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The Highline Community College

# ThunderWord

Vol. 33, No.4 Feb 27, 1992

## Traditional grading system challenged

**Davina Nollen**  
Staff Writer

A student's grade point average is often the basis for getting into a four-year university. The student's success is based on a high or low GPA. Are grades everything? Should a traditional or non-traditional grading system be used?

The traditional grading system rates a student's scholastic achievement by giving him/her a numerical value or letter grade for completed work. In the non-traditional grading system, a student receives a credit/no credit or pass/fail grade based on evaluation by the teacher.

According to the 1990-92 University of Washington General Catalog, a course taken at the U of W for a satisfactory/not satisfactory grade can be applied to a "four-year undergraduate degree but cannot be used for University, college, or development course requirements."

Students at Gonzaga University must take some required courses where a pass/fail grade is not optional but a requirement, says Dale Goodwin, director of Public Relations at GU.

Walla Walla College is in the process of changing its grading policy, according to Dr. Gerald Wasmer, director of records at WWC. Currently, there are no limits on pass/fail credits at WWC as long as they are used to fulfill general studies and requirements.

According to Highline Community College's 1990-92 catalog, the "P" grade is given when a course is completed at a 2.0 level or above. It is also acceptable as a prerequisite credit. An "S" grade is the "student's individual effort and accomplishment rather than in terms of course requirements," according to HCC's academic guidelines.

This grade may be applied to the Associate in Arts (A.A.) and Associate in Applied Sciences (A.A.S.) degrees, but only for physical education classes, which are graded pass/fail.

Any Evergreen State College uses the non-traditional grading system. "To my knowledge, they (ESC) are the only public college in the state of Washington to use this system," says Randy Earwood, occupational advisor at HCC. There are no grades or rankings, just credit/no credit given after two evaluations, one from the student and the other from a faculty member. This grading system has always been in effect at ESC since the college started in 1971.

"We feel an evaluation is more reflective than a grade, and it presents a thorough report to employers. The employer uses this information to place the person in the proper position," Allen says.

"I feel I would benefit a lot from the Evergreen grading system. It's a lot less stressful," says Jennifer James, an HCC student. "A grade on a grading scale is just how well you do on tests, homework, and sometimes participation."

## Registration Woes

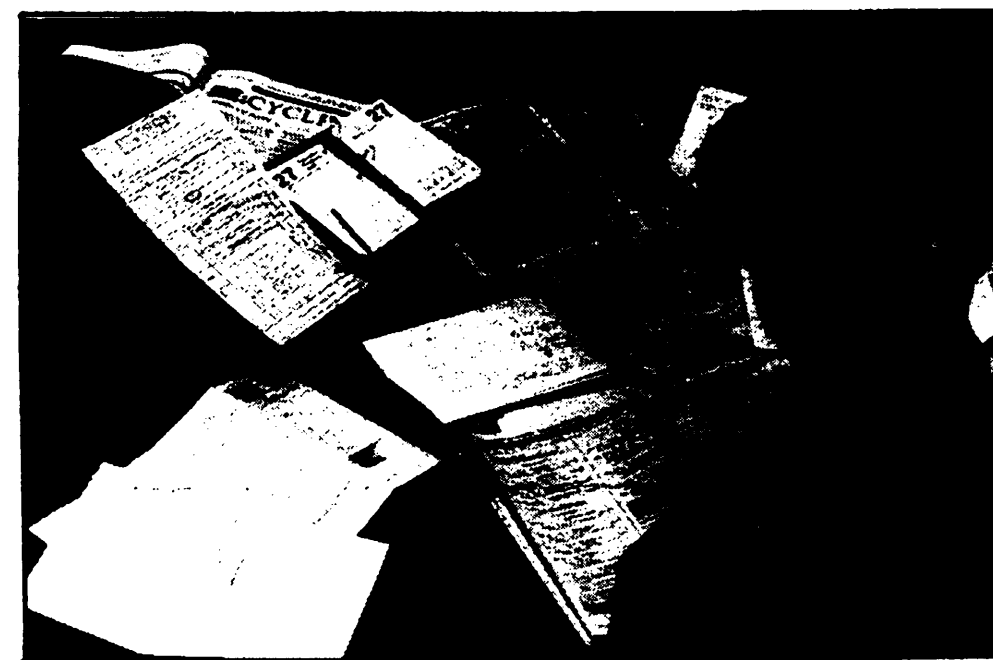


Photo by Chris Berge

*How many credits do I need? Are the right classes being offered? When is my registration date? These are just some of the questions that need to be answered, now that Spring Registration has begun.*

## High School students get head start

**Stacy Moriarty**  
Staff Writer

There is a new program starting in Washington state community colleges which enables high school juniors and seniors to take college courses for both high school and college credit. It is called the Running Start program, and it will start at Highline Community College, as well as all Washington state community colleges, in the fall of 1992.

Gov. Booth Gardner recommended the program. Last year it was tested at five community colleges. The fact that it is running well prompted the legislature to start it at all Washington state community colleges.

Each college has the flexibility to run the program in the college's own way. HCC doesn't

require these students to have a certain grade point average. However, they do have to take the asset test and score high enough to enter college-level classes above 100. The only other requirements are that they complete an application and that their parents must be aware of the decision. All Washington high schools are required by law to let eligible students participate.

Although the Running Start students are not eligible for HCC sports, Edward M. Command, president of HCC, wants these students to feel at home.

"We're going to treat them just as all other students," Command said.

Running Start is beneficial for students because they can transfer to a four-year college two years early. Another big

benefit is that their first two years of college are paid for. The student is supported by taxes that originally went toward their high school education. The students do have to pay for their own books and transportation.

Running Start is mainly designed for students who are bored in high school because the work is too easy for them or for students who simply want to graduate from college early. Parents of particularly intelligent students were in favor of the program.

"I think the program, overall, is best for the students," Command said.

Applications are due by May 1, 1992, for the fall of 1992. More information will be distributed to high school sophomores and juniors.

# News

## Group atmosphere propels new course

*Coordinated studies course captures college 'experience'*

**Jason Clever**  
Staff Writer

A coordinated studies unit focused on the theme "People in America: Separate or Connected?" will be offered spring quarter at Highline Community College. The 15-credit course combines three courses from the departments of Writing, Psychology, and Political Science.

The fall coordinated studies unit focusing on World War II and consisting of History 115, Humanities 110, and Speech 100, met daily from 8 a.m. to noon with a one-hour break. HCC instructors Kay Gribble, Larry Blades and Chuck Miles taught the unit.

"I was fascinated with World War II and wanted to learn more about it, as well as gain 15 required credits towards my A.A.," said Kris Loop, former student or "veteran," of the fall coordinated studies unit. "I also looked forward to meeting people who shared my interests for this class."

According to Bob Baugher, one of the spring's coordinated studies unit instructors, a coordinated studies unit allows for relaxed and facilitated learning through a close community of friendships and study groups, and is a wonderful way to learn and meet people.

"Coordinated studies is the best way to experience college life," said Robert Hurley, also a "veteran." "It's not like linear

algebra where you learn equations of little use which are, at best, space fillers in the corner of your brain. What you learn in a coordinated study [class] is to be utilized fully — right here, right now."

justice to what coordinated studies are about."

In the World War II coordinated studies unit, students were required to choose a date during the quarter and give, in any desired style, a "50 Years Ago

related topics such as food and fashion of the 1940's, the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Depression and a dance called the jitterbug.

"Group activities were fun," said Melissa Stickney, who also took the course. "We got to know each other, and it gave us another point of view besides that of our instructors."

"None of us foresaw learning the jitterbug in a serious, 15-credit, college class," Loop said, "but then we never knew what to expect. It was the most unique experience any of us had."

Winter quarter

at HCC offered no coordinated studies unit, and many of the program's former students dislike its absence from the HCC curriculum. Hurley said he feels "like a caged-up gerbil this quarter," Stickney said.

Nevertheless, based on the

success of the fall unit, the spring coordinated studies unit will be offered Mondays through Fridays, excluding Wednesdays, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., and will fulfill credit requirements for Writing 101 or Writing 105, Psychology 120 or Psychology 295, and Political Science 120 or Political Science 295. The unit will be taught by HCC instructors Baugher (Psychology), Rosemary Adang (Writing), and Davidson Dodd (Political Science).

"I speak for the three of us instructors when I say we are very excited about teaching this course spring quarter," Baugher said.

**Registration Has Begun!**

Check For Your  
Registration Date!



The coordinated studies unit involves guest speakers, field trips and special projects in addition to assigned textbook readings and classroom discussions.

"You can't just read about this subject," Hurley said. "Only actual experience can do

Today" report. Students were also required to give three speeches: a speech based on a first-hand account of the war, an informative speech, and a persuasive speech.

On Fridays, groups gave one-hour presentations on war-



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# News

## Taking a few precautions can deter a rapist

Jillian Willingham  
Staff Writer

Rape has become a serious social problem that demands to be addressed. Society tends to focus on just the causes of it, or the psychological make-up of rapists, but women need some real suggestions about how they can protect themselves and prevent a rape. No woman should be afraid to leave her home and should be somewhat aware of what to do in case of an attempted attack.

According to a Life Skills Education Inc. pamphlet, "Rape: A Crime of Sexual Assault," about one-half of re-

**About one-half of reported rapes take place in the victim's home. Therefore, that should be the first place to be secured.**

ported rapes take place in the victim's home. Therefore, that should be the first place to be secured. Install a peephole that will allow a minimum 180-degree viewing angle. This will enable you to see who is at the front door without opening it. When moving into a new residence, call a locksmith and have all locks replaced.

"If your dwelling is difficult to get into, they may well go off in search of a more easily accessible one. If someone has to spend time getting in, you can use that time to escape, call the police, or arm yourself," advises the pamphlet "Rape: A Crime of Sexual Assault." If locks are to be at all effective, they must be used, even when the home is left for only a moment. Rapists and burglars will take any opportunity they find.

By the same token, never leave a key outside the house. Any experienced criminal will know where to look.

So install blinds or shades on windows and close them at night so that someone looking in will not be able to tell that there is only one person at home.

Another area that can be overlooked is the area outside the home. The brochure "About Rape and Its Prevention," published by Winters Communication, Inc., suggests that good lighting at any entrance to a dwelling will deter a crime taking place. Be sure to keep

the garage doors closed at all times when they are not in use.

Even your mailbox can help keep you from being victimized. When listing with the phone company, or putting a name on the mailbox, "Use your first two initials, as men often do," Dianna Daniels Booher advises in her book "Rape, What Would You Do If...?" "By now, attackers know about the advice to use one initial instead of a first name if you are a girl alone," she writes.

Be wary of any callers who claim to have dialed wrong or who continue to ask for someone who does live there. The caller may be trying to find out if only one person is at home. Never tell anyone that you are alone.

The same rule applies to repairmen, mailmen, or people wishing to use the phone due to an emergency. In the case of an emergency, if someone needs your phone, offer to call for the person, but do not open the door. If they stall or pressure you, call the police.

If an unexpected repairman claims to need to be in your home, Booher suggests to "have the repairman slip his identification under the door to you while he waits outside." Then call the phone number that is in the yellow pages to verify the identification and intention of the repairman. Never admit that you are alone in the house, even to a legitimate repairman. Mention that someone else is in the house, sleeping or reading in another room.

As always, it is important to leave your home looking like someone is home. Leave outside and inside lights on, and maybe a television or radio. When returning home, if anything looks unusual, do not go inside. Trust your intuition, go get a neighbor to come back with you. Booher wrote, "It's better to be wrong and embarrassed than right and raped."

"If walking, think about your options if something should happen," says the Washington Crime Watch/Victims of Sexual Assault in the booklet "Rape. Let's Talk About It." By walking with a confident, purposeful manner, a woman may escape being targeted by a rapist.

If while you are walking someone is following you, cross the street. If they continue to follow, walk to the nearest populated place or hail down a passing car. If, on the other hand, you are being harassed by someone in a car, turn around and walk in the opposite direction. The car would have to turn around to continue following you.

When walking and carrying packages, try to arrange an easier way of carrying them so that you couldn't be caught off-guard. Some women have thrown packages at attackers in order to distract them.

If you must walk home alone

"Surviving Sexual Assault," a book prepared for The Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women. "If you feel threatened in any way, you may want to say that someone stopped earlier and has already called the police, who are on their way."

If you think you are being followed, do not go home. Go to the nearest fire or police station. Similarly, don't pull over for flashing headlights. The police will have flashing red and blue lights.

If you are being threatened with a possible attack, or fall victim to a rapist, there are two resistance techniques that are suggested: passive and active resistance. Only the victim can decide which approach will be the most effective. Try to read the rapist and form an opinion as to what will work and what won't.

Passive resistance may work well if the attacker is an acquaintance with whom you have a relation-

ship of some sort and may be able to appeal to his conscience. Gerard Whittemore, author of "Street Wisdom for Women," writes that the "talking approach can also work with a stranger. Fast chatter might keep him off balance. Remember, a rapist wants to be in charge, but he'll find it difficult to remain in control if he has to deal with the unexpected." By talking to the attacker, the hope is that he will see the victim not as an object but as a human being with feelings and concerns.

Passive resistance also includes the psychological advantages that can be gained by doing the unexpected. If this approach is taken, it better be convincing. You do not want to antagonize him any further. Some examples of the unexpected are: going limp, falling on the ground and eating grass, or acting as though you are mentally unstable.

Another passive attack is the verbal one. By screaming or firmly saying, "Keep your hands off me!" you will convey the message that you are not a helpless victim. According to Booher, this would work the best on a rapist that is raping due to low self-esteem.

Booher's next example of passive response is the "poor me" response. It may work well on a rapist who has a low self-image; he may identify with you when you say you have no friends and your mother is dying from cancer.

The ego-building response may deter the rapist who feels he must prove his strength. Not rejecting him may keep him from showing you how strong he is.

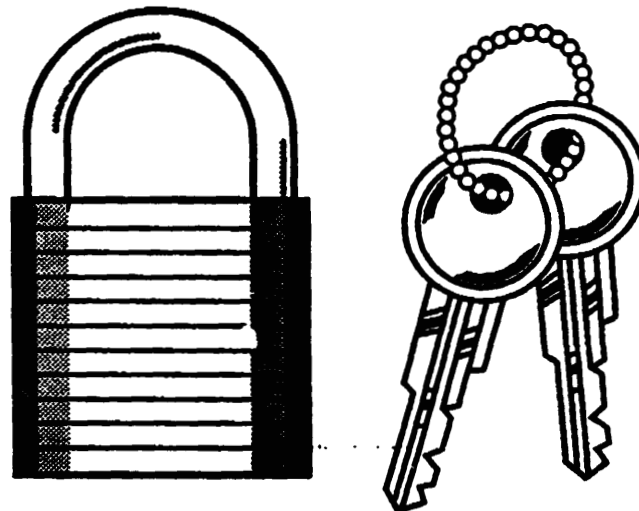
The next passive response, body weakness, may stall the rapist and give you time to analyze the situation. "Tell the attacker you have cancer, are pregnant or have a sexually transmitted disease," Booher advises. Ways to stall an attack are limited only by you. Use anything you can think of to put off the actual rape.

The second technique to try is active resistance. This is actual fighting back and "can be either your primary mode of defense or secondary measure if passive resistance fails," Whittemore writes. Surprise is the key since the rapist will most likely be bigger and stronger; you must be able to inflict injury that will allow you to escape. Every woman should consider taking a self defense

**If you must walk home alone on a regular basis, vary your routine so as not to be a predictable target.**

class, as that is the only sure way to be physically prepared. The booklet "About Rape and Its Prevention" suggests some common items such as hair spray, mace, nail files, keys, and pins which can aid you in escaping. By biting, scratching, punching, kicking, or screaming, you may be able to defend yourself enough to deter the rapist. Most weapons, such as knives and guns, are recommended only if you have been trained in how to use them. However, these items are likely to be concealed in your bag or purse, and chances are they will stay there when you are attacked.

It is up to you to make the conscious choice as to what will be the best method of defense. By using common sense and by taking a few precautions to protect yourself and your home, you will reduce your chances of being raped.





# Opinion

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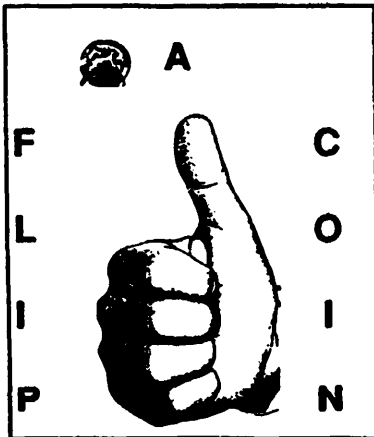
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**By Steve Stearns & Brian Johnson**  
Managing Editors

*Thwap. Tails. Johnson is on a roll. For the second time in a row, he wins the toss. Without flinching, he proclaims, "The Academy Awards are a crock."*

**Stearns:** I can't believe that you think this year's choices for the Oscars aren't up to par. With tasteful Best Picture nominations like "JFK" and "Beauty and the Beast," and John Singleton's Best Director nomination for "Boyz n' the Hood," even a U-district theatre-going pretentious subtitled Swedish art-film devotee like you has to be satisfied.

**Johnson:** Satisfied? Hardly. Before I could finish my granola bar last Wednesday morning, I heard about this year's crop of nominees. I lost my appetite. Jack Palance got nominated for best supporting actor in "City Slickers." While that was a great movie, his performance was hardly Oscar-worthy. Ice Cube was mesmerizing in "Boyz n' the Hood." Maybe it has something to do with the fact that Ice Cube is not white or hasn't had the "distinguished" career that Palance has had.

Whatever the rationalization, it's wrong.

**Stearns:** Come on, what about Harvey Keitel? His performance in "Bugsy" carried the whole movie! Just because the Academy didn't nominate "Boyz n' the Hood" for Best Picture doesn't mean it wasn't good. It just didn't have as much appeal as "Prince of Tides" or "Beauty and the Beast." Personally, I think it's fantastic that animated films are getting recognition for the craft involved in them. Moving on to the Best Actor category, your

**Until they respect the best five films in each area (regardless of financial success) the Oscars will be a crock.**

favorite, Robin Williams was chosen for "The Fisher King." How can you say that his performance wasn't deserving of an award?

**Johnson:** Williams could play a fire hydrant and deserve an award as far as I'm con-

cerned. That is my own private bias. Good thing biased people like me aren't voting, right?

Back to the subject, let us talk about the word "appeal" and how it relates to the Academy Awards. If it wasn't for that one word, "Ghost" wouldn't have been nominated last year. My biggest problem with the Awards is the way voters make "appeal" more important than artistic merit. Sure River Phoenix's performance (in "My Own Private Idaho") wasn't the most accessible this year, but it was one of the best. Jennifer Jason Leigh deserved some sort of recognition for her performance as the drug-addicted narcotics officer in "Rush." Maybe it didn't sit well with the stodgy voters.

Yes, I must admit that there were a few nominations that I felt were appropriate. Williams was enchanting. Anthony Hopkins was incredible in "Silence of the Lambs." Both Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis deserved best actress nominations for "Thelma & Louise." Even those worthy nominations don't make up for the glaring omissions.

**Stearns:** But there'll always be omissions. With a limited number of choices for

each category, obviously not everyone can be included. Though a performance or film may be artistically compelling, it can't be denied that the financial success of a film is also important in its consideration for the Oscar. That may be lamentable, but the L.A. and N.Y. Film Critics' Awards serve to recognize films that are striking and innovative, but not in the general public's tastes. And if only films that displayed your so-called "artistic merit" were nominated, would most people care about the Academy Awards? Probably not!

**Johnson:** As long as the Awards claim to recognize outstanding achievements in film, it should live up to that expectation. It doesn't do that now. I can't think of one film that made over \$100 million (except "Sleeping with the Enemy") that isn't nominated for some kind of Oscar. Financial success has nothing to do with whether or not a film is outstanding, yet continually these box office smashes are competing for awards while less successful, more worthy films are left out. Until they respect the best five films in each area (regardless of financial success) the Oscars will be a crock.

oxygenate his bourbon-soaked brain. While he was swigging from a half-empty bottle of whiskey Jim Morrison-style, brushing his hair out of his face and trying in vain to prop himself up against the hotel's facade, a middle-aged couple walking by vaguely recognized him as some kind of celebrity. The wife shouted, "Excuse me, are you in a rock band?" Amazingly, the former junkie replied lucidly. "Yeah, Guns n' Roses," he said. "I've never heard of that band," parried the skeptical matron. Slash produced a small duffel bag bearing the band's logo, pointed to it and said, "Look: Guns n' Roses." The woman, still not entirely satisfied, asked, "So who would that make you?" "Slash!" the guitarist replied, annoyed but still helpful. "I'm Slash, man!" At that point, a handler came out of the hotel's lobby and piloted the guitarist back in.

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### Stearns & Johnson's "Who Should Win" Awards

#### Best Picture

**Stearns:** JFK  
**Johnson:** Silence of the Lambs

#### Best Director

**Stearns:** Oliver Stone  
**Johnson:** John Singleton

#### Best Actor

**Stearns:** Anthony Hopkins  
**Johnson:** Anthony Hopkins

#### Best Actress

**Stearns:** Jodie Foster  
**Johnson:** Geena Davis

# Opinion

## Take time out to vote in '92 *Do students at HCC really care about politics?*

**Todd Eckhardt**  
Staff Writer

The presidential campaign is heating up across the nation, but most students at Highline Community College either don't know or don't care about who's running.

Well, it's time again to select the leader of our country for another four years, and most of us are too wrapped up in our own little worlds to pay much attention. What time do I have to work? Do I have a test today? What's for lunch? Am I going to get any sleep tonight? These are all questions that take center stage in our lives and the rest of the world can take care of itself.

Students at HCC are old enough to vote, but how many of us actually have? Then there's the endless list of plastic smiling candidates that tell us how good life would be for us if we were to elect them. They all try to dig up as much dirt on each other as possible (usually some sort of sex scandal). We don't know what to believe.

Most of us wonder how the outcome of the presidential race will affect us personally. It all seems so far away and unrelated to our own everyday lives. Those of us who don't make a habit of voting probably feel a little left out when we hear how the polls are doing or how well a candidate that we never heard of did in such-and-such a state.

Non-voters should probably feel a little guilty as well. The rights and privileges that we enjoy today (including the right to vote) were fought for by our country's forefathers.

The least we can do is become active participants in the system which should be considered a privilege, not a burden. Voting is power. Finding out which candidate best represents our own individual views and beliefs, then voting for them can lead to changes in this country (taxes, Social Security, government spending, etc.) and can improve our living conditions. Stop procrastinating, pick up the phone and call your local library, fire station or city hall for more information on voter registration. Stand up and be counted.

## I-5 needs constant repair

**Gary Lewis**  
Staff Writer

Two different sections of Interstate-5 desperately need some work -- the Northbound section, starting at the end of Fife and continuing to the bridge over 260th, specifically in the two right lanes, and the Southbound section starting at the 320th exit and ending in Fife. The Southbound lanes only have trouble in the far right lane which is bumpy, and makes your car literally bounce.

The bumps and ruts are caused by semi-trucks with heavy trailers driving to Northern destinations. The problem began because the trucks have driven up and down these lanes for so many years, and their weight has created large bumps and ruts which make little cars feel as though they're driving over speed bumps.

I have a piece of junk Volkswagen Rabbit; for me driving on this section of the freeway is a headache. I drive to school from Auburn taking Highway 18 to North-bound I-5. The area where I get on the freeway is just ridiculous; I merge out of the right lanes as soon as possible because these lanes shake my car to pieces. I think something should be done.

I know I-5 has an abundance of construction in progress (or lack of progress) that is already messing it up. But a little inconvenience now will help immensely in the long run. Besides, I think that the construction to fix the problem would be less troublesome than the current problem.

## Public sexual displays are offensive

*HCC student witnesses couple continuously displaying affection between classes*

**Michelle Lemon**  
Staff Writer

The act of sex can be a wonderful thing. The sharing involved with sex can be intriguing, but the graphic display of sex at Highline Community College is highly inappropriate.

Every single day of this winter quarter, I have walked past a young couple on the way to my philosophy class. These two can't seem to get their tongues out of each other's mouths, nor can they get their hands off of body parts not normally displayed in public, except in abstract artistic sculptures. I've even tried walking a different way to class, but if I get up to sharpen my pencil or go to the bathroom, I get a full peepshow. I'm not saying that

showing affection to one's significant other is bad, because it's not. What I am saying is that there is a time and a place for it. I do not feel that that time is during school or that the place is HCC.

**Come on people, we're in college now.**

We have changed moderately since the words AIDS and STD's have become as common as "pass the milk, please." We are in a time when going to Planned Parenthood with your boyfriend or girlfriend and getting checked for diseases is as common as meeting their parents. And we're also in a time when sex is implied in everything we watch on television, hear on the radio or

see in a Calvin Klein ad. But is it a time when we have to view X-rated scenes on our way to class?

In high school, it was common to see students making out in the hallways. But come on people, we're in college now. They should hold hands, kiss sensually, then go to class. If they must be explicit in sharing their feelings, they should go home, rent a motel room or go somewhere private and express their emotions there.

This may all sound grandma-ish or old-fashioned, but I am far from being a grandma, and I am not in the least old-fashioned. I'm a 20-year-old HCC student, and I am plenty satisfied with my own relationship. I am just tired of having to see this erotic display everyday.

## Concerts may be hazardous to spectators' health

*Many spectators at "grunge" concerts have witnessed spectacles of madness.*

**Cedric Cole**  
Staff Writer

Imagine yourself being trampled by a herd of less than joyful bison. You can only grimace in pain as thousands of hooves cascade over your body in one free-for-all tromping. A site of bloodshed and carnage develops. If you've been to a recent reserved seating show featuring such bands as the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Soundgarden, or Nirvana, then you've probably witnessed this spectacle of madness.

**Some theaters have a convenient orchestra pit built in front of the stage that can be used as a gladiator ring.**

Reserved seating at certain concerts is becoming a growing concern. To understand the problem, you have to know the background of mosh pits. During concerts that have a wild, uplifting, get-crazy, kill-your-

neighbor's-pet-chimpanzee-sound, an area in front of the stage opens up to become a mass of sweaty slam-dancers. Some theaters have a convenient orchestra pit built in front of the stage that can be used as a gladiator ring. Other theaters or arenas place rows of chairs on the floor in front of the stage. These immediately get removed by the mass of people that flood the aisle and overrun the bouncers.

When tickets go on sale for reserved seating shows, anyone can get front-row tickets; it is a first-come, first-serve basis. This of course includes people that don't feel like being tossed about like hackey sacks. There may even be those who feel daring enough to mosh but are too frail or weak to keep up the constant pounding. This is when people get hurt. Not everyone is able to notice the onslaught of people darting down the aisle tossing others to the side. The next thing you know, your seat is travelling overhead.

I believe that with general admission seating, fewer people will be injured. First of all, only those willing to brave the mosh

pit will be up front. It will be their sole decision to take the risk, and the theater cannot be held responsible for any injury. Secondly, a certain camaraderie forms in the pit. If someone wants to get on top of the crowd, others help him/her. If someone gets knocked down, everyone helps that person up in a matter of seconds.

**I believe that with general admission seating, fewer people will be injured. First of all, only those willing to brave the mosh pit will be up front.**

I believe general admission seating should be taken into consideration when bands with harder sound, such as Soundgarden, are booked into theaters. Reserved seating is acceptable for a Harry Connick Jr. concert, but sponsors should reduce the number of angry fans by booking shows with general admission.

# Features

## HCC Law Enforcement Program challenges its students

Director Forrest Niccum says program's students are "willing to contribute to the community."

**Todd Eckhardt**  
Staff Writer

Forrest Niccum, director of the Administration of Justice (A.J.) Program at Highline Community College, says that most people who go through the program don't even go into law enforcement.

Niccum, who was a police officer for 12 years before coming to HCC in 1969, says few people qualify for police work due to the rigid standards imposed by almost every police department. Even fewer have the patience to go through the months of testing which include physical fitness, written, oral, background, psychological tests and a polygraph. If applicants are successful with all phases of the testing process, they are then put on an eligibility list of the police department they tested with and wait for a position to become available.

Niccum says he would like to see a pre-selection process at HCC similar to that of police departments. That way stu-

dents would know if they qualified to be police officers before putting forth the time, money and effort to obtain a degree they realistically cannot use.

He also says the type of people going into law enforcement are "willing to contribute to the community. They perceive their jobs as a way to serve the community and not a way to make money."

Niccum feels that the public is getting more involved in police activities. Responding to recent cases of police brutality that have been captured on home video cameras, Niccum says that most police officers use good judgement when force is necessary. But he feels that there should be a video camera and a civilian ride along in every police car to help meet the demands by the public for more police accountability.

Though there have been few changes in the A.J. Program during Niccum's time at HCC, the percentage of female students in his classes this quarter has risen sharply, accounting for more than half of his class



Forrest Niccum teaches students about the realities of law enforcement

load.

One of those students, Gloria Fontenot, who is in her second quarter at HCC, says she likes the A.J. Program and Niccum's classes. "I like Mr. Niccum. He teaches well, with good examples and doesn't rush things. He makes sure that you understand the material and doesn't mind stopping in the

middle of class to answer questions, even if they're not relevant to the topic being discussed. That shows me good professionalism. That also shows me he was a good police officer," Fontenot says.

Fontenot plans to get her A.A. degree at HCC and transfer to Western Washington University to get a B.A. in Po-

lice Science. She eventually would like to work as a community corrections officer (parole officer). Fontenot, who wants to help rehabilitate adult offenders, says that "some of them don't realize what they're doing until they get caught and thrown in jail."

Niccum is a strong believer in education. He says that "you never stop learning; you're dead when you stop learning." He feels that people entering the field of law enforcement should be required to have at least a two-year, if not a four-year degree. Niccum has a B.A. in education and a B.S. in police science from Washington State University.

He says he wanted to be a cop when he was 14 and says he enjoyed "the day-by-day challenge and constant change of police work where even in minor situations you may have interesting outcomes."

Niccum says that he enjoys his work at HCC and looks forward to instructing many more students hopeful of entering into the challenging field of police work.

### Women's Programs offers course on self-esteem and assertiveness

Ellen Finn says "It's geared toward experiencing your own power."

**Leann Sunick**  
Staff Writer

Low self-esteem is an issue that many women are facing today, and Highline Community College's female students and staff are not exempt. In order to help women on campus who are struggling with low self-esteem and assertiveness, HCC Women's Programs offers a seven-week course in self-esteem and assertiveness training.

**This is a first-step class which will help women overcome negative messages fed to them by society and American culture ...**

Ellen Finn, a counselor in Women's Programs, leads the course which she says is designed to look at personal boundaries and how women lose them; to help women recognize what they need and want; and how to go and get it.

"It's geared toward experiencing your own power," Finn said.

This is a first-step class which will help women overcome negative messages fed to them by society and American culture, according to Finn. She runs the class in a process-oriented manner which utilizes positive affirmations, group discussions, exercises in body language, role playing and a variety of other activities to encourage self-confidence and self-appreciation. There will be another class next quarter. For women who are interested, pre-registration is required. The class is limited to 22 students and has a waiting list, so sign up soon.

### Journalism/Mass Media program under review

Committee is surveying local businesses for requirements

**Davina Nollen**  
Staff Writer

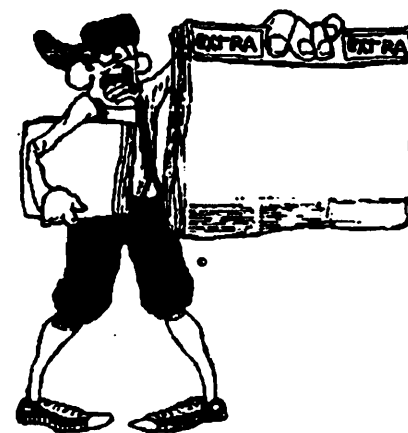
The Journalism/Mass Media program at Highline Community College is being reviewed to see if any changes should be made to its current transfer and occupational program.

"We're trying very hard to see what is the best Journalism/Mass Media transfer and occupational program," says Carol Tamparo, chair of the Business Division and a member of the Journalism/Mass Media Review Committee.

According to HCC's 1990-92 catalog, students may earn an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree upon completion of the requirements and students may also earn a one-year Certificate of Completion in television production. A student planning to transfer to a four-year university with a journalism major

would complete an Associate in Arts degree.

HCC's curriculum guide brochure for the Journalism/



Mass Media program states: "In addition to being prepared for specific job skills, HCC A.A.S. graduates receive education in communication skills, computational skills, applied sciences, computer literacy, human relations or behavioral and social sciences."

"The Journalism/Mass Me-

dia Program doesn't just include TV stations and newspapers because there aren't that many around," says Bob Hughes, an HCC writing and desktop publishing instructor. Hughes also is a member of the Journalism/Mass Media Review Committee. According to Hughes, the committee is surveying more than 1,000 local businesses from Boeing to printing shops, in order to gain an overview of the skills these employers require.

Hughes says that if any changes are planned, they would not take effect until next year. Students currently in the program would not be affected because of a campus-wide policy which protects a student already involved in a program before the new changes take effect.

At present, the Journalism/Mass Media Review Committee is in the preliminary stages of planning and the final results are unknown.



# Features

## The Commands are products of community colleges

*HCC's President and wife enjoy the outdoors*

**Susan Cozzetti**  
Features Editor

Dr. Edward and Marge Command share more than their last name. Natives of Washington, they started their college careers by attending their local community colleges and share approximately a half century of education between them.

Command, president of Highline Community College since 1990, attended Grays Harbor Community College, Western Washington University, and Central Washington University; later he received his doctorate from the University of Washington. Command started his teaching career in math and science at Chinook Jr. High, transferring to Tyee High School before coming to HCC in 1970.

Marge, a physical education instructor at HCC, attended Yakima Community College, Washington State University, and Central Washington University. After graduation she taught in Moses Lake and then for the Highline School District

before coming to HCC in 1964.

The Commands met in 1961 over a "community vacuum cleaner" while living in the same apartment complex.

"Of course she was impressed with my stunning good looks and pursued me ruthlessly after that," Command said. Marge denies the last part of this statement.

Marge remembers when they were married because "I got my new car in 1961 and my husband in 1962."

The Commands come from families that stressed education. This may account for all the years they have been involved in education, in one form or the other.

"I got interested in com-

munity college," Command said. "Even though I was a product of a community college, as well as Marge, I never thought of it as being a career. I'd only thought in terms of public school teaching and public school administration," Command said.

Command was raised in

Elma, Wash. He is the eldest of five children born to Ed and Irene. His early school years were spent at Hunter's Prairie School, a two-room schoolhouse — grades one through three were in one room and four through six in another.

Marge is from Yakima, Wash. She is an only child



Ed and Marge Command bring experience to HCC.

Photo by Chris Berge

born into the Rouse family. Marge's grandmother, Hattie "Happy" Shupe, helped raise her. "Happy" is 96 and living in a retirement home in Tacoma. Marge enjoys making her nightly phone calls to check in with "Happy" and visits with her at the retirement center once a week.

The Commands make their home in Federal Way. One of their favorite forms of entertainment is boating. Though they don't meet on campus because of conflicting schedules, they do spend time together on their 32-foot cruiser named Sun Seeker which has taken them on excursions through the San Juan Islands.

Both are outdoor-type people and enjoy their annual trip to the big island of Hawaii every Christmas. Besides going snorkeling and playing tennis, they meet friends in Hawaii every year and get together with them every afternoon for a game of Bridge.

## Day care available to HCC students and faculty

*To register a child for day care, students must first register for class*

**Pamela Russell**  
Staff Writer

There are two day care centers on Highline Community College's campus, the Toddler Center and the Child Care Development Center (CCDC). Both are available for students, staff, faculty and state employees. They are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday that HCC is open.

"The facility has a self-contained environment," which is "low cost and convenient," said Joyce Riley, director of the day care center.

The Toddler Center takes care of children ages 18 months to three years, with the stipulation that the child can walk. The CCDC cares for children ages three to six years, with the stipulation that the child be toilet trained. The hourly fee is on a sliding scale according to the student's income and ranges from \$1.50, \$1.75 to \$2 in the CCDC from \$1.75, \$2 and \$2.25 in the Toddler Center.

The staff consists of eight people, all trained in CPR, HIV training, and first aid. There are also students who are training in Elementary Education who work in the centers, and a group of "volunteer grandmas" come into the centers to read books or work on state required assessments. The ratio is one adult for every five children.

To register the child for day care, students must first register for class; then the child is blocked in for the times the student is in class. At present there isn't extra study time available because of the lack of staff in the afternoons, but CCDC staff are in the process of surveying to find out the need for such a service.

The centers are located in buildings 18-a and 18-b, near the north parking lot. For the convenience of parents making use of the center, there is a gate pass available for \$20. This enables the student to park in the first two rows; however, it

does not guarantee a space.

Parents whose children participate in the program are required to attend a one-hour meeting each quarter. The meetings vary in topics ranging

how to handle given situations with their children.

Both centers offer a variety of resources for the parent and child to check out and take home. There is a library of

books and toys plus parenting magazines that the parents may find useful. The CCDC also has a variety of animals, including turtles, guinea pigs, fish, and walking sticks. "They are an important part of



from tantrums to biting and fit throwing. They are geared to help the parent effectively deal with their toddler, and there is open discussion for parents who may have any questions about

our curriculum. The children learn to feed and care for the animals. The nurturing is the most important part," Riley said.

One advantage to the students using the day care is that

they don't have to make an extra trip anywhere; they are already coming to campus. Another is that students can visit their child anytime. If there were ever an emergency, they would only be minutes. When students registers their child for day care, they are required to fill out a schedule which lists the times, buildings and room numbers that they will be in; as a result, students are reachable at all times.

Riley currently is trying to implement a hot lunch program for the children. She is working on getting the USDA Food Program to reimburse the extra cost not covered in the \$1 fee charged to the parent. A private catering company would bring the lunches in daily.

Aside from serving the children a hot lunch, one thing that would improve the center, is adding more space. "The children really need a covered place to play; we need a real building," Riley said.

# Scene

## "American Gladiators" push contestants to the limit

Leann Sunick  
Staff Writer

The crowds came out to the Seattle Center Exhibition Hall Sunday, Feb. 16, to compete for a chance to show the country what kind of athletes they really are. Marc Hill, a second-year Highline Community College student, was among the many men and women who tested their strength, speed, agility and endurance as they aimed for a spot on the national television show, "American Gladiators," sponsored by Feld Productions.

The tryouts were in preparation for the arrival of the "American Gladiators" to the Seattle Center Coliseum on March 5 when the area's best athletes will compete with known gladiators like Gemini, Nitro, Zap, and Lace.

The tryouts consisted of six

stopwatch showed 5.5 seconds.

Round number three, the handbike and pull-up station, seemed to be the eliminator for most of the men. They were given eight seconds to cross the metal bar on the handbike and then run to the pull-up bar where they had one minute to do 18 behind-the-neck pull-ups. The women, on the other hand, had no time limit on the handbike and were not required to do any pull-ups.

After completing the third round, these men and women went on to the last two physical events. Round number four, Powerball, is a one-on-one event designed to test speed, agility and the ability to think on your feet. Contenders had 30 seconds on offense and 30 seconds on defense. On offense, the contender tried to outmaneuver the defender and score goals by dumping Nerf

competed in the first round of the Joust against one of the strongest competitors of the day. The exceptional speed and agility he'd demonstrated earlier in the day was of very little use to him in defending against the crushing blows of his opponent.

The final, deciding round of the day was the closed interview. Contenders met individually with representatives from the show. After all the remaining contenders had been inter-

viewed, the winners were announced. There were eight men and eight women chosen to be on the live show, but only four will actually be able to compete — the others are alternates.

"I tried out to see what kind of shape I was in and to see if I could make it through the competition," Hill said.

Now that Hill has made it through the preliminary round, he will have a chance to match

himself against these exceptional athletes. Hill considers himself a superior athlete and says he isn't too nervous about facing the gladiators. Regardless of what happens on March 5, Hill will keep working toward his degree at HCC with plans to transfer to the University of Washington to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice or Liberal Arts. He would also like to play for the University of Washington Huskies.



categories, each designed to be a physical challenge on its own. Round number one sounded easy enough until the men were told that in order to advance to the next round they were required to do 50 fingertip push-ups in one minute, and women

**In the final round of actual competition, 13 men and 12 women were left to compete in the Joust.**

were required to do 30 flat-palmed push-ups in one minute. Many of the athletes were eliminated in the first round.

Round number two, the forty-yard dash, had men racing to beat a time of 4.8 seconds and the women following closely behind attempting to cross the finish line before the

soccerballs into one of two rubber trash cans. The idea was to completely avoid your opponent if you could. One of the sponsors pointed out that Gemini is 280 pounds and the contenders would not be able to score by overpowering him. They needed to think and move quickly. On defense, the idea was to initiate contact and keep the other contender from scoring any goals.

In the final round of actual competition, 13 men and 12 women were left to compete in the Joust. The contenders faced one another on platforms, joust sticks in hand, trying to knock their opponents off the platforms. After a brief explanation and demonstration by one of the "American Gladiators" staff, contenders were given the go-ahead whistle. Hill said this was the most difficult part of the competition for him. He

### Events Calendar

| S  | M | T     | W  | T | F | S  |
|----|---|-------|----|---|---|----|
| 1  |   | March |    |   |   | 7  |
| 8  |   | 10    | 11 |   |   | 14 |
| 15 |   |       |    |   |   | 21 |
| 22 |   |       |    |   |   |    |
| 29 |   | 31    |    |   |   |    |

### Activities of interest ...

#### Musical and dance performances

March 8 and March 22—

The Sunday Family Series gives Highline Community College students and the surrounding community the opportunity to go on musical voyages without leaving the country. It provides a chance to experience unique musical and dance performances by some of the world's best-known cultural music and/or dance companies.

There were five presentations scheduled this spring during the final two weeks of the series. They will bring to HCC the Kahurangi Dance Theatre of New Zealand (March 8) and the Seattle/Kokon Taiko Drum (March 22).

The Kahurangi Dance Theatre of New Zealand will present a colorful program on the history of the Maori people of New Zealand and their link to the Cook Islands, Samoa, and Tahiti. Their unique costuming and props enhance the traditional songs and dances of the Maori culture.

The Seattle Taiko Group and Kokon Taiko Ensemble will be collaborating to bring a unique

presentation of Japanese drumming. Taiko is a rich, important part of Japanese heritage and has been an integral part of Japanese religion, warfare, festivals, and performing arts.

The Sunday Family Series Musical Voyages are sponsored by the Student Activities Office, the City of Federal Way Arts Commission, the Federal Way School District, and the King County Arts Commission. Tickets are \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and seniors, and \$1 for children. Children under five are free. Both performances will be on campus. For more information contact Carolyn Johnson at 878-3710, ext. 535.

#### "Shades of Racism" March 10—

"Shades of Racism," a dramatic play about racism within minority groups, is scheduled for March 10, at 12 p.m. in Bldg. 7. The play is sponsored by the Black Student Union (BSU).

The play, which was written by Jennifer Kelly and Jennifer Johnson, was originally planned

for Martin Luther King Day but, "We started working on it during winter break and just couldn't get it finished in time," Kelly says.

There are five scenes in the play which runs for a total of 30 minutes. Each scene shows an example of racism. "In the play we show racism between Blacks, like between lighter-skinned Blacks and darker-skinned Blacks, also between Asians and Latinos. That's why it's called 'Shades of Racism,'" says Kelly.

The scenes originally offered no solutions to the problems presented. "We edited the scenes and added some solutions because we wanted to have a reason for this play rather than have it be purely for entertainment. We wanted to make a statement," Kelly says.

The play has gained importance to Kelly and Johnson, aside from tribute to Martin Luther King's work. "It has been really hard to get the play done because of all my other responsibilities," Kelly says. Although it has been a long road to completion, she believes it has been worth the effort and is happy with the results. There are about 15 to 20 people in the play, and there is no charge to watch the March 10 performance.

#### HCC jazz band and Ensemble perform March 11—

The Highline Community College Jazz Band and The HCC Vocal Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the Pacific Brewing Company on March 11 at 8 p.m. The Imperial Jazz Band #1 will make a guest performance at the concert. The Pacific Brewing Company is located at 322 Occidental.

—compiled by Leann Sunick and Lisa Bradford.



# Scene

## Readers Theatre appeals to children of all ages

*This year's focus is on the clash between humans and animals*

**Heather Gott**

Senior Reporter

**Heldi VanGesen-Morman**  
Copy-editor

Most children love to have their favorite stories read to them every night before going to bed. As they mature, people lose sight of the fact that there is a bit of child in everyone. The Readers Theatre class at Highline Community College brings to life both stories and poetry in an oral and visual presentation.

The class is available to anyone, either credit or non-credit.

"A Walk on the Wild Side" focuses on poetry that gives prominence to the clash between humans and wildlife with undertones of other themes also related to nature. Buxton has commented that Americans have a different way of talking about the land than Native Americans. They have different ways of naming and treating parts of nature. Some of these differences are presented in this quarter's reading.

There are several unique ways in which materials are presented in Readers Theatre. First, the material being pre-

According to Buxton, oral readings are a tradition more than 2,000 years old. Buxton said that for the ancient Greeks the test for a piece of literature was whether it could be spoken aloud ....

The main goal of the class is the oral interpretation of literature. Instructor Lee Buxton gathers a "smorgasbord" of materials — both poetry and prose — to be used by the class. During most of the quarter, students work on reading and choosing different pieces, which may eventually be incorporated into a production. By the end of the quarter, members of Readers Theatre put on a production which is open to the public. This year's theme is "A Walk on the Wild Side."

The eight-member cast for this quarter is Arlene Webb, Annmarie Stewart, Leonard Townsend, Laura Hayashi, Bonnie Jo Jones, Nancy Lennstrom, Bob Rhodes and Gisela Schimmelbusch.

sented is printed in the programs distributed to the audience. Secondly, the intent for a reading is for the cast to speak as one voice, not as the eight separate voices of the cast members.

"There is a wonderful luxury that's involved for the audience in being read to," Buxton said. According to Buxton, oral readings are a tradition more than 2,000 years old. Buxton said that for the ancient Greeks the test for a piece of literature was whether it could be spoken aloud without explanation.

Readers Theatre will put on two public shows. The first is March 11 at noon. The second is March 12 at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

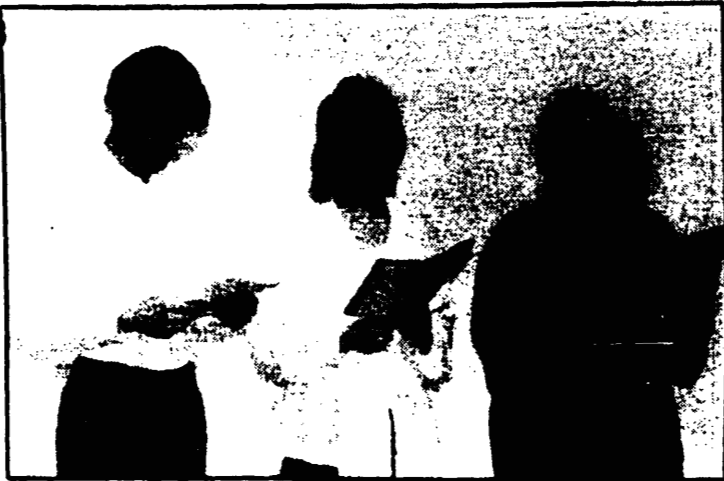


Photo by Heather Gott

Readers Theatre members practice being one voice.

## Film takes Wayne and Garth to new heights

**Anthony Loria**  
Staff Writer

"Wayne's World" is an hilarious feature-length comedy based on one of "Saturday Night Live's" most popular on-going sketches. In order to enjoy "Wayne's World," the movie, you don't have to be a regular viewer of "Saturday Night Live."

In it, Wayne Campbell (Mike Myers) and his best buddy and sidekick Garth (Dana Carvey) run their own cable-access show out of Wayne's basement in suburban Aurora, Ill. The plot is a typical boy-chases-girl plot (Wayne gets the girl). In the movie, Wayne and Garth head to the local donut shop for their regular feeding of donuts. There, Wayne encounters his psycho ex-girlfriend, Stacy (Lara Flynn Boyle). After avoiding Stacy, Wayne and Garth take the Garthmobile to a heavy metal hangout called "Gasworks." There, Wayne sees his "Dream Weaver," a Cantonese rock singer named Cassandra (Tia Carrere). Wayne immediately falls for Cassandra while avoiding Stacy.

The subplot involves a sleazy television producer (Rob Lowe) trying to exploit "Wayne's World" for his own good. His plan is to make money off of "Wayne's World" and seduce Cassandra away from Wayne. Along the way several hilarious bits keep the movie flowing with laughter. Wayne and Garth talk about how they will never sell out to sponsors



Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Mike Myers and Dana Carvey star in "Wayne's World."

while neatly displaying several well-known products.

A scene which had the theatre in an uproar was when Wayne strolled around Cassandra's apartment with his underwear riding high and when

"Wayne's World" supplies a solid punch of laughter that hits from the beginning and doesn't let up until after the credits.

he did belly rolls. While every movie having at least one cameo, "Wayne's World" has several. These are just a few of the hilarious bits in "Wayne's World."

"Wayne's World" is a brilliantly written movie. It easily outshines other teenage movies of the same mold. "Wayne's World" supplies a solid punch of laughter that hits from the beginning and doesn't let up until after the credits. When "Wayne's World" starts to spread by word-of-mouth, it will surely stay a popular movie for weeks to come.

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## BOOK BUY BACK Begins

March 17, 18, 19..... 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

March 20 ..... 8:00 - 12:00 p.m.

# Scene

## Sir Mix-A-Lot keeps rap alive in Seattle

Jennifer L. Hill  
Advertising Manager

In recent months Seattle has been catapulted to the forefront of the music industry with the success of bands such as Nirvana, Soundgarden, Pearl Jam and Alice In Chains. Yet in a city which has become known as the innovator of grunge, rap music is also a force. Seattle-based rapper Sir Mix-A-Lot (a.k.a. Anthony Ray) wants to put Seattle in with other cities known for their rap music scene.

"I think the rappers in Seattle are much more aggressive (than rappers from other cities)" said Mix-A-Lot. "I think we haven't been taken seriously, as far as the hip-hop scene is concerned."

Mix-A-Lot was born in Seattle and lived in the Central District until he was 22. After graduating from high school in 1981, he enrolled at Seattle Central Community College to become a computer programmer. However, within two weeks he grew tired of the program, dropped out of college and in 1982 got serious about making music. Because he plays by ear and forms his own style, Mix-A-Lot aimed at getting noticed for his musical talent.

After signing with local label Nastymix Records, Mix-A-Lot had two albums come out that were big success stories for him. "SWASS," his first, sold a million copies. His second album, "Seminar," sold more than half a million copies. But after his initial successes, Mix-A-Lot hit some stumbling blocks in his musical career, starting with pseudo-rapper Vanilla Ice. A problem arose when Ice allegedly lifted lyrics from Mix-A-

Lot's "I'm a Trip."

"It's almost taboo to say anything about him now. Vanilla Ice is sinking his own battleship," Mix-A-Lot laughed to himself and smiled. "I remember when I met Vanilla Ice in Dallas. He was a real nice kid. I was really all for his success until he started coming off so cocky and arrogant."

Another turn in Mix-A-Lot's career occurred when Nastymix President Ed Locke and Mix-A-Lot brought suits against one another concerning Mix-A-Lot's contract. The suits arose when Mix-A-Lot took to the streets with his manager Ricardo Fraser looking for a new label. During this time there was a legal dispute with Nastymix over the unpaid sum of \$400,000 to the rapper (for publishing)

**"I can't claim Compton and I can't claim the Bronx—I have to talk about where I'm from."—Sir Mix-A-Lot**

and Locke's refusal to renew Mix-A-Lot's contract. Mix-A-Lot countersued Locke for copyright infringement, and won the case, as well as custody of his master tapes, which were sold to Warner Brothers Records for re-release. The battle resulted in the near destruction of Nastymix, which Mix-A-Lot had hoped to avoid.

"We kinda crippled Nastymix, which was really not what I wanted to do," Mix-A-Lot said. "I heard they sold over half the company to Ichiban Records, which I was sad to hear. I just wanted to get off the label and be left alone. So it's kind of like a fight that he

(Locke) picked and lost."

But times now are getting better for the 28-year-old Seattle rap star. Mix-A-Lot is under his own label, Rhyme Cartel, and working with famed producer Rick Rubin under Def American Recordings, Inc. Mix-A-Lot is happy about being associated with Def American since Rubin discovered such groups as Public Enemy, LL Cool J, and was instrumental in Run-DMC's success. With the release of Mix-A-Lot's new album, "Mack Daddy," there is no doubt in his mind that making it big will not be a problem.

His new album is likely to outsell his previous efforts. According to the Seattle P-I, "Mack Daddy" had 300,000 advance orders placed before the record was released on Feb. 4. (As of Feb. 23, it was a number-one selling album at Tower Records.) The album contains songs such as "Jack Back," which focuses on Nazi skinheads and includes samples from the film "Mississippi Burning." "Mack Daddy" also includes such tracks as "Baby Got Back (I Like Big Butts)" which was released in video form on MTV on Feb. 9 and released as a single on Feb. 18. According to Mix-A-Lot, this track pokes fun at people's ideal of what "beautiful" is and chastises magazines such as Cosmopolitan and singer/artist Madonna. The song is currently being played on Seattle Top-40 station KUBE-FM. One of his favorite songs on "Mack Daddy" is "Lock Jaw," a track about people who have dismissed his work in the past and about his legal dispute with Nastymix.

The album contains other tracks that are liable to give Mix-A-Lot a different image. The album includes controversial subjects such as gun control, gang violence and drug abuse. The song "I'm Your New God" is about people struggling with cocaine abuse and what cocaine would say if it could talk. Mix-A-Lot hopes to get together and make the video with the producer of the film "The Exorcist."

"I think this record is going to be my biggest by far," Mix-A-Lot said. "It is definitely my best stuff 'cause I wrote it when I was mad. When I write mad,



Photo by Steve Stearns.

Sir Mix-A-Lot has left his past troubles behind him.

I write my best."

The secret to Mix-A-Lot's success is writing in his state-of-the-art studio in his home in Auburn. Mix-A-Lot tries not to be influenced by other rappers. He writes without help from a rhyming dictionary, and writes alone with the draperies closed so he cannot tell the time of day. Mix-A-Lot writes the title and concept of most of his songs first, then plays with a drum machine to come up with a mood.

Recently, rappers have been moving into other media such as film. When asked if he had any plans to act, Mix-A-Lot said he was offered an upcoming film with actor Robin Williams, but he refused. Although Barry Levinson, known for "Rain Man" and "Bugsy," is producing the film, Mix-A-Lot feels that he cannot take the role just because of the big names involved.

"Everyone's telling (me) I'm making a mistake; it doesn't fit me," Mix-A-Lot said. "I don't want to play the stereotypical stuff. I'd like to play something Mafia-style. I'd like to be a killer. No lines, just all looks."

As for his future plans, Mix-A-Lot is now focusing on a tour which he plans to kick off in

April with the 13 other members of his group. The tour will span the United States (headlining in small cities), starting with the Midwest and finishing on the West Coast.

Until the tour, however, Mix-A-Lot is taking it easy in his 4,500-square-foot house on his 13 acres. On his property, he has a small pond stocked with fish, and he is content with his home located away from neighbors. His recreational activities currently include his fleet of exotic cars. He has two Porsches, a BMW, a few Mercedes-Benzes, a 1992 Bentley and a Lamborghini Diablo, with an estimated value of \$270,000. Mix-A-Lot often spends afternoons buffing the cars or driving them to places such as the Central District and Franglor's in Seattle. He also likes to spend his time going to movies, driving to Phil Smart's car dealership to look at cars and hanging around with his friends.

He is proud of his hometown, and isn't afraid to admit it when it comes to his music. "I think when I get away from the Seattle sound I lose fans quickly," Mix-A-Lot said. "I can't claim Compton and I can't claim the Bronx — I have to talk about where I'm from."



Photo by Steve Stearns

Don't call it a comeback—he's always been here.

# Sports

## Men's hoop goes one step closer to NWAACC Championship

**Michael Burns**  
Staff Writer

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges' Northern Division Men's Basketball playoffs will commence tonight at the Highline Community College Thunderdome as HCC hosts Edmonds Community College at 8 p.m. The Thunderbirds earned a share of NWAACC Northern Division tri-championship and home-court advantage for the Feb. 27 game via an 88-74 victory over Edmonds on Feb. 19 at the Thunderdome. HCC closed out the regular season with three straight wins, two of which came against teams bound for post-season play.

The T-Birds late season roll began on Feb. 12 at Olympic Community College in Bremerton, as HCC dumped the Rangers 81-66. Down five midway through the second half, HCC went on a 21-5 tear, keyed by the clutch 3-point shooting of guard Marc Callero.

Callero finished with 18 points to lead a balanced HCC attack, with forwards Brandt Borghorst, T.J. Bohl, and Carlos Carson chipping in 15, 14, and 12 respectively. The T-Birds also shot a blistering 93 percent (27/29) from the free-throw line for the game. Jason Talaska and Phil Rodman combined for 37 points to lead Olympic; however, HCC shut down the high-scoring duo in the second half, limiting them to just nine total points after the intermission.

HCC then traveled to Everett on Feb. 15 to take on playoff-bound Everett Community College and NWAACC Northern Division scoring and rebounding leader Shawn Frank. Led by a stingy defense that allowed Frank and his mates to shoot only 38 percent from the floor for the game, the T-Birds downed the Trojans 95-85. Carlos Carson had 23 points and 12 rebounds to lead HCC, who had six players score in double figures. The clutch road victory propelled HCC past

Everett in the NWAACC Northern Division standings and set up the showdown with Edmonds for a share of the Divisional Tri-Championship and the right to host the first-round playoff game.

Edmonds came into the Thunderdome with a 21-4 overall record, 8-2 in divisional play, and ranked #2 in the NWAACC's coaches' poll. The T-Birds got off to a quick start, led by an aggressive man-to-man defense that limited the Tritons to 31 first-half points, allowing HCC to take a 33-31 halftime lead. HCC raced out to a 15-point advantage in the second half led by Borghorst, Callero and guard Eric MacGregor. With Borghorst dominating play in the paint and Callero and MacGregor handling the perimeter, HCC hung on in the closing minutes to post the 88-74 victory. Borghorst led HCC with 29 points and 22 rebounds. MacGregor netted 19 and Callero chipped in 13 for the T-Birds. HCC Coach Joe Callero

said of the game, "It was exciting; we were able to play hard, play smart and play together. One game doesn't make a season, and if we don't keep winning now, the season's over."

**"We control our own destiny at this point. If we keep winning, we'll keep advancing."**

**- Coach Joe Callero**

The NWAACC playoffs will be held March 5-7 at Lower Columbia College in Longview, Wash. The top two teams from each of the four NWAACC divisions advance. This is where it gets confusing. For HCC to advance they must first defeat Edmonds Feb. 27, then await the outcome of the Skagit-Everett game. If Skagit wins, both the T-Birds and Cardinals will advance to the NWAACC playoffs, but HCC would still have to travel to Mt. Vernon on Saturday to take on SKCC to determine who would be the

Northern Division's #1 seed. If Skagit loses to Everett, the HCC-ECC winner would then have to play Everett for the #1 seed in the Northern Division, while Skagit would still advance as the Northern Division #2 seed based on their prior #1 seeding.

Confusing? You bet, but Coach Callero sums it up best, saying, "We control our own destiny at this point. All I know is that if we keep winning, we'll keep advancing, and that's all we can concern ourselves with at this point."

In reference to the Feb. 27 game, Callero said, "We want to come with pretty much the same game plan (as last week); we'll go man-to-man, pick up full court and we'll move the ball around against their zone." When asked about his team's momentum, Callero replied, "We are peaking at the right time, and if we can't beat Edmonds playing like we are now, then it wasn't meant to be."

It will definitely be one worth watching.

## HCC wrestlers look to garner top honors at nationals

**Michael Burns**  
Staff Writer

The Highline Community College wrestling team may have a couple of All-Americans come Monday morning, if freshman Chad Hendricks and Jake Garrett have their druthers. The Thunderbird duo is in Bismark, N.D., this weekend competing in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Wrestling meet. A top eight placing at the NJCAA meet will qualify the HCC grapplers for national honors.

T-Bird Coach Mark Brown thinks his T-Bird tandem is ready to compete at the national level. "They both did an outstanding job at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) regional meet. Both had tough weight classes, and our region is the toughest in the country so they should have a good chance at the top eight and All-American honors."

Hendricks, 126 pounds, and Garrett, 142 pounds, both placed third at the NWAACC regionals. The top three finishers in each weight class ad-

vanced to the national meet.

Hendricks is a freshman from Mt. Si High School in Snoqualmie, Wash. He won the state AA title at 129 pounds last year as a senior and was a state participant at that weight as a junior. Hendricks felt he could have performed better at the NWAACC regional meet if he "didn't get popped" in the semi-finals by Travis Bell, who was the eventual winner at 126 pounds. "I just didn't feel I was prepared for that match," Hendricks said.

It was a good learning experience, however, and Hendricks

has high expectations for Nationals. "I want to place in the top eight and become an All-American."

Garrett is a freshman from Capitol High School in Olympia, Wash. He captured the state AA 141-pound crown last year, after placing third at 135 pounds as a junior and fourth at 122 pounds as a sophomore. Like Hendricks, Garrett also felt he could have done better at regionals. "I would have liked to have made it to the finals, but I made a few mistakes in the semis."

Garrett also has lofty expecta-

tations for nationals. "I would definitely like to place in the top six, if possible."

Both Hendricks and Garrett harbor hopes of wrestling at the four-year level but are not looking past the nationals or next season. "We would both like to wrestle at a four-year school, but would like to concentrate on the immediate future, as far as the team (HCC) is concerned, and win nationals next year," Garrett said.

With both wrestlers returning next year with experience at the national level, HCC wrestling should be in fine shape.

## Longacres will be put to pasture as an apathetic populace shrugs

**Kevin McCormack**  
Staff Writer

On March 3, 1933, Gov. Clarence D. Martin signed the Horse Racing Bill, legalizing parimutuel betting in Washington state. Exactly six months later, on Aug. 3, 1933, the Longacres racing track was opened by co-founders Joe Gottstein and Bill Edris, and from that day the oval track has brought a source of entertainment and livelihood to millions.

This will be Longacres' final season, and nearly one and a half years after the announcement that Boeing had bought Longacres with plans of

constructing an office park, the effects of its closure on the people associated with this historical track seems to be the same. They will have to move to another track or call it quits.

It is hard to believe that in 57 years a World War was the only occurrence before the Boeing purchase that pulled the reins on horse racing in the Northwest. Longacres always has been an attractive place to spend the day, even if you did not place a bet. How can we sit back and let an aerospace giant buy up a piece of acreage that means so much to so many? Why must this piece of Northwest history be sacrificed for

industrial expansion?

Owners Mike and Ken Alhadeff, the third-generation to obtain the family ownership, have most likely been asked similar questions. They probably answered the question like any third-generation Green River truck farmer's sons would: taxes escalate, property values change, we've been offered an acceptable price (\$80-\$90 million), and it's not our responsibility to preserve Northwest horse racing.

Actually, the Alhadeffs' actions were not unlike those of their grandfather, who made most of his money in investments and real estate. With

profit margins down in thoroughbred racing across the country, it seemed like a wise business decision to get out.

Nevertheless, it still seems sad that profit margins, big business and corporate expansion could spell doom to an institution that brought 57 years of joy to so many.

This region owes it to itself not to lose this sport. Western Washington needs to find something to compensate for this enormous loss. What we need is another race track. We have the population base to keep this sport alive in Western Washington. Most importantly, let's not forget those days when

we were outside in the warm summer sun, sucking on a cold one, with a fistful of race tickets and a shot at coming home a winner.

If the people of Western Washington do not already mourn the irreversible steps that have sealed the fate of horseracing in this region, they will surely regret their collective inaction once the oval track has become little more than a parking lot.

Regional sporting venues are the string that binds generations of people together. When Longacres disappears, all that will remain are regrets from an inactive region.



# News

## Sexual harrassment seminar to be held at HCC

*Speakers will include HCC's sexual harrassment officer and Phi Theta Kappa representative Gary Lewis*  
Staff Writer

On March 3 at Highline Community College there will be a "Brown Bag Lecture" on sexual harassment. It will be in the Gold Room of Bldg. 4, from noon to 1 p.m. The lecture will be given by two different speakers, in two parts.

The first half of the lecture, which is titled "Myths and more about sexual harassment," will be based on Title IX of the Educational Amendment of the Civil Rights Act. The speaker will be Mary Lou Holland, the sexual harassment officer at HCC. Holland will be speaking on sexual harassment in education but the lecture will be narrowed down to "learning the most effective ways of taking care of yourself on campus."

The second half of the lecture will be titled "The Paradox of Freedom: A Global Dilemma," which is the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honors society study topic. The speaker for this part will be Debi Phillips.

Phillips is a 1991 HCC speech contest first-place winner, a student at HCC and the vice president of public relations for PTK. Phillips will be basing her speech on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which is geared towards the workplace.

Phillips, along with others, has put together a group called the Workers Against Sexual Harassment organization (WASH). WASH was put together to raise awareness in, and get support from the community. Phillips will be handing out a petition at the lecture that was put together by WASH to try to get the government to require education against discrimination in the workplace.

As reported by Phillips, in a paper she wrote in November of 1991, there have been 38,000 sexual harassment cases filed with the Federal Government since Title VII was enforced in 1976. This does not include all the cases that aren't filed because people don't want to cause a scene.

The lecture on March 3 should be educational and enlightening to many people, Phillips said. She also hopes it will create a greater awareness of this problem.

## HCC Legal Assistant Program needs committed students

*Matt McGinnis*  
Staff Writer

The Legal Assistant Program at Highline Community College provides its students with a highly rated curriculum and a great opportunity for employment after graduation.

According to Department Coordinator Catherine Morrow, a legal assistant has one of the most promising careers in the nation right now. Morrow, a practicing lawyer, said that lawyers need assistants to help them in investigation, research, interviewing clients, and preparing for trial. Instructor Gust Doces, a practicing lawyer also, said that even with a slow economy, law firms have a strong demand for legal assistants.

There are few places in the state that have legal assistant programs. According to Morrow, HCC and Edmonds Community College are the only two programs in the state that have been approved by the American Bar Association. Doces explained that the quality and variety of the curriculum at HCC is why the American Bar Association gave its approval.

HCC's Legal Assistant

Program is designed to be a two-year course, but as Morrow explained, it is hard for students unless they are enrolled full time. The degree is called an Associates in Applied Science, and according to Morrow, students are not required to continue into a four-year

**HCC's Legal Assistant Program is designed to be a two-year course, but ... it is hard for students unless they are enrolled full time.**

program in order to enter the job market.

According to Morrow, some skills that are good to have include: reading and writing well, being able to analyze material logically, and having good organizational skills. Morrow said, "The cardinal sin of a legal assistant is mixing up court dates."

Doces said that it helps to be outspoken and confident. "You

need to be really committed," he said.

There can be drawbacks to the career, however. Morrow explained that one of the reasons she stopped practicing as a full-time lawyer was that society has such an evil view of people who deal with the law. "Nobody likes a lawyer," she said.

Doces added, "People associate them with unpleasant memories; it's part of the psychology of Americans."

Morrow concluded, "People bitch and scream about lawyers, but when they need one..."

Currently there are 157 legal assistant students enrolled at HCC. Morrow said that there are more women than men this quarter, but the number of males has been steadily increasing.

Although Morrow and Doces don't recommend the Legal Assistant Program to students who can't decide on a major, they do encourage students who are highly motivated. As Doces said, "There's always room for good students."

### News Briefs

Highline Community College's Dean Of Instruction, Owen Cargol, has been named one of five finalists to become president of Peninsula Community College, located in the Port Angeles area.

On Thursday, Feb. 27, the Events Board is sponsoring a free lecture by Dr. Maxine Mimms, a member of the faculty at Evergreen State College. The lecture, titled "Mind, Body, and Soul," focuses on accepting people's differences—from ethnic differences to physical handicaps. The lecture will be held in Bldg. 7 at 12 noon.

The Highline Community College Drama Dept. will present "Marco Millions," by Eugene O'Neill on March 5-7 and 12-14 in the Little Theatre, located in Bldg. 4. Tickets are \$5 and may be purchased in the Bookstore.

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