Access Granted

New financial aid portal helps students get answers faster

By YURI NISHIZAKI
Staff Reporter

Highline’s new Financial Aid Portal allows students to do everything online from checking their financial aid status to downloading required documents.

Director of Financial Aid Lorraine Odom said approximately 2,200 students at Highline are getting financial aid this quarter so far, and students who receive any type of financial aid have access to the portal. The Financial Aid Office is unsure about how many students are already using the portal, “but we are pleased that they have access to the portal. Students who completed the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. “The purpose of the portal is to increase student access to their financial aid information and decrease the necessity of students having to come to the Financial Aid counter,” Odom said.

The portal allows students to check their financial aid status, required documents, financial aid staff questions, their file completion date, their award, approximate cost of attendance and other financial-aid related information.

However, this new system has a flaw. Some students may have trouble entering their PIN to access the portal.

Some students have to drop the leading zero from the month they were born and others do not. To overcome this confusion we have clear instructions on the initial portal page of how to navigate through this,” Odom said.

Students say they are uninterested in elections

By Thunderword Staff

Many Highline students are not aware of the upcoming 2011 elections.

Students were uninformed of the date of the elections, as well as the measures, and the candidates on the ballots.

In a non-scientific survey of 185 students, only 60 said that they are registered voters in the state of Washington.

“I never really cared to register as a voter,” student Dena Hoeng said. “I don’t know that much about the elections.”

On Oct. 20 the Washington ballots will be available to registered voters. The ballots will include three state initiatives: I-1183, I-1125, and I-1163 as well as two senate joint resolutions, SJR 8205 and SJR 8206. Out of the 185 people surveyed, 142 said that they didn’t even know the date of the next elections.

“I have no idea when the elections are,” said Jackie Bell. Students Aika and Casey Medina said that they didn’t know about the elections until the advertisements began and the signs were posted around their community.

Some students, including Bryan Cotes, said they knew the elections were in November but they did not know the exact date.

A number of students also thought that the next elections were the presidential elections in 2012.

“I just know I’m voting for Obama,” Latoya James said. Students were also unaware of the whole parking lot,” said Security Supervisor Richard Noyer.

The backup for exiting has caused “heavy congestion for the whole parking lot,” said Security Supervisor Richard Noyer. The problem is serious enough for Highline to contact outside traffic studies facilities. Engineers have come to look at the parking lot, and solutions are being worked on.

In the meantime, campus security advises students to remain patient and to obey the signs posted in the lot.

“Students need to realize the left exit means left,” and vice versa, Noyer said.

Noyer suggests taking the back route to the North Parking Lot and exiting from there onto 20th Avenue South.

The South Parking Lot is experiencing similar problems. One exit, which leads to South 240th Street, has one lane for exiting both directions. Waiting for cars to exit either way can cause delays of up to 15 minutes.

Campus Security also said that students still need to be aware of traffic safety away from the exits. Drivers looking for spots also cause normal congestion.

Security asks drivers to be careful in parking lots

By BEN FRIELAND
Staff Reporter

The East Parking Lot has been experiencing a serious traffic problem this quarter.

Students have complained that the line leading out of the East lot for turning left effectively blocks the lane to turn right. This traffic congestion has caused Campus Security to worry about more serious problems, saying there is a higher possibility of accidents “up to and including injury.”

The backup for exiting has caused “heavy congestion for the whole parking lot,” said Security Supervisor Richard Noyer. The problem is serious enough for Highline to contact outside traffic studies facilities. Engineers have come to look at the parking lot, and solutions are being worked on.

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Drivers often manage to turn two lanes leaving the East Lot into only one, blocking the right turn lane and backing up traffic.

Students say they are uninterested in elections
Experts will discuss science and faith

By MITCHELL KOEHLER
Staff Reporter

The age-old controversy between Creationism and Evolution will continue next week between Dr. Peter Ward, a biologist and an atheist, and Dr. Hugh Ross, a creationist and an astrophysicist.

The discussion, “Our Rare Earth and the God Hypothesis,” will take place Oct. 27 at 12:15 p.m. in Building 29.

Dr. Ward is currently at the University of Washington and is a published author of more than 100 scientific articles. His research mainly deals with paleontological, zoological, and astronomical topics.

Receiving his Ph.D. in 1976 from Mc-Master University, he has gone on to study paleontology, biology, and more recently, astrophysics. He is an acknowledged world expert on mass extinctions and the role of extraterrestrial impacts on Earth.

From 2001-2006 Dr. Ward was the principal investigator for University of Washington’s node of the NASA Astrobiology Institute and led a team of over 40 scientists and students. Dr. Ross launched his career at age 7 when he went to a library to find out why stars are hot.

He has started his own ministry called Reasons to Believe, which he uses to further his goal of integrating science and faith. You can learn more about Reasons to Believe by visiting Reasons.org.

He received his Ph.D. in astronomy and astrophysics from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Ross believes that science doesn’t teach the creation of the Earth but, rather teaches us an older age of it and an older age of universe, though he rejects the scientific consensus on evolution as explanations for the history and origin of life.

He has written many articles and over 50 articles defending creationism. He has also written or collaborated on 13 books and contributed on four volumes.

This event is jointly sponsored by Highline’s CRU, the Athena Philosophy Club, and the Skeptics Club. All students and staff are invited to attend the discussion.

A crowd of around 400 people is expected to be present for the discussion.

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Drug activity on campus

A student reported seeing drug activity at the bus stop near the administration parking lot on Oct. 13. The student described the subject as white adult male wearing a Seahawks jacket. Security Officers observed the area, but they found no one matching the subject’s description, and they found no evidence of drug activity.

Graffiti found

Extensive graffiti was found in the second floor men’s restroom in Building 25 on Oct. 16. Extensive graffiti was also found in Building 30 after they felt too tired to clean up the area.

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News Briefs

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Attend a personal statement workshop

Students can learn how to write a winning personal statement on Wednesday Nov. 2 in Building 7 from 12:15-1:05 p.m. Transfer students are encouraged to attend to improve their writing skills that will help with applications to four-year programs.

Going places workshop

Transfer students will find helpful information with finding the right college and identifying what you need to get accepted into the college you choose. The workshop will be held on Oct. 25 from 1-3 p.m. Registration is required as space is limited. To register, email transfer@highline.edu or sign up in the transfer center located in Building 6 on the second floor.

Open-mic reading today

The Highline writing center is hosting an open-mic reading today Oct. 20 in Building 26 room 319 from 1:20-2:30 p.m. If you write come and read them in a judgment free area. You have the floor for five minutes.

Attend a seminar

The weekly Friday Science Seminar will cover the Geology of the Grand Canyon presented by Eric Baeer. The seminar is held in Building 3 room 102 from 2:20-3:23 p.m., everyone is welcome to attend.

Marie Esch-Radlke will talk about the history of midwifery at next week’s History Seminar on Oct. 26. The seminar will be from 130 to 2:20 p.m. in Building 3, room 102.

Writing Center hosts editing workshop

The writing center is holding workshops called Common Errors to help students learn to find and fix common editing errors such as subject-verb agreement, tense shifts, fragments, run-ons, and comma splices. Their workshops will be held on Tuesday Oct. 25 from 9:50 a.m. Wednesday Oct. 26, from 12:30-1:20 p.m. Thursday Oct. 27 from 4-5:40 p.m. in Building 26 room, 319. Enter through the tutoring center/MRC door. All staff and students are welcome.

MESA program info session today

The math, engineer, science, and achievement program will hold an information session today in Building 26, room 319 from 1-2:00 p.m. MESA provides rigorous academic enrichment services along with personal, financial aid, and transfer advising.

The MESA Student Center offers students a dedicated space to study, access to computer workstations, industry guest speakers, workshops, advising, and scholarship and internship resources. All MESA students collaborate with the MESA Director on a personalized student success plan to support their success at Highline and beyond. Their goal is for underrepresented students to excel academically and transfer successfully to four-year institutions as STEM majors.

Campus to be crowded Friday and Saturday

Highline will be hosting 800-900 English as a second language instructors Friday Oct. 21 and Saturday Oct. 22. All spaces on campus will be impacted and your patience and assistance is appreciated. Everything will be open as usual. Please assist them with room and space locations.

Correction

For information and questions about Highline’s Medical Assisting program, go to www.Highline.edu/medical-assisting.
Chinese professor wants to share his culture with Highline

By ERIKA WIGREN
Staff Reporter

Professor Dong Wang says he wants to inspire excitement for the Chinese language and culture among Highline’s students.

Wang is an exchange professor from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai. The university is known as one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in China.

At Highline, Wang is teaching Chinese language classes for the Fall Quarter.

Wang is from Gansu, a province in the northwest part of China, near Mongolia. He received his bachelor’s and master’s degree in applied linguistics from Xiamen University, in a small seaside city that Wang referred to as “the most beautiful city in China.”

After leaving Gansu, Wang went on to teach at Lanzhou University for two years where he earned the Morning Star Award for excellence in teaching.

From there Wang travelled to Shanghai Jiao Tong where he continued to teach the English language to students.

Although Wang has studied the English culture and language for 20 years, this is his first time in America. He said that he has enjoyed his stay so far and that he has even gained a new perspective on Americans.

“The beauty of the class is that students can deliver their speeches in an environment that recreates real-world situations: work, church, in front of families or friends,” Bremen explained.

“Online students truly experience speaking that mimics the outside world, rather than the controlled classroom with a captive audience,” Bremen said.

Bremen was even hired by Oxford University Press, the publisher of the course textbook that she uses, to produce a series of voice-over PowerPoint files that overview each chapter. Additionally, Bremen developed several two-minute tutorials: quick-hit Camtasia PowerPoint presentations focusing on challenging concepts.

Bremen’s students consistently perform higher on final exams, which are directly related to course objectives. Furthermore, in several instructional areas, Bremen’s online materials are utilized to drive improvements in face-to-face sections, Bremen said.

Introduction to Communication was initially offered in 2006 as a hybrid course, consisting of 60 percent of the time online and 40 percent in class, Bremen explained.

“The two online sessions offered filled up right away. It’s easier positive feedback from students, in addition to students being successful, the course officially debuted. The course is popular, filling up faster than the traditional face-to-face speech courses,” Bremen said.

Bremen recently taught an online course before she came to Highline; she taught in Georgia at Darton College, although the version she taught at Darton was different than the Communication Studies class at Highline.

Bremen often teaches a hybrid course that is primarily taught online and with this course she does hold face-to-face sessions about seven times a quarter.

“Every few years,” Bremen said, “I like to mix up the classes I teach between online/ hybrid/face-to-face.”

While Bremen is the mastermind behind Highline’s online Communication Studies course, other instructors on campus do teach the course as well, Bremen said.

“The beauty of the class is a professor can teach Highline students from across the country,” Bremen said. Having the ability to take an online speech class, in addition to completed a full degree online gives students who might not otherwise be able to take a speech class fulfilling their college requirements, Bremen explained.

Bremen is currently on sabbatical working on a book. Bremen will be teaching at Highline winter quarter, although she is unsure of her schedule at this time.

Bremen not only forged the way on campus with putting into practice a online speech course, but she also has started The Chatty Professor, a daily blog to assist students in being more successful. Bremen posts daily nuggets of wisdom for college students, which they might otherwise not know, Bremen said.

One day Bremen might post on what you should do after a mid-term and on another day she could advise how to correspond appropriately with instructors. Bremen said that the blog has only been active for six months, but in that time he had more than 13,000 followers.

To find The Chatty Professor, go to www.chattyprof.blogspot.com/
International Student Programs kicks off fall events

By SVETLANA KAZAK  Staff Reporter

Highline’s International Students are planning many events for Fall Quarter in which they will eat, celebrate, and travel the Puget Sound.

Yuki Hayashi, who is part of the International Leadership Student Council, is planning on the large role of being in charge of maintaining, planning, and most importantly, making sure the events are announced so other students feel the urge to join.

Already this quarter, they have had several events, including a rotating restaurant.

“We basically just have the International students and any other person who may wish to come go to the restaurant and have dinner together, have fun, and chat,” said Hayashi.

Saturday, Oct. 22, the program has planned to go to the Museum of Glass in Tacoma.

“It costs $10 for student entry and transportation will be provided such as taking the bus from Highline,” said Audrey Nelson, who is also part of the International Leadership Student Council.

The students will be departing at 10 a.m. from Highline and will be at the Museum until 2 p.m. of that day.

The biggest out of the eight events planned will be the Halloween Party on Oct. 29. This event will be located in building 8 in the Student Union and will be from 7-11 p.m.

The reason this event is so significant is because it demonstrates a “Way for all people to celebrate Halloween in the American way so they learn the traditions and how it’s set up,” said Hayashi.

“Not only is there just a haunted house but we’re having a costume party as well, and this event is free for everyone, so anyone and everyone can join,” Hayashi said.

Then on Nov. 5, students are given the opportunity to go bowling at the Kent Bowling Alley.

“It will cost $5 per game for students and we’ll be taking public transportation to the alley as a group,” said Nelson.

Another large event will be an overnight trip to the Olympic National Park in Forks, WA, strictly for the International students. This event will start on Nov. 11 and end on the 12.

“We’re going to hike if we can, go to the stores around Forks, sightseeing, and as most people do, visit the Twilight stores and displays around the area,” said Hayashi.

For the weekend of Nov. 26 through the 27, another overnight trip is planned. This trip will take place in Leavenworth, Washington.

“The first day we’ll walk around town and on the second day we’ll go to an outlet mall, and after that we’re planning to observe a waterfall at Snoqualmie,” Hayashi said.

The last event known as the White Elephant Party will be held on Dec. 2.

“Students can enjoy the winter tradition of gift exchanging and have a fun time before finals week,” said Nelson.

In a white elephant gift exchange, everyone brings a wrapped gift. Then everyone chooses a gift to open. Gifts are often gag gifts.

For any students who want to participate in these events can either show up at the events at the timing or they can go to the library, Building 25, and go to the fifth floor to talk to the program advisers.

International Student Programs can also be contacted via email at INT@highline.edu, or by phone at 253-870-3725.

Whole grains - not multi-grains - are healthiest, expert says

Whole grains and fresh fruit have substantial health benefits, said dietician Allison McCoy.

Her presentation, titled “How to Eat Healthy Delicious Food on a Budget,” was held in the Mt. Skokomish room in Building 8 on Oct. 11, and was filled to standing room only by students and others wanting to learn more about nutrition.

McCoy talked about the advantages of buying and eating whole grain products. Whole grains contain Vitamin B, which is “great for stress.” In refined grains, said McCoy, the Vitamin B is gone, leaving only small amounts of protein.

McCoy reminded students to beware of labels, and to avoid products that include wheat flour, organic flour, and multi-grain.

“Labels can be deceiving,” said McCoy, saying to look instead for whole wheat and whole grain products. She advised students to look for the whole grain stamp.

McCoy also stressed the health benefits of whole grains. Whole grains reduce the risk of stroke, type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and asthma, also saying it helps with better weight maintenance.

McCoy also talked about several beverages such as juice, coffee, and vitamin water. V8 juice, McCoy said, has no fiber, saying, “It’s not bad, but it’s not good as eating your vegetables.”

She also offered a financial argument for avoiding an excess of juices and coffee drinks.

In the long run, explained McCoy, skipping the morning Starbucks or the juice with lunch can save hundreds of dollars each year.

Water is better, said McCoy. “Start with a cup a day.”

McCoy encouraged people to cook their own food, saying you know exactly what’s in it. She also said buying and cooking yourself involves less packaging, and is therefore better for the environment.

McCoy offered the website www.cookitinterruptus.com as a resource for healthy recipes for cooking at home. She also advised buying food and spices in bulk, recommending stores such as Fred Meyer, Top Food, and WinCo.

MaST hosts free marine biology presentations

The MaST Center invites the community to learn more about the Puget Sound.

Every other Saturday from noon to 12:45 p.m., the MaST will invite officials to speak on the Puget Sound as part of their Science on the Sound speaker series. These events are free and open to the public.

This Saturday, Oct. 22, Roberta Brooks, a biologist from the Seattle Aquarium, will share on identifying various fishes in the Puget Sound.

Previous presentations can be found at mast.highline.edu/Science-on-the-Sound.php
Escaping stress through comics

It was dark. Then a bright green light burned in front of me, and a voice said, “Josh Nelson of sector 2814, you have the ability to overcome great fear. Welcome to the Green Lantern Corps.”

A ring slipped on my finger, my clothes are replaced by a standard-issue Lantern uniform and I become patrol of my sector for intergalactic law-breakers.

Then the alarm went off, rocking me out of my reverie. In reality, it was 2 a.m. and I had to be at work in an hour. As I roll my way out of bed to fill my coffee and would probably be shut off.

I shuffled back to my room and scanned its contents. Lord of all I could see: a desk with a stack of new comics still fresh in the bag, mail that has my phone number. I’m going to need help with the answers. It was a magical ring to will the answers to the test.

As I stared at the dream I had. What if there had been a crossover? And I had a chance to see Wolverine take on Batman? That would be a good fight. What if the zombies from Walking Dead began roaming the halls of UPS?

I began to unload my trailer, and as the boxes went by I went back to the dream I had. What if there had been a crossover? And I had a chance to see Wolverine take on Batman? That would be a good fight. What if the zombies from Walking Dead began roaming the halls of UPS?

Before I knew it, the shift was over and I was allowed to return to my life. The first thing I did is go home and tear into the new comics I just got. I relished this opportunity. It was taken to a universe where any and all stress took the form of super villains and evil masterminds. Where themes of willpower and hope were not just words, but actually physical creatures that fight for the good of what they represent.

Another alarm went off and reality’s shroud encompassed me. It’s time to take the math test. Unfortunately, I don’t have a magic ring to will the answers onto my page. If only I had the key to the items from my classmates.

As I wandered the outdoor halls of Highline I observed my fellow students. I wondered what they do to manage the stress of their lives. In the class the professor handed out the exam and I chanted an oath just as she says we may begin.

I don’t know if I have the ability to overcome great fear, but I think I’ve found a good way to overcome great stress.

Write to us

The Thunderword invites letters to the editor and opinion columns. Got something you want to say to the student body? Send submissions, with contact information, to jnelson@highline.edu. Letters to the editor should be under 200 words. Opinion columns no more than 400. Submissions are due on Monday for print on Thursday. These may be edited for grammar, length, and style.

Highline cares for the abused

Highline’s Women’s Programs does an excellent job of raising awareness about domestic violence. The Washington Department of Health reports that one in every five women reported being injured by a family member in their lifetime. It is commendable of Highline to offer its support to those that have been victims of violence at home. Highline cares for the abused women. It is commendable of Highline to offer its support to those that have been victims of violence at home.

Some utilize social coercion or isolation to make their victim feel small. The abuser then feels like the bigger person. This break down in the self-esteem of the victim causes a debilitating effect, making the relationship more likely to persist.

Highline’s Women’s Programs has been actively assisting those that have been abused for 30 years. Providing an excellent community service, and should therefore be commended. Every year, millions of women and children are victims of violence at home.

Highline’s Women’s Programs does an excellent job of raising awareness about domestic violence. There are signs that help indicate that you or someone you know may be the cause of the domestic abuse and not the victim. Abusers tend to be generally angry people in general, but appear to cope with their anger publicly, holding it in until they can unleash it upon their loved one or partner.

Some utilize social coercion or isolation to make their victim feel small. The abuser then feels like the bigger person. This breakdown in the self-esteem of the victim causes a debilitating effect, making the relationship more likely to persist.

Highline offers counseling and assistance to those people who feel they might be abusers; this, coupled with a modicum of confidentiality, makes the program very desirable.

It is important to note, that not all victims of domestic violence are women. If you feel abused and you are a male, don’t be discouraged by the title of the program. Help will always be given at Highline to those who need it.

Remember, there is no shame in saying that you need help, and no one deserves to be harmed physically or emotionally by those who claim to care.

Don’t have a plan? Get one

An earthquake just hit Puget Sound as you read this newspaper. What are you going to do?

No floor is shaking and the computer screen is wavering as it plays the YouTube video you have open. As you make your way underneath a sturdy structure, you’re probably thinking about your family and loved ones.

Are they OK? You would probably know the answer to that question if you had an emergency action plan. As the shaking stops, and everything comes to a rest, you are aware that you or someone you know may have happened if my phone hadn’t stolen my dream from me.

While imagining my fantastic escapades I remembered that my phone bill is still paid due and would probably be shut off that day. I shuffled back to my room and scanned its contents. Lord of all I could see: a desk with a stack of new comics still fresh in the bag, mail that has one or two final notices stamped on the envelopes, and a notice from UPS, warning me to no longer try.

As I sipped from the scalding coffee, I wondered what might have happened if my phone hadn’t stolen my dream from me.

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**What To Eat**

By Bill Deasy

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

**Crossword 101**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Across</th>
<th>Down</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Asian desert</td>
<td>1. Kind of cheese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Thompson and Lazarus</td>
<td>2. Present opener?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Kind of control (abbr.)</td>
<td>3. When in Boston?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Actor Sharif or Epps</td>
<td>4. Bank offering, for short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. College near Albany, NY</td>
<td>5. When in Buffalo?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. “My Way” composer</td>
<td>7. Apogee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. 17-17, maybe</td>
<td>9. “Hey, wait ___”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Boarding area</td>
<td>10. Some PCs and printers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Class division</td>
<td>11. “To the max” suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Make-or-break dates</td>
<td>12. “I smell___!”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Explorer Sebastian</td>
<td>14. “Much” preceder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Together</td>
<td>15. Arsenal cache</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Class division</td>
<td>16. “To the max” suffix</td>
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<tr>
<td>31. “Friend ___”</td>
<td>17. Additional homework?</td>
</tr>
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<td>33. Make-or-break dates</td>
<td>18. “I smell___!”</td>
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<td>34. Bad kind of wave</td>
<td>19. Act segment</td>
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<td>35. Whiz</td>
<td>20. Some PCs and printers</td>
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<tr>
<td>36. Afternoon affairs</td>
<td>21. Gangland guns</td>
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<tr>
<td>37. Starts up the PC</td>
<td>22. “I smell___!”</td>
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<tr>
<td>38. Family board game</td>
<td>23. Apprehend</td>
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<td>40. Optimistic</td>
<td>25. Concord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41. Beverage with a marshmallow</td>
<td>26. 3/17 honoree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. Arrogant</td>
<td>27. “Friend ___”</td>
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<tr>
<td>44. Much less</td>
<td>28. Gangland guns</td>
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<td>45. ’60s hairstyle</td>
<td>29. Punishments</td>
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<td>46. “Rica” or “Brava” front</td>
<td>30. When in New York?</td>
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<td>31. “Friend ___”</td>
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**Quotable Quote**

You can tell a lot about a fellow’s character by his way of eating jellybeans.

**Ronald Reagan**

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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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**HOCUS-FOCUS**

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

---

**Trivia test**

by Efi Rodriguez

1. RELIGION: Which religious text is divided into chapters called *suras*?
2. HISTORY: When did the War of 1812 end?
3. TELEVISION: The character Jim Phelps starred in what long-running spy drama?
4. MUSIC: What kind of instrument is a dulcimer?
5. MONEY: What is the standard currency of Vietnam?
6. FAMOUS PEOPLE: Who was Time Magazine’s Person of the Century in 1999?

**Answers**

1. Quran
2. 1815
3. Impossible
4. Stringed instrument played with hammers
5. Dong
6. Albert Einstein
T-Bird men keep flying through competition

By ADRIAN SCOTT
Staff Reporter

The men T-Birds were too much for their competition this week, outscoring Tacoma and Bellevue 6-1.

On Wednesday, Oct. 12 the T-Birds traveled south to face the Tacoma Titans. The game was decided early with a 3-0 score.

The Bellevue Bulldogs, shutting them out 3-0.

The Bulldogs started to get physical in the second half of the game and seemed as if they were trying to double team Jones to prevent him from scoring anymore.

“Darwin is a leader for our team,” Tolo said.

“Can’t you see there trying to hurt my player? You can’t turn your back on the play,” coach Prenovost said from the sideline.

After the win the T-Bird players said they are motivated knowing they can bounce back from a lost.

Darwin Jones was quick to do best and that’s fight,” outside midfielder Britton Jolley said.

“He was happy with the way we played in the second half,” Tolo said.

“We are where we need to be place. The T-Birds will play their next two games at home the results were unavailable at press time.

On Oct. 19 the T-Birds will play the third-place Olympic Rangers, who defeated Tacoma 4-2 on Oct. 15.

“Olympic has a good team. It’s not going to be an easy win,” Dustin Hill said.

The men will play their second game of the week against the Peninsula Pirates on Oct. 26th in the rematch for first place in the West Division.

“We are going to play Peninsula at home and we will be ready. This is the game we really want and need to win” Hill said.

Peninsula has a very strong forward Miguel Gonzalez, who is currently the league’s leading scorer, recording 26 goals this season.

He was only able to score twice against the T-Birds in their previous game on Oct. 8.

It will be interesting to see how the ‘Birds plan to defend Gonzalez on Oct. 26 at 4 p.m.

Cross country coach Plypick pleased with performance

By MITCHELL KOEHLER
Staff Reporter

The Highline men’s cross country team took fourth place at the Mike Hodges Invitational last Friday.

Head cross country Coach Taryn Plypick said she was pleased with the performance of the top four men’s runners.

“We had a really tough week of practice so far to run the way they did was good,” said Plypick. “I am pleased with their performances.”

The men’s cross country team took fourth with a score of 104, right behind Seattle U. who had 81 points. The winner on the men’s side was Willamette who had five runners inside the top 10.

Highline was led by Luke Martin with a time of 21:31 and a 12th place finish. He was followed closely by fellow T-Birds Zakariya Omar and Nick Lipinski with a time of 21:43, and Ben Rongu with time of 21:45.

The field was won by Kevin Aubol from Willamette with a time of 20:32.

The top four men for Highline are going to do well this year, said coach Plypick. “This is probably the fastest team we have had since the ’80.” She was impressed with everyone’s performance but Zakariya Omar in particular stood out. “He came later in the season and has thrived,” she said. “Look for him to make a splash at NWAACCS.”

“We are where we need to be to reach our goals,” said Plypick about the men’s team.

On the women’s side Highline placed last out of nine teams with 250 points. They were 48 points behind Seattle U. who had 202 points.

The field was dominated by Oregon State who had 19 points total, 43 points ahead of Willamette.

Oregon went 1-2-3 and had four runners in the top five.

Highline was led by Jessica Dilley and Ivy Meadows who had times of 21:41 and 21:46 respectively. Meadows was sick before the run and almost pulled out of the race. The women’s event was won by Oregon State’s Erin Jones who had a time of 18:06, six seconds ahead of teammate Oliviaabol.

The women’s team has to work hard if they want to place high in North Regionals, said Plypick. The cross country team will compete in the North Regional next Friday, Oct. 28.
Lady ‘Birds win without starting center

Emily Schuck is still out injured

BY KEVIN BODLE
Staff Reporter

The Lady Thunderbirds moved within one point of second place last week with two wins in two games.

The women first traveled down I-5 last Wednesday on Oct. 5 to face a struggling Tacoma following a match on Oct. 19 with results unavailable at press time.

Highline lost to the Pierce Raiders on Wednesday, Oct.12. The T-Birds are now tied for third in the West region, with the Thunderbirds making a statement in their upcoming game versus Olympic who they play on Wednesday Oct. 19 won’t be a problem.

Head Coach Chris Littleman said the team did everything wrong that resulted in them losing the game.

Highline competed in the Spokane Crossover tournament where they went 2-2 with wins over Whatcom and Olympic, and with losses against Spokane and Western on Oct. 14-15.

The Lady Thunderbirds face a Lowr- er Columbia team that has im- proved since last time Highline faced them.

“Peninsula only beat them 1-0 which is really surprising,” said Coach Moore. Peninsula is the first place-team in the West Division.

Highline is without center back Schuck for the next two games but she is expected to re- turn for the Peninsula game on Oct. 26.

Lady Thunderbirds face a Low- er Columbia team that has im- proved since last time Highline faced them.

Volleyball tied for third place with a loss

Aurora Vasquez selected to all- tournament team in Spokane

BY ANTHONY BERTOLUCCI
Staff Reporter

The women’s volleyball team stayed in third place despite a loss in league play last week.

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A man for all STAGES

Zach Ginther-Hutt takes the lead once again

By MICAH MORRIL
Staff Reporter

The star of this year’s fall drama production – jokes that he’s married to the theater, but he’s perfectly single for any potential leading ladies out there.

Zach Ginther-Hutt will be playing the lead for the Drama Department’s fall production. Scherbrus will mark Ginther-Hutt’s 15th performance as an actor and his seventh show at Highline.

“I have been the lead in three or four shows,” he said, but, “Fortinbras is definitely the largest amount of lines I’ve had to memorize.”

Ginther-Hutt said that this show, “Is like a comedic sequel to Hamlet, only it is written in modern-day English, so it’s very easy for the general audience to understand it.”

“I like the script, and I believe this show is going to draw some serious laughs from the audience,” he said.

During his freshman year, Ginther-Hutt began his participation in drama at Todd Beamer High School.

“I had always been really interested in theater, but I had never had a real opportunity to try it out until I reached high school,” he said.

After his sophomore year, the funding for Todd Beamer’s theater program was cut, causing the department to be run for the next two years by drama club students.

“Those were some of the most stressful times in my life,” he said. “I feel however those two years taught me the importance of staying committed to something you believe in, and not giving up when the going gets tough.”

“I basically didn’t ever want to act after those two emotionally draining years, but I convinced myself at Highline to try out one more time just for fun. I believe this show is going to draw some serious laughs from the audience, and well, here I am, seven shows later,” Ginther-Hutt said.

In which Some notable productions that he has been involved include Twelfth Night, Once Upon a Mattress, Arsenic and Old Lace, Antigone, The Adding Machine and Texarkana Waltz.

Students receive cheap discounts

BY SHAIMA SHAMDEEN
Staff Reporter

Students can enjoy high-quality art programs without burning a hole in their pockets.

If you are looking for a laugh, Jet City Improv offers student tickets for $10. The show is a fast-paced, audience-interactive improv appropriate for all ages. The 90-minute show differs with each performance, based on audience suggestions and interaction.

Performances take place every Friday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m. and most Saturdays at 8 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.jetcityimprov.com or on a first-come first-served basis at the box office at 5510 University Way NE, starting 30 minutes before show time.

Pacific Northwest Ballet offers half-price rush tickets, available to students beginning 90 minutes prior to curtain time. The discount is subject to availability. The ballet also offers a 20 percent discount for teachers.

Love Story is the next ballet performance going on at Pacific Northwest Ballet. The show, premiering at the ballet, runs Nov. 4 to 13. It is a mix of well-known romantic stories, such as Black Swan from Swan Lake, Aurora’s Wedding from Sleeping Beauty, and the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet.

Tickets can be purchased at www.pnb.org or in person at McCaw Hall, at 321 Mercer St., on a first-come, first-served basis. Manager of marketing at the ballet, Joanna Hardie, said, “There is almost always availability, but with the bigger shows, students can call in earlier to make sure there are seats open.” Students can call 206-441-2424 to check for availability.

Special performances, such as The Nutcracker, are excluded from all discount deals.

Students 19 years old and under can sign up online for Teen-Tix at www.seattlecenter.com/

See Discounts, page 10
Local theater performs thrillers

A new season for theater has begun and numerous productions are showing at theaters in the Seattle area.

•Burien Little Theatre is performing "Frankenstein," a thrilling story of a tragic experiment. The show will run through Oct. 30 and appear every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

•Aretha Franklin is an American singer, songwriter, and pianist known for her classic style and offer a chance to demonstrate their unique musical styles and hold a connection to her roots.

•Bellevue Arts Museum will demonstrate their unique musical styles and offer a chance to demonstrate their unique musical styles and hold a connection to her roots.

•The Seattle Opera lets students receive the discount at the Seattle Opera, which offers special exhibitions for only $9 with student identification. Also, the Seattle Art Museum provides daily student discounts on special exhibits for only $9 with student identification.

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Students can experience all the wit and sparkle of Oscar Wilde, one of Britain’s most beloved playwrights—without breaking the bank with Taproot Theatre production of An Ideal Husband opens on Sept. 23 and runs through Oct. 22. Taproot Theatre Company is located at 204 N. 85th St., Seattle.

•Burien Little Theater’s first production is a premiere of “Frankenstein” which follows closely to the book. The show will run Sept. 30 through Oct. 30 and on the first Saturday of each production; they are offering 2-for-1 tickets to all students, faculty, staff and administrators at Highline. To reserve 2-for-1 tickets, email in advance at tickets@burienlittletheatre.org. Regular tickets are $18 for general, $15 for student/senior and can be bought online at http://www.burienlittletheatre.org or by calling 206-441-5823.

•The 5th Avenue Theatre’s production of Saving Anna, a new musical based on a true story, opened on Sept. 30 and runs through Oct. 29 at 1308 5th Ave. in downtown Seattle. To reserve tickets, contact Bridget at bsuamers@5thavenue.org.

•Des Moines’ Arts Alive family performance series begins on Saturday, Oct. 15 and will be held on the third Saturday of every month through March. At the Field House 1000 S. 220th St. Tickets are $5 in advance and $7 at the door.

The Thunderword / October 20, 2011

Discounts

continued from page 9

Students fill out an application online and within a week will receive a TeenTix pass in the mail. The student can then show up at any time that the box office is open on the day of the show they want to attend, show your TeenTix pass and your school ID or Driver’s License, and buy a $5 ticket with cash. Debit and credit cards are not accepted.

Participating organizations include, but are not limited to the ACT Theatre, ArtsWest located at 4711 California Avenue SW, Bellevue Arts Museum located 510 Bellevue Way NE which also offers the second Wednesdays of the month free to all students, and the Henry Art Gallery located at 15th Avenue NE and 41st Street. The TeenTix pass will get you free admission to the museum, and makes you eligible to purchase an additional $5 companion ticket all day, every day that the museum is open.

Those looking to enjoy art without spending a dime can attend The Seattle Art Museum which offers free days throughout the month with access to all special exhibitions.

The first Thursday of every month is free to all and the second Friday is free to teens ages 13-19 from 5-9 p.m. with identification. Also, the Seattle Art Museum provides daily student discounts on special exhibits for only $9 with student identification.

The Seattle Opera lets students into operas for only $5 on the day of the show.

Students receive the discount if they are signed up for TeenTix and provide student identification.

Last week’s puzzle answers

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What’s Happening?

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•The Ruth Moody band, a multi-instrumentalist musical group, will be performing at the Kentwood Performing Arts Center on Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $24 for general, $22 for senior and $18 for youth.

•Puget Fine Arts Center in Seattle, at 1902 South Main St. is holding its annual open house called One Hot Night. The art studio provide an animated environment for the public to learn about visual art. The event will take place on Nov. 12 from 6-9 p.m. and is free to the public. Artists will demonstrate their unique styles and offer a chance to meet the instructors.
Advocate continues to help victims of violence

By RACHEL MOYER
Staff Reporter

Brenda Clubine says she is dedicated to being a voice for the silent victims of domestic violence.

“We need to deal with the fact that over 4,700 incarcerated women nationwide are affected by domestic violence. Way too many women lose their lives every year. This is my passion,” said Clubine, a women’s advocate in a phone interview in California.

Clubine was the keynote speaker at Highline’s Women’s Celebration last year.

Clubine explained that she endured years of physical abuse at the hands of her husband and one night she found herself in the fight for her life. Clubine hit her husband over the head with a wine bottle and fled to safety. Her husband died and Clubine was charged with second degree murder and sentenced to 15 years to life in prison.

Due to the Habeas Project of California, which led to Convicted Women Against Abuse (CWAA), Clubine was released from prison in October 2008 after serving 26 years of a 15-years-to-life sentence.

Clubine says that she was partially responsible for the Habeas Project law being passed. Under this law, women who were battered and murdered in self-defense can be released from prison.

“It is important to educate people as to why women do not leave abusive relationships; these women are not gluttons for punishment,” Clubine said.

“The issue is that more women in abusive relationships are killed after they leave. This is partially why many do not leave.”

Clubine explains that these women try so hard to make it right. But they can never make it right to stop the hitting. They try to listen better and do things different, but the hitting does not stop. They start to keep their mouth shut, yet still the hitting still does not stop. Clubine knows this all too well, as she experienced this herself.

“If something doesn’t feel right to you, follow your first mind. I didn’t follow my first mind that night and it cost me 26 years of my life. Why should it cost these women so many years of their lives?” Clubine said.

Women do not always listen to their own personal spirit telling them to leave or get away. If people understood that when a battered woman leaves, her risk of being killed increases 75 percent, the question as to why women stay would cease to be asked, Clubine explained.

Clubine wants every state to have intimate partner violence laws to protect incarcerated and not incarcerated victims of domestic violence.

“I think it is really important. Someone needs to be the voice on the both sides and I am willing to be that voice. At some point this type of advocacy won’t be necessary, but right now it is,” Clubine said.

Every 9 Seconds works to build relationships with legislative representatives to facilitate legal precedence in states across the country. Attorneys are encouraged to take on pro-bono cases to assist in getting victims of domestic violence released from their prison sentences, Clubine explained.

“I am just trying to make a difference,” Clubine said. Every 9 Seconds is even holding a large fundraiser golf tournament on March 10, 2012 in California, Clubine said.

“If you want to get involved in Every 9 Seconds, you can contact www.every9seconds.com and volunteer by: assisting in research for different projects, help with the moral letter support campaign, petition parole hearings and help people awaiting court decisions from the governor, Clubine said.

Clubine encourages the Highline community to get involved and help incarcerated domestic violence victims.

“If we can change the law in California from inside a prison, why can’t people from the outside do their best to help too?” Clubine asked.

“Highline students and staff can contact local prisons and find out how many domestic violence survivors are there, start putting your heads together to work for the social injustice project in your community and what each of you can do to fight for these women,” Clubine said.

“You can also contact local attorneys and encourage them to do pro-bono work and look at the open self-defense cases. You can even petition the courts and make your voice heard.”

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HELP WANTED

The Thunderword

Erika Wigen/THUNDERWORD
Bradley Nelson, left, paints a shirt for The Clothesline Project to raise awareness of domestic violence, Tuesday, Oct. 18. The t-shirts, below, are hung in Building 6.

by RACHEL MOYER
Staff Reporter

Brenda Clubine says she is dedicated to being a voice for the silent victims of domestic violence.

“We need to deal with the fact that over 4,700 incarcerated women nationwide are affected by domestic violence. Way too many women lose their lives every year. This is my passion,” said Clubine, a women’s advocate in a phone interview in California.

Clubine was the keynote speaker at Highline’s Women’s Celebration last year.

Clubine explained that she endured years of physical abuse at the hands of her husband and one night she found herself in the fight for her life. Clubine hit her husband over the head with a wine bottle and fled to safety. Her husband died and Clubine was charged with second degree murder and sentenced to 15 years to life in prison.

Due to the Habeas Project of California, which led to Convicted Women Against Abuse (CWAA), Clubine was released from prison in October 2008 after serving 26 years of a 15-years-to-life sentence.

Clubine says that she was partially responsible for the Habeas Project law being passed. Under this law, women who were battered and murdered in self-defense can be released from prison.

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Kent City Council Elections heat up as November closes in

By ZAHRHA NIAZI Staff Reporter

The elections in Kent involve many different candidates with a lot of divided views over many issues.

• For council position No. 1 incumbent Deborah Ranniger is being challenged by Bailey Stober.

With a Ph.D. in speech communication, a bachelor’s degree in and landscape architecture, Ranniger’s priorities are providing a safe and sustainable city for all citizens of Kent.

Having been on the city council for the past eight years, Ranniger said she promotes economic development and values what the community has to say.

Ranniger did not respond to requests for an interview.

• At age 23 she may be the youngest candidate, but he has been involved in politics since he was 13 years old.

Working as a loss prevention manager in a major department store, Stober said that he oversees and protects the assets of the company as well as analyzes the $12.5 million budget. He thinks this is a huge contribution to his role on the city council.

“I along with others feel that she [Ranniger] is out of touch with common residents and hasn’t accomplished a substantial amount in the past eight years,” said Stober. He said that he brings a fresh vision and voice to the city council.

Stober said that public safety, human services, and economic development are key to ensuring the success of the city of Kent.

“We need to re-establish a broken relationship with the residents of Kent. Government mistrust is high and morale is low. It is time to show residents we will be accountable to them and they are what make this City great,” said Stober.

• For council position No. 3 incumbent Les Thomas is being challenged by Nancy Skorupa.

Serving on the City Council for the past eight years, Thomas said that taxes need to continue to be reduced and projects within the city such as work around the ShoWare center need to be completed.

His opponent, Nancy Skorupa, is more worried about economic growth and creating more jobs for the people of Kent.

President and CEO of Renaissance Yarns, Skorupa said she understands how important small business are to the city’s growth and that small businesses are the key to a better city.

Neither candidate responded to requests for interviews.

• For council position No. 5, incumbent Debbie Raplee is being challenged by Bill Boyce.

Serving on the council for the past five years, Raplee said she wants to continue with all the accomplishments; improving transportation and making sure tax dollars are not misused.

Currently working at Boeing in the Human Resources department for 23 years now, Bill Boyce said he wants the city to be fiscally responsible.

In addition, serving on the Kent School District Board of Directors for 16 years, Boyce wants to ensure the safety of the city for all citizens.

• Running for council position No. 7 are Dana Ralph and Michael S. Sealfon.

Ralph said that being involved in the community is the most important thing throughout this whole campaign.

“Eight years ago I was frustrated with the development that was going on the street in my neighborhood and I contacted the mayors’ office and he told me that if you want to see change you have to get involved,” said Ralph.

And that’s what she did; previous mayor Jim White was in office but he appointed her to a city planning board. She later was appointed to the Arts Commission. Ralph is also involved in the Kent Kiwanis club.

Her top issues are community and family safety, making sure that everybody feels safe in their neighborhoods and maintaining roads, parks, etc., the core services of the city.

“We have a long track record of community involvement and leadership and I have been endorsed by both policemen and firefighters for my commitment to community and public safety,” said Ralph.

With a Ph.D. in clinical chemistry from Ohio State University and a master’s from the University of Tennessee, Michael S. Sealfon said he wants to focus on community service activities and involving the citizens in politics.

Sealfon and Ralph failed to respond to requests for interviews.

Burien candidates split over annexing North Highline

By ZAHRHA NIAZI Staff Reporter

Burien candidates are divided over the annexation in the North Highline area.

• Running for council position No. 6 is incumbent Gerald Robinson and his opponent is Deb Wagner.

Incumbent Robinson is for the annexation in the North Highline area, he feels that this is a crucial part to the success of the city of Burien.

“My parents had been active in local Democratic party politics, and I was a delegate to the King County Democrats county convention while I was still in high school,” said Robinson.

“I became active in the White Center Chamber of Commerce, and several other community groups, in the mid-1980s, which got me involved in community politics without being in the party system,” said Robinson.

Serving on many different types of councils, Robinson said that his experience is greater than that of his opponent’s.

Robinson feels that the annexation of the North Highline area is one of the most important issues at hand and through that initiative all other issues can be worked towards; public safety, parks and transportation as well as house equity and economic development are the other issues he wants to focus on.

His opponent Deb Wagner has different areas on which she wants to focus on.

“I respect the public, I think they have a lot of good ideas,” said Wagner. She is not for the annexation but the issues she would like to take care of are the environment and protecting it, transportation as well as spending.

Wagner said that spending should be cut instead of raising taxes to fix the city’s problems. As a local customer service representative at Fred Meyer, Wagner said that she always hears people talking about taxes, government spending, and how money is being wasted.

Wagner said that she has a lot of experience in politics; she led a CASE (Citizens Against SeaTac Expansion) group in 1996 against the expansion of the runway in the Seattle Tacoma area and has continually been involved in the community ever since.

Running for council position No. 2 is incumbent Lucy Krakowiak against candidate Greg Duff.

Living in the city of Burien for over 20 years and being a business owner, Lucy Krakowiak has been involved in many different programs, such as high school mentoring and volunteer programs within the city.

She does not support the annexation proposal of the North Highline area.

Greg Duff is also very involved in his community; ranging from a baseball coach to a veteran as well as a small business owner, he feels all of these contribute to his campaign run.

He wants to look out for all the people in the city of Burien and make sure that facilities are maintained as far as parks and community centers go.

Attempts were made to contact both Krakowiak and Duff but no response was received from either candidate.

• The last pair of candidates running is incumbent Gordon M. Shaw and his opponent Bob Edgar.

Serving on Burien’s council for the past eight years, Gordon M. Shaw wants to diversify the economy and as well as expand it.

His thoughts on the annexation proposal are fairly simple; if the proposal can go through without subsidizing existing residents, he will vote for it.

Bob Edgar is involved in the field of corporate education but has a lot of experience in business and he believes that this knowledge will only assist him in the campaign.

Edgar says he will take his time deciding on whether the annexation of the North Highline area is beneficial for the community.

Attempts were made to contact both Shaw and Edgar but no response was received.
SeaTac City Council candidates are divided over a proposition that would change the current form of government.

During the upcoming elections, SeaTac voters will have a chance to vote on councilmember positions No. 1, 3, 5, and 7, as well as vote on whether to change the form of city government to a separately elected, “strong” mayor arrangement. Currently, the mayor is simply a member of the council and has no executive authority in government.

Members of City Council are elected by the voters for four-year terms. Terms are staggered to avoid a complete changeover of City Council.

On the May 21 ballots in their cities, on Nov. 8, the elected council members will make policy, land use, and budget decisions to be carried out by the city manager.

The race for the Council Position No. 1 is a head-to-head contest between incumbent Councilmember Gene Fisher and Barry Ladenburg.

Gene Fisher has been on the council since 2000. He did not respond to request for an interview.

Fisher is a businessman, commercial fisherman, Christmas tree farmer, and an expert witness for Technical Advisory Services for Attorneys.

On the King County Election Website (KingCounty.gov/elections), Fisher’s statement reads “I firmly believe the purpose of government is to serve the people, not the other way around.”

“I support the change of government (COG) and the citizens’ petitions to elect the mayor of the city,” he said.

He also writes, “I am a property rights advocate and have fought for many years for less bureaucracy in government.”

Fisher’s opponent Ladenburg, 52, works as an elite technician for King County. In 2009 he was appointed to the SeaTac City Council for a year.

“I live in SeaTac and want to make it a better place for all to work live and play,” said Ladenburg.

“One of the things I’d like to do is I would like to continue partnerships with Highline School District and also bring better in paying jobs,” Ladenburg said.

Ladenburg said that through incentive programs, and amongst other jurisdictions, the city is having trouble with, said Bensley. “We lose more than we bring in.” She said the council and the community need to make sure the environment is favorable for new business development.

“Dave Bush, who turns 69 in November, graduated from Olympic College and Central Washington State University, and he is running for Council Position No. 5.

Several after seven years in Marine Corps, as sergeant and drill sergeant, he now is a real estate broker.

“It’s my first time ever running,” said Bush. “Ralph Shape [the current Position No. 5 councilmember] asked me to run for the office.”

Several other councilmembers and leaders in the community asked him to participate, he said.

“My work in the community is what distinguishes me,” Bush said.

Bush was president of Tye High School’s PTSA and on YMCA board for seven years. As well he was a member of Highline Schools Foundation, the SeaTac Rotary, and is an active member of citizen police patrol.

“I worked over 20 years for the community,” he said.

Bush said he wants to work on getting the community more involved.

One bigger problem besides crime is that we have about 61 percent of the public from different culture groups, we need to get them involved in the community.”

He opposes Proposition No.1. “I’m against the elected mayor because it will cost the city about $250,000,” Bush said.

Bush’s opponent for Position No.5, Michael T. Kovacs disagrees. He is in favor of Proposition No. 1, because people of SeaTac have the right to choose their leaders,” she said.

Kovacs, 52, works as a quality systems auditor at Boeing. He said he was actively engaged with the city council since late 1999, and has lost his run for a council position in 2009.

“I have always been interested in politics, probably ever since I was a child,” Kovacs said. “I want to improve our city because I lived her for 25 years and a lot of things have changed.”

Kovacs said some tough problems facing the city are continued degradation and pub safety getting worse, as well as the city not having a solid citizen base.

“Now about 50 percent of the houses are rental houses,” Kovacs, a 42-year-old father of two said. “Over 50 percent of the people have a vested interest in the community from time to time. I believe in working with all people,” said Kovacs. “The community needs to be involved.”

Kovacs said he is involved in the community by volunteering for American Society for Quality, an organization that tries to improve quality of life in the area.

“I pledge if elected that I will donate 50 percent of my salary to charity groups in the city of SeaTac,” said Kovacs.

For Council Position No. 7, incumbent Mia Su-Ling Grgerson is running against Erin Sitterley.

Grgerson, 37, is a business manager for a dental clinic in West Seattle. She received her bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Washington, and is a private pilot.

“I was asked to run when there was an open seat when a former councilmember stepped down in 2007,” said Grgerson.

She has served on the City Council Position No. 7 for the past term and is now seeking reelection.

Grgerson said she is progressive, and believes government should be able to fund some of the human services programs.

“I would like to think that I have been working very hard to build bridges within the schools and amongst other jurisdictions – especially in the Highline School District area,” said Grgerson.

She said she has also spearheaded the fundraising for the bus stations that are now located at City Hall, and several other programs.

The proposition to change the current form of government is dividing the city and could be a challenge to the city, said Grgerson.

This proposition has been brought up several times over the past years, and so far the voters were not in favor of it.

Grgerson said people spend their time trying to show that the city is not performing well and is being run poorly and inefficiently. “This is very negative and keeps the city from moving forward,” she said.

Erin Sitterley, 47, who works as a speech language pathologist, seeks to unseat the incumbent Grgerson.

Sitterley has been a resident of SeaTac for 22 years, said that back in the day when she first moved to SeaTac the property value was increasing, however, it is not like that anymore.

“Our neighborhoods are not as livable anymore. There is no sense of community and stability,” Sitterley said. “Small businesses have left, they can’t get a foothold.”

Good jobs are not being created, said Sitterley.

She said she wants to work on creating an atmosphere for meaningful economic development for citizens.

One of the tough issues facing the city is the way taxpayer dollars are spent, said Sitterley. “There is this attitude that we have always spent our money this way and will continue to do that, rather than taking a hard look at what we spend,” she said.

“I committed, have time, energy and resources that can be committed to the job,” Sitterley said.

Her experience as a Civil Service Commissioner, elected precinct officer, and community leader make her a well-qualified candidate for the position, she said.

Sitterley is in favor of Proposition No. 1, the elected mayor.

“The current form of government, city manager is not responsive to the citizens, and largely focused on interests outside the city,” said Sitterley.
Program aims to help science, engineering majors

MESA offers resources to students

By ERICA MORAN
Staff Reporter

Underrepresented science, technology, engineering and mathematical majors now have a resource at Highline to help them transfer to a four-year university.

Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) helps underrepresented students (female, African-American, Latino, Native American and Pacific Islander) succeed in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields (STEM).

The program director, Chera Amlag, is also the tutoring center science coordinator who has worked for academic enrichment programs for the last 10 years.

The MESA community college program has a goal to help students transfer to a four-year university and receive a bachelor’s degree in an approved major.

“Everyone else that is involved in the campus and that is their daily life, here is what the program trying to do. The purpose of the program is to give them a better feel for the kind of vibrancy that the rest of us experience every day here,” said Jeff Wagnitz, vice president of Academic Affairs.

Wagnitz said that college officials anticipate that the experience of the members attending class will be beneficial in that they will be better equipped to advocate, speak up for students and improve decisions they make.

Highline did this a few years ago and decided to repeat it, as there are new board and Foundation members. It is currently undecided which classes the trustees will attend; a variety of courses will be offered from a number of different disciplines, so the members can pick a subject area that interests them most, Wagnitz explained.

“The Board of Trustees is a group of community members devoted to raising money for the college.

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Federal Way candidates debate direction of city

By ERIKA WIGREN Staff Reporter

Federal Way City Council Candidates have the same objectives, but disagree on how to meet them.

Positions 1, 3, 5 and 7 are on the ballot for the Nov. 8 elections.

For position 1, Jim Farrell, incumbent councilman and senior deputy prosecutor for King County, is running unopposed.

For City Council position 3, Susan Honda is running against newcomer Roger Flygare, a U.S. army Vietnam veteran who received the Purple Heart.

Flygare, the CEO of Flygare & Associates Court Reporters, said he plans on improving businesses and providing jobs in Federal Way.

“I will search out opportunities to make Federal Way a magnet to achieve an improving and a long lasting economic recovery in the core of our city,” he said.

Flygare said he also wants more outside events for families, and to make the city a more family-friendly community.

“This will not be a part time job for me,” Flygare said.

Honda, a University of Puget Sound graduate and former registered nurse said during the Federal way Chamber of Commerce Debate on Oct. 5, that her overall goal was to “change the perception of Federal Way.”

“Experience matters,” said Honda, “Experience such as listening to all citizen’s input and concerns and doing the right thing.”

Honda did not respond to a request for an interview.

Pursuing Council position 5 are Bob Celski and incumbent Jack Dovey.

Dovey, who graduated from Oregon State University, is a former mayor and has been a City Council member since 1995. Dovey said he is working to promote Federal Way’s economic growth.

His past progress includes the starting of the Federal Way Police Department, the construction of celebration park and maintaining Federal Way’s budget.

“We need to build this city so it is a place people want to live,” Dovey said during the debate, “I want to continue to give back.”

Celski is a U.S. army veteran, a business owner, as well as a corporate executive.

Through my service as a US Army officer, my experience as a small business owner, and as a family man, I have gained a wide variety of skills and perspectives that will prove invaluable to the Council,” said Celski.

Celski said as a City Council member, he will provide strong leadership to ensure the Federal Way community’s needs are met.

“It’s about bringing jobs into the city,” Celski said during the Oct 5 debate.

Running for City Council position 7 are incumbent Dini Duclos and software development engineer Keith Tyler.

Duclos graduated from the University of Connecticut with a master’s degree in Social Work. She is currently serving as Deputy Mayor and has been a Council Member since 2007.

Duclos said she does not like to leave before she finishes her job.

“I want to finish what I started,” she said.

Her main focus if she is re-elected will be improving Federal Way’s markets, community gardens, and establishing block watches.

Duclos said, “My vision for Federal Way is for it to be a place where people will seek out to live, to raise their families.”

Duclos’ opponent Keith Tyler graduated from Northeastern University with a bachelor’s degree.

Though this is Tyler’s first time running, he said he will promote new ideas in planning and development and help Federal Way reach its potential as a regional leader.

“One thing about Federal Way is that we have a fear of change and outside influence,” Tyler said, “but we need to move forward, not backward.”

During the debate Tyler said, “The slogan of this city is ‘It’s all within reach.’ I think it should be, ‘It’s all right here.’”

Candidate forums Monday and Tuesday

Highline will host local city council candidate forums on Oct. 24 and 25 at 10 a.m. in Building 7.

City Council candidates from Des Moines, Federal Way, SeaTac, Kent, Normandy Park and Tukwila have been invited.

The forum is free and open to the public, and questions from the audience will be taken.

The forum is being presented by American Government students at the college.

Portal

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The Financial Aid Office cannot fix this glitch because the system is not fully under Highline’s control.

“Since the portal is part of the Community and Technical College Financial Aid Management System, we cannot make any changes or updates locally. However, we communicate our concerns and suggestions to the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges on a regular basis,” Odom said.

Highline student Mike Le is on financial aid and has found the portal helpful.

“You can go on there now and download everything you need, and turn it in the drop box [in Building 6]. ... I think it’s really convenient and it’s one step place for students to go check forms and the status for their award years,” Le said.

Odom said she wants students who haven’t used the portal to talk to their friends and colleagues who use the portal, and “you will find out that it is easy to use and will save your time,” Odom said.

The deadline for financial aid for Winter Quarter was Oct. 12.

To visit the Financial Aid Portal, access http://financialaid.highline.edu/portal.php. The Financial Aid office is in Building 6 and is open 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

Voting

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but haven’t had time to look at the people,” said student Dawn Taylor, who is a registered voter.

Another student said he hasn’t even looked at the ballot.

“I’ve been so out of it lately, I don’t know,” said Ryan Poquiz.

Although many students did not know what was on the ballot, some of them were more aware than others.

A few students know about Initiative 1183.

“I know one,” said Sarah Kim. “It’s about the drinking law, whether or not people should be allowed to own private alcohol businesses.”

Student Andrea Mutscher said, “I know about the liquor law because it’s on T.V. non-stop. I also know about the initiative involving transportation and Washington bridges.”

While students did not know much about what was on the ballot, 48 percent of those surveyed said that they were going to vote.

For those not voting there were many factors influencing their decision.

“I would vote for the presidential election but that’s about it,” said Kaitlyn Cun. “It’s more interesting. I don’t really care about the little stuff.”

Student Kassandra Moreno said she would probably not vote because she doesn’t have enough time.

There were also those who cannot vote because they are not eligible. Many of Highline’s students are too young to vote, while others are not American citizens.

“I’m not an American citizen,” said one. “But even if I was, I probably would not vote.”

Reporters Erika Wigren, Evgeniya Dokunina and True Har-riton contributed to this story.

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