

the THUNDERWORD

Highline College | April 26, 2018 | Volume 55, Issue 23



Search enters the semi-finals

By Izzy Anderson
Staff Reporter

Highline's search committee is closing in on a list of candidates to interview for the position of college president.

Previous Highline president Dr. Jack Birmingham announced his retirement in July 2017, after more than a decade as acting president.

Since then, Dr. Jeff Wagnitz has stepped up as the interim president, and will continue in this position until a new president has permanently filled the role.

Dr. Wagnitz will then resume his previous position as vice president for academic affairs.

The Board of Trustees have since arranged together the

See Search, page 16



Bob Roegner

Supremacist group fliers found

By Krista Gaines
Staff Reporter

A white supremacist group attempted to post fliers at Highline last week, the latest in their attempt to recruit white college students to their cause.

On April 20, two fliers pro-

moting white supremacy were discovered posted on the bulletin board near the Fireside Bistro in Building 8.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the organization responsible for the fliers are, "at the forefront of the racist 'alt-right's' effort to recruit white, college-aged

men and transform them into the fashionable new face of white nationalism. Rather than denigrating people of color, the campus-based organization focuses on raising white racial consciousness, building community based on shared racial identity and intellectualizing white suprem-

acist ideology."

"It focuses its efforts on recruiting college students," said author and journalist David Neiwert.

"It was founded and is overseen by a student at Cal

See Flyers, page 16

Building 26 goes boom on May 7

By Colin Phan
Staff Reporter

Building 26 will kick off its renovation with a demolition day in two weeks.

The Building 26 project will turn the 42-year-old building into Highline's Health Sciences building.

Building 26 was previously scheduled to undergo renovation last year, but the capital budget was held hostage in 2017 causing a lack of funds and a delay in the schedule that was set out.

After a capital budget was passed by the Legislature in January, the Building 26 plan resumed action.

Once the building is complete, the new structure will



Hailey Small/THUNDERWORD

Building 26 was scheduled for renovation last year, but a delay in state funding held up progress until now.

feature 46,068 square feet of classroom, lab, office, and study space.

Highline Director of Facilities and Operations Barry Holldorf had previously said that Highline was hoping to go to

bid on the project in mid-to-late March. Holldorf also mentioned that Highline wanted to take advantage of the time in which the least amount of students would be on campus during July.

However, demolition of the old building is set to start on May 7 at noon.

See Demolition, page 16

S&A budget receives approval for another year

By Byron Patten
Staff Reporter

The Student Council approved the proposed Services and Activities budget for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Services and Activities is the budget that allocates funds to non-education services on campus. Some of the items they fund include athletic programs,

the Thunderword newspaper and Student Government.

The Services and Activities Budget committee has met throughout the year to plan next year's budget, agreeing on \$2,934,960.

The allocated budget is a \$221,083 increase from 2017-2018's budget of \$2,713,877.

Committee Chair Chloe Zabrek said the majority of the

individual budgets are increasing.

"Our per diems have increased to reflect the state amount, going from \$8.81 to \$13.15," said Zabrek.

"Also, the minimum wage has increased, so we have been working on the proper funds to match that."

Per diem is the daily meal allowance given to students

while traveling on college business.

"We also have three new accounts that were previously not funded by S&A: Public Speaking Tutor, Transfer Center and Veteran's Program," said Zabrek. "We have 62 budget proposals. We reviewed all

See S&A, page 12

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Students plant fruit trees and bushes at Earth Week event



Computer is stolen

By Krista Gaines
Staff Reporter

A Mac desktop was stolen from a computer lab in Building 9 between April 3-6.

"The faculty member in charge opened the building on April 6 and noticed it was not there. The computer was not scheduled for maintenance at this time," said David Menke, director of Public Safety.

"The room is often unlocked because people are coming in and out," said Marc Lentini, director of Instructional Design.

He said the computer did not have a lock attached at the time. According to the Apple website, these desktops cost about \$1,300.

The computer has been replaced and now has a lock attached. The original computer has not been recovered.

Alligator teeth removed

The alligator teeth were removed from the Pacific Highway entrance to the east lot.

Alligator teeth are road directors that prevent vehicles from entering or exiting a roadway.

"They were removed to repair Highline's sewage line. When they were done, they just paved over the gap," said Sgt. George Curtis of Public Safety.

"When the Link Light Rail transit comes in about two years, it will become the new main entrance with one lane coming in and two out," Sgt. Curtis said.

"There are plans to build a stop light on Pacific Highway South for the entrance," said Barry Holldorf, Highline director of Facilities.

"The project should be complete sometime between 2020 and 2024," Holldorf said.

Dog on the loose

Public Safety received a call about an unleashed dog on the field track.

"We were able to make contact with the dog's owner and explain the city leash law," said David Menke, director of Public Safety.

"Dogs must be on a leash, cord, or coil if off the owner's premises," according to the City of Des Moines Pet and Animal Questions page.

"We are working on getting a sign saying, 'this is not a dog park' for the track," Menke said.

Deadline looms for prospective Student Government candidates

By Peter Brooks
Staff Reporter

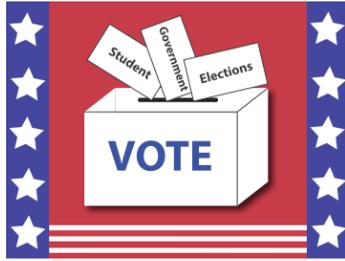
The deadline to file for this spring's Student Government election is Friday.

The packet must be turned in to the Center for Leadership and Service in Building 8 on the third floor.

Next year's Student Government president and vice-president will represent students to the college administration and also learn new things in the process, this year's vice-president Mahlet Tiruneh said. Students will elect two people to these positions in May.

Student Government president and vice-president positions are paid positions where students can work 15 hours per week with flexible scheduling.

The president is the primary advocate for the student body and government; and a direct



liaison to the administration and Board of Trustees. The vice-president administers Student Government internal affairs and facilitates sessions and projects.

Along with their various individual responsibilities, Vice President Mahlet Tiruneh offered some advice.

"We're looking for someone willing to step out of their comfort zones, someone who is passionate about the student body, and wants to learn more about the Highline process," Tiruneh said. "It's okay to not know all of the information right away. It'll



Mahlet Tiruneh

all come in time."

Despite challenges, Tiruneh said she has been grateful for the experience, where she gained leadership experience, confidence, and public speaking skills while advocating for students.

Applications can be picked up in Building 8 on the third floor in the Center for Leadership and Service office.

Prospective candidates must turn in an election packet by the

deadline, including answers to a series of questions.

Questions include: What contributions will you bring to student government? What personal qualities and experience make you a good representative for students and how do they relate to this position? How do you hope to serve others as a student leader by giving back to Highline by building communities and developing leaders?

These questions will need to be emailed in a Microsoft Word document to Mahlet Tiruneh at mtiruneh@highline.edu.

Each response is limited to 150 words and must be sent, with the election packet by noon on Friday, April 27.

Candidates who turn in a packet on time will go to the ASHC Mandatory Candidates Meeting, April 30 from 1 to 2 p.m., to learn more about the election process.



Nominate successful women

The deadline for Women in Action Awards is this Friday, April 27.

Women's Programs has been accepting nominations for its upcoming Women in Action celebration, which will be held on May 9.

The awards are for students, professors and/or programs who have achieved more or gone above and beyond in service to Highline throughout the past school year.

The celebration will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. There will be a keynote speaker, food, and entertainment as well. The venue will be the Mt. Constance room in Building 8 on the first floor.

If you want to make a nomination, turn it in by 4 p.m. to the Women's Programs department located by the Public Safety office in Building 6.

Learn about civil engagement

State Rep. Tina Orwall, D-Des Moines, will visit campus on May 1.

Highline will be hosting several local leaders to talk about the importance of civic engagement and voting in the upcoming elections.

The event will be in Building 7 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Nominate important faculty

Nominations are now open for Highline's Outstanding Faculty Awards, which are given annually by Highline. Two awards worth \$1,500 are provided to one tenured faculty member, and one adjunct faculty member.

Nominations for either award can be made by students, staff members, faculty member, or administrators at Highline.

To nominate a faculty member, two written endorsements are required from the nominator and a second reference that gives emphasis on the faculty member's contribution to education at Highline.

The nomination letters should include examples of how the nominee is an outstanding teacher, and how they have made an extra contribution in the world of education, community, or industry.

Nomination forms must be

submitted to the Office of Instruction, Mailstop 9-2, by 5 p.m. on May 25.

Celebrate school achievements

Highline will celebrate students' academic milestones soon at the Achievement Social.

It will take place Thursday, May 3 from 11 to 12:30 p.m. in the Mt. Constance room of Building 8 by the cafeteria.

Icebreaker or mixer games for socializing will take place throughout. Lunch will also be provided by Lancer Catering.

Gifts will also be awarded to students who have reached certain academic milestones of 15, 30, and 45 credits.

"Research has shown that when students complete these milestones that they're markers of persistence and retention," said Jade Chan, leadership adviser at Center for Leadership and Service. "We wanted to

make sure students feel recognized and affirmed, that they know they matter to the Highline community. In large colleges, some students may feel disconnected and just a number in the system, and we want to dismantle that," Chan said.

About 2,000 students are invited by e-mail, but we anticipate about 100 students to attend, Chan said.

Know about stress and success

Learn about stress and the pressure to succeed by attending Highline's Pressures to Succeed event on April 30.

The event, which is part of the Inter-Cultural Center's Counseling Wisdom Series, will discuss the pressures people face to succeed, and how students can cope with them.

The discussion will take place in Building 8, room 204 from 10 to 11 a.m.



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Getting out the vote

Elections director wants to see more people cast ballots

By Chloe Wilhelm
Staff Reporter

While many people are registered to vote in King County, more people still need to vote, a top elections official said on Tuesday.

Julie Wise, director of King County Elections, visited Highline on Tuesday to discuss elections and the importance of voting.

The event was the first in a series of presentations by local leaders called Civic Tuesdays, which will cover the importance of civic engagement, particularly voting in the upcoming elections.

At the event, Wise explained that while voting is very important, voter turnout tends to be low in local elections, despite a high number of registered voters.

In King County, there are 1.3 million registered voters, which makes up one-third of

voters in Washington state.

However, she said while 82 percent of King County's population is eligible to vote, very few people tend to vote in some elections.

She said 82 percent of registered voters vote during presidential elections, but only 20 to 40 percent vote during local elections.

"I would love to see 100 percent registration and 100 percent turnout," Wise said.

Some people don't vote due to a lack of information, or because they think voting won't make a difference, Wise said.

She said that since voting is so important, they want to increase voter turnout by focusing on education and outreach.

"[We] want to remove barriers... to increase access for everyone in King County," Wise said. "We need to make it easier for people to vote."



"[We] want to remove barriers... to increase access for everyone in King County. We need to make it easier for people to vote. Imagine the power we would all have if we all voted."

– Julie Wise,
King County
Elections director

"Imagine the power we would all have if we all voted," she said.

Wise explained that there were several bills that were passed during this year's legislative session to accomplish this goal.

New legislation will allow people to preregister to vote starting at age 16, and will also allow people to register to vote on the same day as an election.

The Automatic Voter Registration Act was also passed by the Legislature.

This bill will establish an automatic voter registration system so people who are eligible to vote can automatically register when they apply for an enhanced driver's license,

which requires proof of citizenship or resident status.

The new legislation will go into effect in 2019.

Wise said that while these new voting laws will help, efforts are still being made to increase voter turnout. This includes using pre-paid postage for mail-in ballots, which would allow voters to vote through mail and return ballots without a stamp.

Since Washington voters must vote in elections exclusively through mail, pre-paid postage is expected to help more people return ballots, compared to the number of returns through the 56 ballot drop boxes in King County.

A recent study revealed that pre-paid postage increased

voter turnout, and showed that turnout increased between 6 and 10 percent within a year in Shoreline, Maple Valley, and Vashon.

Wise also discussed the issue of election security, and said Washington elections are very secure, since the system is not connected to the internet.

She said that this prevents hacking and the changing of voter information, and ensures "fair, open, and accurate elections."

Wise encouraged students to vote, and said that voting is "absolutely vital."

"People fought for our right to vote," she said. "We really shouldn't take that for granted."

Budget boss wins Student Employee of the Year award

By Peter Brooks
Staff Reporter

Community Budget Coordinator Chloe Zabrek had a hand on a lot of student money last week. And she's done such a good job with it that she was named Student Employee of the Year.

About 200 people showed up to the Student Employee of the Year Celebration, comprising student employees and staff on April 18.

"I feel really honored to be chosen out of the other student employees who all worked very hard," said Zabrek. "I've had a lot of opportunities and learning experiences outside of the classroom."

Zabrek, also an honor student, was nominated by Marta Reeves, program coordinator of the Center for Leadership and Services.

"Chloe is exceptionally efficient with a positive attitude and always shows up on time,"

said Reeves. "Her facilitation of meetings is better than anyone before her."

Reeves adds that Zabrek is very inclusive and makes sure everyone understands the process. "She looks at everything with an equitable and financial eye and if it's in the best interest of the students," said Reeves. "I think that's why she's done such an exceptional job."

Zabrek took on dual roles of community budget coordinator and Services and Activities Budget chair, said Reeves. "Both are significant roles and she is full-time."

As chair of the budget committee, Zabrek facilitates and reviews student-driven submissions from all programs on campus by assisting the Reeves in tracking the budget for Services and Activities. The Services and Activities budget pays for non-classroom activities ranging from athletics to the Thunderword.



Peter Brooks/THUNDERWORD
Chloe Zabrek was named student employee of the year for her work with the Center for Leadership and Service.

Zabrek's roles include creating the agenda, attending and supervising all meetings, informing students of their possibilities, and confirming everything.

"Step out of your comfort zone, take the initiative, continue working hard and never give

up," Zabrek said.

During Fall Quarter, Zabrek helped fill in for Reeves while the latter was on medical leave.

Zabrek is graduating this quarter and proceeding to Seattle University to study forensic accounting.

"I'm not sure what I'll do

with her gone," said Reeves.

Nominees were chosen by department supervisors. The winner was chosen by a selection committee comprising of staff across campus, and supervisors from Center for Leadership and Services as well as Career and Student Employment.

Other student employees nominated include: Asia Ahmed, Academic Success Center; Guadalupe Banuelos, Workforce Education Services; Richard Warden, Bookstore; Rabab Alhashemy, Business Technology; Risha Sharma, Outreach; Anh Thu Ho, Parking Enforcement; Jordan Julaton, Career and Student Employment; Jullianne Plummer, ACHIEVE; Vaishali Vakharia, Admissions; Carrie Costello, Admissions; Rui Auxilia, Advising (Navigators); Hiroki Tsukamoto, Public Safety; and Sherika Moore, Women's Programs.

Comments shouldn't outshine conference

First let's state the obvious: The opinions stated by the speaker at the recent Students of Color Conference were hurtful and wrong.

The media is not feminizing people, and they are certainly not making more gay people. This point of view is hurtful and is not based in any sort of reality.

Being gay or feminine is not a negative. Everyone is unique. People should not feel bad for loving who they love, or being who they want to be.

One point of the conference was for people to be accepting of each other, a point the speaker clearly missed.

The attendees of the conference had every right to be offended by the comments, and the speaker should not be invited back to next year's conference.

Once the speaker said the comments, she should have been willing to answer questions and provide the reasons for how she came to that conclusion.

If you are going to say such an outlandish thing, you need to stand by your comments and be willing to defend what you say. You cannot simply say something outrageous and then try to avoid any criticism or questions.

Afterward, she also managed to offend atheists by saying that they were the main people who had a problem with what she was saying.

But one bad apple shouldn't spoil the bunch. These comments should not overshadow what was an important time for people to express the challenges that they face in life.

The conference should still be recognized as a crucial time for students from around the state to talk about the issues that they face. Especially, people of color are free to express how they feel without fear of being judged.

Too often people are afraid to speak about their feelings and experiences. They are worried about what people will say or think about them.

In their daily lives, expressing feelings about race and justice can be difficult for people. How can you explain your challenges to someone who has never faced them themselves?

But this opportunity presents a unique opportunity for people to say what they think, without fear of their audience not understanding. Many people had their own stories of what it means to be a person of color in this society.

To ignore these stories, and to focus on the hateful comments of one person, is truly defeating the purpose of the conference.

People from around the state were together to talk and to listen to each other.

Too often people focus on the negative and ignore the positive of a situation. One benefit from the hate was the ability to talk about it.

Sometimes in life you need to make the best of a bad situation and try to make something into a positive.

If people are not open about their feelings, then you will never be able to change their minds. This comment showed that there is still a lot of work before we are truly an accepting society. This comment showed that we cannot pretend homophobia and hate doesn't still exist.

The best thing people can do in life is talk. Talk about what they feel. Talk about their experiences. Talk about how they think they can improve society. And one hurtful comment should not detract from what was otherwise an excellent discussion.

We must understand that there are still people who feel this way, and we need to listen to what they have to say. This shouldn't be done to give credibility to what they have to say, but to understand their point of view and where it comes from. Homophobia and hate are still a very real problem in this country. If you do not understand it, you will not be able to change it.

Tide pools, not Tide Pods should be what matters

In a world where people willingly eat laundry detergent, it should come as no surprise that society is becoming less scientifically inclined.

Highline Professor Woody Moses thinks that one of the main causes of this is a lack of scientific understanding.

"As a society, we're not valuing the scientific research that's occurring," Moses said.

The professor of life, ocean, and general sciences said that one of the drivers behind this lack of appreciation comes from capitalism.

"We have a society that's geared towards satisfying," Moses said, adding that people "default to what feels good."

Moses said that in capitalism, people are only focused on themselves as individuals and do not look at things collectively, adding that "we don't like to do that."

Things like flying to Hawaii or driving have negative effects on the environment, but people don't ever think about them.

"Actions have consequences," he said.

This lack of thinking about consequences also appears in other parts of our lives.

On the topic of anti-vaxxing, Moses said that one of the reasons that the movement began is because of how effective vaccines are.

Anti-vaxxing is when parents choose not to vaccinate their kids, which leads to them being susceptible to disease.

Anti-vaxxers are "victims of success," Moses said, adding that "they don't know how devastating those diseases can be."

Part of the reason for the spike of people not vaccinating their children is also something called herd immunity, Moses said.

Herd immunity is essentially where as long as most people are vaccinated, the few who aren't will not cause an outbreak of a disease. This immunity to disease fails when the number of people who are not vaccinated rises.

Moses doesn't think that people are knowingly putting their kids at risk, saying that

Roland Along



Mitchell Roland

shots aren't fun and that "it's really hard to watch your kids suffer."

The beauty of vaccination is that disease that used to be a problem are no longer a problem. Before vaccination, there used to be 20,000 yearly cases of polio in America. Now, due to people getting vaccinated for it, there are only 3,500 cases a year worldwide.

Science plays a huge role in helping eliminate diseases like this.

Still, Moses said that people need to remove bias from their lives and need to "just stick to facts and evidence."

Moses admits that science is not always the most interesting thing to do and that facts can be hard to interpret.

"Science is not easy, it's not always fun," Moses said, adding that "Thinking is hard."

Moses also said that people do not understand how technology and the world works.

"We've become so removed from the underlying structure

of our society," he said.

Moses said this creates a problem because the people who do understand things like technology "have an immense amount of power."

One idea that Moses had to help fix this problem is for society to spend more time "teaching kids about how things work."

One of the problems that Moses runs into when teaching his classes is people who say "I believe" when talking about the results of experiments.

"Science doesn't believe in anything," he said.

People need to "focus on actions, facts, and evidence."

Moses also said wealth and education level can affect people's ability to look at things logically and rationally, and that when people are not wealthy they do not focus on what their decisions mean for society as a whole.

"When you have more resources, you can be more objective about things," he said.

Even though science changes and is not always right, it is constantly adapting and improving. When presented with new facts and evidence, science does not double down and ignore new information.

Science used to believe the earth was flat, now it doesn't. Rather than claiming fake news, it accepted the new information and used it. The beauty of science is that while it is never complete, it is constantly getting better.

Mitchell Roland is the opinion editor of the Thunderword.

Have something to say?

Write to us!

Have something you want to say to the student body?

The Highline Thunderword is asking for students to voice their opinions on what matters to them. We're accepting submissions in the form of letters and columns.

Letters to the editor should be no more than 200 words; columns should be no more than 600 words.

Send submissions to thunderword@highline.edu by Monday for print on Thursday.

the Staff

That's how a cult gets started.

E-Mail: tword@highline.edu

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Spring onion recipe great for the season

Wild onions were among the first foods that mankind gathered and ate, and are one of the first signs of spring. Onions are in the allium family along with garlic and shallots. There's nothing like the intense flavor (or the smell) of an onion! Spring onions are my favorite type of onion, both as an ingredient and as a vibrant, flavorful garnish. Spring onions also are called green onions, young onions, pencil onions and scallions.

Scallions aren't as fully ripened as a green onion and should not have a bulb. Spring onions are the milder, first stage of a mature onion. If left in the ground to grow, they'll form into an onion bulb.

Larger, older spring onions may have limp or faded stalks and a stronger flavor than the smaller ones. Spring onions should be small and thin, with a firm base at the root tip and crisp, bright green leaves. Select spring onions that are not fully developed, with a white bulb end and long, green stalks. The flavor of the leaves is milder than the root end. Spring onions will keep for five to seven days when wrapped in plastic and stored in the refrigerator.

Spring onions are a great source of vitamins A and C, iron, calcium and fiber. They also contain a substance that prevents the formation of blood clots. Eating onions helps to lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels.

To prepare the spring onions, cut off



Deposit photos

Onions are high in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants.

the roots and peel away the outer layer to remove any lingering dirt. Next, rinse the leaves, spreading them gently with your fingers to get at the dirt in the crevices. Both parts are edible. Although the white bulb is listed most often as part of recipes, the green leaves also should be incorporated into recipes and as a garnish.

Use the leaves to add a wonderful burst of green color, to tie up appetizers into a package or to use as a frilly, edible garnish. To curl the ends, cut off the roots and all but about 3 inches of the green tops. Slice the tops lengthwise down from the green end into the white section. Put the leaves in cold water and chill for several hours to curl them.

While spring onions are best served raw, they're also delicious grilled or sauteed.

They should be added during the final stages of a recipe for maximum flavor. This recipe is a showcase for two vegetables that will brighten up your dinner plate with the colors and flavors of spring!

SAUTEED SPRING ONIONS WITH ASPARAGUS

2 pounds green asparagus with pencil-thin stalks

1 whole bunch of spring onions or green onions, root bottoms removed and discarded

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 tablespoon unsalted butter

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 tablespoon dried Italian seasoning

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

1. Trim the woody bottoms from the asparagus and discard. Slice asparagus diagonally into thirds and set aside. Slice spring onions or green onions in 1/4-inch slices and set aside.

2. Add the olive oil and the butter to a medium pan over medium heat. When the butter begins to bubble, add the spring onions, garlic and Italian seasoning, and saute until the onions begin to soften, about 2-4 minutes.

3. Add the asparagus and sprinkle the vegetables with the salt and black pepper. Combine the ingredients and saute, uncovered for 7-10 minutes or until the asparagus can be pierced easily with a fork.



Savory chicken sandwich in minutes

Transform rotisserie chicken into a tangy, barbecue-sauced sandwich filling in just minutes.

1 small (2 to 2 1/2 pounds) rotisserie chicken

1 cup barbecue sauce

1/2 cup water

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

6 Kaiser rolls, split

1/2 pound deli coleslaw

Carrot and celery sticks

1. Remove skin and bones from chicken; coarsely shred meat.

2. In 2-quart saucepan, combine chicken, barbecue sauce, water and vinegar. Cook over medium heat 5 minutes or until hot, stirring frequently.

3. Spoon chicken mixture onto bottom halves of rolls and top with coleslaw and top halves of roll. Serve with carrot and celery sticks. Makes 6 servings.

* Each serving: About 405 calories, 11g total fat (3g saturated), 87mg cholesterol, 870 mg sodium, 40g carb., 2g fiber,

Good Housekeeping

34g protein.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our Web site at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

NOTE: Fruit-based fat replacements are sold in the baking section of some supermarkets and health-food stores.

* Each slice: About 110 calories, 2g total fat (0g saturated), 3g protein, 22g carbohydrate, 13mg cholesterol, 140mg sodium.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our Web site at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

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Meatball hoagies with a Mexican twist

When you're bored with the same old, same old -- put this on the menu!

8 ounces extra-lean ground sirloin beef or turkey breast

3/4 cup shredded Kraft 2 Percent Milk Cheddar cheese

3/4 cup crushed Dorito's Baked Corn Chips

1/4 cup reduced-sodium ketchup

1 tablespoon dried onion flakes

1 teaspoon chili seasoning

6 hot dog buns

1 1/2 cups shredded lettuce

3/4 cup chunky salsa (mild, medium or hot)

1. In a medium bowl, combine meat, 6 tablespoons Cheddar cheese, corn chips, ketchup, onion flakes and chili seasoning. Shape into 18 (1-inch) meatballs.

2. Evenly arrange meatballs in an 8-by-8-inch microwave-safe baking dish. Cover and micro-



by Healthy Exchanges

wave on HIGH (100 percent power) for 6 to 8 minutes or until meatballs are firm and no longer pink.

3. For each sandwich, place 3 meatballs on a hot dog bun and top with 1/4 cup shredded lettuce, 2 tablespoons salsa and 2 tablespoons Cheddar cheese. Serve at once. Serves 6.

* Each serving equals: 243 calories, 6g fat, 16g protein, 31g carbs, 520mg sodium, 180mg calcium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Meat, 1 1/2 Starch, 1/2 Vegetable; Carb Choices: 2.

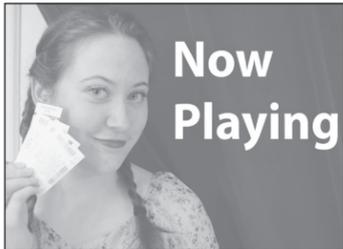
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Yacht clubs and poets in spotlight

• Kick off the summer at the Des Moines Yacht Club's South Sound Opening Day 2018.

This event will be from May 11-13.

It will include events spread



Winter Dorval

out over the weekend.

There will be a social hour on Friday night with complimentary appetizers (drinks not included), after check-in at The Des Moines Yacht Club Clubhouse from noon to 6 p.m.

On Saturday from 8 to 10 a.m. the Des Moines Marina Cabana will provide a complimentary breakfast.

At 6 p.m. there will be a Mardi Gras themed dinner and dance which will be \$30 per person.

From 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. enjoy seeing the FunAddicts perform live.

On Sunday, there will be a Mother's Day breakfast at the Des Moines Yacht Club for \$6 per person.

The address is 22737 Marine View Dr. S., Des Moines.

The price of the event will vary depending which activities are participated in.

Register online at desmoinesyachtclub.com/.

• Enjoy a free night of fun with Poets on the Ave this Friday.

This event will be hosted by the Auburn Ave Theater.

Performing will be the Poet Laureate of Auburn, Susan Landgraff.

She will perform with local poets Jeannine Hall Gailey, Kellie Richardson, James Rodgers, Gerald McBreen, Emilie Rommel Shimkus, and youth poet Summer Barnett.

Performing poets include former Auburn Poet Laureate Marjorie Rommel, and the first Auburn Poet Laureate Richard Brugger.

This free event is being held to honor National Poetry Month.

Poetry at the Ave will be on April 27 from 7 to 9 p.m.

The address is 10 Auburn Ave., Auburn.

For more information visit www.auburnwa.gov/things_to_do/arts_entertainment/auburn_avenue_theater.htm.

Kent Creates looking for more artists to submit their work in 'On the Water'

By Winter Dorval
Staff Reporter

Float your artistic creations on Kent Creates' newest online exhibit titled "On the Water."

The exhibit will be on display now through June 30 at www.kentcreates.com.

"As soon as an artist submits an entry, it goes into a queue for approval by Kent Arts Commission staff. We approve and post entries at least once a week," said Ronda Billerbeck, Cultural Programs manager and Kent Arts Commission director.

The staff is composed of 14 volunteers who each vote for five submissions they like best, she said.

"Once a piece is approved, it is posted on the website and remains there after the exhibit is over, but as newer exhibitions are created and newer pieces are entered, the older submissions get moved further down on the home page," Billerbeck said.

They are expecting 40 to 50 submissions, she said.

"We've been holding pretty steady with about 40 submissions per exhibit. Ultimately, we'd like to see many, many more. Kent Creates is still pretty new so hopefully it will catch on and grow," Billerbeck said.

This event first began in 2016.

"Kent Creates is just over a year old. The Kent Arts Commission launched Kent Creates as a way to showcase and celebrate the breadth and depth of



Ryan Chastain Photo

Marina sunset can be seen in 'On the Water' exhibit online.

creativity in Kent and beyond," Billerbeck said.

Painting and photography are the media most commonly submitted, she said.

"However, Kent Creates is really for all creative endeavors. We've had submissions in the areas of poetry, songwriting, crafts, and dance. We love to see a great variety of projects," Billerbeck said.

This will be Kent Creates fifth exhibit.

"We believe strongly that arts and culture are for everyone, and that creative pursuits enrich everyone's lives. Kent Creates is a way to engage the creativity of everyone - not just professional artists," Billerbeck

said.

They hope people know that acceptable submissions include, but are not limited to, short films, video montages, songs and more, she said.

"The theme for this exhibit is 'On the Water.' The Arts Commission was definitely thinking of summer in the Puget Sound region when they selected the theme, but we always intend the theme of Kent Creates exhibits to be a source of inspiration, rather than rigid criteria," Billerbeck said.

"Sometimes entries represent the theme perfectly, other times it's a looser connection, and sometimes I don't notice

a connection at all but all are fine."

The theme for their last exhibit, which was on display from Jan. 24 to March 31, was 'Lighting up the dark.'

"The overall goal of the Kent Creates platform is to explore, celebrate, and share creativity in general and the valuable role it plays in all of our lives, as individuals and communities," Billerbeck said.

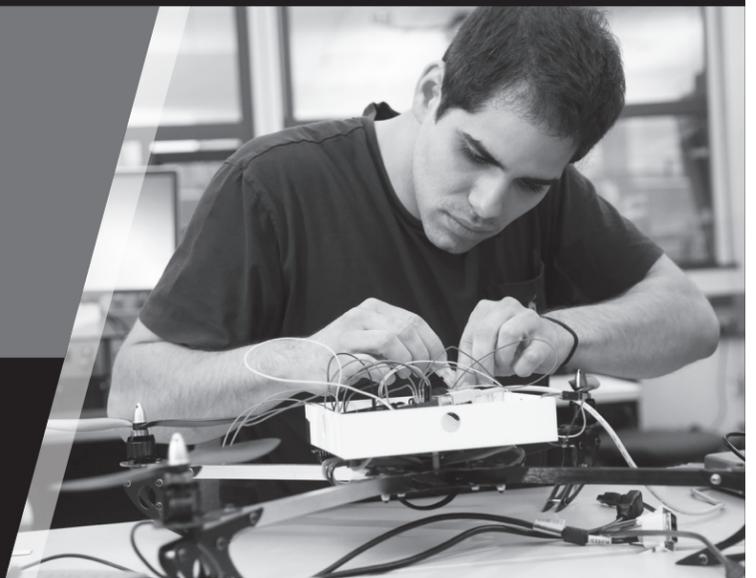
Artwork can be submitted through the website with a free account at www.kentcreates.com, under the tab exhibitions.

To submit work, and for more information, visit www.kentcreates.com.

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The write medicine

VISITING POET WAS WAS HEADED FOR A CAREER AS A DOCTOR UNTIL SHE FOUND HER VOICE IN WRITING

By Nayyab Rai
Staff Reporter

Her mother was recognized as one of the top doctors in the United States and Aimee Nezhukumatathil was bent on becoming a doctor.

Nezhukumatathil was trained from a very young age in all things science.

But then, she discovered poetry during her sophomore year. She had found herself.

The prominent poet from Mississippi came to Highline last week for Poetry Month. Around 90 people attended her lecture.

Growing up in a scientific household, there was not much room in Nezhukumatathil's life for literature.

Finding out what poems were and how they can resonate with your soul changed her life.

"It was so difficult, but this time I actually cared," she said.

"You can exercise empathy through writing."

When she first told her parents that she wanted to switch from medicine to poetry, her parents had very little empathy for her dream.

When she was in high school, Nezhukumatathil wanted to break out of her shell and became the mascot, making her parents disappointed.

"It is because you let her become a mascot," Nezhukumatathil said when she was describing the arguments between her parents.

However, as Nezhukumatathil's dreams become reality, and she started publishing books, her parents began to gradually approve. Then, they started to show her off to the rest of the family.

Nezhukumatathil explained her inspirations and how others can also write poetry.



Aimee Nezhukumatathil

"Part of the beauty in poetry is that it is something that finds you tethered and grounded to each other," Nezhukumatathil said.

Having the connection with others allows to see them in a whole new light.

Nezhukumatathil keeps a "Smell Journal," which helps her learn about the world around her. "Capture a smell, but capture it as accurately as possible," she said.

Anything can inspire you as long as you let it, she said.

At the lecture, Nezhukumatathil read excerpts from a variety of poems such as; *Corpse Flower*, *Mascot of Beaver Creek High Finally Breaks her Silence*, *The Cockroach Responds*, *Invitation*, and *One Star Reviews of the Great Wall*

of China.

When writing literature, you need to be able to keep your mind open to notice what is happening around you. Find something that can help you connect with others.

"Poetry is a way to slow down and pay attention," Nezhukumatathil said. "Focus on the image itself."

It will make your writing a lot easier, she said.

Nezhukumatathil's latest book, *Oceanic*, came out on April 10. She is one of many poets who came to Highline for National Poetry Month.

Nikkita Oliver was supposed to come last week, but had to cancel due to work-related issues. She is expected to come again before the end of the quarter.

Underneath you, narwhals spin upside down while their singular tooth needles you like a compass pointed towards home. If you dive deep enough where imperial volutes and hatchetfish swim, you will find all the colors humans have not yet named, and wide caves of black coral and clamshell.

-excerpt
from *Invitation*
by Aimee
Nezhukumatathil

Are you ready to survive against the zombies (again)?



Reuben Gonzales

• *State of Decay 2*, published by Microsoft Studios. Survival Video Game, single player or multiplayer, third-person view survival game. Available on Windows, Xbox One. \$30 standard edition

Hopefully you have a good zombie survival plan worked out and a few trusted friends.

Microsoft's new game *State of Decay 2* puts you right in the middle of an outbreak of zombies and lets you work out how you will survive the undead horde.

Will you depend on friends and allies or go it alone? The choice is up to you.

The game was developed by Undead Labs and was developed using Unreal Engine 4.

"Unreal Engine 4 is a suite of development tools to help game designers to make high quality games across all platforms," according to the Unreal Engine website.

The game is a sequel to the 2013 *State of Decay* and is set in a post-apocalyptic open world.



Microsoft Studios

Hone your survival skills while fighting off the zombies in *State of Decay 2*.

This means you are not bound to wandering around to unlock other areas by completing missions. The world is just open for everyone on day one.

The game has a progression system that players will use to level up their base, individual players and their community. This system allows players to level up characters to leadership positions in their community.

State of Decay 2 will have a lot of the same mechanics as the

first one, but is now introducing a multiplayer option to the series. This will allow the players to hop in a game with a friend or just a random group with one of their characters.

Each player will still keep control of their own community and the roster of characters they have been working on.

The game also has another unique mechanic in permanent death. This means that if you have one of your characters die

they stay dead and are lost forever.

This makes the player think a lot more through his actions as they could potentially lose a character they spent hours leveling up.

The game comes in the standard edition that you can preorder and get access to the Prepper's pack. The pack includes the Grasscutter melee weapon, an exclusive vehicle and an assortment of necessary survival

supplies and abilities.

Then there is the Ultimate Edition that comes with four-day early access to the game, and codes for two add-on content packs, Independence Pack and Daybreak Pack. This also includes the original *State of Decay* year one survival edition.

If you preorder the Ultimate Edition game you get the Prepper pack as well. The Ultimate Edition costs \$50.

So, you can try to run, you can try to hide, or you can fight the choice is yours. The game releases on May 22.

The battlefield moves to new lands: The creators of *Player Unknown's Battlegrounds* is currently in early testing for new maps for the Xbox One and PC versions of the game. They will both include new weapons and vehicles.

PUBG is currently testing the Miramar map for the Xbox One, which has been released on the PC for a few months now.

They are also testing the Savage map for the PC. This is the second round of testing to get the bugs out of the new map before official release.

Although no official release date has been given for either of these maps, Xbox One users can expect the new map in early summer.

Dress-up quandary

What do you wear when the weather doesn't care?



Alyson Freeman/THUNDERWORD

By Mayia Matlashchuk
Staff Reporter

Today's expected 80-degree weather is a good example of the whiplash effect that selecting the proper apparel for Highline's open air campus has on students.

April showers usually give students a hard time selecting what to wear on a daily basis.

Many students struggle in finding the right thing to wear to keep themselves warm and comfortable, with the constant changes in weather.

"Spring and Fall are the harder seasons to dress up for- freezing in the morning and hot in the afternoon," said student Natasha Scoropad.

"I like dressing up, but it's hard when it would be sunny in the morning, with no sign of rain until later on. I always have to bring a jacket or an umbrella with me," said Alisa Slobodyanyuk.

Students are struggling to find the right outfit since the weather doesn't stay consistent throughout the day.

Denis Mat said that he checks the weather every morning to see if he's going to need a jacket for later in the day.

"I make sure to check the weather every day. One day it will be 80 degrees in the afternoon, the next it will be raining from morning till evening," Mat said.

"I only have two classes in the afternoon, so I just wear whatever would match the weather," said Victoria Sarahkman. "There's only been a couple of times where the weather would change."

Students manage to coordinate with the weather changes and bring a jacket just in case.

"I would wear what I planned. I just check the weather to see if it's going to be cold or rainy, to see if I need to grab a jacket," Ilona Kovalenko said.

Some students prefer to wear more casual clothes that fit most types of weather.

"I'm more of a hoodie person, if it gets hot I can roll up the sleeves or take it off," said Pavel Odarchuk.

Because it is usually warmer in April, she usually wears something casual so as to not worry if there may be a drop in temperature, Diana Bliznyuk said.

"I just wear whatever I feel comfortable in, even if it gets cold I know it won't get too cold. Either way classes are inside," she said.

Film & Society class returns to campus next week

By Nayyab Rai
Staff Reporter

Highline's Film and Society class begins next week on April 30.

The class will meet for five weeks on Mondays from 1 p.m. to 5p.m.

The 107 Film and Society class will be taught by professor Susan Rich. She has been with Highline for 18 years and has published four books of poetry.

"The focus of the film [class] is 'Women in the Workplace.' This class looks at the situation for women at work and show we absorb culture through film," Rich said.

The films will feature women going through life as best as they can.

They will showcase the culture and they show how we absorb that culture through film, Rich said.

In this class, students will be watching several comedies, along with movies to broaden their perspectives.

Up to 32 students are allowed to be in the class.

"If students need to pick-up an extra three credits, this is a fun way to do so," Rich said.

This class has been taught at Highline for several years, but this will be Rich's first time teaching it.

If you are interested in this class, registration in online at the highline website or at the Register's office in Building 6, first floor.



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Rosie Delrosario emerging as a star

By Lukas Bachmann
Staff Reporter

Rosie Delrosario has been playing softball for most of her life, and she said she loves every minute of it.

"I like the competitiveness, and the friendships that you make while being on a team. You make sisterhoods because these are the girls that are going to be with you, pretty much your whole life because you have been playing ball with them," said Delrosario, a sophomore on Highline's fast pitch team.

"You know them from head to toe, in and out, all the drama, so it's kind of nice to meet new people that we share something, we share a connection, we share softball," Delrosario said.

Even for someone who has been playing ball as long as Delrosario has, she said there are still things she finds challenging about the game.

"The hardest part is being mentally strong before and during the game," Delrosario said.

She is also just one of four sophomores on the Thunderbirds' team and she does not shy away from being a leader.

"I feel like my strength is being a leader on the team. A lot of girls look up to me. Even if we are losing by a lot, I always say we can do it. wW can bounce back. We can come back and win this game, let's just focus on us," Delrosario said.

Delrosario is a pitcher for the Thunderbirds and is second on the team with an ERA



Rosie Delrosario

of 3.71 and leads the team with 57 strikeouts.

Delrosario may pitch like Randy, but she also hits like Griffey.

She has a batting average of .337 along with 4 home runs and 22 RBIs on the season.

Even with a stud on the mound like Delrosario, the Thunderbirds are on a 10-game losing streak but she has yet to lose faith in her team.

"I think we need to all have confidence in ourselves and believe that we are a good enough team to beat these teams out here," Delrosario said.

"We are a small team with only four sophomores, so I just think that the freshmen need to have more confidence in themselves and trust the process of us being able to win games and then make playoffs. I feel like once we get over this hump we will be successful," Delrosario said.

Delrosario said her goal for this season is to make playoffs and go farther than they did

last season.

"Last year we made history, we went to the second day and my goal is to go further in playoffs, so maybe go the third and fourth day," Delrosario said.

Delrosario is not a Northwest native. She was born in the San Francisco Bay area and grew up in Nevada but she said she loves it up here.

"I love it. I love the ocean and the beaches. Being in nicer weather than 115 degrees is great. Vegas is very hot and here is very cold but I am originally from the Bay area and I like Seattle because it reminds me of home," Delrosario said.

Delrosario did not have the typical recruitment process most athletes have at Highline.

"I actually had a tournament in Oregon called the Valley Invite for my travel ball team and Jason Evans, our head coach here, went to the tournament and watched one of my games and then talked to my coach about me. He emailed me and said, "Hey I want to get you on a visit here, are you interested?" Delrosario said.

"My parents and I came on a visit and I had a workout with the team. I really liked it so then I committed," Delrosario said.

The Thunderbirds currently sit in sixth place in the North Region Conference with a record of 5-11 in conference and 11-16 on the season, but they will not stay there if Delrosario has anything to say about it.

The Thunderbirds' next game is away against Edmonds on April 28 at 1 p.m.



Delrosario has been crushing balls behind the plate this season.

Women's fast pitch ends their 10-game losing streak

By Milo Kabigting
Staff Reporter

The Lady T-Birds Fastpitch team ended its 10-game losing streak, breaking even with Shoreline in a double header on April 18.

The T-Birds won their first game 16-11, then lost the second, 9-6.

Highline now sits in sixth place in the North Region, with a record of 6-12, right behind Skagit Valley.

The T-Birds have five more league games before the regular season ends.

In the first game, the Thunderbirds' Alexis Royal led the team with four RBIs, while

Alexis Morrow followed right behind, tallying three RBIs as well.

The Lady T-Birds then traveled on April 19 to Skagit Valley to take on the Fighting Cardinals.

Jenny Hovland was all over the stat sheet in the first game. The T-Birds' center fielder tallied two runs for the team and had one RBI leading the T-Birds to a 3-2 victory in the first game.

The Cardinals came back to win the second game, 5-8.

Four Highline players reached base four times each, but Skagit Valley's Lauren Edmiston, who leads the Cardinals by batting more than .500 for the season, reached home plate four times.

The top three teams will secure a playoff spot. Then the next seven will be determined by the rating percentage index to make the playoffs, which will be held May 18-21 in Spokane. They will be hosted by the Community Colleges of Spokane and North Idaho College.

"We still have a very good chance at playoffs," said head coach Jason Evans. "We need to keep fighting and take care of what we have control over. Team chemistry is still great. That's a huge thing for us."

The Lady T-Birds played April 24 at home against Olympic. Results from the game were not available at the time of publication.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Restroom, for short
- 4 Back talk
- 8 Blunders
- 12 Yale student
- 13 Friends, old style
- 14 Manner of walking
- 15 Gut level
- 17 Sans siblings
- 18 Feline
- 19 Snake or lizard
- 21 Untamed horse
- 24 Apiece
- 25 Second person
- 26 Wheel center
- 28 Basic assumption
- 32 Piquancy
- 34 Afternoon beverage
- 36 Water conduit
- 37 Come in
- 39 Sprite
- 41 Stitch
- 42 Tin Man's need
- 44 Alt-rock band, Barenaked —
- 46 Cheesy paper
- 50 Make marginalia
- 51 Vivacity, musically
- 52 Hun opponent

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13						14		
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56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- 9 Hindu princess
- 10 Streamlet
- 11 Eyelid woe
- 16 Has the skill set
- 20 Coatrack part
- 21 Memory measure
- 22 Reddish horse
- 23 No longer stylish
- 27 Spelldown
- 29 Guests
- 30 Duel tool
- 31 Nightly telecast
- 33 Earth science
- 35 Every last crumb
- 38 Carnival city
- 40 Tex-Mex treat
- 43 18-Across' ennead
- 45 Follow relentlessly
- 46 Slope transport
- 47 Jason's ship
- 48 Life stories, briefly
- 49 Exemplar of thinness
- 53 Round Table title
- 54 Upper surface
- 55 "Yoo-hoo!"

DOWN

- 1 Third O.T. bk.
- 2 Boxer Muhammad
- 3 Baron's superior
- 4 Draw
- 5 Melody
- 6 Celebrity
- 7 Drag (Var.)
- 8 Braggart's journey?

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cow Mule?

- 8. **ANATOMY:** What is the most common blood type in human beings?
- 9. **ANIMAL KINGDOM:** What is the largest rodent in North America?
- 10. **LITERATURE:** How many lines are in a Shakespearean sonnet?

- 1. **ART:** Which artist from Iowa painted the iconic *American Gothic*?
- 2. **BUSINESS:** Where is the Target store's headquarters?
- 3. **GEOGRAPHY:** What is the longest mountain range in North America?
- 4. **LANGUAGE:** What is the meaning of the Latin term "ad infinitum"?
- 5. **GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:** When does winter begin in the Southern Hemisphere?
- 6. **NOBEL PRIZES:** Who was the only prime minister to win the Nobel Prize for Literature?
- 7. **FOOD & DRINK:** What are the ingredients in a Mos-

- 11. Juice
- 12. The beaver
- 13. O positive
- 14. 10
- 15. Vodka, ginger beer and
- 16. Winston Churchill
- 17. 5, June 21
- 18. Going on forever
- 19. Rocky Mountains
- 20. Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 21. Grant Wood

Puzzle answers on Page 12

GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	x		+		13
-		+		+	
	x		+		17
x		x		x	
	x		+		19
20		27		32	

1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

DIFFICULTY: ★
★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You've set a fast pace for yourself. But as you approach your goal, you might want to slow down a bit in order to take time to reassess your situation and make changes while you can.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Patience continues to be a virtue for the Divine Bovine. So as eager as you might be to get things moving, remember that time is on your side. Make good use of it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) There's a wee bit of uncertainty in the early part of the week. But things clear up as more facts come to light. Spend quality time this weekend with family and friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An old friend's return could open new possibilities for both of you. But don't let yourself be rushed into anything. There could be some factors you haven't yet explored.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This week offers a challenge you're raring to take on. And while eager



Archer's aim might be focused on the big picture this week, but don't overlook checking for those details you might have missed.

to get started, do so slowly so that you can focus those sharp Cat's Eyes on every detail.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Put your skepticism aside and listen to advice from colleagues who've been where you are now. What they say could be helpful as you get closer to a decision.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A family matter might again require your reassuring touch. Handle it, as always, with kindness and fairness, even if some of your kin prove to be especially difficult.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your ability to tackle even the most intricate details of a project is likely to impress some very important people. A relative shares news later this week.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) The

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) You might feel awkward asking for assistance, but who would refuse the charming Goat's request? Do it, then go ahead and enjoy a musical weekend.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Pour some cold water on that simmering misunderstanding before it boils over. The sooner things settle, the sooner you can move ahead with your plans.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) You're in a highly productive period, which you feel can go on forever. But you could be courting exhaustion. Take time out to relax and restore your energies.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can combine a sense of adventure with a penchant for practicality. Have you considered a travel-related field?

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Learning how to de-escalate

Highline faculty and staff get trained in how to defuse tense situations

By Krista Gaines
Staff Reporter

Students look to faculty and staff for leadership and, as such, instructors need to embrace that responsibility, particularly in emergency situations, a Spokane deputy sheriff said last week.

The training session in de-escalation methods was the result of the lockdown pertaining to a potential shooter last quarter and was hosted by Public Safety. It was for faculty and staff.

Because of high demand, there were two training sessions. The sessions were taught by Tony Anderman, a Spokane sheriff's deputy with a master's of science in education.

Anderman described what aggression looks like, sounds like, feels like, and how to "stay left" in the situation and de-escalate that aggression. They also learned about triggers in themselves and the aggressors.

Being left of the situation refers to the scale of escalation. It is proactive rather than

reactive.

"Today is about you. Do you understand your own triggers?" Anderman asked his audience.

Anderman explained how personal triggers, things that psychologically provoke individuals, can get in the way of de-escalating others. Instead, they need to calm themselves before they can calm the student.

"De-escalation starts with you," Anderman said repeatedly. "Our goal is to be proactive and be left of the situation."

He said he believes college environments lack the teaching of simple tools of critical thinking in our daily lives.

"Every student of this campus are geniuses in their own way, but that doesn't mean they have the tools to work through critical issues that become triggers," Anderman said.

Being that Highline strongly emphasizes diversity, Anderman said the students come from very diverse homes and lifestyles. Therefore, each stu-

Spring into salsa



Hailey Small/THUNDERWORD

Oriana Estrada teaches students, faculty and staff the finer points of salsa dancing at a workshop Monday afternoon in the Student Union. The event was part of Unity Week, which continues with more events today and Friday.

dent will have different values and critical thinking skills.

"Are we doing enough on campus to give them the tools of our values, moral compass, and ethics?" he asked.

"They may not know the values of the organization. When you try to hold them accountable when they may not have all the tools in place, without a logical cognitive tool in place, they begin to es-

calate."

The staff and faculty were given tactics of responding to aggressive behavior in a proactive manner.

"You are their [the students'] examples. You are their family. They look at you to bring them forward into the work force. They look at you to bring them forward into the skills, knowledge, and ability to make them successful," he

said. "They are watching the way you behave, the way you treat others, and the way you treat them."

The staff and faculty were advised to spend time getting to know students on campus, so they can have a person on campus to trust.

"It's up to you to get them through this process to make your environment safer and to make them feel safer," he said.

Burien law enforcement career fair aimed at women

By Krista Gaines
Staff Reporter

A job fair for women interested in law enforcement careers will be in Burien on Saturday, April 28 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The event will be sponsored by NW Women's Law Enforcement Network and Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission (WCJTC).

"There will be about 30 different police departments and public safety agencies present," said Lt. Marcia Harnden of the Bellevue Police Department.

"Any women interested in a job in public safety, law enforcement, forensics, or even in the fire department are welcome. We don't limit to just law," she said.

At this event, "people can talk to professionals and get a taste of the application process for various agencies. Some agencies will have direct appli-

cations available at the event," Harnden said.

Most of the professionals mentioned will be women and recruiting for city, state, or federal law agencies or leaders in the field.

There will be demonstrations and displays of what happens on the job, and advisers that can give recommendations for physical fitness training in preparation for the job.

The event will take place at the Washington Criminal Justice Training Center at 19010 1st Avenue South Burien, WA 98148.

"There is probably a national average of 12 - 18 percent of women in law enforcement," Harnden said.

For more information, visit their Eventbrite web event page under Women in Law Enforcement Career Fair at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-in-law-enforcement-career-fair-tickets-43631417745>



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Earth Week: Prof sees threat in plastics

By Matthew Thomson
Staff Reporter

Plastics have had a significant impact on modern society but, there has been a significant dark side as well, a Highline professor said during last week's Earth Week History Seminar.

"Plastics were once the most significant development in history. However, today plastics threaten boundless damage to the earth and the creatures that inhabit it," said Dr. James Peyton, instructor of economics.

Plastics are a chameleon. They are easy to mold and cheap to produce. But they have fueled the throw-away nature of our consumer culture, Dr. Peyton said.

There are also toxicity concerns.

Some plastics, when overheated, can cause dangerous chemicals to leach out of the plastic. High Density Polyethylene can leach nonylphenol, which causes endocrine disruption, when is exposed to ultraviolet sunlight. Vinyl can leach seven sperate carcinogens when burned, Dr. Peyton said.

One solution is to produce non-petroleum based plastics. Pepsi and Coca Cola competed to create the first 100 percent bioplastic. The competition was won by Pepsi. Bioplastic is made from Brazilian sugar cane created by a petrochemical firm called Braskem.

The problem with bioplastics is that they have all the same problems as normal plastics, they are just made with natural materials, Dr. Peyton said.

The Pacific rubbish patch, discovered in 2003, is of great concern. A vortex of discarded plastic, on land it would run from Virginia to California and from the Rio Grande to Wisconsin. Except this floats in the Pacific Ocean.

It is not the only concern. There are five other rubbish patches, one in every ocean.

The Atlantic rubbish patch is comparable in size to that of its brother in the Pacific. The Indian Ocean rubbish patch is between two and five million square miles in size. Due to the remoteness of the Indian Ocean patch the exact size is unknown.

The rubbish patches are caused by ships and fishermen that take detours and dump waste in areas where the current isn't strong. These actions lead to as many as a million sea creatures dying each year, Dr. Peyton said.

Plastics have become an integral part of our society and now have become an integral piece of our environmental woes, are 100 or so years old.

The first useable plastic was invented in 1910.

Bakelite was commercialized



Hailey Small/THUNDERWORD

Dr. James Peyton discusses the benefits and ill effects of plastics.



as a wire insulator. It was easy to mold and was a good insulator, but it was very brittle once molded.

In daily life, Bakelite was used to make telephones, radios, and car dashboards. Sawdust was added to the Bakelite mixture to decrease brittleness. This had the unintended effect of making the plastic darker, Dr. Peyton said.

The next stage of plastic development was PVC or Vinyl. Developed in 1872, it wasn't patented until 1913.

In the 1920s BF/Goodrich invented a plasticizer used as a coating for fabrics. During WWII, it was used as an insulator on navy and military ships.

From the 1960s onwards, the best known, usage was on vinyl records, Dr. Peyton said.

Polystyrene was discovered in 1939 in Berlin and lead to the creation of Styrofoam in 1941 and the pudding cup in 1960.

Nylon, also called neoprene, was developed in Germany in 1926 and used to make war material, as well as the well-known women's staking, the nylon.

When commercially introduced the staking sold out within hours, Dr. Peyton said.

Teflon was developed in 1938 by the Dupont Co. Dupont had made money during WWI and was looking to diversify in the 20s and 30s. This turned out to be a good investment given that Teflon would be used in military applications during WWII such as artillery shells and in atomic weapons.

Household applications of Teflon include pots and pans (nonstick), Dr. Peyton said.

Polyethylene Terephthalate also known as P.E.T. was discovered in 1941. However, a controversy in the 1960s called the "double knit affair" caused P.E.T. to lose popularity. It was considered a bad fiber.

This was due to the way the fabric was blended. It could catch fire and the whole garment would burn very quickly. In the 1990s, however, the same fiber

made a comeback as polyester, a microfiber, Dr. Peyton said.

Polycarbonate, invented in 1898, patented in 1954 and 1955 by General Electric, is used for eyeglasses and bulletproof glass.

Starting just before WWII there were a number of innovations in plastics molding, starting with injection molding which created less volatile plastics allowing for mass production.

This is when plastic items begin to appear everywhere. Your average consumer can thank blow molding and rotational molding for things such as water bottles, containers, drums, and kayaks.

Rotational molding is also used for playground equipment, floats, and large tanks, Dr. Peyton said.

The post-war egalitarian ethos led to the need to overcome the limits of natural materials.

In 1946 Tupperware was invented by Earl Tupper and launched in 1948. The Tupperware vice president of marketing launched the Tupperware Party in 1951 leading to plastic in every home, Dr. Peyton said.

Several suggestions for helping the problem of plastics are: Refuse plastic bags and carry reusable bags; don't use plastic water bottles, carry a reusable water-bottle or coffee tumbler with you; Shop and donate to second-hand stores; Pay attention to what goes into what bin, Think in terms of durability instead of disposability.

If these suggestions aren't observed, the rubbish patches will continue to grow.

If they do we have hope of a better future, Peyton said.

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Renewable energy and biotech are future of environment

By **Matthew Thomson**
Staff Reporter

Renewable energies and biotech are projected to be the future of the environmental movement, an environmental activist told an Earth Week audience last week.

A college graduate is far more likely to get a job in wind, solar, or hydroelectric rather than oil or coal, said Carmen Rumbaut, a retired lawyer and environmental activist trained by the Climate Reality Project.

The Climate Reality Project was founded by Noble Laureate and former Vice President Al Gore to help resolve problems created by global warming and climate change. The effort includes cultural leaders, scientists and organizers.

Rumbaut spoke last Wednesday, during Highline's annual celebration of Earth Week, about climate change and how our cultural values may have contributed to the current situation. She also offered specific actions that anyone can take to resolve the problem.

She said people have already begun the process of making the necessary changes by starting the transition away from carbon-based and highly polluting energy forms by adopting alternative energies such as wind and solar.

"Every hour the world gets enough solar energy to fulfil the world's needs for an entire year," Rumbaut said.

The earth has a planetary shield around it protecting every living thing on it from solar radiation.

"CO2 causes the radiation to build up inside that shield," Rumbaut said. "CO2 is getting caught in the atmosphere, causing warming."

On a global basis, this heat goes into the oceans, creating larger storms.

"Extreme precipitation events [caused by these larger storms] leads to record flooding. This leads to drought in the long term," Rumbaut said.

The heat caused by global warming causes moisture from the soil to then evaporate more quickly, leeching nutrients and leading to drought outside of the rainy season.

This process makes agriculture difficult in affected areas, Rumbaut said.

Climate change droughts are forcing people to move from arid lands. This migration is



Carmen Rumbaut

causing conflict as refugees seek more hospitable, but already inhabited lands.

"Climate change will lead to the greatest refugee crisis in history," Rumbaut said. "The costs of carbon to political stability are no longer worth the benefits."

Whether the whole of the United States will make the changes necessary to combat the effects of climate change is a political question.

The recent withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Accords was not a high point for the cause of environmentalism, she said.

Despite the Trump Administration's withdrawal from the climate accords, a number of states and localities have said they will continue to honor the accords.

The Seattle City Council, for instance, has resolved to maintain and develop the environmental standards of the Paris Agreement, which asks countries to become carbon neutral by 2050 and reduce global warming.

Failure to take action on climate change may lead to the loss of 50 percent of all species, Rumbaut said.

Cities within the United States that could be directly affected by the failure to address climate change include Miami Beach and New York's Manhattan Island, which are likely to experience difficulties due to rising ocean waters as the polar ice caps melt.

Rumbaut pointed out that the Trump Administration's date for withdrawal from the accords is not until 2020 when the first set of expectations in the accord are set to go into effect.

Rumbaut said her motivation for her activism to combat climate change is her grandchildren. She said she wants to make sure the earth is still there for them.



Lezlie Wolf/THUNDERWORD

Students experienced Hugelkultur by planting blueberry bushes last Tuesday.

Hugelkultur brings new innovation from overseas

By **Chris Holmes**
Staff Reporter

Whether it be gardening for personal pleasure or cropping food as a necessity, Hugelkultur is a well-known international technique that has grown healthy crops.

Originating in Australia, then being adopted by Germans, the practice of Hugelkultur was developed to combat the harsh and dry weather conditions that destroyed crops.

Hugelkultur means "hill culture" or "mound," and is a centuries-old traditional way of building one's garden bed.

The process supports soil fertility and increases water availability to one's crop.

Rick Schultz, faculty adviser of both the ACHIEVE program and Permaculture Club, hosted an event last Tuesday afternoon which introduced Highline students to Hugelkultur, along with its positive benefits.

Taking place in front of the library, it was demonstrated step-by-step by planting one dwarf apple tree and two blueberry bushes.

Schultz began the process by digging a hole to be filled with damp wood and cardboard.

The water that is held within them will serve as a con-



stant water source for the crop during the dry seasons.

This is followed by plant

debris, leaves, aged manure and other biomass, which will provide important nutrients to the crop keeping it in good health.

Because this method of small scale agriculture is used internationally, it has become helpful to both families and local businesses in the Seattle area.

"It is important for us to be aware of how environment supports our needs," Schultz said.

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Highline Student Union, Building 8, first floor

Tuesday, May 8
9:30 A.M - 12:30 P.M

Veterans need haste for medical appointments

It wasn't so long ago that veterans were waiting a very long time for medical appointments. While clerks fiddled with fake appointment books and scribbled in notebooks instead of entering appointments correctly into the computer, some veterans died before being seen. In Phoenix it's thought that 200 veterans died while waiting on care.



by Freddy Groves

The wait times for appointments under 30 days is looking better, at least in most places.

Little Mayfield, Kentucky, is over 99 percent. Enterprise Way, Illinois, is at a whopping 100 percent, as are Hanson, Kentucky, and four locations in New York.

Some locations, however, are still struggling.

Salem, Virginia, for instance, has 61,000 appointments scheduled, and they're only at an 88 percent rate. Denver is sitting at 84 percent, and Las Vegas at 83 percent. Phoenix is still struggling at 90 percent.

In all those places with appointments stretching out over 30 days, veterans can opt to use the Choice Program and go for civilian care.

There are steps to take, however, before you go that route. You need to get prior authorization to be sure you qualify, and mostly to ensure that the proposed facility is on the Veteran's Choice Program (VCP) network. Your best step is to actually call that facility because there were quite a few that were unhappy because they hadn't been paid in a timely manner.

For eligibility you need to live more than 40 miles from the nearest Department of Veterans Affairs facility, or you need to take a plane or boat to get there, or you have a significant health problem, or the VA can't give you the care you need. To determine your eligibility, go online to www.va.gov and search for Choice Program. Click the Eligibility button and answer the questions. You also can call 866-606-8198 or visit www.va.gov/opa/choiceact.

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Kent Education Association calling for change

By Faith Elder
Staff Reporter



Dr. Calvin J. Watts

Teachers and students, angered by the Kent School District's ongoing financial crisis, are calling for the removal of Superintendent Calvin J. Watts.

For Christine Padilla, president of the Kent Education Association, this is the community taking action to fix the district's continuing budget crisis.

"We are asking someone to intervene and to fix the budget in a way that doesn't affect the students," she said.

Kent School District's budget troubles began in 2016, when the district used inaccurate predictions of student enrollment to build the 2016-2017 budget, planning for an increase in the number of students.

This increase in enrollment would have resulted in more funding for the district, as the state provides the district a certain amount of funding per student.

"With more students, the state would send more money, which the 2016 budget used to support district programs," said Padilla. "There were more employees at every level."

However, student enrollment did not increase, leaving the Kent School District underfunded and overstaffed. By August of 2017, the district was facing a \$6.9 million budget shortfall.

The district's initial response to this crisis was freezing hiring and cutting the district supply budget by 20 percent, resulting in 55 open teaching positions and less district funding given to teachers to purchase classroom supplies.

This cut to the supply allowance has forced both teachers and students to spend more out of pocket for school.

Highline student Jason Nguyen, also a Kent student, recalls the amount of school supplies that students were expected to provide.

"Teachers couldn't give us any supplies for projects anymore, so we had to bring it all ourselves," he said. "We would take toilet paper rolls from the bathroom because the school would run out of tissues."

Trying to avoid another shortfall, the Kent School Board planned to approve more job cuts for this school year and beyond, a plan approved by the superintendent's office.

"They cut 55 jobs for this year, but this would cut 60 more at the end of this school year and another 70 after that," said Padilla. "That means that in three years, they will have cut over 170 jobs."

As the union for Kent teachers, this concerned the Kent Education Association, especially in terms of long-term hiring.

"The district will need to be hiring soon," said Padilla. "Cutting these jobs doesn't encourage teachers to come to Kent."

On Wednesday, April 4, the Kent Education Association issued a no-confidence vote against the Kent School District administration, calling for Superintendent Calvin J. Watts' removal from office.

Padilla sees this vote as a cry for

help from the community.

"When the Kent Education Association passed this resolution, what they said is they don't think this administration has the ability to fix what is broken," she said.

The Kent Education Association has no power to directly remove the superintendent, who has held the position since 2015. However, the Association is organizing protests to pressure the school board to change district leadership.

But even if Superintendent Watts refuses to resign, Padilla predicts a growing dislike for the administration in the community.

"I expect to see more lack of trust and more turmoil in relations," she said.

But while the district management is in crisis, Padilla also sees hope for a reasonable outcome, assuring the community that students will still receive an education of the highest standards.

"Students will continue to be given a quality education," she said. "Our teachers are dedicated to keeping district turmoil away from the students."

The Kent School District has not responded to repeated requests for comment.



S&A

continued from page 1

of them, decided if there is any confusion and asked how they will support the students."

The committee of staff, faculty and student volunteers agreed on the draft budget during Winter Quarter, which was presented at the council meeting on April 24.

"We still need to receive spring tuition, as we are on a forward funding model that uses collected money," said Zabrek.

Funds for S&A come directly from student tuition and until the money is collected, the committee will not know the exact amount they are working with.

"We won't have the final number till June 30, after the step payments come in," said Zabrek.

Step payments is the option where students make several payments towards their tuition over the course of the quarter.

The committee will present the approved budget to Board of Trustees on May 7. A final approval from the Board of Trustees will occur on June 14 to confirm the budget for the next academic year.

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Fliers

continued from page 1

State-Stanislaus,” he said.

David Neiwert is a local journalist and writer for the Southern Poverty Law Center.

He is also the author of *Alt-America: The Rise of the Radical Right in the Age of Trump* and many other books regarding hate groups.

Jeff Wagnitz, Highline College interim president, sent an email to staff and faculty explaining the incident.

“Highline College is dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion as a matter of the institution’s core values and principles. We are, and will continue to be, committed to ensuring a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all members of the college community,” he said.

The fliers were not approved under college procedure which states, “All posters/flyers need to be stamped for approval by the Center for Leadership and Service located on the third floor of the Highline Student Union before they can be posted on campus.”

Fliers and banners have become a growing recruitment tactic for many white supremacist groups, according to Southern Poverty Law Center.

“Southern Poverty Law Center has tracked 329 flier-ing incidents on 241 different college campuses across the United States, a number that continues to grow,” the website says.

“We are keeping an eye on the bulletin boards,” said Sgt. George Curtis of Highline’s Public Safety department.

Editor’s note: The Thunderword is not naming the group so as to avoid giving them unwarranted publicity.

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Demolition

continued from page 1

Holldorf said that although demolition will be happening, a large portion of it will be taking place inside of the building.

“It will be intense selective demo. There is a lot of demo to take place,” Holldorf said. “[It will be] mainly inside, but there is a portion of demo to some sites in and around the building that will take place.”

Holldorf said that although people will be on campus when the demolition is happening, there won’t be any concern for safety or loud noise.

“There will be noise and vibration when we conduct the demo. The levels I am not sure of noise-wise, but we will try to mitigate that as best as possible,” Holldorf said.

“When we pile into the ground for new columns to support the new additional square footage we are adding, there will be noticeable noise,” he said.

Demolition day is free and open to the public, and will happen right outside of Building 26.

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

— Go Figure! —

answers

6	x	1	+	7	13
-		+		+	
2	x	8	+	1	17
x		x		x	
5	x	3	+	4	19
20		27		32	

Search

continued from page 1

presidential search subcommittee.

This subcommittee have been given the duty of sifting through the applicants to present the board with a list of the top candidates for the job.

Since the application period for new presidential candidates officially closed on March 3, the next step is to interview the candidates that were approved by the subcommittee.

“Over the last few months the search committee have reviewed the candidates’ applications, and now have [a] confidential list for initial interviews,” said Board of Trustees member Bob Roegner, who is one of the committee chairs.

After these interviews, applicants will be further whittled down.

These few candidates will then participate in on-campus meetings and interviews, where those interested can meet the applicants and continue to give input.

“After the committee have completed the interviews we will provide a list of candidates to the Board of Trustees for their consideration,” Roegner said.

“[We] anticipate on-campus interviews in the middle of May, where all those inter-

ested will have an opportunity to meet the candidates and provide input to the Board of Trustees,” he said.

Previous presidential searches have followed a similar outline, where candidates have been brought on-campus to get a better idea of the Highline community.

The new president is set to be chosen by this July.

“We expect to have a new president on board by July 1,” said Roegner.

Overall, the input given from the campus and stakeholders have been helpful during this process, Roegner said.

“It has been a delightful experience to watch the different on-campus and community

stakeholders share their best thoughts and ideas, while appreciating the input from others,” said Roegner.

There is also an online page up and running to keep the public updated on news regarding the presidential search.

Included on the website is a profile of what Highline is currently looking for in a president, information regarding the search subcommittee, past achievements Highline has earned, and information on listening sessions for the public to voice their opinions.

The presidential search page is available online at www.highline.edu/presidential-search/.

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Women's tennis sits in first place

By **Lukas Bachmann**
Staff Reporter

The Thunderbirds stayed undefeated in April by defeating Skagit Valley 4-3 Saturday afternoon.

Thanks to singles wins by Amila Gogalijia and Cora Padilla, and a doubles win by Gogalijia and Celeste Andreotti, the Thunderbirds remain in first place in the conference and are now 5-1 in conference play.

They also hold a two-game lead on second place Spokane, with two games left in the season before the start of playoffs.

While most tennis matches are scored best of nine, the Skagit Valley game was best of seven.

Head Coach Laura Rosa explained that Skagit Valley's small team was the reason for this change.

"Skagit only has four players, so technically they can only play four singles and two doubles which makes the highest score possible 6-0. But it also means a team can tie 3-3, which was what we wanted to avoid," Rosa said.

"We could have taken all six players and gotten three default points and won the match 6-3, but we chose to rest a couple players and have our default points cancel each other," Rosa said.

By choosing to do this, the Thunderbirds had more pres-

sure on them than other teams did while playing Skagit Valley.

"We knew the pressure was on us to win by making that decision; we went in knowing it would be a 7-point match," Rosa said.

"The beauty of that was in giving an opportunity to players who are lower in the lineup the chance to compete in higher spots which was a great prep for the matches coming up," Rosa said.

The Thunderbirds were supposed to have a week off before Skagit Valley requested a date change for the game but Rosa said that did not affect the way the team played.

"None of us really want time off," Rosa said.

With the midseason break being taken away and the decision to rest players, it seems fair to assume that a fatigue may be setting in on the team after a long season, but Rosa denies this.

"The sun has come out finally and we are all energized to be outside and on the court as much as possible. Most of our training has been indoors, but we are transitioning to a lot more outdoor play," Rosa said.

"These players train year-round. We also take a lot of pride in being the fittest team in the conference, both physically and mentally," Rosa said.

The NWAC Women's Tennis



Highline Athletics Photo

Danielle Mendoza sets up to serve.

conference is small, consisting of only five teams. This can lead to teams playing each other back to back, which is what Highline and Skagit Valley are doing.

Rosa said she does not feel that this makes an opponent more difficult as they are prepared for it.

"The conference is so small that we know this kind of thing can happen," Rosa said.

Rosa does not plan on changing the team's game plan for

Skagit Valley even after playing them last week.

"We will likely run a different lineup, but again, Skagit is small but skilled," Rosa said.

Akin to Bill Belichick's next-man-up philosophy, Rosa has kept her own philosophy of one match at a time and so far, it has been working for the Thunderbirds.

The Thunderbirds' next game is against Skagit Valley on April 27 at 8 p.m. at the Boeing Employee Tennis Courts.

Scoreboard

38 35
45 14

NWAC Women's Softball

North Region		
Team	League	Season
Edmonds	21-1	31-4
Douglas	19-3	27-3
Bellevue	13-9	25-10
Everett	11-9	19-13
Skagit Valley	6-10	9-11
Highline	6-12	12-17
Olympic	5-15	8-21
Shoreline	5-17	8-20
Pierce	4-14	6-16

East Region		
Team	League	Season
North Idaho	18-2	33-3
Wenatchee Valley	18-4	22-8
Walla Walla	16-6	28-10
Treasure Valley	13-11	14-22
Spokane	9-11	15-13
Big Bend	9-13	18-18
Yakima Valley	7-15	10-25
Columbia Basin	5-15	9-23
Blue Mountain	1-21	1-31

South Region		
Team	League	Season
Lower Columbia	13-3	25-9
Mt. Hood	14-4	22-10
SW Oregon	12-5	22-13
Centralia	11-7	17-14
Clackamas	9-7	15-15
Clark	4-11	8-16
Chemeketa	1-9	2-20

NWAC Women's Tennis		
Team	League	Season
Highline	5-1	7-6
Spokane	3-1	3-6
Bellevue	5-2	5-3
Treasure Valley	2-5	2-5
Skagit Valley	0-6	0-6

Athletic director wants athletes to be students first

By **Donnie Moore**
Staff Reporter

Athletic Director John Dunn is going into his 26th year at Highline and 18th year as the AD. Dunn is dedicated to making sure his student-athletes are fully developed people.

"Unlike a lot of programs, I really care about character development," Dunn said.

"I care how our student-athletes conduct themselves in the classroom, in the community, on the floor or the field. That's big for me. I am constantly harping on the coaches to say, 'Look we need to make this a priority, we are going to be responsible young men and women and are going to represent the college and community appropriately,'" he continued.

Dunn said that it is important to set up every coach and team with the right resources to succeed in their sports. He knows this due to his three seasons as the head coach of the Highline Thunderbirds men's basketball team, and as assistant men's basketball coach for three seasons.

"My philosophy about my role always has been, provide all the necessary tools the coach-



Hailey Small/ THUNDERWORD

Athletic Director John Dunn says education comes first.

es need so when they come to campus they can do their job effectively, so they don't have to worry about the peripheral stuff that goes on in the athletic department, and making sure we are students first and athletes second," Dunn said.

Dunn can provide as much support as he needs due to the support the athletics program

gets from Service and Activities Budget.

"S&A and the students have done a great job of funding us. They are more than generous. They are always receptive of new ideas, so I can't see any reallocation of funds. I might boost one based on a request to S&A, but I can't see that. As far as adding sports at this time,

right now I really like where we are at. We have enough to fund an appropriate level, I never want to get in a situation that we are just adding sports and we can't appropriately fund them," Dunn said.

Highline currently offers six women's sports including basketball, softball, golf, soccer, tennis and volleyball, while offering three men's sports, including basketball, wrestling and soccer. While there is no real plan of addition, Dunn is aware that men's sports offerings is lacking.

"I like where we stand as far as our offerings. We are pretty thin on men's sports, but right now I don't see a logical addition. If we did add and the funding was there, I could see an addition of men's tennis or men's golf would be the likely addition to the women's programs we already have," Dunn said.

The tennis courts here at Highline currently are not in the best shape due to a lack of upkeep.

"We had an issue with the tennis courts. We only use them in the spring for PE and we did not have tennis for a long time before we added it.

We were having issues with the roots of the trees growing under it. The cost to redo it was astronomical. It was not a realistic expense. The other issue is the weather is so crazy that it mostly rains during tennis season," Dunn said.

Dunn is hopeful of redoing the courts for other purposes because currently the tennis team has a great relationship with the Boeing Employees Tennis Club.

"We are in the stages to re-purpose the court into sand volleyball courts. That is in the process right now and hoping it to be up and running this summer," Dunn said.

Dunn said he is very committed to making sure the athletes in his programs are more than just students that compete in sports, but well-rounded people.

"We are a little different. We care about students; we care about their academic performance. That's going to be our priority," Dunn said. "To me it is about making sure the we are developing young men and women that the community can be proud of."