

## Staff to take 3 percent pay cut

By **ALISA GRAMANN**  
Staff Reporter

Classified staff at Highline have signed on to a new contract that will result in a 3 percent pay cut.

This new contract will take effect on July 1 and continue through June 30, 2013.

Among the approximately 131 classified staff members are Highline's custodians, fiscal technicians, secretaries and office assistants, security officers, human resource staff, IT technicians and ground staff.

The classified staff make up the lowest paid group of staff on campus, excluding student workers.

Classified staff work on two-year contracts, renegotiating every biennium. A classified staff member, who wished to remain anonymous, said that the 2011-2013 contract was signed, and then rescinded by the state government, leaving the classified staff working contract-free.



Gerald Jackson

The contract was retracted due to the state's financial troubles — the state could not agree to the terms negotiated in the contract.

Classified staff members say they felt pressured to agree to the negotiated contract and accept the 3 percent pay cuts. With the fear of lay-offs, higher pay cuts or furloughs looming, accepting the 3 percent cut ap-

See Pay Cut page 27



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

Councilwoman Carmen Scott said that parks such as the Des Moines Beach Park are important to a city's history and livelihood.

## City has hopes for beach park

By **ZACH GINTHER-HUTT**  
Staff Reporter

The future for the Des Moines Beach Park looks bright even with some uncertain factors still remaining said a city official last Tuesday.

Des Moines Councilwoman Carmen Scott, a lively woman

in her 70s, delivered a presentation to a small group at the Des Moines Activity Center on March 13.

"The park is crucial to the history and livelihood of Des Moines," said Scott.

Scott said Des Moines Beach Park is the site of much of history of 20th century Des Moines.

With a legacy of saw mills, dance halls, a home for orphans, and a church camp, the park is a prime recreational location, spanning the last 100 years.

"It's a wonderful meeting place on the waterfront, next to

See Parks, page 28

## Legislation to help combat car theft

By **KATIE LABORDE**  
Staff Reporter

The Washington state legislature passed a bill to help reduce the number of car thefts and hopefully bring car thefts around Highline to a halt.

The bill will give law enforcement more time to investigate stolen vehicle reports. Instead of three years, the bill extends the statute of limitations to six years for handling car thefts and the theft of auto parts.

"One of the difficulties in combating auto theft rings is that parts stripped from one vehicle often are not discovered until years later when they turn up in another vehicle, after the statute of limitation has run,

making it very difficult to detect the crime and perpetrators in a timely fashion," said State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines.

An increase in the number of stolen cars being reported has lead the state to do something about it. Auto thefts have increased 18.8 percent from 2009 in the Seattle-Tacoma area. The number of car thefts reported in King County in 2007 was 7,706 and the number of reports increased to 8,623 in 2011.

Along with the increase in auto thefts, funding for Washington State Patrol's Stolen Vehicle Task Force has been decreased about 50 percent.

"The bill will provide law enforcement a real opportunity to pursue and hold accountable those who participate in the



Richard Noyer

trafficking of stolen property and who were previously able to elude prosecution and/or civil liability," said Rep. Orwall.

See Car Theft page 28

## Budget battle continues into special session

By **ALISA GRAMANN**  
Staff Reporter

The Legislature has gone into overtime to find a solution to the budget question.

The state budget has a \$1.1 billion hole to fill.

In recent weeks, both the House and the Senate approved operational budgets. However, a special session is now under way to find a resolution that suits both the House and the Senate.

State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, said that legislators want to "wrap this up as quickly as we can."

However, there are still some points in great need of compro-



mise before anyone gets to go home.

Rep. Orwall said that the House budget had a strong commitment to education, as well as

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Local teacher rekindles Hollywood romance





## Crime and Punishment

### Theft from multiple vehicles reported

Campus Security responded to a call in regard to multiple car break-ins behind the school's pavilion on March 10.

The vehicle owners contacted Des Moines Police Department and were instructed to complete an online report. The cars' windows were broken and a laptop was taken from one car and other electronic devices were taken from other vehicles.

### Dude, where's my car?

A Highline instructor reported the theft of his 1996 Nissan Altima from the East Parking Lot on March 13.

A Des Moines Police Department officer arrived on scene to take a report.

### Suspicious male lurking around parking lot

A student reported a suspicious male pulling on car door handles in the East Parking Lot on March 13.

Campus Security checked all of the parking lots, but could not find the man.

### Student makes threats via text message

A Highline student reported that another student in her class was making threats via text messaging on March 13.

The threats were in regard to a class project the two had been working on. Campus Security conducted an incident report and submitted it to the vice president of students for disciplinary action.

### Intoxicated man found

Campus Security ran into a visibly intoxicated man trying to get into Building 11 on March 11.

The man would not speak to the Campus Security officer and left via the East Parking Lot.

### Forged permit identified

Campus Security found a forged permit in the South Parking Lot on March 12.

A fake sticker was printed off and taped to the permit. A report was taken and sent to the vice president of students for a disciplinary hearing.

### Graffiti discovered on college building

Graffiti was found in the back of Building 27 on March 9.

Campus Security took photos and notified facilities for a clean-up.

### Backpack reported missing by instructor

Campus Security received a call from the Chinese Language School instructor in regard to a missing backpack on March 10.

Campus Security suggested that the instructor stop by the Campus Security office for further investigation. The instructor never showed up to assist in finding the missing backpack.

-Compiled by Katie LaBorde



## News Briefs

### Internship opportunity for minority students

The Emma L. Bowen Foundation for Minority Interests in Media is looking for talented ethnic minority students to participate in a work/study internship. This will provide candidates with an hourly wage and matching dollars towards college expenses.

Qualified candidates must be college freshman of an ethnic minority, have a minimum of a 3.0 Cumulative G.P.A., and an interest in varying aspects of the media, including journalism, creative writing, and public relations.

Available internship opportunities will be in the Lynwood area and will provide hands on training in internal communications, community relations, media relations, and event planning.

Applications can be found at [emmabowenfoundation.com](http://emmabowenfoundation.com) and are due by March 23 for students wishing to enter the program for the summer of 2012.

### Wildcat Wednesdays to begin in CWU building

Central Washington University's Des Moines campus will be putting on Wildcat Wednes-

# Expand Your Horizons conference comes to Highline to teach women

By KALEY ISHMAEL  
Staff Reporter

Women's Programs will be helping young girls to expand their horizons again this month.

On March 23, Women's Programs will be hosting the Expand Your Horizon conference for middle school girls that will provide them with role models in non-traditional fields.

Expanding Your Horizons is a non-profit organization that provides hands on activities for young girls to help build their interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic (STEM) fields.

The program started in 1974 in San Francisco. Female educators in that area were concerned with the overall low par-

ticipation of young girls in math courses. With a group of volunteers, they began working with girls to help build their interest in these fields.

In 1978, the program was awarded a two year grant by the Carnegie Corporation to build a formal organization that was a part of Mills College. By 1982, the program became an independent non-profit organization.

These program hopes to bring more girls into these careers and ready them for the oncoming challenges that the 21st century will bring.

Highline is one of the many schools to be hosting one of these nationwide conferences.

The conference will take place at 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be three events spread over the campus for the girls to take part in.

During the conference, girls will find out what kind of education is required to be in a STEM field, see what a scientist does in a typical day, and discover the fun of math or science based career.

Jean Munro, program coordinator for Women's Programs said that around 600 to 700 middle school girls are expected to attend this conference.

The conference is still looking for general volunteers to help out with the program. If you are interested in helping or are looking for more information contact the director of Women's Programs, Deana Rader at 206-592-3004.

### Nominations for Women in Action awards due

Nominations for this year's Women in Action awards are being accepted now by Women's Programs. They can be sent by campus mail to Jean Munro at MS 6-2, or by email to [jmunro@highline.edu](mailto:jmunro@highline.edu).

Feel free to nominate multiple applicants. If you know a student, staff or faculty member who deserves to be recognized for their service to community, and or accomplishments this is your opportunity to recognize

them.

All nominations are due by May 8 at 5 p.m. These awards will be presented at the 30th Annual Women's Celebration held May 16 from noon-2 p.m. in Building 8. The award ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. directly after the Vintage Fashion Show.



CWU's mascot, the Wildcat

### People for Puget Sound to present at MaST

Learn about chemicals found in every-day products that impact human health and the environment around us, this weekend.

Heather Trim of People for Puget Sound will be giving a presentation entitled *Turning the Tide on Toxins* this Saturday, March 17 from noon-12:45 p.m.

The presentation will take place at the MaST Center, located near the Redondo Beach park, and is free to attend.



WHAT'S  
NEW  
AT THE  
MAST  
CENTER?

Highline's MaST Center, located in Redondo, has lots going on if you are interested in your local environment.

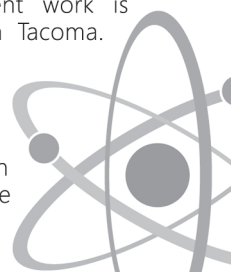
**WATER WEEKEND** – Every Saturday from 10am to 2pm. We are open FREE OF CHARGE to the public to view more than 100 local species in our aquarium

**SCIENCE ON THE SOUND SPEAKER SERIES** – 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month. Local scientists and environmental educators discuss the health of Puget Sound.

**LIVE DIVER** – 2nd Saturday of every month. Shows at 11 and noon.

**THE WHALE PROJECT** – The MaST Center is rebuilding the skeleton of a grey whale that died in Puget Sound to be displayed in the MaST Center. Current work is happening at Foss Waterway Seaport in Tacoma. Come and see the progress.

**VOLUNTEER STEWARDS** – Most of the work at the MaST Center is done by our team of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering you can come and visit the Center, or e-mail us at [mast@highline.edu](mailto:mast@highline.edu)





## Conversation Pal offers opportunities to make new friends

By JEMIMAH KAMAU  
Staff Reporter

If you like chatting, meeting new people from different parts of the world and learning their cultural practices, Conversational Pal has a place for you in Spring Quarter.

In Conversational Pal, students can do these things and have fun as they improve their communication skills.

"The way we communicate with people is different. I joined the group and now I can comfortably communicate with different people," said Vu Dao, the Conversational Pal coordinator.

In Winter Quarter, 10 countries from five continents were represented. But Koreans and new international students make up the majority.

"Many international students are new. They know no one, not even the American life. Conversational Pal is a chance for them to learn and adapt the American life," said Dao, who is common-



Students Yoshica Poindexter (back left) Linh Nguyen, Kathy Dao, Debora Kim, Loc Dinh, Ka Wai Yam, Jongkeun Hong and Atis Pasuraphun are participants in Conversation Pal. In their most recent meeting, the group dined at a Thai restaurant.

ly known as Chris.

"For the native speakers, it's a chance to make new friends and learn different cultures," Dao added.

In this program, members are divided into small groups of five and are responsible for de-

ciding what to do and where and when to meet.

The groups have to meet at least once a week for one hour and take photos of the places they visit and submit them by the deadlines.

These tours and discoveries

have created memorable moments for some students.

"When I attended the Conversational Pal, I met an Indonesian friend, an American and another friend from Vietnam. We went to Ramen Restaurant and that was my first time to taste Japanese soup. I had no idea before on how it tastes. It was so good," Dao said.

The groups can choose to meet either during the week according to the availability of the members or during the weekend which is advantageous to some students.

"I was bored during the weekends. But after I joined the Conversational Pal, I got new friends to hang out with," Dao said.

Apart from meeting new friends and learning different cultures, there are more benefits of joining Conversational Pal, Dao said.

"If you complete the program, you can have a certificate or earn some extra credits. But you have to check with your in-

structor if he or she gives extra credits," he said.

Everyone in Highline can join this program by signing up at the International Student Programs in Building 25, on the 5th floor.

The application for Spring Quarter is due on April 6, and Conversational Pal orientation will take place on April 12.

For more information, contact Dao, the Conversational Pal coordinator, at [vdao@highline.edu](mailto:vdao@highline.edu).



"Chris" Vu Dao

## Facilities has big dreams for the future of Highline

By EMILY BETTRIDGE  
Staff Reporter

If Highline had its way, most buildings on campus would look more like Building 29.

In fact, the Facilities Department has a four-, 10- and 20-year plan mapping out the changes they hope will take place.

The only thing missing is the funding, specifically state capital funds.

Capital funds are money awarded to colleges every two years for improvements, as the state's budget allows.

Despite having to wait on the funds, Highline has seen the need for changes to be made on campus.

The college was built from the same plan as a campus in California, said Larry Yok, the administration vice president. "It wasn't made for this climate."

Case in point: The hot-water heating system at Highline



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

Facilities wants to replace buildings 4, 5, 6 and 11 with one large building similar to Building 29.

leaks if the water temperature in the pipes change, he said.

A hot-water heating system uses hot water to control room temperature.

If heat is cut to any building on campus, the pipes will begin to leak, Yok said.

This is a huge waste of energy, but one that with the current system is unavoidable. Replacing the system would cost more than the state will give.

Perhaps a little less expensive are the two projects for which Highline plans to seek capital funds this fall: the renovation of Building 26 and the replacement of Buildings 4, 5, 6 and 11.

If money is awarded, Building 26 would be turned into an Allied Health building where all health programs would be

located, said Yok.

Buildings 4, 5, 6 and 11 would be replaced by one 60,000-square-foot building with classrooms, faculty offices and open areas for students to gather in.

Highline already has plans to do renovations on Building 4 starting this fall, but that doesn't change the need for the building's replacement, said Yok.

"We expect there will be a competition for capital funds this fall," he said. "Let's just say we won the competition; that's for the 2013-15 fiscal year."

The project will have to go through a pre-design phase, a design phase, and then construction, which would be over eight years away, Yok said. "Meanwhile, we are still having

classes [in Building 4.]"

The replacement of buildings 4, 5, 6 and 11 are the first phase of Highline's master plan, which will begin when that state is able to fund it.

The master plan maps out the changes the college would like to see on campus.

The idea is to demolish all the smaller, single-use buildings to make way for larger, multi-story buildings in the next 20 to 30 years, said Barry Holldorf, the director of facilities at Highline.

"We would love, from the facilities point of view, to get out of these singular buildings into cost-efficient, vertical buildings that are energy efficient," he said.

These buildings would be

friendlier to the environment, but would also cost less in maintenance than the many small, single-use buildings on campus today.

One wish stands out more than the others for Holldorf, though. "If I had my one wish, I wish we had a true maintenance building."

That would include a new Direct Digital Control system for the facilities department, said Holldorf.

A Direct Digital Control system allows buildings' conditions, such as lighting and heating, to be controlled by a computer.

The \$300,000 system isn't going to be installed anytime soon, though.

"Facilities operations come from a different pot of money, which unfortunately, that pot is empty," said Yok. "If I really had money that wasn't hard to get, I would rebuild the parking lots on campus."

While such a project would cost a couple hundred thousand dollars, repair is already over \$50,000 a year, he said.

All these wishes are dependent on receiving the necessary money, and Highline isn't holding its breath.

"We have limited dollars and those dollars are shrinking," said Barry Holldorf. "At this point, Highline is not allowed to submit anything."

"This is a very long-term plan," said Yok. "It's what we would do if we could submit proposals."



Barry Holldorf



**Editorial comment****Republicans not really helping**

Our state government is at it again – trying to cut further into higher education in an effort to fill the gap left by last year’s budget.

Last week Senate Republicans passed a proposed budget that will cut \$30 million from higher education, along with \$44 million from programs supporting K-12.

The Republicans claim that colleges can mitigate this proposed cut by eliminating \$30 million in tuition waivers, essentially making it so those of us that can’t afford an education but truly need one are further hampered by cost.

At some point we need to sit down and question if these people are truly working in our best interest. The state Legislature is basically using higher education as its own personal ATM, using us to bail out the mistakes of past legislative decisions.

Frankly, we are tired of this behavior. And it needs to change.

Due constant bickering and posturing occurring in Olympia, the Legislature is going to go into special session in order to get the budget settled. But it’s the same every year.

After accusations and heated arguments are exchanged, the budget will be ratified and it is most likely going to cost students and low-income families the most.

Over the course of the last few years, the Legislature has been gradually chiseled away at the public support for higher education, making obtaining an education harder and harder. Frankly, we are surprised that students in this state haven’t taken to the streets, demanding some form of relief.

It seems as though this government is trying to create a neanderthal workforce, capable of signing their own names and punching their clocks – nothing more.

**No Guns? Not an issue**

With Colorado recently allowing college students to carry concealed weapons on campus, it is only a matter of time before the issue reaches Highline’s campus.

As such it is somewhat heartwarming to understand that the student body is wary of allowing guns on campus.

Last week we did an unscientific survey of students on the issue of concealed carries, and for the most part, students answered that while there may be a reason for students to carry some form of protection, carrying firearms is a step over the line.

We live in a pretty mixed-up world. Shootings and murders happen on a daily basis. As such it is no wonder that students feel the need to protect themselves, which is one of their inalienable rights. However, too many mistakes can be made when it comes to firearms – too much can go wrong.

A misfire in a book bag, or having a gun fall out of an open purse is probably not for the best.

Non-lethal forms of self-defense are all that is necessary when it comes to a college atmosphere. Highline is meant to be a place of learning and self-fulfillment, and as such should be devoid of things as barbaric as guns.

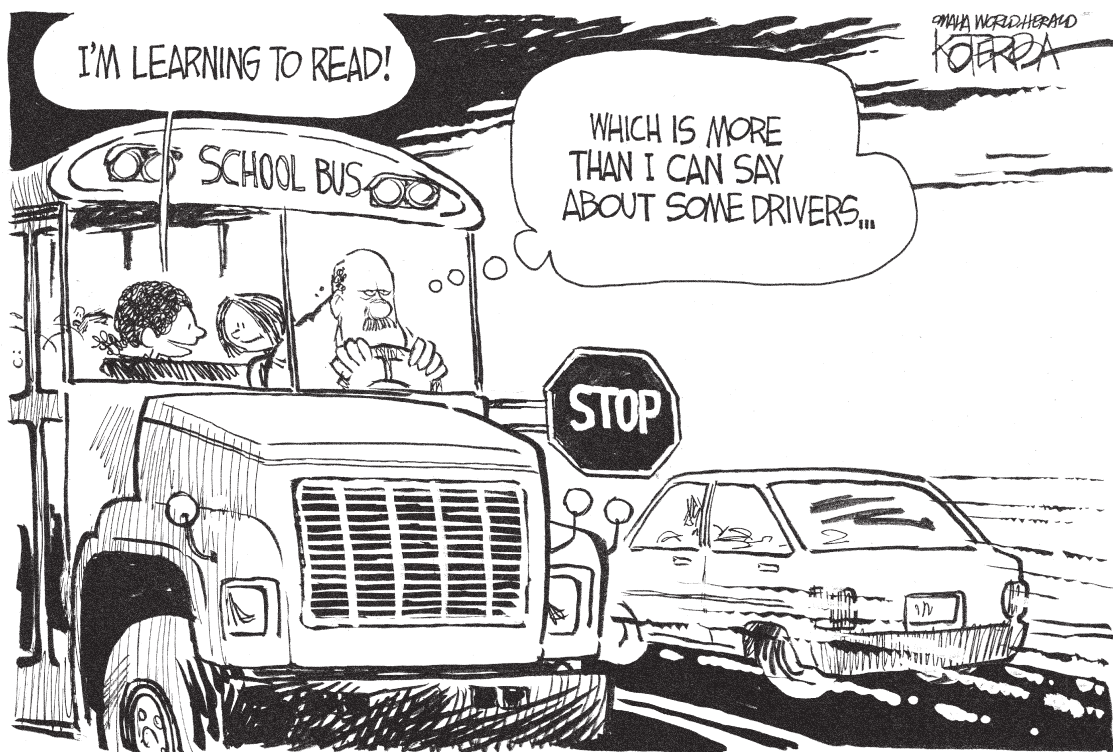
The Thunderword is proud to represent a student body that favors non-lethal self-defense, it is far better to be able to walk away from any conflict than to be explaining to a judge that the whole situation was a misunderstanding, and the dead body Campus Security found was a mistake.

Hopefully, when the decision comes to Washington, the Legislature will listen to the opinion of its students.

**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](mailto: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.

**Analog player in a digital world**

We live in an age where things are measured in milliseconds, if we aren’t getting our optimum two megabytes per second of bandwidth something is amiss.

Now we’ve got digital books, digital films, and social media. It’s quite possible that we will soon be living our entire lives virtually.

There are times I prefer the analog route.

For instance, if I were to drop my Kindle, there’s a pretty good chance that the screen would crack, making the device utterly useless.

Luckily this can’t happen with a good, old-fashioned book. The cover may get bent – but that’s why God gave us hardback editions.

There is something to be said about the aesthetic of hearing a page turn, of feeling the pages scrape against one another as you progress through the riveting story. It is far more satisfying than pressing a button, or swiping a finger across a touch screen.

I get the same feeling when I hear a vinyl record playing. The static you hear when the needle first hits the groove in the vinyl, it’s like being in the room with artist as the first track is being recorded.

However, it is worth men-

tioning that digital media is a lot more convenient than lugging around stacks of books and wracks of vinyls.

That being said, you can hardly blame pirates for their rampant thievery of digital media – do you have any idea how hard it is to copy a vinyl? It’s not even worth attempting anymore.

Whatever happened to practical special effects? Computer generated images are so frequent in the movies that when we actually see a man in a mask or in make-up it’s a novelty. A bygone technique of an era that seems like it was stepped over.

Computer enhancement and imaging takes away from the audience’s ability to infer for themselves, eliminating the chance for the viewer to interpret on their own.

It is often what you don’t see that is more exciting, erotic, and evocative. Computer generated

special effects have only raised a given audience’s expectations, making them more critical and quick to judge if a film is not up to par.

But the one thing that really has me worried is that we are trading actual human interaction and relationships for the day-to-day status updates on Facebook and Tweets.

I find myself guilty of this. Sitting idly on the computer, lurking on the news feed, just waiting until a friend of mine posts something new. At which point I ridicule them, make a joke, or attempt to add something provocative or profound.

Don’t get me wrong – social media is probably the most effective method for spreading a single message to hundreds of thousands. Case in point the recent Joseph Kony movement, in all its resplendent futility.

Within a matter of hours, every one of my friends had something to say about this horrible warlord in Africa. But that’s where their involvement ends, in the comments and likes of other Facebook users.

Digital media has allowed us to expand our communication capability, but I think we need to take a moment and remember the innovations and advancements made before the mouse and keyboard.



Grinds My Gears  
Josh Nelson

**The Staff**

Is that just something to keep him busy ‘til the end of the quarter?

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## The tragic tale of an ignored Twitter profile

There seems to be a serious problem going on in America at the moment. Not enough people are following my twitter.

The other day I logged onto my account and was flabbergasted to see that only three people were following me. Two of them are fake accounts I created to make myself look better, and the other being my mom, of course.

There is important information I am spreading to the world that is being ignored because of the public's lack of awareness. Let's take yesterday into account.

**10:06 a.m.:** "Decided to dress up as an Ewok and ride my dog around the neighborhood today. I received six strange looks, one from my dog. #swagg"

**11:39 a.m.:** "Just got yelled at by security for chasing seagulls in the courtyard. Can't believe how strict this school is. #thug-life"



Total Traegedy  
Trae Harrison

**1:32 p.m.:** "Just found not one, but two pens on a table that some unfortunate soul has left behind. Contact me for their whereabouts!" (No one responded.)

**2:37 p.m.:** "My friend just told me the cold weather makes her feel like killing people. I hope she never moves to Alaska, she'd wipe out their entire population of 12. #ijustwent-there"

**3:02 p.m.:** "I'm having dif-

ficulty with multi-tasking. I'm currently tweeting while writing an article about twitter."

**3:32 p.m.:** "Just saw a lady carrying a cane into the Federal Way municipal court, and develop a limp when called up to the judge. #youshouldtrythis"

**3:52 p.m.:** "Just got kicked out of the Costco parking lot for trying to sell their free samples to children outside the door. And I thought we lived in a free country."

**4:19 p.m.:** "Came home to my pet raccoon foaming at the mouth. I think it's a sign of affection, but my parents are skeptical...and my goldfish are gone."

(Later that night I ate dinner. I had nothing interesting to say, so I simply took a photo of the food and posted it. People would be lost without knowing what I consume throughout the day.)

**6:07 p.m.:** "Rook at disshh

mearl. :] #tonightwedineinmy-house"

(I tweeted as if my mouth was full. I take everything literally.)

**6:24 p.m.:** "Dropped phone in tomato soup and lost all my contacts. :[ Text me your number plz."

**7:09 p.m.:** "Just broke into my neighbor's house. Didn't steal anything but he'll be rather shocked to find a sunflower in his kitchen when he gets home."

**7:48 p.m.:** "Whoever thought of the cinnamon challenge was weak. I'm boutsta do the gallon of spoiled milk challenge, LOOK AT ME NOW"

**8:12 p.m.:** "Feel horrible, I'm calling in sick tomorrow. The justice league is going to have to do without its janitor tomorrow."

**8:56 p.m.:** "I'm thinking about shaving my legs... My uncle gave me a life-time supply of razors and I'm not sure

what else to do with them. #decisions"

**9:07 p.m.:** "Sometimes I like to pretend my life is a 90s Disney movie and break into song at random times. #jtlyk"

**10:27 p.m.:** "Time for bed. And by bed I mean I'm going to aimlessly pace my room plotting for ways to defeat Jason Bourne."

After that the only tweets I had sent until the next morning were gibberish sleep tweets, I also bought an entire set of garden gnomes on eBay.

So now you know the importance of my life and my tweets. I could go on for days arguing the significance of my tweets, but the list above speaks for itself.

Remember that you won't have the opportunity to follow my twitter forever. Eventually we will not have twitter because the robots will inevitably rebel and kill us all.

## Proud to be black and educated

Growing up in the Renton School District, I saw that many black male students felt they weren't given the same opportunity as others.

Living in the 'hood of Skyway all my life, I've seen a lot more than others might have.

Skyway is in South Seattle between Rainer Beach and Renton.

I can't count on my fingers how many times I've heard gunshots, seen or been in fights, or heard police sirens.

I've always wondered why black males seemed to be the root of the problem, and why they felt they couldn't excel in the classroom.

Many of my close friends in public school were good in math, but we had the common knowledge that we weren't accepted by other blacks in the school.

Being 14 at the time, my friends and I didn't want to be labeled as nerds and lose friends, because of the fact we were in a higher class than them.

We began to slowly stop caring about school, and started to play more sports where I found I we were accepted by not only blacks, but other races as well.

Sports and money were commonly thought of as the only way out from the Skyway drama for black males.

We [black males] all knew school was important, but when you're a witness to older guys showing you how much money they can make in 30 minutes, you tend to use your mind for other things.

At times I thought I was either going to be a professional athlete or a drug dealer. I didn't



Yo Adrian!  
Adrian Scott

think I would be a college student and meet professors who would help me in my future.

The common phrase "you're a product of your environment" is true, to a point. But this is no excuse for black males to keep living this way.

If you live life without any concern for others, without trying to educate yourself, you're only going to fail.

We need to get out of the mindset that the system is out to get us.

I'm not the sharpest knife in the drawer but I've realized that if I want to have a better future and get out of the 'hood, I was going to have to forget about being the cool kid all of the time and get serious about life.

There is no reason that one person can do better than the other.

If we as a black community can use our resources and educate ourselves, the system will not hold us back.

We as black men need to change the social norm that we will either grow up to be a professional athlete, a comedian, a gang member or killer, or a druggie.

Everyone has a right to achieve a dream.

*Adrian has retail dreams.*

I'm through with men.

I'm through with men because of you.

Maybe it's the fact that every phone-call, every text, every tweet- none of them seem to be from you.

The more I try convincing myself that you're not worth me getting my hopes up for, the more I find myself craving your presence. Do you have any idea what that's like? To want so badly not to want somebody, only to find yourself wanting them more and more.

I wonder why females continue waiting on someone who doesn't want to be waited on. I know I'm not the only one. What is it that makes females so attracted to the men that are no good for them?

Maybe it's the idea that we could make you better. What woman doesn't want to be able to say "You see that man over there? He's a better man now because of me."

It's the thought that we can fix a bad boy. After all, isn't it the modern day fairy tale to have a man who had nothing going for him turn into prince charming and change his ways all because he met you?

But the thing with men like you is that you're not reliable. You're here one minute, gone the next. I'm tired of your type thinking they can treat females like inanimate objects with no feelings.

If you're not going to be here physically then don't be here emotionally. You really need to stop occupying my mental and emotional space. I can't continue letting you live here rent



Shamlove  
Shaima Shamdeen

free. Stop being a figment of my imagination and stop popping up in my dreams.

It's not fair to me or any other female and quite frankly, it's not fair to the good men who are reliable, but aren't getting the time of day because thoughts of you are taking up all my time.

It's not even that I compare them to you. If that was the case you would've been long forgotten. Rather I compare myself with you to myself with them.

With you, I was the girl I knew I was meant to be, and with them, I'm the girl I feel like I have to be out of obligation so they won't be disappointed in me.

And it's not that women can't appreciate a genuinely good man, but if he has everything going for him, what's there to fix? What role would I have in improving his life?

I remember the time that I spent with you and that's when I remember that this image of you that I've created in my head is not who you really are but rather my head fooling me into thinking you were someone else.

And this is where females like me go wrong. We have this

idea of who we think you are and disregard the person that you're showing us you are.

Maybe we're wrong for giving you the benefit of doubt and wanting to see the best in you, but you're wrong for coming into our lives, making your mark, and then leaving without a warning.

Sitting here waiting for a text I'll never get has me feeling a certain way about myself. Makes me want to go back to the days before I knew that someone like you could make someone like me feel like someone I don't know.

But none of this matters to you. You're out there having the time of your life without a care in the world. I'm not mad at you for that, but you can't just make your bed and expect me to lie in it alone.

You forgot to take with you the part of you that you left with me. So I'm going to need you to come back and take this heavy load with you, because I can't continue having you hold me back.

Take back with you the memories, the laughs, and the conversations because I can't continue having flashbacks of a person that no longer exists. And please take back with you this person that you have turned me into so I can go back to being my old self again. That's the only thing that I miss more than I miss having you.

But you're gone now and there's a new man. Except this one, I really think I can fix.

*Winter Quarter marks Shaima's second quarter as a Thunderword Staffer.*



# TB's comeback spells trouble for Seattle area

## Drug-resistant strains pose health care challenges

By **BETH MIKLOVICH**  
Staff Reporter

Covering your mouth when coughing is not just good manners, it can keep you from contacting or spreading tuberculosis, otherwise known as TB.

Often thought of as a disease of the past, today TB remains an epidemic, and claims the lives of several million people every year worldwide.

King County has the highest number of people diagnosed with TB in the country, according to Public Health of Seattle and King County.

Dr. Masa Narita, director of disease control for Public Health of Seattle and King County, said "There were 256 cases reported in 2010, up from 130 cases in 2009."

Dr. David Fleming, director and public health officer for Public Health of Seattle and King County said "King County is not immune from the global TB epidemic."

"More than 80 percent of the county's active cases involve people born outside the United States, primarily in Southeast Asia, East Africa, and Central America," Dr. Fleming said.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention defines TB as a disease caused by germs

that is spread through the air from person to person. TB affects the lungs, but it can also affect the brain, kidneys, or spine.

TB can live in the body without making a person ill. This form of TB is known as latent TB infection. Latent TB cells cannot be passed on to others. If these latent cells become active, a person will become sick with TB disease.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention lists the symptoms of TB disease as frequent cough, a productive cough (mucus or phlegm), coughing up of blood and chest pain with cough. Other symptoms can include a feeling of weakness, loss of appetite, weight loss, fever or night sweats.

Testing for TB can be done in two ways. The TB skin test is performed by injecting a small amount of testing liquid into the skin of the forearm. The test needs to be read 48 to 72 hours later by someone trained in reading skin tests.

If the skin test positive, then a chest x-ray is done to rule out active TB. If the chest x-ray is normal then the person is likely to have TB infection.

Once a skin test is positive it will most likely stay positive and should not be repeated. Un-

less a person develops symptoms one chest x-ray is all that's needed.

TB can be treated with medication and latent TB can be treated with anti-biotic medication and are generally taken for six to nine months.

The Center for Disease Control and many world health organizations are now seeing stronger and more deadly strains of TB. This includes Seattle and King County.

"A more infectious strain of TB, previously found mainly among Seattle's homeless population, is on the rise," Dr. Narita said. "The strain is now being transmitted among the broader community in King County."

Multidrug resistant TB is a strain that is resistant to at least two of the best anti-TB drugs, isoniazid and rifampicin. These drugs are considered the first line of defense drugs in the treatment that is used to treat all persons with TB.

Multidrug resistant TB can occur when a patient does not complete their full course of treatment of prescribed medication; a provider prescribes the wrong treatment, the wrong dose, or length of time for taking the drugs when the supply

of drugs is not always available; or when the drugs are of poor quality.

The second type is known as extensively drug resistant TB. This is a relatively rare type of the multidrug resistant TB. Extensively drug resistant TB is defined by the Center for Disease Control as TB that is resistant to both isoniazid and rifampicin, and at least three other injectable second-line defense.

Extensively drug resistant TB is extremely dangerous for persons with any immune system weakening diseases or illness. They are more likely to develop TB disease once they are infected and also have higher risks of death once they develop TB.

TB and multidrug resistant TB are spread the same way. The germs are put into the air when a person with TB disease of the lungs or throat cough, sneezes, speaks, or sings. These germs can float in the air for several hours, depending on the environment. Persons who breathe in the air containing TB germs can become infected.

The Center for Disease Control explains that TB is not spread by shaking someone's hand, sharing food or drink,

touching bed linens or toilet seats, sharing a toothbrush, or by kissing.

Seattle Biomedical Research Institute (Seattle BioMed) is Seattle's first global health organization, and will commemorate World TB Day on March 22.

They invite all interested to attend their event from 5:30-8 p.m. at Seattle Biomed. The program will include small discussion groups and tours of the lab.

The event is free and is an educational event open to the public. RSVP is required by Monday, March 19, to Meredith Boyd at 206-256-7276. Seattle BioMed is located at 307 Westlake Avenue N., Seattle.

If you suspect you have been exposed to any form of TB, Public Health of Seattle and King County Tuberculosis Control Program office is located at Harborview Medical Center 325 Ninth Ave. in Seattle and offers information on testing and other TB related programs.

For more information on TB testing in Seattle and King County, visit [kingcounty.gov/healthservices/TBcontrol](http://kingcounty.gov/healthservices/TBcontrol).

For statewide information on TB visit [doh.wagov/chf/TB](http://doh.wagov/chf/TB), or [CDC.gov/TB](http://CDC.gov/TB).



## Highline students say they prefer lunch from home

By **Thunderword Staff**

Nearly 75 percent of Highline students opt to bring their own lunch, eat lunch at home, or skip lunch entirely rather than buy food at the Student Union, according to a recent Thunderword non-scientific survey.

Of the 74 students out of 100 who said they don't buy lunch, 48 voiced concerns over what they saw as high prices for food offered in the Student Union.

"Lower the prices a bit," said one anonymous student.

Another student named Allen said "It's expensive. The food downstairs is gross, the food upstairs is expensive."

"I can't afford \$7 a meal Monday through Friday," said Sarah Wilson.

However not every student shares the notion that the Student Union's menu is overpriced. Five of the 26 students who do buy lunch at the Student Union said that relatively inexpensive prices were one of the things that caused them to buy there.

"It's just convenient and cheap," said Kaytee Deane.

"It's here, it's quick, it's cheap," said Naomi Lee.

Prices were not the only concern though. Twelve of the 74 students who don't eat the Student Union's food take pride in eating things they made themselves.

One anonymous student shrugged and said "I just like to make my own food."

"I'm more satisfied with homemade food," another anonymous student said.

Other students don't want to be bothered with preparing a meal. Three of the 26 students who buy food even voiced this as the sole reason they don't bring lunch.

"[It] just makes sense to buy lunch here because it's too much of a hassle to pack a lunch, and then you have to carry it," said Viet.

Students who preferred salads or other vegetarian dishes for lunch most often said they ate at home or brought food from there. This included 15 of

the 74 students who don't buy from the Student Union.

One anonymous student, who said he also took classes at Highline 10 years ago, went on to describe the lunch scene back then and how he used to get food here before the Student Union building was built. He liked the quality then, but now he says everything costs more for much less.

*Reporters Troy Barnes, Emily Bettridge, and Brandon Wolfe contributed to this story.*





Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD

Highline student Mary Shipley gives blood at a drive on campus earlier this quarter. The Puget Sound Blood Center returns to Highline on April 11.

## Puget Sound Blood Center returns in April

By **BARBARA CAWLEY**  
Staff Reporter



### Puget Sound Blood Center

The upcoming blood drive at Highline is a way for students to give back without going broke.

“Donating blood is a way you can help people that costs nothing but an hour of your time,” said Nikki Watkinson, a donor representative at the Puget Sound Blood Center.

“We need 900 pints of blood each day in order to meet the needs of the area,” said Watkinson.

The Puget Sound Blood Center supplies blood to 70 hospitals all across western Washington, including Harborview and Seattle Children’s Hospital, said Watkinson.

The most desired blood type is O negative, as it is the universal donor. Anyone can receive O negative, said Watkinson.

However anyone who weighs at least 110 pounds, is in good health, and is at least 16 can donate blood, she said.

If you are under 18 and it is your first time donating you will need a parental consent form. Consent forms are available on the Puget Sound Blood Center website [www.psbcc.org](http://www.psbcc.org),

said Watkinson.

If you have any questions about your eligibility for donation you can call the Puget Sound Blood Center at 1-800-398-7888.

Students shouldn’t be worried about it hurting to donate.

“Our phlebotomists are trained through the blood center,” said Watkinson. “It’s a safe and painless process.”

The blood drive will be on Wednesday, April 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Mt. Constance and Mt. Olympus rooms of the Student Union building.

Walk-in donors are welcome around any scheduled appointments. You can schedule an appointment on the Puget Sound Blood Center website.

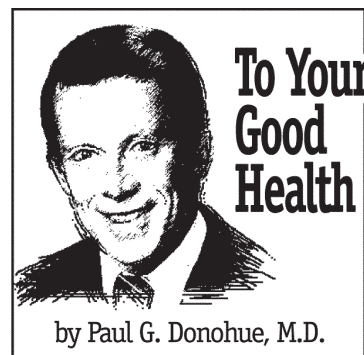
“Students can help either save or drastically improve the life of three people with one donation,” said Watkinson.

## Not all chest pain comes from the heart

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** I am a 38-year-old woman who has a very stressful job. It is also very well-paying, so I don’t want to give it up. I think it might be giving me chest pain. The pain comes and goes unpredictably. Sometimes I am just sitting at my desk, and I get a squeezing sensation in my chest. At other times, I had been hurrying around.

I have had several EKGs, been examined by three doctors, had a stress test and a radioactive stress test. The doctors say my heart is healthy, and the chest pain could come from stress. In speaking with people I trust, I have been told to have a heart catheterization. What do you think? -- **P.A.**

**ANSWER:** None of your three doctors told you that. Don’t you think they might know more than your friends? You have to be guided by advice given to you by those who have had experience in assessing people’s complaints. There’s no pattern to your chest pain. Heart pain, in contrast, causes chest pain when a person is physically active. That pain goes when the



by Paul G. Donohue, M.D.

person rests. Your kind of pain is not suggestive of a heart disorder.

Your doctors have told you that your heart is healthy. You have had EKGs, stress tests and even a radioactive stress test. Those tests would have disclosed a heart problem if you had one.

Furthermore, you are only 38 years old -- not an age for heart problems to occur. You mention no family history of heart trouble at early ages.

With a catheterization, a thin, pliable tube is inched from a groin blood vessel to the site where the heart arteries are found. There, dye is injected so doctors can visualize the health of heart arteries. The doctors can spot any obstructions, like

cholesterol buildup, in those arteries. It’s an amazing test. However, complications can arise from any procedure that invades the body. When the detection of heart disease can be accomplished in no other way, information from a catheterization is justified. In your case, it’s not.

Stress is the most likely cause of your chest pain.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** I’ve been talked into donating blood. My hangup is that I have a fitness program that I religiously adhere to. The thought of an extended rest bothers me. How long do you have to spend recuperating after donating blood? -- **A.A.**

**ANSWER:** You’re not facing an extended recuperation after donating blood. One day is enough. That sounds like too little time, but it’s sufficient. You won’t notice it.

It takes a full month for your blood count to return to what it was before you donated. That slight dip in your blood count isn’t going to affect your exercise performance unless you are into marathon training.

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10:00am-2:00pm

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For more information about this class contact:

Jodi White at (206) 592-6085 or [jwhite@highline.edu](mailto:jwhite@highline.edu)



# Bad study habits won't help you pass finals

Sleep, study  
and take  
regular breaks

By **GABI PAULSON**  
Staff Reporter

Reagan Keller has a regular routine for finals week.

"I usually cut out food during finals week. I feel like it helps me focus," he said.

"Study late at night between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. I think those work best for everyone," Keller added with a smile.

Others know what doesn't work for them, like Sydney Trussler.

"I don't study in bed, I found that it doesn't work because it makes me fall asleep," said Trussler.

Another student, Maryon Koval, has advice for studying.

"Don't over-study," he said. "I think the problem is that people study too much, like studying irrelevant things."

"Get lots of sleep," said Ken-draw Brown. "Set aside time for study and eat a good breakfast. I usually have a piece of toast with peanut butter and strawberry yogurt."

Many students try out different methods of preparation to try and find what really works, but it isn't always easy.

Whatever the advice, now it's crunch time. Finals week is coming for you.

Highline psychology Professor Ruth Frickle has some tips on how to make it through alive.

It starts with sleep.

"It seems to me that the reality is that you're not using good sleep hygiene," said Frickle, chairwoman of the Social Sciences Division. "The things you should be doing, but most people aren't."

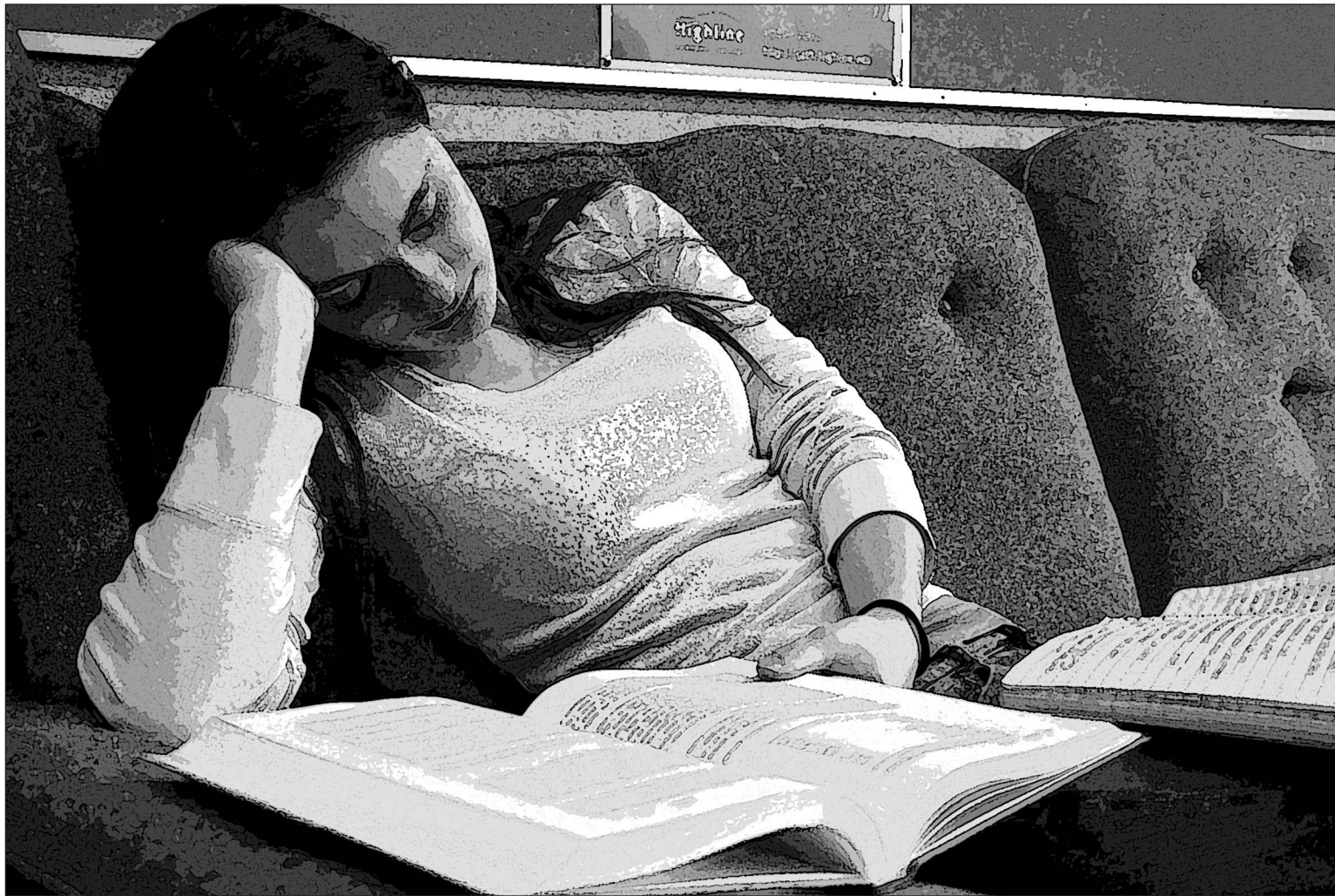
Good sleep hygiene includes going to bed at the same time every night, sleeping in a room that isn't too warm, sleeping in a dark room and in a room with no computers or TVs.

This allows for physical restoration, for up-keep of the immune system, and, said Frickle, "not falling asleep in the middle of the afternoon."

Fortunately, even if you don't practice good sleeping habits on a regular basis, "if you get a little more sleep than usual [for finals]," she said, "then that should help."

But if that's not an option either because of your schedule, the professor does have a better way to go about exchanging sleep for study.

"If you're going to short-change yourself," said Frickle, "get up early rather than stay up



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

*Sleep late, study early, says Professor Ruth Frickle. Staying up late will just leave you more tired with less retention.*

late to study."

That way when you start in on a study session, you haven't already been up for an entire day.

"If you're restored," she said, "then you can focus, then you can put two and two together, and you're more efficient."

Not everyone likes to get up early in the morning; they might feel like they can't work. Instead they stay up late, often using energy drinks to keep their eyelids open.

Don't do this, said Frickle.

"If you drink things to keep yourself awake, that will disrupt the few hours you do get," she said.

The deal is that you are already cutting short your sleep. Energy drinks or coffee have effects so that even when you do get to sleep after late night studying, it isn't as restful or beneficial, said Frickle.

"Cut yourself off [from caffeine] in the early evening," she said. "You'd probably get as much study out of that shorter [early morning] study period than that longer stay-up late period."

The reason is that sleep is vital to memory.

"It's better to go to bed," said Frickle. "You'll be able to focus better and retain better."

In short, save caffeine for the morning, and "if you have trouble getting up, put your alarm clock across the room," she said.

Now for study in general, the first item to keep in mind is distributed practice, said Frickle.

Distributed practice is when you study something repeatedly over time so that you retain it better.

"You should start reviewing. Not a lot, but a little every day," she said.

Things like rereading chapter glossaries, skimming chapter summaries and rereading your notes are tools for review, said Frickle.

However, "staring at your notes, or the words on the page is not going to get it into your brain," she said. "You have to think about what you're learning."

"To kick it up a notch, you need to do more than reread," said Frickle. "Quiz yourself without your book or your notes open."

This means using study guides, or practice questions from the book. Answer them as if it was a real test, and then you can go back and check, she said.

Many like to use flashcards but, said Frickle, "go both directions."

"Be sure that you ask yourself: What's that related to? What are some examples of this?" she said. Through that, you remember better.

There are also guidelines for how long you should study.

"There's something called a retention curve," said Frickle. "If you study for too long in one session, you actually stop retaining information."

According to research, said Frickle, "after the 90-minute mark, it's much less likely that you'll hold onto that informa-

tion. It's not worth your time."

So the solution is that after you've been studying one subject for 90 minutes, switch to a different one.

But be careful of subjects that are too intertwined like sociology and psychology, said Frickle. If you need to, separate the two subjects by one that's very different, like math.

You can also help this by taking a solid 30-minute break between two related subjects, or at least a long enough break to switch your brain to another activity, she said.

This means you can also study one subject for 90 minutes, take a sufficiently distracting break, and then go back to studying that same subject.

But that doesn't mean that you should study for 90 minutes straight.

"Take breaks every 15 to 20 minutes within the 90 minutes," said Frickle, "enough to

get yourself some refreshment mentally."

You can do things like get up and move around, eat a healthy snack, or text a friend back.

The important thing is to save distracting things like that for your break, she said.

So avoid multi-tasking like texting while studying, and also listening to music.

"Your study situation should be as much like your test situation as possible," said Frickle.

This is because when memories are formed, other things that were going on at the same time get connected with those memories.

Therefore, if you do not have that same input when trying to remember the information, it can actually make it harder to recall, she said.

"Even stuff you don't feel is distracting can be disrupting that process [of retaining information]," said Frickle.

"Your study situation should be as much like your test situation as possible."

— **Ruth Frickle,**  
**Highline**  
**psychology professor**





## A good breakfast can fuel your mind for exams

By **ANDREA ASTELL**  
Staff Reporter

With finals just around the corner one of the most helpful things you can do to help your body during this stressful time is to eat healthy.

Eating healthy, especially during finals week, will keep you alert, energized, and some foods have even been proven to stimulate memory function, experts say.

"A lot of college students will fill up on caffeine and fast food because it's easy and it keeps them awake, this is actually the exact opposite of what you want to do to your body," said local dietitian Erika Winney.

"Lots of fruit and vegetables—these are one of the best snack foods for studying," said Winney.

Fruits and vegetables are high in antioxidants, which stimulate neurotransmitters in the brain. This means you will be thinking faster and your brain will be able to process information quicker.

So when you're in the library instead of snacking on a candy bar from the vending machine,



*Plenty of water and the right food can help you through finals.*

bring an apple instead.

"You want to try and get two food groups in when you're

snacking, this will balance the nutrients and keep your blood-sugar stable," said Winney, who

practices in Tacoma.

Some ideas for good snack foods: A banana with peanut butter, a small baked potato with cottage cheese, or celery with cream cheese.

Stabilizing your diet while studying isn't the only healthy aspect to eating right during finals. Making sure to fill your stomach before your exam is a critical part in eating right for finals.

Since most students exams are in the morning, a balanced breakfast is the best recommendation.

"When you eat first thing in the morning this gets your metabolism going and stimulates nerve reactors in your brain to promote more brain activity," Winney shared.

Starting your day with a balanced diet of fruits/vegetables, protein, and carbohydrates will satisfy your stomach as well as get your brain activity going.

Some ideas for a balanced breakfast diet could include scrambled eggs (protein), apple slices or a small bowl of strawberries (fruits and vegetables), and two slices of whole wheat toast (carbohydrates).

The last, and probably the most important tip for nourishing your body during finals is to stay hydrated.

"Without water, not only your brain, but your body can't function," Winney said. "Drinking plenty of water the best thing you can do to help your body during finals."

In order to function properly, the human body requires eight cups of water daily.

"While studying for finals students should go from eight cups of water to 10 because students get dehydrated from all the extra caffeine intake at this time," Winney said.

Although eating healthy won't give you the answers to your finals, it will certainly help you to stay awake, active, and energized.

If you would like more information or ideas for healthy study meals, go to: [www.start-cooking.com](http://www.start-cooking.com)

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# Sakura-Con animates Seattle area

By KALEY ISHMAEL  
Staff Reporter

Brace yourself, the cosplayers are coming.

On April 6 through the 8 Seattle will be holding the 15th annual Sakura-Con.

Originally known as Baka!-Con, Sakura-Con is an anime/manga convention that is held at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center, where it has been held since 2006.

The Washington State Convention and Trade Center is located 800 Convention Place, Seattle.

On April 6 and 7 the convention will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., however the convention will only be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 8.

Sakura-Con got its start from a number of anime fans felt that they were not represented at conventions such as Norwescon.

Anime, which is short for animation, is a distinctive art style from Japan. The style we are used to seeing was developed in the 1960's, and became known outside of Japan in the 1980's with Osamu Tezuka's Astro Boy.

Manga follows the same art style as anime does, but is simply in a printed format. Much like the graphic novels of western culture, the themes for manga can range from child friendly themes to themes only suitable for adults.

In 2000, the name of the convention was officially changed from Baka!-Con to Sakura-Con.

With a number of events, one of the most recognizable features of the convention is the vast number of people who show up in costumes of their favorite characters from various animes and video games.

Aiolas, a student who has attended Sakura-Con before, said he really enjoyed seeing everyone in costume and said he might go as Sailor Jupiter from Sailor Moon as she is his favorite Sailor Scout.

The cosplay, short for costume play, has become an integral part of the convention as many of the events center around cosplay. One of the events to center around cosplay, is the Cosplay Chess. This event involves a number of guests who have been selected to play out a game of chess.

The twist is, they are the pieces. The players will take on the roles they have been assigned and play out a game of chess. When two pieces meet on the chessboard, they must battle and the winner remains in play. And the must battle in a way that represents the character



SAKURA-CON

Every year at Sakura-Con there are many performances and shows put on.

they are dressed as.

Austin, who didn't partake in any of the events last year stood back and watched the show. "It was just hilarious to watch," he said, "Especially the evening round."

Cosplay is also encouraged for the masquerade ball, so long as it meets the requirements for the semi-formal dress code. The ball will take place on Friday night and will start with a quick dance lesson before the ball.

If a formal dance isn't to your style, there will also a rave held on Friday night.

While cosplay is an important part of the convention, there is much more going on.

Sakura-Con also has special rooms for gaming, known as the Wired Rooms. The rooms feature not only console games;

but table top, arcade, PC LAN gaming and RPG games as well.

There will also be performances, including some from Highline students.

Mike Bohonic, who hasn't been to Sakura-Con before, said he will be attending this year with the Yamato Taiko club and performing with them.

There will also be musical performances by Stereopony, Kanon Wakeshima, and Moï dix Mois.

You could also be one of the musical guests at Sakura-Con with the karaoke contest. If you wish to participate you must submit your application online at <http://www.sakuracon.org> by April 1.

Along with the musical guests, a number of media guests will be present as well.

The guests will include voice actors such as Steve Blum and Leah Clark, artists such as Ret-su Tateo and Yutaka Minowa and even fashion designers Fumiko Kawamura and Yuko Ashizawa.

If you are looking for a slightly quieter area to spend your time, there will also be a manga library at the convention.

The library will be open throughout the convention, and will have manga for all ages.

There is a \$60 registration fee that will cover all three days of the convention. If you are under the age of 18, you will need to be accompanied by an adult who is also a registered member. Unfortunately, individual day passes will not be offered this year.



•This Friday, March 16, Tommy Kim's weekly movie event will be *Johnny English: Reborn*. The film is the story of famous comedic spy, Johnny English played by actor Rowan Atkinson. The film will begin at 12:30 p.m. in Building 29 room 104. The event is free and anyone is welcome to attend. Bring popcorn, blankets, and friends.

•Arts Alive presents the Harmonica Pocket's *Get Loose with Dr. Seuss* this Saturday March 17. The books of Dr. Seuss are turned into family fun music including timeless classica like *The Cat in the Hat*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, *The Lorax*, and *Horton Hears a Who*. The event will be at 10:30 a.m. at the Des Moines Activity Center at 2045 S. 216 St. in Des Moines. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door. For more information visit [www.desmoinesartscommission.com](http://www.desmoinesartscommission.com).

• 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.seattle-center.com/teentix](http://www.seattle-center.com/teentix). For ticket information and showtimes call 206-443-2222 or visit, [www.seattlerep.org](http://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 as well as students. To purchase tickets or for more information visit [www.rainieryouthchoirs.org](http://www.rainieryouthchoirs.org) or call 253-347-0180.

## Puzzle answers:

### LEFT OF CENTER

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

### Even Exchange

answers

- Swamp, Stamp
- Pickle, Fickle
- Topic, Tonic
- Ransom, Random
- Banker, Barker
- Smock, Shock
- River, Rivet
- Garnet, Garret
- Berry, Barry
- Yearn, Learn

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



# Gallery hosts Zimbabwe art to raise awareness

By **COREY SUN**  
Staff Reporter

Art could not only be made for appreciation, but also help people and bring awareness to the community.

Artwork from Zimbabwe Artists, which will be shown in the library gallery from the beginning of April to the end of May, is a good example.

Zimbabwe Artists Project (ZAP) is a non-profit organization that focuses on helping women from Weya, which is a small town in Zimbabwe, Africa, to become economically self-sufficient by selling their art work in the U.S. because of the limited market in their own community.

"Most of the men in the village went to the cities, and women stayed in their village," said Dana Rollins, who is the current facilitator for the exhibit's committee of the library gallery. "They are natural artists. They do painting on fiber and on wood, greeting cards, and all the kinds of cool stuff. [Their work is] very colorful," Rollins said.

The ZAP project was founded by Dick Adams in 1999, who is a sociology professor at Lewis and Clark College in Portland. After Adams led students to Zimbabwe several times, the host mothers/sisters for the students asked him to find a market in the U.S. in order to sell their art.

"This project was formed in 1999. Since then, they had been back and forth, brought supplies and arts," Rollins said, "They help them with housing, medicine, and the AIDS crisis, and all these economic needs are fulfilled by this project."

ZAP not only helps Weya people economically, but also gives them feedback on their artwork. They also have workshops to improve their artistic skills.

Rollins also said the gallery had them before, and it was wildly successful.

"Somebody used to work here told me about the project. She recommended getting in touch with him [Adams]. He is a really nice guy and friendly," Rollins said. "A pack of greeting card is only ten dollars. All



Art from Zimbabwe, such as the one above, will be featured in the library gallery.

of their art sells well."

Most shows that the gallery had in the past were from local artists.

Rollins said Portland is the farthest they ever had reached.

"It has been brought a lot of awareness to the community. Most artists we had were from the local community," Rollins

said. "For this time, it will help the village."

On the other hand, after the modification of library, Highline will have a smaller gallery at the main floor to bring more awareness and reflect the campus events, such as Black History Month and "something just unique to campus" Rollins said.

The Zimbabwe show will start at the beginning of April at the fourth floor of the library. All the art work there will for sale. All the money will go benefit the artists in Zimbabwe.

For more information about Zimbabwe Artists Project, view their website at [zimbabweartist-project.org](http://zimbabweartist-project.org).

## Highline music professor's dream too big for small town

By **ABIGAIL DAMBACHER**  
Staff Reporter

Dr. Sandra Glover, the director of Highline's vocal programs who has toured across the world, started out in small town America.

"I grew up in the rural side of rural Montana, on a farm," said Dr. Glover.

"I wanted to play the piano when I was 4 and I always begged to go to my neighbor's house and play. We didn't get a piano until I was 17."

Dr. Glover, who also worked on her dad's farm, had to take up an extra job to pay for piano lessons. She said she was terrified of being trapped there.

Pacific Lutheran University was her only choice for college, and though she entered with a voice scholarship, she worked full-time to pay for her education.

Dr. Glover received her master's degree in vocal performance and opera directing and production at the University of Washington, also finishing her doctorate in vocal pedagogy—the art and science of teaching voice.

"My vision or mission in life was to serve others in a unique and productive way," she said.

Dr. Glover has toured ex-



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Sandra Glover has taught at Highline for 13 years and is currently the director of Highline's vocal programs.

tensively with different groups in both the United States and Europe, where she went for the first time as a soloist when she was 19.

"I am functional in German, French, Italian, and some Spanish, because I use the lyric diction of those daily to teach my students who are learning songs in foreign languages," said Dr. Glover.

She's been at Highline for 13 years now, and said her favorite

part of teaching is "Watching new singers take flight."

Kristin Remets, a private voice student, said of Dr. Glover, "She's a really great voice teacher. She's actually studied the speech aspect of singing so she teaches that as well—she knows all about the throat."

Dr. Glover currently has students preparing for major performances in cities such as New York and San Francisco.

## Chorale Club in search of Highline's singers

By **BARBARA CAWLEY**  
Staff Reporter

The Chorale club is looking for people who sing from the heart.

"It's a club for anyone who loves to sing," said club president Madison Fortney.

The club is for people of all musical tastes.

"We sing anything we want," said Fortney. "We're open to any music."

One of the club members, Kourtney Fullmer, accompanies the singers on piano, she said.

"Chorale Club is a club where people get the chance to sing whatever they want, instead of the classical stuff that Dr. Glover picks for Chorale," said Fortney.

"Dr. Glover doesn't do anything with the club, it's run by students."

While it isn't a new club, it is new to Fortney.

"It was actually going on for a while before I got here," she said. "I just took it over because I think it's a fun club."

This quarter has been hard on the Chorale Club.

"We had less numbers this quarter but we still managed to have a few meetings," said Fortney.

"The snow caused a lot of

problems too," she said.

"There was even a period of time when we weren't sure if the club could continue due to some confusion with Student Programs."

The club has big plans for next quarter.

"Next quarter we're tentatively planning a campus wide talent show," said Fortney. "It all depends on how many people will join."

The club offers an opportunity for students who cannot join Chorale.

Some students can't join Chorale because it's actually a class.

Some students can't afford to take it or don't have the time, but they can still join Chorale Club, said Fortney.

The club does not have their meetings scheduled for next quarter yet, said Fortney.

For more information on the club, the plans for the talent show or to find out the new meeting time you can email Fortney at [mkfortney@students.highline.edu](mailto:mkfortney@students.highline.edu)

The Chorale Club is always looking for new members and any Highline student is welcome to join.

"Basically we want to be a group of people who love to sing," she said. "You don't even have to be good at it."



# Students stage One Night Stand

By **BARBARA CAWLEY**  
Staff Reporter

Highline students are improvising their way into an entertaining evening.

Students in Debra Pralle's improv class will be performing in two showcases next week.

"The evening will consist of a series of fun games with audience participation," said Pralle.

The first showcase, called "One Night Stand," is on Monday, March 19.

The show will be a combination of both the beginning improv students and the advanced students.

Pralle will be introducing and explaining the games for the audience.

On Tuesday, March 20, the advanced students, also known as the "Nocturnal Misfits," will have their own show, hosted by student Jake McCauley.

"I'm really excited about it," said Pralle.

"The students have shown great progress and wit."

Pralle says she has high hopes for the shows and hopes this year is as successful as last



Erika Wigren/THUNDERWORD

Highline improv students, Isaac Peabody (left), Taylor Hook, and Jake McCauley create character Captain Hook with Peabody as the hook, Hook as Captain Hook, and McCauley as the eyepatch.

year.

"Last year's show was sold out and was really successful," said Pralle.

"We expect the same this year," she said.

Both shows begin at 7:30 p.m. in Building 4, room 122. The house will open at 7 p.m.

Both shows are free and anyone is welcome to attend the shows.

Pralle said the shows are a good way to relax during a busy week.

"It's a great way to distract yourself from finals," said Pralle. "It'll be loads of fun."

## Auditions continue for Spring play

By **BARBARA CAWLEY**  
Staff Reporter

Auditions are this week for Highline Drama Department's Spring Quarter show.

The auditions began yesterday and continue today for *LIVE! From The Last Night of My Life*, by Walter Rawley.

Sign-up sheets for the auditions have been posted on the doors of the theater in Building 4 and are now almost full of names.

Students can perform a contemporary monologue or participate in some readings from the script.

"If people want to come by and audition but they missed the original days they can come in on Friday [1-4 p.m.] for callbacks and we can try to work something out," said Debra Pralle who will be directing the show.

Auditions continue today from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Building 4, room 122.

# Spotlight shines on Northwest composers

By **ABIGAIL DAMBACHER**  
Staff Reporter

The Northwest Symphony Orchestra's "Spotlight on the Orchestra" performance will feature music by local composers and flute soloist Merrie Siegel.

The show will also include the world premiere of Huntley Beyer's composition, *Creatures of the Scale*.

The Northwest Symphony Orchestra, located in the SeaTac area, was founded in 1987 and in April 2012 will have performed 125 works by Northwest composers since its beginning.

In its show on Saturday, March 17 at 8 p.m. at the Holy Rosary Church in Seattle, the symphony will begin by performing Huntley Beyer's *Creature of the Scale*.

Beyer received his doctorate in composition from the University of Washington and a master of arts in theological studies from Claremont School of Theology.

He has written four symphonies, an Easter cantata, an opera, three flute sonatas, and a St. Mark Passion, a piece of music that covers the passion of Jesus in the events preceding his death.

Next, the symphony will play *Flute Concerto*, a piece composed by Gloria Swisher.

Swisher was born in Seattle and received her bachelor in music at the University of Washington and her Ph.D. at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. She has taught at several universities in Washington and is a founding member of Ars Nova Press, a non-profit organization that promotes and reprints the work of composers.

Swisher has two musicals, three operas, settings of the Service of Holy Communion and choir anthems for church services under her belt.

Swisher's *Flute Concerto* premiered in 2004 by Felix Skowronek, the late flute professor at the University of Washington with the accompaniment of the college's University Symphony Orchestra.

The piece will include Merrie Siegel, the symphony's principal flute, as a soloist.

"Merrie Siegel is a joy, so enthusiastic, and a brilliant performer who has taken pains with preparations," said Swisher.

Siegel grew up in Philadelphia and began playing the flute when she was nine; she recently became a resident of the Pacific Northwest. She said she loves the orchestral literature of the Northwest Symphony Orchestra, and is looking forward to performing *Flute Concerto*.



NORTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Northwest Symphony Orchestra performs at Benyora Hall last year.

"This is a three movement work. It is written for strings and one [of] each of the following: oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, percussion and harp," she said.

"It is lushly orchestrated, in a neo-romantic style and quite melodic. It also has hints of polytonality; that is to say that sometime[s] there are two keys or contrasting harmonies happening at the same time."

Following *Flute Concerto*, *A Tall Tale* by composer Nathan Johnson will be performed by

students from Madison Middle School and the Westside Symphonette.

Johnson said he had already been playing and writing music for years, but upon graduating high school he decided he wanted to be a composer. He received his bachelor and master's degrees in music composition from California State University and Biola University, where he said he studied "with some really fantastic composers."

"They all encouraged me in my pursuit of music, and this

helped to solidify my desire to be [a] composer," he said.

Johnson said the process for composing varies for each piece of music, but generally he asks himself who will be playing it, who will be listening to it, and what is the purpose of the music.

"For *A Tall Tale* I decided that it should tell a story, much the way that a soundtrack musically tells the story of a movie."

Johnson said the Northwest Symphony is very important in the musical world of the Northwest, where people tend to view "modern classical music" in a negative light. The Northwest Symphony, he said, is different.

"They are not afraid of classical music, and they love to play it and share it with their audiences. As a composer, I am indebted to them."

After *A Tall Tale*, *Symphony No. 4* by 19th century composer Johannes Brahms will be performed.

Tickets range from \$10-\$14 and can be bought at brownpapertickets.com or at 800-383-3006.

Complimentary tickets are available to local school music programs; teachers can call the orchestra office at 206-242-6321.

The Holy Rosary Church is located 4142 42nd Ave. SW Seattle.



# Aspiring singer follows dreams against odds

By JEMIMAH KAMAU  
Staff Reporter

Hritey Werede wants to become a singer, but her culture doesn't allow women to become one.

"It is not legal for women to do music in Saudi Arabia," Werede said.

But Werede wants to pursue her passion of becoming a singer.

"I am not afraid of what people might say, even if it's against my culture," Werede said.

Werede is a student at Highline.

Her parents are from Eritrea, but she was born and brought up in Saudi Arabia.

"Women in Saudi Arabia are expected to be submissive, listen to their parents, brothers and their husbands and pretend they know nothing," Werede said.

"But that doesn't stop me, be it from my family members or friends," she added.

"I sing to express my emotions. I sing in the shower and whenever I walk," she said. "I feel like singing relieves my stress. It makes me feel like I'm floating in the sky."

Werede said that she is inspired by great artists, Alicia Keys being one of them.

"Alicia Keys inspires me. One of my favorite songs is *Super Woman* by Alicia Keys. I like her voice. Her voice is natural, deep and soulful. She doesn't copy anyone and she is



Hritey Werede is a Highline student who aspires to be a singer.

herself," she said.

Werede said she has plans for her life and she wants to attain her goals.

She is working toward her associates of science degree in engineering at Highline, as she works on her passion of becoming a singer.

But it hasn't been easy for Werede, since no one has been supporting her to do music, she said.

"When I was in Saudi Arabia, I only took music as a hobby because no one supported me," she said.

But this is due to the cultural practices and beliefs she was

brought up in.

"In Saudi Arabia, it's prohibited for ladies to become singers. In my culture, if you (female) are a singer, people don't respect you much because they think it would be hard for you to make a family. Men don't want to see women on international T.V.," she said.

Women in Saudi Arabia are also not allowed to drive themselves. They either ask their fathers, brothers and husbands to drive them wherever they want to go, said Werede.

Moreover, parents arrange their daughters' marriage, a thing Werede doesn't really

agree with.

When she was in Saudi Arabia, Werede went to an international school where she met a lot of new people.

"I met people from different countries and I got a chance to learn different cultures," said Werede.

Sharing ideas with people from different parts of the world could have contributed to the shaping of Werede's behavior and beliefs.

Werede has another reason as to why she is the person she is today.

Her name means "freedom" and "the chosen one."

"I don't know if I was born this way or if it's the name that makes me to be the way I am today," she said.

"Everyone calls me Freedom. Freedom describes my personality and it shows people how my personality and name interrelates," she said.

Werede got this name from her parents and according to her culture, kids are given names which have certain meaning.

"I was born two weeks after my country (Eritrea) gained its independence from Ethiopians. Gaining freedom was an important thing for my parents and that's why they called me Freedom," she said.

Werede came to United States last year and she found a different culture and beliefs.

"Coming to U.S., I am considered old fashion or some-

body not living in 21st century because there are some things that I don't do which don't agree with my culture. Compared to Americans, I am more reserved but compared to people who live in Saudi Arabia, I am free," Werede said.

"I am free because I treat people equally, whether a girl or a boy," she said.

"I'm not scared to give my opinions, be it political, personal or economical," she added.

Despite the differences in the culture, Werede made up her mind to try her luck in music.

"When I came here (United States) I realized that I can actually follow my dream of singing," she said. "In America, it's not wrong or illegal (for women) to sing. That's why I decided that I should start singing so that I can be known and see how people will respond to it. From there, I will be able to decide whether to go on with it or not."

Werede said that she wants to participate in *American Idol* or *The X-Factor* once she is done with her bachelor's degree.

But before then, she would like to perform in small shows, in school, or in the community where she lives.

Werede is motivated to explore her capability in music, despite the many challenges she might be facing.

"When your dream is really strong, nothing should stop you," she said.

# Centerstage Theatre relives life of famous singer

By ABIGAIL DAMBACHER  
Staff Reporter

Presented this month by the Centerstage Theatre in Federal Way, *Tenderly* is a show that brings to life the music and career of Rosemary Clooney, a famous singer who experienced depression, drug addiction, and a mental breakdown.

With a live eight-piece band, *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Songbook* will feature 58 songs that the late Clooney recorded during her career including *Come On-a My House*, *I'll Be Seeing You*, and *Tenderly*.

David Duvall, the director, musical director, and writer of *Tenderly*, said the show "closely resembles a Las Vegas or Atlantic City nightclub act of the late '50s and early '60s."

Laurie Clothier and Katherine Strohmaier will share the stage for the show, though neither of them will portray Rosemary Clooney, said Duvall.

"It's sort of a hybrid of several performance styles, but is

primarily a tribute concert," he said.

"We also tell the story of her life, including marriages and affairs, her addiction to sleeping pills, her nervous breakdown and hospitalization and her courageous climb back to a legendary place in the entertainment world."

Rosemary Clooney, the aunt of actor George Clooney, was born in Maysville, Ky. in 1928 and rose out of poverty to become a nationally acclaimed singer and actress.

When Clooney turned 21, she moved to New York to do a recording session with Columbia Records. Her recording of *Come On-a My House*, became an instant hit and made her famous throughout the country.

Clooney starred in movies such as *White Christmas*, co-hosted a radio show with vocalist Bing Crosby, and in 1953 eloped with Jose Ferrer. Clooney and Ferrer had five children together.

In the midst of her family

life and career, Clooney became addicted to tranquilizers and sleeping pills. Clooney and Ferrer divorced in 1967, and one year later, Clooney witnessed the assassination of her close friend and presidential candidate Robert Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

Clooney had a public mental collapse, and after a series of incidents admitted herself to the psychiatric ward of the Mount Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. She remained in therapy for several years, and in 1976 made her career comeback with Bing Crosby, who had invited her to join him on his 50th anniversary tour.

Clooney signed a record contract with Concord Jazz and continued to sing throughout her life, receiving the Grammy's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002.

Clooney died in 2002 from lung cancer and was buried in her hometown of Maysville. Her nephew, actor George Clooney,



CENTERSTAGE THEATRE

*Tenderly* is the story of famous singer Rosemary Clooney.

was a pallbearer at her funeral.

*Tenderly* will be performed at the Knutzen Family Theatre from March 16 to April 1. The performances are on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Knutzen Family Theatre is located at 3200 SW Dash Point

Road in Federal Way.

Tickets range from \$12.50-\$27.50. Tickets can be purchased at 253-661-1444, or online at centerstagesetheatre.com.

A special offer is available for Saturday, March 17, with four tickets for the price of three.



By JOSH NELSON  
Staff Reporter

# THE GEEKS SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH

Fans of all sorts take over Seattle at Emerald City Comic-Con

Super heroes that can't fly. Lines stretching around corners for signatures and photographs. Partitioned speech halls, reserved for celebrities and artists to answer a captivated audience's questions.

And of course, miles of cardboard boxes filled with comic books.

The 10th annual Emerald City Comic Convention (Comic-Con) will be held at the Washington State Convention Center on March 30, 31, and April 1.

During that last weekend in March, the Washington State Convention Center will become Mecca for the Northwest geek nation. Thousands of them will be making their pilgrimage to Seattle.

As per usual there are a multitude of celebrities are scheduled to appear over the course of the three days.

George Takei, known for his role as Hikaru Sulu on *Star Trek*, along with being very popular among the social media crowds, will be there for pictures and autographs on Saturday and Sunday.

Takei will be joined by Oliver and James Phelps, most known for their roles as the Weasley Twins in the *Harry Potter* movie series.

Also appearing will be Edward James Olmos and Katee Sackhoff, both stars from the hit Syfy series *Battlestar: Galactica*.

This year is a special one for Comic-Con, being the 10th anniversary. As such there will be more voice talents featured this year than any other year.

Billy West and John DiMaggio, the voices behind Philip J.



Josh Nelson/THUNDERWORD

Fans dress up as Star Wars characters at last year's Emerald City Comic-Con.

Fry and Bender from the *Futurama* series, will make an appearance. They will be accompanied by Kevin Conroy, the man behind the cowl of *Batman: the Animated Series*, as well as many of the recent DC animated movies featuring the caped crusader.

Moving past the film and

television stardom, Comic-Con hosts a myriad of artists and writers in the area affectionately known as "Artist Alley."

Not only will Marvel and DC Comics present artists and writers from their respective industries, but con-goers will also have access to a multitude of independent artists from the comic and webcomic worlds.

This is a chance to support people trying make a breakthrough into comic books.

During the three days the convention will take place, there are more than six halls reserved for panels which will be conducted by various parties attending the convention.

For example, on Friday at 4 p.m., DC will hold an all-access panel, where the audience will be allowed unrestricted access to the editors at DC Comics. They will answer any and all questions without giving too much away.

Saturday evening, the committee responsible for organizing the convention and a select few others will judge the annual costume contest.

There will be five categories cosplayers can enter: comics (Marvel, DC, General Canon), video game, original Sci-Fi/Fantasy (original creation), media Sci-Fi/Fantasy, or – the special category this year – Undead/Zombie.

Of course, what would a

comic convention be without the millions of comic books?

Shops and stores from all over the Northwest will congregate at the convention center, using this weekend to get rid of their excess stock, along with a few choice collector's items.

Paula Currey is one such exhibitor.

Currey, and her husband Barry, own Fantasiu Comics and Games in Federal Way. Having just purchased the store from the previous owner during the last year, this will be Currey's first convention under her shop's name.

"This year, we'll be selling comics and an assortment of table top and card games," said Currey. "My helper Meescha will also be selling some of her artwork and costumes. I also plan on selling my orange Jayne hats."

Currey said that as a retailer, Comic-Con is a chance for exposure among the collecting crowd.

"We are sort of in a corner by ourselves, down in Federal Way. I'll be trying to rope new customers in left and right," said Currey.

Although this is her first convention under her shop's name, Currey is no stranger to the happenings at ECCC.

"I prowl through Artist Alley whenever I get the chance, combing through the tables

looking for new talent," said Currey.

But the main focus of Currey's weekend will not be enjoyment, or the pleasure of a unique find on the convention floor.

"This will be a loooooong weekend of work, about 12 hours each day," said Currey. "Each day is set-up, the show, and then breakdown, it's plain exhausting."

As of now, Currey is counting on two other people working with her at her table, while Meescha Dare, her new hire and helper will mind Currey's store during Comic-Con.

"I am always grateful for our customers that come see us from Federal Way, and then there are the con regulars," said Currey. "These are people I'm only going to see at the convention, but I see them every year."

Currey wants to assure her regulars that she will be offering discounted trade paperbacks and graphic novels at her table. But as it stands now, she will not be offering any freebies or handouts.

"No swag," she said. "I know it's a bummer, but I have to make that money."

The fun doesn't end once the Convention Center doors close for the evening.

The Hard Rock Cafe in Seattle presents Krakle Fest on Friday March 30 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door and \$8 for pre-orders. The concert will feature Kirby Krakle, Seattle-born nerdcore rock band, Adam WarRock, and Marian Call.

Krakle Fest is a 21 and over event, and I.D. will be checked at the door.

Currey said she would definitely be attending this concert, "...even though it will be a late night, and an early morning the next day. My husband and all my friends are going so I really have no choice."

Ltd. Art Gallery on Pike St. will also be opening a comic inspired exhibit Friday evening, which will be on display until May 1.

Geeks need love too, new to the convention this year is Sci-Fi Speed Dating. A regular show on TLC, the cast and crew will be coming to Comic-Con.

Sessions will take place on Saturday at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Lastly, on Sunday, March 1 at 7 p.m. Kevin Smith and Jason Mewes will record their podcast, *Jay and Silent Bob Get Old*, in one of the panel rooms. General Admission tickets to sit-in on the recording are \$40 and \$85 for premium seating.

Tickets for Comic-Con are on still on sale. A three-day pass is \$45, Friday only is \$15, Saturday is \$25, and Sunday is \$20. You can visit any local comic shop, or go to [emeraldcitycomiccon.com](http://emeraldcitycomiccon.com).



Josh Nelson/THUNDERWORD

Paula Currey, co-owner of Fantasiu Comics and Games, puts on a brave face as she gears up for this year's convention.



# Softball captain knows how to juggle her life

Whitney Purvis returns to college, fastpitch, sets example for teammates

By **COREY SUN**  
Staff Reporter

College is not easy, especially for ambitious students.

However, it's even harder for 25-year-old student athlete Whitney Purvis when she has to manage time well to her job, family, school and the sport she loves.

Purvis is one of three captains of the women's softball team.

She has been playing softball for pretty much her whole life.

While practicing five days a week with the softball team, she is taking four classes at Highline, training her clients three days a week, working on weekends, and spending time with her fiancé.

"The team calls me grandma. I am different from these 18-year-old girls since I have a fiancé. I get up around 5:30, and start my day with exercising. I finish my day with dinner with my fiancé every day," Purvis said.

"School is the No.1 priority. I need to keep my grades up between 3.9 to 4.0. Last quarter, I finished with a 4.0."

Purvis is majoring in personal fitness training at Highline, and will get her certificate after this quarter.



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

*Sophomore captain Whitney Purvis shows her teammates hitting techniques during batting practice.*

"I want to finish my degree, and play softball at the same time. It's something I love,"

Purvis said. "I decided to come back and finish my dream of fastpitch. I have been playing

slow pitch for the last seven years. It's a hard transition, but it's going great."

Purvis said Highline's team will compete for the top spot in their division since they work hard and have their head coach for the whole season.

"Head Coach [Scott] Dillinger is good. He pushes us to hit our potential. It's good for us have him for the whole season. Last year, the girls only had him for half of the season," Purvis said. "We practice, five days a week, Monday through Friday, 1:30 to 4:30."

Purvis also said she wants to be a role model for the team, and work hard both on and off the field.

"As a captain, I like to be an example. I work hard when I practice," Purvis said. "Off the field, we have coaches and captains meetings. We work with the coaches such as how to practice better, what kind of fund raising we can do."

Because of their hard work on fund raising, the team gets a chance to travel to Arizona over spring break.

"I look forward to Arizona for couple reasons. We can play in the sun, which produces heat. And we could play some better CCs, and give us a push for the season," Purvis said.

Purvis wants to finish the season with a bang and make it to the NWAACC. This is also her expectation of her career in fast pitch before she heads back to play "old lady" softball, she said.

"I also want to finish this quarter again with a 4.0, and start my career at personal training and coaching athletes," Purvis said.

# Lady T-Birds dominate in their first live action

By **ANTHONY BERTOLUCCI**  
Staff Reporter

The women's softball team jump started their season with a win as they keep their eyes on making the playoffs at the end of the season.

The Lady T-Birds defeated the Edmonds Tritons on Saturday, March 10 with the score unavailable.

"The things we did well were knowing where to go if we got the ball. We hit our cut-offs. We played inning by inning," Keri Spafford said sophomore first baseman.

Sophomore capatin Whitney Purvis had a stand out game.

"One of the players that stood out was Whitney Purvis with her home-run and single. Also I think Riley Jewett-Chan had some nice at-bats with two doubles. Another person that I felt stood out was Dani Babcock, she was very aggressive on the bases," Spafford said.



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

*Whitney Purvis and Kathy Murdock watch their teammate Samantha Scott during tee work this week.*

The T-Birds travel to take on the Bellevue Bulldogs on Thursday, March 15 at 1 p.m.

as their game got rained out last Friday.

"I think we will just have to

play our game. The Edmonds game was a good practice game for us but we will have a good

battle with Bellevue I think," Spafford said.

Highline didn't have a chance to play the Bulldogs last year in the regular season.

Bellevue ended their season 38-3 last year, finishing first in the North Division and fourth in the NWAACC.

The next women's softball game will be home on Saturday and Sunday, March 24-25 10 a.m. against the Eastern Washington University Eagles.

During spring break the Lady T-Birds travel to Arizona to take on three power-houses Mesa, Scottsdale, and Glendale community colleges.

"I think we are ready for the spring break trip. We want to get out and actually play in some nice weather even though we did play but it was wet and cold. The trip will give us confidence as the day after we get back Saturday, March 30, we have our first league game," Spafford said.



# Cancer is nothing to a wrestling season

By **TRAE HARRISON**  
Staff Reporter

Former Highline heavy-weight David Lopez is attempting to overcome the odds and wrestle for a university next season.

He was diagnosed with bone cancer during his third year at Highline, and now that he's defeated cancer, he wants to advance to wrestling at a four year college.

"Right now I'm getting back into it," Lopez said. "I've already talked with the coaches at the University of Great Falls in Montana."

After two years of wrestling with Highline, Lopez returned in 2010 for a third year as an unattached wrestler to work on his game.

After wrestling in his first tournament, he started to notice weird feelings in his leg and a lot of back pain.

After visiting the chiropractor he experienced "excruciating" back pains.

"Sometimes I couldn't walk to the kitchen without having to lie down," said Lopez. "I went to the ER twice."

An MRI revealed a tumor that doctors originally thought was a slipped disc, and he went straight into treatment.

"I think I handled the treatment well," he said. "I was



Highline's David Lopez goes for a pin at the Mike Clock Open at Pacific University.

young and in shape."

He went through six rounds of chemotherapy spread out over a year, and then daily radiation treatments for an entire month.

He also went through surgery, but the doctors discovered during the surgery that the radiation had already eliminated the tumor.

"They basically opened me up for nothing," said Lopez.

When comparing the treatments to a wrestling season, Lopez said that a wrestling season was more difficult.

"The treatment was kind of easy," he said.

"They pretty much just pump stuff into you."

Lopez's faith also played a major factor in his ability to recover.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," Phillipians 4:13," he said.

He also gave credit to wrestling for preparing him for an excruciating experience.

"Wrestling provides mental

toughness," he said. "The season is very mentally straining."

In both of Lopez's seasons wrestling with Highline he managed to make it to nationals.

In his first season he was just a match away from becoming an Heavyweight All-American, and in the second season he overcame an injured knee to qualify for nationals.

"I was never an All-American," said Lopez.

"I was so close, that's what bugs me."

After getting off of chemotherapy Lopez didn't wait long to start getting back into shape.

Last year he would occasionally practice with the Thunderbirds.

"I'm still working out with them now," he said. "And I'm lucky to have a really good workout partner."

He's speaking of Roger McCovey, a two time heavyweight wrestler in California who red-shirted this year for the Thunderbirds.

"You're not gonna find a

better workout partner," Lopez said.

All the work is ultimately looking to pay off, as Lopez has a visit scheduled with the University of Great Falls in a couple months.

Lopez's dreams go beyond becoming an All-American and a university wrestler.

"I want to fight in the MMA [Mixed Marital Arts] and I also want to coach," said Lopez. "I want a degree too."

Lopez will be competing in a jujitsu tournament this weekend.

Most importantly, Lopez spoke of how he wants to be remembered and the significance of his recovery.

"No matter what happens to you, keep fighting," he said. "Don't let anything get you down."

## The Scoreboard

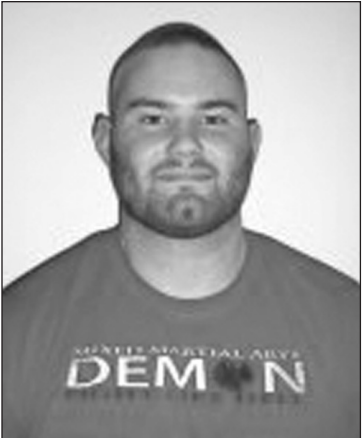
Softball				
Region	League	PCT	Streak	
NORTH				
Douglas	3-3	0.500	1L	
Bellevue	1-1	0.500	1W	
Shoreline	2-4	0.375	4L	
Olympic	1-2	0.333	1L	
Everett	1-9	0.100	9L	
Skagit	0-0	0.000	-	
Edmonds	0-0	0.000	-	

EAST				
Spokane	2-0	1.000	2W	
Walla Walla	5-1	0.833	1L	
Yakima	6-1	0.813	2W	
Wenatchee	8-3	0.727	1W	
Big Bend	5-4	0.556	4W	
Treasure	4-4	0.500	1L	
Blue Mtn.	5-4	0.556	4W	
Columbia	2-5	0.313	1W	

WEST				
Grays Harbor	1-3	0.250	3L	
Pierce	1-3	0.250	2L	
Centraila	0-2	0.000	2L	
Highline	0-0	0.000	-	
Puget Sound	0-0	0.000	-	
Green River	0-2	0.000	2L	

SOUTH				
SW Oregon	6-1	0.857	1L	
Clackamas	3-2	0.600	2W	
Clark	3-2	0.600	2W	
Mt.Hodd	4-3	0.571	1L	
Low. Columbia	3-5	0.375	2W	
Chemeketa	0-6	0.000	6L	

Scores				
Wenatchee	14,	Chandler	3	
Wenatchee	9,	Chandler	0	
SW Oregon	2,	NW Christian	4	
SW Oregon	3,	NW Christian	0	
SW Oregon	13,	Concordia	5	
Mt. Hood	12,	Col. Basin	15	
Mt. Hood	6,	Col. Basin	3	
Mt. Hood	3,	Walla Walla	4	
Spokane	9,	Shoreline	7	
Pierce	4,	Yakima	6	
Everett	0,	Ill. Central	9	
Chemeketa	1,	NW Christian	3	
Spokane	15,	Pierce	2	
Blue Mt.	0,	East Oregon	8	
SW Oregon	14,	Corban	0	



Highline alumni David Lopez

## Highline quiet with recruiting so far

By **JUSTIN SOLOMON**  
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team only has one recruit locked in for next year, but Head Coach Jason Prenovost is nowhere near done with bringing guys in.

The one recruit locked in for next year is Jimmy Oganga who currently plays for the Seattle Sounders U 17/18 academy.

"It's a number's game, even with that, some of those guys who are already locked in will still be recruited," said Prenovost. "That's why I don't just recruit one or two players, I prefer

to go for 10-15."

Coach Prenovost said that the hardest part about recruiting is seeing player's situations with other schools. "I have some verbal commitments, but that depends on their situations with other schools," said Prenovost, "but I have some guys that I strongly feel will be here next season."

"There's always a chance that a guy might learn a little more about a school and change their mind," said Prenovost. "If they come here, we will take care of them."

Prenovost said that it's really too early in the recruiting pro-

cess right now.

"A lot of guys we are going after right now are in limbo with their situations," said Prenovost. "If you give it a couple weeks or a month, there will be more certainty and progress."

"Some guys might even be coming in all through the summer," said Prenovost. "It's not unusual to be at the stage we're at now."

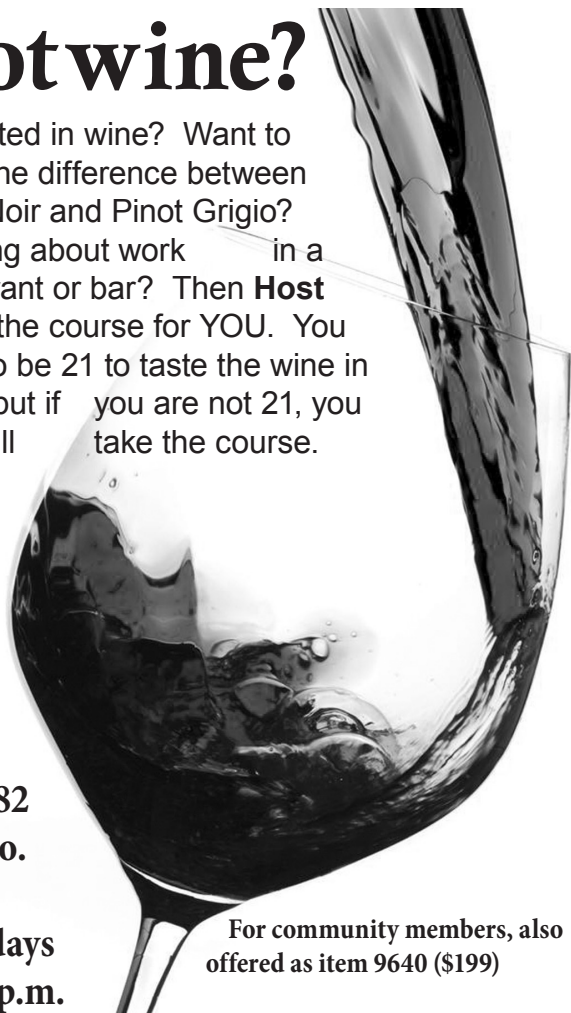
The men's soccer team had some good success last year going 14-2-3 in the regular season, before losing in the NWAACC playoffs. They are looking to improve next season which begins in the fall.

## Got wine?

Interested in wine? Want to know the difference between Pinot Noir and Pinot Grigio? Thinking about work in a restaurant or bar? Then **Host 282** is the course for YOU. You need to be 21 to taste the wine in class, but if you are not 21, you may still take the course.

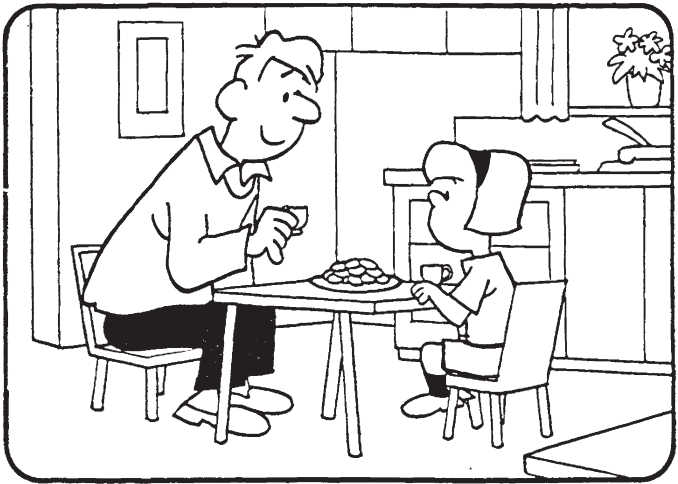
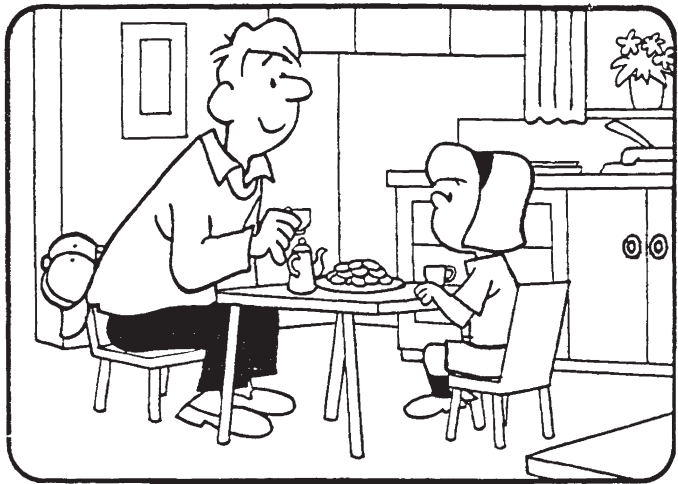
**Host 282**  
**Item No.**  
**2422**  
**Thursdays**  
**6-8:15 p.m.**

For community members, also offered as item 9640 (\$199)





HOCUS - FOCUS 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.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

4	7				1		3	
8				4			1	7
		9	7	6		8		
	9		5			1		2
		7		8	2		6	
5	8				6	4		
		1			9	3		8
	6		1	5				4
2		8	3					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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Left of Center

Across

- 1 Fruit part
- 5 Religious song
- 10 Poor box donation
- 14 China holder
- 15 Spokes
- 16 Steal a quick glance
- 17 Southpaw
- 19 A great distance
- 20 Delivered by 6 Down
- 21 Stout
- 23 Alias
- 24 E pluribus unum. e.g.
- 25 Grinders
- 29 "Just \_\_\_\_"
- 30 Obit word
- 33 Upright
- 34 Vladimir Horowitz forte
- 35 Wiretap
- 36 Falling out
- 37 A Royal player
- 38 Abe's First Lady
- 39 Precedes up and go
- 40 Lures
- 41 Fabled person
- 42 Tarzan portrayer Ron \_\_\_\_
- 43 Breezes through an exam
- 44 Most ailing
- 45 Gapes
- 47 Black tropical cuckoo
- 48 Bikini and others
- 50 Strive
- 55 Where Peruvian big wigs hang out
- 56 Uncompleted
- 58 Appear to exist
- 59 Storage area
- 60 Part of a shopping list
- 61 Pasta
- 62 Old-hat:Fr.
- 63 Tracy's Ms. Trueheart

Down

- 1 Tentacle
- 2 Addict
- 3 Human existence

Crossword 101

By Ed Canty

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18							19			
20								21	22					
				23				24						
25	26	27	28				29				30	31	32	
33						34					35			
36						37					38			
39					40						41			
42					43					44				
				45	46				47					
48	49						50				51	52	53	54
55						56	57							
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

- 4 New England favorite
- 5 Practical jokes
- 6 Chimney worker?
- 7 Tallies
- 8 Mislead
- 9 Center
- 10 Separate
- 11 Baseball recap
- 12 Dinner
- 13 Agile
- 18 Pump
- 22 Graham of the Browns
- 24 Castle trenches
- 25 Integrate
- 26 Bay window
- 27 Cooperstown Famer
- 28 Shakespearian division
- 29 Nutritional exercises
- 31 Cash in France
- 32 Cairo locale
- 34 Jimmies
- 37 Act of encouragement
- 38 Actor Gibson
- 40 Cry loudly
- 41 Extraterrestrial being
- 44 Bring on
- 46 San Antonio Mission
- 47 Those opposed
- 48 In addition
- 49 One of two or more layers
- 50 Newts
- 51 Passage into a mine
- 52 Ballot
- 53 Singles
- 54 Radiation units
- 57 JFK initials

Quotable Quote

My theory of evolution is that Darwin was adopted.

• • • Steven Wright

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

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. Marsh \_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_
- 2. Dill or gherkin P \_\_\_\_
- 3. Subject \_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_
- 4. Kidnapper's fee \_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_
- 5. Financier \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_
- 6. Artist's garb \_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_
- 7. Mississippi, e.g. \_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_
- 8. Deep-red gem \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_
- 9. Huckle \_\_\_\_ Hound \_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_
- 10. Long for Y \_\_\_\_
- Postage sticker \_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_
- Capricious F \_\_\_\_
- Quinine water, e.g. \_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_
- Haphazard \_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_
- Carnival windbag \_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_
- Electrical jolt \_\_\_\_ H \_\_\_\_
- Metal pin \_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_
- Attic \_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_
- Mr. Manilow \_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_
- Become educated L \_\_\_\_

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- 1. HISTORY: In what year did the RMS Titanic sink, killing 1,517 people?
- 2. GEOGRAPHY: What is

- the largest country in South America?
- 3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: In what year was the festival of Kwanzaa established?
- 4. POLITICS: Nellie Tayloe Ross was the first woman governor of what state?
- 5. MOVIES: Which Disney

- movie's soundtrack features five Elvis Presley songs?
- 6. SUPERHEROES: What was the name of The Green Hornet's car?
- 7. SCIENCE: What substance speeds the rate of a chemical reaction?
- 8. LANGUAGE: What is the meaning of the Latin word

- "contra"?
- 9. MUSIC: What is the name of Tom Petty's backup band?
- 10. PERSONALITIES: What actress was briefly married to boxer Mike Tyson?
- Answers
- 1. 1912
- 2. Brazil

- 3. 1966
- 4. Wyoming
- 5. Lilo & Stitch
- 6. Black Beauty
- 7. A catalyst
- 8. Against
- 9. The Heartbreakers
- 10. Robin Givens
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# Center's Pearson preaches gospel of supply chains

By **TROY BARNES**  
Staff Reporter

Outreach representative Jeff Pearson has had his hands full spreading information about supply chain management and the courses Highline offers for it since he started working there last December.

A lifelong Washington resident, Pearson said his job is a perfect fit considering his studies in international political economy.

"I enjoy talking with people and interacting with members of the business community and feel I am helping to promote the economic advantages of our state and the people who live here," said Pearson.

He also studied in seven different countries across Asia during the final year of his college studies, lending much to his view on the world.

"I believe that traveling and experiencing different cultures



"I believe that travelling and experiencing different cultures and societies provides important perspective."

— **Jeff Pearson**  
**Center of Excellence**  
**Outreach**  
**Representative**

and societies provides important perspective," said Pearson, "and personally it has allowed me to better assess myself, my goals, and my place in the world."

Since he arrived at the Center of Excellence for Trade, Transportation, and Logistics he has worked to publicize the industry of supply chain management

and its education opportunities.

"Basically it's a U.S. Department of Labor project," said Pearson. "Just getting word out about supply chain management, because a lot of people don't really know about the industry or how big it is in Washington state."

Supply chain management is the supervision of resources,

parts, and products as they move across one or more businesses until they hit the market. All finished products start out as raw materials and resources so a business must use supply chain management to control the steps that turn these materials into finished products.

Unfortunately, few people know about the job potential of this little-known field of work holds, Pearson said.

Therefore Pearson's job is to organize and attend work force development functions and career events at high schools to get people in the know. While he deals with agencies all across the state, he said that most of them are in King and Pierce counties.

Despite this, he said that the limited public knowledge on the Center of Excellence for Trade, Transportation, and Logistics itself lends to his job as well. The Center of Excellence for Trade, Transportation, and Logistics

provides online resources and education through Highline on various sectors of the trade industry, but most people don't know this.

"When I'm talking with high-schoolers," Pearson said, "or people in the public or to anyone about the Center, it usually takes a while to explain just about the Center and what it is."

Many other people may assume it's one of Highline's departments, which is not true. "It's a state-funded, statewide organization," said Pearson.

Mysteries about the Center aside, Pearson said he will continue what he is doing to spread the word about the supply chain management industry and the bright possibilities it may hold for future job-seekers.

More information on the Center of Excellence for Trade, Transportation, and Logistics as well as information on supply chain management can be found at [www.itlwa.com](http://www.itlwa.com).

## Slow economic recovery means Washington state job market not yet ready for college grads

Despite relatively high unemployment rate of Washington State, few popular fields stayed steady

By **EMILY BETTRIGE**  
Staff Reporter

Many students at Highline are preparing for their last quarter before they graduate and begin their careers.

However, the job market in Washington might not be ready to receive them.

The Employment Security Department published the current unemployment rate for Washington at 8.3 percent, the same as the national unemployment rate.

While this is better than the recession high of 10 percent, Washington has a long way to go before it reaches the 4.7 percent unemployment of pre-recession times.

Not to say the market is all bad. Some jobs are growing, said Desiree Phair, the King County regional labor economist at the Employment Security Department.

"Health care is not growing quite as fast as it was a couple years ago but it is still holding

up fairly well," she said.

This is good news for Highline which has two programs for becoming a registered nurse.

Registered nurses are listed as the fifth highest employed field in the Seattle area on the Employment Security Department website, and of the five fields, it has the second highest average pay.

The highest pay goes to computer applications software, but those jobs often require a bachelor's degree.

It's not uncommon to see higher educated people having less trouble in the job market.

Unemployment for people with a bachelor's degree or higher is typically about half of the overall rate, said Phair.

"On average, the more educated a person is, the less time they will spend unemployed," she said.

The level of schooling isn't the sole factor determining whether a person will be hired or not, though.

Employers hire people who have the skill and training necessary for the job, said Phair.

But when being skilled isn't enough to get a job, some students have considered relocating.

"Maybe I won't work in Washington, if there is no job market," said Yuri Zgherea, a



Desiree Phair

Highline student who plans to be a Spanish interpreter.

Another option is to get a broader education, he said. "Get something on the side; find a minor, something to widen your job options."

While the numbers are hardly reassuring, at the beginning of a year unemployment reports are almost always lower than average, due to statistical adjustments, Phair said.

Although the economy is struggling now, the future could be much better.

While predicting when the job market will pick back up is not a perfect practice, Washington's outlook is good, said Phair.

"The change in unemployment rate was due to people re-entering the workforce. That's actually positive news."

## When is a good time to get a new car?

Here come higher gas prices -- again. No one should be surprised. These things run in cycles. Yes, prices are generally higher in spring and summer -- when we all need more gas for vacation -- and go down in the winter.

If you don't get good gas mileage, consider whether it's time to buy a more efficient, economical vehicle. You won't be alone. The sale of small and compact cars has increased in the past year. One automaker reported that sales of its small cars increased by 40 percent. Another reported an increase of 43 percent.

Decide, too, whether the vehicle you buy should be considered your "last" one. In other words, buy as though the vehicle will be the last one you'll ever own -- and then drive it for the length of its useful life. The idea is to keep driving the car long after it's paid off. Keep up with all scheduled maintenance to extend the life of the car. A payment-free vehicle is a nice thing to own. Besides not making a hefty monthly payment, the older a vehicle is, the lower the taxes and insurance.

If you're going to trade your car in, invest in a detailing package so it looks its best. At the very least, run it through a carwash and spring for the wax.

These two basics of saving on gas apply to whatever type of vehicle you own:

•Keep your vehicle tuned.

## Dollars and sense

by **David Uffington**

Not being at peak performance means it is going to use more fuel. Keep an eye on the tire pressure as well.

•Plan and combine your errand trips around town.

For more ideas on saving on the cost of fuel, see the website by the U.S. Department of Energy: [www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/gasprices](http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/gasprices). You'll find information on hybrids and electric cars, alternative fuels, miles per gallon, notes from other consumers, tips on choosing an efficient vehicle, a side-by-side comparison of vehicles, and information about the new labels required on vehicles. Besides the estimated mpg, the new label has to disclose how much money you can likely save over five years, the greenhouse rating, the annual cost of fuel and the smog rating.

*David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send him e-mail to [columnreply@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply@gmail.com)*

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# Classic oven fries are delicious with steak

**Classic Oven Fries:** Serve this popular choice with your favorite beef or steak dish.

2 tablespoons olive oil  
3 medium (about 8 ounces each) baking potatoes  
3/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon coarsely ground pepper

1. Preheat oven to 425 F. Brush 2 large cookie sheets with 1 tablespoon oil.
2. Cut each unpeeled potato lengthwise into quarters, then cut each quarter lengthwise into 2 wedges (or, cut potatoes crosswise into 1/4-inch-thick slices).
3. In a large bowl, toss po-

## Good Housekeeping

tatoes with salt, pepper and remaining 1 tablespoon oil until evenly coated.

4. Divide potatoes between cookie sheets, spreading each batch into an even layer. Place cookie sheets on 2 oven racks and oven-fry potatoes 25 minutes or until tender and crisp, turning potatoes over once and switching pans between upper and lower racks halfway through cooking.

**Lemony Oven Fries:** Prepare Classic Oven Fries as above in steps 1 and 2. In step 3, mix 1 teaspoon grated fresh lemon

peel, 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, 1 tablespoon dried oregano, and 1 large garlic clove, crushed with press, with salt, pepper, and oil in bowl. Add potatoes and toss to coat. Complete recipe as in step 4.

**Spicy Oven Fries:** Prepare Classic Oven Fries as above in steps 1 and 2. In step 3, mix 1 teaspoon onion powder, 1/2 teaspoon turmeric, and 1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper (cayenne) with salt, pepper, and oil in bowl. Add potatoes and toss to coat. Complete recipe as in step 4.

Each serving: About 205 calories, 5g total fat (1g saturated), 0mg cholesterol, 450mg sodi-

um, 38g total carbs, 3g dietary fiber, 4g protein.

**Steak with Herb Sauce:** A sauce made with wine and fresh herbs is a classic topping for a perfectly cooked steak.

1 pound flank steak  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
1 tablespoon oil  
2 teaspoon fresh thyme  
1 cup wine  
1/4 cup heavy cream

1. Season steak with 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper. In 12-

inch skillet, heat oil on medium-high.

2. Add steak; cook 12 to 14 minutes for medium-rare (145 F), turning over once. Transfer to cutting board. To skillet, add fresh thyme and wine.

3. Cook until reduced by half. Remove from heat; whisk in heavy cream and 1/8 teaspoon salt. Serve over steak. Serves 4.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at [www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipefinder/](http://www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipefinder/).

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# Cruciferous cabbage has the right stuff

Nutrition experts recommend that you eat cabbage or other cruciferous vegetables -- meaning "cross-bearing" from the shape of their flowers, whose four petals resemble a cross -- as part of a healthy diet. They suggest you eat at least 2 cups, 3 to 4 times per week. Cruciferous vegetables include cauliflower, cress, bok choy, broccoli and similar green leaf vegetables. I love cruciferous vegetables, but I've found cabbage to be the most versatile of the group.

Cabbage is a good source of vitamins C and A. When choosing cabbage heads, select those that are firm and dense with shiny, crisp, colorful leaves. Examine the leaves to make sure that they're free of cracks, bruises and blemishes. Severe damage to the outer leaves means there is probably worm damage or decay in the inner core as well.

We enjoy stuffing cabbage leaves with a variety of interesting ingredients. This recipe for Cabbage and Potato Cups makes a great weekday side dish, or a unique appetizer when topped with thin slices of crispy Prosciutto or Parma ham, or bacon crumbles. Remember, eat more cabbage (or other cruciferous vegetables) and improve your health!

## CABBAGE AND POTATO CUPS

1 medium onion, diced  
2 tablespoons olive or vegetable oil, plus more for drizzling  
1 (3 pound) head leafy green cabbage; discolored, damaged or tough outer leaves discarded  
1 teaspoon minced garlic  
1 1/2 teaspoons salt  
1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper



2/3 cup chicken broth or water  
2 pounds large boiling potatoes  
1 cup buttermilk, shaken  
1 cup, coarsely grated, extra-sharp white Cheddar or Pepper Jack cheese  
1 tablespoon drained, bottled horseradish  
8 tablespoons unsalted butter  
3/4 cup Panko or fresh bread crumbs

1. Cook onion in oil in a large, heavy skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until soft and golden, about 6 to 8 minutes.
2. Bring a 6- to 8-quart pot of salted water to a boil. Remove and discard the core of the cabbage and carefully lower the cabbage leaves into the boiling water using a slotted spoon.
3. Boil cabbage about 5 minutes, or until softened. Transfer the largest leaves (at least 6) to a bowl of ice water to stop cooking. Transfer remaining cabbage to a colander to drain. Transfer large leaves to paper towels to drain, then pat dry.
4. Using a nonstick muffin tin with 6 (1-cup) muffin cups, lightly spray each muffin cup or oil with 2 tablespoons of butter. Cut parchment or wax paper into 12 (10- by 2-inch) strips. Put 2 strips in a crisscross pattern in each cup to help with removing cabbage. (You will have a 2-inch overhang.) Line each cup with a large cabbage leaf. Coarsely chop enough re-



Cruciferous vegetables such as cabbage (so-called because of the shape of their flowers) are highly recommended by health experts because of their nutritional value.

maining cabbage to measure 3 cups, then add to onion along with garlic, 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper, and water, and cook over moderate heat, stirring occasionally, until cabbage is tender and browned, about 10 minutes.

5. Put oven rack in middle position and preheat oven to 350 F.

6. Use at least 2 cups of leftover mashed or baked potatoes with the flesh scooped out. Alternately, peel raw potatoes and cut into 1-inch cubes, then cover with cold salted water by 1 inch in a 2- to 3-quart saucepan and bring to a boil. Cook potatoes until tender, about 15 minutes. Drain in a colander, then set potatoes in colander over saucepan to steam-dry, uncovered, 5 minutes. Using a large bowl and a slotted spoon or potato masher, mix the potatoes with the buttermilk, cheese, horseradish, remaining 6 tablespoons butter and remaining 1 teaspoon salt and pepper until combined well.

7. Fill each cabbage leaf with 2 to 3 tablespoons of mashed potato mixture. Then, place a layer of the sauteed cabbage

mixture on the potatoes. Top with remaining potato mixture, and sprinkle evenly with bread crumbs. Drizzle crumbs with olive oil. Fold edges of cabbage in toward filling (do not completely cover). At this point, you can cover and refrigerate the Cabbage and Potato Cups for 24 hours. Bring to room temperature (about 30 to 45 minutes) before baking.

8. Bake until heated through and edges of cabbage are well browned, 25 to 30 minutes. Transfer stuffed leaves to plates using wax or parchment overhangs. Makes 6 servings.

**SHORTCUT TIP:** If you have at least 2 cups of leftover mashed potatoes, or leftover baked or micro-cooked potatoes, mix them with the rest of the stuffing ingredients to save time.

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Angela Shelf Medearis is an award-winning children's author, a culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is *The Kitchen Diva's Diabetic Cookbook*. Visit her website at [www.divapro.com](http://www.divapro.com).



¥ "I had to pick up a bunch of BBs that spilled in our garage. It was very aggravating, until I decided to get out my vacuum. I put a very thin sock (didn't have any panty hose) on the end and tucked it into the hose. I secured it with a zip tie. I was able to suck up most of the BBs, and they went right back in the container." -- E.L. in North Carolina

¥ If you make your own broth, you can freeze cubes in easy-to-measure amounts by using your muffin tin. Measure out broth in half-cup or cup amounts, then freeze. When done, pop them out into a freezer-safe baggie.

¥ Try this trick to increase the volume on your iPod (without earbuds, that is): Place it in a deep bowl. The bowl amplifies and directs the sound.

¥ Chrome is easily cleaned and shined up with vinegar. Keep a misting bottle in the bathroom to give handles a quick swipe after getting ready in the morning or evening.

¥ Ice cream cones with a flat bottom make a great container for cupcakes. Fill cones two-thirds full with batter, bake as directed and you have cupcake cones! Frost and go!

¥ I sew looped tags onto the corners of our family's wash cloths. My husband installed several hooks in the shower, and when we're finished with our wash cloth, we hang it up by the tag after rinsing it out. They do not mildew this way, because they are allowed to dry.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475 or e-mail JoAnn at [heresatip@yahoo.com](mailto:heresatip@yahoo.com).



By **SHAIMA SHAMDEEN**  
Staff Reporter

**H**ighline student Marlon Watts has experienced his fair share of racism and prejudice.

The product of a white mother and black father, Watts has experienced discrimination not only from those of different ethnic background, but from people of his own kind.

“[As a light skinned] we get both sides of it. You’ll find from a lot of darker people who say that light skinned people get a better break, we get off on more stuff, but the truth of the matter is on both aspects of it when you’re light skinned you get it from both sides,” Watts said.

“The light skinned with dark eyes are more likely to be accepted by the black race. With the light eyes you can be accepted by both but you can also be shunned by both as well.”

Watts is not the only one to have experienced prejudice from people of his own race.

While Watts has experienced discrimination from blacks and whites for being lighter skinned, Highline student Omar Byars has experienced it for being a black man from the south.

“I’m from Mississippi so I’ll have people look down on me like ‘Oh, he don’t know anything because he’s from the country,’” Byars said.

“But what people don’t realize is that the north didn’t make up the south, the south made up the north.”

Each racial community may have a different area of judgment that they focus on.

Highline student Yisel Navarro is Mexican. She says that physical appearance, family, and education are all things that Latinos may judge each other by.

“There is the kind that draws in their eyebrows, the blonde hair with the dark eyebrows, and the kind that doesn’t care about school, or the kind with dysfunctional families,” Navarro said.

“If you see a Latino dressed as a cholo then you automatically think that they’re not going anywhere with their life.”

A cholo is a latino gangster that dresses similar to a gangster.

Even in the Latino community, the specific area that one is from may put them at a higher or lower standard compared to another Latino.

“People from Spain are held at the highest standard, they’re the pretty ones because they’re lighter. If you’re from Oaxaca people look down to you. They say that they’re short and really dark,” Navarro said.

Skin complexion has a big influence in that Latin community.

“The lighter you are the bet-

ter. They find it good if your kid looks American,” Navarro said.

Balveen Purewal is a Kent resident of Indian descent.

Purewal says that in the Indian community, things like money, stature, education, and the kind of family one comes from can determine what others think of you.

“The Punjabi community cares a lot about perception. You look at a family and think ‘what car are they driving to the temple? What are their kids studying in school? If a family is uneducated then they’re seen as ‘bad,’” Purewal said.

While prejudice may be an issue between many races, it is not much of an issue in the Polynesian community.

“Back in the day we didn’t get along because the Tongans used Samoans as slaves. But we’ve left that behind, we’re cool now,” said Highline student Marlon Moa.

Moa is of Samoan descent.

“We see each other as equals. In Samoa, we are divided into villages, but even if someone is from a different village we are still friendly, we all get along,” Moa said.

Prejudice doesn’t just exist within minorities. Even the 75% of whites recorded in the US Census Bureau in America find reason to discriminate against one another.

Brooks Allen is a Caucasian American born and raised in Seattle.

“White people judge each other mostly on what class they are and where they’re from,” Allen said.

“If you’re from Seattle and you see someone from Alabama, you think they’re different because they’re country. They have accents so someone from the city may think that they are weird.”

# RACISM WITHIN RACE

## For some, differences may outweigh similarities

The motive behind same-race discrimination can be anything from jealousy, education, or one’s own attitude based on their environment and upbringing.

“The general term is prejudice, which is a pre-judgment before all the facts are in,” Dr. Bob Baugher said.

Baugher is a psychology teacher at Highline Community College

**T**he three causes of prejudice are the historical approach, the sociocultural approach, and the psychological approach.

“Not the kids of today, but if you go back a few generations you’ll have people say, well my grandfather, my great-grandfather, and all these people fought so I have to carry this on to not like these people,” Dr. Baugher said.

This is an example of the historical approach to prejudice.

“Take a look at the Iraqi population; here we have the Sunni, Shia, and Kurds who dislike each other so much that they want to consider separating the country into three different parts. That’s pretty heavy,” Dr. Baugher said.

The sociocultural approach to prejudice says that when you live in an environment where there is prejudice around you then it is more difficult for one to not be prejudice.

“If you hear your parents or family talking a certain way and using racial slurs, then you might feel the same way,” Dr. Baugher said.

The psychological approach is our brain using labels to identify people.

“I bet if you look into any culture and you say ‘what do you call people from this area within your race?’ then you get ‘oh we call them such and

such.’ That’s just a way to put them down,” Dr. Baugher said.

“The theory behind it if you don’t like something about yourself, if you have a low self-esteem, then the way to feel yourself elevated is to put down other people and judge other people.”

This defense mechanism is called projection. When you have something about yourself that you don’t like it is easier to project it onto other people.

“Another part of that is the frustration/aggression approach that the more people are frustrated about their own lives that they displace their anger onto other people and so if I can’t get a job and someone of my own race gets the job then I’m thinking, ok why can they get a job but I can’t? So I’m mad at people who are immediately around me.”

Dr. Baugher says that there is something about people’s ego

that when they put other people down, it makes them feel better.

“On one hand humans can be quite wonderful people, but I think at other times when times are hard then when we see someone else have what we want then we might get jealous,” Dr. Baugher said.

“It’s the access to education and the willingness to accept that education. If you go to where I’m from you’ll get more respect if you do four years in prison than if you do four years in college,” Watts said.

Student Omar Byars said that it’s people not taking the time out of their day to get to know one another.

“When you don’t take time to know people then you prejudge. It’s taking the opportunity to listen to one another and feeling for one another and having love and consideration for one another,” he said.

Purewal said she believes that people are the hardest on our own people because they are the most like us.

“The people of your own race are the most significant ones to compare yourself to. We always feel like we have to be better than the next family,” she said.

Dr. Baugher said that society can also have a hand in why we discriminate against our own kind.

“When you look and see who is on the cover of the magazine it’s skinny, white, and woman by large and what does that say about jealousy of one’s own race? When I look and see other people that look like me but I don’t see them on the cover of magazines or in positions of power? I might want to go on and identify with white people or people who are in power or people who have money,” Dr. Baugher said.

“When you live in a racist county, which this is, then it’s easier for yourself to be racist.”

“I’m from Mississippi so I’ll have people look down on me like ‘Oh, he don’t know anything because he’s from the country.’”

— Omar Byars,  
Highline student





# Financial aid rules to tighten next year

By **BRANDON WOLFE**  
Staff Reporter

Qualifying for financial aid will be harder next year because of changes to federal funding rules.

The changes will affect the following for financial aid: the Ability to Benefit program, tax returns, subsidized loans, and Pell Grants, said Lorraine Odom, the director of Financial Aid.

The Ability to Benefit program allows students without a high school diploma or GED to receive financial aid by scoring high enough on college placement tests showing they are prepared for college coursework, said Odom.

However because of the new funding requirements "the Ability to Benefit will be eliminated," Odom said. "This means that to be eligible for federal financial aid, all students must have a high school diploma or GED."

In addition to the Ability to Benefit program being eliminated, the use of tax return forms will no longer be considered acceptable documentation



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

*Lorraine Odom says that qualifying for Financial Aid will be more difficult next year.*

for verifying tax information, Odom said.

Currently tax return forms are sufficient to verify tax information. However when the new requirements take affect and a student needs to present tax information, they will have to contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to request a tax transcript instead.

Also, the grace period for

subsidized loans is going to be suspended. "Subsidized loans are student loans that the Federal Government pays the interest while the student is in school" Odom said.

There is currently a six month grace period in which the federal government pays the interest after the student finishes school.

When the new school year

starts the federal government will no longer pay the interest during the grace period. The grace period will be temporarily suspended for the period of July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2014, Odom said.

In addition to the subsidized loan change, the Pell Grant's time limit is also being reduced.

The Pell Grant is a grant from the government that students can use to pay for their college tuition and in some cases it can be used to reimburse a student for some of the college they have already paid for.

The amount of time a student can use the Pell Grant is going to be reduced by a third of its original time frame.

Currently the maximum time a student can use the Pell Grant is nine full-time years, but that is going to be reduced to six-years, Odom said.

This grant may be important to some students because the money used does not have to be paid back to the government.

Even though cuts are going to happen next year Financial Aid will still have a big impact on the students, Odom said. "In the 2010-2011 academic year

our office disbursed over \$22.5 million," she said.

Students who are seeking financial aid can go to [www.financialaid.highline.edu](http://www.financialaid.highline.edu). There they can find information on deadlines, applications, and more.

In addition to the website, Odom suggested another way to help students stay aware of their financial aid statuses.

"Students should use the Financial Aid Portal to check the status of their financial aid," Odom said. "This is a very helpful tool, where students can see documents they are required to turn in, questions we have concerning their financial aid documents and award amounts," she said.

Also if students are interested in applying for financial aid, they must fill out the Free Application for Student Aid and submit it to Financial Aid office in Building 6 with all the required paperwork. After this the student will be notified if they are eligible for financial aid.

You can find the financial aid portal at <http://financialaid.highline.edu/>.

## Costco always looking for new opportunity, VP says

By **ADRIAN SCOTT**  
Staff Reporter

Seattle based global warehouse club Costco has 28 retail stores internationally, making up 45 percent of Costco's total profit, said the senior vice president of international operations this week.

Jim Murphy, speaking at this week's Global Tuesday forum, said that Costco prides itself with providing high quality products at low prices, staying efficient, and keeping a clean and safe operation.

Costco opened their first international store in Canada in 1984.

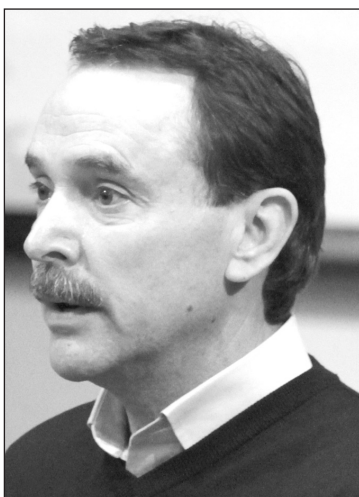
In the 28 years since Costco has branched out, and continues to keep their eyes on a variety of opportunities, said Murphy.

Things have changed since the rocky first Canada opening; Costco now makes sure that they find the most profitable areas before they consider to invest in a new country.

The number of population and the spending power is important when considering a country to invest in said Murphy.

When opening stores in different countries, Murphy said that Costco wants to be able to open at least 20-25 locations in the first 10 to 15 years there.

"We're passing on countries



Jim Murphy

like Poland at the moment," Murphy says. The fact that Poland's economy is still evolving, but what attracts Costco is the amount of people living in population.

"We also take look at the transparency legal system, and the legal system in general," said Murphy.

Costco wants to make sure our customers feel safe when coming to its stores.

He said that because of the fact China's enforcement of laws makes Costco feel uneasy about starting a store in that location, but he still believes that in the later years there will be a Costco in China.

Language is important, said Murphy, putting an emphasis that their company managers and employees speak the lan-

guage in the country, building relationships within the community.

Though Costco isn't the top warehouse club company in the world, they tend to separate themselves by looking at what other companies do well and what could be done better.

Murphy said that Costco does happen to bump into Sam's Club, a branch of Wal-Mart, when working internationally, but doesn't have a huge impact on business, and competition is always welcome.

"We measure the strengths and weaknesses of our competing companies," said Murphy.

Murphy said opening a store internationally isn't cheap.

Murphy said that it can cost about three times more when planning and opening a store in Asia than in the U.S.

So with that they want to be able to make a profit, and make sure there isn't a currency risk.

"Can we pull money out after investing \$100 million into a country?" Murphy asked.

Internationally Murphy says Costco looks to make from 18-20 percent of their return on capital rather than just 15 in the U.S.

"We look for a higher percentage internationally because of the risk factor we take internationally," Murphy said.

Murphy said that Costco con-

tinues to look for new potential countries to invest in mainly in Western Europe.

"France, Spain, and Italy are our biggest future targets at the current time," said Murphy.

Murphy also said that India and Singapore are on the list of countries that Costco is interested in, but says there is no rush for opening a store in any of these countries.

## summer session 2012

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# Debunk the mysteries surrounding LGBTQ communities

## New class to study sexual diversity

By **TROY BARNES**  
Staff Reporter

A class on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Experience will be offered for Spring Quarter 2012 in the category of Diversity & Globalism.

Pre-doctoral intern Steven Martel, the course's instructor, said that this is only the second time in the past decade that a class about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people has been run at Highline.

"Really [it's] just trying to get an understanding of what is the LGBT culture and com-

munity," said Martel, "which I don't think is spoken about too much."

Martel talked about how he had always wondered how what he was learning in his classes related to him as a gay student, which helped inspire him to start this class.

The only major obstacle Martel said he had in starting up the class has been getting students to find out about the class and enroll due to the class' late formation. Other than that, he said that everything else was going smoothly.

"I've been amazed at how supportive everyone is," Martel said. "I've got people all over the place asking me 'Hey Steven how can we help you get

this class going? Give us some information so that we can give it to students so that we can help you get enrollment.'"

The class has been designed with everyone in mind, Martel said.

"Everyone is encouraged to take this class," said Martel. "The LGBT experience is something I think that hasn't, on campus, been talked too much about."

The main goals of the class, said Martel, are to dispel myths, visually show the experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, and to keep the topic in the open to prevent people from feeling like they have to hide who they are or how they feel.



Steve Martel

Martel said he plans to achieve this by teaching students about the culture and community that have been created by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in primarily a visual manner.

"Through education we can

promote more understanding, and more kind of a sense of community," said Martel.

Martel is also a member of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer Questioning Task Force, an organization at Highline with the same goal of debunking myths and encouraging people to be more open about the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender experience.

Martel said the class is a part of his work with the organization.

The 5-credit class is still open to enrollment and it runs Monday through Thursday at 12:10-1:13 p.m. It is item number 1076, class number DGS 172, and counts towards social science area II.

## Learning how to measure happiness

By **JORDAN TASCA**  
Staff Reporter

The average person in the U.S. has 58 happy years while living within the country their entire life, a team of Highline professors explained during the final Science Seminar of the quarter last Friday.

Dr. Helen Burn, a math professor at Highline, began the informative speech on measuring happiness while economics instructors, Dr. James Peyton and Dr. Kevin Stanley, followed up with supporting details on ways that one might go about determining how happy certain countries might be.

Dr. Burn postulated that three things most people care about when considering what makes us happy are money, music, and human relationships.

She had the class write down how many close friends we had, the number of hours we listened to music the day before, and how satisfied with the amount of money we make on a scale to 10.

We then divided this by three to determine a rough estimate of how happy we are.

"One way we determine global data and measurements is by using the Gallup world poll," she said. Gallup uses a worldwide questionnaire to develop strategies and solve problems with superior science and sophistication.

According to the Gallup polls, the happiest country on Earth is Denmark, in relation to overall life satisfaction and wealth.

Other countries may be richer and have a higher GDP per capita, but the relationship between overall life satisfaction and wealth isn't as straightforward as it may seem.

The two economics pro-



Corey Sun/THUNDERWORD

Dr. Kevin Stanley lists the three basic things that make us happy.

fessors introduced a tool that displays GDP in a graph with many different variables to choose from.

"It directly relates a country's GDP to its health, education, and satisfaction," Dr. Peyton said.

"More money correlates to a higher life expectancy, more income per person creates less infant mortality, and more schooling directly relates to more income."

"Somewhere between nine and 11 percent of the U.S. economy is from black market sales off the books," Dr. Stanley said. This is one reason why GDP isn't a great way for countries to measure happiness.

Another way that specialists use to determine a country's overall happiness is by looking at the Human Developed Index, or HDI. This is a composite statistic that ranks countries by their human development, previously known as the standard of living. It is a standard means of measuring life expectancy,

literacy, education, and standards of living for countries worldwide. It is used to distinguish whether the country is a developed, a developing or an under-developed country, and also to measure the impact of economic policies on quality of life.

The problem with measuring happiness using these factors, such as GDP and HDI, is that it is not strong way to determine how happy certain places are to live.

Science Seminar, a weekly series of forums dealing with scientific topics, returns to Highline next quarter on Friday, April 9 in building 3 at 2:20 p.m.

Eric Baer, a physical science and geology professor at Highline, is stepping down from his managing position of Science Seminar after 11 years of operating and organizing weekly forums on campus. Dusty Wilson, a mathematics professor on campus, will be taking over next quarter.

## B-TECH, helping students determine their path

By **JASLEEN KAUR**  
Staff Reporter

Highline's B-TECH program provides classes for students to build skills as well as to obtain degrees and certificates.

The Business Information and Technology department gives students a chance to get one of many degrees, its coordinator said.

"We have an administrative management AAS degree, we also have available administrative assistants one-year certificate, a customer service specialist one-year certificate, and a project administration one-year certificate," said Marcia Welch, the department coordinator of B-TECH.

To get your administrative management Associates in Applied Science degree, you need to complete 94-96 credits.

Students who earn an AAS at Highline can transfer directly to CWU to pursue a bachelor of applied science degree.

"A student earning this degree can either go the track of Information Technology or Administrative Management. CWU will indeed accept any HCC professional technical AAS degree transferred in from HCC including the B-TECH Administrative Management AAS with a few additional classes needed for entry," she said.

The administrative assistant one-year certificate requires 47-53 credits.

A one-year customer service specialist certificate takes 46 credits are needed.

A one-year project administration certificate takes requires 47-53 credits.

Welch said that about 50 percent of current B-TECH

students are tryin to obtain a degree and/or certificate and about 50 percent join classes to work on their current occupational skills.

"We also support writing for those who want additional computer skills," she said.

Classes at B-TECH can help with multiple career choices.

"Administrative assistants can be a receptionist. It can be for someone who does data entry," Welch said.

"Administrative management is for someone who wants to be an office manager or in the managing department or team of people or that they get into some major project, management of project," she said.

"The project administration certificate comes in as well. That is someone who works with an actual project manager doing the role of the administrative type of work," Welch said.

The business information and technology department is also involved in two I-BEST programs.

I-BEST (Integrated Basic Education Skills Training) classes integrate college credit courses with English language and adult basic skills.

"We're involved in two I-BESTs. Customer service happens in the spring. Right now we're in the middle of Intro to B-TECH I-BEST which goes winter and spring," Welch said.

"We also do some off campus initiative towards offering some credit classes off campus in addition to our on campus offerings. We are now offering credited classes at the airport," she said.

"For more information on the B-TECH program, you can go to the website at [www.btech.highline.edu](http://www.btech.highline.edu).



# A second chance at love

## Kent teacher, Tennessee man reconnect after 30 years

By **SHAIMA SHAMDEEN**  
Staff Reporter

It may sound like a Lifetime Network movie, but this is the true love story of Debora Carlson and Chuck Robinson.

The two met at Montana State University in 1976, but didn't go out on a date until a year after they graduated in the summer of 1977. It was a simple dinner date the ended with the two sitting on her friend's porch talking for hours.

"It was one of those kind of dates where it was like 'Oh man, where have you been all my life?'" Carlson said.

However Carlson, who now teaches at Meridian Middle School in Kent, moved back to her home in Nebraska the next day and the two lost touch.

"He may have written a letter or two but there was really no relationship or anything. We were just friends who went out to dinner."

A year later in 1978, Carlson went back to Montana to visit friends and attend MSU's homecoming game. Robinson still lived in Montana so he and some friends joined Carlson and her friends for the game.

"I was living in Eastern Idaho at the time and didn't want to drive back on my own, so he decided to drive back with me," Carlson said.

Robinson stayed in Idaho with Carlson for about a week.

"It was kind of in that week that we started liking each other and that's when the relationship started," she said.

With Carlson living in Idaho and Robinson in Montana, the two maintained a relationship over the phone. They got engaged over the phone in the fall of 1978. Robinson went to meet Carlson's family during Thanksgiving and Carlson went to meet Robinson's family during Christmas.

"We were probably only engaged for three to four months. We were planning to get married in March of 1979, but it was right around New Year's that we decided we were too young and it wasn't the right thing to do."

Robinson had cold feet and Carlson said she didn't want to marry someone with cold feet.

"As that spring and summer went by, we just decided that it probably wasn't the right thing to do. It was in late summer of 1979 we decided that we weren't going to get married."

In 1982, Carlson decided to move to Seattle.

"I went to see him one last time before I moved to Seattle just to see if there's ever going



*Carlson and Robinson have a classic Hollywood love story of separation and reconnection.*

to be anything there and just decided, nope, I'm moving to Seattle and starting a new life," she said.

Chuck Robinson didn't realize this was his last chance with Carlson.

"I didn't know that she was thinking this was the last time, the last chance. There were never any hard feelings towards each other. I just thought we didn't think we were the right people for each other," Robinson said.

Six months after moving to Seattle, Carlson met a man named Gary Carlson, who she would later marry in 1987.

"I had heard from mutual friends that Chuck [Robinson] had gotten married and I just thought, good, I was happily married too, so everything was fine," Carlson said.

"One of the gifts she gave me way back was a really nice gold pocket watch, and every time I would look at it I would remember her and wonder how she was doing," Robinson said.

Carlson and her husband were married for about 14 years until he died from Lou Gehrig's disease.

"I was by myself, no kids, so I decided to go back to school and get my teaching certificate. There were times when I was very lonesome, but most of the time I was pretty happy," she said.

Carlson started teaching, traveling, and keeping herself busy with no intention of getting remarried.

"It's not that I didn't want to be married. I was just really picky. I thought I had a pretty good married and I didn't think

I wanted anybody else."

Meanwhile, Robinson also lost his spouse, only a couple of years after Carlson.

After 29 years of not seeing or hearing from Robinson, Carlson ran into his face in an unexpected place.

"About a year ago this time Chuck [Robinson] showed up as a 'someone you may know' on my Facebook, and I just thought 'oh my gosh, I know him'."

Carlson said that she did enough Facebook-stalking to know that his wife had died sometime within the last year, but couldn't find where he was living now. Despite finding him, Carlson did not contact Robinson.

"I just thought I am not sending him a message, that's just too weird when your wife dies and your old girlfriend sends you a message. So I let it go and didn't really think about it."

However, a couple of months later in September of 2011, Robinson showed up once again on Carlson's Facebook friend suggestions.

"I just thought, 'what the heck? I've got to send him a message'."

Carlson sent Robinson a message, but didn't hear back from him until a week later.

"I saw the request and thought, 'Wow this is a person from my past.' I wondered what's been up, but I don't remember wondering if she was available," Robinson said.

"We exchanged a few messages and then he asked, 'And what does Mr. Carlson do?'"

Carlson responded saying, "He spends his days dancing with the angels in heaven."

With that, Robinson replied saying, "God works in mysterious ways. I think we should talk."

"I thought, she knows a little bit about grief and losing a spouse, so I figured we should talk on the phone and have a real conversation," he said.

"The conversations were initially about grief. I hadn't really chatted with anybody who I could open up with. In the process of that we talked about other things. We laughed, cried, and I just thought we needed to see each other," he said.

Within three to four days they decided to meet in person.

"We still had numerous weeks before that trip took place where we were talking two to three hours a day. By the time we saw each other we had already had an inclination that there was something between

us, something to rekindle," Robinson said.

Robinson flew out to Seattle from Nashville, where he was living, in November to see Carlson.

"He said, 'I feel like we've been on a long separate vacation and now we've finally come home,'" Carlson said.

"Even though it had been 30-something years, it really just felt like a long summer. Everything felt so comfortable and easy," Robinson said.

"Our relationship seemed really good. We just spent hours on the phone."

Since Robinson's first trip to see Carlson, they two have visited each other every three to three and a half weeks.

It was a couple of weeks ago during President's Week while Carlson was visiting Robinson that he popped the question once again and asked Carlson to be his wife.

"He took me out on a sunrise hike, it was freezing, but it was a beautiful, clear day. I was sitting on this bench trying to take a picture of the view, so he takes out this ring and says 'I think you should take a picture of this' and says 'will you marry me?'" Carlson said.

"All I could say was 'Oh my goodness' and he says, 'Well, are you going to say yes?'"

Of course, she said yes.

"I knew even before Debbie and I reconnected that I didn't want to spend the rest of my life alone, and because Debbie and I found that we connected on so many levels, I know that I could spend the rest of my life with this person," Robinson said.

"It really feels like this has been an answer to prayers of loneliness."

The couple is planning a wedding for spring of this year.

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# Good money, tough career



## Stripper says pay outweighs the challenges of her job

By **SHAIMA SHAMDEEN**  
Staff Reporter

She probably makes more money than you and all she has to do is get naked. But don't call her a stripper.

"Stripper sounds so bad. I prefer dancer or entertainer. That's what I do, I entertain," Kennedy said.

Kennedy, a pseudonym to cover up her identity, is a 22-year old exotic dancer working at DreamGirls of Seattle.

She started at DreamGirls when she was 20 as a door girl welcoming customers. After a couple of months, she got promoted at the bar as a waitress.

"After doing that for a while one of my managers begged me to do amateur night. I never in a million years thought that I would be on stage but my manager talked me into it," Kennedy said.

Amateur night is on Thurs-

day nights when girls audition to be dancers.

"I would have never done this, but it seemed like fun and I needed the money."

After auditioning, not only did Kennedy find that she enjoyed being on stage, but she was also very good at it. She got hired as a dancer and has been performing on stage for the last two years.

Even though Kennedy has quit her job as a stripper four times before she always seems to find herself back to dancing.

"I've been trying to find another job for a while now. It's good money and it's fun but it's not me, it's not my thing. I'm good at it, but it's not for me."

The hardest part about leaving this job is the easy money. Dancers can make up to \$400 a night.

"It's hard to go from making so much money doing this to doing a job that's so much more

difficult and not be making as much," Kennedy said.

"I have twin boys and I'm a single mother. This is easy money."

While the job pays well, it does come at a price.

When a girl makes it known that this is her job she is often looked at as immoral or uneducated.

Because of this, Kennedy has kept her job a secret from family and friends.

"I don't want anyone knowing that I do this. People have such a bad idea of what it means to be a stripper and I wouldn't want to be looked down at because of my job," Kennedy said.

To avoid her family or friends getting suspicious, Kennedy has a second job working the night shift at Albertsons.

"All my shifts at DreamGirls are in the daytime. The people that I know would come in at nights or weekends so I know

not to take those shifts."

Not only has Kennedy's job choice kept her from being open with her family, it's also had quite an impact on her view on relationships and intimacy.

"When you're working here you don't really have the want to have sex anymore because it's your work. You're not having sex literally but all the lap dances, the stripping, it just wears you down."

"Even if a guy came in here and was really cute I would never give him my number or go out with him. I really don't like having a boyfriend when I'm doing this because it kind of feels like a form of cheating. I just don't like to cross that line."

Kennedy has tried dating as a stripper, but found that her job would get in the way of her relationship.

"He always said that he was ok with it, but when we would go out he would get really jealous. I felt like as much as he wanted to be ok with it, he wasn't. I knew it bothered him so I had to end that," Kennedy said.

Some girls may start working as a stripper as a temporary job, but Kennedy says that often girls find themselves unable to leave.

"The idea that once you're a stripper, you're always a stripper is true. I've tried to leave this job and every time, I always end up coming back. It's always going to be a part of your life until you get to a point in your life where you realize this isn't for you. Even when girls get older, there are girls who are 40 and still working."

Kennedy is currently work-

ing on getting her GED and plans on going to massage therapy school.

Kennedy says that not all exotic dancers fall under the negative stereotypes that come with the job title.

"There are a lot of girls who are down to earth and really nice. We do have personalities and we are real people."

However, the negative stereotype behind the stripper is not completely inaccurate.

"There are girls who work here that really are psycho and have problems. The reason that most girls dance is because they mentally have something wrong with them. They don't think they're pretty or maybe they've had a rough childhood and they need something to fill that void."

For some of the girls, stripping is more than just a job.

"They think that by working here they'll get the attention that they need. They don't even care about making money. They just want the attention," Kennedy said.

As in any job, there are those who clock in and clock out and those who let their personal life impact their professional life. At the end of the day, stripping is no different than any other career.

"We're not sluts, we're not being dirty. We come in and have real conversations with our customers. We're normal people who have real lives outside of this. Yes, we're dancers, but it's just a form of making money. We all want to leave at the end of the day and go home," Kennedy said.

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## Enter to win tickets for the Spring Gala

In honor of Highline's 50th anniversary, 50 raffle tickets are being sold at \$5 for a chance to win two tickets the 12th annual Gala.

The Gala is the main fundraising event that is hosted by the Highline Foundation, which a non-profit organization that helps support the college.

Proceeds from the event got to build funds for programs such as financial emergency programs, scholarships for students and special projects.

The Gala is being held at Cedarbrook Lodge on Saturday, April 28. Doors will be open at 5 p.m. and the festivities will start with cocktails, appetizers,

wine wall, photo booth and a silent auction.

Dinner will be held at 7 p.m. followed by dancing and the live auction.

Cedarbrook Lodge is located at 18525 36 Avenue S., SeaTac. To purchase a raffle ticket contact Tatyana at 206-878-3710, ext. 3392.



# Group hopes to LiNK attention to North Korea

By ZACH GINTHER-HUTT  
Staff Reporter

A North Korean refugee group will speak in the Student Union this afternoon.

From 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Mt. Olympus room, Building 8, the Writing Club will host Liberty in North Korea, a group that will show a film aimed at drawing attention to the poor living conditions and social freedoms citizens have in North Korea.

With a gross domestic product of only \$40 billion, and a per capita income of less than \$2,000, North Korea ranks 154th world GDP, making it one of the poorest countries in the world.

Liberty in North Korea's goal is to utilize creative writing and storytelling to provide help for North Korean refugees, ultimately striving to aid in ending the human rights injustice in North Korea.

They do this by protecting North Korean refugees, supporting them and helping resettle refugees, providing them a safe place to stay. They also want to raise awareness by



showing a film about the North Korean crisis.

Liberty in North Korea has met with some success. Last year, 58 refugees hiding in China were safely secured asylum in Southeast Asia, where they can avoid persecution. While hiding in China, North Korean refugees have no rights and are often sent back when discovered. Back in North Korea, the refugees can be tried as criminals and face life imprisonment.

"They [Liberty in North Korea] approached me and asked if I would host them," said Laural Hong, Highline Writing Club president. "This is the first time we've done something like this."

Hong said that the lack of media coverage of North Korea was concerning.

"It's sad with all the news of other countries you hardly ever hear about North Korea," Hong said. "It's a major country but

you don't hear anything about it."

After Liberty in North Korea asked Hong to allow the Writing Club to host the event, she asked the club, which quickly and unanimously agreed to host them.

"The Writing Club liked the idea because they [Liberty in North Korea] rescue North Korean refugees," she said, "North Korea is a closed off country where they don't let people in and not much out, if anything."

Hong said it was relevant for Highline students to attend the presentation.

"It applies to people looking at history and people looking at other countries around the world and for people who are interested in different cultures," she said.

"I think it would be interesting to learn about it, it's good research and we have a high Korean population," Hong said.

Hong said it would also be good to come to the meeting to learn more for personal insight. "I think it's good if we understand more about North Korea in order to make educated opinions instead of biased specula-



A satellite photo of the two Koreas at night reveals the difference in the two states' economies. North Korea is virtually blacked out.

tion."

For more information contact Highline's Writing Club President Laural Hong at the\_

new\_found\_writer@hotmail.com or visit the Liberty in North Korea's Website at [www.linkglobal.org](http://www.linkglobal.org).

## Two Highline students named to all-state team

### All-Washington squad honors scholars for hard work

By ERIKA WIGREN  
Staff Reporter

Two Highline students have been named members of the 2012 All-Washington Academic Team by Governor Christine Gregoire.

Students Alisa Gramann and Rachel Moyer were recognized for their academic achievement, involvement on Highline's campus and community service.

Both Gramann and Moyer will receive \$250 toward their next quarter at Highline, and another \$750 toward their tuition fees at the school they are transferring to.

Gramann is a journalism major and the current editor-in-chief of the Thunderword.

Currently she has 3.93 G.P.A and is on the Vice President's Honor Roll. Gramann is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa.



Rachel Moyer

In addition to her academic achievements, Gramann has been actively involved in community service.

"I volunteered at the Seattle Aquarium for a year and it was fun. When I was in high school I participated in World Vision's 30-hour famine," Gramann said.

Gramann said she heard about the All-Washington Academic Team from Barbara Clinton, the Honors Program coordinator.

"Because I am planning on transferring to a four-year college, whatever money I can get helps," Gramann said.

"When it comes to academic things, I am pretty confident in



Alisa Gramann

myself."

Gramann said she is planning on transferring to Western Washington University.

Rachel Moyer is an English major and a member of the Highline Honors program. She is also a member of Phi Theta Kappa and is a nominee for the \$30,000 Jack Kent Cooke scholarship.

Moyer currently has a 3.89 G.P.A and manages her own spa business. She said that though she excels in academics now, she used to struggle in school, while growing up.

"I am the daughter of a teacher. In school I was struggling with dyslexia and ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder).

School was not a good experience for me and I had a really rough time," Moyer said.

When Moyer attended Highline, she said school got a lot easier for her. However, after a year of attending, Moyer was faced with another challenge.

"I was diagnosed with thyroid cancer after my first year here," Moyer said.

"It was a very tough time for me."

Moyer said she was later cleared of cancer and has been studying at Highline ever since

as an Honors student.

Moyer, like Gramann, heard of the Washington All-Washington Academic Team from Clinton. She said receiving the scholarship is an honor.

"It encourages me to keep going on the path that I am going. I know I can continue to get other scholarships," Moyer said. "It's an honor to be nominated."

Gramann and Moyer will be recognized in an awards ceremony on March 22 at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia.

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## Unlike the rich kids, Highline students use the time for sleep, study and work

By **JEMIMAH KAMAU**  
Staff Reporter

Many students have already planned how to spend their one week of spring break.

Some students will be relaxing and having fun, while others will be working and studying.

And some students have not made any plans for their spring break.

"I don't know what I'll be doing for spring break," said Victoria Mendoza.

"I don't have any plans," said Roxanna Castro.

Some students have no idea when the spring break starts.

"When is the spring break? I don't know when it is," said Shimbey Assie.

"I don't even know when is the spring break," said Liz Kim.

Audrey Nelson is among those students who already know about their spring break routine.

"I'll be sleeping in. Then, I'll be going to work at the mall in the afternoon until evening. Then, going out with friends at night and doing the same the next day," she said.

Some students will be studying for their Spring Quarter classes, while others will be reviewing what they have studied in Winter Quarter.

"I'll probably be reading,"

said Alicia Birge.

"I have to study for calculus class. I will take calculus next quarter, so I have to study during the spring break," said Jiyeon Song.

"I will review what I've done in this quarter and prepare for next quarter. I will read the textbooks for subjects that I'll take next quarter," said Chun Cheng.

Spring break will be the appropriate time for some students to fill out and send their transfer applications to other colleges.

"I'm going to transfer to Virginia and during the spring break, I'll have to prepare my transfer," said L Khawn Din.

"I will get everything done for the university application," said Winnie Lee.

"I will ask for the requirements to transfer to Mesa College in San Diego," said Hay Mar Moh Moh Zaw.

Some students will spend more time working.

"I'll be working and I'll pick more hours at work," said Jena Barker.

"I'm going to coordinate and help the transition of leadership in the Anime Club," said David Freeman.

"I don't get time to work when [I] am at school, so I'll just work all the time," said Yarah Barbour.

Others will spend their week volunteering to welcome international students to Highline.

"I will be working with the Welcome Team for the whole week," said Mike Bohonik.

"I will volunteer for the new students' orientation, Chit-Chat Café and tours around Seattle with the Welcome Team," said Thein Thein Myint.

During spring break, some students will have time to hunt for new jobs.

"I'm currently teaching in a kindergarten and I want to find something else before spring," said Leyla Ibrahim.

"I will apply for the ILSC (International Leadership Student Council) because I'd like to work there," said Thein Thein Myint.

While some students will be working on their educational plans and jobs, others will visit their families and friends and spend some time with them.

"My plans for spring break are to do housework and spend more time with my kids. It's good to have my house for a week," said Seris Achota.

"I'll go to Ocean Shore with my girlfriend to visit her family. Her family will teach me to ride a horse, something I've never done and I'll like to do," said Antony Bolster.

Like Antony, others are plan-

ning to spend special moments with their lovers.

"My girlfriend will be coming from WDC (Washington DC) and probably we'll go for a movie to celebrate her birthday," said Jesse Andrews.

"I'll visit my special someone. We'll go to the city, hang out and relax before I get back to school," said Peter Ryzhkov.

Some have planned to travel to other states and some international that joined Highline this quarter will be discovering their new environment.

"I just came here in January and I will have time to explore Seattle," said L Khawn Din.

"I think I'll go to Vancouver because I've never been there," said Jiyeon Song.

"I will go to Portland in Oregon and explore the city, and get to know something new," said Vu Dao.

Having fun with friends and parting are part of some students' plans for spring break.

"I will go to my friend's debut. She is Philippine and when they (Philippines) turn 18 years, they do a big party (debut). We will dance, eat and party," said Liz Kim.

"I will organize a birthday party for my roommate," said Hay Mar Moh Moh Zaw.

"I am planning to make a get together with my youth group, EMAS (Ethiopian Muslim Association of Seattle). It's a Muslim girls group in my community," said Leyla Ibrahim.

Some of those who celebrated their birthdays during Winter Quarter just attained the "drinking age" and they'll take advantage of it during the spring break.

"I will have fun, lunch and have beer with my friends. I just turned 21," said Chun Cheng.

Some students are concerned about their health and they will

be doing more sports to keep fit.

"My goal for spring break is to run seven miles. I will be running like two or three miles per day. I want to be in shape," said Vo Tung.

Several students need time to relax after a busy quarter and recover their sleep.

"I'll be sleeping," said Serah Groesbeck.

"I will sleep, rest and relax," said Liz Kim.

"I'll just be at home watching videos, listening to music and maybe do some shopping," said Hnin Kay Khine.

During the spring break, some students will move to new houses or apartments.

"I'll be moving from my house to another," said Hay Mar Moh Moh.

"I'll be moving to another place near Highline," said Thein Thein Myint.

The spring break is in one week's time for most students, but there are those who are already enjoying it.

"I'm already in spring break. I was a Kaplan student and I finished my Winter Quarter in February. I have over one month holiday," said Rachel To.

To said that her spring break is too long.

"It's long, long, long. That's how I can explain it. My friends are still at school and I don't have someone to have fun with," she said.

Like To, some students said that one week break is very long for them.

"It will be long because when I'm at home, I do nothing. I like coming to school because I have something to do," said Liz Kim.

However, many students said that one week break is not long enough for them to accomplish all their plans and get time to relax before they resume to school for Spring Quarter.

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# Pay cuts

continued from page 1

peared to be better than holding out.

“What is sad and [what] many people don’t realize that several of our classified staff members are on state assistance themselves as they have families and do not make enough money on the income that comes from some of these jobs,” said the classified staff member. “Everyone has this image that being a state employee is a very cushy job with great wages — not so.”

Many of the classified staff first found out about their pay cuts in a classified staff meeting with President Jack Bermingham on Wednesday, March 7.

Larry Yok, vice president for administration, said that negotiations for the contract were carried out on a level that the college officials does not participate on.

“We have very little ability to persuade them [otherwise],” Yok said. “There’s not much we can do from our side.”

“Our employees,” Yok said, “are obligated to take the cut.”

To counter the cut, employees will be given an additional 5.2 hours of leave — compensatory time off, Yok said, so the employees work fewer hours. The savings garnered by the compensatory leave without pay will equal a 3 percent pay reduction.



Larry Yok

The pay cuts, he said, do not reflect the college’s financial situation, but are related, instead, to the state, with whom the employees negotiate the contract.

When initially faced with cuts, Highline had the option to cut either salary and wages, or cut personnel line items, Yok said.

The college chose the latter, leaving vacant positions unfilled and eliminating positions that the college could do without. However, the college has other budget reduction targets to meet that have been collecting for the past three years, Yok said.

“The money not spent for classified staff wages allows the college to defer some of the other budget reductions,” he said.

Gerald Jackson, who works in Administrative Technology, is one of Highline’s union representatives.

Jackson said that the 3 per-



Alisa Gramann/THUNDERWORD  
Joel McCluskey is a classified staff member. Classified staff at Highline will be taking a 3 percent pay cut, starting July 1.

cent cut is not across the board for community colleges.

Representatives from the Washington Public Employee Association encouraged Highline early on to sign the contract. After Highline signed, new proposals were placed on the table, due to Governor Christine Gregoire’s rejection of the contract.

However, it was too late for Highline, and other colleges who signed, to back out.

“We’re kind of hating that we took their advice,” Jackson said. “We would have had options to

negotiate.”

Jackson said that, while he will look into renegotiations, it is unlikely that the contract will change.

“Once it’s negotiated, it’s negotiated,” he said. “[But] it doesn’t hurt to ask.”

“No one is happy about it [the pay cut],” Jackson said. “A lot of morale is down because of [it].”

Despite frustration over the contract, things could be worse.

“The one good thing,” Jackson said, “[Is] we’re here.”

# Budget

continued from page 1

protecting human services — two things that suffered in the hands of the Senate budget.

“Higher ed has had such deep cuts,” she said. She said she hopes that a compromise can be found to protect higher education.

“I was pleased with that budget [the House budget],” Rep. Orwall said. “[But, I’m] not sure where we’ll go from there.”

Both the House budget and the Senate Democrats’ budget held no cuts for education — although the House proposal delayed payments to educational institutions.

The Senate Republican budget — which was approved by the Senate with the help of three Democrats — called for ap-



State Rep. Tina Orwall

proximately 3 percent in cuts to higher education.

After the regular session convened on March 8, legislators had a brief respite before regrouping on Monday to begin the special session and find a reasonable solution.

“A lot of questions remain about the budget,” Rep. Orwall said. “[But] I think we’ll get there.”



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## Busy mom lived what she writes.

When Malia Ramos – young mother and caregiver to aging relatives – could take time for herself she entered UW Tacoma, majoring in urban studies. Next step: a career writing about urban issues.

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Des Moines Historical Society Photo

*The Van Gasken Mill (left) and the Van Gasken house (on top of the bluff) were built between 1889 and 1890. This photo was taken around 1910.*

## Parks

continued from page 1

a marina with a beautiful view of Puget Sound,” said Scott.

However, being situated near (and in the case with some buildings) over the Des Moines Creek has its ups and downs.

In the early 1990s to the early 2000s, Des Moines Creek consistently flooded the park, causing severe damage to the buildings there.

“During the flooding, you could hear the water swirl around the buildings,” Scott said. “What it left behind was a great deal of debris and damage, people couldn’t go into the buildings because of damage to the foundations.”

With the park closed down, it needed some serious help and money to get running again.

In 2006 the beach park was registered as a National Historic Site. Since then, \$2.6 million have been approved to restore the park.

Buildings were raised on stilts to prevent further flood damage, then new higher foundations were poured in order to prevent creek floods from causing further damage.

Although most cleanup and repairs went smoothly, renova-



Carmen Scott

tions to the auditorium met with some problems.

“A new concrete floor was poured to cover the old one, but when the workers pulled the Visqueen off the concrete, they found cracks in the floor,” she said. Because of the flaws in the floor, the workers had to jackhammer out the floor and replace the new one, which was finished in December.

“The interior is literally done now, they just need to clean up the construction debris and dust,” Scott said.

Despite the interior nearing completion, problems with the roof leaking about a month ago has made workers have to replace the roof too. “They realized the roof was further gone than they had thought before,” Scott said.

Despite the setbacks with renovation with the auditorium, Scott remains hopeful and eager to see it re-open. “We’re going

to have a wonderful community center shortly,” she said.

“We’re going to have a re-opening ceremony this summer, maybe July.”

Other buildings aren’t as fortunate, and remain closed.

Funds for renovating all the buildings failed to materialize and are still in question.

“The Sun Home Lodge has not been refurbished yet,” Scott said. “We’d like to have more bathrooms and changing rooms for large groups and weddings. The auditorium has a few small facilities, but it would be difficult to host a really large group,” she said.

Scott said that the money request intended to finish renovations for the other flood impacted buildings were turned down by voters. “Proposition One was where the money was going to come from, but that failed,” she said.

“We need to find other means to pay for the sun home lodge and get that re-furbished.”

Scott said the park adds a sense of status to Des Moines. “If you have a historic place like the beach park here, that adds importance to people who have lived here,” she said.

She said that renovation is crucial to the livelihood of the park, and the community. “I believe the Des Moines Beach Park is an undiscovered jewel,” Scott said. “We need to have that park back in good shape to preserve it in good condition so people can use it well and future generations can use it well.”

On Tuesday, March 27, at 7 p.m., a repeat of the presentation on the history and future plans for the Des Moines Beach Park will take place at the Des Moines Activity Center, 2045 S. 216th Street. Councilmember Scott will again be sharing on the Des Moines Beach Park.

For more information contact the Des Moines Activity Center at 206-878-1642 or contact Councilmember Carmen Scott at cscott@desmoineswa.gov.



*Sneaky people want to steal your car and sell its parts for money.*

## Car Theft

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Highline will benefit from this bill due to a large number of car thefts around campus.

“We average about six to eight stolen vehicles a quarter,” said Rich Noyer, who is the supervisor for Campus Security. “Fall is the worst because it has the most students and a lot more cars, increasing the risk of theft.”

The car that seems to be stolen the most around Highline are 1990-1992 Hondas.

“They are one of the easiest cars to get into and to start the ignition because a lot of the early 1990s Hondas keys can fit into other Hondas,” Noyer said.

In other cases, car thieves tend to damage the car in order to steal it.

“In most cases of car thefts, thieves smash a window or break open the door with a tool and they use the tool to start the ignition,” said Noyer.

Fortunately, Highline’s Campus Security and Des Moines Police Department are able to recover most of the cars stolen around campus.

“Last quarter a majority, about 80 percent, of car thefts were recovered,” Noyer said.

Car thefts have been of concern for a lot of students around campus.

“I walked half of the parking lot and I couldn’t find my car anywhere,” said a student who recently had her car stolen. “I usually feel safe at Highline. Having my car stolen is very surreal.”

Even taking precautions, students are still at risk of having their vehicle stolen.

“My car was locked, I lock it all the time and I check and make sure my keys are with me every time I leave my car,” said the student whose car was reported stolen.

Highline has tips on the Highline website and fliers around campus on ways to help prevent your car from being stolen. Tips can be found at [www.campusafety.highline.edu](http://www.campusafety.highline.edu).



Des Moines Historical Society

*Taken around 1890, local natives used to sail their canoes down the Puget Sound from as far away as the Alaskan panhandle.*

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