance their current teaching methods in order to ease the students into college-level courses and, in turn, their pursuit of a higher education.

For anybody who is in precollege classes, this is a way



Joy Smucker

to “create an open pathway for students to get a degree,” said Smucker.

One-third of Highline students are stuck in precollege classes. This program is creating bridges for those students.

Students will be taught in a “contextual learning style,” which is a much easier way for students to develop writing with skills when learning them in the context of a particular subject, Smucker said.

Classes are team taught and students will have an adviser to meet with weekly.

Three classes will be integrated together each quarter, all with three teachers working together and treating the subjects as one.

Fall Quarter classes will be sociology, writing and humanities. Winter Quarter, the classes will be writing, math and law and justice and Spring Quarter will be environmental science, math and writing. New students are welcome to join any quarter and will earn credit for all three classes.

## Four panel speakers break bamboo ceiling at Highline

By **ALYSON FUHRMAN**  
Staff Reporter

Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders continue to face challenges reaching top management positions, but are making progress, a panel said on Monday.

Four local leaders talked about the bamboo ceiling on May 10, as part of Asian Pacific Islander month.

The four addressed how ethnic stereotyping and cultural influence affects students of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage interested in pursuing managerial and executive careers.

“The topic [is] the issue of the bamboo ceiling, which is sort of the Asian equivalent of the glass ceiling we hear talked about so often when it comes to women and other parties. So, we just made a culturally-appropriate reference,” said Larry Yok, Highline’s vice president of administration.

The four panelists, Mark Mitsui, Victor Mizumori, Dr. Rolita Ezeonu and Yok, shared personal life experiences and their thoughts on the subject of stereotyping in higher employment positions.

Forty-four percent of Asians over the age of 25 are college graduates, which is the highest percentage of any U.S. ethnicity, but they make up less than 2 percent of Fortune 500 company directors, Yok said.

Panelist Dr. Rolita Ezeonu is interim dean of instruction for transfer and precollege educa-

tion. She shared her story of growing up as a Filipino on the island of Oahu, Hawaii.

“I remember my father telling me as I grew up to really be outspoken, to be able to speak what was in my mind, and not to be afraid to share [my] thoughts,” Ezeonu said.

She was the first in her family to go to college, with help from her parents.

“When I grew up in Hawaii, I really didn’t understand this term of minority. Only going to a place where I was the ‘only,’

then I started to understand that that was such a big deal,” Ezeonu said about moving to eastern Washington to go to school.

Second panelist, Mark Mitsui, is the president designate of North Seattle Community College.

“[There is] a phenomenon called a mean, [which] is something that gets passed down across generations, by person to person, not through literature. It’s just a popular myth that takes on a life of its own and serves some sort of social pur-

pose. And, in this case, again, [it] creates a wedge between communities of color,” said Mitsui. “It maintains the bamboo ceiling.”

Mitsui also shared his feelings on how to be successful in higher education and work environment.

“In terms of moving up the ladder within higher education, and understand how the model minority myth and stereotypes about Asian-Americans play out, I think it’s been really helpful for me to know who I am.”

Victor Mizumori, the senior vice president of Washington Federal Savings, was the third panelist speaker. He also shared his experience in many different types of jobs.

The fourth panelist was Yok, who spoke a little about his experience as well, and offered some advice to current Asian American and Pacific Islander students.

“You need to be able to speak up, you need to be able to deal with conflict,” Yok said. “Take risks.”

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# Budding philosophers gather at Green River

By **NICHOLAS McCOY**  
Staff Reporter

They think, therefore they meet. Students will gather to dicuss philosophy at the Northwest Community College Student Philosophy Conference this Saturday.

The conference has been in the planning process for over a year. Organized by the Green River Community College phi-

losophy club, Veritas, it will feature a full day of philosophy centered presentations.

“All of the presenters are local students interested in philosophy,” said Kayla Campbell, the vice president of Veritas.

Starting at 9 a.m., concurrent sessions will be held every hour, breaking for lunch at noon.

Each session includes a question and answer period afterward so the audience can ask

questions.

Each of the sessions will be on different topics in philosophy.

“We wanted a way to reach students outside of our regular members and give community college students interested in philosophy an opportunity to gain more experience presenting philosophic concepts,” Campbell said.

“There are not many conference opportunities available to

community college students and we wanted to change that,” she said.

Registration for the conference begins at 8 a.m., and attendance is free. Anyone is invited.

The conference will continue until about 4 p.m.

Topics presented will include “Four Dimensionalism,” “Anomalous Monism,” “Albert Camus, WWII, and The Plague,” and “The Good Life.” Camp-

bell will present on the Interpretation of Conditionals, or “If, then...” statements.

The conference will be held at Green River Community College, in Auburn, in the HSB Building. The building is located near the east entrance of the college, near 124th Avenue Southeast.

For more information, contact Campbell at [CampKayla@gmail.com](mailto:CampKayla@gmail.com).

## Graffiti

continued from page 1

graffiti on the campus walls. They tag racial slur symbols on billboards, parking signs, walls, bathroom stalls, and every obscure space, where they can have few minutes of privacy to tag.

“We notice different juvenile gangs are participating in these activities and using different signs and initials,” Guillen said, “but every time one tag stops another one starts.

Their styles are different, too. Some use stars placed on top of their messages, another



Barry Holldorf

group uses crowns on top and on the corners.”

Despite their efforts, however, some students say Security is not doing enough.

“When it happens they don’t

have as many choices as they do before it happens,” another Highline student said. “I want to know what Campus Security, or whoever is in charge of this, is doing. ‘I am taking it down when it happens’ is an ineffectual reactive response.”

Security and the Facilities Department officials welcome any suggestions, but defended their approach to the issue as the only feasible option at the moment.

They both rejected the idea that their approach to issues and events on campus is driven by reactive response.

“We’re definitely proactive in this front and we have been,” Guillen said.

“But we’re not peeking into the bathroom stalls to see what people are doing, if they’re writing graffiti or not.”

On an average day, each Security officer spends two to three hours looking for graffiti on the campus. The process of cleaning up the graffiti also costs the Facilities Department lots of labor hours and money.

Both departments regard the issue as an irritation and would like to get as much help as they can get from faculty, staff and students.

Yet, officials are afraid this could lead to students accusing other students.

“Students have been on top of this and we would like them

to continue that tradition,” Sergeant Guillen said, “but we don’t want students accusing innocent students. If students are participating, which I don’t like to speculate, we definitely would like to know that.”

Guillen and Holldorf say these people who are writing graffiti are outsiders because they don’t write like students do.

“They can use a spell checker next time, I recommend,” Holldorf said jokingly.

“We can’t understand whatever they’re trying to communicate. This is really pointless and irritating, but our job is to remove graffiti like it never happened.”



# Spring Festival

## 2010

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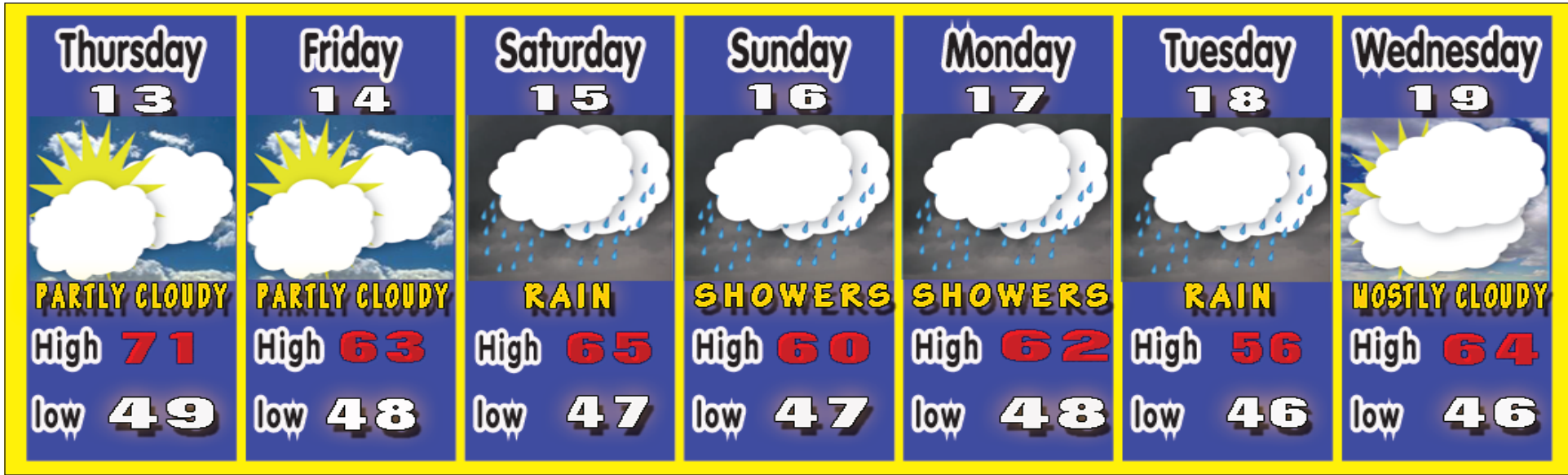
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Weekly weather forecast



Reese

continued from page 1

bind the Sanders’ hands with zip-ties, prosecutors say.

One went upstairs and found the Sanders’ two sons, bringing them downstairs. When the older son saw that his father was being hit in the head with a pistol, he tried to intervene, prosecutors say.

The gunman who was beating James Sanders then turned and started pistol whipping the son.

James Sanders broke free from his ties and attempted to defend his son. That was when the gunman turned back to James Sanders and shot him three times — in the knee, in the thigh and fatally in the back of the right shoulder, prosecutors say.

The suspects then stole the ring off of Carlene Sanders’ finger and searched the rest of the house, stealing cell phones, a laptop, jewelry and several other items.

Reese, Higashi and Knight fled by car to California, where they were arrested on May 2.

This last Monday, the four appeared in Pierce County Superior Court and pleaded innocent.

An instructor, who asked to remain anonymous, knew Reese during his short time at Highline.

“I immediately got the sense he was very different. I thought that he came from a very different background,” said the instructor.

His attendance varied for the first three weeks of class and then suddenly he just stopped attending without any e-mail or explanation given to the instructor.

tor.

“He would be gone one day and back another. Two different family members called to tell me he was sick,” said the instructor.

“He had amazing green eyes.

He was sociable and the ladies loved him,” said the instructor.

“I am so disappointed,” the Highline instructor said.

“I was in shock for the first couple days until I confirmed it was him.”

Write for The Thunderword  
Fall Quarter. Take  
Journalism 101, item no. 4182

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