Gordon: 'It's the right time' to retire

Fordham: Kohl 20, Highline 17

President Shirley Gordon resigns, announces 14-year career ends May 31

By Jane Boldt

Gordon, a national leader in higher education, had served as president of Highline Community College for the past 14 years. She is retiring on May 31, 1989.

Gordon said she plans to continue writing and traveling. She also said she will continue to work on projects that have had a positive impact on the College.

Gordon has been a national leader in higher education, serving as president of HCC since 1976. During her tenure, the College has grown from a two-year community college to a comprehensive community college with four-year degree programs.

Gordon added, "I have been fortunate to work with dedicated faculty, staff, and students. I have enjoyed the challenges of leadership, but I am ready to retire and look forward to spending more time with my family."

The Board of Trustees has announced that they will be conducting a search for a new president to be appointed in early 1990.

Government losing big on student loans

Forced by high college tuition and rising expenses, both parents and students are looking for alternative ways to finance higher education. As a result, more than one in five students has defaulted on his or her student loan, according to recent figures by the U.S. Department of Education.

A brief explanation of how the loan program works:

The student loan is a contract between the borrower and the lender. The lender is usually a college or bank. The student is required to repay the loan with interest over a specified period of time. If the student fails to make the required payments, the loan is considered defaulted.

Loan default rate:

The loan default rate for Highline Community College is 14.5 percent based on 1591 loans to students during the academic year 1987-1988. The national average is 16 percent.

The lowest default rate is 8 percent and the highest is 24 percent. The national average is 16 percent.

Loan servicing:

The U.S. Education Department has taken over the servicing of defaulted loans. Borrowers who default on their payments are referred to the Department of Education for collection purposes. The Department of Education then refers the borrower to a collection agency.
Instructors enforce attendance

Laura Buttitta
Staff Writer

Most instructors at Highline Community College have some policy about attendance in their classes, whether written or otherwise for winter quarter classes and beyond. The reasons for attendance policies varies with each HCC instructor.

Don Jones, philosophy, requires attendance in two out of three classes which he teaches. A poll which he includes from a textbook as a case for a strict attendance policy round. Students often pay hard earned money to attend classes and thereby have certain rights, the taxpayer pays a much greater share (approximately 75%) of the total cost of a community college education) and thereby has an overriding right to the total cost of a community attendance.

Don't require attendance for labs but not for regular class periods. "We consider students adults, and we expect them to behave as adults by coming to class."

Kathy Duval, air transportation business instructor, requires attendance for some of her classes. "If students are not interested, attendance won't make them a better student. Age doesn't necessarily mean or equal maturity. I use pop quizzes as an incentive to get them to come."

Though students have various opinions about attendance policies, many feel there is a need for some sort of policy.

Jon Shearer says half of his classes have attendance policies. "It doesn't really bother me, if you commit to something you have to be there."

Tiffany Jones states all four of her classes have attendance policies. "It's important. If you don't go, you miss a lot of work."

Diane Pemberton, whose classes all have attendance policies, says, "Since I'm paying for it. I should make the decision."

Student Mike Beam feels, "It's good because it teaches people responsibility. Most people should be responsible enough to know that to get anything out of school they have to be there."

Student Shelley Rach attends three classes, of which two require attendance. "It doesn't bother me at all, because I attend every class every day. I've been doing it for 10 years and I know the importance of education."

Half of Judy Lyn's classes have attendance policies. "It doesn't affect me, I still show up. In my earlier classes I probably wouldn't have."

"Two thirds of Bev Hurt's classes have policies. I think it's good, but it depends on the class.""}

RACISM: A battle against ignorance

Steve McClure
Editor-in-Chief

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they're not judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King Jr.

Martin Luther King stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial speaking of a time when racism and prejudice would be gone. Three years later that dream has yet to materialize. Because of generalizations and stereotypes many people of color are still subjected to racist attitudes.

Racism is part ignorance and part fear according to Mary Odem, coordinator for the Multicultural Center at Highline Community College. She stated that she has a hard time understanding how intelligent people can be racist. "If you believe in anatomy, and you believe in what America is, then racism does not make sense," she said.

Odem also feels that racism and economics are related. "Whenever the economic scene changes, racism raises its head," adding people fear that their own opportunities will decline and look for a scapegoat.

Racism is not new, "It's just visible. She said things have n't changed much from the time of the Civil Rights Movement except that people aren't as overt so others don't know what they're thinking."

Ozzi Williams, a student at HCC, tends to agree saying that he believes racism is worse because people are blind to it. "People don't want to believe it's still happening. A trip to the fact that his parents told him why people acted the way they do, his first experience with racism shocked him. "It made me mad, because we're all equal." He still has a sour taste toward racism. "They disgust me... they're just part of the fifth of society."

Odem said that she went through a process of learning to deal with racism. After her first experience with it she felt angry, confused and helpless. She then came to this realization: "It's not my problem; they have a problem."

Ron Hodge, another student at HCC, believes that racism comes from ignorance of people who make generalizations about people as a whole. "You can't stereotype," he added.

Williams agreed. "Just because they are a black guy doesn't mean they're carrying a switchblade or a knife," he said.

None of these people see the problem of racism disappearing in their lifetime, and Williams believes that people will always be prejudiced.

Odem said that people need to recognize their own racism and what causes it before these attitudes will change. "Before you can do anything, you need to be honest," Hodge said that people need to start teaching kids anti-racist views at home and at school.

Odem took that a little further and claimed that the education curriculum needs to be changed to include more black history. She said that students need to learn how their different cultures fit together and that unfortunately today's school systems do not adequately meet the needs of all the students.

Odem concluded that racism won't be a problem when we take the color out of it. "How long will prejudice blind the vision of men?" Martin Luther King Jr.

Forum looks at attitudes about racism

Merr Schorrnan
Staff Writer

"A is for apple, B is for ball... I is for Indian. The Indian thus has been reduced to an inanimate object," said Gabriel Landry, a member of Puget sound Tribal Council. He and Joan Hudyma Tucker spoke at a well attended lecture on Jan. 10, 1990, at Highline Community College.

In recognition of Martin Luther King, and to further his work, they spoke on "Racist Attitudes: Where They Come From And How They Affect Us As Individuals."

Tucker directed her statements specifically to the whites in the audience. She said most of them had only superficial exposure to racism differences. One must admit one is a racist, she said. Whites must acknowledge their power and their privilege. She challenged those whites present to speak out against racism. She stated that whites need to claim their own ethnic and cultural background, for by knowing who they are they can honor others.

Landry began his talk by stating that life is circular. The Indians, he said, were rich, but "Red People" came and found them to be savvy traders. Landry said alcohol led to reduced fairness in trade, the stealing of their goods and eventually their genocide. The result, he said, is that the Indian is excluded in cultural, economic, and social changes.

A small group workshop, "Taking Leadership Against Racism," followed the lecture.

Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Humanitarianism

Student Award

Ariel Mitchell
Faculty Award

Kyma Pierce
Community Award

Akeem Matsumoto

 winners were then invited, with their parents, to the faculty/staff holiday luncheon where they received their prizes.

Koehler stated that the community is really getting behind the D.A.R.E. program, saying that a few people on campus have children in elementary school which is the target of this program. He also believes that the event helped get the college more involved in the community. "Everybody realizes... you're going to get touched by drugs," he said. "It's better than sticking your head in the mud."
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Letter to the editor: Student finds T-Word lacking originality

Dear Editor,

As I recently sat in the john, I decided to read The Thunderword (Volume 29, Issue 3). To politely say, I was shocked at the lack of ingenuity exhibited.

Take for instance: Postopinion, Students at NCC speak out on issues that concern us. Great! I said to myself, some opinions I can read. Here’s the question: “How do you think the 80’s will be remembered fifty years from now?” What I explained. This concerns students on campus? The U.S. Government is funneling over a million dollars to arm rebels in El Salvador, where six Jesuit Priests were just murdered. Bush and President Gorbachev are about to meet on a summit that could possibly change the course of the world, the Berlin Wall was just torn down, and you’re talking about how a decade in American Society will be remembered in half-a-century? Who cares? I certainly don’t.

The rest of the paper was devoted to similar such trivial topics. I for one am very tired of this shopping mall mentality. Let’s take a look at ourselves. We now live in a society in which burning a flag — an expression of free speech — is now illegal? Where a woman’s right to her body is being messed with, and in which a government agency — namely the National Endowment of the Arts, an agency that is supposed to be for all people — can reverse funds on art that it deems is obscene? Doesn’t anyone actually deal with reality anymore? It seems to me that escapism is the number one priority for most of the people in this country.

For example, I was recently buying a cup of coffee at a Seven-Eleven. In front of me were two ladies making their purchases. These purchases consisted of a great quantity of beer, which is alright with me everyone needs to cut loose once in awhile, and eight different kinds of candy bars. Fine. But what really got to me was the fact that these were paid for with food stamps! Our money, that is really supposed to help the needy, is being used on non-nutritious and luxury items.

This is what our society has produced, a generation of feel-good-at-the-monent-don’t-deal-with-reality mentalities. And if you want my opinion, this is what the eighties will be remembered as.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Sarbook

Electives prepare students for today’s employers

Eight of us exchanged rumors, opinions and hopes about the fate of what we had come to call “our” French class — would it be cancelled or not? I understood the school policy of requiring at least 12 students in a class. The line had to be drawn somewhere, and if there was the possibility of this teacher instructing 30 instead of eight, I could understand that. It was cost-effective.

What I couldn’t understand was why only eight out of 9,000 students were interested and proficient enough for a 200-level language course. After all, this wasn’t an advanced chemistry problem, the best thing you can do is seek help for that person now.

In 1966, 19 percent of the Bachelor Arts degrees were earned by students in education. By 1982, the figure dropped to 7 percent. It’s a well-known fact people don’t become teachers for the money. In 1966, 10 percent of the B.A. degrees were in English. By 1982, 3 percent. As an experiment, tell someone you have an English degree and note their reaction.

The reigning king of the college degree is the Business Degree — 15 percent in 1966, 24 percent in 1982. Of the 987,823 four-year degrees earned in 1985, business represented 238,160. Currently, one-quarter of the nation’s undergraduate business majors. In our capitalist society, these students have made cost-effective career choices.

The New York Times has already suggested the government cut the entrance requirement. Compare these recommendations to what today’s employers are looking for: ability to communicate, think creatively, work in groups and develop self-esteem.

It seems the answer to a cost-effective education is the marriage between the professional and liberal arts programs. The math student could study sociology, the computer science student could take some art courses, the business student could learn a foreign language, the English student could study political science. Indulge your inclinations. It won’t be as expensive as your career.

One of the best classes I’ve taken at Highpoint was Business 100 with Carol Warden-Tamayo. She had us work in groups. And, thanks to Ellen Houtman, eight students will speak better French by March.
Check out the library

Six floors offer much more than just books

Larry Snyder Jr.
Feature Editor

The idea of a new library for Highline Community College was first talked about by the HCC Board of Trustees in 1974. The campus had outgrown the library located then in Building 6.

With the ground-breaking ceremony held on Nov. 11, 1976, the idea of a six-floor full-service library was to become a reality. The basic frame structure took 450 yards of cement weighing 900 tons and more than 80,000 cement blocks to do the outside walls. Construction was finished in 1978, and $150,000 was allocated for furniture to be used primarily on the third and fourth floors. The complete cost of the project amounted to $4,588,918.

With an annual operating budget of $600,000, the library is home to more than 68,000 books, numerous periodicals and hundreds of audio and video tapes. Technical support for the library, not accessible to the student body, is located on the first floor. On the second floor or plaza level the periodicals and reference section can be found.

Two special features found on the plaza are InfoTrac II and LaserCat. Both allow a student to research a subject and locate in which publication or book that information can be found. Should a student need the use of a copier, four are located on the second floor.

The third floor includes the faculty reading room, group study rooms, a memorial area, and the general collection of books. HCC has its own legal library on the fourth floor as well as an exhibit gallery for an enthusiasts. Also located on this floor is the honors seminar, the library director's office, as well as a genealogy room dedicated to the late Junius Morris, a former HCC librarian who drowned while on sabbatical with his son in the South Pacific.

A computer lab on the fifth floor allows students to use Macintosh word processors for assignments; computer classes are taught here as well. A student must have a special pass to enter the lab.

Also included on the fifth floor are the Veterans' Affairs office, the Northwest International Education Center, the Northwest Cooperative Education Center, the Northwest Program Development Center, and the library technician classroom.

Media Services encompasses almost the entire sixth floor. Included in its many special tools are a graphics studio, the campus audio/video equipment pool, and a fully equipped television studio. HCC's present director of the library is Rayburn Hagen. Hagen, an English instructor by trade, took her first librarian position at Grays Harbor Community College. She went on to become the director and maintained that post for seven years before coming to HCC.

An Aberdeen native, Hagen resides in Des Moines during the week and travels home for the weekend. Hagen believes HCC has a gem in its full-service facility. "We have fine resources and our index system is unusually fine." She oversees 17 full-time staff, seven part-time staff and approximately 20 student workers. She also maintains the $600,000 annual operating budget of the library. The budget is spent on new publications, books, films and needed equipment.

The next big challenge for Hagen and her staff is to have all the library titles go on a computer checkout system. "We desperately need to be automated," Hagen she envisioned a system that would allow a student to check out material with a simple scanning procedure. This would save time and allow the library to keep an up-to-date inventory of what is in the library at any given time.

According to the 1988 program statistics released by the State of Washington, the "We desperately need to be automated." -- Raeburn Hagen number of HCC students visiting the library numbered 12,413.

HCC's library is full of information. Next time you are looking for just about anything that would be in print, film or audio, stop at Building 25. HCC's are Monday through Thursday 7:45 a.m.-10:00 p.m., Friday 7:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m., and Saturday 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Media Center offers vast services

Library has a gem on the sixth floor

Located on the top floor of the Highline Community College Library exists one of the most complete media services centers in the state. The entire sixth floor is dedicated to the use of audio and video equipment as well as a fully equipped television studio.

A student can use most of the services on the sixth floor which includes checking out audio and video cassettes and watching them on one of four VCR's. The media center also coordinates films for use in classrooms. If an instructor needs a film it is ordered and delivered by the Media Services desk.

The center is coordinated by four-year veteran Tom Pollard Jr. Pollard finds it a challenge to keep all the movies and tapes in order. "Last year alone our desk took more than 7,000 requests by students for materials to be used on this campus," Pollard said.

The newest piece of equipment is an Apple video graphics computer system which replaces the 20-year-old character generator in the control room of the TV studio. This pricey addition will allow the TV production students the ability to create professional quality programs. Pollard sees the TV production program as the most complete program available.

"Our program is much more comprehensive than other schools," he said. "Students can come out of our television production program and go right to work for one of the major stations because they have the knowledge of modern day technology they have worked with here at HCC."

Pollard recently automated the inventory system to allow more efficient checkout and ordering of media material. "Now we can constantly be updating and improving our method of keeping control of what we have and who needs to have it when." The media center also has a graphic artist on staff to create most of the brochures, catalogs, and directories used on the HCC campus.
Alternatives to watching Back to the Future a 13th time

The new soundtrack music disc for the film created by William Friedkin'sdB. The film is being re-released in theaters with a new soundtrack.

Fourth is explosive

Patti Rathbun

Dan Smith's music for the film is explosive. His score captures the essence of a Vietnam veteran's journey home. The film follows the story of Ron Kovic, a Vietnam veteran who returns home to find his country has changed. Smith's music is powerful and moving, reflecting the emotions and struggles of the characters. The score is a must-listen for anyone interested in the Vietnam War and its impact on those who served.

Ministry masters industrial style

Jill Weber

Ministry's new album is a masterpiece of industrial rock. Their music is dark and intense, perfectly capturing the spirit of the genre. The album features tracks like "Thieves," which is a haunting and eerie piece, and "S0 What," which is a driving and powerful track. Ministry's music is a must-listen for fans of the industrial rock genre.

Scene

Oliver Stone

Oliver Stone's film "Born on the Fourth of July" is a powerful and moving portrayal of Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic. The film follows Kovic's journey from the horrors of war to the struggles of life back home. Stone's direction is masterful, capturing the essence of Kovic's story in a way that is both heartbreaking and inspiring. The film is a must-see for anyone interested in the Vietnam War and its impact on those who served.

Against War

Marina Jardine

"Against War" is a powerful and thought-provoking play that explores the effects of war on individuals and society. The play is a must-see for anyone interested in the impact of war and the importance of peace.

The Purge

J. Michael Jones

"The Purge" is a gripping and intense thriller that explores the dangers of a society that has abandoned the rule of law. The film is a must-see for anyone interested in the impact of lawlessness on society.

The Star Spangled Banner

Richard T. James

"The Star Spangled Banner" is a powerful and moving piece of music. The song is a symbol of American pride and patriotism, and it is a must-listen for anyone interested in the history of the United States.

The Purge vs. Against War

Both "The Purge" and "Against War" are thought-provoking pieces of entertainment that explore the consequences of lawlessness and the need for peace. "The Purge" is a gripping thriller, while "Against War" is a powerful play that explores the impact of war on society. Both pieces of entertainment are a must-see for anyone interested in the impact of law and war on society.

Dan Smith's music for "Against War" is a powerful and moving piece of music that captures the essence of the play. The score perfectly reflects the emotions and struggles of the characters and the themes of the play.

Against War is definitely worth watching. The play is a powerful and thought-provoking piece of entertainment that explores the consequences of war and the importance of peace. The music is a must-listen for anyone interested in the history of the United States and the impact of war on society.

Oliver Stone's "Born on the Fourth of July" is a powerful and moving portrayal of Vietnam veteran Ron Kovic. The film is a must-see for anyone interested in the Vietnam War and its impact on those who served. The film captures the essence of Kovic's story in a way that is both heartbreaking and inspiring.

Ministry's new album is a masterpiece of industrial rock. Their music is dark and intense, perfectly capturing the spirit of the genre. The album features tracks like "Thieves," which is a haunting and eerie piece, and "S0 What," which is a driving and powerful track. Ministry's music is a must-listen for fans of the industrial rock genre. The album is a must-listen for anyone interested in the impact of music on society.

J. Michael Jones's "The Purge" is a gripping and intense thriller that explores the dangers of a society that has abandoned the rule of law. The film is a must-see for anyone interested in the impact of lawlessness on society. The film captures the essence of the purges in a way that is both terrifying and thought-provoking.

Richard T. James's "The Star Spangled Banner" is a powerful and moving piece of music. The song is a symbol of American pride and patriotism, and it is a must-listen for anyone interested in the history of the United States. The song is a powerful piece of music that captures the essence of the United States and its people.

In summary, "Against War," "The Purge," and "The Star Spangled Banner" are powerful and thought-provoking pieces of entertainment that explore the consequences of lawlessness and the importance of peace. Each piece of entertainment is a must-see for anyone interested in the impact of law and war on society.

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**Highline Sports**

**Coming on strong again**

Lady T-Bird’s slow start reminiscent of 1988-89 season.

Jason Prenovost
Staff Writer

The Highline Community College women’s basketball team began its 1989-90 league play on Wednesday, Jan. 3, by crushing Olympic Community College 77-35.

In November of 1988, the Lady T-birds started the pre-season slowly, winning only two of their first eight games. When pre-season came to a close in December, the women had won six of their last seven games, beating three teams they had previously lost to.

“We started slowly the last four years, but we seem to come on strong when the season begins,” said Dale Bollinger, head coach of the Highline women’s team. “Since we started slowly this season, let’s hope we come on strong again.”

Highline has five returning sophomores off last year’s squad, which started out much the same way. They posted a similar pre-season mark, but at the end of the year, found themselves in the North Western Athletic Association Community College Championship Tournament and placed second.

**Swimmers compete with a small squad**

Bill Urlevich
Staff Writer

In dual meets, the men’s and women’s squads have combined for a 1-2 record thus far.

The reason for the slow beginning is due to the lack of experience, said Milton Orphan, HCC’s swimming coach. The team is comprised of freshmen and sophomores, whereas four-year schools compete with juniors and seniors. Orphan said his team has been swimming an uphill battle against more experienced competition. Orphan went on to say that his team is steadily improving with each match.

He singled out Paul Melby, as a possible All-American. He sighted Melby’s breaking of the 50-yard-freestyle league swimming record, with a 21.33 time, and is close to breaking the 100-yard freestyle as well.

HCC wrestlers working toward nationals

Competing with HCC are seven other teams: Big Bend Community College, Yakima Valley Community College, Lower Columbia College, Everett Community College, Eastern Washington University, Central Washington University and Pacific Lutheran University. Only three of these schools choose to send wrestlers to Nationals: HCC, BBCC and LCC.

Highline is in a very competitive league, Agostini says. In order to go to nationals, a wrestler must place second or higher during the regional tournament.

“It’s tough, really tough,” Agostini says. Agostini graduated from Cloverpark High School in 1979 and wrestled at PLU for four years. This is his fifth year coaching at HCC, and he says this year is the best.

“They’re good guys and a pleasure to work with,” Agostini says. In his opinion, HCC has experienced many cry babies in the past.

Agostini encourages people to come and watch because there are many outstanding wrestlers on the team. Almost all of the current wrestlers on the team placed for the school or company of three’sacmwd in high school championships.

The next home match is Friday, Jan. 12, at 6 p.m.
Sports

Chambers shines with Suns

In 1989, the Seattle SuperSonics made a notable move. The Sonics allowed Tom Chambers to become an unrestricted free agent. But in 1990, the Sonics signed him to a three-year deal. This season, Chambers has been one of the team's most consistent performers. He's averaging 24.9 points per game, and his shooting has improved significantly. In fact, he's shooting a career-high 45% from the field and 84% from the free-throw line. The Sonics are one of the best teams in the NBA, and Chambers is a key piece of their puzzle. His ability to stretch the floor and create space for his teammates has been crucial to the team's success. Chambers' role as a go-to scorer has helped the Sonics compete at the highest level. If they continue to perform at this level, it's possible they could make a deep playoff run. Chambers has proven to be a reliable and consistent performer, and the Sonics have been lucky to have him on their team. His leadership and presence on the court have been invaluable. Chambers is a fan favorite, and his dedication to the game is evident in his play. He's a player that embodies the spirit of the Sonics, and fans are excited to see what he can do in the playoffs.