



## Student caught vandalizing PRISM poster

By ELZIE DICKENS III  
Staff Reporter

A male student was caught defacing a PRISM poster on the posting board near Building 7 on April 27 at 8:30 a.m.

But tampering with PRISM posters continued after the student was caught, with a new incident being reported on April 29.

He was apprehended and taken to the safety office by

Campus Security.

“There were allegations of malicious mischief,” said Vice President Toni Castro.

Castro then issued a three-day suspension, and a trespass admonishment until a hearing was held.

The hearing was scheduled for May 2.

“The student was disciplined under Student Rights and Responsibility Codes,” said Vice President Castro. “His conduct

was very inappropriate for how we want students to act at this school.”

She wouldn’t provide any further information on the hearing; however she did have some words to say to the students.

“We value all students in the diverse community we serve in,” she said.

“All students have and deserve the right to study freely without worrying about being harassed,” said Castro.

• Latino students complain of more poster vandalizing, while straight student wants his own poster. **See stories, page 3.**

PRISM posters have been under attack since mid-April, when the first incidents were reported to Campus Security.

PRISM is a club that works to create a safe environment for the heterosexual, lesbian,

gay, bisexual, and transsexual people.

In the latest incident, the PRISM president found a PRISM flier defaced in Building 8 at 10:06 a.m. on April 29.

The poster had the phrase “go to hell” written in black marker, and the PRISM logo was crossed out.

At 12:36 p.m., there was another report of a larger poster that was defaced in the same building.

## Student is on a mission to help the homeless

By MAX GRITSAYUK  
Staff Reporter

Megan Johnson went through discrimination as a child, but now she helps others who feel outcast.

Johnson, a Highline student, won a Jefferson Award for her efforts to help the homeless people.

Johnson, founder of Megan’s Mission, was 10 years old when she came up with an idea of helping out homeless people. Now she is 19 years old and has been attending Highline since fall 2008 to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse.

Much of her life she has spent in hospitals, because she was born with Hemifacial dysplasia, a disease that causes the bones in her face to grow at different rates.

She has had to go through more than 28 different surgeries. Growing up was a challenge for her.

“When I was in grade school I used to be teased and harassed every day. I was treated like dirt no one ever did anything to help prevent bullying. I could relate to being different,” Johnson said.

Earlier in her childhood, she said, “I actually used to be very depressed and withdrawn. I hated myself, and so my mom pulled me out of the school in fourth grade and started home



Megan Johnson

schooling me and home schooling really changed my life. It really helped me open up myself.”

That year she went to a camp

and that’s when she found her passion.

“When I was younger our church had Vacation Bible School, so I went to Vacation

Bible School that year. That was the same year when I saw the video of homeless people living in San Francisco,” Johnson said.

She could read the expression in their eyes: “Please help me.”

That’s when she found her calling and dedicated her time to help the homeless.

Johnson started to look for ways to help the homeless. Selling hot cider outside of her house during the winter time became the major funding source for her mission.

A number of people drove by Redondo Beach to look at the Christmas lights; she figured that it would be a good time to sell cider.

“The first year it went well,” Johnson said.

She made \$500 the first year and now makes up to \$4,000.

People come back and donate money to her. This has become the major funding for her mission.

Johnson also published three different books that she has written and illustrated.

The latest book that she has published was, “Growing up Different.”

She goes to schools to read to children so that they could understand that bullying isn’t

See Johnson, page 15

## Students’ reaction mixed on bin Laden

By THUNDERWORD STAFF

Relief, retribution, and regret were among the thoughts in the minds of students on campus as they reflected upon the death of Osama bin Laden.

Many students were relieved at the news that bin Laden had been shot by U.S. soldiers on Sunday, May 1 in a fortified mansion in Pakistan.

“I don’t care how it happened or who did it, I’m just glad he’s not able to plan anything against the world now,” said Scott Robinson, a Highline student.

Victor Lindstrom said, “It’s about time.”

This September will make the 10th year since the al-Qaeda group bin Laden was responsible for leading was determined to be responsible for the 9/11 terrorists attacks.

“We need to go after whoever is second in command, and work our way down the chain,” said Theo Bowie, another Highline student.

Highline student Abdul Rahim agrees the next step should

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# ‘Queer’ homeless youth face many challenges

By MAX GRITSAYUK  
Staff Reporter

Telling your family that you are gay or lesbian could cost you your home.

Joshua Magallanes, a high school programs counselor at Highline, spoke during Unity Through Diversity Week about homeless queer youth.

There were 58 people who attended the workshop.

This was a place to talk about problems for homeless queer youth and why some people discriminate against them.

Magallanes said he uses the term “queer” to mean lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals.

“Some youth use queer because it is a political stance. Historically it is looked at in a negative way,” Magallanes said. “Most of the community activists and nonprofits that work with youth typically will use queer youth.”

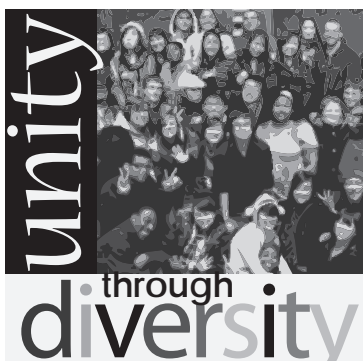
Why gays and lesbians become homeless was the main focus and the first question to the audience. The response was lack of resources, parents, and contacts.

Homeless queer youth don’t have many people that they can talk to or open up to, because the majority of the population doesn’t accept gays and lesbians, Magallanes said.

Also, another aspect that this workshop wanted to bring awareness to is how homeless queers live.

What homeless queer youth do is, “wake up at 5 a.m. and leave from wherever they were staying,” Magallanes said. They don’t have any place to stay; they need to find something to do throughout the day.

At most places, homeless queer youth aren’t welcomed and this is something that they are trying to fight. They want to blend in with everyone one



else. However, they haven’t been able to, and there is still a lot of abuse, Magallanes said.

Why they don’t fit in was another question that was asked. Because they lack support, money, family and friends, audience members replied.

When gays and lesbians open up and tell someone that they are gay or lesbian, they will be facing a hard time in their life most of the times. They are putting themselves in isolation. “They become a problem of society,” Magallanes said.

In most cases what happens when a gay or a lesbian opens up is they can get a response such as, “You can’t be a part of my house anymore,” Magallanes said.

Also at the meeting, Toni Castro, Highline vice president for Student Services and Chief Student Affairs Officer, spoke about safety at Highline.

Castro said she wanted to make it clear that there shouldn’t be any discrimination at Highline. Castro said she is very concerned about the safety of all the students and doesn’t discriminate against anyone.

Toward that end, people got into groups of about six and talked about their experience of how they were raised as kids. Some of the responses that the groups gave included, “It was never talked about in my home. It was just implied that gay and lesbians are outcasts.”

There have been a number of occasions when signs representing the GLB (gay, lesbian, and bisexual) community have been violated in recent weeks.

“There has been defacing of college property,” Castro said.

“Highline is going to be a safe place,” Castro said.

Although as of right now it’s not as safe as Highline would want it to be, and homeless queer youth are one of those targeted categories, many people have been working to ensure safety for everyone.

“Stand for what you believe in,” Castro said.



Victoria Dom/THUNDERWORD

## A message through music

Talented singer and musician Laura Reboloso performed at Highline with her group during the annual Unity Through Diversity Week.

Although Reboloso speaks very little English, she was able to convey emotion through the style of her music.

The band is always exploring new directions, due to their variety of talents. The group is based in the music style Son Jarocho, which is a traditional style of Veracruz, Mexico.



## Music is a global language, experts say

By DEREK NGOR  
Staff Reporter

As the drums beat rhythmically the dancers moved gracefully. The three dancing women wore white dresses with different colored trim and white scarves over their heads while the two male drummers wore classic, white dress shirts with red scarves and straw hats.

The performers were Angel Ryers and the Bomba de la Buena from Puerto Rico. His message was simple: no matter your background, music is universal and can communicate across cultures.

The Afro-Latin@reader presentation took place on Friday and was one of many events that took place during Unity Through Diversity week, April

22 – 30.

“When we were brought together we were all from different parts of Africa,” said Ryers. “Through music is where we understood each other; the gestures and the rhythm, it is universal.”

Guest speakers Miriam Jiménez Román and Juan Flores re-iterated this message.

“This is not a ‘you vs. me’ thing,” Román said. “There is an escalating brown vs. black argument that needs to stop. We are not separate but together.”

“It’s like fighting over crumbs,” Flores said. “We are all tightly intertwined together yet the history books never showed that.”

Pre-existing labels not only separate people but can make people feel guilty if they don’t

necessarily fit in one.

Many students have experienced this in one way or another.

One audience member made a comment regarding pre-existing labels and how a person who looks black should act black and not Latino.

“I have never had any problems when I was just speaking English,” said the student.

“The moment I speak Spanish I get comments like ‘Why is this black guy trying to be Spanish?’”

“And that is what we need to work on,” says Flores. “Why do we need to separate into black or Latino when there’s both?”

Flores went on to say, “We should not let different languages divide us; that it is just a means of communication.”



Joshua Magallanes



# Boarding school helps Baraka boy become a man

By ELLENA FLOYD  
Staff Reporter

Some of the Boys of Baraka were unlucky, but for De'Von Brown, life has continued on a positive route.

Brown spoke on campus in 2007, as a senior in high school, about his experiences in Kenya that were documented in the film "The Boys of Baraka."

Now, as a junior at the Maryland College of Arts, he has gained more insight into his experiences and shared them at Highline.

As a part of Unity through Diversity Week events, Brown lead a discussion and question session on his experiences after being accepted into an all-boys school in Kenya at the age of 12.

The discussion took place in Highline's Student Union on April 28 with over 200 students as well as some faculty and staff.

Brown started the discussion by talking about how the weather in Seattle reminded him of the culture shock he experienced when he and 20 of his classmates deplaned in East Africa to enter a world quite different from their own.

"I just left Baltimore, Maryland where it is scorching hot ... and now I'm in Seattle freezing. Wow, this is a culture shock that reminds me of when I got to Kenya, except Kenya was much more different from my hometown," said Brown.

The crowd laughed but soon turned stoic as Brown played the beginning of "The Boys of



Michael McDonald Jr./THUNDERWORD

*De'Von Brown speaks to students during his discussion about his experience at the Baraka School.*

Baraka" documentary for the audience to view.

The video began with a flash across the screen stating that "76 percent of Black boys do not graduate" while the camera began to pan across the despairing blocks of the inner-city where Brown was raised.

The film briefly showed the recruitment and departure of Brown and his classmates to Kenya. He stopped the film and opened the floor for questions. Hands were raised immediately and the first person asked Brown about how the school changed the course of his life.

"Without the Baraka school I wouldn't be here, I wouldn't be at MCA (Maryland College of Arts), and I wouldn't be up for

city council," Brown said.

Brown went on to say that because of the lack of opportunity in east Baltimore, a successful future is not promising to many youth living there.

He said that he believes that education is about exposure and experience and that going to Kenya gave him practical experiences that he could have never received in his environment.

When asked about a typical day at the school in Kenya, Brown paused for a moment then gave a contented smile. He recounted the time nine years ago as if it were just yesterday.

"Ok. So we would get up really early, then do some form of exercise such as running laps or climbing Mount Kenya."

"After that, we'd brush teeth, do P.E. and sports. Next we were off to the study hall for lessons and homework. Then free time till dinner. After dinner we'd have group meetings, free time, then bed time."

Brown also said that the boys were on a point system where they accumulated points on a daily basis to earn privileges.

The amount of points determined the level they were on: Level 1, 2, and 3. He laughed as he talked about the long time it took him to move past Level 1.

For the boys, levels 2 and 3 meant being able to go into the city to interact in local Kenyan life or riding in Land Rovers on safari hunts.

Brown's mood quickly

turned somber when asked about an update on the other guys that went to Kenya with him.

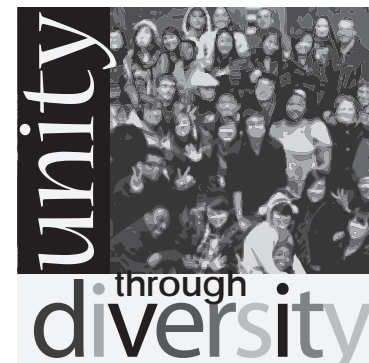
Brown said some of his former Baraka schoolmates have been incarcerated and some are just living life with a lack of hope.

"A lot of this can be attributed to the program being shortened to one year and us being returned back to our environment at an even more sensitive period in our lives: becoming a teenager and middle school."

He said the combination of losing the program and the absence of a solid follow-up support system when they arrived back to the states may have affected some outcomes.

"But there are more successes besides myself. One guy is at Morehouse College, one is at a college in Alaska, and some others are coming together to start a new school in India," said Brown.

As for Brown, he said he is thankful for his experiences and is pursuing film and production studies as his major in hopes to someday produce his own documentaries.



## Seattle schools may lead some students to prison, critics say

By AMOS NISTRAN  
Staff Reporter

Racist and unjust disciplinary policies are continuing to push marginalized youth out of the Seattle public school system, speakers said on campus in a seminar for Unity through Diversity week.

Many regulatory actions that are implemented in the Seattle public school system work against low-income students as well as students of color, a sequence that is referred to as the school-to-prison pipeline.

"The school-to-prison pipeline is a tangible reality in our community; a systematic conduit that tracks marginalized youth out of the school system and into cycles of poverty and incarceration," said Jeremy Louzau, co-director of the Seattle Young People's Project.

The school-to-prison pipeline is part of a domino effect in which under-resourced communities rely on schools to support



Sunny Kim

the youth, and then those school systems implement policies that push youth of color and low-income youth toward prison and poverty, he said.

The Seattle Young People's Project is a social justice organization that empowers youth to express themselves and to take action on the issues that impact their lives.

The group has organized a number of successful projects, including a campaign against the Washington Assessment of Student Learning exam, which was said to be institutionally

racist, leading to the elimination of the assessment in 2009.

Actions within the school-to-prison pipeline that negatively affect students include zero-tolerance policies, truancy laws, social services laws, and police in schools who arrest students as a disciplinary action.

The project fights against laws such as the Becca Bill, which denies rights to homeless youth and runaways.

"In King County, youth of color and low-income youth get pushed out of the public school system at higher rates than their white counterparts," said Sunny Kim, who also acts as the project's co-director.

Youth who drop-out of high school are also nearly four times more likely to be arrested than high school graduates, said Kim.

Due to the high numbers of marginalized youth that are being oppressed by their schools, the Seattle Young People's Project is organizing a campaign to



Jeremy Louzau

change the policies in the public education system.

A major component in the campaign is to affect the decisions that schools are left to make in rash of the upcoming budget cuts.

The Seattle School District recently cut elementary school counseling programs due to the recent budget reductions. On the other hand, the Edmonds School District decided to keep the counselors and instead remove the police in the schools.

"It was a question of: Are we going to keep the police

that make the students feel like criminals, or keep the counselors that can deal with issues that are happening in their lives and try to help them stay in school?" said Kim.

"I would much rather have the counselors and social workers and folks who can find out that maybe the student isn't going to school because their family is on the verge of homelessness," she said.

"We figure that if we want to fight the school-to-prison pipeline as a system, our community needs to fight back with a system of our own," said Louzau.

The Seattle Young People's Project has created a system called the social justice leadership pipeline, which acts as a pathway to support young people towards lifelong community organizing.

For more information and how to get involved with the Seattle Young People's Project, visit <http://sypp.org>.



# Students prepare to honor their mothers on Sunday

By ELIZABETH MIKLOVICH  
Staff Reporter

Highline students will honor their moms on Mother's Day in many ways, from giving flowers to cooking for her and buying her a special gift.

With Mother's Day rapidly approaching, students are preparing to spoil and honor moms in both traditional and nontraditional ways. Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8.

Breakfast in bed seems to be a common treat that students do for their moms. Lunch or dinner out is also a very popular treat for mom on Mother's Day.

One Highline student said "I always buy her the perfume she likes every Mother's Day."

"I thank my dad for making my mom a mom. We take Mom out for lunch or dinner on Mother's Day," said student Azaria Heir.

Traditions of family gatherings with extended family are another way Highline students celebrate the day as well.

"When I lived in Hawaii our whole family would go to our grandmother's house for dinner," Erika Meneses said of her

**You held me when  
I cried all night  
as a baby, conformed  
me through the  
awkward teenage years,  
and have hope  
that I will eventually  
grow up.  
Thanks mom.**

family traditions.

Cleaning the house and giving a card to mom are also ways students say they celebrate the date.

"My mom was the happiest last year when I cleaned

my room," Kellen Hunter said. "We buy her cards and flowers and make sure she comes home to a clean house."

"I make sure she wakes up to a clean house with breakfast ready and have flowers with a

nice gift such as jewelry," Ali Almohanawy said.

One thing that Highline students agree on is how to honor their mothers.

"It only makes sense to honor her throughout the year as we can, but taking an extra day to set her apart is going the extra step," one student said.

Student Samantha Johns celebrates her mother daily, not just on Mother's Day. "My sister and I make her feel special, valuable, and irreplaceable. I try to compliment her every day, not just to get something."

The history of Mother's Day in the United States is a true story of a daughter's love for her mother.

When Anna Jarvis's mother passed away in 1905, she vowed to honor her. In 1907 Jarvis started a very aggressive campaign to establish a National Mother's Day in the United States.

On May 10, 1908, the first official Mother's Day celebration took place at Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. This was her late mother's church. The event drew 407 people.

Jarvis arranged for white carnations, her mother's favorite flower, to be given to each person. Two carnations were given to each mother in there.

Today, white carnations are the flower that is used to honor deceased mothers. Pink and red carnations are used to pay tribute to mothers who are living.

In 1914 Woodrow Wilson signed into law the national observance of Mother's Day.

Mother's Day in the United States is celebrated the second Sunday in May every year.

"The mother has a very special place in our culture and as many other people we celebrate a special day for her. The Middle East and Arab countries celebrate Mother's day on March 21 of every year," Highline student Raid Shawket said.

"Egypt and Lebanon for example, have large celebrations on that day, they have many festivals and artists perform shows, plays, songs and exhibitions, which main subject is mother," Shawket added.

"In Islam religion, Prophet Mohamed said: Heaven is under the feet of Mothers," Shawket said.

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# Secretary of State encourages students to vote

By **SETH POWELL**  
Staff Reporter

Voting is easier now than ever for college students, said Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed.

Secretary Reed spoke at Highline at 8 a.m. on April 28 in Building 7. He was here as part of his annual College Civics tour, during which he visits 28 colleges around Washington.

Reed said that his reason for focusing on colleges is that the 18-24 age bracket has the lowest voter turnout.

"Since I came in in 2003 we've seen significant improvement," said Reed.

Despite this, still only about a third of 18-24 year olds are registered to vote.

"There's some realities I think some students aren't aware of," Reed said. "The generation with the most to gain by voting is the least involved."

One audience member suggested that some students don't vote because they can't relate to what politicians are talking about. Reed agreed, and said that many young people don't care about things like social security, Medicare, and other big topics that politicians are talking about.

Reed said that the solution to this problem is to vote, since



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Secretary of State Sam Reed speaks at Highline as part of his annual College Civics tour.

candidates aim to address the issues of the largest voter groups. Right now, the largest groups are older people, so politicians try to get their votes first.

"If we vote, candidates ad-

dress our issues," said Reed.

Another audience member said that many young people don't vote because they don't know where any politicians stand. Reed had an easy solu-

tion for this problem.

He said that if you are registered to vote, you can go to <http://sos.wa.gov/elections/> and learn all kinds of information. By clicking on the large

button marked "My Vote," you can access information about each candidate in an upcoming election, including links to their websites.

"It's just a lot of information that is available," Reed said.

Now you can even register to vote on that same website, said Reed. The registration is very secure, since it is linked to statewide databases, including the Department of Licensing.

Reed said that one of the main reasons young people don't vote is because they are moving away to college or don't know where to go to vote. His solution: mail-in ballots.

"We'll mail you that ballot anywhere in the world," said Reed.

In special cases Reed said that the state can even e-mail you your ballot, and you can mail it back. This is generally for people who are overseas in places where there is no mail, or the postal system is corrupt.

To make information access even easier, Reed said that his office puts out a daily blog, tweets, and even a TV network called TVW.

"What used to be a barrier is no longer a barrier," said Reed.

Registration and voting are easily available to anyone who wants to have a say in their government, Reed said.

## Community and diversity important to campus, Birmingham says

By **KELLY CASSINERIO**  
Staff Reporter

The budget cuts likely to come from the state Legislature will cause Highline to lose important programs and provide less support for students, said Dr. Jack Birmingham.

Dr. Birmingham, the president of Highline, spoke at an honors seminar on April 27.

The budget cuts will greatly affect programs and faculty at Highline, he said.

"We have to make cuts that [are] fundamental to the institution," Birmingham said.

With budget cuts, Highline will have to rely on part-time faculty, which will result in less support for students.

Also, full-time faculty members will not be able to do what they want to do and get paid for it, said Birmingham.

The budget cuts will also cut down on programs at Highline such as instruction in English as a Second language.

There are community partnerships with Highline that contribute to the effort for economic development of Highline, he said.

These partnerships are important because they connect

Highline to the community, Birmingham said.

Such supporters are South King County's Business Development and Partnerships Section and a non-profit organization called Burst for Prosperity.

Burst for Prosperity helps low-income families afford an education and helps them with financial planning opportunities.

South King County's Business Development and Partner-

ships section cleans up parks in King County and establishes partnerships around the community.

Highline is nationally recognized for its diverse campus and that diversity is a critical ele-

ment to the culture of Highline, Birmingham said.

"The challenge for us educators is to unleash the diversity," said Birmingham. "[We need to] prepare people for a dramatic change in environment."

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# Cinco de Mayo origin unclear to students

By MAX HENRY  
Staff Reporter

Cinco de Mayo traditions are well known to students at Highline but the origin of the holiday seems to be misunderstood.

As Cinco de Mayo approaches, it brings to mind for many Highline students Mexican traditions from Salsa dancing in bright Mexican dresses to parades and traditional Mexican fiestas.

Although many of the traditions associated with Cinco de Mayo seem to be pretty much universal, the origin of the holiday itself seems to be in debate.

Many students at Highline think the holiday is the celebration of Mexican Independence, and a few students think it is the celebration of dead ancestors.

Emily Krenn said, “It’s Halloween for Mexican people, right?”

Mexico actually declared its independence from Spain on Sept. 15, 1810. However, they did not inform Spain, or its occupying force, until 11 years later.



It was at that time that the Mexican army was able to force the occupying Spanish army to

find a quick victory over what he saw to be an extremely inferior Mexican force.

leave and set up an independent Mexican nation.

Napoleon III, who despised America, and had been supplying the Confederacy in the American Civil War, saw an opportunity to both occupy Mexico and take the newly acquired western territories of the U.S.

In January, 1862, French forces landed in Mexico with a Habsburg prince named Maximilian, who Napoleon would set up as the ruler of the new French-Mexican Empire.

Napoleon assumed he would

On May 5, 1862, General Zaragosa and Colonel Diaz marched out to meet an invading French army at Puebla, Mexico, outnumbered 2-1.

The French army had not lost in 50 years, but with direction from General Zaragosa, Diaz’s cavalry and a stampede of cattle, the French forces were smashed.

The defeat of Napoleon’s army temporarily set back his plans to take Mexico and supply the Confederate army.

The setback allowed the Union to build the greatest army the world had ever seen, which was able to smash the Confederate army 14 months later at Gettysburg.

The victory at Gettysburg changed the tides of the civil war, leading to a Union victory over Confederate forces.

Immediately after defeating the Confederate army, the Union army marched to the Mexican border with supplies and volunteers to help the Mexicans crush the last remaining French forces.

Cinco de Mayo is actually

an American holiday which celebrates Mexican and American cooperation.

It is a celebration of liberty, freedom, and family, ideals that Mexicans and Americans have fought together to protect since May 5, 1862.

Highline student Zachary Ruiz-Bednarski understands the core of Cinco de Mayo because he is half Mexican and half Polish.

He sees Cinco de Mayo as a holiday to set aside family differences.

“The first thing I think of is family,” Ruiz-Bednarski said. “It’s always good to get together and put any family differences aside.”

Student Nick Figueroa also thinks of time with his family during Cinco de Mayo.

Figueroa said, “I think of my brothers and remember a time I traveled to Costa Rica with them to visit my family.”

Mexicans returned the favor after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, crossing the border in thousands to join the U.S. armed forces.

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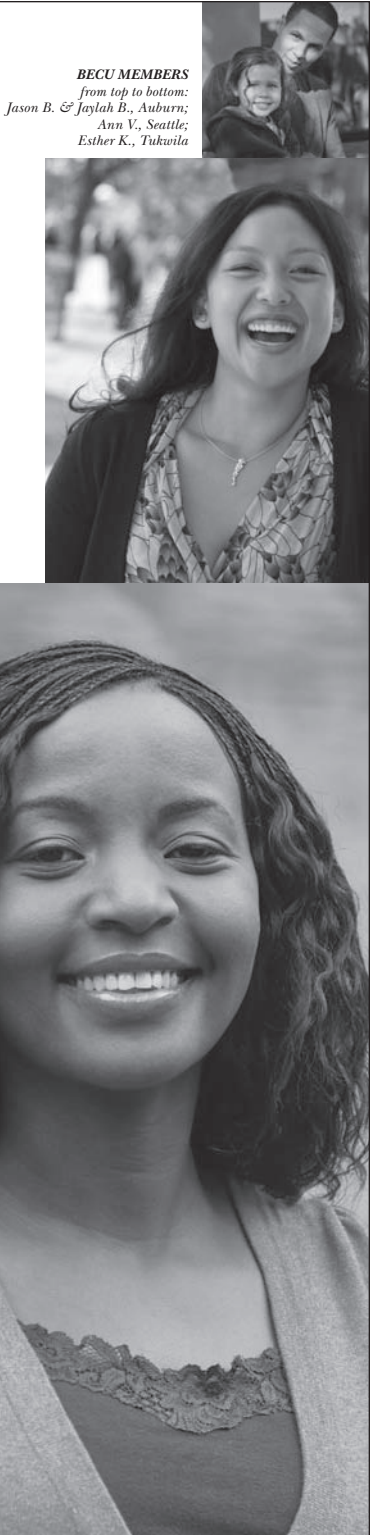
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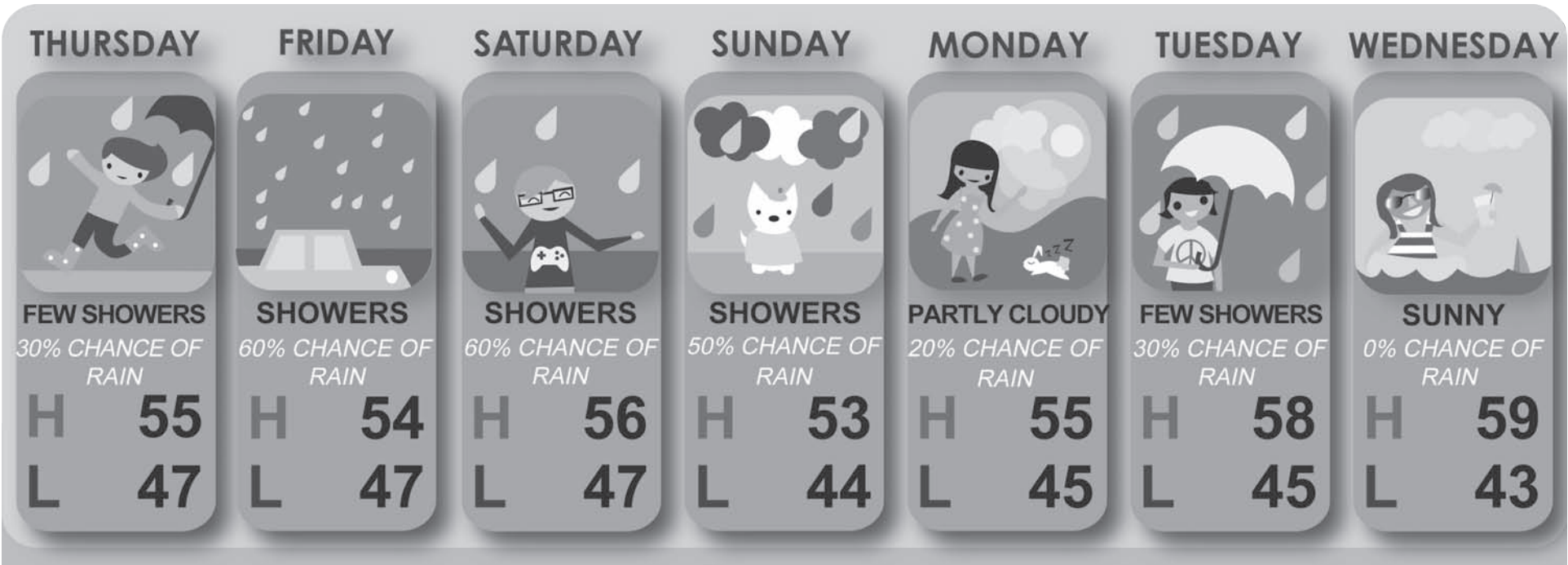


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Nucor has steely resolve to keep it clean Johnson

By AMANDA SILLS  
Staff Reporter

Seattle’s Nucor steel plant runs as energy efficient as possible and is the only steel mill in the country that does not have any visible emissions, said Bart Kale, safety and environmental manager at the plant, during last Friday’s Science Seminar.

Science Seminar takes place every Friday at Highline and features faculty who present topics related to their field.

Kale talked about how a steel mill can be environmentally friendly. The title of his presentation was “This is not your father’s steel mill: Operating a smokestack business in an urban environment.”

Nucor Steel Seattle is located in West Seattle and has taken on the responsibility of providing a cleaner environment, creating a safe workplace and helping the community to become stronger.

“You have to be sensitive to people around you,” Kale said.

Kale focused on explaining how a steel mill is and can be environmentally friendly.

The only steel mill in Washington state, Nucor uses various kinds of scrap which is then melted into billets and then made into rebar. “We use pretty much anything that sticks to a magnet,” Kale said.

Nucor Steel Seattle tries to



Bart Kale

maintain high energy efficiency by recycling.

“All the by-products at this mill are recycled,” he said. “We recycle storm water back into the plant.”

The company is always looking for improvements to help the community and environment.

“Just because we did something five or seven years ago doesn’t mean it will always be that way,” said Kale.

“You got to be innovative or you’re going to be gone,” he said.

To solve community issues, Nucor has made the factory as soundproof as possible.

“We’ve lined the walls with absorbing quilting,” Kale said.

Furthermore, they try to create a safe work environment and provide benefits for employees.

“One of the key things of Nucor is that we don’t lay people off,” Kale said. “It’s hard work, but rewarding.”

To be even more efficient with recycling, the company uses slag, a by-product of metal smelting, which separates the metal fraction from the unwanted fraction. Nucor uses a slag process indoors which creates a more effective business.

“The Seattle plant has one of only two indoor slag processing facilities,” Kale said.

When steel gets wet in these rainy parts and goes into the furnace, it will explode, he said.

In the past, the community near Nucor has complained about the loud bangs from furnace explosions.

Because of this, the company has constructed a roof over the scrap yard to keep the metal dry, which has then decreased the amount of explosions. Nucor Steel Seattle is the only mill with a covered scrap yard.

Nucor, which employs nearly 300 people, contributes steel to virtually every infrastructure project in Washington state and has an extremely low environmental impact.

“Our carbon foot-print is probably one of the lowest in the country,” Kale said.

continued from page 1

right.

All of the money that she raises goes to homeless people to support her mission.

At first Johnson wanted to get canned food to help the homeless, but realized that she wouldn’t have enough space to store the food.

She came up with an idea of giving out blankets, “especially for the winter time here in Seattle,” Johnson said.

When she started to go out and give the blankets to people she realized that they are in need of much more than just blankets.

“The first year I started this I found out that socks is a big need, and then gloves, and then hats,” Johnson said.

Johnson and a group of volunteers go out to the streets of Seattle to find homeless people to give them winter supplies.

“I go to the streets Thanksgiving, Christmas and usually another time,” Johnson said.

“Now not only do I give out blankets, but I also give out winter supplies,” Johnson said.

She said that one of the biggest needs is sleeping bags for the homeless.

“I then take supplies to Multiservice Center, Salvation Army and Union Gospel Mission other times.”



Johnson receives the Kelly O’Neil Henson Award for Volunteer Service recently.

“Then in the summer, I usually try to take socks and underwear to the homeless, but not blankets,” Johnson said.

“I’ve never been homeless but I could relate to what I got though. I was born with many medical problems,” Johnson said.

You can visit Johnson’s website at [www.megansmission.info](http://www.megansmission.info) where you can read more about her, buy her books, and donate to her mission.

The Jefferson Awards are recognition of hard working individuals who give to their communities and the public.

Johnson won on April 13 the Jefferson Award to represent our state and will be going to Washington, D.C.

“I was extremely honored and shocked to win. To have the people wanting me to represent our state is humbling beyond words,” Johnson said.

bin Laden

continued from page 1

be to continue looking for those involved in the group, he said.

Other students seem to be in different to his execution.

“I guess I wasn’t surprised because they’d been hunting him for so long,” said Justin Hell, Highline student.

Joshua Starkey said, “It didn’t really matter and it served no purpose in the long run. He

hasn’t been planning anything for five years now.”

Concerns as to whether retaliation was likely were also shared.

“I feel like this is just going to make things worse, provoking al-Qaeda,” said Valerie Maganya, another student.

“I think [the U.S.] should try to work with the Muslim community,” she said, “Islam is not the reason for what happened.”

Highline professor Amal Mahmoud, who is from Egypt, said the news brought him “relief mixed with anticipation and

anxiety about what’s going to happen next.”

I was very pleased and relieved when I heard about the news,” agreed Highline professor Oussama Alkhalili, who is originally from Lebanon.

“However, at the same token I have many concerns with new wave of threats that may rise against us; especially after the media exposing the celebrations on TVs.”

Alkhalili said he was glad that Islamic traditions were observed in dealing with bin Laden’s body. “The Obama ad-

ministration stated that he will be buried according to Islamic traditions; this is an excellent gesture if it is carried out.”

Some students said they were not comfortable with the celebration of bin Laden’s death.

“While I’m glad he’s out of the picture, it was still human life,” said Theresa Williams.

Another student, Menbre Gebremarian, said that her first reaction was, “Wow, that’s good,” but later she said she felt bad celebrating someone’s death, because “I am a Christian.”

“We should’ve never killed him,” said student Darwin Bryant.

“Two wrongs don’t make a right. We got what we wanted now it’s time to get out,” Bryant said.

This is a point many students agreed on.

“We should get the troops out of there; we don’t need to be there anymore,” said Zephyra Burt.

Thunderword reporters Max Henry, Derek Ngor, Brian Alexander and Megan Wallin contributed to this story.

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## Crime and Punishment

### Student's purse stolen

A purse was reported missing on April 25 in Building 25.

A Kaplan staff member noticed her purse was gone from her office at 6:30 p.m. The purse was recovered with many items missing.

### Car window smashed

A smashed window was reported on April 25 at 7 p.m.

A vehicle had broken glass in the east lot. Through further investigation, no items were found missing. A witness saw the perpetrator and described him as a Hispanic male with a shaved head. He walked away when he saw the witness.

### Helmet stolen off bike

A helmet was reported missing on April 27 at 11 a.m. A male student parked his motorcycle in the motor bike area on the east lot at 10 a.m.

He returned at 11 a.m. and noticed his helmet was stolen.

### Student reports sexual harrassment attempt

A complaint of harassment was reported on April 28 at 11:30 a.m.

A female student reported that she was in class when a man she never saw before approached her and said he wanted to perform sexual acts on her.

She told him he was harassing her and walked out of class. When she returned, he was gone.

### Students cause noise complaint in library

A noise complaint was reported on May 3 at 4:15 p.m. in the library. The library staff complained about noisy students on the third floor.

Security contacted five students, all had been warned before about making noise in the library. Four of the students were escorted out before.

All students were advised that they would be referred to the vice president for disciplinary action. The students were then escorted out of the building.

– Compiled  
by Elzie Dickens III

# Play cards to support Women's Programs

By ELIZABETH MIKLOVICH  
Staff Reporter

Highline Women's Program will benefit from proceeds of the Soroptimist Cards for a Cause event.

Soroptimist International Seattle South will host their annual benefit on Saturday, May 14, from 6 p.m. through midnight.

The event will be held at

Normandy Park Cove, 1500 SW Shorebrook drive.

Cards for a Cause will raise money for both the Highline Women's Programs Emergency Fund and the Highline Soroptimists' Endowment Fund.

The events of the evening will include a charity casino, Texas hold'em tournament, blackjack, a raffle, food, a no-host bar and a silent auction.

Early registration fee for the

poker tournament is \$40 and will get the player \$5,000 value in poker chips.

General admission early registration fee is \$25 and will get the player \$2,500 value in poker chips.

Day of the event poker tournament admission is \$50 with \$5,000 value in poker chips. General admission day of the event will be \$35 with \$2,500 value in poker chips.

The first- place winner will receive a trip for two to Los Angeles with hotel, airfare and two tickets for a Lakers game.

Prizes will also be awarded for everyone at the final table.

For more information contact Patti Gifford at 206-227-4848 or via e-mail at pattiegifford@gmail.com.

Information can also be found at [www.soroptimistseattlesouth.com](http://www.soroptimistseattlesouth.com).



## News Briefs

### Support AIDS Alliance

Help support the Lifelong AIDS Alliance's food program, Chicken Soup Brigade, by bringing non-perishable food items to the bins outside of Building 8 through May 12.

This organization is committed to preventing the spread of HIV and to providing practical support services and advocating for those whose lives are affected by HIV and AIDS.

Through their food program they help to improve the nutritional status for people living with HIV/AIDS and other life-challenging illnesses in King County.

### Gala beats expectations

The Highline Foundation raised more than \$90,000 for college programs at its annual Gala last Saturday.

The Foundation is a private, non-profit organization that raises funds for college programs. The Gala was held at the Cedarbrook Lodge in SeaTac.

Foundation officials said that 175 people attended the Gala, which featured dinner, student speakers and an auction.

"It far exceeded our expectations," said Rod Stephenson, the executive director of the foundation. He originally thought the evening would only raise \$60,000.

Their next fundraising event will take place in the fall with the annual campaign, in which Foundation members ask for donations community members and local businesses.

All \$90,000 earned from the Gala will go directly toward student scholarship and emergency funds.

Students have until May 13 to apply for scholarships offered

through the Foundation. Applications are available on-line at [www.funds4highline.org](http://www.funds4highline.org).

### Celebrate Latino Awareness Day

Come to the Latino Awareness Day "Success is Borderless" seminar, sponsored by the United Latino Association and Center for Leadership and Service, on Thursday, May 5 in the Student Union, Building 8, in the Mt. Constance and Olympus rooms.

Dr. Veronica Barrera, an instructor at the University of Washington, will share her experiences as a Latina in higher education from 11 – 11:50 am.

At noon there will be a dance performance on the Student Union's main stage.

From 1:20 – 2:20 p.m., Luis Ortega who leads a youth leadership and advocacy program for the Latino/a Educational Achievement Project, will speak.

### Sarah Muchnick invites all to her art show

Sarah Muchnick, from the Highline nursing department, will have her first artwork exhibit.

She'd like to invite everyone on campus to an exhibit of her artwork taking place here on campus, Muchnick said.

It will be in the Highline library in the fourth floor gallery from May 2-31, and a reception on May 5 from 3 – 6 p.m.

### Nominate outstanding faculty for award

Nominate this year's Highline faculty for the Outstanding Faculty Award. The award is \$1,500, donated by Puget Sound Energy. Faculty nominated for this award must be full-time.

Nomination forms must be received in the Office of Instruction, in Building 9, Mailstop 9-2, by 5 pm on Friday, May 13. The name of the recipient will be announced at the Faculty and Staff Spring Luncheon on June 9.

### Join the fun for Asian Pacific Islander Month

Asian Pacific Islander's (API) celebrate their heritage in the month of May.

API Heritage month has existed for many years, but this is only the second year that Highline's API Committee has been established. Everyone is invited to celebrate by attending scheduled events May 10-12.

• On Tuesday, May 10 from 12 to 2 p.m. in Building 7, Tommy Kim, literature and writing instructor, will lead out in a workshop entitled, *Evolution of Immigration Law: An Immigration Experience Workshop*.

During this workshop, individuals will share their experiences and the discussions will be within the historical contexts of Asian immigration into the United States.

• On Wednesday, May 11 from 12 to 1 p.m. in Building 7, J.D. Hokoyama, president and CEO of Leaderships Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), will be speak on being a *Twenty First Century Leader*. LEAP is a national non-profit organization with a mission to achieve full participation and equality for Asian Pacific Americans through leadership, empowerment and policy.

• On Wednesday, May 11

from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in Mt. Townsend, Building 8 there will be an API Cultural Performance Night. This free event will feature traditional music and culture from the Asian Pacific Islander countries. This event is open to anyone and there will be free food and beverages.

• On Thursday, May 12 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in Building 2 there will be karaoke, free food, a live karaoke DJ, three karaoke judges and prizes to be won.

### Correction

Two students involved in an argument in April were not in fact Highline students, witnesses to the altercation said.

While a group of students of African heritage were practicing in Building 8 for a performance at Global Fest, an argument broke out between two people, who don't go to Highline.

They were just there, said a Highline student and performer.

The original story identified the pair as students and the performers as all being from Sierra Leone.

"There are people in this group who are from several different countries in Africa, not just Sierra Leone," said the student.

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# Latino students complain of vandalism, insensitivity

By KANDI CARLSON  
Staff Reporter

Members of the United Latin Association Club were subjected to hurtful remarks and found their event poster torn down last week, students say.

"We were on our way back from eating lunch when I decided to check and see if our poster was still posted near Building 7," said Ruben Rico, a Highline

student and club member.

Rico said he had personally posted in this area and with the recent defacing of the PRISM posters, was concerned.

As he and two fellow students and club members approached the display board they noticed their poster was crumpled on the ground.

"We picked up the poster, reposted it and we let it go until the next day," said Axa Molina,

fellow Highline student and club member.

The following day Molina, Rico and other club members were seated at a table near the Bookstore handing out flyers for Latino Awareness Day.

"We were handing flyers out as students came up the stairs," Rico said. "A girl took a flyer and said, 'I am not going to this stupid shit,'" he said.

Molina said she was hurt by

this comment but it wasn't until another group approached the table and said in a sarcastic tone, "Oh yes, I'm going to this and am so excited," that she stopped handing out fliers to passersby, she said.

"I held my composure but stopped initiating contact," Molina said.

Rico and Molina said while they both believe these incidents do not represent the over-

all attitude of the campus they are disappointed by the actions of these students.

Rico said he likes Highline but this type of behavior was not something he expected, he said.

"I still believe it's a great campus but I see that discrimination is still there," Molina said.

All students involved said they have a new perspective.

## Poster wars: 'Straight' poster gets OK'd, then torn down

By ELLENA FLOYD  
Staff Reporter

A flier stating "All The Cool Kids Are Straight" was denied permission for posting, leaving a Highline student wondering if there is a double-standard of freedom of expression on campus.

However, the denial was a misunderstanding and the student was able to put the poster up.

But then, like so many other posters dealing with race and sexuality on campus, his poster, too, was torn down by others.

Chris Hudson, a heterosexual Highline student, said he first saw posters displayed around campus saying "All The Cool Kids Are Gay" and that it inspired the idea for his poster.

The poster included several pictures of confirmed or speculated gay famous faces including Ellen DeGeneres and Abraham Lincoln arranged yearbook style beneath the slogan.

Seeing these posters made him feel as if he was being classified as uncool because he is not gay, said Hudson.

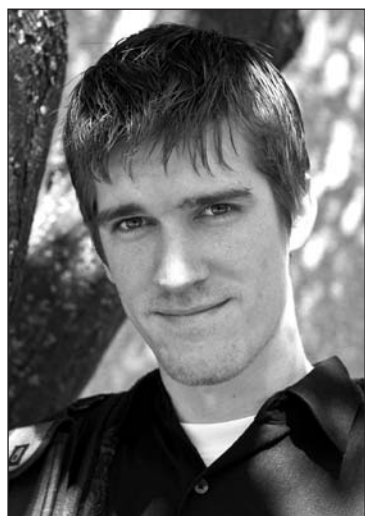
"After seeing those posters, I wanted to create a poster to display saying the opposite of what they were saying so that straight students would feel that it's ok to be straight also," Hudson explained.

He designed his poster with the slogan "All the Cool Kids Are Straight" and added pictures of historic figures including Jesus Christ and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

He then took his finished poster to Student Programs to gain authorization for posting, said Hudson.

After his poster was reviewed it was given the customary dated stamp of approval for posting but before Hudson could leave the office things took a different turn, he said.

"Another staff member took a look at my flier and said I could not post it," Hudson said.



Chris Hudson

Hudson said he was offended that he could not put up his poster and felt that there may be a double-standard on freedom of expression at play on Highline's campus.

Hudson said he then questioned why the flyer that said "All The Cool Kids Are Gay" was granted approval for posting.

"I was told that the flyer was put out by an official school group and because I was not affiliated with an official campus group that I could not post my flier," said Hudson.

The "All The Cool Kids Are Gay" posters were displayed by PRISM, a group that advocates for a safe environment for LG-BTQI and their comrades on Highline's campus.

Hudson said he asked if he could create a club and was told he could not because club registration was closed for the quarter.

He said he left the Student Programs office and soon began venting his frustrations with many of his campus peers, who agreed that Highline's policy seemed biased for certain groups.

Natasha Burrowes, Highline's assistant director of Student Services, was the staff person who denied Hudson's flyer for approval.

"I gave this student misinformation on Highline's post-

ing policies which resulting in him not being able to put up his flier," said Burrows.

Burrows said that, on the heels of PRISM posters being defaced and torn down, everyone in the office was in a state of concern which may have caused her to err on the side of caution for approving non-group affiliated postings.

"The student was told that the community boards are not free speech areas when in fact Highline has three community boards that are accessible by approval to students and the public," said Burrowes.

Burrowes further explained that Highline also has other avenues for people to practice free speech.

She said that there are designated free speech zones located between buildings 6 and 7 for those wanting to petition and voice their opinions.

This matter was later brought to the attention of Jonathon Brown, associate dean of Student Programs and Leadership, who was out of the office when the incident occurred.

"Unfortunately, misinformation was given out from our office and we would like that student to come back to the office so that we can correct the mistake," said Brown.

Brown said that Highline welcomes all points of view from students as well as the community.

He said that the free speech criteria can be accessed from the college homepage at [www.highline.edu](http://www.highline.edu).

After being informed that the department wanted to speak with him, Hudson was asked if he would still consider putting up his flyer.

"Yes indeed. I will be taking my flyer back for approval," said Hudson.

Hudson said he is pleased that Student Programs has vowed to correct the mistake so that his beliefs can be expressed as freely as others on campus.

## New leader hopes to revitalize BSU

By MICHAEL MCDONALD JR  
Staff reporter

The Black Student Union has a new vice president who is campaigning for more student participation.

Kris Wilburn has taken the seat as the new Black Student Union (BSU) vice president and he is out like Joe Biden, shaking hands and trying to get more students involved in the club.

"I want the club to do something more for the community and encourage more people of different races and ethnicities to participate in our club endeavors," Wilburn said.

"It's not just about black students even though we are titled as such, we are all very much culturally conscious and want to help and do good in the community and world."

Trayvon Conrad, acting BSU president at Green River College attended last Wednesday's meeting.

Conrad and two other Green River students showed up to offer their support to the Highline BSU.

The present state of the Highline BSU caused Wilburn to move into action for better growth and development of the club.

"I had to step up to the plate and do something about things," Wilburn said.

There wasn't a vice president in place and advertising for the meetings could not be found. Wilburn has stepped into his role as vice president with a vision, but first he has to help build up the club.

He knows that he has his work cut out for him, as the club is rather unstructured.



Kris Wilburn

"The challenge excites me and motivates me to want to do something good with meaning and purpose."

"The biggest problem that we face as a club is getting support from other students coming to the meetings. More minds and bodies working together to better humanity would have a greater effect than me and Shalayne trying to take on the world ourselves."

Shalayne Alexandria is the acting president of the Highline BSU.

Alexandria has been holding the position of president since Winter Quarter.

Wilburn wants to bring into the BSU ideas that appeal to the club members and the campus community.

"I want to put on events and fundraisers where we have the community on top of the students and faculty participating in," said Wilburn.

The BSU wants to increase their visibility and encourage people to attend their weekly meetings.

Meetings are held in Building 6 in the Inter Cultural Center at 2 p.m. every Wednesday.



*Editorial comment*

## Alcohol awareness: Tips on staying healthy

Alcohol consumption is often a controversial subject.

Some people say to drink responsibly, others say “don’t drink,” and still others say “who cares?” However, the reality is that there will always be people who drink. Instead of arguing over the “rightness,” we need to be concerned with how to help people drink safely and responsibly.

Genetics can play a role in alcohol addiction — or the lack thereof. When alcoholism runs in the family, someone can be genetically predisposed to also become an alcoholic. However, this history doesn’t always play a role. Even some people with alcoholism in their family history can have a non-addictive personality. However, being aware of family history with alcohol can help keep you from becoming dependent.

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism offers some warning signs in the form of yes or no questions.

“Do you drink alone when you feel sad or angry?”

“Does your drinking ever make you late to work?”

“Does your drinking worry your family?”

“Do you ever drink after telling yourself that you won’t?”

Answering “yes” to questions such as these can be early — or not so early — signs of dependence or addiction. Other warning signs include hangovers, headaches, and the inability to remember what you did while drinking.

The Screening for Mental Health Organization also offered some warning signs, which may be more applicable for students. These signs include poor class attendance, low grades, irresponsibility with work and school, and irritability.

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism website suggests that keeping a record of your drinking and setting yourself a maximum drinking limit can be helpful for cutting back on your alcohol consumption. It can also be helpful in determining whether you have a problem.

Also, if you keep alcohol in your home keep only a small amount and try to avoid places where you have had past experiences with heavy drinking.

Quitting on your own can be tough. Students may feel embarrassed about having to ask for help, but there are some support systems that exist. These include Highline’s Counseling Center, located in Building 6, and Alcoholics Anonymous.

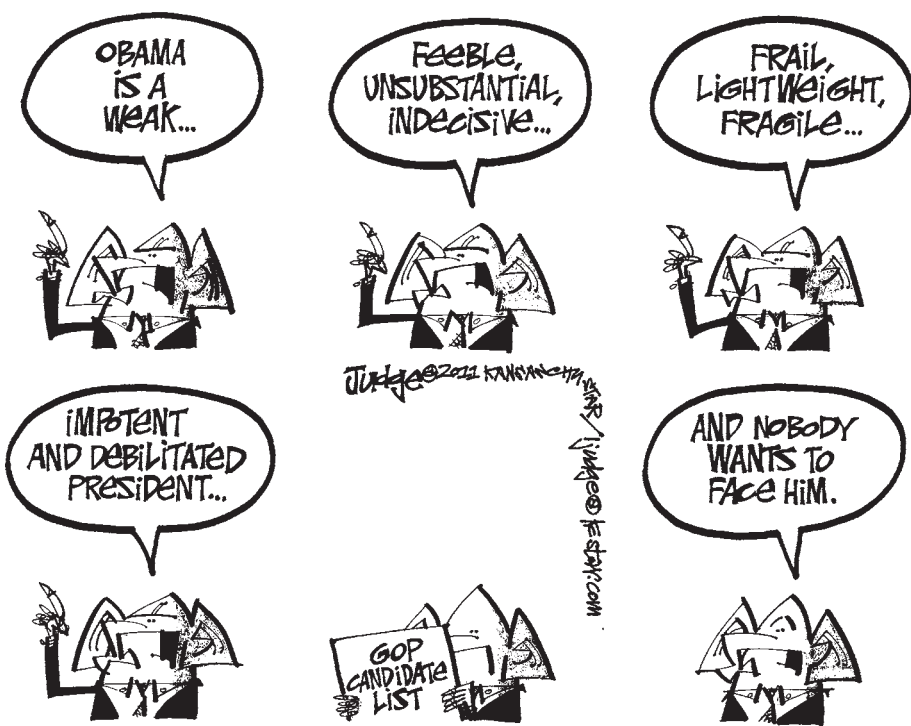
If you think or know that you have a problem with alcohol, take the first steps in getting help.

Visit <http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/handout.htm> for information on how to cut back on alcohol on your own.

You can also visit the Counseling Center’s website, <http://www.highline.edu/stuserv/counseling/> for information on how to make an appointment.

Finally, you can visit the Alcoholics Anonymous website, [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org), to find a local group to join.

Asking for help is the best thing that you can do. It will help improve your health and life.



## Take a stand against hunger

Of all the issues in the world today, hunger may be one of the easiest to combat.

A large portion of the world lives on less than \$1 a day. This fact alone is enough to guilt my conscience. It makes me think, how am I spending my money?

Last weekend, I partnered up with World Vision to help combat world hunger. World Vision has created an event called the 30 Hour Famine, which invites teens and young adults to go without food for at least 30 hours to experience a small taste of hunger.

World Vision is a Christian non-profit organization that is dedicated to helping families and communities around the world overcome poverty.

Every day, 13,000 children die of hunger or other preventable diseases caused by malnutrition and unclean water.

Participation in the 30 Hour Famine is a way for us to take a stand against hunger.

Sometimes it’s hard to admit — or even realize — but most of us have a lot of excess. If we really cut our spending to the bare minimum of survival, food, water, and shelter, we could easily see the excess, perhaps in the form of lattes or a new sweater.

Or, try this thought. How much leftover food do you throw away? For me, it’s a lot.

Children are starving to death daily — 8,000 of them are under the age of 5 — and I don’t



### Commentary

Alisa  
Gramann

want to eat the leftovers.

I spent one uncomfortable night on the floor, and woke up in the morning with a tight back, dying to go get a massage.

Many kids in Third World countries sleep on the ground every night without pillows, and they are lucky if they have a blanket to share with two or three siblings.

On Saturday, a group of participants went to a warehouse to sort donated shoes for homeless shelters. I got tired sorting through shoes for three hours, but many kids around the world have to roam the streets all day, looking for anything edible to take home. For some, this is all the food they get.

This experience made me think about my own life. How do I use the resources that I have? I am forced to admit that I use them pretty selfishly.

Saturday evening, after all the participants were seated, the food was served. Of the four tables, three of them received cold oatmeal sprinkled with dried larva. The table that I was at received “real” food.

Although the cold oatmeal was only an object lesson — “real” food was provided for

all the participants — it really drove home the point that there is nothing we do to deserve the opportunities that we have. It was predetermined which table would receive the “real” food.

There was nothing special that I did to get the food, I just sat down at a table. This is true of life. There wasn’t any choice, and there wasn’t anything we did to be born into a family with the ability to provide for us, just like there was nothing that other kids did to be born into poverty.

Knowing this, how can I still use what I have so selfishly?

I have been challenged to think about what I really need. I challenge you to do the same.

There are several ways to get involved. Child sponsorships are available through organizations such as World Vision and Compassion. Or you can always make monetary donations to these and other organizations to help teach communities to be self-sustaining.

Hunger is not just an issue in Third World countries. To make a local impact, pick up a few non-perishable items to donate to your local food bank next time you do your grocery shopping. Or you can find local homeless shelters where you can volunteer your time or donate resources.

No one likes to be hungry. It is so simple to make a difference in the world. It all starts with caring.

### Share your opinions in print

The Thunderword invites you to share your opinions. E-mail submissions to [agramann@highline.edu](mailto:agramann@highline.edu) no later than Monday for Thursday’s publication. Stories may be edited for spelling, grammar and length. Please include contact information for confirmation purposes.

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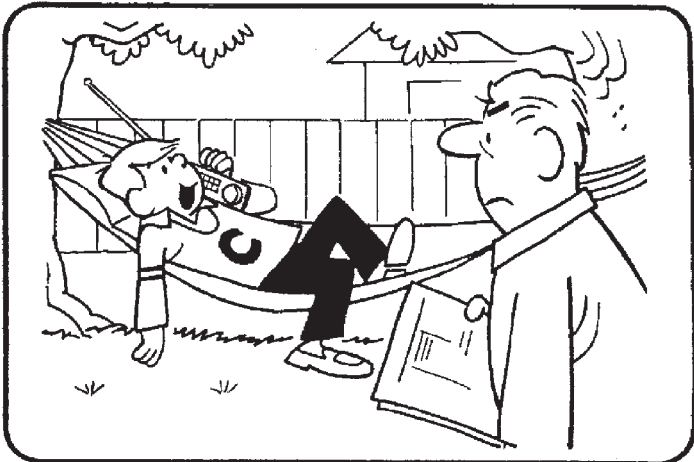
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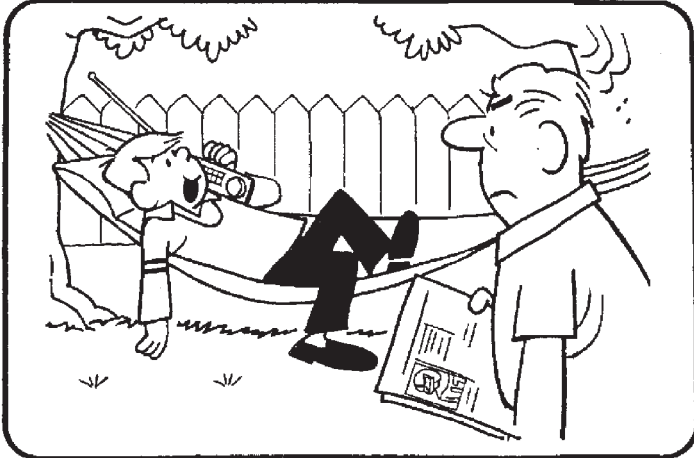


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Letter on sweater is missing. 2. Newspaper has short sleeves. 3. Shoes are black. 4. House is different. 5. Man is different. 6. Fence is different.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Hint of Tint

Across

- Hair-raising
- Fabricated
- D-Day battle site
- It comes from the heart
- Buckets
- Modern-day monarch, in brief
- What a job seeker seeks
- Yellow, for one
- Mr. Kristofferson
- Poker term
- D.C. group
- Circus barker
- Some parties
- Hawks looking for lunch
- Lunchbox treat
- Jazz great Shaw
- Cut off
- Old glory
- Suffix with serpent
- "You've got mail" hearer
- Facts and figures
- St. Louis player
- Second drink
- 401(k) cousins
- Highchair feature
- Burn with hot water
- Procrastinator's promise
- West Coast air hub:Abbr.
- Munchkins highway?
- F.H.A. loan
- Airline to Tel Aviv
- Grant-\_\_\_\_\_
- Coal-rich German region
- Kiss
- Noblemen

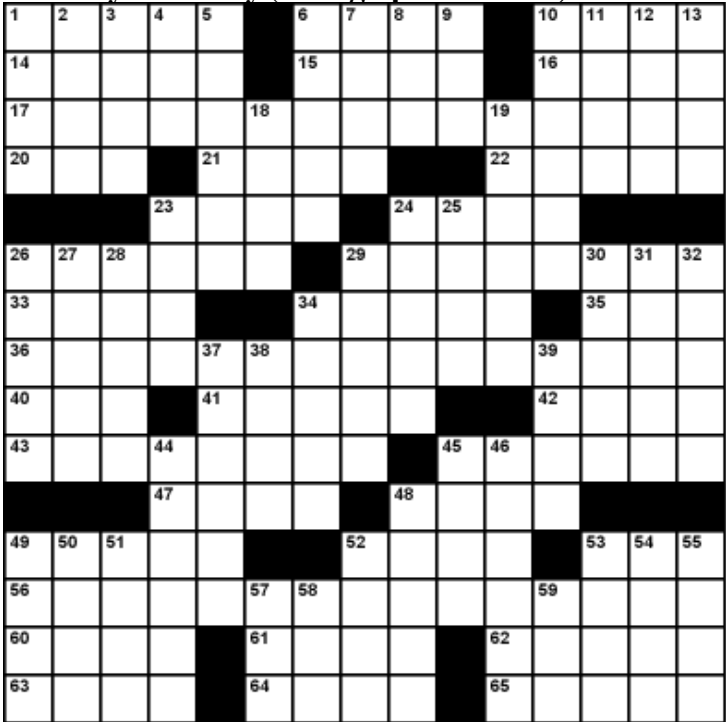
Down

- Droops
- Apple leftover
- Carpet layer's calculation
- I-95, e.g.
- 6 Down was one
- Baseball's Roger
- Heidi's home
- E.R. status
- Aliens, for short
- Blowing snow
- Actress Garr
- Empty promises
- French river
- Sea eagles
- Located a shipment
- Movie
- Long-necked instrument
- CNBC's Burnett
- Kind of acid
- Detroit's Joe Louis \_\_\_\_\_
- Passover meal
- Angler's basket
- Fitzgerald and others
- Paperboy's path
- Asparagus unit
- Rand McNally product
- Bob, for one
- College in New Rochelle
- Annual event, for short
- Actress Phyllis
- Gator's kin
- Monogram bearer
- Works hard

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Crossword 101

By Ed Canty (Ed@gfrpuzzles.com)



Quotable Quote

And when it rains on your parade, look up rather than down. Without the rain, there would be no rainbow.

... Jerry Chin

the United States?

7. SCI-ENCE: What genus do human beings belong to?

8. LIT-ERATURE: In what century did Dante complete *The Divine Comedy*?

9. TELE-VISION: On the

animated children's show *Arthur*, what kind of animal does the main character resemble?

10. MATH: What is the square root of 64?

Answers

- 1949
- The Muses

ROYALTIES



- Spain
- The mouth
- A saint
- Franklin Pierce
- Homo
- 14th century
- Aardvark
- 8

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1. HISTORY: The Geneva Convention, agreements that define international treatment of prisoners of war, were updated in what year?

2. MYTHOLOGY: What

are the nine patron goddesses of the arts called?

3. GEOGRAPHY: The Pyrenees Mountains lie between France and what other country?

4. ANATOMY: Stomatitis is inflammation of what?

5. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Mother Cabrini was the first U.S. citizen to become what?

6. PRESIDENTS: Who was the 14th president of



- Secondhand Smoke
- Dust Mites
- Pets
- Mold
- Pest infestations
- Weather
- Exercise
- Certain Foods
- Pollen
- Stress

Source: [www.docstoc.com](http://www.docstoc.com)

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Arts news?

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# Burien's annual farmers market open for business

By **RICHARD MEIER**  
Staff Reporter

Burien's eighth annual farmers market begins today.

Located in the heart of downtown Burien at Burien's Town Square on Southwest 152nd and Fifth Place, the market will run every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., from May 5 through Oct. 13.

Market Manager Debra George said that since Discover Burien's decision to establish a market nine years ago, local businesses not only have received a boost during operating hours, but local residents enjoy the opportunity to get out and get acquainted with other local residents.

"The market helps the city in many ways. A lot of local businesses find that their busiest day of the week is Thursday because people are going out into the community and not only going to the market but going to



Michael Brunk/nwlns.com

*Local residents have an opportunity to try fresh local produce with the start of the Burien farmers market.*

eat and going shopping as well," George said.

"The market revitalizes the community by getting local residents out there, mingling with one another. The farmers market has been a key to those kinds of things ever since Dis-

cover Burien decided to do the market nine years ago."

The market consists of 45 vendors, most of whom will be in attendance weekly; however, there will also be a constant rotation of vendors which will provide the market with a wide

variety of products.

"We run a very diverse farmers market and we have a great time slot too. I think our diversity is our key to our success. We have a little bit of everything which has caused the locals to latch onto it like it's their own," George said.

The main driving force behind the market isn't the crafters or food vendors, but the produce available for shoppers and that market goers may be surprised to see the uniqueness of the produce offered at the market, she said.

"I think we have some unique growers. I think that's what sets us apart from other markets," she said. "We have a little more Asian produce which you don't find at too many markets, but you'll also find that we have some of the more predictable growers with potatoes, tomatoes, and such. Other than that, I think we are similar to most markets but we have may-

be a few more growers and floral vendors."

Those who frequent the market will notice one key addition which will make it more convenient for market dwellers, George said.

"New for us this year starting opening day is we are going to be taking both Visa and Mastercard. Most markets are driven on strictly cash, so this will be a big thing this year," George said. "We are doing debit because it will allow people who may only have \$10 or \$15 the opportunity to spend more freely instead of being restricted."

New additions, combined with a reliable variety of products, and long hours is a recipe for success, George said.

"Last year we estimated to bring in between \$650,000 and \$700,000," George said. "Our variety and diversity of our vendors with our long hours makes the market very appealing to local residents."

## Investment club plans three finance awareness workshops

By **JAMES LEE**  
Staff Reporter

The Students Small Capital Investment Club will teach you how to prepare and invest your money for the better future, a club officer said.

To that end, the investment club will sponsor a Financial Awareness Workshop, May 9-11, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Building 19, room 203.

They will have three speakers: Audrey Hue of Bellevue College on Monday, William Webster of Highline on Tuesday, and Vanessa Diego of New York Life Insurance Company on Wednesday.

The speakers will go over information about credit, personal financial planning, different forms for filing taxes and other strategies that can improve your finances.

"The ideal of our club is to teach students how to properly manage their funds today and in the future," said Maurice Bailey, who is the secretary and treasurer of the investment club.

The Students Small Capital Investment Club was founded in 2006 by a student who wanted to form a student financial investment club to learn, educate, and disseminate financial education information.

With the help and sponsorship of Financial Education at Bellevue Community College, the Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants, and Washington state Department

of Financial Institution, the club has sponsored workshops, presentations, and financial games.

The club will be a good platform to start for future finance students and for anyone who wants to know more about the ins and outs of financial industry, Bailey said.

"If you are interested in business or economy, this is the right club for you," said Elena Afanasyeva, who is the president of Investment club.

During meetings or sessions, speakers talk about investment in real estate, buying stocks and portfolio management, preparing your taxes, saving up for retirement, credits, and anything relevant to our economy and finance.

"The meeting is so informative; I'm a business major and I learn a lot," Afanasyeva said.

Bailey, who majored in business at the University of Washington said, "I'm 65 years old - I'm still learning."

For those who attend all three sessions, the investment club will offer a Certificate of Attendance at its May 24 club meeting.

As an extra opportunity, they are currently recruiting all four officers of the club for the next year since the current officers are all graduating this quarter.

If you have questions regarding the club or need more information about upcoming sessions, contact Maurice Bailey at maurice@students.highline.edu.

## Sinkhole menaces MaST Center

By **SETH POWELL**  
Staff Reporter

There is a hole in Redondo, and the resulting roadwork is complicating access to the Marine Science and Technology center for Highline students.

The hole appeared in the middle of Redondo Way on the evening of April 24.

"We had a sinkhole out there," said Tommy Owen, an engineering technician in the Des Moines Transportation Department.

The Transportation Department was quick to respond, and had the hole blocked off right away.

Owen said that the sinkhole had appeared because of a storm pipe failure underneath the road. It was a corrugated metal pipe that had worn out so badly that the bottom of it was almost gone.

The problem with the pipe was discovered last fall and a plan was put in place to replace it this summer, said Owen. The sinkhole forced the city to speed up its plans.

"We had to put an emergency contract in order," Owen said.

Now half of Redondo Way is blocked off while the road work crew digs up the entire length of pipe. They are replacing the old metal one with new concrete

pipings, said Owen.

Redondo Way is the street that comes into Redondo from Dash Point Road. The sides of the street are usually lined with parked cars but with the road closed people have to find another place to park.

Students who use the Marine Science and Technology center in Redondo are still able to find plenty of parking on streets other than Redondo Way, said Rus Higley, the center's manager.

Higley also said that students can park in the large paid parking lot next to Redondo Way.

The project, which began on May 2, will take at least three weeks to complete, Owen said.

## Spring Festival lures high schoolers to Highline

By **KELLY CASSINERIO**  
Staff Reporter

Hundreds of high school students will be coming to Highline on May 13.

Next Friday, Highline will be holding the Spring Festival and many local high schools have been invited to come.

The Spring Festival is for high school students who are thinking going to college.

"It will get [high school students] on a college campus and get them to start thinking about college," said Tanisha Williams, program coordinator of the Spring Festival.

The Spring Festival is also open to students at Highline and

the surrounding community, Williams said.

Events at the Spring Festival include: a college fair, workshops on preparing for college, and a barbecue for lunch.

The college fair and barbecue will take place in the Student Union, Building 8.

There will be other activities going on as part of the barbecue.

"There will be a DJ, laser tag and other fun activities," Williams said.

Various classrooms will be holding college workshops.

These workshops will help build a strong resume that students could show to colleges and will be a transfer fair for Highline students, Williams

said.

Classrooms for the workshops will be posted on the day of the Spring Festival.

The Spring Festival will be on May 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This festival is a great opportunity for all high school students, said Williams.

"The most important thing is [high school students] will remember coming to Highline for this festival and may want to come back because of it," Williams said.

Got news?  
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# T-Birds keep spirits up and aim to finish season with positive outlook

By JOSHUA HART  
Staff Reporter

The Highline softball team suffered several injuries over the past few weeks, which caused the forfeiture of three games last week.

The T-Birds also lost three games last week, moving their record to 5-22 on the year, which puts them in last place.

Highline lost to Pierce, 11-1, on April 29.

A loss to Green River at home 7-2 was the next in a sequence of losses.

They went on to lose 6-0 in the first game against South Puget Sound.

Highline has had to forfeit the second games due to the injuries that their pitchers have suffered.

Sophomore pitcher Faith Baldwin hasn't been able to pitch after her hip injury became too risky to play on.

"The trainer, my coaches, and I have all thought it better to take it easy from pitching because it is on my drag (right) hip and every time I pitch it gets more painful," Baldwin said.

T-Bird pitcher Shannen Morgan, has been the lone pitcher since Baldwin's injury, but Assistant Coach Phil Taylor says that Morgan isn't entirely healthy and can't pitch two games in one day, which forces Highline to forfeit.

"This is the way it's going to go for the rest of the season," Taylor said.

Baldwin however thinks that they might not have to forfeit games much longer.

"Friday and Saturday I hope to be back in the circle," Baldwin said.

"The forfeits don't really have an effect on the team," Baldwin said.

"I expected it to dwell in the team, but everyone understands the situation," Taylor added.

"A lot of it is on the players themselves and they have done a great job on their own," Taylor said of the team.

"I just try to keep a positive attitude and give 100 percent," freshman catcher Brittany Myers said.

Taylor said that the players that seem to be taking the losses the hardest are the sophomores.

"This isn't the way they pictured their last season going," Taylor said.

The sophomores' still want to finish strong.

"My goal for the rest of this season is to be a good example for the freshman and recruits that come out," Baldwin said.

"As a sophomore I want to



Catcher Brittany Myers slides into third against South Puget Sound on Tuesday.

finish playing to the best of my ability," Lisa Sykes said.

The T-Birds have been struck by other injuries as well, including Lisa Sykes' arm injury that she is playing through, Kayla Carlile has been sitting out of games, and Keri Spafford has been fighting an injury.

"It really has been the perfect storm," Taylor said.

Highline has rarely been able to get a full team practice in due to all the injuries.

This has left them struggling to produce runs.

"The team just needs to improve offensively. We are strong defensively and our bats need to be turned on," Baldwin said.

They managed only one run on two hits against Pierce last Friday against Raider pitcher Katie O'Brien.

Highline pitcher Shannen Morgan got hit early, allowing seven runs in the first inning on

her way to allowing 12 hits and 11 runs.

Highline then took the field at home against Green River, but managed only two runs in off of three hits.

Green River was shut down by Shannen Morgan in five of the seven innings, but knocked in seven runs in the third and fourth innings.

Shannen Morgan allowed seven hits to the Gators, but was helped out by her improving defense which committed only one error.

When Highline took the field on May 3 against South Puget Sound, it looked as though a pitcher's duel was going to break out, neither team scoring through the first three innings.

Morgan didn't allow a hit until the fifth inning, but the Clippers started to figure her out and had six runs off six hits.

South Puget Sound pitch-

er Rachel Todd was on fire throughout the game, allowing only three hits and striking out sixteen batters.

"We just can't get our bats on the ball," Baldwin said.

Highline's defense had noticeably improved, including a couple of great stops by short-stop Faith Baldwin.

"Nobody has given up and I am extremely proud to call them my team," Baldwin said.

"Despite the many struggles, all of us girls continue to work hard," Myers said.

"We all want to finish the season out. I do not feel that anyone has given up," Sykes said.

The T-Birds finish the season with three road games next week.

They play Centralia on May 6, Grays Harbor on May 7, and then close out with Pierce on May 10.

## The Scoreboard

### Women's SOFTBALL

	W-L	PCT	W-L
Bellevue	18-01	.000	29-1
Everett	11-5	.688	19-15
Shoreline	12-6	.667	12-13
Douglas	11-9	.550	12-14
Olympic	9-11	.450	11-14
Skagit Valley	3-15	.167	4-18
Edmonds	0-18	.000	0-26
Walla Walla	18-4	.818	28-9
Wenatchee Valley	17-5	.773	31-5
Treasure Valley	13-9	.591	21-16
Columbia Basin	12-10	.545	11-7
Spokane	12-10	.545	8-9
Big Bend	8-14	.364	7-11
Yakima Valley	7-15	.318	9-9
Blue Mountain	1-21	.045	2-14
Pierce	21-1	.955	27-6
S. Puget Sound	14-5	.737	16-12
Centralia	12-10	.545	4-3
Green River	12-10	.545	0-6
Grays Harbor	5-17	.227	4-0
Highline	1-22	.043	1-4
Mt. Hood	11-1	.917	16-6
SW Oregon	9-3	.750	20-10
Clackamas	8-4	.667	14-7
Lower Columbia	4-6	.400	11-9
Chemeketa	1-9	.100	3-20
Clark	1-11	.083	9-20



# Students express themselves through ceramics

By **AMANDA SILLS**  
Staff Reporter

Whizzing pottery wheels, bustling students and the smell of earth encompass the cluttered but organized ceramics lab.

Clay-covered students spend time bent over pottery wheels while shaping numerous pots and formations. An apparently intense focus on projects damped the usual chatter and amplified the sound of pounding clay.

Students' various projects range from whimsical designs to practical vessels. One student is engrossed in creating a replica of the Space Needle while another is forming a dinner bowl.



Droessler

The students are enrolled in Highline's ceramics program, a five-credit art course that teaches students the foundations of working with clay. Each class includes a lecture or demonstration by instructor Rob Droessler and students are required to fulfill lab hours on their own time.

Droessler has a solid background in ceramics. He received a bachelor of fine art degree from Minnesota State University in 1995 and a master of fine art degree from Washington State University in 1998.

Some of Droessler's art pieces have been shown at various exhibitions, such as the Burien Arts Gallery, the Highline Library Gallery exhibit and the Brogan Glas Studio Gallery.

"Ceramics is a creative outlet for students who otherwise do not get a lot of opportunities

to express their creative sides," Droessler said.

Being involved in ceramics can help students find a time to clear their minds.

"Ceramics allows you to get away from classes," said Doug Strong, a Ceramics 172 student.

The ceramics program provides three different courses. Ceramics 171 introduces basic processes and techniques. Additionally, it will form a beneficial foundation for students who want to take future ceramic courses.

The next class, Ceramics 172, helps students enhance their skills by taking on more innovative projects. "We do something inspired by an artist," Strong said.

Other projects include making a teapot and creating something inspired by music.

Lastly, Ceramics 173 is the most advanced class and teaches even more complex levels of ceramics. At this point students take on leadership roles in the lab and gather for leadership meetings.

One important task for the advanced students is the ceramics pottery sale.

The sale usually occurs during Christmas time and then around Mother's Day. This spring's pottery sale took place Monday in the ceramics lab.

A typical Ceramics 171 class has about 30 students registered, which will almost always guarantee a busy lab filled with students bending over projects, pounding clay and glazing pots. The lab is located in Building 16, room 171.

At the end of the quarter the lab is extremely busy with people glazing and finishing projects, Strong said.

Learning time management is important when using the ce-



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Highline student Colin Walker modifies one of his pieces in the ceramics lab.

ramics lab.

"You have to make your own time and have self-motivation," Evan Dullis, a Ceramics 172 student, said. "People cram later in the quarter."

Some students register for ceramics thinking it will be an easy art class. However learning to throw a pot on the wheel is no easy task.

"You are either really good at it or you're not," Strong said. "I don't know how I did it the first time."

Yet with hard work and practice any student will improve.

"It's not really that hard when you get the hang of it but it does take time to figure out," Droessler said.

"Online videos helped," Strong said.

Throughout the classes students are able to take part in many different ceramic methods.

"We do a variety of projects, lots of pottery using a pottery wheel and some hand building projects to learn different techniques of working with clay," Droessler said.

One project introduces building a rattle using the pinch building technique. Some students have come up with creations such as an egg, football and even the head of a cat.

Students also learn how to make a coil pot using the coil method by rolling out clay spirals and pasting them together to form winding vessels.

Furthermore, a slab project includes building a box from clay wedges and forming it into any sort of unique design. Some students have made jewelry boxes, key holders and candle holders.

When it comes to designing the projects, Droessler is concerned with the how the projects are structured, but gives sway for creativity.

"The projects are very open as far as what students make. The part of the project I stress is the way the projects are constructed," Droessler said.

Consequently, students have a great deal of freedom to be artistic with projects.

For example, when making a teapot, you can be as artistic as you want, you just need to

have the correct structure, such as having a handle and spout, Dullis said.

Utilizing the project foundations, students are capable of creating something more than just a box, rattle, or pot. They can create an emotion, idea or inspiration and form it into a striking piece of art.

"I encourage them to really go for it, because they won't have a lot of opportunities in life to be as creative as they can in ceramics class," Droessler said.



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

A ceramics student throwing a piece of pottery on a wheel in the ceramics lab, located in Building 16, room 171.

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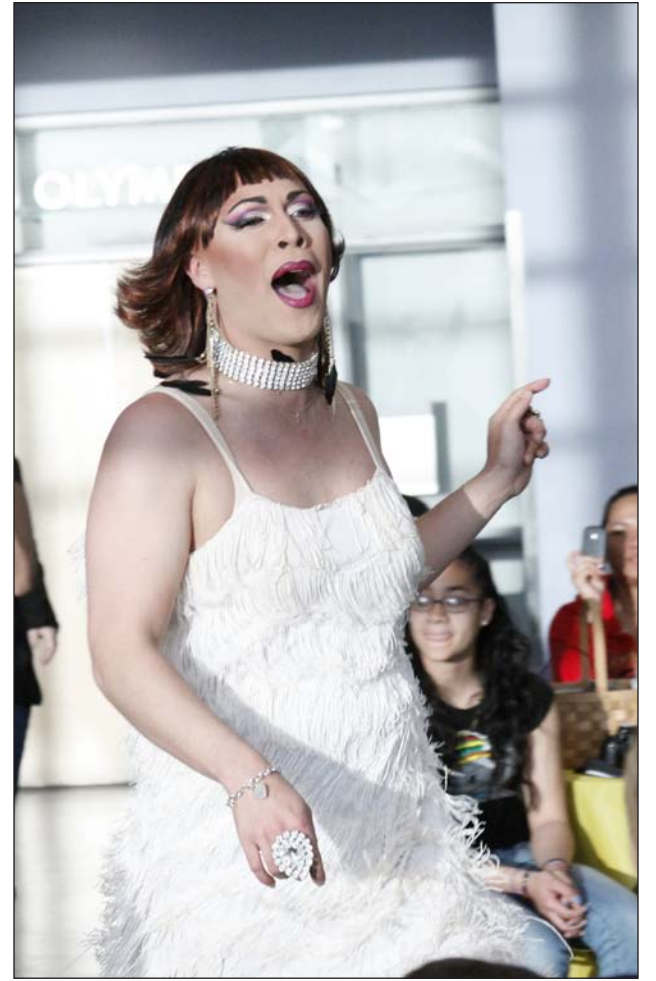
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Victoria Dom/THUNDERWORD

*Divas strut down the runway at the fourth annual Drag Show last Thursday in the Student Union.*

## Annual Drag Show returns to celebrate and embrace differences

By **AMANDA SILLS**  
Staff Reporter

Long black wavy hair, full lashes, plump lips and a stunning black dress made one man a convincing woman for a few moments last week.

Highline held its fourth annual Drag Show on April 28 in Building 8. The show, Divas in the Spotlight, began with tempo blasting and energetic beats.

With the help of some makeup, nylons and a little padding here and there, the drag queens stepped aside from their normal lives to spend the night as flashy divas.

To clarify, drag queens are men impersonating females and perform shows dressed in glitzy outfits.

As a popular part of the Unity through Diversity Week, the drag show was held to raise funds for the PRISM scholarship fund and in-

crease gay awareness on campus.

"Funds go to the PRISM scholarship fund on campus," said drag queen Alexys Champagne.

"It is a celebration of difference," said Katie Nyborg, a Highline student.

The drag show is part of the Unity through Diversity Week and is all about having fun, one drag queen said.

Through the show, diversity and acceptance can be further promoted on campus.

"We want it to bring awareness to the community," Champagne said.

"That's what I love about this campus, that everyone is accepted," said Nancy Allen, director of interpretive services at Highline.

Animated groups of people, ages ranging from toddlers to adults, packed the Student Union for the show.

To begin the show, a guy was picked out from the laughing crowd and sent to the dressing room to be dolled up by the drag queens.

Champagne, decked out in a feather headdress, got the audience clapping to a lively beat as she danced throughout the tables for the first performance.

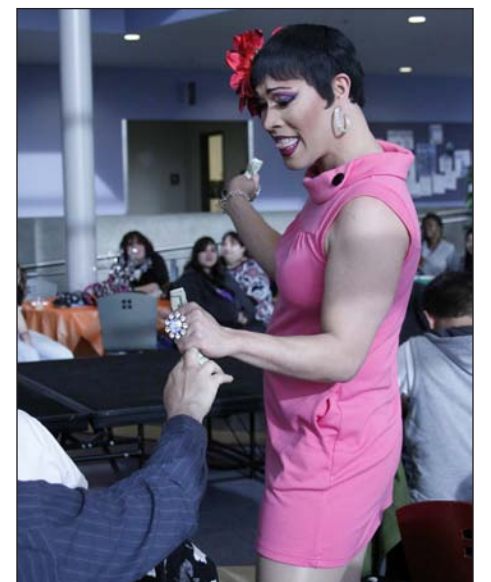
People in the crowd waved dollar bills, which the drag queens collected while they performed to various songs.

Silvery sequins, pink sparkles, flowers and scandalous costumes were included in the many assorted outfits worn by the divas.

In one memorable performance a drag queen dressed as an old lady danced to "Single Ladies" and even hopped upon a table, after which the crowd jumped up in applause.

"It's fun and entertaining, everyone loves it," said drag queen Nadia by Nature.

People had various reasons for going to the show and most had never been to a drag show before.



Victoria Dom/THUNDERWORD

*Audience members donate throughout the performances. Donations benefitted the PRISM scholarship fund.*

"My friend told me about it and I thought it would be interesting," Highline student Xuan-nhi said.

"A friend invited me and I thought, why not?" Steven Schumacher, a Highline student said.

"I came here to support my friend who was in the drag show," said Kristina Huynh, another student.

Most of the drag queens say that they enjoy performing as women and have had previous experience in the field of drag.

"I've been doing drag since 2001," Champagne said. "I love being up here in front of the crowd."

Some appreciate the drag show at Highline because it gives an opportunity for people to let go and have an enjoyable time. "People can just let loose and be themselves," Schumacher said.

"I love to just see people come out and be themselves," said Ayshi Gore, another Highline student.



Just  
be a  
queen