THUNDERWORD

Highline Community College March 8, 2012 Volume 50, Issue 18

Republican budget proposal creates drama

By ALISA GRAMANN Staff Reporter

Legislative shenanigans have thrown the Legislature into chaos, which is likely to prolong the session.

Around 2 a.m. Saturday morning, the Republicans of the Senate unveiled and passed a budget proposal with the aid of three Democrats.

The budget adopted last year has left the state with a \$1.1 billion hole to fill in the budget. This supplemental budget must fill the gap.

Sen. Joseph Zarelli, budget leader for the Senate Republicans, said in a statement that he expects this budget to fill the hole and create balance without creating any new problems for the Legislature to face next year.



Sen. Zarelli. Ridgefield, was unavailable for an interview.

This budget proposal

stirred up the Legislature due to its secretive history and cuts to education.

The budget included cuts of nearly \$30 million from higher education, as well as \$44 million from K-12 programs.

"The House budget reduces funding for higher education by \$59 million, including cuts to student financial aid," said a Senate Republican staff mem-"The Senate budget contains half that level of reductions, and also leaves financial aid unharmed."

The \$30 million cuts to higher education in the Senate Republican budget proposal can be countered if colleges cut \$30 million in tuition waivers,

See Budget, page 19

Cancer in Iraq veterans



Keith Hernandez, like his brother Richard, was diagnosed with testicular cancer after returning from a tour in Iraq.

Highline students, former marines, and brothers, both diagnosed with testicular cancer

> By ERIKA WIGREN Staff Reporter

Former U.S. Marine and Highline student Richard Hernandez was diagnosed with testicular cancer in September 2011. Now his brother, Keith Hernandez, has been diagnosed with the same disease.

"I had pain one night, and I couldn't sleep. The very next

day, I went to the VA to get checked. I had a CAT scan done and at the end of the day I found out I had a tumor. I was diagnosed with stage two testicular cancer," Keith Hernandez said.

Keith Hernandez, like his brother, is a former U.S. Marine and current Highline stu-

Richard Hernandez said when he was diagnosed he thought it was just a random occurrence, but with the recent diagnosis of his brother, he now thinks otherwise.

"At first, it was surprising because there was no history of testicular cancer in my family," said Richard Hernan-



Keith Hernandez

dez. "When Keith was diagnosed, that's when it started to hit home that there was some kind of connection."

Richard Hernandez said he asked his doctor at the Veter-

See Cancer, page 20

Campus sees increase in forged permits

By KATIE LABORDE

Staff Reporter

The number of forged parking permits is on the rise, causing Campus Security to crack down on students who do not buy real permits.

"Just recently it has become more of a problem than in the past," said Rich Noyer, who is the supervisor of Campus Security. "Just in this quarter, we have caught six forged permits."

An increase in the number of students caught with a forged pass takes money away from the school. The money made from purchasing permits helps maintain parking lots and school fa-

Students have found different ways to make their fake permit pass as the real ones. The method that seems to be used the most is creating a similar sticker that matches the color of the stickers used on actual parking passes.

"Mainly students purchase the permit in the fall and then they forge the sticker on the permit in the winter and spring quarters," a Campus Security

See Permits, page 19

Students say they don't need or want guns on campus

By Thunderword Staff college campuses.

Most students say that they do not think guns should be allowed on campus.

The Colorado Supreme Court on Monday ruled that the colleges and universities in Colorado can no longer ban guns from campus, saying that the policy violated state law. Colorado joins six other states that allow concealed carry on

"I think that Highline is a place where there shouldn't be any appropriate situation or time for anybody to need a gun," said Highline student Theron Flow-

"Why would students bring guns to a community college?" asked Kevin Tran. "Whatever the purpose is for an individual to bring a gun is certainly irrelevant to what Highline wants

to provide. Or what Highline's purpose is."

"If a person wants to use a gun to gain something, that could mean everyone has the right to do that," said Tran.

Students say they are scared by the idea of other students carrying guns with them.

"I wouldn't feel safe sitting next to someone in class who has one in their purse, honestly," said Tierney Patterson. "I understand completely the need for guns for protection, but I do believe there are boundaries to where they should be - schools being one of those boundaries."

"Call me a paranoid parrot." but I would keep looking out around me, just in case a gunfight would start up anytime," said student Jake McCauley. "School should be a safe haven.

See Guns, page 18

spring



Xuan Festival gets students excited for



Highline softball team dreams big

for the season



Chemistry show demonstrates how exciting science really is

Business 14 Puzzles 5 Arts Health 13 Campus Life 3 Opinion 4 6 - 10 Sports]] -]2 News 15 - 20 Index



A tale about getting tail

Dolphin Tale will be showing tomorrow, March 9, for Movie Friday in Building 29, room 104.

The film was created by the studio and producers of The Blind Side and will begin at 12:30 p.m.

CFPB accepting private student loan complaints

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is taking complaints from borrowers with private student loans difficulties.

Student loans have recently surpassed credit cards as the largest form of unsecure consumer debt in the nation.

"The ability to work hard and better yourself through education is part of what makes this country so great," said Richard Cordray, director of the CFPB. "But getting a higher education can mean taking on significant debt- a big decision with a lot of consequences. The CFPB is now the one-stop federal agency where all private student loan borrowers can ask questions, get information, or file a complaint about this important market."

To reach the CFPB call their toll-free number, 1-855-411-2372, go online at consumer-finance.gov, of mail a letter to P.O. Box 4503, Iowa City, Iowa 52244.

Open health plan enrollment available

If you have a child who is not covered by your insurance and you would like to receive individual coverage for them or add them to your family plan, the first health plan open enrollment of the years is March 15-April 30.

During this time children under the age of 19 do not have to fill out a health questionnaire and cannot be denied health insurance because of pre-existing conditions.

"I urge people looking for coverage for their kids to apply early," said Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler. "If you wait, your coverage could be delayed until May."

To apply for open enrollment call Stephanie Marquis at the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioners, at 360-725-7051 or email her at Stephaniem@oic.wa.gov.

Health fair combines food, fun, and knowledge

By EMILY BETTRIDGE Staff Reporter

The Mt. Constance room was filled with people, tri-folds, and food yesterday as students worked to attract viewers to their health care projects.

The Health Information Fair was held in the Mt. Constance room of the Student Union on Wednesday where students showcased topics they had researched.

"We have cookies to decorate," said Heidi Bell, a respiratory care student presenting for her microbiology class.

"They are little men missing limbs. We have frosting to make them white, and give them wounds with," said her co-presenter Courtney Cherry, a nursing student. "Our project is about leprosy."

A near by booth had wafer cookies in front of it. "These are like brittle bones," said Candace Barber, the osteoporosis and rickets presenter, breaking off a bit of the wafer.

Off to the side were chicken bones; some dry and brittle for osteoporosis, some soaked in vinegar to demonstrate the soft



Cory Sun/THUNDERWORD

Kathlene Kent (left) views a presentation on Mercury Poisoning.

bones associated with rickets.

Not all of the 40 groups used food in such an interesting manner, however. A bowl of dumdums and bite-sized chocolates sat in front of the Cardio-Lungs project.

The project was a part of the class grade, but the topic choice was up to the student, said Pamela Akerman, a health care student.

"This was very personal for

me; both my parents had COPD [Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.] My father died from it and my mother had lung cancer."

About 130 people walked around the room. Most of them were presenters looking at classmates' projects, said Cherry, the leprosy presenter. "But I have seen a lot of guys; I think they came here for the food."

There were other attractions

besides food. People could practice buckling a baby into a car seat in a booth manned by Christie Welsh, a nursing student.

Her co-presenter, Mintesnot Wodma, helped participants take a quiz afterwards; getting a correct answer lit up a light bulb.

One booth had complimentary red puff-balls to represent Meningococcal B, a meningitis bacterium, and a luck-of-thedraw game to demonstrate the prevalence of the disease in New Zealand.

While most of the presenters were required to attend the fair, some classes had the option of holding a booth for extra credit.

"I did the project for extra credit," said David Melnicuck, a radiologic technology student presenting The Effects of Smoking.

"I learned a lot about smoking. ... Your body has to get rid of [cigarette carcinogens] somehow. It affects all your organs, not just your lungs."

Although the presentations took a lot of work, "I walked around a couple times; it's been a lot of fun," said Akerman.



Crime and Punishment

Loud students asked to leave campus

Campus Security was called to Building 25 in regard to students creating a noise disturbance on March 5.

Campus Security talked to six males and one female who were sitting on couches and tables on the third floor. The students were asked to leave for the day and the students complied.

Suspiscious men scoping out vehicles in lot

Campus Security was called to the South Parking lot in regard to two men suspiciously looking inside vehicles on March 6.

The caller reported that the two men left in a silver Nissan Altima, but was unable to get the license plate number. Campus Security conducted a search of all of the parking lots and was unable to find the two men.

Suspicious truck found

A Campus Security officer spotted a vehicle pulling in to the North Parking Lot in to the gravel area behind the track on March 1.

Campus Security approached the vehicle and made contact with a male and female passenger. Campus Security told them the campus was closed and they complied and left the area.

Fender bender witnessed by security

While Campus Security was patrolling the East Parking Lot, a security officer observed a red Acura roll into a Honda Accord on March 5.

The owners of the vehicles agreed that the damage was not significant enough to warrant further action.

Drunk man found asleep in bathroom

A custodian noticed a man sleeping in the men's restroom and notified Campus Security on March 2.

When Campus Security arrived, the man was uncooperative and sounded intoxicated. Campus Security called Des

Moines Police Department, who escorted the man off campus.

Suspicious alarm sounds

A Campus Security officer heard an alarm going off in Building 29 on March 4.

Campus Security found the handicapped doors unlocked. Faculty members were found on the third floor and they did not know the code to disarm the alarm. The handicapped doors

were locked.

Missing Floorboards and paneling reported

There was a theft from a vehicle reported on March 6.

A Highline student reported that his vehicle's floorboards and paneling were missing.

-Compiled by Katie LaBorde



EXPERIENCE
PUGET
SOUND
AND
EARN
SCIENCE
CREDIT!

Marine Science & Technology Center

Each quarter Highline's MaST Center offers hands-on marine science laboratory classes. Earn your 5 credits of lab science with first-hand experiences.

WE OFFER

BIOL 103 — Marine Birds & Mammals (offered occasionally)

BIOL 110 — Marine Biology*

OCEA 101 — Introduction to Oceanography*

ENVS 101 — Introduction to Environmental Science Marine Focus (spring & summer)

The MaST Center is located 4 miles south of the Highline Campus in Redondo. Our aquarium has 11 tanks with more than 100 local species on display.

*Many hybrid courses offered every quarter.

Sound insulation for Building 4 waits on port grant

By EMILY BETTRIDGE Staff Reporter

Highline is planning the remodel of Building 4 in expectation of a pending grant.

The grant, which won't be awarded until the end of March, is offered by the Port of Seattle, in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration.

The Port of Seattle runs Seattle's seaport and airport, including the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

The Federal Aviation Administration is a part of the United States Department of Transportation and has control over all civil aviation.

The sound abatement project, which is estimated at a total cost of \$2.5 million, would reduce external noise in Building 4.

However, the entire \$2.5 million project cost will not be picked up by the Port of Seattle, said Barry Holldorf, the director of facilities at Highline.



Chiara Burt/THUNDERWORD

Building 4 will get new sound insulation if a Highline gets a grant.

"The preliminary capital budget allotment for the project is \$675,000", he said. This is the money that the state will provide for the project. "The additional funds that make up the total project cost [\$1.525 million] will be a budgeted ask from the Port of Seattle/FAA."

This means that the Port of Seattle and FAA will determine the grant amount based on the project budget submitted by Highline depending on how much of the cost relates to sound abatement, said Holldorf.

The hope is, though, that funding will cover electrical and HVAC work on the building, as well as work on the windows and roof, he said.

Eventually, Building 4 will be completely rebuilt, but this could be so far into the future that it's not a waste to do a remodel now, said Holldorf.

The best case scenario puts Highline eight years away from approval for such a project, he

Highline is also hoping to begin a couple other small projects around campus, Holldorf said.

Money that was dedicated to a replacement generator for Building 24, some \$153,000 will be used for installing transfer switches and junction boxes in Buildings 0, 8, 24, 29 and 30.

These two adjustments will allow a mobile generator to be hooked up to any one of these buildings. In case Building 26 is unable to serve as an Emergency Operations Center for the campus, one of these buildings will have the power to take its

This process is better than replacing the Building 24 generator, said Holldorf, because the generator still works, it just can't power those buildings.

Plans for a wheelchair ramp providing access to Buildings 21 and 22 and a ramp for Building 19 are in design but are dependent on available funds.

The new ramps are projected to cost about \$326,000 but state funding will not cover all expenses. Ramps for Buildings 21 and 22 will be completed using the capital allotments, and the Building 19 ramp will depend on what funds are left over.

Buildings 21 and 22 are not ADA accessible without a new ramp. Highline policy is that if one single student cannot make it to the classroom, the entire class will be relocated.

The new ramps will be more convenient for students and the school, but more importantly, making the buildings ADA accessible "[is] the right thing to do," said Holldorf.

Also cost dependent are the plans to resolve issues with sewer pipes leading to Buildings 1, 5 and 27. Only about \$73,500 is provided for in capital allotments, enough to cover the replacement of the Building 1 sewer line.

A whale of a welcome

600 visit MaST for unveiling of gray whale skeleton

By BETH MIKLOVICH and ALISA GRAMANN Staff Reporters

Don't look down for the MaST Center's most recent ad-

The Highline Marine Science and Technology unveiled its newest exhibit last Saturday.

The reassembled skeleton of a gray whale — a project that has taken nearly two years now hangs overhead in the main hallway of the MaSt center.

Although there was not a dramatic unveiling — putting a sheet over a 40-foot, suspended whale is kind of tricky, said Rus Higley, manager of the



Rus Higley

MaST Center — paper covered the windows and doors of the MaST Center.

The public got their first view of the fully assembled whale last Saturday at 10 a.m.

"Saturday, we had nearly 600 people attend, largest event ever held at the MaST," said Higley. Higley teaches marine sciences at Highline.

Along with the newest resident, the MaST center added several new interactive exhibits that educate visitors about the gray whale.

One new exhibit is a smell station that allows visitors to smell healthy whale blubber and rotten whale blubber, as well as allowing visitors to learn just how heavy whale blubber is.

Another exhibit shows the contents of the whale's stomach, which includes several plastic grocery bags, a pair of sweat pants and other bits of plastic and trash.

MaST Center visitors were pleased with the new exhibit.

"The exhibit is wonderful," said Dusty Wilson, a math professor at Highline. "The whale itself is beautiful and the craftsmanship used to assemble it is



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

The complete gray whale skeleton now hangs in the main hallway of the MaST Center.

the best I've seen. The displays are insightful and make the MaST a place that I will return to, along with as many friends as I can bring along."

Wilson was one of Higley's volunteers who helped with the whale project.

"Having watched the whale project from the early days, I knew how much work was going into bringing this extraordinary specimen to the MaST," Wilson said. "At first, I wanted to attend simply to see it all come together, but having seen the Arroyo Gray Whale, I have a desire to know and understand like never before."

If you missed the unveiling of the whale, there is still time to experience the whale exhib-

"Although the whale is a permanent display, the exhibit, including the smell station, will remain through April," Higley

Higley said that whenever he walks out of his office, he is amazed that the whale is finally finished and hanging overhead.

After two long years, Higley said, "[it's] a relief to be done."

The MaST center is open to the public Saturdays free of charge from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information on the MaSt Center, Driving directions or to volunteer at the MaST visit mast.highline.edu. or visit them on Facebook.

Editorial comment

Ashamed and disappointed

This year is an extremely important year for politics, presedential, congressional, and gubenatorial. But from what we learned from the student body, it doesn't matter.

We took a survey of the student body last week, asking them about the upcoming elections this year.

Forget even knowing who would be on the ballot, 43 percent of those that responded thought that when race was mentioned it had to do with ethnicity.

Now, it was by no means a scientific survey, but it does give us insight into part of the student body.

We were appalled by some of the responses we got during the survey, students talking about Caucasians and African Americans when the races on the ballot would be presidential and senatorial.

Only 13 percent of the 203 students we talked to even knew what was going to be on the ballot this November.

Upfront, we can say that we are supremely disappointed. We are college students, the forefront of education and the spearhead for those that will be in charge of this country. So what does it say about our collective knowledge if only 26 students know that Obama's got to fight for his job?

It's a little hard to accept that so few students knew about the elections this year, especially with the circus the media is making out of the possible Republican nominees. There isn't a nightly news program that doesn't have something to say on the subject.

If our student body is any indication of the rest of the country, we may be doomed.

We will soon be responsible for electing the leader of the free world, along with our own state governor and a handful of state senators. Not to mention to congressional and senatorial elections that will also be taking place. It is our responsibility to know who is on the ballot, which issues are on the ballot, and most importantly that there is even a ballot at all.

Think about an America where the citizens became completely detached from the election process, it would miserable. Political parties would become nothing more than a puppet show, with power being traded off every other year, lacking any input from the people being governed.

Is that the kind of country we want? Is that what we want for our children? A nation of ignorant sheep doing what they're told and just existing from one moment to the next.

Hopefully the student body decides to wake up over the course of the next few months. Or at least pretend like they care who's going to be running this country.

All across the country, there are movements attempting to get the youth more involved in the political process. But if those youth are unwilling to listen to the message, what good is the message in

At the very least we ask you to go out and register to vote.

Because with your registration comes the Voter's Pamphlet, which is a nice boiled down version of what will be on the ballot during any given election. You might be able to make a semiinformed decision about who you put in control of your country's military, money, and international power.

Either way, something needs to change.

We will do our best to keep you informed about the upcoming elections, but that's as much as we can do. It really is up to you to take the initiative and make the right decision this November.

Got something to say? Write to us

Do you have something you want to say to the student body? Or would you like to respond to something you read in the paper?

Send submissions to jnelson@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday. Letters to the editor should be about 200 words, columns should be no more than 600 words.







Humbled by expectant mother

I'm relatively proud of the work I do for this paper, I have done my best to make this page interesting and provocative.

The words I write and the stories I tell don't matter much if no one reads them, but even if someone is reading this, that's where it ends, on the page.

Nothing compared to the responsibility of raising another human being, and in that regard Kierstan Burke humbles me.

Here is a woman, who after five consecutive miscarriages was told that she is unable to have kids.

"And then, when I was casually with a guy from Spokane, he didn't wrap it up so I got knocked up," said Burke.

It's been 21 weeks since then, and now she looks funny when she walks – well, it's more like a waddle. "But I'm keeping this one," she said. "And with five miscarriages, this pregnancy makes me nervous, I'm constantly calling my doctor."

Burke is only 26, so to have gone through five miscarriages is no small feat.

She said the word "parent" terrifies her, that it's the scariest word, because of what she doesn't know. Burke said she's pretty much clueless about what it takes to raise another human.

There was this guy, way back in the day, who said the wisest



Grinds My Gears Josh Nelson

man (or woman, in this case) is the one who admits they know nothing.

And that is exactly why I am humbled by Burke, she knows she's not ready, but like any good hero is prepared to accept the challenge. She will be charging into the unknown, jobless, and living in her mother's house – a daunting task for anyone in their 20s

I asked her, if she was so scared, why didn't she just get an abortion? It's legal in this state, I don't care what the Republicans think, an aborted baby is probably better than an unwanted one.

"I may be terrified but I wouldn't lose this chance for the world," said Burke. "If I had the chance to go back, I'd probably still be pregnant. I probably wouldn't have beat the baby daddy the second time around though."

Burke also surprised me with

how she talked about her unborn child, which she knows is a girl but doesn't find out for sure until this afternoon.

"She reacts to everything I do, I can tell what she likes because she'll move around a lot. But when I do something she doesn't like she lets me know," said Burke.

While we were talking, Burke would pause here and there, letting me know that the baby was being playful or pushing particularly hard on a cer-

"To be honest though, I can't stand the nausea," she said. "That and my change in tastes. I mean, I've got an avocado tattooed on me, and for the last month any time I see one it makes me gag."

Burke said she can't wait to not be pregnant, and who can blame her? All things considered it's nine months of hell, culminating in hours of pain.

But after the pain, will come the greatest joy Burke will ever know. Her name will be Lilly Jean - or Jackson Thomas (back-up boy name in case her intuition is off).

Even with everything against her, people like Burke give me hope. She's not a baby factory looking to suck funds from overly taxed social programs. She's simply going to be a mom.

E-Mail tword@highline.edu

Ever since I went to Idaho, I'm a different person.

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BY **HENRY BOLTINOFF**





CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below. Funnel is missing. 5. Water gun is missing. 6. Shorts are shorter Differences: 1. Sun is missing. 2. Bandanna is smaller. 3. Picture is missing. 4.

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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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GENERAL KNOWL-EDGE: What term refers to a type of patterned sock or sweater and a region within a country?

- 2. LOGOS: What is the official logo of the Atlanta Braves baseball team?
- 3. HOLIDAYS: When was Father's Day first celebrated officially?
- 4. CHEMISTRY: What is the color of sulfur at room tempera-
- 5. ANATOMY: What human organs are responsible for

Double Time

Across

- 1. Milky white gem
- 5. Freeway exit
- **9.** Frame part
- 13. NBC's peacock, e.g.
- **14.** Errand runner
- 15. Bright thought
- 16. Gambler's option
- 19. Cow, for one
- **20.** Data
- **21.** Gap
- **22.** Camp beds
- 23. Opinion
- **24.** Illegal firings
- **27.** Newborn
- 28. Mrs. in Madrid
- **31.** Lasso loop
- **32.** Delhi wrap
- **33.** Smelting waste
- **34.** Crossing this is a no-no
- **37.** Minuscule
- **38.** Memo
- **39.** Pageant winner
- **40.** CBS symbol
- 41. Inflatable things
- **42.** Tank top
- **43.** Parade spoiler
- **44.** Meadow sounds
- **45.** Natural
- **48.** Berle to friends
- 49. World Series mo.
- **52.** London transport
- 55. Actual being
- 56. Borders
- **57.** Greek letter
- **58.** Adjusts, as a clock
- **59.** Take in
- **60.** Miller, for one

Down

- 1. Auto pioneer
- 2. Milne's bear 3. Chills and fever
- **4.** Court ploy
- **5.** Mouth tops
- **6.** 60's hairdo
- 7. Chess pieces

cleaning waste from blood?

clude turn signals?

in succotash?

ment?

did U.S. law require cars to in-

vegetables are used primarily

gest book in the Old Testa-

7. FOOD & DRINK: Which

8. BIBLE: What is the Ion-

9. U.S. GOVERNMENT:

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

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

- 8. Not allow
- **9.** Islamic holy war
- 10. Mine entrance
- 11. Computer list
- 12. Captures
- 14. Rest room sign
- 17. Model train maker
- **18.** Fork part
- **22.** He played Dr Huxtable on TV
- **23.** One of the Osmonds
- 24. Actress MacDowell
- **25.** Like soil around trees
- **26.** Lush
- 27. Money of Thailand
- 28. More cunning
- 29. Hindu queen
- 30. Bond, for one
- 32. Pass out
- 33. Speaks indistinctly
- **35.** Casey Jones, for one
- **36.** Consider the same
- **41.** of Sandwich
- **43.** Court wear
- 42. Squeals

- 44. Arm muscle
- 45. Bad day for Caesar
- 46. Bridge site
- 47. Narc's arrest
- **48.** Start of something big?
- 49. Double-reed woodwind **50.** Baby-faced
- **51.** Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
- **53.** H.S.T.'s successor
- **54.** Poke fun at

Quotable Quote

The safest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it in your pocket.

• • • Kin Hubbard

Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Flag maker Ro	oss S _	_ Ms. Grable or Fo	ord T
2. Specialist	R	R Anticipate	C _
3. Use a broom	W	_ Get some zzzzz'	s _ L
4. Snow segmen	t K _	_ Flicker	R _
5. Canopy	A	Having title to	0
6. Point the finge	erat M	_ Ring out	R _
7. Small river	K	Doctrine	D
8. Liquid contain	er _ O	Skirmish	_ A
9. Timepiece	C _	_ Cape	A _
10. Mom or Dad	R	Inventor's right	T

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Which Constitutional Amend-6. HISTORY: In what year ment deals with self-incrimina-

> 10. MOVIES: What new category was added to the Academy Awards in 2001?

Answers

- 1. Argyle (sock and sweater) and the Argyll region in western
- 2. A tomahawk
- 3. 1910
- 4. Yellow
- 5. Kidneys
- 6.1954 7. Corn and lima beans
- 8. Psalms
- 9. The Fifth
- 10. Best Animated Feature
- (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

HIGHLINE'S OW KING OF POP

Student inspired by late music icon

By JEMIMAH KAMAU Staff Reporter

JC Gumm said that having a disability is a challenge, but he is not ready to let it get the best of him.

"I have one, but I keep on with what I have to do. I keep it positive," said Gumm.

As part of that, Gumm sings and dances to Michael Jackson's music, a thing he is passionate about.

Gumm, a student at Highline, said he has made progress on speech problems that he had before, but he is still struggling with reading and math.

"It's difficult at times, especially when you are counting money. You have to ask someone to help you count because you can't count them," he said.

"I have DDD, Developmental Delay Disability. It's a birth



JC Gumm

defect which occurs when the umbilical cord is stuck around the brain [at birth], and you lack enough oxygen," he said.

Since he was 3 years old, he knew he wanted to become Michael Jackson's impersonator.

"When I saw Michael Jackson (for the first time), I said I wanted to dance like him. It was fun, but it was hard at first," he said. "When I watched him sing and dance, my heart told me that's what I want to do."

Gumm comes from a family that likes music.

"My grandfather was a musician, but he was not famous. It was more of a family thing. At high school, my dad used to perform in talent shows," he

Gumm also started performing in high school in talent shows, like his dad.

He was a member of the choir at Highline and at Thomas Jefferson High School, where he also studied.

His stage name is Michael Golden Star, and he has performed twice at Highline, where he's been studying since 2005.

"In 2006, I performed at Highline with a club. I believe the club was called International Club, but the club doesn't exist today," Gumm said.

He said that he also performed Smooth Criminal by Michael Jackson in 2008 at Highline.

Gumm owns a collection of replicas of Michael Jackson's costumes, which he wears when performing.

"I got five costumes. I have one for The Way You Make Me Feel, and one for Billie Jean. I got one for Beat it, Smooth Criminal and Thriller," he said.

Gumm never attended any of Michael Jackson's shows, but he had planned to.

"I was going to attend his last concert, This is it. But unfortunately he passed away."

"I felt very sad when he passed away, but I know he is in a better place. I think he wants me to continue impersonating him," Gumm said.

Gumm performs for fun and as a career, but he said he encounters difficulties while trying to promote that career.

"One problem is trying to find places to perform and trying to find people who can take me in festivals or whichever event to perform," he said.

He is waiting for a confirmation from the organizers of Global Fest at Highline, where he said he will perform Billie Jean, which is one of his favorite songs.

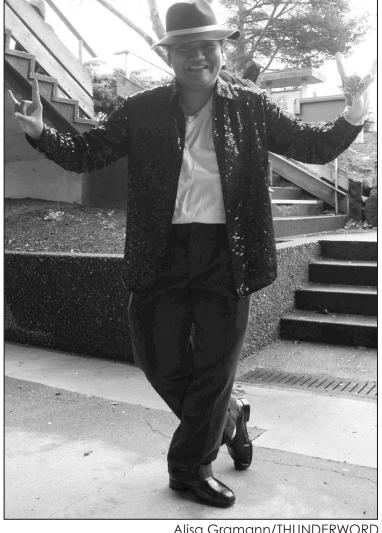
Through his performances, Gumm said he finds the strength to carry on toward his goals.

"Listening to Michael and performing gives me courage to want to do more and get recognized," he said.

He has other career goals that he is working to attain.

"My career goal is to be part of a musical theater such as Broadway in New York," he

Apart from singing and dancing, Gumm is also talented



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

JC Gumm is passionate about singing and dancing to Michael Jackson music.

in other areas.

"I play the keyboard, bass guitar, electric guitar and I play the drum," he said.

He is also involved in drama and is working toward his AA degree in drama at Highline.

In 2008, he joined Friendship Theater in Federal Way.

"I have been part of Friendship Theater for five years now. Friendship Theater is a theatre for people with disabilities. Right now, we are working on Thoroughly Modern Millie, a play that was originally done in 1922. My role [in the play], I am Jimmy Smith," Gumm said.

"In that play, Jimmy is a

bachelor who is not very friendly to new people, but at the end of the story he starts getting friendlier. He sings five songs in the play that I have to memorize," Gumm said.

Thoroughly Modern Millie will be performed at Dumas Bay Center in Federal Way, during Father's Day weekend, from June 15.

Gumm said he is happy being a member of Federal Way's Friendship Theatre where he shares a lot with his friends.

"I like being at Friendship Theater because I can express myself without being shy," he said.

Travel around the globe in one night with Chorale

By ABIGAIL DAMBACHER

Staff Reporter

In celebration of Highline's 50th anniversary, the Concert Chorale will present "Global Voices," a program as diverse as Highline itself.

"This means that we will include music from around the world alongside selections from the master literature of Western Europe," said Dr. Sandra Glover, the Chorale director.

The Concert Chorale is made up of voice students under the leadership of Dr. Glover. Each quarter they perform a concert series and practice as a class from noon to 1 p.m. throughout the week.

"Winter Quarter always presents [itself] with many obstacles," said Dr. Glover, "not the least of which is illness from the myriad viruses that float



Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Sandra Glover prepares the Chorale for their upcoming shows.

around campus."

She said another problem they've faced is that several students have lab classes. This conflicts with their rehearsal schedule, and it can be difficult to make progress when group members are absent.

Despite the challenges, Dr. Glover is confident in this quarter's Chorale. She said they've become fast friends and have helped each other meet learning

"Truly, Chorale is the quintare only about 16 students in the tightly-knit ensemble, plus an excellent accompanist, Paula Mayfield, who helps coach the singers and accompany on piano," she said.

Together, they are learning foreign languages

"It becomes easy to understand why the Chorale experience can be an intensely exciting one leading up to performance days," said Dr. Glover.

She said that one of the students' favorite songs is Tungarre, an Aboriginal piece from Australia, which incorporates cross-rhythms with a small, scalar melody and a singular word meaning "song" and "joy."

In addition, the audience will hear an ancient Orthodox Russian prayer chant sung a cappella by a soloist.

"This beautifully moving essential team, noting that there piece is one not many have ever heard before," said Dr. Glover.

Sung in both Latin and English, selections from 1550 to the present make up the rest of the concert. Dr. Glover said this concert is interesting in that most of its music is not commonly heard, though "it is rich in content and historical significance."

To help audience members gain familiarity with the context of each selection, program notes will be provided in the

The Chorale concerts are set for Wednesday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 15 at 12:15 p.m., and Friday, March 16 at 12:15 p.m.

All of the concerts are in Building 7. The concerts are free and anyone is welcome to attend.

Audiences laugh out loud at one-act plays

By MICAH MORRILL Staff Reporter

Audiences will be amazed at the performing prowess displayed in Highline's student directed one-act plays.

Last weekend, and again this coming Thursday, Friday and Saturday, at 8 p.m. in Building 4 the Highline Drama Department will be performing these short plays.

American Dream Revisited by Craig Pospisil and directed by Matthew Johnson is the first one-act.

In this show a dysfunctional family takes their Grandpa into the desert where they plan to leave him so that they can inherit his fortune. Once they get there, however their plans begin to go haywire in this morbid comedy.

The second one-act, *People* in the Wind, by William Inge and directed by Highline's very own Zach Ginther-Hutt is set in an old style diner nearby a bus stop.

An interesting array of characters mosey into the diner to sup, and throughout the scene we learn a good deal about them.

Joseph Park performs particularly well in this one-act as the intoxicated professor whose life is now in shambles.



Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD

Students Tiana Ross (left) and Barbara Cawley in director Zach Ginther-Hutt's one-act play, People in the Wind.

His tipsy motions and slurred lines fit the role very well.

Amanda Rae directed the third one-act, *Babel's in Arms*, written by David Ives.

This comedy follows Gorph played by Ginther-Hutt) and Cannaflip playes by Jake Mc-Cauley in their seemingly boundless task to erect the Tower of Babel.

Babel's in Arms uses modern day slang and curse words in unconventional ways in a historic world, drawing bouts of laughter from the crowd.

Both Ginther-Hutt and Mc-Cauley play their parts well and really hammed it up good for the audience with their periodic flexing routines.

Rae's vision for this show was to do a comedy about something serious.

This goal comes through the work in a smashingly visible way as Gorph and Cannaflip question all that is sacred for their own benefit.

The last one-act is St. Fran-

cis Talks to the Birds, also by David Ives and directed by Anthony Keane.

This show tells the story of St. Francis (Beau Gitau) on his dying day as he converses with a pair of vultures who are feasting on his innards.

This act has a very lawless feel to it.

The vultures are costumed in black biker jackets adorned with feathers and the performance's setting, the desert, also adds to this feel.

Similar to the other Ives play, this show also questions all that is holy in a comical fashion, but with a completely different spin on the same idea.

Tiana Ross, the costume manager for all of the one-acts, dressed the actors well.

Gorph and Cannaflip wear one-piece burlap cave man attire that makes the play's setting of 1000 B.C. very believable.

St. Francis wears a full robe cut open to show the audience his organs falling out and also has a golden halo over his head, which fits his part magnificent-

Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$7 for students with ID

Seating is limited so don't be late. For more information contact the Highline Drama Department at 206-592-3279.

Center starts new tradition for creative writers

By ZACH GINTHER-HUTT Staff Reporter

Open-Mic Mondays offers a monthly chance for Highline writers, poets, and those with anything written to share it with an audience.

From 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., the first Monday of every month, the Highline Writing Center is packed. On a recent Monday, here is what was observed.

The circular tables in the room are crowded by people holding papers with their writing. They look forward silently, and listen with undivided attention to the speaker.

Kareen Maloney was one of the first to speak. The audience listened attentively to her very descriptive depiction of eating mangos, titled "We are slaves to the mango." She finished her speech which was followed by a round of applause, the next speaker on the list is called and the next round began.

James Kelley, who helped plan this monthly event, said this is a place for writers to be recognized by a supportive audience. "Open Mic Mondays allows students to come and share their writing and to listen to others writing in support of others," Kelley said.

Kelley said Open Mic Mondays is not a club-it's open to whoever wants to attend. "

Anyone can come, its free, and there's usually free food too" he said. "Teachers and students are welcome."

Kelley said that the range of material that can be provided for Open Mic Mondays is virtually limitless.

"There's no discrimination of writing that can be presented," Kelley said. "If you have a song you wrote, a poem, or a story, we're even allowing other peoples writing, or reading others work."

Kelley said that the monthly event is also a good way to meet new friends as well.

"It really introduces you to other peoples writing and the writing community at highline," he said.

Open Mic Mondays started as a once-a-quarter event during Spring Quarter 2011. Created by the writing center consultants, Kelley said the idea was a hit.

"A lot of people [at Highline] liked sharing their writing and the idea of supporting each other in their writing," he said.

Because of it's rising popularity, the quarterly event now meets the first Monday of every month. "People who wrote entire books, or had written a poem years ago could finally have an audience to hear it," Kelley said.

"I thought it was pretty fun," Highline sophomore Constance Kuhnly said. "I'll definitely come back and read more of my story."

Kuhnly said she had written a book years ago, but never had an opportunity to share it with other people. "I've had other people read it before but I never had the chance to read it to a real audience," she said.

Kuhnly shared the first chapter of her book, which told about the trials of a soldier in boot camp.

"I got nervous reading, but I didn't mind, people here are pretty supportive," she said.

Kelley said that people who come to Open Mic Mondays can make new connections



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Rosemary Adang, English professor and Writing Center director, shared a poem on Monday, March 5.

with people who feel passionate about the same thing, writing.

"You learn more about the people who share same interest as you, introduce yourself to the writing community and make new friends" Kelley said. "It should be a hit."

Open Mic Mondays meets the first Monday of every month

at the Highline Writing Center from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

For more Information visit the Highline Writing Center, Building 26, room 319-I, and contact one of the writing advisors for more information, or call Rosemary Adang, Writing Center Director, 206-878 3710, ext. 3822.

Professor's trio jazzes up Highline next week

By COREY SUN Staff Report

Highline faculty Ben Thomas will bring his Latin Jazz trio Q.E.D, to campus to perform on Monday, March. 12 at Builling

Q.E.D, stands for quod erat demonstrandum, is a Latin phrase that means "which was to be demonstrated."

The trio was formed by Ben Thomas, trombonist Chris Stover, and pianist Alex Chadsey in 2009.

Dr. Thomas, a Highline music faculty, is also a member of Q.E.D. He started to teach at Highline part-time in 2001, and began to teach full-time in 2007.

Thomas finished his D.M.A, which is a doctoral degree in music, in 2007 from University of Washington Seattle.

He went to graduate school with Chris Stover, who plays several different instruments, including trombone, congas, and chekere in the band.

"It [Q.E.D] is always used at the end of the proof. When you Q.E.D, it is basically saying we demonstrate what we want to do," Thomas said. "Since Chris and I both went to graduate school, we want people to know that we got these academics. We also want people to know that this band wants to prove something, and we did."

The uniqueness of the band is not only because of the members' educational backgrounds but also their experimental music style. Unlike other bands, Q.E.D plays Latin jazz without traditional instruments.



Highline trio (from right to left) Ben Thomas, Chris Stover, and Alex Chadsey will perform for Highline students March 12.

"Usually there is a bass player and a drum set in a Latin jazz band, but we don't have that. Chris and I both play percussion in the background, but it's not the fundamental part of the group," he said.

Thomas also said their music style is very experimental, because it's a mixed style of Latin America music, jazz, and classical music.

'We play music from four Latin American countries, music from the United States, and we bring up a lot traditional European music," Thomas said. "Our music's construction is really multicultural."

The band started as a workshop group, and they decided to work as a band together. After a year practicing, composing, and experimenting their music, in July, 2010, the band released its first CD "yet what is any ocean..." by Origin Records, which is a local jazz label.

"We three are all composers, so we work on original materials," Thomas said. "Each of us will write songs individually, and then bring to the group. We give each other lot of feedback."

Because of the harmony between the band members, they have no conflicts.

"All three of us are openminded, and we are pretty neutral. There is no one person that makes all the decisions," Thomas said. "We work together as a trio. Each of us composes in very different styles, but we respect each other."

Since 2010, the band has had about eight concerts. Thomas said he wanted the band to come back to Highline this year, because people liked their performance from last year.

"I like to bring groups that I work with, and students to see what sort of music projects that I do," Thomas said. "This group is particular, because we play music from various countries, and fit the diversity mission of the college."

Ben said Q.E.D will play original material from their last CD, and material that was never been played before at Highline.

Q.E.D will perform in Building 7 on March. 12 at noon. Students are welcome to bring their

If you want to buy Q.E.D's CD, you can find it in the iTunes store at itunes.apple.com/us/album/yet-what-is-any-ocean.../ id414697164.

Jamspace club looking to attract more members as Winter Quarter comes to a close

By ZACH GINTHER-HUTT Staff Reporter

Jamspace Club is tuning up for a music concert next Thursday that's far from high strung.

On March 15, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Jamspace will host its musicians at the Fireside Bistro in the Student Union in a free public concert.

The free-form music club is playing to bring awareness to the club gain more members, in order to have more for spring.

"Come see if we're the kind of people you want to hang out and make music with," said club president Ian Cawley.

Cawley said that although the performers will be presenting their works, it doesn't have a set in stone lineup of artists.

"It's just any members of Jamspace playing whatever we know," he said. "It's not so



Ian Cawley

much a concert, it's more of a music session."

Cawley said there were difficulties concerned with organizing a structured event with a free-form music club,

"It's hard to contact everyone, as of now I don't know who all is playing for the concert."

Cawley said his band Meg Is Drunk is for sure going to play.

The band's permanent mem-

bers consist of brother-sister duo Ian Cawley and his sister, Barbara Cawley.

We've been together as a band for about a year," Cawley said. "We primarily play folkrock, but sometimes we drift to other genres."

Cawley has high hopes for the concert and aims to get some new members for the club.

"See what kind of things we're capable of as a unit," Cawley said.

"Grab some food at the Fireside Bistro, hang out and enjoy the show."

Jamspace meets 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. on Fridays in Building 8, room 204 behind the Fireside Bistro.

For more information you can find their Facebook group by typing HCC Jamspace in the Facebook search bar.

Class to explore gender roles in film

By GABI PAULSON

Staff Reporter

Explore the interactions of gender in movies in a new film studies class that Susan Rich will teach in Spring Quarter

"Gender is a spectrum that culturally concerns both men and women," said English and film Professor Rich.

"I think people don't understand the impact of gender in films. It's almost invisible until they actually take a class."

Five-credit Film Studies 112 is called "Girls and Boys in Film: Gender and Cinema" and counts toward the humanities area requirement.

The class will be from 12:10 to 1:13 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

"We'll watch movies and discuss them," said Rich, "and unlike an English class, there will not be any papers."

The class assignments will consist of weekly response sheets, a couple exams, and one final project.

The goal is "to expose students to films that they wouldn't ordinarily have the opportunity to see surrounding the issue of gender, including films from different countries," said Rich.

"I want them to have a whole new vocabulary for understanding film and to deepen their enjoyment in watching films."

A few examples of movies that will be considered in the class are Jane Campion's The Piano, Lucy Walker's Wasteland, and Mira Nair's Monsoon Wedding.

"I really like teaching new classes because I get to be a learner along with my students," said Rich.

"I think that's a good dynamic in a classroom."

Des Moines gets loose with Dr. Seuss

Harmonica Pocket performs in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday

By ABIGAIL DAMBACHER Staff Reporter

In celebration of the children's author Dr. Seuss and his 108th birthday, the Harmonica Pocket will perform Get Loose With Seuss on Saturday, March

Audiences of all ages are invited to the Des Moines Field House at 10:30 a.m. for an event that will not only explore the stories they already know, but introduce families to Dr. Seuss's lesser-known books such as Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are? and The Glunk That Got Thunk.

Born Theodor Seuss Geisel, Geisel took up the pen name "Dr. Seuss" as a joke upon graduating from Dartmouth College.

A political cartoonist who would poke fun at Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini during World War II, Dr. Seuss shifted to writing children's books in the '50s and became famous

for Horton Hears a Who!, The Cat in the Hat, How the Grinch Stole Christmas, and Green Eggs and Ham.

Though he never had kids of his own, his stories were a success. In a 1962 interview, Dr. Seuss responded, "You make 'em. I amuse 'em."

More than 200 million copies of his books have been sold.

"Dr. Seuss knows how to play with words," said Keeth Monta Apgar, a member of the Harmonica Pocket.

"He plays with sounds, and combines letters in silly ways that make your tongue think," said Apgar.

"We explore the visual backgrounds of his imagination, and along the way children learn to read."

The Harmonica Pocket performs for kids and grownups, and is currently on tour for "Get Loose With Dr. Seuss" throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The band is made up of four musicians.

Apgar composes songs and plays the acoustic wah-wah guitar, which sounds like the human voice. Jon Ryser is on the alto saxophone, Nala Walla sings harmony, and Lorne Wat-



HARMONICA POCKET

Nalla Walla (left), and Keeth Monta Apgar are two of the comedic members in the Harmonica Pocket.

son plays on the congas and his drum kit.

Apgar said that the power of literacy is "gaining access to the stories of the world."

"School children used to be force-fed sterilized books about Dick and Jane," said Apgar. "Dr. Seuss was a big part of the wave that changed all that."

"He never talked down to children, his cartoons were wildly imaginative, and he made reading fun," Apgar said.

Apgar said he sees Dr. Seuss as the grandfather of children's books. By using art he showed that he cared about the planet and about how people treat each other—"he was way ahead of his time."

Tickets for the show are \$3-\$15. To purchase tickets, go to brownpapertickets.com or call the Des Moines Field House at 206-870-6527.

For more information visit harmonicapocket.com.

·Are you a fan of inspirational stories, dolphins, and Morgan Freeman? If so, Highline will be showing the inspiring film Dolphin Tale this Friday. March 9 as it's Movie Friday event. The movie will begin at 12:30 p.m. in Building 29, room 104. The movie features actors Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd, and Harry Connick Jr. The event is free and everyone is welcome to attend. And let's face it, everyone loves Morgan Freeman.

•On Monday, March 12, the Latin Jazz Trio Q.E.D. will perform at Highline at 12 p.m. in Building 7. Q.E.D. is a unique and adventurous trio of multi-instrumentalists and composers. The group includes Highline instructor Ben Thomas, as well as former Green River Community College instructor Chris Stover, and Alex Chadsey who occassionally teaches at Cornish College for the Arts. The event if free and anyone is welcome to attend.

· The Auburn Community Players are holding auditions at the Auburn Avenue Theater for Footloose on Saturday, March 17. Participants need to prepare a song from musical theater, a one to two minute monologue, and a headshot. An accompanist is provided; please bring your sheet music in the correct key. Auditions will run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. The theater is located at 10 Auburn Avenue, Auburn 98002. Call Jim Kleinbeck at 253-804-5057 to set up an audition time.

•John Logan's Red is now at the Seattle Repertory Theatre at 155 Mercer St. in Seattle. The show runs until March 24 and starts at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Prices range from \$30 to \$47. For students under the age of 25, tickets are \$12 if purchased at www.seattlecenter.com/teentix. For ticket information and showtimes call 206-443-2222 or visit, www.seattlerep.org.

•On Saturday, March 24 at 7 p.m., Rainier Youth Choirs & Rainier Chorale will present Mass of the Children by John Rutter. The event is at First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$16 Seniors/Students. To purchase tickets visit www.rainieryouthchoirs. org or call 253-347-0180.

Winning artist looks to inspire others

By COREY SUN

Staff Reporter

Paige Kwon, the winner of Highline's 50th anniversary poster competition, gets both his \$500 scholarship and a chance to study at top art school in the nation to accomplish his

Kwon discovered his talents in graphic design when he started studying at Highline in 2009 as a Running Start student.

"I always loved art. I didn't discover graphic design until I started to study at Highline." Kwon said.

After taking two years of visual communication classes, Kwon was hired to work as a lead designer for Highline's Student Program's office.

Besides designing posters for clubs, Kwon's biggest project last year was to design the cover for Arcturus, which is a literary magazine published annually for Highline students, alumni, faculty and staff's writing and art work.

"It was my first big accomplishment," Kwon said. "I did the cover for Arcturus, and I designed the layout with another designer."

Just like designing for Arcturus, Kwon wanted to win more recognition by designing the Highline 50th anniversary

"It was just an opportunity to get my name out, since the posters are going to hang all around campus and [the] community," Kwon said.

"I was inspired by the dollar bill. The number's design on there and how they use flowers and leaves," Kwon said.

"I want to show it's easy identification. If you see the 50 on my poster, you will automatically know it's Highline's 50 anniversary," he said.

Because of his determination in art, creativity, and talents, he has been accepted by The Art Institute of Chicago, one of the top three fine arts school in the U.S.

"Art is a strong passion of mine. I don't see myself doing anything else," Kwon said. "When people see my work. I want them to be 'wow, that's really cool."

Kwon's ultimate goal is to in-

fluence future designers.

"I want to try to influence and inspire other designers. When I want to design something, I will look for inspirations from other professional designers," Kwon said. "I want to have the same effect on future designers."

If you want to see the original copy of the winner poster, you can find it in the display window at the bookstore in Building 8.

UZZ

DOUBLE TIME

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6. Blame, Blare Creek, Creed 8. Bottle, Battle

Clock, Cloak

3. Sweep, Sleep 4. Flake, Flare 5. Awning, Owning 10. Parent, Patent

Weekly SUDOKU ___

Answer

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Highline students celebrate event sponsor the Vietnamese Student Associatoin in the show's finale.

Dancing into spring

Highline's Vietnamese Student Association hosted the Xuan Festival on March 1.

The Vietnamese Student Association organized the annual event in celebration of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year.

The event was sponsored by the Center for Leadership and Service and Vietnamese Student Association.

The Student Union was turned into an airplane, taking students from Sea-Tac airport to Vietnam.

About 50-60 volunteers helped decorate the Student Union, and served food on the day of the event.

The night included a performance from Highline's K-Pop Dance group, Blissful Beauty Shines.

There was also a fashion show including members in the Vietnamese Student Association and the K-Pop Club.

The Xuan Festival was an overall success with over hundred attendees, music, and entertaining performances

Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Students (right) Lizzie Le, Cynthia Nguyen, and Teresa Nguyen performed a traditional Khuc Ca Dong Thap Dance.







Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Highline's K-Pop Club, left, members Sarah Kim (left), Jonathan Bd, Miyuki Sawada, Matt Toentino, Maiko Murakami, and Elizabeth Ong performed at the Xuan Festival. Above, drummers help greet a traditional lion dance team.

Just one of the guys

Tommie Pollnet proves you don't have to play to be part of the team

By ADRIAN SCOTT Staff Reporter

Tommie Pollnet never played a minute for the men's T-Birds basketball but was still a essential part of the team this season.

At first glance Pollnet is a little shorter than the average student and a little rounder as well, but once you get to know him he's a bundle of joy.

Pollnet has Down's syndrome, and is a second year student with Highline's ACHIEVE Program.

The ACHIEVE Program is a comprehensive post-secondary transition for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Professor Rick Shultz is Pollnet's current case manager, and he works with the ACHIEVE Program and in Community and Employment Services.

"Highline Community College isn't called a community college because it helps some of its community," said Shultz.

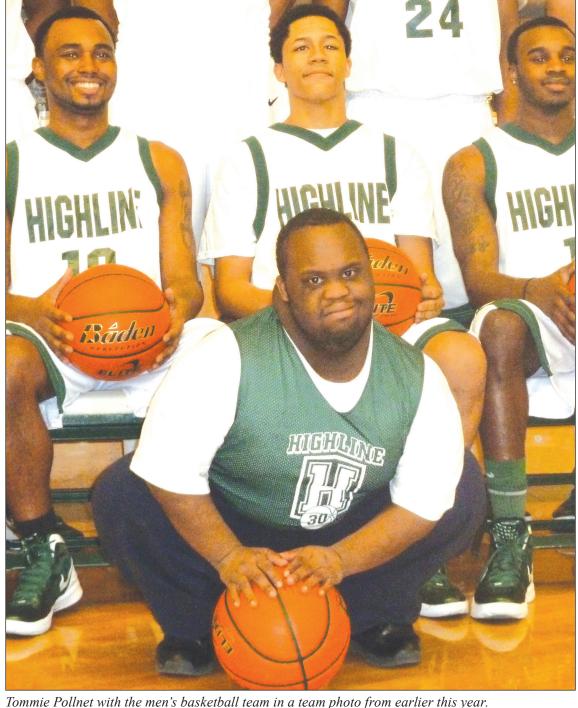
Shultz is passionate about making sure that everyone, no matter their disability, receives a higher education, is able to better their lives, and become successful later in society.

That's when the idea of Pollnet being the men's T-Birds basketball manager came to mind to improve Pollnet's communication skills.

When Shultz presented his idea to Pollent's family, they were somewhat afraid of the idea of letting their son work as the team's manager.

"Tommie's family supports him in everything he does here at Highline. They were a little unsure at first of the idea of him being the manager and going to away games," said Rick Shultz. "They soon changed their mind when they saw how much he wanted to do this."

"I approached Che (Head Coach Che Dawson) about the idea of Tommie becoming the manager," Shultz said.



Tommie Pollnet with the men's basketball team in a team photo from earlier this year.

Coach Dawson was behind the idea of Pollnet working as the manager for the 'Birds.

After a final meeting with Shultz, Coach Dawson, and Pollnet's family Pollnet had the

"I liked working with the team. I was part of the team even though I wasn't player," said Pollnet.

"My favorite part about being manager was shooting hoops with the team," said Pollnet. "I remember when I rode the van with the team to away games and that was fun.

"Being manager helped me increase my communication skills," said Pollnet. "Basketball being my favorite sport made managing fun and easy work too."

Managing for the men's team, Pollnet had responsibilities he had to take care of. One was making sure the team was hydrated with fluids.

"That's one thing I didn't like doing too much because it was boring," Pollnet said.

"I did enjoy making some new friends on the team, like Robert, Jayson, and Nkosi, said Pollnet.

Players from the T-Birds and Shultz say that Pollnet is a people person, and is where the people are.

"You can see Tommie everywhere here on campus," said Shultz.

Earlier this week Pollnet was seen joking with freshman guard Terrick McGhee in Building 8.

"I liked to hang out with the team during games and during lunch in the Student Union," said Pollnet.

"The team treated him great. He had become an integral part of the group," Coach Dawson

Pollnet is always joking around and is a playful mode,

but he also takes his studies in the classroom seriously and has a set plan for his future after he leaves Highline.

"Tommie's purpose for going to school is just like any other student, and that is he wants to have a better future," said Shultz.

"When I finish ACHIEVE I want to get a job and work," Pollnet said

Since Pollnet is close to finishing up ACHIEVE Program, he won't be a student at Highline for the next basketball sea-

"Yeah if I could be the manager for the team next year I would," Pollnet said.

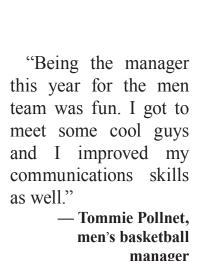
Coach Dawson says that he wouldn't mind having Pollnet as his manager next season as

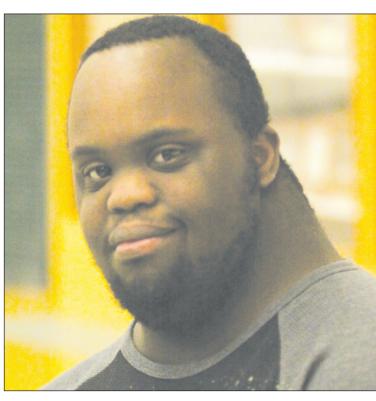
Shultz says that the community college partners with many schools in the state for students and parents that are interested in the ACHIEVE Program.

"Community and Employment Services is the umbrella or the big picture and Achieve and other programs are branches of that," said Shultz.

Shultz explains that no education could have taught him more than what Pollnet and other students have taught him.

"We have to remember that everyone should be able to achieve a higher education," said Shultz.





Softball team aims at better season, playoffs

By ANTHONY BERTOLUCCI Staff Reporter

The women's softball team expects to be competitive in the West Division and to clinch a spot in the playoffs, but they will have to do it with mostly an all-freshman team.

"Yes I think we can take the West Division. We have girls that can contribute in different ways, such as better hitters and others better fielders. We have a good combination of talent this year," Keri Spafford said.

Last year, the Lady T-Birds had a tough year with only nine players available, going 3-26 in league play and 7-26 overall.

Head Coach Scott Dillinger is in his second year coaching the Highline women's softball team.

"I look for pierce to be the one everyone in the West Division is chasing, and Centralia has added a lot of nice pieces and should challenge them," Dillinger said.

"I'm hoping we've made enough strides by the end to be in the mix for the top four playoff spots in the West Division,"



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Freshman infielder Rachelle Guthrie hits a ground shot during live batting practice this week, in prep for the teams pre-season game.



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD *Sophomore pitcher Clarissa Gidcumb pitches during this weeks.*

Dillinger said.

Three sophomore captainscatcher Brittany Myers, first baseman Spafford, and in-fielder Whitney Purvis hope to provide leadership and guidance to the incoming freshman.

Highline has a tough nonleague schedule with four games against Eastern Washington University, and a spring break tourney down in Arizona against Mesa, Scottsdale, and Glendale Community College.

The Lady T-Birds' first game is on Friday, March 9 on the road at 1 p.m. against the Bellevue Bulldogs.

Then the T-Birds have a home game on Saturday, March

10 at noon against the Edmonds Tritons

Last year Highline beat the Tritons twice by more than six runs.

Edmonds finished 0-32 last

year, playing in the NWAACC North Division. Highline didn't play the bull-

dogs last year in the regular season.

Bellevue finished 38-3 last year finishing first in the North Division and took fourth place at the 2011 NWAACC tournament.

Highline returns only two starters from last year.

Myers looks to lead the Lady T-Birds with a .451 batting average and a .576 on base percentage.

"We only have two people from last year playing. I think these groups of girls have a lot of talent, they just need to work together as a team and trust each other as well as themselves and we will have the opposite outcome as last year," Spafford said.

The next women's softball game will be on Tuesday, March 20 at Edmonds Community College with the time unavailable.

The first League for the Lady T-Birds will be home on Sat. March 31 at noon against the Grays Harbor Chokers.

Lady 'Birds soccer fills up roster for next season

By JUSTIN SOLOMON

Staff Reporter

Highline women's soccer coach Tom Moore has signed six recruits for the upcoming season.

The six recruits so far for the women's team include, Ashlyn Bruin, Bailey Hutton, Michael Paulston, Emily Hanna, Mackenzie McNeal, and Karissa Ritter.

"I think this is just the beginning, we usually don't have this many," said Moore."We'll go through a dead time for about a month and then we'll see those people whose options didn't work out. But I'm still looking to bring in players."

Coach Moore said he feels that this is a good recruiting class, rating it as a "B" compared to other recruiting classes of the past.

Ashlyn Bruin will be coming in from Thomas Jefferson High School. "Ashlyn Bruin I think will do pretty well, she has great size, good technique, and she just needs to be brought into the speed of college play," said Moore."

"We have a returning goalkeeper and she's going to push her but I expect good things from her," said Moore

Bailey Hutton will be coming in to Highline from Fife High School. "Bailey Hutton is a versatile player so I'm going

to use her up front or at the back but somewhere in the center, she's very smart," said Moore.

Michael Paulston will be returning to Highline after playing here two years ago. "Michael Paulston is going to bring some experience, she's one of the most competitive players out there," said Moore. "She has great speed and she's developed a ton, she played here 2 years ago and she's grown a lot as a player."

Emily Hanna will be joining Highline from Kentridge High School.

"Emily Hanna is very tenacious, she gets after it. She played up front in high school, she never gives up on a play and



Mackenzie McNeal

always scraps," said Moore.

"She plays outside back in club but I'm looking to play her in an attacking role."

Mackenzie McNeal will be joining Highline from Timberline High School. "Mackenzie McNeal is another versatile player.

She has great speed and is very competitive," said Moore.

"She's someone we could use at outside back or even as a threat up front."

Karissa Ritter will be coming in from Auburn Mountainview.

"Karissa Ritter is a very good technical player. We'll look to player her at the back," said Moore. "She has great composure and good vision and she's also good at set pieces."

The team begins next season in the fall.

Simple changes to your nutrition and exercise habits make managing your weight easier

By ALISA GRAMANN Staff Reporter

There is more to managing your weight than just counting calories.

For students trying to balance budgets of time and money, managing weight and making healthy choices can be a struggle. But Highline professors say that there are some easy ways to make healthy choices without drastic changes to behaviors.

"It's really about long-term commitment," said Keith Paton, a physical education instructor at Highline. "Any weight management is based off of your caloric balance."

When the caloric intake and output are not equal, Paton said, problems such as being overweight or underweight can arise.

"It gets out of whack in either direction," he said. "There [can be] some serious health implications."

Because today's society wants immediate results, Paton said, "The biggest mistake people make is trying to make drastic changes."

Instead, Paton said the key is making small, steady changes.

If weight loss is your goal, try to eliminate 200 or 300 calories from your daily intake, he said.

Darin Smith, the Physical Education Department coordinator, said that managing your weight starts with watching your diet and nutrition intake.

"It just means a slight calorie restriction," Smith said.

Calorie restrictions don't have to be difficult, he said; it just means choosing the healthier options.

For example, Smith said, choose salsa over sour cream, make snacks and desserts healthier and save splurges

for special occasions.

"You've got to manage the nutritional side," Smith said.

Keith Paton

Working more servings of fruits and veggies into your diet is also a good thing, Smith said. While fresh is always the best, Smith said that frozen fruits and vegetables are also a good choice. Canned vegetables and fruits especially come with more sugars and less nutrients, Smith said.

Smith also said that students

A BALANCING ACT



need to consider the calories they get from drinks.

"It's amazing when you total it all up," he said.

To lower your calorie intake in terms of drinks, Smith said to choose water instead of soda or other sugary drinks.

"Pop is liquid candy," said Smith.

Not only will picking water lower your calorie intake, but it will save you money as well.

Smith also said that being aware of your "eating triggers" can have an impact on the management of your weight.

Eating triggers are events that cause you to want to eat, whether you are hungry or not.

Triggers can be as simple as the time — you get hungry around the time you usually eat — or a behavior, such as watching television. If you are used to eating while watching a movie, you can begin to have the desire to eat when you sit down to watch a movie.

In addition to eating triggers, Smith said to also be aware of the pressure to eat. Family and friends, or friends' parents, can pressure you to eat with phrases such as, "you can't leave until you eat this."

Smith said to keep track of what you eat, that way you know how much you have eaten, and what kinds of nutrients you have had. Smith said that you can keep a mental log, or use the online tool, choosemy-

plate.gov, which also has various other nutrition-related tools.

Smith said that often people feel as though they need to fill up their plates. So one way to manage portions is by using smaller plates and bowls.

Buying in bulk, when done right, can also help manage portions. Smith said that when you buy in bulk, you have the ability to portion out meals for yourself.

The key, Smith said, is to "eat in moderation."

Smith encourages people to use the 90-10 rule — 90 percent of the time, eat healthy, the remaining 10 percent of the time, eat what you want.

"You've got to make good choices and stick with it," he said. "You've got to change your eating behaviors."

Smith said that bringing your own lunch to school or work can be a significant change. It allows you to make your own decisions about nutrition, and gives you the freedom to include fruits, vegetables and other healthy options.

"Plan ahead," Smith said. Typically, he said, food from restaurants such as McDonalds and Taco Bell have no health benefits attached. For those seeking cheaper foods, Smith said to take advantage of coupons and sales.

Smith said that in addition to nutrition, physical activity is a key factor in weight management.

"You've got to stay physically active," he said, and physical activity is the best overall predictor of health.

Smith said that cardio workouts and weight or resistance training are the two key kinds of exercise.

The suggested amount of exercise to get each week, Paton said, is 30 minutes of moderate intensity cardio five days a week, and one set of eight to ten repetitions for each major muscle group twice a week.

Shorter bouts of a more intense activity may also provide the same benefits.

Cardio burns lots of calories, Smith said, but weight training burns calories for longer,

throughout the recovery process.

Finding time to be physically active can be difficult, but, Smith said, it isn't that hard if you break it down into smaller increments.

A 10 minute jog or a walk on your lunch break can be

efficient ways to get more physical activity into your day, Smith said.

Additionally, you can park further away from your destinations, and walk whenever you can.

"Whenever you have the opportunity to take the stairs, take the stairs," Smith said.

Smith also said that how you spend your free time can also impact your amount of physical activity.

"Choose more active hobbies," he said. "Get up and do something."

Exercise doesn't have to be something mundane, he said.

"Find something you enjoy

doing." Games such as ultimate Frisbee, soccer, football and others are not generally viewed as exercise, but they are physical activity and they can contribute to your health and weight management, Smith said.

Smith said one of the most important things to do is set a specific time for your activity.

"Set it in your schedule. You have to somehow plan it in your schedule," he said.

Smith said that when losing weight, the last few pounds are the hardest. He said that most people need to push themselves a little harder to get rid of the last five or 10 pounds.

"Once you get there, do whatever you can to maintain that weight," Smith said.

An important thing to remember is that management of weight — and health —is a long-term process.

"A lot of people lose weight, but very few keep if off," Smith said. In fact, Smith said, 75 percent of people regain their lost weight within two years.

"You constantly have to be vigilant," he said.

There are many risks involved with improper management of weight, including poor bone density and eating disorders.

"Your big risks are diabetes and cardiovascular disease," Paton said.

Paton said that health comes with making behavior changes early, before there is a problem. Behavior changes are especially important for people with health issues in their family histories.

"Some things you can control, like your diet," Paton said. "Some things you can't control, like your family history."

Highline offers a variety of ways to promote healthy behaviors.

S e v e r a l classes in the physical education department

can help students become more active, and nutrition classes can help students create a healthy diet.

Paton said the track, located by the gym, is available for student use, and the fitness center is open from 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Online registration is required to use the center.

Additionally, Highline has athletic programs for students to participate in.

Among the variety, Paton said, "Hopefully people can find something they like."

"Some of the damage you do as a young person," Paton said, will carry over into later life.

Discover Burien seeks spring marketing interns

By JAMES LEEStaff Reporter

Discover Burien is offering an internship opportunity to undergraduate students majoring in marketing, sales, advertising, and computer science.

Discover Burien is a nonprofit business group working on economic development, education and promotion of the Burien Business Community.

Gina Bourdage, the executive director of Discover Burien, said the non-paid internship is rather competitive because not only does it offer valuable experience in a real work field, but it also offers opportunity to take a paid position in businesses that Discover Burien is partnering with.

"Although this is a non-paid position, we often come across openings in partnering businesses in the community that we would be able to recommend the right person." Bourdage



said. "Should we have a paid position become available we would look to someone with the most experience which could possibly be a current or former intern."

Discover Burien is looking for future interns who can participate in various stages of print and online marketing campaigns to assist their marketing and advertising efforts.

Their jobs are related to community, local business, city and nonprofit managements.

According to their description on the internship, this intern should be prepared to work in a fast-paced small team environment.

Bourdage said students will finish the internship having gained broad experience in various aspects of marketing and non-profit management with hands-on experience.

"This is definitely benefiting experience for students who are interested in working in marketing, sales, and advertising industry." Bourdage said. "Interns will have to perform many tasks that are given to them according to their specialties."

Their tasks and responsibilities include assisting in the creation of signage, e-mail campaigns, and online promotions. Not only these but they also have to assist them with fulfillment of marketing offers, delivery of marketing materials, the preparation and delivery of training materials, and many more tasks relevant to these jobs.

To be qualified, applicants need to be undergraduate students who are majoring in sales, marketing or advertising.



Gina Bourdage

They are also required to have excellent verbal and written communication skills, with extensive knowledge of web and social media.

PowerPoint, Word, Access and Excel experience is a bonus, and will be considered when choosing the best applicant for this internship position.

Executive Director Bourdage said they are accepting two applicants per quarter. Currently they are looking for two future interns for this approaching Spring Quarter.

The reason why they are

seeking two interns is that they need one person who is adept in marketing and advertising, and another person who can excel in computer tasks.

Although they accept two applicants most of times, it can increase to three spots depends on people they need for the quarter.

Bourdage said the internship period is fairly flexible and adjustable depending on the intern's capability and situation.

To apply for this internship, applicants need to send an email to gina@discoverburien. com with their resume, explanation, and description attached. She said a cover letter is not necessary.

If you need more information, you can request the job outline through the same e-mail address.

Bourdage will contact back to set up an interview for applicants who meet the job requirements and have qualifying resume

Learn how to handle Social Security Disablity Insurance

By DAVID UFFINGTON

If you began receiving Social Security Disability Insurance payments in 2011, you could have a problem when you file your tax return and end up paying too much.

Here's why: Since it takes so long to begin receiving SSDI benefits, it's possible that you'll receive a one-time lump-sum payment that includes back payments for previous years. Those benefits are taxable income, and you could pay taxes at a rate up to a whopping 50 percent. The calculation to determine your income includes any other income you have.

According to a news release by the Allsup Disability Life Planning Center, an average SSDI benefit is \$1,073, which comes to \$12,876 for the year. For a couple, a total income of more than \$19,000 (or \$9,950 for an individual) requires that a tax return be filed.

However, if you receive a large lump-sum payment and report that, as well as any other income, you could end up paying too much in taxes.

This is where you'll need the help of a tax preparer or tax preparation software to complete your return: You're allowed to spread that lump-sum income out over previous years.

You'll receive a Form 1099 showing the amount of SSDI income you received, with the amount showing in Box 3.

If you want to complete your

Dollars and \$en\$e

by David Uffington

return yourself or read about filing to get an estimate of the tax you might owe, go online to the Internal Revenue Service website at irs.gov and search for Publication 915. The name is "Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits." Look for the Lump-Sum Election on page 11 for detailed instructions on the Worksheets 1 through 4 that need to be filled out. Scroll down and look for the examples of the worksheets. The result of the calculations on those worksheets determine which election method will get you the lowest tax.

Publication 915 contains other helpful information as well. If you receive a FORM SSA-1042S Social Security Benefit

Statement and don't understand the numbers in the various boxes, the publication explains each one.

If you receive railroad retirement benefits on FORM RRB-1099, this publication explains the figures in each of the 11 boxes.

If you do your taxes yourself and have a question, you can contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. Your best bet, however, if you've received a lump-sum benefit, is to get help from a tax preparei

David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Write to him in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columnreply@gmail.com.

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The PLU School of Business is pleased to announce the establishment of the PLU Saugen Business Scholarship for Transfer Students.

Thanks to a generous donation by PLU Business and transfer alumnus Doug Saugen, this scholarship, valued at \$17,000 annually, will be awarded to transfer students intending to major in business who demonstrate achievement and potential in the areas of leadership and academic success.

To apply for the Saugen Business Scholarship, visit **choose.plu.edu/saugenscholarship.**

PLU To apply to PLU, visit choose.plu.edu/transfer/apply.

Cultural capital impacts your chances, prof says

By ZACH GINTHER-HUTT Staff Reporter

Cultural capital is the knowledge you already have that gives you an advantage in life, a professor here said last Friday.

Wearing a shirt that read "Sociology: not for the weak," Dr. Kayleen U. Oka, provided some insight to a different kind of capital, the wealth of knowledge.

"Cultural capital is nonfinancial social assets (knowledge skills, education) that provide advantages," Oka said.

Oka, whose credentials include a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Toronto, started off the seminar with a game, called "Game of Life."

The full Mt. Constance room in the Student Union split up into teams of six according to symbols on an individual's name tag filled out at the door. The teams, randomized in this way, were then given a sheet of paper with one of four different kinds of cultural capitals. These cultural capitals included embodied cultural capital, objectified cultural capital, institutionalized cultural capital and, social cultural capital.

In order to win the game, the teams with the most previous knowledge that could identify with the names or pictures or titles on the sheets of paper the



Kayleen Oka

fastest won.

However, being the "Game of Life," there were obstacles and rewards along the way. When an answer could not be achieved, participants could chose to use point-based cards to void a wrong answer. Also, sometimes, random obstacles, such as being told to stay put for five minutes, or other challenges such as an injury card inhibited the team's ability to work as fast.

After about 90 minutes of collaborative effort and a neckand-neck race, a team called the Sunny D's won with a larger number of point helper cards.

However, the game was rigged. In fact, the Sunny D's began the game with a 40-point

lead, a gain that Oka had planned in advance.

"This was to demonstrate the distribution of wealth in this country," she said "Not every team started with the same number of points."

She then explained the different categories of cultural capital that teams were tested in the game.

The first Capital she described was "embodied cultural capital."

"It's what you know," Oka said. "It's your view of how the world works."

She said that life experiences and doing different things affect this category. It deals with what you are exposed to throughout life. "As a child you begin to embrace how the world works," Oka said.

Second, Oka identified "objectified cultural capital."

"It's not having things, but [understanding] the worth of them," she said.

She said objectified cultural capital is the status associated with wearing expensive clothes or having expensive things.

To better understand this topic, she referenced the Bravo Network's show, The Real Housewives of Orange County. She said that she enjoys the show because of the lack of Objectified Cultural Capital among the show's cast.

"Here is a bunch of women who have the cars and the nice clothes and the money but not the matching understanding of the value of what those objects mean," she said. "They don't know how to act properly in these situations."

The third capital Oka talked about was "institutionalized cultural capitalism." Oka said this type of capital is a series of degrees one can have.

"These are academic credentials and qualifications that's creates a deserving and knowledgeable confidence," she said. She went on to say that only 30 percent of Americans have a bachelor's degree, and only 3 percent of Americans have a Ph.D.

Oka said there is a sense of respect and trust toward a person with a degree.

"When you achieve a degree, you have the confidence of achieving a certain level of something."

The fourth and final capital discussed by Oka was "social capital."

She quoted author Robert D. Putnam on defining social cultural capital.

"Social capital is the value of social networks we have with people," she said. "He said, 'social capital is declining since the 1950s, you don't see people going bowling or out to a picnic

as much."

She said the suburban lifestyle of alienating neighbors and the rapid improvements of virtual reality kills the social networking of who we know individually.

"Those networks are important," Oka said. "The way most people get jobs is through who we know."

Afterward Oka asked what the importance of an expansive cultural capital was to the audience.

"To have better opportunities for ourselves our community and our families," she said.

Oka provided some insight on how to expand an individual's cultural capitalism.

"Internships are great for gaining experience on something you're interested in," she said. "Get more involved in things so you can build those social networking skills."

She recommended joining clubs on campus, or seeing new places.

"Try new things, it exposes you to new things and broadens horizons in a new way." She also is in high favor of Study Abroad. "Studying abroad opens your world to new cultures, I would highly recommend it," she said.

Oka said in closing, "Ask yourself, what's the worst that could happen?"

Trade is key to help the economy, says expert

By ADRIAN SCOTT
Staff Reporter

International students are big business when it comes to trade, the president of the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle said here on Tuesday.

Sam Kaplan, speaking at this week's Global Tuesdays forum, said Washington state colleges and universities have enrolled 14,000 international students this year, who bring in an estimated \$400 million a year to the state's economy.

Those students pay benefits down the road, he added, because they are more likely to do business with Washington state when they return home. Kaplan pointed to meetings and contacts with Washington college alumni in Dubai and Korea as evidence of this.

"If we continue to cut our higher education and K-12 budgets, that will hurt us internationally," Kaplan said.

The Trade Development Alliance doesn't advocate for policies, Kaplan said. Their main goal is to help local firms do business overseas, and attract



Sam Kaplan

foreign investment to Washington state.

"We promote and educate on international trade. We work with many small businesses in the Greater Seattle area who are interested in trading internationally," said Kaplan.

Toward that end, the group sponsors study missions to foreign countries; hosts foreign visitors; and helps lead trade missions to nations ranging from China to Chile.

"We're branding the Greater Seattle region," Kaplan said.

Trade alliance publications

are available in 18 languages, he said. "The ide a is to get the rest of the world interested in our sectors and get them to do business with us."

The Alliance is governed by 51 board members from local business, government, and labor communities in the King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties, including colleges such as Highline.

As the world economy has grown, Kaplan said, overseas opportunities for business have grown. Whereas in 1946, the U.S. economy was half of the entire world economy, it's now only 23 percent, despite strong growth in the U.S. economy since that time.

U.S. firms say that their biggest problem is "lack of sales and demand," which means they should be looking overseas for more opportunities.

Kaplan said that only 1 percent of U.S. firms export their products and services. In Washington state, 4 percent of firms are involved in exports. That includes large firms such as Boeing (which sells 86 percent of its jets overseas), Micro-

soft (60 percent) and Paccar (50 percent), to many smaller firms in the area.

"Ninety percent of the companies that are exporting aren't big companies, in Washington state," said Kaplan.

Meaning that more than one of every three jobs in the state is tied to trade. Some 93,000 people in Washington are employed by foreign-owned firms, but he said that foreign direct investment is one area where the region could do better.

Washington has some advantages with regard to trade,

he said. Seattle is equidistant to London and Tokyo, and to Amsterdam and Beijing. Kaplan also pointed out that together, the ports of Seattle, Tacoma and Everett are the third largest containerized port operation in the country.

"Our welcoming nature has been a help," to bringing in business, Kaplan said, including landing a direct airline route from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to Dubai.

This helps promote tourism. Washington hosts half a million visitors a year.

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International students use tricks to learn English

By JEMIMAH KAMAU Staff Reporter

Many international students know they must improve their English for them to pursue their studies in the United States.

Most of them use various methods to improve their English and communication skills, but they encounter different challenges.

Yu Sakamoto from Japan joined Highline this quarter and said he has problems in listening and speaking.

He studied English since he was 13 years old and he had minimal chances to practice English in his home country, like many international students.

"I had learned English since kindergarten. We only learned English in English class and that's why we are not good at it," said Kawai Yam, from Hong Kong.

"I only used English in English classes and whenever I communicated with foreign people," said Anh Duc Tran from Vietnam.

"I studied English, but we don't focus much in it. My major was math, so no one cared about it," said Binh Pham from Vietnam.

Since they didn't practice English a lot in their countries, some of them encounter difficulties when they come to U.S.

"I think grammar is the worst headache for most of Asian students. English structure is very different from my first language, Mandarin. Also vocabularies bug me sometimes," said Irene Chang from Taipei, Taiwan.

"I have problems in pronunciation, grammar and vocabularies," said Anh Duc Tran.

But most of the students are motivated to improve their English

Apart from the native friends they meet at Highline, some international students have native friends outside the college who contribute to their learning.

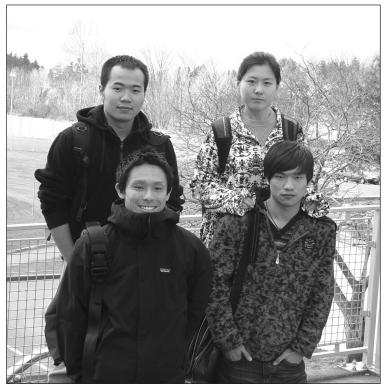
"I live with an American guy, so I practice English and learn some idioms from him," said Ying Jin from China.

Some students said that they watch television with an aim of improving their English, but it's not as easy as many of us might think.

"I watch any program on T.V., but it's so difficult to understand because they don't put subtitles. In my country (Taiwan), they put subtitles in all the programs," said Irene Chang.

But others found the solution in movies.

"I watch a movie with subtitles, and then I watch the same movie again without subtitles. I usually watch the same mov-



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

However, students haven't

"I read the text book and sto-

Even though most students

make efforts to improve their

forgotten to use books in their

rybooks," said Yena Lee.

International students (front from right to left) Yu Sakamoto, Chen Chen, (back from right to left) Anh Duc Tran, and Jin Ying use different tactics to master English.

learning.

ie with subtitles two or three times so that I can remember the words that I learn," said Yu Sakamoto.

The internet has also been of much help to this group of students.

"I read Seattle Times and New York Times on the internet," said Sakamoto.

"I listen to the radio online. I listen to any talk show or news," said Irene Chang.

Some students prefer more entertaining ways to learn their English.

"I play computer games to improve my English. In some games, you have to do a quest and you have to read and understand it to be able to play. If you can't understand what your teammate says and you don't want to lose, then you must understand," said Binh Pham from Vietnam.

"To improve my English, sometimes I play computer games such as LOL," said Chen Chen from China.

Listening to music is another form of learning used by some students.

"I learn American songs. Songs help me to memorize words and vocabularies and also helps me to know how to pronounce words," said Ying Jin, who is also known as Venus.

Jin also uses the cards method which was recommended by her teacher.

"I write vocabularies on one side of the card, and then I write the meaning at the back of the card. If I get to know the word on the card, I usually put that card at the bottom of the other cards. If I don't know the word, I just put the card aside and then look at the meaning and try to remember it," Jin said.

English, some said it's hard to communicate in English throughout the day.

"When I am tired, I can't stick to English," said Yu Sakamoto.

Others find it almost impossible to practice English with people from their country.

"If you speak in English to my Chinese friends, some of them won't like it. They start asking you if you think your English is better than theirs. And they'll ask you why you don't talk Chinese," said Kawai Yam.

"My friends don't like it when I speak to them in English. It's awkward when you say "What's up?" to a Vietnamese. We are both Vietnamese (they wonder), so why speak to me in English?" said Binh Pham. "I can speak English. The most important thing is never to speak English to a Vietnam friend, even at Highline."

Despite these challenges, some students are planning to take more English classes in the future

"I am taking TAE (TOEFL and Academic English) during the Spring Quarter, I will take

Reading and Writing 081," said Ying Jin.

Anh Duc Tran from Vietnam, who is currently taking English 101, shared what he experienced in this class.

"At the beginning, I was afraid of writing an essay because I hadn't done it before," said Tran.

"But the second one was much better. I talked to the teacher and I followed her instructions. I also study more in the internet and I Google to get tips on how to write a good essay," he said.

Some students are planning to transfer to a four-year college and they expect their English to be better before they leave Highline.

"By the time I leave Highline, my English will be better and I will go to a university," said Yena Lee.

Not all students will be at Highline for a longer period, but they still hope to improve their communication skills.

"I will be at Highline until the end of Spring Quarter. I hope I will speak better English by the time I go to Japan," said Yu Sakamoto.

Highline Community College

Justice for All: People, Politics, and the Planet



Includes:
ENVS& 101, Lab Science ~ 5 credits
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HUM 291 ~ 1 credit
Instructors: Rus Higley, Christie Knighton,
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Spring Quarter 2012

ILRND 183 Item# 3400 (see Coordinated Studies) Monday through Thursday 10:00am-2:00pm (with a lunch break)

Applies to:

AA Transfer
AA & AAS in Education
AAS in Human Services
AAS in Administration of Justice
AAS in Paralegal
....and many others

For questions about how these credits apply to your degree consult your advisor.

For more information about this class contact:

Jodi White at (206) 592-6085 or jwhite@highline.edu

Chemistry show makes science come alive



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD *Dr. Marie Nguyen makes a mess for science.*

By JORDAN TASCA Staff Reporter

Two of Highline's chemistry professors brought flames and a big bang to campus last Friday during the annual Chemistry Show.

Dr. Marie Nguyen and Dr. Heather Price performed chemistry magic before an audience of 80 people last week.

The show began with a large white sign that had the words "Chemistry Magic" painted on it in invisible ink. This ink was actually an acid indicator.

"By spraying ammonia, a basic acid, over the letters they changed from a yellow to a blue color," Dr. Price said, making them more visible

The speakers prepared two glasses, containing eggs, one filled with a water solution and the other filled with a saltwater solution. A light bulb connected to a metal rod was suspended above the glasses.

Dr. Nguyen dipped the metal rod into the saltwater glass and the

bulb lit up. Putting the rod into the water-only glass left the bulb dark.

"It's better to eat organic eggs because this one (the glass filled with just water and an egg) won't light up your brain," Dr. Nguyen said.

For their next big trick they turned out all the lights in Building 7. A graduated cylinder containing potassium chlorate and manganese dioxide was combined with a gummy bear to make a fire that spurted three to four feet up into the air from the cylinder.

"I heated up KClO3 (potassium chlorate) and MnO2 (manganese dioxide) before burning and dropping in the gummy bear. The KClO3 is decomposed to KCl and O2 and the O2 combusts the sugar in the gummy bear. The MnO2 is a catalyst that speeds up the reaction," Dr. Nguyen said.

The two instructors finished off the show by showing the altered sounds you get when heating balloons filled with different gases. One contained oxygen, one contained hydrogen, and the last contained a mixture of hydrogen and oxygen.

By proceeding to light a match to the H2 filled balloon you get a louder than normal blast as H2 looks for O2 to react with when you put a flame to it. The team of speakers took us outside the building to demonstrate what happens when you proceed to light a match and burn a balloon filled with a combination of the two gases, hydrogen and oxygen.

"H2 & O2 combined is all set to go when you light it (the balloon)," Dr. Nguyen explained. The reaction happens extremely fast and almost instantly when the match comes in close range of the balloon. A thunderous pop rang out across Highline's campus.

Science Seminar returns this Friday, March 9, where Helen Burn, Kevin Stanley, and James Peyton will make a speech on measuring happiness. The talk will be held back in Building 3 and begins at 2:20 p.m.

Highline seeks new dean of discipline for fall

By ALISA GRAMANNStaff Reporter

Highline hopes to have a new sheriff ready for duty in the fall.

Highline is currently accepting applications for a new position — associate dean for student development and student judicial affairs.

Vice President for Student Services Toni Castro said that this new position is a high-level administrative position, which replaces the position of director of counseling, testing and career development.

"We have an individual who has served in this capacity who is retiring," Castro said.

Lance Gibson, director of counseling, testing and career development, is retiring in June after 45 years at Highline.

"He's going to be some pretty hard shoes to fill," Castro said.

The position of associate dean will take over Gibson's duties, making sure that students have access to educational, personal and career counseling. Counseling services at Highline, Castro said, help students manage their stress levels, and thus learn at their highest potential.

"[The position] requires someone who has a good background in counseling," Castro said. Additionally, applicants are expected to have experience working on a college campus.

Students need on-campus support outside of the class-room, Castro said.

Currently, Highline has four counselors on campus. In the



Toni Castro

2009-2012 school years, 2,318 students received counseling services on campus.

"Students take advantage of the services," Castro said.

Additionally, the associate dean would work with Castro in dealing with student judicial

"Our work is really grounded in student development," Castro said. The goal is to help students take responsibility for their actions and learn from their experiences.

Students enrolled at Highline have a set of rights and responsibilities, listed in the Student's Rights and Responsibility Handbook. Violations of these rights and responsibilities result in action and discipline.

Castro said that Student Judicial Affairs applies a progressive model of discipline, ranging on a continuum from a written warning to suspension or expulsion for more egregious offences

"Sometimes we might go through a formal judicial process," Castro said. But, other times, the situation can be resolved without such a process.

In the 2010-2011 school year, Castro said there were 116 incidents that required action from student judicial affairs, compared to the mere 33 cases from the 2006-2007 academic year.

"Obviously, there is an increased demand [for services]," Castro said.

In order to help students become responsible and learn from experiences, counseling and student judicial affairs often work together.

"There is a real partnership between counseling and student judicial affairs," Castro said.

"This individual will be responsible for playing a proactive role," Castro said.

Not only will the individual work with students, but also with faculty, "allowing faculty to do what they do best," Castro said, which is teaching.

"We see ourselves as an extension of teaching and learning," she said, being advocates for students and partnering with faculty.

"This position is a really critical position that helps us manage risk," Castro said. It also helps promote student retention, which in turn helps the college utilize their resources and operate at the maximum potential, she said

The position of associate dean for student development and student judicial affairs is a position that is new to Highline, but not new to the community college system. A survey of local community colleges showed that many have a position, albeit titled differently, that is very similar to the associate dean.

"We're doing a national search [to fill the position]," Castro said. "I expect it's going to be pretty competitive."

The salary for this position is already in the budget, Castro said, because it is replacing a position.

Castro said she stretched the salary to cover a full-time position with at least 40 hours a week that operates for the full year, compared to the old position, which operated only nine months out of the year.

An eight-member committee will screen candidates to select

the best ones, who will then be invited to an open forum on campus.

"I think Highline has a really strong reputation," Castro said, with staff and faculty who are committed to the promotion of learning and diversity.

Students at Highline, Castro said, have become dependent on counseling services offered. The position of associate dean will take proactive steps to construct a good learning environment for students, and problem solve when issues arise.

People can look at a position and wonder what its purpose is, Castro said, but the position of associate dean for student development and student judicial affairs is one that will serve students.

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Guns

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Institutions of learning should be devoid of weapons, save for maybe security."

"I think I would be scared for my safety. Anything can happen, right? I can probably out run a guy with a knife in his hand. I can't outrun a speeding bullet," said Christina Pom.

Some students say they believe there are safer alternatives.

"Most of my friends carry either pepper spray or a taser, and they tend to get off fine when they're in a tight spot," said Erik Lam.

Some students do think guns should be allowed on campus for various reasons.

"I get creeped on constantly, everywhere I go, by creepy looking men and it's not OK," said Tiana Ross.

"If you're defenseless on campus and you run into trouble you'd want to have a weapon," said Madison Fortney. "The security guards aren't always paying attention."

"I don't believe campus regulations should overpower the rights of students who choose to support their concealed weapons permits," said Max Young.

Very few students say they actually own guns.

"Yes I do, but I can't necessarily carry around a rifle, it would freak people out," said Codi Palm.

One student said that she plans to purchase one when she is legally able.

"I'm not 21 yet. When it's legal I am loading up," said Tiana Ross.

Many students say that even if they were able, they would not carry guns with them on campus.

"I drink too much caffeine and I jitter a lot and would probably accidentally shoot myself in the foot. In theory," said Christina Pom.

"Too many lethal mistakes happen with guns. I hear too many horror stories about innocent people who get hurt by mistake with firearms. If you want to defend yourself there are several different non-lethal ways to do so," said Highline student Rachael Chapman.

"I would never bring my gun to campus. Well maybe for a zombie apocalypse," said William Keane.

"If it were legal (not sure if it is or not), I might consider it," said Jessie Mackley. "But ultimately I probably would not because Highline feels safe and I would only pack heat if I was prepared to use it, which wouldn't be necessary in a safe environment like Highline."

Reporters Barbara Cawley, Zachary Ginther-Hutt, and Katie LaBorde contributed to this story.

Global Fest seeks volunteers for spring event

By JEMIMAH KAMAU Staff Reporter

The International Leadership Student Council needs more volunteers to prepare for

Global Fest.

These volunteers will form the reception team for the May 12 event. They will help prepare decorations, represent their countries in the Culture Booths, and perform.

This is the biggest international student event sponsored by International Student Programs, where students share their culture and show their talents

"For Culture Booth, I need a lot of countries to represent their culture in the Global Fest. I need like 30 different countries. So far, I have around six countries that have signed up," said Nang Yin Yin, social event coordinator.

Yin Yin said that students

who will volunteer for the Culture Booths will represent their countries by sharing traditional aspects of them.

International Student Program staff member Audrey Nelson, who is responsible for the reception team, said that she needs 10 more volunteers.

"I need people to create decorations for upstairs (in the Student Union) and make it look like a beach party. These volunteers will also collect tickets and serve food during the event," Nelson added.

Three more teams can still sign up to perform during the event, said Christine Lee, social event coordinator.

"The teams will perform cultural dances, traditional ones and modern ones, sing or play instruments," Lee added.

Eighteen more students more are needed to help with decorations

"They need to decorate first

floor of the Student Union and the stairs, and make it look like under sea," said Kuan-Lin Chen, who is coordinating the Decoration Team.

Under the Sea will be the theme of Global Fest.

Students who would like to volunteer can sign up at International Student Programs in Building 25, on the fifth floor.

Volunteers will get a \$5 volunteer ticket. However, if the number of volunteers exceeds the number of volunteer tickets, some will have to buy a regular ticket.

Around 240 tickets will be distributed to volunteers.

To get a volunteer ticket, students also need to carry out duties assigned to them seriously.

"If you quit before April 18,

you will need to buy a ticket," said Amee Moon, the associate director of International Student Programs.

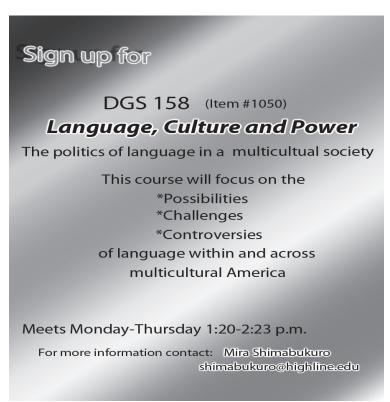
The International Leadership Student Council will sell tickets for this event the afternoon of April 23, at the Student Union.

Regular adult tickets will be sold at \$10 each and tickets for kids under 12 years will cost \$5 each.

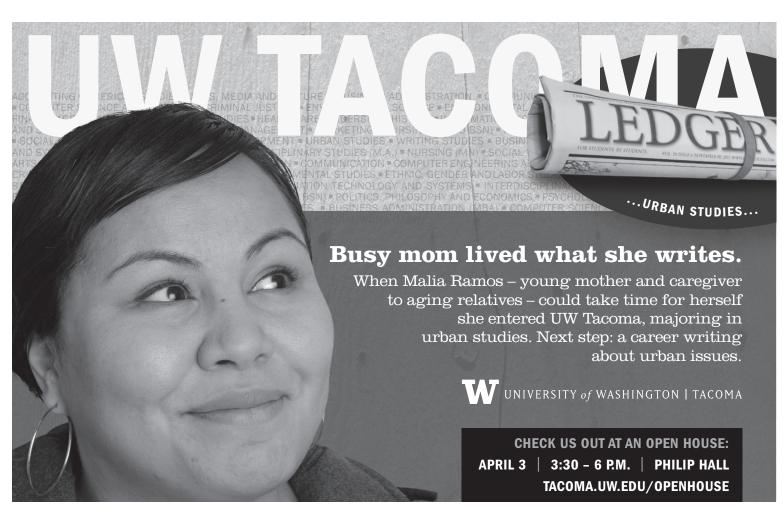
"Regular tickets and kids tickets will sell fast, less than 24 hours. So plan ahead to buy your ticket," said Moon.

To attend the event, every-body must have a ticket, Moon added.

For more information about volunteering, contact the International Leadership Student Council at ILSC@highline.edu.







Budget

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officials said. Therefore, willing colleges can escape with their net resources unscathed — although with more cost to students.

The stalled Democratic budget proposal, released last week, called for no cuts to higher education or K-12 funding.

"Technically, [it] has no cuts to higher education," said a Republican Caucus staff member. "[But] they weren't paying for them [programs] either."

The Democratic proposal postponed payments to K-12 institutions and, despite promises to pay the money back, officials said the claim cannot be upheld until the 2013-2015 budget is penned.

"It's kind of like putting it on a credit card," the Republican Caucus staff member said, and it leaves the upcoming 2013-2015 biennium with starting position in the negative.

Compared to the Democratic proposal, the Senate Republican budget proposal both allocates and pays for funding to higher education.

In addition to fewer tuition waivers, the revenue generated by non-resident students produced an extra \$8 million to the positive, which was unexpected.

The Republican Caucus staff member said that the budget proposal was adjusted accordingly to reflect the actual revenue.

"The Senate budget does not delay K-12 payments," said the Senate Republican staff member. "The House budget delays \$404 million of K-12 payments, including levy equalization, into future biennia, the same gimmick as the Senate Democrat proposal."

"The Senate budget pays for everything up front," said the Republican Caucus staff mem-

Sen. Tim Sheldon, D-Mason County, said that the coalition budget is meant to be the starting point for negotiation in the Legislature.

Sen. Sheldon was one of the three Democrats to support the budget proposal.



Sen. Tim Sheldon



Sen. Joe Fain

Sen. Sheldon said that he voted in support of the budget in order to promote a bipartisan budget in which both parties' interests are served.

"I want everyone involved in this," he said.

Because of the several budget proposals, what will happen next is still ambiguous.

"That's going to be determined," Sen. Sheldon said. "Now it's time to negotiate."

Sen. Sheldon said that he expects higher education to come out in good shape.

"I don't believe that anyone who supported the bipartisan budget expects what passed in the Senate will be the final budget presented to Governor Gregoire," said Sen. Joe Fain, R-Auburn.

"The passage of a Senate budget allows negotiations with the House proposal that will require compromise on both sides," he said.

"A lot of people think compromise is a sign of weakness," said Sen. Fain.

However, he said he believes that sensible leaders interested in governing have a responsibility to be willing make compromises.

Sen. Fain said that compromise on the issue of higher education especially is important, because continued cuts will hamper economic recovery.

"The Governor's budget proposal was to cut community colleges by 13 percent," said Sen. Fain.

"My efforts will be to keep any needed cuts to a modest 3-8 percent, and give the institutions the flexibility they need to figure out how best to absorb them" he said.

"There isn't an infinite supply of money in government, but those resources need to be channeled towards programs that produce the greatest results, like education," Sen. Fain said.

"It's important to recognize that the bipartisan Senate budget appropriates more money for higher education than the proposal from the House," said Sen. Fain.

"And just as importantly, [it] pays for them with money that we actually have, not money created by inventing a new month on the calendar or other



Sen. Karen Keiser

accounting tricks," he said.

Like Sen. Sheldon, Sen. Fain said that now is the time to negotiate.

"Instead of each chamber working on one budget bill that had absolutely no chance at passage in the Senate, we now have to work together between both parties and chambers to come up with a final budget that we can all support," he said.

Some Senate Democrats, however, were not optimistic about the budget proposal.

Sen. Karen Keiser, D-Kent, said that the Republicans jammed their budget through the Legislature with the help of three Democrats, whom they enticed.

Sen. Keiser said that Senate Democrats were suspicious that the Senate Republicans were planning something, but they had no proof.

"There are no secrets in Olympia, certainly not when it comes to something as significant as the budget," said Sen. Fain. "Without the ability to bring the bipartisan budget up for a vote through traditional means, we were left with another process provided for in the Senate rules for exactly this type of situation."

While some Democrats say the budget was not discussed enough, Sen. Fain said many of the ideas in the proposal were nothing new.

"It's important to note that the ideas and reforms included in the Senate budget are not new concepts," he said. "The budget bill includes a series of reform ideas that have been discussed, publicly debated and supported for years."

The legislative session is scheduled to end today, March 8, but, Sen. Keiser said it is likely that it will need to be extended.

"If the governor calls it," she said. "[And] I expect it will happen."

"They [the Republicans] flipped the control of the Senate," Sen. Keiser said. "It's really unfortunate that they did this."

What will happen next, Sen. Keiser said, "Is a \$64 thousand question.

"We can't really predict what will happen," she said.

Permits

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officer said.

A student who admits to have had a forged permit uses the fake sticker method.

"I copied and colored the sticker they use for parking passes using Microsoft Word," said the student, who asked to remain anonymous.

"I copied another permit and took the sticker required," another anonymous student said.

Campus Security is now keeping an eye out for the little differences between a forged pass and a real one.

"Students are using wrong sticker colors and wrong lettering on their passes. Also, their permits fade over time and ours have a coat on it to prevent from fading," Noyer said. "One student was caught because the wording on their permit was not capitalized and ours are."

"I got caught because the sticker I used was too dark of a color compared to the real one," said a student who has been caught.

The price of parking permits is one of the reasons students are making their own passes. Per quarter, a full time parking permit is \$46 and a part-time permit is \$29.



Campus Security has encountered an increasing number of forged parking permits in recent weeks.

"I didn't want to pay for one, I'd rather spend \$46 on something else," a student who has a forged permit said.

The prices of permits as well as the lack of parking spots contributes to the reasons students feel the need to forge.

"It was cheaper to forge it than to buy one. I didn't want to buy a pass and not be guaranteed a parking spot," said another student, who has forged a permit.

Disciplinary actions will be taken for those caught with a fake permit. Those who are caught will pay a fine between \$30 and \$96 and attend a disciplinary hearing in front of the vice president. One consequence may include disciplinary probation.



GOT ADS? THUNDERWORD@HIGHLINE.EDU

Cancer

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ans Hospital in Seattle what he thought about the situation and if it could just be chance.

"My doctor, Dr. Montgomery, said he wasn't aware of this type of case. There was a one in 4,000 chance of just me getting diagnosed with testicular cancer in the first place. What were the odds of both of us getting it? I knew there was more to it," Richard Hernandez said.

Both brothers served in the U.S. Marines and were deployed to Iraq in 2005.

According to the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center's Medical Surveillance Report, more than 1,506 U.S. military personnel were diagnosed with testicular cancer between 2000 and 2009.

Richard and Keith Hernandez both believe these diagnoses are due to their exposure to depleted uranium in the Iraq War as well as the use of electronic radio jamming devices.

Depleted uranium is a radioactive metal used in aircrafts, tank armor, and armor-piercing projectiles used in the military.

"Before I was deployed, I was never informed of the possible radiation I could be exposed to. There were no protection measures and no causes of radiation were discussed such as radiation from bombs dropped, radios, and certain rounds fired. I maybe would have been more careful if I would have known that," Richard Hernandez said.

In a 2011 study in Israel,

researchers from the Hebrew Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine had discovered that their military personnel exposed to electromagnetic radiation had a heightened risk of getting cancer within 10 years or less of their

The study showed that Israel's communication equipment and radio equipment, much like the ones the U.S. military uses, had high electromagnetic frequencies.

Most of the patients had solid tumors that included the testes, brain, and gastrointestinal

In addition to the Hernandez's diagnosis, Steve Brown, a U.S.Army Veteran, said that in 2010 he was also diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Brown had heard of Richard's Battle, the website to raise money for Richard Hernandez, on the news.

"I was diagnosed two years after my service. I had a tumor in my right testicle, so they removed it, and they saw a spot in my left testicle which was later removed as well," Brown said. "Now, every 10 days I have to inject myself with testosterone injections."

Brown said when he heard of Richard's Battle, he knew that there was a connection to his diagnosis and his tours in Iraq.

"In Iraq, we used electronic jamming devices and we were always told not to touch them when the systems were turned on. When we used the radios, there was constant static buzzing in our right ears from the headsets," Brown said.

In addition to the ringing,

The Thunderword / March 8, 2012

Brown said when he and his unit went on extended patrols they would get nosebleeds and painful headaches.

"When I heard of Richard's Battle, and then Keith's diagnosis, I thought, something is going on here," Brown said.

During the Vietnam War in 1961, the U.S. military used an herbicide known as Agent Orange. It was later discovered that Agent Orange contained a toxic dioxin compound known as tetrachloridebensodioxin.

After their return home, more than 39,419 soldiers claimed that their children were born with birth defects.

Vietnam veterans began to file claims in 1977 because they believed these birth defects were related to Agent Orange exposure. These claims were denied unless they were proven or within one year of their discharge from the service.

It wasn't until 1993 that the Department of Veterans Affairs began giving veterans compensation.

Robert Hard, the external affairs manager for the Department of Veteran's Affairs in Washington State, said that the Veteran Affairs pays veterans for disabilities related to or caused by radiation.

"Our desire is to look after veterans who become sick." said Hard. "When it comes to radiation, it is complicated. Just because you were exposed, it doesn't mean you get a disease."

Hard also said that if someone is exposed, symptoms or injuries may not show up for quite

"It can be many years for a disease to show itself. It is complicated in regards to if it related to radiation. Because both of the brothers were diagnosed with testicular cancer, it doesn't mean that the conditions are related to their service," Hard

Hard also said if the Hernandez brothers put in a claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs, they would investigate the claim in order to give them compensation.

"There are many steps for the VA. First, it has to be confirmed that [there was] radiation exposure for the veterans," said Hard. "This is not a simple task. It takes time. We have a process and it is not a simple undertaking."

This process can take many years, as shown in the Agent Orange situation. Because Keith and Richard Hernandez are just recently out of service, their medical bills are covered by the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

"Because I did all of my treatments at the VA, I will not see a single bill. The VA has helped me and being a combat veteran, I am covered for five years after my service," said Richard Hernandez.

For military veterans not within five years of military

service, the long process is a di-

The veterans would have to file a claim, wait for the Department of Veterans Affairs to confirm they were exposed to radiation and it can cause the cancer the veteran has.

In the time it takes for this process, the veteran would already be undergoing chemotherapy and their medical bills would not be covered.

"I would think it is the responsibility of the government to take care of the medical bills for veterans. That should be a given. Not just treatments but compensation especially if they have to deal with it the rest of their life," Richard Hernandez said. "I also think there should be more research conducted on the connection between cancer and radiation exposure."

Keith Hernandez agrees with his brother.

"I think if you served in Iraq, or anywhere, you deserve 100 percent compensation. They should also be covered medically later on, there should be no time frame," Keith Hernan-

Richard Hernandez said he recently put in a claim with the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Currently, Keith Hernandez is undergoing chemotherapy treatments and will continue these until April. Like his brother, Keith Hernandez is being treated at the Veterans Hospital.



