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TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 STREET BEAT
6 IN THE NEWS
   WRITING 101 UPDATE, NEW ENGINEERING COURSE
9 SURVIVING COLLEGE
   SHOP AROUND, BEING TOYING INTO YOUR CLASSES
10 YOU WIN SOME, YOU LOSE SOME
   HIGHLINE STUDENT BODY GEARING UP TO VOTE
12 LEARNIN' THE BLUES
   GUIDELINES TO CLEVER COOK STEAMMS WITH HCC GRANDMMA
15 PUFF ON THIS
   SPECIAL USE FOR SMOKING A LITTLE
   INDUSTRIAL REPRODUCTION USES
   YOU MAY THINK
16 HCC SECURITY: A DOG OR BARNEY FIFE?
   WHAT IS CAMPUS SECURITY REALLY DOING?
18 GRANDMA ADAMS, SEAMLESS STORY
   THIS GRANDMA ALWAYS HAS ROOM FOR MORE
   GRANDKIDS
19 SUMMARY OF TEXTBOOK
   VOLUNTEERS TO BECOME THE VOICE OF SOMEONE?
   TEXTBOOK
20 PUFF ON THIS
   SHOULD SMOKING BE BANNED TO DESIGNATED AREAS ON CAMPUS?
25 LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE
   3 ON 3 BASKETBALL SLAMMIN' AT HCC
Few may realize all of the hidden talent at Highline Community College. As a staff member of the ThunderWord, I have had the rare opportunity to meet many of the interesting instructors and faculty here on campus. There are some very amazing people hiding out here at Highline.

Many of the faculty have led some pretty interesting lives and have some amazing stories to tell. But you would never realize it just sitting in class. It seems that even at the college level we sometimes find ourselves in that sixth grade mind set that our instructor's life and sleep at school, and teaching is all that there is to their lives.

Now, understand that are more in there are more than you'd want to hear. But taking it to the extreme is something else. And that's when the information hidden comes to play. Somewhere the instructor can tell an informative or valuable than what was supposedly on the day's lesson plan.

In case you're thinking that I am going to tell all of the HCC faculty secrets right here, then think again. I'm going to leave it up to you guys to hunt out the treasures of your own. (For a hint look on page 12 of this issue.) As the editor of the school paper I've made an effort to include many articles on interesting people at HCC in the ThunderWord.

People and stories enrich our lives, entertain us, and sometimes help us to avoid some of the pitfalls of life. We can hear about the experiences of someone else's life and say to ourselves, "I never want to make that mistake," or "I want to do that someday!"

So wake up from that grade school attitude and get to know that person that guides your life for 50 minutes, five days a week.
Street Beat...

What do you think of the job campus security does?

**Jenny Gonzalez**
I don't know what they do. I've seen them break up fights in the lounge and write tickets.

**Phoebe Spilman**
They do good. This is my first quarter here and it's different from my last school. I see them walking around and I like that.

**Josh Beemar**
I think they do a pretty good job. I just wish they'd quit giving me parking tickets.

**Name withheld**
The campus security are fine. I haven't had my vehicle broken into yet. I do see them on campus and I do see them do their job.

**Melvin Millanes**
I think they're a bunch of wanna-be policemen. All I see them doing is riding their bikes, flashing their police lights while cars are being stolen. They should stop trying to be policemen and start doing their job—which is to protect the campus.

**Monica Rollins**
They don't do their job. I had an emergency and it took them thirty minutes to get there. And when they got there, they couldn't help me. The guys who saw the law ended up helping me.
Writing 101 Update

Well, did the Writing 101 portfolio make it or not?

In the March issue of the ThunderWord it was reported that the future of the Writing 101 portfolio was questionable. Since then, Larry Blades, the writing division chair, Jack Bermingham, vice president of academic affairs, and Mary Odem, dean of instruction have still not come to terms of how to guarantee funding for the program. However, there currently have been no changes in the course curriculum. Blades said that for now they are still living off funds being continuously derived from various sources to keep the program running. Blades is hoping that by fall quarter a constant flow of money will be available to him, and the writing department, to ensure that the unique system of the portfolio method will be able to continue.

New Engineering course available

Would you like to know how a skyscraper stands up? Why kites fly? What is inside of your computer? If you do, then Engineering 103, Machines and Inventions, might be the course for you. In this class you will discover the answer to these and other interesting questions about structures, machines and inventions.

This new and exciting class will help you look at the technology of today and yesterday, in a whole new perspective. The best way to discover this is by jumping in and
getting your hands dirty, and that is exactly what this class entails.

Working in groups, you and your team will be given the opportunity to take things apart, figure out why in the world they actually work anyway, then put them back together in hopes that they will still work.

Machines and Inventions, a five credit course, satisfies the A.A. degree requirements for a lab science credit and is taught by Ken Schroeder.

Mathematics Competition

For the first time HCC's math department participated in a national mathematics competition. The competition happens once each quarter and consists of 20 questions and a one hour time limit. Questions are worth two points each and are usually multiple choice. To discourage guessing, 0.5 are deducted for each wrong answer. So yes, a negative score is entirely possible, but typical scores are in the 20's.

At the conclusion of the test HCC determines a team score by selecting the top five individual efforts. That team score is then compared to other community colleges participating in the competition.

The tests are made up by the AMATYC (American Mathematics Association for Two Year Colleges) and are based primarily on college level algebra (Math 105 or Math 115-116). Eleven schools in Washington, as well as many schools in California, have been participating for several years. Altogether, 25 states have colleges participating.

The HCC team placed third in the state among 12 schools during the winter quarter competition, thanks to the top individual score of 35 by Eric Valpey. Clark College and Bellevue Community College barely edged out HCC to take the top two honors.

The math department wishes to thank all of those who put their pride on the line and participated in the competition. Anyone who has an interest in seeing the level of questions, or get a copy of the test, is welcome to stop by Brian Hogan's office in Building 18, Room 202.
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Along timago, in a land not so far away, students used to used to wander around the campus, introducing themselves to instructors and gathering syllabus's. All in search of the best class for them.

It was called “tennis shoe registration,” and it used to be common practice at Highline Community College. Students would systematically go around to instructor’s and meet them as part of the registration process. Instructors would pass out copies of their syllabus and answer any questions the students may have about the course they were interested in. In the end, when the decisions were made, the instructor’s signature was required for the final registration.

It may sound like it was kind of a hassle, but the idea behind it is very effective. I don’t know about you, but I’ve been in some classes that I wish I would have known more about in the beginning. How many times have you shown up for the first day of class and asked yourself, “What have I gotten myself into?” And how many times have you dropped a class after the first week because it wasn’t what you expected.

This concept of meeting the instructor and checking out the content of the course could be very useful. It could save you some time, and possibly some cash. If you read the syllabus or get a course description from the person teaching it, you may be able to avoid that painful first day, or a painful quarter.

So, my advice to you is to highlight some of the classes that interest you in the quarterly and look up the instructor’s. Visit them in their office and get the scoop on the course content. They’ll be happy you’re interested, and I’m sure they’ll tell you more than you expected to hear. (If there’s one thing teachers like to talk about, it’s what they teach!)

Don’t be afraid to ask questions, either. You are paying for this, and it is a very important and big investment. Try to get the most out of your money.

Your faculty advisor may also be a good source of information on the specifics of some classes. They may have had other students that took a course that you’re interested in and could offer some insight.

Another excellent place to find out about a course you are potentially interested in is by talking to students that have taken it. Easier said than done I know, but the opinions of your peers can be very valuable. I’ve been very generous with my opinions on classes, and have also listened to the opinions of many students when registration time comes around. Some of my favorite classes were recommended by friends.

Any one of these methods is better than just blindly signing up for a class. Registration time is near, so keep these tips in mind. Shop ‘til you drop.

Illustration by Chris Griffin
The Associated Students of Highline College elections are coming up and what are we going to do about it? What is the ASHC? Good question. Not many students can actually give a correct answer to that. The ASHC is actually (besides the Thunderword) the voice of the students. They are our connection to the school’s administration.

The ASHC is responsible for budgeting the school’s services and activities and the candidates are our representatives to the administration.

An open forum will be held in the student lounge at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 16, with all candidates present, allowing students to ask questions and exchange information with the ASHC. It is a good chance to get to know the candidates and have a better understanding of what can become of ASHC through your votes. Among the candidates are Neil McLean and Dave Taylor. Both have been members of the ASHC for quite some time.

McLean has been an active member of the Proactive Public Relations group led by Barbara Clinton. They represent Highline College and speak to high schools and community groups. Taylor aspires to be a high school English teacher. The elections are on Wednesday and Thursday, May 22 and 23. Voters will go into booths in Building 8. You can also vote in the courtyard as the elections occur during Spring Fever, which the ASHC has been a part of since its conception.

Aside from Spring Fever, the ASHC is also responsible for putting students on committees and for keeping clubs organized. The Food Advisory and Parking Committee are both headed by the ASHC. Though often unnoticed, these committees work hard to better the lives of everyone on campus. Without them, who knows what you’d find on your plate for lunch? The ASHC also works with the child care center which allows many parents to come to school without worrying about the little ones. However, while the ASHC is responsible for so much in the Highline community, not many people know much about it, and even less people vote. The ASHC is trying hard to be better known to the students they represent with promotions and fliers.

On May 29, the ASHC will throw a dance. They hope this will inform more students of the ASHC. "I wish we could get more people to know about it," said Alicia Anderson, an ASHC representative.

Most knowledge about the ASHC is usually from word of mouth, but it is not much of a party starter in conversation topics. That’s not to say that they go unappreciated, though. "I don’t know anything about it," said Albert Lim, an HCC student. "Maybe because they’re doing their jobs so well that we’ve become unaware of the changes happening."

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"I am an invisible man. . . . I am a man of substance, of flesh and bone, fiber and liquids—and I might even be said to possess a mind. I am invisible, understand, simply because people refuse to see me."

—Ralph Ellison
Most people would not take James “Curley” Cooke for the extraordinary individual he is. Dressed in average “Joe” clothes, with only semi-longish hair and a pork-pie hat hinting towards rebellion, Cooke looks the part of a mellow, middle-aged professor. Fact is, Cooke is an accomplished musician with a list of credentials longer than an HCC registration line. From folk to blues to country and rock and roll, Cooke has been there and done that. Yet, his humble, down-to-earth attitude prevents him from coming off as a pogo-stick primadonna with a Sting-like ego.

Cooke’s career, according to his personal biography, has spanned three decades, 25 albums, and associations with numerous well-known musicians in bands and on disc. With names like Chuck Berry, Jerry Garcia, Boz Scaggs, Steve Miller, and others listed in his discography, one marvels at the wealth of material and experience Cooke has shared with some of American music’s true greats.

The singer-songwriter, who resides in the Seattle area, is most notably known for his work with fellow acoustic-blues musician Rod Cook (no relation). Their act, “Double Cookin,” performs throughout the Puget Sound region, serving up helpings of tasty, blues-drenched folk tunes for their audiences.

Learnin’ The Blues
Guitarist Curly Cooke strums with HCC
by Jason Hamilton

photo by Charles Johnson

Curly Cooke at home with his guitar

In addition to his performing, Cooke manages to run his own submarine sandwich shop, “King Sub” in Renton, as well as teach blues-guitar courses at local colleges, including HCC. Attending HCC himself, from 1984 thru ’86, Cooke believes the school has an excellent teaching staff.

As a young man in Madison, Wisconsin, his older brother formed a band and Cooke played in the group.

Moving to Seoul, South Korea, in 1986, Cooke showed his band at the “Hyatt House” , which became known as the CC Ryders. Still performing, the success of CC Ryders... Continued on Page 29
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As a kid, learning to walk, you were probably urged to success with cries of,
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As the worldwide population increases, the demand for natural resources also increases. There is presently a shortage of fiber and oil, thus causing the price of pulp fiber to double over the past year and for the recent increase in gas prices. Despite these worldwide shortages of our resources, there are also environmental issues in regard to the greenhouse effect and pollution.

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The world's dependence on fossil fuels such as oil, coal and natural gas could be ended by industrial hemp. "Hemp herds produce ten times more methanol than corn per acre. The growth cycle of plant removes four times as much CO2 from the air as it puts out. It actually cleans the atmosphere! Hemp is the only annually renewable resource capable of replacing all fossil fuels on a global scale," wrote Jack Hearer, author of The Merog Wears No Clothes. In fact, Henry Ford built a biomass car fabricated and fueled with hemp.

Forests are a renewable resource, however hemp is more effective. "Hemp produces four times as much paper per acre as trees (1 hemp acre equals 4.1 tree acres over 20 years)," wrote Hearer. However, trees do not mature in twenty years, but rather 40-60 years, thus allowing hemp to produce as much as 8-12 times as much paper per acre as trees. "Hemp paper uses only 15-20 percent of polluting sulfur-based acid chemicals to break down the pulp fibers and does not need to use bleaching dioxides in the paper making process. Hemp paper is much more superior in the quality and strength," Hearer wrote.

According to HempTech, industrial hemp information specialists, hemp can be substituted for cotton to make textiles. Hemp fiber is ten times stronger than cotton and can be used to make all types of clothing.

Cotton grows only in warm climates and requires enormous amounts of precious water. Hemp requires little water and grows in all 50 states. Hemp naturally repels weed growth and has few insect enemies. Thus, hemp requires no herbicides and few or no pesticides. Cotton requires enormous pesticide use, in fact half of all pesticide use in the U.S. is for cotton. Hemp also produces twice as much fiber per acre as cotton.

As stated before, there are over 50,000 uses for the hemp plant and every one of them is for the betterment of the environment and would create several new jobs. "Make the most you can of the Indian Hemp seed and sow it everywhere," said George Washington in 1794.

For more information please read the following books or visit the world wide web page of Global Hemp.

Books

Web Page
Global Hemp: http://home.earthlink.net/~epollitt
by Carmine Coburn

When most people hear the words "Highline security," they think of those people that put tickets on their cars. While it may be true that they do this, HCC's security force is an important key in keeping the college running smoothly.

HCC's security is made up of six full time officers, four part timers, and some student officers. These dedicated men and women all come from various types of law enforcement and police backgrounds. The security team patrols HCC and surrounding areas 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. This is to ensure that HCC is a safe and secure environment for the college population.

But students seem to have mixed feelings about HCC's security. Some feel that security are just "a bunch of wanna-be cops", but some feel that they do their job adequately.

"All I ever noticed about campus security is they are always getting in my way. They just sit in the middle of the road. Why do we need them anyway?" said HCC student Jack Johnson. "We don't need no stinking badges."

The truth of the matter is that there is a lot that students can do to help security do their job better. "The students can help be the eyes and ears for us," said officer Dean, HCC security guard. If students were to take more of a crime prevention attitude, not only will they be helping security out, students will be helping themselves out.

It's unrealistic to think that security can be in all places at all times, so students need to look out for each other and each other's property. If you see someone snooping around the parking lot, let security know. You never know, you may be preventing someone from breaking into your own car.

Beyond their obvious duties, security has many other responsibilities. They handle traffic accidents on campus, theft reports, medical emergencies, assaults, transients, intoxicated students, jump...
What are campus security really doing?

starting vehicles, opening locked vehicles, testing school alarm systems, securing buildings at night, and even bomb threats. To help them with all of these responsibilities, security works very closely with the Des Moines police department.

So, as you can see, security has plenty to keep them busy, but what is the most difficult task they have to deal with? "Daytime parking, definitely," says Dean. "One day we had to break up a fight between two women who were fighting over a parking spot. The fight was actually quite physical," said Dean. Because parking is such a problem during the day, security is adamant about giving tickets to people who don't have the proper permits. With the limited parking that there is, security has the responsibility of keeping non-students off of student parking.

Another problem that may be even more painful than that of the parking situation is crime. Crime comes in many forms ranging from car theft to having your book bag taken outside the bookstore. So what can students do to help security catch these criminals? "The most important thing for crime prevention is for students to be more aware, more crime prevention minded themselves," said Dean. "Take a quick look around when you leave your car. If you see anyone or anything suspicious, help security out by letting them know," Dean added.

Since security can't be everywhere at all times, there are things students can do to protect themselves and their property, such as hide, conceal, or even take valuables in your car with you (out of sight out of mind). Always lock your car doors, and use theft deterrent devices such as an alarm, or the club. Don't walk alone at night, use lighted pathways, and if you are waiting for someone, wait for them in a lighted area.

Contrary to what most students think, HCC security does not receive the money from the tickets they write or parking sticker fees. HCC's security, like much of the college, is state funded. Money from citations and parking stickers goes to maintaining the parking lots, and to lease the use of Midway Drive-in. Many students complain about having to pay for the parking sticker, but as HCC security Officer Major pointed out, to repave, line, and repaint the parking lots cost about $6000 dollars per space. Not only that, but it's not uncommon for colleges to ask students to pay up to $300 a year just to park.

The issue of security seems to be a big one any more. These criminals may be low life individuals, but they are not totally brain dead. They have a system where one watches for security, while the other breaks into the cars. Students need to use common sense and hide valuables, pull out your deck if you can, or get an alarm. HCC does not accept responsibility for stolen property, so students need to be prepared to accept responsibility for their own valuables. If you have a car with a real nice system, and you can afford it, full coverage insurance can offer good peace of mind.

Students need to get over the false security that just because there are officers patrolling the campus, crime is not an issue. Crime is an issue everywhere you go, and unfortunately, the HCC campus is no exception. We as students need to take it upon ourselves to do what we can to help each other out.
Grandma Adams, Read Me A Story
This grandma always has room for more grandkids

by Glenn Flaathen

Milly Adams has a lot of patience and a lot of love to give. She’s helpful, and has become a perfect fit for the foster grandparenting program at Highline Community College.

Adams, who likes to be called Grandma Adams, started at HCC in October of 1995. She had been a foster grandparent at the University of Nevada, Reno, before she moved to Seattle. The foster grandparenting program is a federal program, where the federal government pays the foster grandparents for coming in every week day.

"All children need a grandma, and I’m here to hold them if they hurt," Adams said. "I got a lot of love and patience to give, so that’s what I’m here for." Joyce Riley, director of the Child Care Center, said, "She definitely does (give love), and she’s very important for the children and the staff!"

The foster grandparent’s job at the Child Care Center is to read for the children, and basically do what a normal grandparent does. "I help them, I play with them and I give them all the love they deserve to get," Adams said.

Grandma Adams takes the bus to HCC every week day and stays for four hours. This is a voluntary program, but Adams said, "It’s not hard; it’s a pleasure. The staff is very good, and they treat me excellent. I’m the first grandma here, and the staff looks out for me." Riley said, "She’s there for the staff, and she’s a component to the team. She picks up toys, jackets etc., that helps us a lot."

Joyce Riley, director of the Child Care Center, said, "She definitely does (give love), and she’s very important for the children and the staff."

"I helped them, I play with them and I give them all the love they deserve to get," Adams said. "Many kids here don’t see their grandparents very often, because of them living far away," Riley said. "This makes Grandma Adams so much more important."

After raising her two granddaughters, Grandma Adams decided to join the foster grandparenting program because she got bored. "Everybody can relate to a grandparent," Adams said. "I wanted to work at a college when I got into it, and Highline is great. I love it here, and I think it’s a wonderful thing to do."

Adams wants to see more senior men and women join the program. "You get a lot out of it, and when the kids come up to you and give you a hug and say ‘I love you, grandma,’ it’s well worth it. Children have a lot of love to give, and they’re all good children, and I love being around them," Adams said. Adams has plenty of children to be around since the Child Care Center helps around 120 families. They hope to get a grandpa at the Child Care Center in the future, Riley said.

"Just being a foster grandma is a great privilege for me, and it keeps me young to be around the kids and the students," Adams said. "She brings that extra personal touch," Riley replied.
The Sound Of Text Books

Volunteer to become the voice of someone's textbook

by Troy Legaspi

In the nooks and crannies of Highline's administration building is the access office, where details of a new reading aid project are in development. The volunteer reading project, developed by Jerry Purdy, is designed to help the visually impaired and the dyslexic overcome the barriers of learning disabilities.

Volunteer reading, as the name implies, is the reading of text by volunteers. The text is recorded onto tape and is made accessible to the learning disabled. Those who would like to receive taped material would turn in an application to the access services. Purdy, himself visibly impaired, is searching for volunteers to read textbooks to be recorded on tape. "It's hard to find people to do it," said Purdy. "There are so many new books." The tapes will be copied and some will be sent to the Blind and Dyslexic Library in Princeton, NJ, where the concept began.

A volunteer is, however, committed to the entire book, which can mean different things. If the book is short, the process should take only a few hours. Being a Highline graduate, Purdy understands how busy life can be in college and is working with Beverly Schoen at the access office here to try and find incentives to produce more.

The difficulty in getting the credits can be attributed to the complexity of the process one must undergo to receive credit for volunteering. For example, an instructor of record has to be present during the recording in order to receive credit. It all depends on how creative the administration can be in getting around obstacles in order to make the project happen.

Green River Community College gives credit for their volunteer reading program and the University of Washington has full time staff members to handle the recording of text.

All in all, it will be a big plus for Highline to have such a program on campus. It will undoubtedly be greatly appreciated for those with learning disabilities. At the same time, the volunteer can learn while reading. It is a good start for people going into human services. "It's very rewarding and gratifying," said Purdy. A little bit of your time and effort can make a huge difference to someone who needs it.
by Heather Jacobs

I pull into the Midway parking lot at 10:55 a.m. knowing that I'll be late to my history class at eleven. Grabbing my backpack, I make a mad dash for campus. After crossing the street and then through the East parking lot, I check my watch and find that I still have two minutes to make it to class. Breathing a deep sigh of relief I begin to choke. The person directly in front of me has just a cigarette, leaving an ugly white cloud of smoke in their wake.

This is not an uncommon occurrence here at Highline, however unpleasant. Evidence of students and faculty members sustaining their smoking habit are everywhere, from the cigarette butts that litter the campus grounds and parking lots to the white fog this habit creates. Smokers may enjoy the fact that they can smoke right up until the moment that they walk through the classroom door, but for the rest of us this is not only a less than pleasant experience, but is proven to be harmful as well. It means that we must wade through the thick cloud that engulfs the doorway leaving us with a completely unpleasant odor that seems to cling to our clothing for the duration of the day.

Limiting smoking to designated areas around campus would help those who smoke as well as those who don't. The thick fog that lingers behind each smoker would be contained in areas that only those who smoke would be exposed to. By doing so, the risk of second-hand smoke would be eliminated for those students and faculty that were previously forced to cope with it or find other ways to their destinations.

But the smoke would not be the only thing that would disappear with the arrival of these smoking areas. The tacky yellow cigarette butts, as well as the concrete ash trays and the massive congregations that these small gray cylindrical idols attract would disappear as well. Not only does this make an impact on regularly attending students and faculty, but visitors leave with a much cleaner image of the school as well.

By implementing the designated smoking areas, I believe that we will drastically reduce the amount of smoking here at Highline. The reason for this is that many smokers will not want to take the extra time out of their schedule to stay within a specific area to smoke. They will consider it too much of an inconvenience and thus not worth their time. For some, this may be the incentive they need to kick the habit altogether and follow the ever-growing trend that smoking is socially unacceptable.

Although not everyone will be supportive of these smoking areas on campus, it will benefit more people than it will inconvenience.
Should smoking be banned to designated areas on campus?

by Jason Reed

The division between smokers and nonsmokers is growing ever wider due to lack of information on both sides.

Nonsmokers tend to believe that smokers are inconsiderate and haphazard in their habit. They also tend to characterize the smoker as being a person that lacks sufficient willpower to quit smoking.

Smokers, on the other hand, tend to characterize nonsmokers as being whip-snap and uncompromising. Smokers are also extremely defensive due to the literature and bad stereotypes that are currently being issued about them.

Most smokers are people that at one time in their lives found smoking to be a "cool" or "popular" thing to do. They did not fully realize the bad aspects to smoking and did not realize all the effects that it might have on others. Don't forget that only 20 years ago smoking was a popular thing to do and socially acceptable. Even today in some social circles smoking is a prerequisite for entry into that clique.

Smokers are usually considerate of others and try not to offend nonsmokers by blowing smoke in their direction or lighting a cigarette when it's not appreciated. There are some smokers though that are plain rude and feel that it is their god-given right to smoke in any place and at any time. This minority of smokers is partly to blame for the uproar from nonsmokers about designating specific smoking areas and trying to ban it all together from certain areas.

The majority of smokers have no problem smoking in designated areas as long as they are not inconvenient to get to. But smokers are addicts. When a smoker wants a cigarette, there is usually more going on than just the desire to smoke. According to the American Lung Association, nicotine dependence is more addicting than cocaine or heroin. When the urge to smoke comes upon a smoker it is because the levels of nicotine in their system have dropped below usual levels and therefore their body signals the urge for more nicotine.

Most nonsmokers that have never smoked have the assumption that quitting smoking is just a matter of will power. To a degree they are correct. If smoking is caught early enough and the habit hasn't been ingrained long enough and the smokers body hasn't become too addicted to nicotine then will power is all you need to quit. On the other hand, if any of the above are not the case, then the smoker will usually have to search for more drastic methods to quit.

Another misconception that nonsmokers have is that smokers that continue to smoke don't want to quit. This is largely false. Most smokers have tried numerous times to quit smoking and failed for some reason. Long term (ten or more years) smokers have usually tried to quit at least three times or more.

Nonsmokers are usually pretty thoughtful when it comes to a smoker wanting to smoke a cigarette. Most nonsmokers don't argue with the smoker or try to delay their getting their "fix." There are some nonsmokers, though, that are practically militant in their efforts to stop others from smoking. They will hide a smoker's cigarette pack if it is left out in the open. They will complain openly about the smell of burning tobacco or the cigarette butts discarded afterwards. This attitude does nothing but help divide the two sides further from the real issue, which is to help those that want to quit to quit.

Most smokers will congregate with other smokers if there is the possibility. This is because smoking is a social habit. Many smokers have no problem opening a discussion with another smoker, because they feel like they have something in common. This tends to create friction with nonsmokers when the smokers congregate around common areas that nonsmokers have to walk through.

I don't disagree, along with most smokers, with the idea of having designated smoking areas, as long as they are thoughtfully planned out for easy access anywhere on campus. I don't wish to upset anyone with my addiction.
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William Cullen Bryant

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WHAT'S ON CAMPUS

World Music Concert
Wednesday, May 22 in the Library plaza at noon-1 p.m. If it rains it will take place in Building 8 in the Student Lounge.

Spring Fever'96
Thursday, May 23, there will be an all campus picnic and entertainment in the Library plaza at 10 a.m.-2 p.m. If it rains it will take place in Building 8 in the Student Lounge.

A Tribute to Edgar Allen Poe
Tuesday, May 14, at 8 p.m. in Building 7. Tickets are $2 in advance, and $5 at the door.

Poetry Night II featuring: Judith Skillman
Friday, May 17, at 7:30 p.m. in Building 7. All students are invited to come and enjoy readings by a local poet.

WHAT'S UP! AROUND TOWN

Save this date
Friday, May 10, the 14th Annual Women's Celebration: "The Wisdom of Women." Featuring keynote speaker Alene Morris, entertainment by the Ellen Finn Jazz Quartet, community resources, dinner and a silent auction to benefit Highline students will take place. For more details call ext. 3340.

Congratulations
Highline graduation ceremonies will take place on June 6 at 8 p.m. Commencement will be held at the pavilion.

Due to playground and kitchen renovations:
The Toddler Center and Child Care Development Center will be closed summer quarter 1996. They will reopen for Fall, 1996. Registration for currently enrolled parents Monday, May 13, 1996, Registration for new parents May 29, 1996.

Deaf students perform in drama festival
Seattle Children's Theatre presents the Deaf Kids Drama Festival, featuring performances by deaf students from four area schools. The event is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, May 1 and 2 at 7 p.m. in the Charlotte Martin Theatre at Seattle Center.

Encounter
Dance all night to the mixings of 5 D.J.'s on June 15. $10 presale, $15 door price. Call 925-4027 or 467-2937 for more information and location.

Valley View Library Book Discussion Group
Join the group for lively conversations about books. The group meets one Tuesday a month at 7 p.m. Pick up a schedule at the library or call 242-6044.
Let's get ready to rumble
3 on 3 basketball slammin' at HCC

by Glenn Haathen

Travis R., who plays in the tournament, said, "I enjoy the camaraderie among the students and faculty. It was nice the way they toned down against us so that we could compete with them." Harrison found it interesting and meaningful that students want to stay on campus after classes.

Athletic director Fred Harrison, who played on the faculty team, said, "It's nice to see kids get a chance to participate in something." Dunn said, "After all, this is a community college." This fall there are plans to do volleyball or flag football, and this is definitely a step in the right direction for HCC.

Physical, intense, and fast paced. It's 3 on 3 basketball at Highline Community College. This intramural program has come back to HCC after an absence of 20 years. Seventy-five participants have created 16 teams for a competitive round of basketball in the Pavilion every Tuesday and Thursday.

The tournament has been going on for one and a half months now, and the finals took place on Friday, May 3. John Dunn, assistant athletic director, said, "It's a great way to keep people on campus after class." Every participant gets a T-shirt, and after every game a "player of the game" is announced. The winner and runner up of the tournament will get a trophy that is theirs to keep. The program is being funded by HCC, and Dunn is in charge of it.

There has been a great response on campus to this sort of activity. "Way better than we anticipated," Dunn said. "There's a lot of cheering and laughing, and we want to continue doing this." There are some volunteers, and some paid help at the event. Among the volunteers are some of the regular faculty, like the softball coach Cara Hoyt.

Spectators from the community have also come to the Pavilion to see what's going on. "It's great to get the community a little involved," Dunn said. "After all, this is a community college."
Part Two: Food Fighters. Sixty-five million years ago, a mother Chasmosaurus separated from her herd, defends her sick calf from a pack of Dromaeosaurs. Attracted by the commotion a rogue bull Tyrannosaurus attacks the adult Chasmosaurus driving her off and leaving the juvenile open to the Dromaeosaurs attack. Wounded by and unable to kill the mother, the Tyrannosaurus steals the Dromaeosaur's kill; leaving only the head behind.
The Animal Kingdom

Look fellow students our photographer has done it again...

Beware - danger lurks around every corner in the wild world of animals. Don't mess with these guys or you'll be sorry...

Watch out! This kangaroo will hop all over you.

Don't mess with this kitty or it will scratch your eyes out.

There's no blocking this zebra's kick.
Highline Community College is opening its door to the future...

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is widely acclaimed throughout Asia.

When asked what he listens to these days, Cooke said, "If I listen to anything that was cut after 1980, it's amazing...I have a need to be rooted musically before I check out." His opinion on rap or alternative music? "Rap has been around for about 60 years in one form or another...but I
think it's (rap) gotten a little violent nowadays, which is unfortunate," he said. Even though he doesn't listen to many contemporary artists, Cooke still appreciates new talent. "Taj Mahal is good," he said, "he's probably the greatest contemporary blues player out there right now, and Ray Charles will always be one of the best."

A recent project of Cooke's is participating in the "Blues in the Schools" program. This is a nation wide, non-profit organization that teaches the significance of blues in American history to junior high school students. On education, Cooke said, "Of course you need the tools to make a living for yourself these days. But I also believe students need to know how to enjoy themselves." Therefore, the inclusion of art and music in a school's curriculum is justified to Cooke.

With the significant amount of experience and talent Cooke has under his belt, he represents an important part of HCC's staff. Many students would be hard-pressed to find a coach displaying his own great accomplishments. Cooke displays a real sense of class.
Carmine Coburn '96

Which road do I take to totally insane?
Do I want to be in the right or left lane?
Do I have enough gas to make it there?
Oh goodness, whatever shall I wear?
I think I see it up just up ahead.
It’s right where everyone had said.
I never thought I’d make it here this fast.
Well, while I’m here I’m going to make it last.
There’s sure a lot more people here than I thought there’d be.
It’s nice to know that other people are here, and not just me.
What a wonderful place to be.
It seems like when you are here, you are totally free.
Come to think of it this place seems to be right.
That place where I came from, they have yet to see the light.
Yeah, totally insane is my kind of place.
I don’t feel constricted I’ve got plenty of space.
That other place seemed to drive me mad.
But now that I’ve reached totally insane I’m really glad.

It was one of those caffeine-fueled nights the kind when you’re just too tired to sleep.
So drove my ’76 Comet down the highway-less-driven.
Some were about three left turns from nowhere it descended on like bright and shiny
New Year’s celebration.
I had to stop.
I sat and watched it, as it gently bobbed
in the air straight over the center line.
It was a mode of transportation
beyond the capabilities of human kind.
From innumerable underbelly of
this hot end of the gods
descended a Gray.
Yeah a Gray, stone colored skin
on a light bulb-shaped head
stop an anorexic seven year old gymnast body
with those big, black, freaking,
slippery shaped eyes.
But this one was different
He was COOL.
With his black leather biker jacket over a flannel shirt
and tight enough to kill denim jeans.
It was like Nirvana doing a cover of a Metallica song.
As soon as we made eye contact he
lit a cigarette.
Then there he was suddenly right next to the car
nipping on the glass and motioning me to
roll my window down.
So I did.
"You watch the Fox network?" he asked
"What..."
"You know, the X-Files, Sightings,
the Outer Limits."
"Yeah.
"Have you seen those movies, you know,
Communion, Fire in the Sky, Roswell?"
Then I thought about and asked
"You’re not going to submit me to an anal probe are you?"
"I’m gonna have to ask you step out of the car..."
He said smiling without lips.
After that... it all kinda goes blank...
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"Truth never yet fell dead in the streets; it has such affinity with the soul of man, the seed however barren will catch somewhere and produce its hundredfold."

Theodore Parker
What do you think about the changes being implemented in Writing 101?

Ross Perot was here. Bill Gates gives back.

HCC's Career Center can help struggling students.

To be or not to be: Future of Writing 101 assessment shaky.

HCC lacks programs students could really use.

Should instructors impose strict attendance policies?

How did the Thunderbirds do?
Laugh, and the whole world laughs with you. Smile, and brighten someone's day. Treat others as you would like to be treated. Sure, these are cliches, but they are some basic things our mama's taught us that most HCC students seem to have forgotten.

Most people on campus seem to keep their eyes on the ground as they travel from class to class. They hurry along with rarely a smile, let alone a hello, to a fellow classmate. Usually the only hello's are to those you've met in a class or know from elsewhere.

So why is it that Highline seems like such an unfriendly environment? Why do students here seem to shy away from simple kindness? Perhaps it's just that everyone has so much on their minds that they don't have time to look up. It's in their nature. Or maybe it's a fear of rejection. Perhaps students think of the rewards are in making new friends and they will think "what a nice person." Sometimes on a cooler day it will give them a warm fuzzy. It will probably make you smile, and it will encourage them to smile at someone else. Think how it will affect your day when people walk by you and smile.

It's not about making lifelong friendships or shoozing your peers. This is something our grandparents do all of the time. There was a time when it was very common to acknowledge your fellow man.

Some may think you're a little kooky or spooky because it's just not natural to be friendly, but you should just ignore them. Most will appreciate your gesture of kindness. There's no money involved, you need not sign any petitions, and the rewards out weigh the risk. What do you possibly have to lose? It's so easy to do.

We need to start a revolution on campus.
Street Beat...

"I didn't have to write an essay, it was on the left side, and you didn't really have to do that. I was satisfied with my grade." - Christopher Moore

"I think it should be changed because I don't feel it's an accurate way to grade. I got good grades throughout the whole class, but when I took the portfolio I failed it." - Ralph Allen

"I don't think using the portfolio system is fair for international students. With the instructor you get and score from my experience with them." - John Smith

"The committee doesn't know how much work you've put into your papers and your teacher does. He knows how much he's been teaching you." - Sharon Brown

"I don't think having a one on one relationship with the instructor, because people outside of the class only see the end result. They can't see what you started with." - Peter Smith

"The portfolio is not a big deal. It's just one extra time you have to do something else. It's really to big deal," said Mark.
Gates donates $10 million

On February 26, it was confirmed that Washington's 32 community and technical colleges are to receive $10 million in Microsoft computer software and technical assistance by a press release from the state board for community and technical colleges. This announcement comes on the heels of President Bill Clinton's visit to Washington and his joint appearance with Microsoft chairman Bill Gates.

Microsoft's donation is the largest single corporate contribution ever received by the state's community and technical colleges, director of the State Board, Earl Hale, said.

"This contribution will help the colleges ensure that their systems are up-to-date," he said. President Clinton said, "The work of Microsoft and other industry leaders across the country will help us truly put the future at the fingertips of all our students. We can do this—communities, the private sector and government—but only if we do it together.

Gates said the personal computer revolution, coupled..."
with the phenomenal growth of the Internet, have created great opportunities for students and for those already in the workplace. He then said, "Community and technical colleges will play an important role in training and retraining workers for the Information Age. Our vision must be for a connected, lifelong learning community."

Hale said that distribution of the Microsoft software will begin as soon as possible to the individual colleges. Technical training for students, faculty and staff will be coordinated with Microsoft as soon as the necessary equipment is in place, he added.

Highline Community College has been notified that they will be receiving 1,000 sets of software for use on the campus. The value of this donation to HCC alone is estimated at $304,000.

Perot back at HCC

Ross Perot spoke to an enthusiastic and packed house on February 21, inside the HCC Pavilion. Perot was on campus to lecture and discuss campaign finance reform. Also on hand to talk to the eagerly awaiting crowd were several other well known politicians, such as Patty Murray, Jack Metcalf and Linda Smith.

Sandy Hall, who works at the center for continuing education, speculated that Perot and the other politicians chose HCC as their location for the meeting "because of the location." HCC is close to SeaTac airport and I-5. Perot also was here in September of 1994, that could be another reason for choosing Highline.

During the meeting ways of reforming the finances for our elections was the key topic of conversation. Many ideas were tossed back and forth. Perot also confirmed that he is not running for president in 1996.

Touch-Tone Registration

By winter quarter of 1997 all currently enrolled HCC students will be able to register for classes by telephone. HCC has purchased all of the necessary equipment for telephone registration, and the registration office is currently testing the system to remove the glitches. During this upcoming May, a select group of students are going to be asked to register for fall quarter using the new phone system. Then, in November, all HCC students will have the opportunity to register for winter quarter over the phone.
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Surviving College

HCC's Career Center can help struggling students.

by Adrienne Pool

Looking for a job? Don't know where to turn? The answers are right here at Highline Community College. The Career Center is a great place to find out what career you are interested in, and to find the best education for that particular field, and current information on full-time and part-time employment.

The Career Center is fully staffed by students, as well as professionals who are eager to help each person that comes to them. Ingrid Gintz has been the manager for the last five years.

The Career Center is a part of HCC that is open to all students, as well as the community. To assist people in their search for career information, the center has a library and computers that hold information on specific jobs, such as clerical, teaching, engineering, drivers, and more, all of which are posted on a board at the center. Also, the computers allow the staff to give you a self-assessment test to find out where your interests lie.

No appointment is necessary to use the library. Students and community members can use it anytime they want. There are books and more computers that give hints on how to interview, how to write resumes, and a video monitor that shows the different educational programs available in Washington, and around the United States.

The staff works very close with students at Highline. Gintz said, "There are a total of 4 people that make up our staff." Individual classes, such as the women's programs, writing, and Career 101 interact with the Career Center, as well as staff from the Career Center going to the classrooms to do presentations. Gintz said, "approximately 100 people per quarter use the computer system, and 400-500 people use the library." Gintz also said, "about 1/3 are men and 2/3 are women." There is a shortage of men here at Highline, so it is very possible this statistic is a direct result of that. The Career Center is a great place to start if you're looking for a job, career information, or educational opportunities. At the Center there are people waiting to answer any questions you have. An added bonus is that all the advice is free. Check out the Career Center in building 6 in the main lobby; they might be able to help you.

The Career Center is open on Monday and Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The career library is open during office hours.

Illustration by Heather Jacobs
I admired her and I from afar, I was fascinated by her, this whole matting was a gift from fate! My roommate said I had won the lottery in meeting movie stars, and that was true.

So the story continues... her boyfriend, Eric a band-member of the Seattle based grunge group "Hole", came to pick Drew up. She hugged him, falling waif-like into his arms, one leg in the air and then as the embrace ended I walked up to her and gave a checking receipt to her and borrowed a pen from a person who had gotten her autograph a second before. As I was getting an autograph from her, people started bombarding her for autographs, as more realized who she was. One person even shoved his skateboard in her face to get an autograph. And Drew, knowing people wanted her autograph, as she appeared generously wanting to give them, sort of physically withdrew and recoiled because of the overbearing nature of everyone closing in around her, a good 5 or 6, I counted.

Then I returned to work, my 15 min. break was over, but wow what a break. This is my "Chance Encounter," with Drew; and Drew will be in my memory forever.
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Room 106 (Raffle Drawing)

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March 28th
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Building 30 Lobby & Building 6 Upstairs

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Let us know what you think and want!
Dear Editor,

I was disturbed to read the article "Math 97 - Love it or Leave it" in your February issue. I felt that the author went out of his way to present both sides of the story, but didn't necessarily grasp the implications of what the students of this class are feeling. I cannot speak for every class, only that which I have attended, but I think that it can safely be said that I speak for the mass majority (and certainly all I have discussed this with) of my fellow classmates. To begin, I would like to assert that my feelings upon signing up for the class were those of enthusiasm. I did not expect the class to run perfectly, as an experiment in teaching methods I was a willing guinea pig, and accept that new things always have wrinkles that need to be smoothed out, and improvements that can be made. On the first day of class hardly a seat was to be found. The class was packed with all of us, ready and willing to learn.

I myself have been a college student for three and some years. In the math class I took last quarter at HCC, I never missed turning in an assignment, and I missed perhaps one day of class. I received a 4.0 and the same for all of the 15 credits I took that quarter. This is the reason I took such offense to the statement in the last paragraph of the above mentioned article, implying that most of the students who have complaints about the new curriculum "are not ready for college yet." Having read the quick description of my background above, do you find this a plausible explanation for myself? Now, while this prejudiced statement will always apply to some would-be students, could it possibly apply to more than 50 in the same classroom? Sorry, but I personally find that impossible, having met most of my fellow students.

The negativity in the classroom as I write this article is overwhelming and suffocating, and I cannot fathom that it is because we are so unfair and resistant to new ideas and change. We're American students! We love the idea of anything new. So why are things going so poorly?

First of all, the students of Math 97 are assigned more than two hours of homework. Sometimes twice that or more. This is an unrealistic proportion to the amount of homework in higher college level courses. This homework was collected only once in a great while in my class, perhaps two to three times in the past two months. This homework might have taken less time to do, had the material been gone over in class ahead of time, but often times the book alone was not sufficient, and the students would struggle through it, becoming frustrated, and then resentful. Sometimes it was impossible to complete the assigned material, regardless of time or effort, since we just didn't have the resources available to finish it.

As the homework was not collected, it was not corrected. How could we know if we had performed the operations correctly? How could we learn from our mistakes? Add to these problems a lack of simple acknowledgment to those students who tried to do the homework. There was no tangible reward. Soon the students felt as though they were trying to build a pyramid without the bottom blocks. People stopped doing their homework. They dropped the class at an astronomical rate. The teachers became resentful, the students angry, and the test scores were at an average of 60 percent.

Of those who stayed, I was somewhere near the top of the class. Students were asking for my help both at home and in class. I attended the class virtually every day. So why did I, of all people, drop the class? I would probably have received an "A." I dropped the class because not only had I achieved a bad attitude, but I felt that things just weren't going to get any better. I could see no effort on the instructors to become more organized and communicate among themselves. A negative attitude affects performance, and this denial of any problem hurt everyone.

Never before have I even considered dropping a class for any reason, but I did, because I simply could not sit there and watch my fellow students trying and falling over and over, all for a lack of a little caring from the instructors. This class should have been a great experience.

My suggestion is as follows; try to remedy the situation by having
The instructor and class work together as a team and make the best of this difficult situation. The instructors should initiate a class discussion in a non-threatening manner, without judging. Then, the instructors could take a few days to sort through the information, treating it as such, and get back to the class with their plans for the rest of the quarter and future classes.

I think the result of these actions would be that the students would feel their opinions were valued and they were being treated as adults. The instructors would get the issues out in the open once and for all, and together the two groups might even come up with some great suggestions.

As for the idea of the class structure itself, the group learning has a significant demonstrated benefit to the students' learning process (as I've observed in many other classes). I like the inclusion of logic problems in everyday class. I think it's a wonderful idea. I'm proud I didn't stay, and I hope things change for those who have.

Sincerely,
Natalie Frazley

"They really listened to me."

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IRA KILLER.
Stress This!
Job, Money, School: It all adds up
by Glenn Flaathen

Stress is a common thing in college life. People get stressed for different things, but in college it is not unusual for students to be stressed out because of school, work, and money.

College life is filled with stress, and it comes from an overload of homework and maybe different classes not going to well. It's tough to have a lot to do, and it is very stressful, and stress can hurt your grades. Counselor Patricia Haggerty said, "Most students come in when they have their midterm, or are having problems deciding on a major."

When you attend college and have a part or full time job at the same time you will probably have too much to do. It's hard to handle both school and work at the same time, and it will usually affect your grades more than anything else. This is a tricky situation for most students. Although they need the money they earn by working, it may be smarter to choose one over the other.

Money always causes stress, and it seems to create problems for most students. You can't live without money, because it pays for your tuition and almost everything else in life. That's why most college students have jobs besides school. Together, money, work, and school are reasons that cause big time stress.

The symptoms of stress are irritability, tiredness, insomnia, and headaches. It hurts you in many ways, but what should you do?

One way to relieve stress is to do things you enjoy. Haggerty said that they "have students learn how to relax." If you like music, listen to your favorite artists, and it will probably relax you. If you're one of those people that like sports, watch the game on TV, and it will most likely make you think of something else rather than school, work, or money. You could also take a hot bath, get a massage, or exercise. If you're being disturbed by phonecalls when you want to be alone, just take the phone off the hook. Take a weekend trip across the state with someone you enjoy being with. Lastly - you should laugh as much as possible. Whatever works best for you.

When you suffer from stress you should find a place where you are comfortable and relaxed. Sit or lie down, close your eyes, and breath deep breaths. Then, when you are relaxed, imagine which thoughts and feelings are helpful to you and make you think about something else. When you now breath you will feel more relaxed and alert. Try this technique when studying for an exam.

The fight/flight response makes you blank out, and can occur when the stress or anxiety is a perceived threat caused by adrenaline. To make the fight/flight response stop you have to sit down and yell stop (either silently or out loud), and substitute the threat by a daydream. You could also try to worry the stress or anxiety to death by thinking of the worst possible outcome of the situation. There are many opportunities to relieve stress, but you should definitely do what is best for yourself. Maybe you can use one of the suggestions above, or maybe you have your own way of relieving stress.
TO BE OR NOT TO BE:

by Frank J. Webb

The outlook of the Writing 101's portfolio assessment seems shaky, as the five year on again / off again disagreement between instructors and administration continues.

A recent memo from Larry Blades, Writing Department coordinator to Mary Odem, dean of instruction, said the portfolio assessment would be discontinued after winter quarter.

The reason is that Highline Community College administration has continuously been unable to provide adequate funding for writing instructors to read through each individual portfolio and attend consensus building sessions to discuss writing assessment material, according to Blades. These portfolios are deemed necessary by HCC administration and several members on the state level because they believe it proves competence on the part of the student.

"It's important to prepare students whether they are going out into the work force, or going on to a four-year school," said Odem.

When asked her reaction to Blades' statement considering the termination of the portfolio assessment, Odem said she immediately solicited time from Blades. She had hoped to get together with him to further discuss the topic and additional options.

Currently the writing department is asking for an additional $16,000 per year to compensate all of the instructors involved with the Writing 101 portfolio assessments. The breakdown of the dollar amounts consists of, $14,500 for quarterly scoring and consensus building, $1,000 for a full-time coordinator, and $500 for a half-time coordinator.

Under the proposed plan by HCC administration, part-time
FUTURE OF WRITING 101
ASSESSMENT SHAKY

Instructors would be required to take part in a consensus building session and would not be paid for their time. During a consensus building session all of the Writing 101 instructors gather for approximately two and one-half hours to score benchmark portfolios. The outcome of this is a consensus on the application of the criteria.

Regardless of the past, a solution may be close at hand. Blades and Odem were scheduled to meet yet again to discuss the funding problem, but that meeting had yet to take place by the time the ThunderWord went to press.

After speaking with Odem briefly days prior to the meeting, Blades was not given any details but he predicted, at least he hoped, that during this meeting Odem would announce she had secured the funding desired by the writing department.

"This is not an ethical or moral issue, but a legal one," said Blades. He also said that the amount of work, and especially the amount of time, that is required to carry out the entire process each quarter is way too much to be asking of someone who is not being paid for their hard work. Basically, he said it was a violation of the teacher's union contract.

However, the instructors are receiving minimal funds through grants and other means of funding, but each quarter they must find a new source for that money. The Writing Department has requested $16,000 that they are hoping will be set up as an account in HCC's general fund as a gesture by the administration that they appreciate their hard work and that the funds will be there each year.

"There are lots of factors that go into allocating funds," said Odem. "It's not all in black and white."

Although it may seem as if the instructors are just underpaid and self-serving, they do realize the importance of the program and what it means to each student's education.

"But, the bottom line is that you work for a salary," Blades said. "We are getting paid less now than when we started."

In all fairness, Blades said, he does not fault Odem at all, because she has tried favorably to find the extra funding needed continuously over the past several quarters.

So what exactly is a Writing 101 portfolio?

Well, it has also been referred to as an exit assessment test. In the portfolio each student must include a mixture of three personally written essays from both in-class and out-of-class. In order to receive a 2.0 or better for the entire course, Writing 101 students must obtain a passing grade on their portfolio assessment.

I Illustration by Christopher Delam
There is a big buzz these days about internet technology. Highline Community College is buzzing right along with the rest of the hive. HCC has some of the best computer resources around. Our library is not only a great place to get information from books, but the Information Super Highway passes right through the second floor. People have discovered that the World Wide Web is a fast, convenient way to get all kinds of information. This web technology allows you to get in touch with other groups, people, companies, radio stations, and yes, other colleges.

There is some serious potential for the way we do business internally and externally,” said Ed Command, President of HCC. So the big issue is, what all is involved in having a web page? “There are some questions we need to address,” said Command. “Like who are we going to allow to link with it? We don’t want people linking with our web site, and having information on there that might not be representative of the college,” Command adds. “There is another question of whether or not we have enough capability to deal with all of this information, such as student E-mail accounts, etc.” said Command.

Currently, a committee headed by Sue Williamson has been formed to address the issues surrounding HCC’s web page. “The committee will be looking at various things, such as who’s our audience, who’s going to be responsible for creating it,” said Command. “There is some serious potential for the way we do business internally and externally,” said Ed Command, President of HCC. So the big issue is, what all is involved in having a web page? “There are some questions we need to address,” said Command. “Like who are we going to allow to link with it? We don’t want people linking with our web site, and having information on there that might not be representative of the college,” Command adds. “There is another question of whether or not we have enough capability to deal with all of this information, such as student E-mail accounts, etc.” said Command.

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Mechanics/Welders need not apply

by Jason Hamilton

"No matter where you're going, Highline has a program, support services, and resources that will help you get there." But if you're interested in auto mechanics, body work, or welding/fabrication, tough luck. Although you won't see this in an HCC catalog, it seems to be the sentiment of the curriculum.

With a decline in enrollment, HCC's location, and Green River Community College offering these courses, I don't understand why the school ignores these programs. Not to exclude the importance of Highline's current career-based programs, but I believe these "blue collar" courses to be just as vital, if not more so, as medical/dental assistants, library technicians, or goldsmiths.

If a local high school graduate was more interested in fuel injection and control modules than cash flow management and marketing, they would have to enroll in a technical school and commute to Renton or Tacoma for automotive training. They could also enter one of GRCC's programs, but why not Highline? About six years ago, HCC decided to axe their mechanical welding programs. By 1990, the enrollment for the welding course dropped to five students. Since the bottom fell out of the local welding industry around that time, it's understandable HCC discontinued the program. Interest in Highline's auto mechanics class waned as well, with eleven students enrolled. The thoroughly obsolete program HCC offered in need of an overhaul, was instead sent to the crusher. The money saved from discontinuing these programs could now be spent on more computer-based programs. Guess what? Today's auto mechanics use computers as much as torque wrenches. We're no longer taking out cars to grease monkeys and gear heads.

Computer technology thrives in the automotive industry, and aspiring automotive technicians need training and courses at a reasonable cost to get into the field quickly.

The need for these courses at HCC is apparent when you talk to auto shop students at Mt. Rainier High School in Des Moines. "I want to work on cars for a living, that doesn't mean I'm stupid in other subjects, but if Highline had an auto shop course I would definitely enroll," said Cameron Hilstad. Another student, Gordon Strupp, said, "I've always been interested in body work and painting, the new methods and laws for auto painting make it so you need technical training. I live in Des Moines, but I will have to go to Renton VoTech for school."

Both of these students have goals, they do well in school, and they don't have a lot of money. They could benefit greatly from courses right up the road at Highline, but they won't. HCC has no current plans to start vocational courses for auto mechanics, or body work and painting.

Some might say these programs would be a waste of time and money for the school. There just isn't a demand for these professions like there used to be. Highline's Dean of Instruction for Occupational Studies, Robert Eley, certainly agrees. Eley feels that although growth is shown nationally for the need of auto technicians, there isn't any need "around here." When questioned on the computer technology used today, Eley said, "We're probably the leading college in the state as far as computers go, but with auto mechanics, schools like South Seattle Community College and Renton Technical College are probably satisfying the need for that." Should Highline leave it to the technical schools to teach these courses?

Excuse me, but if my memory is correct, HCC's administration has been complaining about a drop in enrollment. Shouldn't we get competitive? Eley replied to this with a list of new, prospective

(Continued on page 30)
Attendance:

**Mandatory Attendance**

by Blake Westerdahl

One of the biggest problems here at Highline Community College is attendance. Many students are just not ready for the rigors of college academics. Students do not have enough incentive to go to class and do not realize the benefits and necessity of going to class.

Attendance can make or break a student. Teachers often give students the opportunity to fail by having no attendance policy or ones that are too lenient. Strict, rewarding attendance policies increase attendance, class participation, and receive positive feedback from students.

"Attendance is the key requirement to success," political science teacher James Glennon said. Glennon, who has over 34 years of teaching experience, regards attendance to be "absolutely necessary." Attendance is one of the most important factors in determining a student's success or failure in a class. Teachers often allow their students to foster poor attendance habits by allowing multiple absences without penalty. A currently offered Journalism 101 class allows five excused absences before the students receive any penalties.

Many students see the five allowed absences as an invitation to miss class without considering the affect of missed work. A look at the syllabus reveals a packed schedule of draft due dates and class lectures. Missing all five days in a row would be absolute suicide. The teacher includes in his syllabus, "Late drafts will not be accepted," eliminating make-up work. Granted most students will not miss all five days in a row, but even five missed days in one quarter can severely hurt a student.

Teachers with strict attendance policies actually help their students. Glennon, after having attendance problems, instituted a policy of a "point per day," thus a student with perfect attendance for the week would receive five out of five possible points. This simple system penalizes students with extremely poor attendance, rewards people with good attendance, and does not break someone for missing a day or two during the quarter. Glennon noticed a significant increase in the attendance after adopting the policy. According to Glennon, the class discussions became better because more of the students knew what was going on, which benefited all the students. At the end of the quarter Glennon said one student came up and thanked him for implementing the attendance policy, because it was the first time he had ever been rewarded for attendance.

Opponents of strict attendance policies say that students need some leeway because some absences are unavoidable due to illness or other serious reasons. Strict attendance policies can have
allowances built in to allow for these inevitable absences. Davidson Dodd, another political science teacher, has a policy similar to Glennon's that allows for these absences without condoning them. His syllabus reads "There are no excused absences, but...illnesses and personal life conflicts arise, so you will be given the opportunity to make up absences via bonus points (maximum 8)." Bonus points are attainable by viewing videos in the library and writing a short summary. In my opinion that is enough of an incentive to attend class, but not too harsh if you need to miss a class due to serious reason.

Some would argue that it should be the student's decision to attend or not to attend class, since they are paying tuition. Students, however, are not just paying for an education, they are paying for a high quality education. Poor attendance hurts not only the absentee, but also the students with good attendance, who lose out in the quality of class discussion. Teachers should take it upon themselves to implement strict attendance policies, which will benefit not only the students, but also raise academic integrity of the entire school. Attendance can have a positive effect on both the student and the class environment. Good attendance promotes success for students within a class. Teachers need to take the initiative to teach their students good attendance habits.

Why shouldn't teachers require attendance? The most common response was that students pay for college, thus, if they want to deprive themselves of a good education, so be it. "We're paying for college so it should be our responsibility to go to class," said Max Watson, a student at HCC.

"We're not in high school anymore," said Shane Holmes, a freshman at HCC.

"If attendance was required, I would attend somewhere else," said Amy Bliven also attending HCC. Gini Paulsen is one instructor who requires attendance at HCC. She said, "When I surveyed students at the end of the quarter when I didn't require attendance, students often commented that I didn't care about them. But then I started requiring attendance and the students' grades went up drastically. There is obviously a correlation between class attendance and students' grades."

Ricki Silver, a speech instructor who requires attendance, said, "Because of the nature of the class, I require attendance. How can you improve your speaking skills if there is nobody there to listen?"

On the other hand, as stated from one instructor's class syllabus that does not require attendance, "it is the student's responsibility to find out what material was covered and what assignments were made in class on a missed day."
WHAT'S UP!
AROUND TOWN

Computer Fair
University of Washington is hosting a computer fair on Wednesday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Thursday, March 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will be held upstairs in the HUB.

Faceplant
Saturday, March 16 at the Lake Forest Inn in Bothell. Faceplant, a local rock band, will be performing live at 8 p.m. For more information, call (206) 243-3237. Must be 21 or older.

Zuba
Zuba is a hot local band in Colorado right now, but will be performing live at the Fenix in Seattle on Friday, March 8 at 11 p.m. Tickets are $8, must be 21 or older. For more information, call the Fenix at (206) 343-0716.

KING COUNTY LIBRARY
Internet for Real People
Tuesday, March 12 at 7 p.m. at the Valley View Library. They have a tow truck for minds stranded on the Information Superhighway.

Income Tax Help
The King County Library System can help make your income tax preparation a little easier. Each of the King County Libraries provides several tax forms and brochures including the 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ. Select libraries offer additional forms, such as specialized tax forms and out-of-state tax forms. For those of you that enjoy waiting until the last minute, on April 15, you can find help until midnight at the Shoreline Library, and the Bellevue, Bothell, Kent, and Federal Way Regional Libraries. Questions? Call the answer line at 462-9600, or dial 1 (800) 462-9600.

Science Circus
Juggler Rhys Thomas uses his amazing circus tricks to demonstrate the basic concepts of physics on Saturday, March 9, at 1 p.m. at the Valley View Library. Science fun for the family.

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WHAT'S UP!
ON CAMPUS

Spring Break!
Saturday, March 16 - Sunday, March 24. Relax and have fun.

Back to School!
First day of classes for Spring Quarter is Monday, March 25.

Winter Concert
On Thursday, March 7, 7:30 p.m., the Vocal Jazz Ensemble will perform Bloch's "Sacred Service," in commemoration of the 3,000th anniversary of the founding of Jerusalem. Cantor's include Tom Dogherty, James Dagenais, Tony Singer, and Braden Lake. The event will take place in Building 7, the Artist Lecture Hall, and admission is free.

Finals
Tuesday, March 12
8 - 9:30 a.m. ... All 8 a.m. MWF and Daily classes
10 - 11:30 a.m. ... All 11 a.m. MWF and Daily classes
12:30 - 2:20 p.m. ... All 1 p.m. MWF and Daily classes
2:30 - 4:20 p.m. ... All 3 p.m. MWF and Daily classes
Wednesday, March 13
8 - 9:50 a.m.----All 7 a.m. MWF and Daily classes
10 - 11:50 a.m.----All 10 a.m. MWF and Daily classes
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.----All 12 p.m. MWF and Daily classes
2:30 - 4:20 p.m.----All 2 p.m. MWF and Daily classes

Thursday, March 14
8 - 9:50 a.m.----All 9 a.m. MWF and Daily classes
10 - 11:50 a.m.----All 10 a.m. T-Th classes
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.----Reserved for unscheduled and conflicts
2:30 - 4:20 p.m.----All 3 p.m. T-Th classes

Friday, March 15
8 - 9:50 a.m.----All 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. T-Th classes
10 - 11:50 a.m.----All 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. T-Th classes
12:30 - 2:20 p.m.----All 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. T-Th classes
2:30 - 4:20 p.m.----Reserved for unscheduled and conflicts

Free Style

Continued from page 10

PREDATOR

You are the predator
Throughout the night
You seduce me with your charmed early morning
You blind me to the truth
I cannot sleep
As you whisper in my ear, "I love you," your presence is gone
You hold my heart in your hands no longer comforting
And you laugh but cold, hollow, empty
As you slowly squeeze the life out of me tears run down my cheeks
I open my eyes, blurred from lack of use my heart feels heavy
And run from you your radiant smile
Terrified of your cruelty
is warming another's heart
Seeking shelter
so that I may heal
I don't know what I did
Smiling like a cat
to make you leave me
You follow the trail of my heart's blood
I only know
The breaking and mending of my heart that you are gone
Is but a game to you, a challenge you drifted away
I vow to myself I will not return to you on a summer's breeze
But you laugh and I am alone
For you have seen within my heart
And I slowly kill myself, in denial
Refusing to believe you meant to hurt me
Refusing to believe you'll do it again,
Too ashamed to admit that I still love you
As I seek shelter in your arms...

UNTITLED

Do not ever say that the human soul is not a thing of beauty, for one day when my love tore mine out and threw it into the dirt at her feet, I was enraptured by the beauty and grace of the whole proceedings.
The sports year is just about over for Highline Community College’s fall and winter athletic teams. What have they done this year, and what are the coaches predictions for the upcoming seasons?

HCC competes in seven different athletic programs during the fall and winter quarters. These are men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s basketball, cross country, wrestling, and women’s volleyball.

The women’s soccer team head coach is Chari Andresen, who was named coach of the year. Last season they had 13 wins, one tie, and two losses. They went into the playoffs, and won the championship. “It was a good season. We won, and everything was really positive. We played very well as a team,” Andresen said. Team member Beth Ransom was named MVP of the NWAC tournament. Her prediction for next season is that things are looking great. “Looking great,” Prenovost said. Lastly, he said that this is the best year the HCC soccer team has played since 1987.

The men’s basketball team head coach is Joe Callero. Last season they had an overall record of 15-12, with a 3-9 record in the league. With that they missed out on the playoffs. “I’m not disappointed. We were just too inconsistent, but we improved at the end of the season,” Callero said. He said that he was overall pretty pleased, even tough he wanted better. Next season he hopes that the current freshmen improve, and that they get some key recruits. “I think we’ll be a contender for the first place trophy, and hopefully we’ll win it,” Callero said.

The women’s volleyball team head coach is John Littleman. They had 11 wins and just one loss. With that record they went on to win the league championship. “We played very good,” Littleman said. He couldn’t say anything about next season yet, because the volleyball team has to recruit a whole new team.

The men’s basketball team head coach is Jason Prenovost. They had 10 wins, five ties, and four losses last season, and they missed the playoffs by just one point. “It was an incredible year with great improvement,” Prenovost said. “We beat the team that won our division twice, but we were hurt by injuries in mid-season,” he said. Team member Doug Thor made the All-star team. Many players are returning next season, so “looking great,” Prenovost said. Lastly, he said that these are the two of this year’s players back next season, and one of them is the team’s MVP and leading scorer Vicki Watson,” Hunt said.

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How did the Thunderbirds do?

every season. "We hope to win again, but some seasons are just more successful than others," Littleman said.
The wrestling team head coach is Todd Owens. They had four wrestlers in the National Tournament in Bismark, N.D. the weekend of February 24th. The four wrestlers were Jason Bosshart, Jens Pulver, Jarud Pierson, and Bryan Donahue. These four guys were ranked in the top three of their weight classes throughout the season, Owens said, "Overall it went pretty well, and we were academic All-Americans, with all our wrestlers having over a three point grade average," he said. Now the coaches are doing some heavy recruiting. "We have improved every year, so we will just try to keep going," Owens said.
The cross country team has a new coach in Frank Ahem. "I'm not familiar with the kids yet," Ahem said. Athletic Director Fred Harrison said that the team finished sixth or seventh overall, and they didn't do very well in the championship. "We are recruiting now, so we're looking for good athletes," Harrison said. He also said that Ahem is a coach with 40 years of experience, and that he has been a mentor for himself and his career. "Just because he's a great coach and guy I expect the team to do well," Harrison said.
The sports year at Highline was rather successful last season, with two championships. Hopefully they can do even better this upcoming season. Everything looks positive, so now we have to cross our fingers that all goes well with the recruiting.
You feel lucky?
Ross Perot

The famous former presidential candidate visited Highline last month. He was here to support the bi-partisan bill to limit, among other things, the campaign contributions to politicians.

Congresswoman Linda Smith, Ross Perot, and Senator Patty Murray at a press conference held at Highline Community College.
ANSWERS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE.
CrossWord Clues

Across:
1. The great one, recently traded to St. Louis
5. Touchdown territory
6. Total number of points made
9. Free throw line
10. Happens at center court
14. "...Schmidt," baseball, Philly's 70's All-star.
15. "...Rog..." baseball player
16. A common cheer
17. Jay Buhner's arm
18. AFC Champions (2 words)
22. Bo McMillan's number
24. Coach's emotion after losing A.L. Championship series
25. "...your pivot foot..."
27. Man advantage
28. #1 female tennis pro
29. Joshua's gun
31. Atlanta basketball team
32. Charlotte's mascot
34. The new "iron man"
36. "Nothing but..."
36. N.L. vs A.L. (two words)
37. Agassi's rival

Down:
1. On your mark, get set
2. White Sox catcher
3. Included in the "Sports Illustrated" swimsuit issue
4. A center often plays the ___ position
5. Toto's sports network
6. Fargo center
7. Highest paid baseball player
8. NFL player of the week
10. Frank Thomas (2 words)
11. Nugget mountain (2 words)
12. Souvenir from the baseball field
13. Portland NBA team
14. Woods, up and coming pro-golfer
15. "Holding..."
17. Toky...
18. The new Southern California team
23. The Glove
28. "Air..."
29. "Wenger"
30. Hike
31. Alike, sort...
Mechanics
Continued from page 19

programs for Highline's occupational program. Let's see, we have an administrative interest in: plastics technicians, multimedia, and hotel/tourism. Hotel and tourism? Come on, Bob, let's lay off the "hot button" predictions and get real. If you can already study to be a jeweler or fashion marketer, why not an automotive diagnostic technician, or a collision repair specialist? The "Occupational Outlook Handbook" for 1994-'95 states that employment for both auto mechanics and body repair "is expected to increase faster than the national average for all occupations through the year 2005." People will always need their cars maintained and repaired, and there will always be collision repair, both nationally and locally. With the money spent on less important occupational courses, Highline could finance an ample shop and training center.

As you may already know, President Clinton recently visited Shoreline Community College. Clinton praised the school for its highly advanced and practical automotive program. According to a Seattle Times article about his visit, Clinton said institutions like Shoreline provide the sort of workforce training that people need in the changing economy. I only see one thing wrong with the president's comments, they weren't meant for any school here in the south end. Eley and the rest of HCC's administration can't ignore the fact that we are lagging behind. Our local community needs occupational programs, specifically automotive programs, the caliber of those at Shoreline.

If HCC wants to increase its enrollment, the administration needs to listen to what local would-be students want. Go to the high schools and get some feedback. Avoid trendy stabs at new programs with little staying power. I believe they would be surprised at the desire for more hands-on courses and automotive occupations. The modern computer age will need technicians for more than office work.

Sports Attendance
Continued from page 25

experience that athletes would rather perform in front of a large crowd, as opposed to a smaller non-existent one. Kervins Daniels, former HCC basketball star said, "I get a rush from the roar of the crowd. It gives me those special tingly feelings inside, especially when it's me they're cheering."

In addition to getting the word out, the making of banners would give students the opportunity to make new friends. Finally, student athletes need support to remind them that what they are doing is not going without notice. HCC students should provide better support for their athletic teams to create the home court advantage that we have come to realize as an important denominator for winning. If students were able to provide better support for the athletes at HCC, then better quality athletes might be attracted to this educational institution.

Some students may argue that the banners make the school look sloppy, or like an "overgrown high school." Others may argue that the supply cost to create the banners could go toward something more useful. If we are going to have sports at our college, then shouldn't we support them all we can? If not, couldn't that money be more useful elsewhere? Fact is, we do have athletic teams and they need our support.

It seems that attendance at sporting events is a reflection of pride that students don't have at HCC, but I think that can be changed. An opportunity to make new friends can be a valuable commodity. Also, the support the athletes receive could help revive an otherwise boring tour through college. I think the idea to create a student advertisement committee to develop banners for sporting events would be great. It would increase attendance, which will boost pride in the students, and friendships are bound to form when students share the same ideas. "With the kind of student variety that HCC has, I could foresee some benefits any student could have no matter what their status," Tanhehill said.
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