Despite incidents, students say Highline is accepting

By THUNDERWORD STAFF

Highline is a safe and accepting place for all people, a recent non-scientific survey of students shows.

Interviews with more than 100 Highline students this week revealed that, despite recent acts of vandalism and discriminatory behavior, most students say they find the campus to be a generally welcoming place.

Some students do report feeling like they have been discriminated against, on occasion, however. And students were nearly unanimous in saying that the college should have a zero-tolerance policy with regard to such discrimination.

The issue has come to the forefront of campus discussions after multiple incidents of vandalizing posters of different groups on campus, including organizations representing students of varied sexual orientations and students of Latino descent.

Nonetheless, most students interviewed said they have not experienced discrimination on campus of any kind, for sexual preference, race, or religion.

“Not here at Highline. I like Highline because it’s accepting of everyone,” student Scott Johnston said.

“I have never experienced discrimination here on campus,” said Sherri Munson.

“The only thing close to it is when people have tried to figure out what I am. It doesn’t bother me because I admit that I am unique: I am an American who practices the Muslim religion.”

“I don’t know where this nonsense is coming from,” said Stephanie Roundtree.

Even though most students have not experienced any kind of discrimination at Highline, many admitted that there are certain types of people, or groups of people, that did rub them the wrong way.

“I’m annoyed about the ‘all the cool kids are straight poster’ and someone keeps putting that bullshit back up,” said one Highline student who identified herself as bisexual.

“The group of people that rub me the wrong way are the people that do harsh things to the Muslims,” a student said.

“But they’re just insecure and lack the knowledge of their culture so they just judge.”

“The only group of people that rub me the wrong way are the break dancers,” said Raelea Wieves.

“But that’s only because they can be a little too loud sometimes.”

Another student said, “The preps are annoying but that’s just a personal preference and not everyone is going to get along. I’m not going to do something to disrespect them. They’re just not my cup of tea.”

Some of the reasons had to do with personal-ity clashes which are just a normal and natural part of life, while others had to do with cliques and classroom disrupters.

“I hate cliques,” said a student.

“Clique equals immaturity and that immature attitude makes me not want to come to school.”

“Yes, people who are too cool for school. I don’t like classroom disrupters,” said Nate Williams.

“Just about any cliquish group,” said Patrick Dunne.

Other students mentioned that they had a hard time getting

See Students, page 16

Ink blobs can be decoded with the scan of a smart phone

By TJ SQUIRES

Staff Reporter

The ink blobs that look like a Jackson Pollock piece are actually codes that can be very helpful if used correctly.

The two dimensional matrix barcodes, known as Quick Response codes, can be accessed by a QR reader through smart phones that are camera-enabled and have internet access.

QR codes are beginning to be used in magazines, on billboards, through the internet, and may show up in school textbooks in the next few years.

“They’re very popular in both Japan and South Korea, but are recently starting to show up in the United States.”

“QR codes are actually something that is very new for our company, and we are just beginning to explore the possibilities of incorporating them into our promotions and marketing,” said Amanda Ip, special projects coordinator of Fred Meyer.

Sue Frantz explained how teachers will put them into textbooks where students will be able to use them to be directed to an internet site, or taken to a video used for the class.

See Codes, page 16
The new Zumba class is sure to get you out of your seat and dancing

By KATIE ADAMS
Staff Reporter

You’re not going to find yoga mats on the floor this quarter if you walk into the all-purpose room in Building 27 between 11 and 11:50 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Listen carefully and you’ll hear a Latin beat and the sound of quick movement across the floor, as students dance under the direction of Cheryl Davis.

The students dancing are in the new Zumba class that began this quarter.

Zumba is a Latin-based dance fitness program that originated in Colombia in the ’90s by Alberto “Beto” Perez previously choreographed dance routines for popular performers such as Shakira.

Zumba was invented when Perez went to teach an aerobics class and realized he had forgotten his music.

He improvised and began teaching that dance which followed the beat of the Latin music.

The class proved to be a well-received choice by students as all 25 possible spots filled up fast.

Many students looking to fill their physical education requirement for their degree quickly signed up for the class due to its laid-back nature and room for mistakes.

“I make mistakes, they’re [students are] making mistakes – no one really cares,” Davis said. “We’re just having fun. Whereas in a step class, you make a mistake and it shows more.

“If you’re not going in the same direction in a step class, it shows. In Zumba, nobody cares. Nobody really cares because you’re just moving and having fun,” she added.

Zumba is for all fitness levels. Throughout the quarter, Davis and her students have gotten more comfortable with the dancing, with this being Davis’ first quarter as a Zumba instructor.

Davis has been teaching at Highline for the past 14 years, for classes in weight training, step, and yoga.

Many of the students who stayed toward the back of the gym at the beginning of the quarter have begun to move forward, which she said is fun and fulfilling for her.

All Zumba classes have to contain 70 percent of the core Zumba dance moves, which include merengue, salsa, zumba, and reggaeton.

Many of the classes, including Davis’ class, also have elements of swing, belly dancing, hip-hop, and rock dance moves incorporated into the routines.

The dance moves in individual Zumba classes will vary from instructor to instructor but they all follow similar guidelines.

“You’re going to look at the song and it’s going to have a chorus, verse, and a bridge in there and you take those parts and work your choreography to those parts,” she said. “The choreography will be fairly basic, but it’ll include a lot of hip action.”

Davis is currently the only instructor certified to teach the Zumba class.

Whether more classes get offered is dependent upon more instructors getting certified and if the department can replace Zumba with any of the other class offerings.

When you go clubbing, you get that euphoric feeling and Zumba does that for many people, Davis said about the popularity of the dance.

“People are looking for group activities. Yoga is very popular right now but it’s very individual. Zumba has group practice with individual flair,” she added. “I think that if you find the fitness you love and do it, you’ll get benefits from it.”

Burien Wellness Fair hopes to bring attention to preventive care

By ELENA FLOYD
Staff Reporter

The third annual Burien Wellness Fair will return this year on Saturday, May 14, at Burien Town Square.

The fair is free of cost.

It will include health seminars and fun for all ages as well as career information for those interested in pursuing careers in the health care field.

The Burien Wellness Fair began as an outreach of the Burien Wellness and preventative care advice seminars.

Hightline along with the Puget Sound’s Skills Center, Health Sciences and Human Services High School will be present to give information on educational routes in the health care industry.

Representatives from Hightline’s nursing, medical assistance, personal fitness, and physical education programs will be on hand to distribute information on applying to the programs offered at the college.

“We want to inform the public about the educational opportunities for future health care students as well as to inform about preventative care,” said Bob Bonner, coordinator of Hightline’s respiratory care program.

Bonner believes in putting emphasis on preventative care to help people from getting sick and reduce health care costs.

“This fair is valuable as it is an opportunity to invest in your health at no cost to you,” said Bonner.

The fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Burien Town Square, located at SW 152nd Street & 5th Place SW.

For additional information please visit, www.burienwellness.org and www.burienwa.gov.
Business student starts up urban clothing line

By KATIE ADAMS
Staff Reporter

Student Jimmy Bui is a man on a mission to put better clothing on the market and he’s going to start with his clothing line, King Me Clothing. A new urban clothing line, with four T-shirts already released and six more to come before the start of summer, despite Bui being the sole funder of the company. Bui started his education at Highline during his senior year of high school. His first class was with Anthony Newton, an accounting instructor.

“I learned so much out of that class [accounting] and managed to get a 3.9 GPA,” Bui said. “I kept going further with the business classes and after completing all the business classes for my associate of business degree, I felt I knew a decent amount of knowledge to try to start a company.”

The designs featured on the T-shirts are styled after the widespread hip-hop and sneaker cultures that are thriving in major cities across the nation. The shirts are printed on American Apparel fine jersey unisex shirts, in sizes ranging from extra small to extra large. Bigger sizes are available upon request.

Following the release of the six new T-shirt designs, he’s going to cut and sell plaid shirts, and in the fall, hoodies, flannels, beanies, and crewnecks will be on the market, Bui said. Bui first got the idea for the company when he was in high school, approximately four or five years ago. But at that age you don’t have the resources to make the company a reality, he said.

“We [Bui and his former business partner] were really into the urban culture but all of the brands around here weren’t making the clothes we wanted to wear,” he said. “It was good stuff, but we saw that we could make it better.”

Although King Me Clothing is one of multiple clothing lines that has been popping up around the Northwest, Bui hopes his clothing line will stand out for the sheer fact that he wants to reach a broader audience than just the surrounding region by designing clothes that are relatable whether you live in Seattle or New York City.

He never intended for the clothing line to be big or go mainstream, he said.

His intention was to make clothes for him and his friends but after receiving compliments on the clothing, he decided it was time to make a move on a larger scale and for a bigger audience.

“As of right now, the only place you can view the clothing is on Facebook.”

“We did a photo shoot recently all around Seattle to put a face to the name and show everyone what we are about,” he said.

“We are currently working on a contract with an urban clothing website called Karmaloop and if we land that contract our products will be displayed for everyone all around the world to see.”

“In the next five years I want to be able to have our clothing line displayed in stores around the U.S in major states such as New York, Florida, New Jersey, California, Texas, Nevada,” Bui said.

“I hope to see the company successful enough I can make a living off doing what I love and that is making clothing,” he added.

For those interested in purchasing the clothing, you can go to kingmeclothing.bigcartel.com where all of the current T-shirt designs are available.

‘80s metallics and aerobics wear are out, eco-friendly organic cotton is in

The cold weather may have carried into the new season but that doesn’t mean your wardrobe shouldn’t get a springtime update.

Anxiously awaiting the warm weather, take advantage of the prime opportunity to give your closet a spring cleaning and move on from last year’s fads. This season brings new trends while reintroducing old favorites, including bold stripes, organic fabrics, and of course, florals.

Although some looks may be tricky to incorporate into your daily attire, it is all matter of choosing the right trends for you to avoid a springtime fashion faux pas.

If simple, clean cuts define your personal style, lose the skinny jeans and invest in a pair of high-waist trouser shorts. This year’s spring/summer fashion week had a number of designers such as Derek Lam and Tory Burch, showing 1970s-inspired collections.

Throw it out: ‘80s metallics and Xanadu aerobics wear.

Take it in: ’70s clean lines and Elizabeth Taylor-esque sophistication.

Truth be told, no one wants to be blinded by the reflection of skin-tight sequin leggings on a sunny spring day, because let’s face it, that is not bitchin’. The key to flawlessly executing these trends is to work a few pieces into your existing wardrobe, instead of layering trend on top of trend.

For a complete head-to-toe outfit, try a vintage boyfriend tee, tuck it into a pair of high-waist trouser shorts, and add a pop of color with a bright-crimson belt for a casual daytime look that will make the boys eat their hearts out.

Mother Nature is smiling as organic fabrics and minimal white color palettes are also appropriated, simple trend for the season.

Seen in the collections of Calvin Klein and Alexander Wang, among others, pieces in solid shades of white and cream are an easy-to-wear option for spring.

Five minutes ago: Faux furs that could potentially spark a PETA controversy. Must-have: Eco-friendly basics.

Go green by purchasing these pieces in organic cotton, which will keep you cool and comfortable on those sunny days.

Head-to-toe look: throw a white organic cotton blazer over a cream t-shirt dress, and finish it off with a pair of leather sandals or patent leather nude pumps to create an outfit that is appropriate for any occasion.

On the contrary, those who are not afraid to be bold can experiment with the spring trend of viscos colors and patterns.

A rainbow of bright hues and eclectic prints were a main staple in a number of collections, including Louis Vuitton, Marc Jacobs, Stella McCartney, and L.A.M.B.

Just stop: Structured, all-black everything. Please start: Fun and free, all-color everything.

When done right, bold stripes, a la Prada spring/summer collection, can add a touch of sass to any outfit.

To pull-off a loud pattern without looking like a fashion victim, the simplest alternative is to pair it with simple, solid pieces.

But those who dare to stand out should never be afraid to mix prints.

For a head-to-toe look, pair a black-and-white striped top with a bright-colored floral print skirt.

Throw on some old Converse for a casual day-time outfit, or slip on a pair of black leather wedges for an evening look.

Now you may be thinking, “Floral prints, how innovative.” However, there are a number of ways (such as the previous head-to-toe suggestion) to add a twist to the unwritten fashion law that florals are a must-have.

Another method to add life to the springtime staple is by contrasting the feminine flower pattern with grunge pieces. Think leather, acid-wash denim, and sweatshirts.

Head-to-toe look: try on a floral sundress, black leather jacket, and accessorize with a silver multi-layer chain necklace.

The golden rule for expanding your spring wardrobe is to marry the current trends with your timeless favorites.

Remember, what was in style last year is “out” now, and what is “in” next year will be long gone by next year.

So, when updating your closet for the season, experiment with the latest trends without compromising your personal style.
New law lets universities set their own tuition rates

13-16 percent hikes expected; more aid promised for students

By RASCHELLE CASEBIE
Staff Reporter

Washington’s universities will have the authority to set their own tuition prices beginning next fall. House Bill 1795, Enacting the Higher Education Act, will allow universities to set their own tuition prices without a cap for the next four years.

The bill was passed during the special session and is now waiting for the governor to sign it into law.

The special session is a 30-day period called by the governor to allow extra time for the Senate and House to hammer out next year’s budget. While the House and Senate wrangle over the final budget, the Legislature has been able to get some work done.

Universities, though, can make the decision to continue abiding by the Legislature’s tuition limits.

“It will be up to the universities who opt into the new authority. Some universities will not opt in and therefore will continue to be limited by tuition to 13-16 percent increases,” said State Rep. Chris Reykdal, D-Olympia, also a co-sponsor of HB 1795.

Though there is no cap, it’s not likely that four-year colleges will exceed 13-16 percent when raising tuition prices.

“Tuition could be raised higher than 13-16 percent, but this is the number that the four-year colleges have been using in Olympia, so it’s unlikely that they will go significantly higher without incurring legislative wrath next year. If they go up more than that, they are more likely to be hit the 60 percent cap,” said State Rep. Christine Rolfes, D-Bainbridge Island, another co-sponsor.

With the freedom for universities to set their own tuition costs however, come requirements.

“In addition to the Legislature adding money to the State Need Grant, this new tuition authority will require higher education institutions to revert some of their tuition yields to financial aid at the institution level,” Rep. Reykdal said.

After the first four years of the universities being able to decide their own tuition prices, further limitations will be set.

“There’s no tuition cap for the first four years, but for the next four years, the tuition must be maintained at less than 60 percent of the average of comparable institutions around the country. This was the upper limit recommended by the Governor’s Higher Ed Task Force,” Rep. Rolfes said.

The bill will help to lessen the impact of the expected rises in tuition and help out middle class students, sponsors said.

“To offset a rise in tuition, the Legislature intends to make state need grants more accessible to middle class students by raising the poverty limits. This will allow thousands of families to qualify, and alleviate costs somewhat,” said the legislative assistant for State Rep. Katrina Asay, R-Milton.

State Rep. Reykdal adds that the universities will be required to use some of their new tuition to provide grants to students between 75 percent and 125 percent of median family income, Reykdal said.

Essentially this is an income of about $96,000 for a family of four, State Rep. Rolfe said.

This bill also discourages four year colleges from accepting out-of-state students over in-state students.

“The number of in-state students cannot be less than it was in 2009, beginning next school year. This was due to an amendment put forth by State Rep. Tina Orwell (D-Des Moines),” she said.

“(HB 1795) maintains access to the schools because of declining support by state tax-payers due to the recession, state subsidies to the higher education institutions have been dramatically reduced, and the schools were looking at cutting thousands of enrollment slots,” Rep. Rolfe said.

It will also help to prevent Washington students from paying expensive out-of-state tuition.

“Out-of-state and private tuition is significantly higher for Washington residents. So maintaining a maximum number of higher education enrollment slots for in-state students is deemed a high priority, rather than having more students leaving the state and spending more on out-of-state tuition,” Rep. Rolfe said.

Students will benefit from the accountability measures for public universities that the legislature has created, Rolfe said.

“For the first time the Legislature will be requiring public universities to report on things like; how long it takes to get students to get a degree, what the tuition is spent on, and where their revenue comes from, for example,” she said.

“The main goal of the bill is to move to a new management structure that will allow us to get more education out of our limited tax dollars,” Rep. Rolfe said.

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The Thunderword / May 12, 2011
Migrating to the U.S. wasn’t easy, panelists say

By MAX GRTSAUYK Staff Reporter

Moving to the U.S. from another country is the same as having your house burned to the ground and starting over, a panel said here Tuesday.

The Immigration Law, an Immigration Experience workshop, led by Highline Professor Tommy Kim, explained how people came from different parts of the world to have a better life in the U.S. The panel consisted of Cha- yuda Overby, Ayush Soui, Ekkarath Sisavatdy and Jessica Lee. They talked about their lives and what they had to go through.

Most people who come to the U.S. have come either with their parents or by themselves and they had to start off from nothing.

Jessica Lee, a Highline student, moved from Hong Kong to the U.S. with her family in 1993. Getting an education is something that she wanted to do, Lee said.

“I’m passionate about mental health in community, because I have bipolar disorder,” she said. “I appreciate the American education system that helped me pursue my dream.”

Most of the problems that people face are about how to make money. This problem exists not only in other counties but in the U.S. as well.

“My parents wanted me to work, so as soon as I could I started to work. I started to work at Safeway and till this day I work there,” Lee said.

When Lee’s family moved to the U.S., “My dad said ‘We came to America with an American dream but it ended up as a nightmare,'” Lee said.

People coming to the U.S. have dreams and goals for a better future. Others want to have more freedom and rights.

Overby got a job that required her to wash dishes. “That was something that I have not done and I didn’t even know how to do,” she said.

“I had to start all over. I was in a family where I didn’t need anything,” Overby said.

Ayush Soui’s story is different. He’s a high school student who was born in the U.S.

Since their family wasn’t rich, “My dad had to work two jobs as a taxi driver and a bartender to get my brother and my mother to the United States,” Soui said.

Starting a new life in U.S. was very difficult by looking through what his parents went through. “Some people decided not to make it. What I mean is, they moved back to their countries,” Soui said.

Soui said there is also the cultural view of parents that is prejudiced, such as staying a night at a friend’s house.

He said if his parents were born in the U.S. he thinks they would have a different perspective on things such as letting him stay the night at a friend’s house.

Ekkarath Sisavatdy, a Highline education planner and advisor, moved to the U.S. from Laos with his family. They had different views. “My dad didn’t want to get citizenship, he wanted to have that option of going back,” Sisavatdy said.

When Sisavatdy moved to the U.S., “Our sister raised us when our mom worked over-time,” he said. “We cooked and sold the food house to house.”

Other families such as Cha- yuda Overby’s lived as an elite family in Thailand. When she was living with her parents she didn’t have any needs. When she moved to U.S., her parents wanted her to get a master’s degree and go back to Thailand. She didn’t want to do that so as life went on at age 18 she ended up alone, looking for a job.

Cha-yuda Overby’s family was well off but when they came to the United States she had to get her first job as a dishwasher.

Highline is approaching new challenges, candidates say

By MEGAN WALLIN Staff Reporter

In extreme times, Student Government candidates spoke out about extreme solutions for issues affecting student welfare at the Candidates Forum on Monday, May 11, from noon-1 p.m. in the Mt. Confer- ence room.

Focusing on funding, dealing with budget cuts, “spreading love on campus,” appreciating diversity, student involvement and embracing the responsibility of being a strong voice for the Highline population were just a few of the ideas presented.

Four candidates are in the running this year, with David Turner and Zøy Myagmarjav running for president, and Troy Kwak and Enrique Ramirez running for vice president.

While they are split on their methods and beliefs regarding answers to the problems facing Highline this year, all are agreed that Highline is approaching a time filled with new challenges.

One of the most important issues the student body and our Student Government faces, they said, is budget cuts.

One solution for funding issues, said presidential candidate David Turner, is to bring back the candy and pop tax by pressuring legislators to put it on the ball again for Washington voters.

People are more aware now,” Turner said. “(This) is one of the best things we can do.”

His opponent, Zøy Myagmarjav, proposed that Highline should encourage the government to give students who are getting their Associates degrees the same protection as K-12 Programs, as well as encouraging the preservation of the Work Study program.

“Maybe you don’t think it affects you, but it does affect our campus,” Myagmarjav said.

Myagmarjav, who is running together with Enrique Ramirez, said that although we have a very active Student Government at Highline, the root of involvement really lies with clubs on campus.

Without proper funding for Student Programs, she said, we will not have the same effectiveness.

Any successful effort “takes time, money and energy,” she said, and discussed the challenges of implementing sustainability policies recently introduced to Highline’s Student Government.

All candidates said that there were many ways to cut wastefulness and fulfill Highline’s goal to be a greener campus.

Troy Kwak and Ramirez suggested involving clubs in the implementation of increased recycling, and Myagmarjav discussed the merits of an online Thunderword.

Troy Kwak reminded voters that there would be a breakthrough involving in implementing policies.

“We would have to spend lots of money,” Kwak said, but added, “There’s a balance we can make between educational funds and environmentally-friendly funds.”

Another big issue that came up was the issue of unity through the spread of acceptance and love. For Ramirez, this was a central focus.

As a Student Government officer, “you should be able to relate to all different kinds of students,” he said. “No one should be doing this for a resume; You should care about the students.”

His running mate, Myag- marjav, echoed his sentiments. Servant leadership is very important, she said, because you’re representing thousands of students.

“That voice is really strong,” said the presidential candidate, adding that some students may have interests and passions that she does not, but “I have to represent them as well, not just my opinions.”

With unity, budgets and a new year of challenges ahead of them, all candidates were eager to prove themselves worthy of the task.
Green fever spreads slowly

‘Green’ jobs increasing, held back by slow economy

By BRIAN ALEXANDER  
Staff Reporter

Green jobs are starting to take root in the Highline area, Highline Professor Dr. James Peyton said here at the weekly Sustainability Seminar last week.

Green jobs will be increasing from 2011-2015 for the most part in the Highline area, from Renton to Burien to Federal Way.

“Biofuels, green building, and renewable products will all be increasing by 11 percent in the South King County,” said Dr. Peyton, who teaches economics.

Engineers for biofuels are also going to be in big demand. The Highline area is quickly making its way into the green side of life but it is still behind the rest of the U.S., Dr. Peyton said.

The economy is playing a big part in the going green effort, he said.

If businesses had more money to spend they could possibly be turning green faster and catching up with the country.

Temporary labor services right now are flourishing with the increase of people who need work.

With the thousands of people laid off from their jobs and not many companies hiring, places such as Labor Works and Labor Ready have many people waiting.

Businesses that are unable to hire anyone full or part time can call a temporary labor service and get what the help they need when they need it.

Since construction is one of the occupations with a larger number of employees, they also have a large number of unemployed workers. Many of these unemployed construction workers are now seeking temporary labor jobs.

Renewable energy jobs that are going in the green direction are slowly starting to show up more and more. This field is expected to have a 2 percent growth rate in the next four years, Dr. Peyton said.

The transportation and alternative fuels sectors are not producing jobs in the Highline area, Dr. Peyton said.

A 7 percent decrease in these kinds of jobs is projected for South King County.

For the rest of the west side of the mountains, a 2 percent decrease is expected.

The Highline area is expected to see an 11 percent jump in water and waste management in the next four years, Dr. Peyton said.

Renton to Burien to Federal Way, a 2 percent decrease is expected.

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If businesses had more money to spend they could possibly be turning green faster and catching up with the country.

Temporary labor services right now are flourishing with the increase of people who need work.

With the thousands of people laid off from their jobs and not many companies hiring, places such as Labor Works and Labor Ready have many people waiting.

Businesses that are unable to hire anyone full or part time can call a temporary labor service and get what the help they need when they need it.

Since construction is one of the occupations with a larger number of employees, they also have a large number of unemployed workers. Many of these unemployed construction workers are now seeking temporary labor jobs.

Renewable energy jobs that are going in the green direction are slowly starting to show up more and more. This field is expected to have a 2 percent growth rate in the next four years, Dr. Peyton said.

The transportation and alternative fuels sectors are not producing jobs in the Highline area, Dr. Peyton said.

A 7 percent decrease in these kinds of jobs is projected for South King County.

For the rest of the west side of the mountains, a 2 percent decrease is expected.

The Highline area is expected to see an 11 percent jump in water and waste management in the next four years, Dr. Peyton said.

Renton to Burien to Federal Way, a 2 percent decrease is expected.

“The Biofuels, green building, and renewable products will all be increasing by 11 percent in the South King County,” said Dr. Peyton, who teaches economics.

Engineers for biofuels are also going to be in big demand. The Highline area is quickly making its way into the green side of life but it is still behind the rest of the U.S., Dr. Peyton said.

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Renton to Burien to Federal Way, a 2 percent decrease is expected.
Creating an app? Now there’s an app for that!

Phone applications are not as technical as they seem, professor says

By AMANDA SILS
Staff Reporter

Anyone can easily create a phone application by following the correct steps and using their own creativity, as a Highline professor demonstrated last week.

Instead of the usual Science Seminar lecture or presentation, last week’s seminar was led by Professor Krish Mahadevan from the Highline Computer Science Department and included a more hands-on approach.

Science Seminar takes place every Friday at Highline in Building 3 and features faculty who present topics related to their field. The series of lectures are held to explain scientific discoveries, studies and worldwide interests. Presentations are open to the public and can also be taken by students for college credit.

Building phone applications may sound like a technical or difficult project better left to a computer scientist. Mahadevan explained, however, that with a little help of the online application generator WYSIWYG, inventing can be a breeze.

WYSIWYG (what you see is what you get) is an online web application creator, anyone, even people who are fearful of sending applications and people can learn to program and work with. Some options include a math section for making things such as converters, an alphabet with different styles and an animation section to create moving objects.

“It’s like playing with Legos,” Mahadevan said. Using the WYSIWYG application creator, anyone, even people who are fearful of sending an email, can create a phone application, Mahadevan said. First, Mahadevan showed the students how to make a simple temperature converter, but gave leeway for the students to create whatever they liked.

“You can create your own application with your own style, your own profile,” he said.

Within WYSIWYG there are many possibilities for making applications and people can pick and choose various backgrounds, fonts, animations and much more.

“One thing you need is creativity,” he said. “You can push the limits.”

Throughout the demonstration Mahadevan carefully went over each step of the application process and had various people available to guide students.

“I thought the presentation was a great example of how one can learn to program and work on the cutting edge of technology without having to learn a whole programming language,” said Dr. Eric Baer, director of the Science Seminar program and Geology and Physical Sciences department at Highline.

“It was amazing that there were people there from 10 to 80 years old who all made an app,” Dr. Baer said.

“I did not expect the program to be that easy,” student Stewart Long said. “It was very user friendly and helpful.”

“In short just follow what I’m doing,” Mahadevan said. By the end of the seminar, students were asking questions and creating several applications of their own.

“The students seemed to be a much into creating the program and getting it to run,” Dr. Baer said.

“I had to kick folks out eventually, there were people still working 30 minutes after the seminar was scheduled to end,” he said.

Dr. Baer thought the presentation had educational worth for students.

“Perhaps one of them will continue to play around with what they learned and make a killer app,” he said.

Some students were impressed with Mahadevan’s knowledge of creating phone applications and his ability to demonstrate the information in a simple way.

“He understood exactly what he was talking about,” Long said. “He added comedic value to the presentation.”

If students are interested in learning more about developing apps or studying computer science, they can talk to Mahadevan or one of the other computer science faculty at Highline, Dr. Baer said.

This week’s Science Seminar will be covering the beauty of M.C. Escher’s art of spiral patterns, by Highline mathematics professor, Ed Morris. The presentation will be in Building 29 room 308 from 2:20 to 3:10 p.m.

Students plan local voting forum

By SETH POWELL
Staff Reporter

Highline students will be hosting a forum to raise awareness on voting in local elections on May 17.

The forum is being held by students taking American Government and will take place at 10 a.m. in the Mt. Constance room in Building 8.

It will feature local officials, such as Mayor Skip Priest of Federal Way and Mayor Bob Sherrick of Des Moines. Judge Marlin Appelwick will also be present. Appelwick, a former state legislator, currently is a judge on the Washington State Court of Appeals.

Students attending the forum will be able to learn about the importance of voting locally from these political leaders and more.

“We want the students to know why it’s so important to vote in local elections,” said Brandon Green, one of the students organizing the event. “It’s where politics meet home.”
Students

continued from page 1

along with other students who are self-centered, selfish, or just disrespectful in general.

“Yes, people who don’t respect others in general. People who are closed minded and are opposed to change,” said Brett Claudio.

“Anyone has people they can’t get along with, it doesn’t have to be like a stereotype person, it just happens,” said Scott Johnston.

However, some students said they have felt the sting of discrimination themselves.

“I have never experienced discrimination at Highline, but at my high school I have,” one student said.

“I feel like I was discriminated against, because I had a partner who was white and while he had very similar answers to mine, I ended up with a lower grade than he did,” said another student.

“I got an F.”

“The only thing close to discrimination I have felt was one time when a student brushed me off because I was white,” another student said.

“I am treated differently,” said Kazuki Nakamura. “I feel like because I’m Japanese and I’m still trying to understand the American culture, I am treated differently.”

“I felt like I was treated differently but not in a bad way,” said Davina Fuiava. “Whenever my non-Samoan friends meet with my Samoan friends they don’t act like themselves because they don’t feel comfortable around my culture.”

“I feel like because I’m Japanese and I’m still trying to understand the American culture I am treated differently,” said Kauhaua Nagur.

Highline has an official diversity policy that states that the college is “committed to the elimination of discrimination.”

“Make sure not one group of people are treated the same,” said Anna Cutulima.

“I feel like because our group is racially and religiously diverse, people always give us weird looks,” said another student.

“I feel like the professors treat me differently and think I’m too young to understand anything because I’m a Non-Asian Student,” said Raelena Wieves.

“I feel like because I hang with the bad kids so I get treated harsher,” said one student.

“Yes I’ve been discriminated against,” one Highline student said. “People look at us funny and are intimidated.”

“I feel like because I hang out with other Indians that people do treat me differently,” said Sharen Kaur.

“I feel like because our group is racially and religiously diverse, people always give us weird looks,” said another student.

“I feel like the professors treat me differently and think I’m too young to understand anything because I’m a Running Start student,” said Hami Bahadori.

“It’s not like you can punish someone for how they feel,” said Andrea Shepard.

“I worry about the term being taken too broadly,” said Alex Rahman. “People make discriminating decisions all the time; like people will choose basketball over another sport all the time. That can be taken as discrimination.”

One student suggests that the college should support clubs more. “The more people are aware of the clubs the more they want to join, the more educated they can get and discrimination can go away.” “I think groups should join together and join other groups,” said Sharen Kaur.

“In my opinion just live and let live,” said Halden Richards, “Discrimination happens because of insecurities.”

“It doesn’t matter what the college does,” said Davina Fuiava. “It will still be there. Instead bring awareness and inform people why it’s wrong.”

Thunderword reporter Max Henry, Ellena Floyd, Derek Ngor and Elzie Dickens III contributed to this story.

Codes

continued from page 1

“In the next few years you’re going to start to see them in textbooks,” said Frantz.

In the textbooks, the QR codes could be edited if the teacher wants to change or update a link, and this can be done quickly and easily.

According to Frantz, 95 percent of her class already has phones with cameras and internet access, and more students are getting smartphones every day.
Annual celebration targets domestic violence

By ELIZABETH MIKLOVICH  Staff Reporter

Highline Women’s Programs are hoping to STOP domestic violence with their 29th annual celebration. The theme for this year’s celebration is Sustain Togeth-
er, Opportunity, and Peace (STOP). This is in continuing with their main focus this year of domestic violence awareness and prevention. The celebration will kick off May 16 in Building 7 at 11 a.m. with a safety presentation. Sgt. Pattie Harris from the Des Moines Police Department and Sgt. Demetria Harris from Highline Campus Security will present a video on playing it safe every day and discuss safety issues. The keynote speaker will be Brenda Clubine, an advocate for battered women.

Clubine was in an abusive relationship when, fearing that she would never escape, she married her husband on the head with a wine bottle and fled. Her husband died, and she was sentenced to 15 years in prison for second-degree murder. As Clubine began to share her story with other inmates, she found she was not alone in her situation. Many inmates were imprisoned on murder convictions of their husbands.

The one thing they all had in common was that they were all victims of severe domestic violence.

She founded the Conceived Women Against Abuse organi-
zation.

Clubine found that many im-
prisoned women also suffered from Battered Women’s SYN-
drome.

But this was not recognized in the courts until the early 1990s.

Clubine will speak at 10 a.m.-noon on May 17 in Build-
ing 7.

On Wednesday, May 18, the celebration events will be held in Building 8 on the Mount Olympus rooms starting at 10 a.m.

There will be a raffle pre-

viewing of the movie The Burn-
ing Bed.

The celebration will kick off May 19, starts with the Uni-

versity of Washington School of Social Work presentation at 10 a.m. in Building 7. The topic will be Men’s Domestic Abuse Check-up.

Brenda Clubine

Constance and Mount Olympus rooms starting at 10 a.m.

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versity of Washington School of Social Work presentation at 10 a.m. in Building 7. The topic will be Men’s Domestic Abuse Check-up.
Inspired students fundraise to make a difference

By MEGAN WALLIN
Staff Reporter

Highline students are making a difference, one fundraising event at a time.

The motivation behind the Fundraising to Make a Difference Club is fairly simple. “It’s important to help people,” said Merry Vorng, the club president.

You may have noticed the book sale the week on the first floor of Building 8. The club hosted this sale to raise money for World Concern.

Their bake sales and book sales have always been very successful, Vorng said.

The proceeds from this book sale are given to programs that promote literacy through World Concern, said Chris Panganiban, the club adviser. “Money goes to [World Concern] and the foundation sends checks to non-profit organizations.”

Two non-profit organizations that receive proceeds from the sale are The Rise Institute, which supports education in early childhood development, and Hagar International, which began in Cambodia as a way to help women and children living in abuse and poverty.

Though the non-profit organizations have been around for a while, the club is relatively new, club leaders said.

“It started four or five years ago,” said Panganiban. “It was actually my daughter who wanted to help, as well as students here.”

When her daughter was only 8-years-old she saw a short television special on Cambodian children and wanted to donate money, Panganiban said, “My daughter had extra books,” Panganiban said, so we sold them. “We didn’t actually have a good way to send the money back to Cambodia (at the time),” she said. However, a friend worked for Hagar International and agreed to help.

Now, both the bake sale and the recent book sale continue engaging in students and money.

Panganiban said the proceeds from the first day of this book sale on May 3 brought in $175.

“We made around $265,” said Vorng of the recent bake sale.

“The money goes to buy textbooks,” Panganiban said. Vorng added that World Concern works together with Unicef, which distributes the books for free.

“Mainly (these are) books for people who do not know how to read or write (in their own language),” said Vorng, “and the school teaches people of all ages.”

Students who missed the fundraising events but want to donate can still do so, said Panganiban.

“Get a hold of either of us,” she said, if you want to contribute.

“We haven’t sent the money from the bake sale yet,” Vorng said. “We’re planning to send (the proceeds) as a whole.”

Panganiban can be reached at cpangan@highline.edu, and students can contact Vorng at merrylly@yahoo.com.

Highline has a positive economic impact

By JAMES LEE
Staff Reporter

Highline contributes $248.4 million to King County yearly. According to a report by Economic Modeling Specialists, a consulting firm, Highline annually contributes $284.4 million, which approximately equals to 0.2 percent of the total King County economy.

“This is the second time the college has completed the study,” said Lisa Skari, vice president of Institutional Advancement at Highline.

“The increasing interest in accountability and effective use of state funds, we thought it timely to reassess our financial contribution to our community,” said Skari. “As education is a knowledge industry, it is sometimes more difficult to compute the results, as they are intangible.”

Highline affects the local economy in three ways: through its local purchases, the spending of international students, and the increase in the skill base of the local workforce.

The study said that $37.9 million is from the spending effect while the rest, $210.5 million, consists of the productivity effect.

The spending effect is how much Highline and its students spend in King County, and the productivity effect is the higher income and tax produced by the added skills of current or former Highline students.

This study shows not only Highline’s sole contribution to the local community, but it also proves that higher education levels can increase one’s income afterward.

According to the study, compared to someone with a high school diploma, associate’s degree graduates earn $15,800 more per year on average.

For every dollar students invest in Highline education, they receive a cumulative of $17.50 in benefits that accumulate to all Washington residents.

The study also indicates Highline students are less likely to smoke or abuse alcohol, draw welfare or unemployment benefits, or commit crimes as they achieve higher levels of education. This translates into associated dollar savings to the public of approximately $1.8 million annually.

Highline served 19,921 students in the 2009-2010 reporting year, and 79.7 percent of former students stayed in county.

Students collecting bikes for charity

Bicycles are being collected by students in partnership with the non-profit organization Village Bicycle Project on May 20 and 21 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Bicycles can be dropped off outside Building 6. Parts are also being accepted.

The collection is a collaboration between the non-profit and the Coordinated Studies 101 class, taught by Kevin Stanley and Tracy Brigham.

They are hoping for 500 bicycles, which will fill one shipping container, to be sent to Ghana, Africa.

The bicycles will be distributed to the villages surrounding the capitol city of Accra and used in repair workshops.
Discrimination is unacceptable

Recent acts of discrimination against groups with diverse backgrounds have shown that among some Highline students, there is still an attitude of intolerance toward diversity.

Many in the campus community wonder how, on such a diverse campus, discrimination has been able to take root. It is because fear tends to be one of the leading causes of discrimination.

In recent weeks, both the PRISM club and the United Latin American Association have been subject to vandalism and insensitivity. Both clubs have found their posters torn down.

Also, the PRISM club—dedicated to creating and maintaining a safe environment for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning campus community—found some of their posters defaced with rude comments.

Members of the United Latin American Association were the victims of rude comments and racism while they passed out fliers inviting the campus community to last week’s Latino Awareness activities. Highline’s standards were also questioned when caution led to misinformation and a heterosexual student was briefly denied permission to put up his own poster.

The First Amendment allows freedom of speech to everyone and the right to assemble. Discrimination imposes on this right. It can force people to make the choice to give up their right in order to have a more pleasant experience with life.

On such a diverse campus, everyone at Highline should be comfortable with people from any background—there is no avoiding diversity here.

As college students, staff, and faculty, now we should have already outgrown the childish idea that someone being different is uncool. We can identify with.

Despite all cultural, ethnic, religious, or sexual differences, we are all people. We don’t have to be identical twins to sympathize and empathize with people on a human level.

We all have things in common, from taste in music and movies to life experiences, opinions and hobbies.

None of us want to have our freedom taken away. And yet we are allowing people to attack the freedom of others on campus, simply because they are different.

Discrimination, once allowed, will continue to grow until it affects everyone on campus.

It is time for us to really become unified through diversity. It is time to take a stand and say that discrimination is not OK.

Letters

Tolerance is our responsibility

Dear Editor:

Occasionally, poor judgment and hateful actions can present an opportunity for positive change. They can offer a chance for those who may not have recognized the seriousness of the event to think about its significance.

We hope that our college community will seize upon this current PRISM incident to reaffirm our institution’s values and purpose.

Highline Community College takes great pride in serving the most diverse student body in the state of Washington. We are committed to upholding the values of our Cultural Diversity Policy, that “(we) actively promotes and supports a learning and work environment which ensures social justice, mutual respect, understanding, civility and non-violence.”

Last week at Highline we proudly celebrated our 14th Annual Unity through Diversity Week, a testament of our long-standing commitment to this policy. Unity Week included a series of presentations and workshops led by nationally-recognized educators who provided engaging sessions about equity, tolerance, access, and student success.

As Unity Week focused on inclusive education, the campus unfortunately suffered an incident directed toward our PRISM (People Respecting Individuals and Sexual Minorities) club. The regrettable action involved a Highline student defacing PRISM fliers and college property.

This incident violated HCC’s code of conduct (Student Rights and Responsibilities), specifically disorderly conduct and malicious mischief. While sanctions appropriate to this violation were imposed on the student involved, we recognize the pain we have caused our students, the PRISM students.

We ask that members of our community use this event to reaffirm once again the College’s diversity policy. Take this opportunity to discuss with your fellow students the importance of our values and why they are essential to access and success for all students.

We all have the responsibility to promote and maintain an environment of dignity and respect, and we should be ready to refute all acts of prejudice.

The strength of Highline is most evident in its vibrant community of students and when we encourage all to participate regardless of cultural or religious affiliation or sexual identity. Everyone must be afforded the right and freedom to work and learn free from harassment and discrimination.

This recent unacceptable event presents a teachable moment for all of us and that we expect will make our community and our values stronger.

- DR. JACK BERMINGHAM and TONI CASTRO

Editor’s Note: DR. JACK BERMINGHAM is Highline’s president. Toni Castro is Highline’s vice president for Student Services.

Be inclusive, not exclusive

Dear Editor:

I was upset when I read the Thunderword and saw that someone was defacing PRISM posters on campus as the gay and lesbian community has a right to gather and promote support for their cause.

Yes, they do have the right and yes, I am a heterosexual male who has been married for 9 years. I think everyone has a right to equality regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, and religion.

But then a week or so later, the next Thunderword I saw had an article talking about a student, who is a hetero male like myself, making a statement against a PRISM poster which I think is just cause on his part. PRISM failed greatly in their efforts to promote equality by making a poster that said, “All the cool kids are gay.” Yes, I know, the true meaning of gay is that it means to be happy, but in this day and age that is not the connotation that it carries anymore.

His response to PRISM’s poster is one that read, “All the cool kids are hetero.” My reaction is that it is only fair he be allowed to post this if PRISM can post their own poster that was disrespectful of others choices by classifying people as being uncool.

However, as I thought about this after I got home I realized that neither side is right. It really bothered me that both sides could not see what was happening, that both sides were using a message that promoted separation because of someone’s sexual preferences.

Well, I am here to tell both sides that you are BOTH wrong, and as I told my wife, the slogan should have been “All the cool kids don’t discriminate.” Yes, the truth is that simple.

No one wants to have their rights trampled upon, but using even small slogans as small as a slogan that says someone is uncool because they don’t fall into one group or another is counterproductive.

So is this the right message either side really wants to put out there? Do you really want to promote a message that shows disrespect towards others with whom you are trying to build a positive relationship with? I did not think so.

The message everyone should take from this is simply that “All the cool kids don’t discriminate.”

- CHRIS SCHREINER, Highline student

Share your opinions in print

The Thunderword invites you to share your opinions. E-mail your submission to agraham@highline.edu.

Letters should be no more than 200 words and commentaries should be no more than 600 words.

Submissions may be edited for spelling, grammar and length.

Please include contact information for confirmation purposes.
Lloyd’s Llama

Across
1. Lord’s worker?
5. Traffic sign
10. 26 Across to friends
14. “See ya!”
15. City in western New York
16. Many
17. Diva’s delivery
18. “I ___ it”
19. Old Italian bread
20. Odd look
23. “We ___ the World”
24. Another helping
26. Singer Streisand
30. Really bad grade
31. Sound engineer’s concern
35. Bidder’s amount
39. Russian river
40. Set of principles
42. Actress Chase
43. Actress Oberon
45. Differed in opinions
47. Deface
49. Sneaker bottoms
50. Layer of rock
51. When repeated, a Latin dance
52. Biblical possessive
53. Push’s creator
54. Sun block?
57. Misplace
58. Porgy and bass
59. Stiff and sore
60. Cut the crop
61. Barely beat
62. Ice hockey venue
63. Bank deposit?
64. Coffee choice
65. Another helping
66. Scores to shoot for
67. Chase flies
68. Pain in the neck
69. Orchestra section
70. Hoopla

Down
1. One who crosses the line?
2. The Old Sod
3. Commuting option
4. Ranch newborn
5. Temper
6. Take the honey and run
7. Enlist again
8. Actor Kaplan & others
9. Scores to shoot for
10. Highly energetic person
11. Not native
12. Tired of it all
13. Marquee names
14. “___ be my pleasure”
15. Bro’s sibling
16. Kind of collar
17. Slightly
18. Corporate
19. Emerald City’s creator
20. Fair-sized garden
21. Crow sound
22. Good time to sell
23. Corral
24. Good time to sell
25. Break bread
26. Time out
27. City in western New York
28. Corp. bigwig
29. Scores to shoot for
30. Rio Grande
31. Biblically
32. X-ray units
33. Marquee names
34. Sun block?
35. Rub-out
36. Stiff and sore
37. Cut the crop
38. Cut the crop
39. Section
40. Hoopla
41. How should one address a duke in greeting?
42. “___ is my pleasure”
43. Pooh’s creator
44. Kind of stamp
45. Stiff and sore
46. Kind of stamp
47. Stiff and sore
48. Kind of stamp
49. Kind of stamp
50. Dump into a Dumpster

HINT OF TINT

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

Answers
1. Social Security
2. A prodigy
3. Tudor
4. Yellow hibiscus
5. Chest
6. Beaufort Scale
7. Your grace
8. Philadelphia
9. Cruelly written poetry
10. Albert Sabin

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3x3 box contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★★ HOO BOY!

HINT OF TINT
Sophomores move on to other things after disappointing final season

By JOSHUA HART
Staff Reporter

The T-Birds’ softball sophomores have to wait one more week to move on, after two rainouts extended the season.

Highline lost twice to first-place Pierce on Tuesday, 18-0 followed by 21-2.

The T-Birds moved to 5-24 on the season with the two losses.

The scheduled matchups against Centralia and Grays Harbor both got cancelled due to more Seattle rain last week.

The Grays Harbor games got rescheduled for May 14.

The T-Birds still had to face Pierce and it didn’t go well for Highline.

In the first game of the doubleheader against the Raiders, T-Bird pitcher Faith Baldwin struggled and allowed seven runs in the first inning.

The Raiders continued to hit, reaching base on 25 hits and scoring 18 runs.

Highline couldn’t touch Pierce pitcher Chantell Winter, who threw a no-hitter while striking out six.

She also pitched the second game and struck out six, while allowing two runs off of three hits.

Winter’s Raiders gave her the run support she needed by jumping on Highline pitcher Keri Spafford, scoring 16 runs in the first two innings.

Pierce ended with 21 runs off of 21 hits, capitalizing on the pitching inexperience of Spafford.

It’s been a tough season with the cards we were dealt,” sophomore Kayla Carlile said.

This season spells the end of softball for most of the sophomores.

Only Faith Baldwin plans to play softball at a higher level.

“I’m going to try to walk onto a team at whichever college I attend,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin said she is trying to decide between going to Western Washington University or Central Washington University, but is leaning toward Western.

She plans to major in kinesiology, the science of human movement.

Baldwin also said that she also hopes to coach softball.

“Softball has been my life for the past 15 or so years and I can’t give it up easily. It’ll be hard when I do eventually stop playing but coaching is very similar and I would love to help girls learn and move on,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin’s aspirations of teaching young girls also dwell in Lisa Sykes.

Sykes hopes to teach middle school across the world, and is attending the Central Washington University branch at Grays River Community College to major in education and criminal justice.

Sykes and Baldwin said that Josey Roy is majoring in accounting at the University of Washington, while Evan Tulis pursues becoming an ultrasound technician at Bellevue College.

Not continuing softball is sad for the sophomores, but a few are glad that they don’t have to deal with injuries anymore.

“It sucks that this is the last season, but I’m happy with it,” Carlile said.

Carlile has to have surgery on her ankle after this season is over and is glad that she doesn’t have to go through any more injuries.

“It’s sad, but it’s probably a good thing to end softball now, because of the injuries some of us have had,” Sykes said.

Despite the injuries, they all will remember this season.

“This isn’t the season I wanted to end on, but this is the best group of girls I have ever played with,” Baldwin said.

Highline will finish their season on May 14 on the road against Grays Harbor.

T-Bird women have new look with six signees

By JOSHUA HART
Staff Reporter

The Highline women’s basketball team looks to improve their second place finish in the West Division in the 2010 season with a strong recruiting class in 2011.

Last year, the T-Birds played with all sophomores and now are forced to rebuild the team.

So far, six players have signed with the T-Birds and Head Coach Amber Rowe Mosley expects eight more to sign.

Rowe Mosley said that she looks for the most talented players to recruit, but other things go into deciding which players to recruit.

“We also highly consider the character of the player,” Rowe Mosley said.

Rowe Mosley said she avoids players who create drama.

“If a kid has a great work ethic but is considered a little less talented, we will take them,” Rowe Mosley added.

Most of the players signed have been from around the greater Seattle area, but Rowe Mosley went to Alaska to recruit players this year.

“Alaska is a big pipeline because they only have two college choices in Alaska,” Rowe Mosley said.

The only recruit from Alaska at this point is Christina Fields, who led Kotzebue High School to a 7-4 record this past season.

Rowe Mosley expects four more players from Alaska to sign.

“These players bring a wealth of championship experience,” Rowe Mosley said.

Between the five recruits from Alaska, two of them have won state championships and two others were state runner-ups.

The other five players who have signed are a little closer to Highline than Fields.

At the top of the recruiting class is 5’8” Brianna Fiso from Evergreen High School.

She averaged 12.2 points per game and 10.3 rebounds per game in her senior season.

Grace Beardempl of Bellarmine Prep also signed with the T-Birds, after the 5’2” guard averaged 6.6 points per game and 2.9 assists per game.

Other recruits include 5’9” forward Alexis Cole from De Smet High School, Keana Magalei from Lincoln High School, and Alicia Williams from Garfield High School.

“We feel very good about the group of girls we have coming in. We are going to be much quicker and hopefully have a deeper bench,” Rowe Mosley said.

The Scoreboard

Women’s SOFTBALL

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The Thunderword / May 12, 2011
Scotch & Vine to offer local taste of high life

By RICHARD MEIER
Staff Reporter

David Pritchard is willing to bet that you’ll spend money on a good drink.

For years, David and Jill Pritchard have envisioned themselves opening up a bustling bar in the greater Puget Sound area. However, what they’ve envisioned has remained dormant, until now.

The Pritchards are working to launch a new restaurant, Scotch & Vine, at the former location of Butler Bar & Grill in downtown Des Moines.

Currently awaiting its liquor license and in the midst of a massive remodel, it’s not yet open for business.

However, the restaurant surpasses the initial concept conceived by the Pritchards by offering the patrons of Des Moines a high-end, sophisticated drink selection, accompanied with fine dining options as well.

“Our wife and I have wanted to open a bar for some time and the original premise was that we were going to do just a full bar,” owner and General Manager David Pritchard said. “[But] after checking out different wine bars, trying different selections, and meeting with a close friend, we decided to do a wine bar instead of a full bar.”

As the name suggests, Scotch & Vine will offer a variety of Scotch and wine selections from some of the premier wineries and distilleries of both the Northwest and the world.

“When half of our wine stock will be from the Pacific Northwest while the other half will be international. It will all depend on what everything that we will have on hand will be something we have tasted,” Pritchard said.

“As of two years ago, there were 91 Scotch distilleries worldwide; my goal is to eventually have all represented that we can legally get in Washington. I have some favorites that will definitely be here; we’re looking at having about 50 [different distilleries represented] to begin with.”

However, Scotch & Vine won’t limit itself to aforementioned Scotch and wine, as it will also carry other high-end bourbons, vodka, and other alcohols capable of making most cocktails requested by customers.

The Pritchards said Des Moines was a prime location for the restaurant after exploration brought them here following the Poverty Bay Wine Festival.

“We went to the Poverty Bay Wine Festival and afterwards we realized there was no place to sit down and have a glass of wine with a good dinner. Also, I know this demographic can and will support a higher-end establishment,” Pritchard said.

Pritchard admits though with premier prices, customers may have to pay premier prices as well.

“I would say $10 to $16 glasses of wine will be most common, with more expensive wines being higher. Scotch will be as low as $6.50 a glass to as high as $400 a glass for the rarest of Scotch, but the bulk will be between $10 and $15 a glass. Pritchard said.

“There will be people who want to order the high end stuff, but I don’t want to waste money on something I’ll maybe sell a shot of a year. I want to introduce something. Right now I’m thinking maybe $80 to $140 for a bottle a scotch.”

While Scotch & Vine will bring an upscale atmosphere, offering premium wine and rare scotch, but it won’t be limited to alcohol sales alone.

“Our original place was to do a bare-bones menu to meet liquor board regulations, and have the basic set up,” Pritchard said.

“But when we met [Executive Chef] Adam, we met someone who really wanted to get in with a start-up, and he was really excited to work with us.”

Owner and General Manager David Pritchard with one of his favorite Scotch whiskies, Port Askaig. Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Credit, debt have risks and rewards, professor explains

By JAMES LEE
Staff Reporter

Credit either can be your best friend or worst enemy, an instructor from Bellevue College said.

On May 10, the Students Small Capital Investment Club hosted guest speaker Audrey Hue, who is a personal finance instructor at Bellevue College for the first day of its Financial Awareness Workshop.

“Credit is all about borrowing money and paying it back later,” she said.

“Have you noticed that money is a pretty big subject?” Audrey Hue said. “People say you should learn about ‘money,’ then you first have to start from a basic category such as credit.”

Since using your credit means you owe money to somebody else, it is best to pay it back on time in full, or you will see consequences on your credit report, she said.

“In 2008, the average number of credit cards per household was 13,” Hue said.

In these days, people tend to rely on credit cards more than cash, and this is a disaster when you are neither a cautious person nor good at multitasking, she said.

One of the myths that people misunderstand is the best way to increase their credit score is by paying interest on their numerous credit cards, Hue said.

“That is not correct.”

What creditors see when you are trying to borrow money is not how well you’re paying back interest on your credit cards, but how often you have reached your balance limit, she said.

She advised that it is best to keep two credit cards on you to minimize loss and if you have problems with spending too much on credit cards, use cash.

Be wary about using credit cards, loans or anything else that affects your credit score. Bankruptcies remain on your record for 10 years; hard inquiries twice years, everything else — good and bad — seven years on your credit report, and student loans will be on your credit report for forever, she said.

Hard inquiries are created whenever a lender or other service provider views your credit history. A record of all hard inquiries remain on your credit report and having more than one or two is not good for your credit score, she said.

One of the other myths is that people think they should close credit cards immediately that are not in use. “It depends,” Hue said.

When you are planning to get a loan next month and you close your credit card this month, this may not seem very positive to the creditors, she said.

Keeping your credit score high doesn’t only mean you are a trustworthy person, but it also saves you a lot of money in terms of paying interest.

Hue said that, when you have a $10,000 loan, you save more than $2,400 if you have a credit score above 720, versus a person who has a credit score below 600. The savings can be increased by the amount of loan that you have to pay.

There are five criteria that determine your credit score: payment history, amounts owed, length of your credit history, new credit, and types of credit.

As payment history and amounts owed consists 65 percent of your credit score, you can save a lot of money not to pass due dates or over spend your limit.

You can check your credit report once annually for free at www.annualcreditreport.com or call 877-322-3282. Yet, Hue said when you use the website, make sure not to sign in for unattractive features that might cost you extra money.
GLOBALLY FESTIVE

International celebration takes Highline around the world

More than 400 participants shared various cultures and traditions through culture booths and performances from all over the world on May 7.

The ninth annual GlobalFest was held in the Student Union from 4-9 p.m. on May 7.

GlobalFest is an annual event hosted by the International Leadership Student Council, or ILSC. It has a different theme each year, and this year the theme was the Highline International District Neighborhood Block Party.

A total of 15 countries and regions had shown and shared their cultures with visitors at their booths; introducing cultural representative items such as traditional drums, drawings, and calligraphy.

Stage performances started at 7 p.m. A total of 11 performances featured about 100 performers, including traditional dancing and a fashion show showcasing traditional clothes from several different countries.

The price of admission also included five food tickets. Attendees were able to exchange these tickets to treat themselves to foods that are not always available on campus, including Vietnamese steamed buns and spring rolls.

“It was very fun and very diverse. Performances were entertaining,” said Mariel Sheila Pogatz, a Highline student who attended the event. “I’m planning to volunteer next year. Highline is the most diverse community college in Washington, and it makes me want to join it next year.”

— Photos by COREY SUN
Professor paints her way into solo exhibit

By MATTIE MICHALEK Staff Reporter

A Highline teacher shares her years of development and artistic experience as an evolving artist at this month's library exhibit, Artist Interrupted.

Sarah Muchnick, a nursing teacher at Highline for the past five years, has been interested in art since she was a child. Her exhibit features a lifetime of drawings and paintings, capturing her growth and transitions from one medium to the next. The exhibit is titled Artist Interrupted because there were breaks in Muchnick’s artistic career, yet she has maintained a strong passion for her art. Her exhibit covers her art as a student, starting with drawings from the ’70s, to much more recent oil paintings done over this year’s spring break.

Muchnick became very engaged in art in high school, when she realized she had an artistic gift. “[To me], a gift becomes a talent when you work on it,” said Muchnick.

A class on composition and drawing was the most influential for Muchnick in terms of developing a vision for what she wanted to do.

“I’ve always wanted to [do an exhibit], but I’ve never felt particularly ready,” said Muchnick. “[But,] it gives me pleasure to show my artwork.” The exhibit features art of various media including prints, drawing, water color and oils. Muchnick, who grew up on the coast, has incorporated a nautical theme in much of her work.

Some of her earlier pieces are drawn portraits of people, and her most recent work is more colorful. Muchnick said she is very proud of some of her latest work, oil paintings of the Aurora Borealis.

“My style has always been very contained and controlled,” said Muchnick, but with the recent oil paintings, it really took her out of her comfort zone. “I’ve always wanted to do an exhibit,” but “I’ve never felt particularly ready,” said Muchnick. “[But,] it gives me pleasure to show my artwork.”

The exhibit features art of various media including prints, drawing, water color and oils. Muchnick, who grew up on the coast, has incorporated a nautical theme in much of her work.

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“I’ve always wanted to do an exhibit,” but “I’ve never felt particularly ready,” said Muchnick. “[But,] it gives me pleasure to show my artwork.”

By LAUREN SCOVILLE Special to the Thunderword

Have you ever wanted to change your life but didn’t know how to begin? In the novel Adventures of the Karaoke King, author Harold Taw demonstrates that the smallest actions in one’s life can start a chain reaction that brings about real change.

The main character, Guy Watanabe, is a 30-something, divorced, Seattle lawyer who enters a karaoke contest for kicks...and competition. But he soon realizes that he is in way over his head after a weekend getaway in Lake Chelan turns sour and leaves him a broken, bloody mess. This is only the beginning of the tornado of change for Guy.

This book is full of meaty characters that, as English teachers say, “jump off the page.” The protagonist is an anti-hero type which, I believe, inspires readers with hope and knowledge for their own lives.

Guy is what his name suggests: a Joe Everyman who simply wants his life to turn around. In spite of his normalcy he shows you don’t have to wear a cape to be a hero.

Human decency should not be perceived as a superpower that only exists for a rare few; although, a magic cape would certainly have come in handy for Guy over the course of his adventure.

Without spoiling the ending or giving away too many details, I will just say that Guy goes on a little trip—halfway around the world. It is too bad he didn’t own a cape because, talk to. It takes a look underneath the perfect family. Steve Martin’s writing is funny but has a sweet spot in the middle. There’s something for everyone,” said Keane. Performances start at 8 p.m. and tickets are $7 for students and $8 for general admission.

Student directors take the reins as one-acts commence

By MELINA BROWN Staff Reporter

Highline students Tyler Arns and Anthony Keane will show off their directing skills in this year’s one-act plays at Highline’s Little Theater in Building 4, Room 122 from May 19 to May 22.

Student director Tyler Arns does nothing intentional. “I just go with it,” said Arns.

It was never Arns’ intention to become a part of Highline’s Drama Department.

“I was undecided and looking for a spark to push me forward,” Arns said.

Arms said that he would like to direct films or put his artistic skills to work as a comic illustrator.

“My techniques as a director have been called unorthodox but effective,” Arns said.

Arms went on to explain that sometimes he will take a wet rag and throw it at his cast.

“This teaches them to pay attention to their roles and not what’s going on around them,” Arns said.

Arms has chosen Business Lunch at the Russian Tea Room for his student directed one-act play. “This is a play about a business lunch about making a movie and it’s more mature humor,” said Arns.

Anthony Keane is also a director of a one-act play. “I am an acting and drama teacher at Highline for the past year,” said Keane.

“I did drama in high school, but we really didn’t do any plays. My first play was Buck Fever here at Highline,” Keane said.

Keane says he might transfer over to Western Washington University or try out for numerous roles locally.

Keane chose WASP, a play written by Steve Martin. “This follows a ’50s family with a surreal twist. The mother and son have voices that they talk to. It takes a look underneath the perfect family. Steve Martin’s writing is funny but has a sweet spot in the middle. There’s something for everyone,” said Keane.

Performances start at 8 p.m. and tickets are $7 for students and $8 for general admission.