

# The Thunderword

The voice of the students

Volume 36, Issue 3

Highline Community College

October 31, 1996

## Smoke this, 43 percent do

By Amber Rietveld  
Staff Reporter

A survey of 100 Highline students showed an astonishing 43 percent smokers, 57 percent non-smokers. In the general population, smokers account for 25 percent according to Common Cause Magazine.

Designated smoking areas

on campus has been an issue at Highline for quite some time. Highline students were also asked what they thought about designating smoking areas around campus. The result was 49 percent would prefer designated areas, 48 percent would not, and 3 percent gave no opinion on the matter.

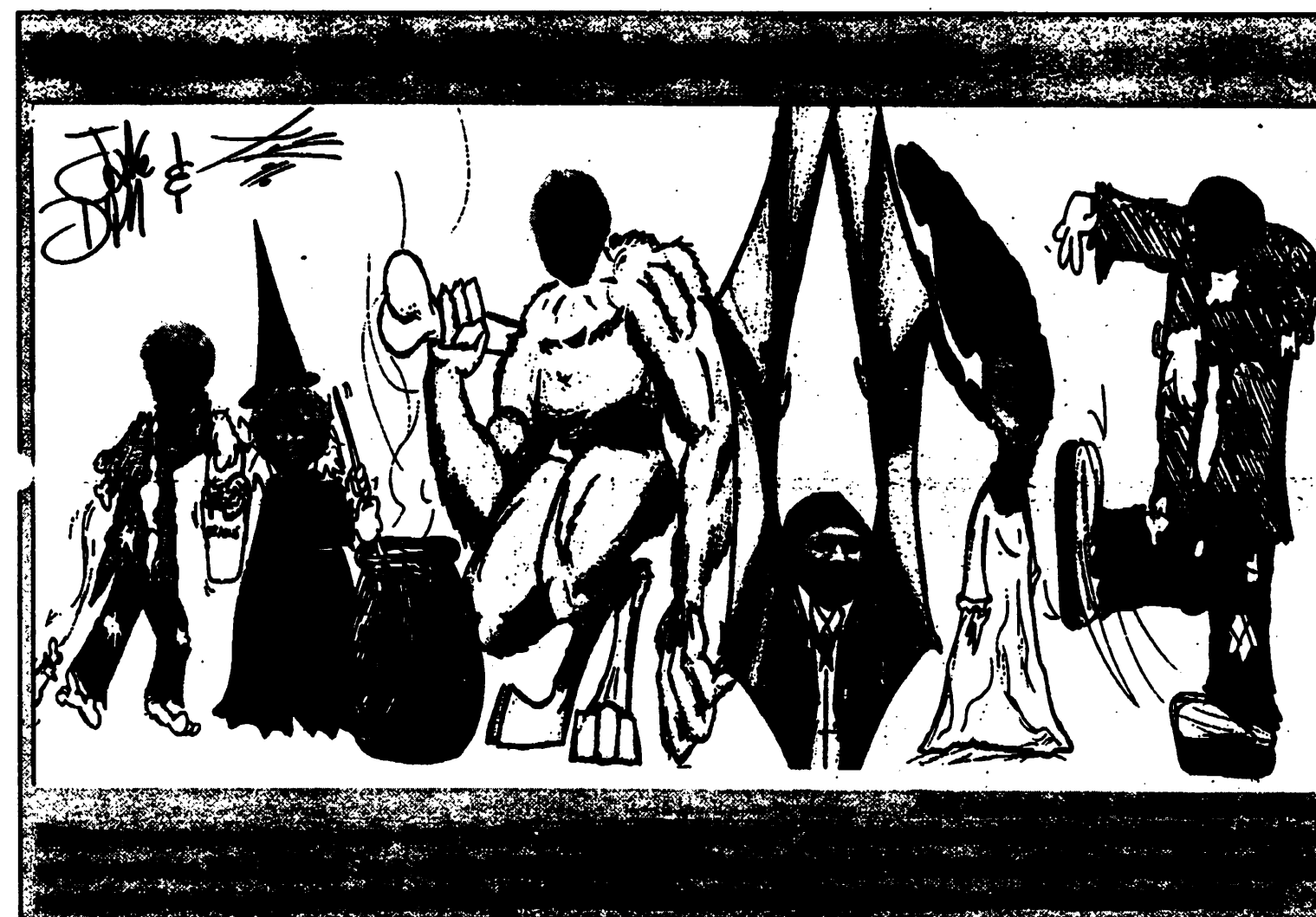
Highline Community Col-

lege is a very smoker-friendly school. The school allows smoking anywhere outside, the school cleans up all the cigarette butts, and most of all, the school puts up with the numerous complaint calls from students, faculty and grounds crew every week.

Pete Babington, facilities director said Highline has its

reasons for not designating smoking areas. The main reason is that Highline is a state agency and the school cannot spend taxpayer's money to provide places where people can go to smoke. "By providing specified areas, the school is not necessarily encouraging.

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## Faculty fails 'Generation X'

By Peggy Finnison  
Staff Reporter

The book "Generation X Goes to College," written by Peter Sacks has caused quite an uproar among both faculty and students.

Sacks, who is believed to be a former HCC instructor, produced a scathing report on teaching methods at Highline, the tenure process, and Generation X.

The author feels that student evaluations carry too much weight in the tenure process, that a lot of hand-holding is done by the faculty for the students, grade inflation is running rampant, and students expect to be handed good grades for very little work.

"Generation X is a genera-

tion of slackers," Sacks wrote. He said students only want to be entertained during class, instead of actually being interested in what they can learn.

In a recent campus forum, faculty and students said Sacks had some valid points, but criticized his writing and his approach.

"One of the purposes of higher education is the ability to read a variety of opinions and recognize them for being just that," said Donna Wilson, Humanities Division chairwoman. "It is the ability of an educated person to separate opinion from fact."

The general consensus was that student evaluations do carry too much weight. But few people saw much real difference between today's stu-

dents and those of past generations.

"I don't see a huge change in the students. The labels like postmodernism and Generation X just seem to be things that people can point a finger at when they are having problems," history teacher Robin Buchan said. He also feels that student evaluations are important because they can help address valid complaints.

"The students are just as capable as always," said Lorraine Stowe, who teaches philosophy and writing courses.

Sacks spent a lot of time in his book talking about how much teaching has changed since he was in college. Today, he said, you're not a good teacher if you're not entertain-

ing. He admits his style was to get the students to work hard and that he graded hard.

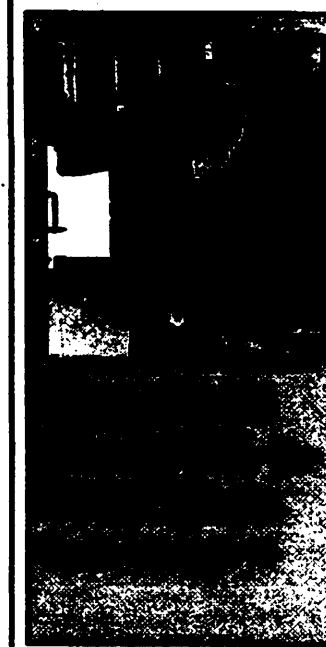
Several faculty members said they still have high standards, but try to be entertaining so that the students enjoy learning.

"You can be empathetic, hold up standards and teach students to own up to those standards all at the same time. It doesn't have to be one or the other," said Susan Landgraf, who was portrayed in the book as Beth, a teacher that Sacks felt was especially guilty of hand-holding. Landgraf teaches writing and journalism courses.

"The first half of the book was mainly Sacks venting his

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"The belief in a  
supernatural  
source of evil is not  
necessary; men  
alone are quite  
capable of every  
wickedness."  
Joseph Conrad



Courtesy of Southwest Chamber of Commerce  
Adam Smith and Randy Tate square off in debate.

## Smith vs. Tate

By Anita Coppola

Staff Reporter

United States Representative Randy Tate said Adam Smith is a big-spending liberal and soft on crime.

Smith, who earned more votes than Tate in September's Ninth District congressional primary, said he's more in tune with the district's needs than the one-term Republican incumbent.

The two squared off in a debate on Oct. 11 at the SeaTac Holiday Inn. The event was sponsored by the Southwest King County Chamber of Commerce and the Highline Care Center.

From the start, Tate went on the attack against Smith, a one and a half term State Senator from Kent.

Tate opened by asking the audience if voters can afford Smith's liberal ways. "Adam Smith never met a tax hike he didn't like and I never met a tax I did like," he said. He also voted against your right to defend yourself against a criminal breaking into your home.

Smith took the opportunity to defend his record on crime by saying "I supported Three

Strikes Your Out, Hard Time for Armed Crime and the death penalty." He also said "I believe in the right to defend yourself." "I'll stand up for that right."

Tate argued saying "Adam Smith voted twice against the bill that allows you to defend yourself and your family in your own home against an unwanted intruder." If Smith supports current law, "why did he vote no against the bill?"

On the issue of the war on drugs, Smith said "A lot of people are frustrated with the fact that we haven't been able to win the drug war."

"That's no reason to give up. It's too important to fight," he said.

"People today do feel more insecure and more afraid than ever before," Tate said. "Criminals need to know that we are serious, I believe in the death penalty for any individual who sells certain quantities of drugs."

Tate favors axing the department of education, while Smith is in favor of reforming it.

Smith envisions the U.S. Department of Education as being more of a research and development center.

Both candidates said that they opposed building the third runway at Sea-Tac Airport.

## BSU on mission

Students aim to foster unity, education, socialization

By Ingrid Butler

Staff Reporter

Unity, education and socialization are just a few of the many concepts that will be used to form a mission statement for the Black Student Union at Highline Community College. "We felt that it was important to define who we are and our purpose before we set up our structure," said Denny Steussy the Coordinator of Student Programs.

The first meeting of the BSU was held Oct. 9. The agenda included welcoming and introducing new and returning members, assembling mailing lists and deciding on a tentative schedule to get as much participation as possible.

The second meeting dealt with the mission statement. A volunteer member will develop this statement and the BSU will decide if it adequately represents its goal.

Steussy wants to get the BSU to know each other well enough to appoint leaders. At this time the BSU has no elected officials; however, Steussy says that the BSU should focus on building a stable government.

Steussy is an advisor to various ethnic student clubs. "We (HCC) are also in the process of hiring an Ethnic Clubs Program Coordinator," Steussy said, although he doesn't anticipate that happening until the first of the year.

Most African American students agree that a BSU is needed here at Highline. "Sporting events and classes are places where we can meet people, but the BSU is there specifically to educate each other, socialize,

and help one another through unity," said Quenique Gilmore, a BSU member and student at Highline.

The BSU hopes to sponsor many events this year. Some of the ideas discussed at the initial meeting were developed from a master list of activities from previous years. Steussy will review that list in the meetings to come to solidify ideas and bring out potential programs of interest.

Some of the functions might include fund raisers for scholarships through dances, talent shows and cook-offs. BSU members would like to see a tutoring program along with African American history courses.

Steussy has been asked to lead a Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration committee to plan events in January. BSU members will

**"It was important to define who we are and our purpose."**

Denny Steussy

be active participants in planning the events.

With a turnout of at least 35 students at each meeting, Steussy believes the BSU has a good start for this year. "I thought it was wonderful to see so many students attend the first meeting and just as many the second," he said. "I think we've got momentum here and if we can keep that going, I think we will have a very strong Black Student Union run by our black students which is our ultimate goal."

Although the BSU is mostly made up of African American students, anyone is welcomed and encouraged to attend the meetings. The next meeting is Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. For further information, contact ext. 3256.



Photo by Wally Monroe

The Kiosk is a convenient source of student information

## Information at new 'Kiosk'

By W.B. Heming

Staff Reporter

A Student Information Kiosk has been installed this quarter in building six across from the registrars window.

Students can receive information on their class schedules, registration appointment times and how many seats are left in classes. The Kiosk does provide transcripts, however it is not an official transcript.

It will have grades available for the current quarter before they are mailed home and Highline students will soon be able to get financial aid information as well as computer aided advisement

To access the machines a student must input their 9-digit student identification number (for most students it is their social security number) and their 6-digit pin number. Unless a student has changed their pin number already it is their birthdate.

Originally two machines were purchased at approximately \$6,250 a piece, but one is currently being repaired. Much of the cost, said Dean of Students Michael Grubriak, was because of the hardware.

## YO, NEWSDEUDE!

And dudette! Polish your writing, photography and design skills on The ThunderWord, Highline College's weekly student newspaper. We've got a handful of paid positions, but we've also got credits to offer in journalism (for that pesky second writing

course) and lots of hands-on training at writing, research, photography, design and even practical things like Pagemaker.

For Winter Quarter, sign up for Journalism 101 (newswriting), 201 (advanced newswriting) or 215 (publication design).

Or see T.M. Sell, adviser, in Building 11-102 or at the T-word office, 10-106. Or apply to be business manager and develop those advertising and marketing skills (and get paid for it).

For once you'll be able to show mom, dad and the servants what you've been doing in school.

Winter quarter openings for editors, writers, artists, photographers, designers and a business manager! See T.M. Sell at the T-word office, 10-106, for details!



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# Sleeping 101; a how-to guide

By Leah Colborne  
Staff Reporter

It is yet another dreary Monday morning at Highline Community College. Slumped down in your chair, baseball cap covering your face, you find warmth and comfort in using your math book as a pillow.

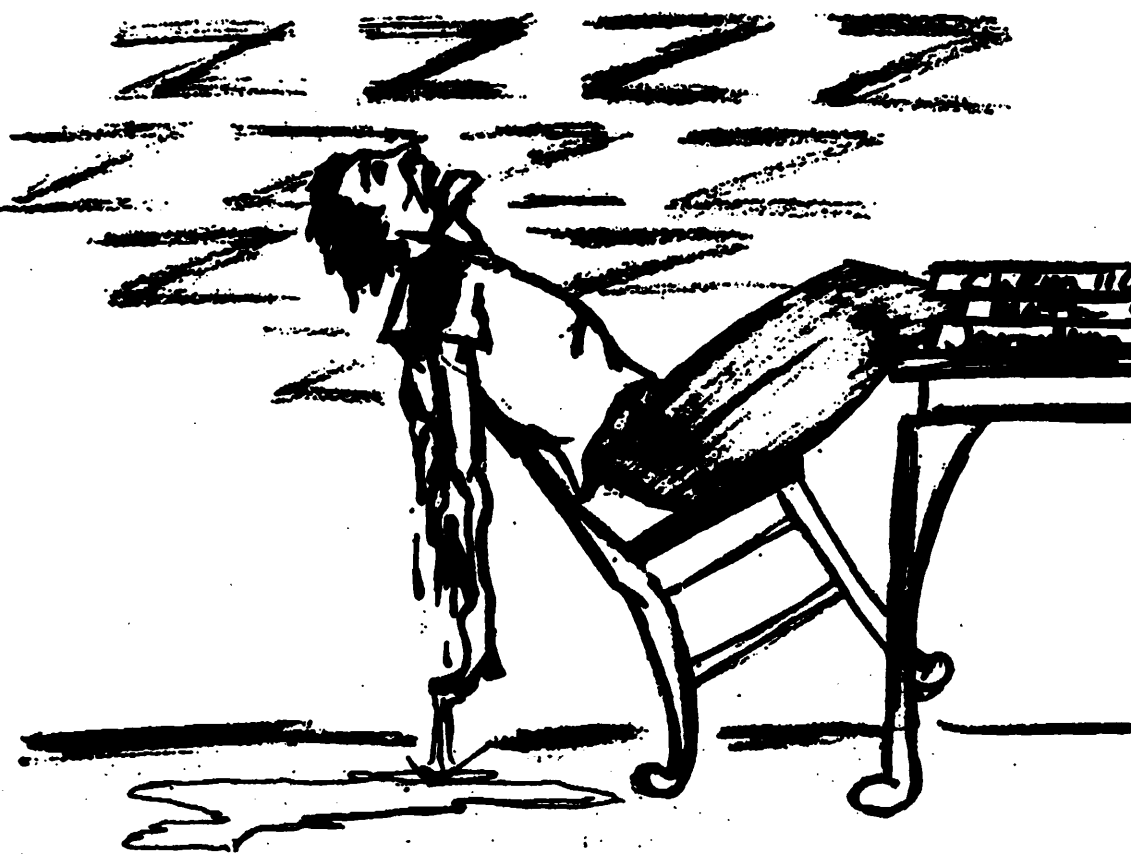
Come on, you know this same situation has happened to you before, when sleeping in class just cannot be helped. You were up until 2:30 studying, woke up late, made a stop at Starbucks, and finding the line to be out the door, you wind up in math class minus the double shot vanilla latte.

An invigorating run from the Midway overflow parking lot to your classroom causes a brief moment of alert behavior. Alas, the familiarity of your warm and comforting classroom brings back the sandman.

Students offered a variety of excuses for sleeping in class. "It's the only time I can catch up on sleep because I work and play soccer," said one, Donny Murray. "I always fall asleep in my first class because I stay up late at night watching movies," said another, Corey Tolliver.

What are teachers' feelings about napping in class? One teacher, Mr. Walton explained that he understood, since many students work full time jobs, and take a full load of classes as well. Another expressed extreme disapproval of this "rude behavior."

Pam Hill, Certified Medical Assistant, who works in the Student Health Center, believes the reason students sleep in class is



how the classes are taught. She feels that "teachers need to interact more with students." If these teachers had more class involved activities, and did not lecture for the entire 50 minutes, she feels the students would stay more alert.

Venus Sanders, a nursing student at Highline, believes not eating a nutritious, well-balanced breakfast can be a factor in sleeping in class. Another reason is staying out late partying. The amount of drugs and alcohol consumed causes their bodies to become run down and

tired. Many of you may not be so fortunate to have the understanding teacher. Or maybe you ran out of the door, forgetting to grab breakfast. To perfect the art of sleeping in class, these following guidelines are a necessity.

1. Snoring in class is a dead giveaway, and is strictly frowned upon.
2. Be sure to wipe the drool off your desk, so the next student in your seat does not have drenched math homework.
3. If you talk in your sleep, try to keep the obscenities down,

and keep the subject matter pertaining to the topic of the day.

4. Watch for crease marks from spiral notebooks on your face.

5. When finally waking, do not snort. This is highly unattractive and calls attention to your self.

It is 2:30 in the morning and I find myself wishing for an understanding teacher and an open 24 hours Starbucks. If I fall asleep in class tomorrow, my excuse will be the need for more in depth information and further documentation for this article.

## Students-at-Large chosen

By Micheala Macias  
Staff Reporter

Highline's student government added three new members recently. Jessica Cap, Marlene Clarke and Nelson Crisanto were chosen to fill the Student at Large positions that had been open since the beginning of the school year.

"Despite all the issues on campus, the most difficult issue to face is really informing students of what options are available to them," said student body President Neil McLean.

One obstacle in getting to student awareness is the fact that most don't even know their government exists, much less what the officers do.

Reaching a larger number of students will bring to light the reason for the government's existence as well as its duties and accomplishments, student government officials say.

Meetings are held every Thursday and all students are encouraged to attend. Every single student has a vote at these meetings and an effect on the daily life of the campus.

Another kink in the chain of communication is the fact that Highline is a commuter school. Most students stay on campus only long enough to attend classes. A wide range of schedules, cultures and languages also contribute to the problem.

With increased awareness, the officers hope to become a bigger and more important part in every student's school day.

## History or harassment?

'Huck Finn,' the often controversial story may be banned in schools

By Michaela Macias  
Staff Reporter

Highline students overwhelmingly say they oppose banning Mark Twain's classic "Huckleberry Finn" from schoolhouse shelves.

While the story was originally seen as a tribute to the anti-slavery movement, its proficient use of the "N" word and perceived racist tone are now offending some who would like to see it taken off the Federal Way School District's required reading lists. They cite laughter during class reading of the book and the uncomfortable effects it has on African American students as reasons for removal.

Most of those polled at Highline showed a great deal of interest and concern regarding the issue. Seventy percent of 100 students surveyed said they had read the book, with 60 per-

cent of those reading it as a required assignment in school. An overwhelming number — 94 percent — opposed banning the book.

Those who favored the removal of the book from the lists cited high racial tensions and caution regarding offending anyone as reasons to remove it.

**"I don't think it should be banned, but there should be an alternative option..."**

**HCC student**

"Tensions are high enough already regarding the races, aggravating it serves no purpose. There are plenty of other classics that are more appropriate to be read in classes," said one stu-

dent. Reasons for students' opposition to the removal varied from believing in everyone's right to learn history as it was to everyone's right to freedom of speech. "I think it is a good book and it stands as a reminder of past prejudices that we should not forget, lest we repeat them!" said student Melissa Polgar.

"I don't think that the book should be banned, but I do think that it is the teachers' responsibility to emphasize the ignorance of the 'N' word and racism in general," said another student.

Still others showed concern for both sides and hoped for a compromise. "I don't think it should be banned, but there should be an alternative option for those that are offended by it" said one.

Federal Way's superintendent has rendered his decision on the issue and has decided to keep the book on the list and in the schools.

## Program to help people find life they deserve

By Amber Rietveld  
Staff Reporter

"Creating the Life You Want," is the main focus of a workshop led by Ellen Finn, former Women's Programs director at Highline College.

The four-week class meets on Wednesdays from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. and is focused on helping women "get what they want out of life," Finn said.

Finn said that part of creating the life you want is about letting go of your biggest fears and letting love take over.

Coming up in the following weeks of the class, Finn plans to have the class look at what their individual fears are and to define them, hopefully making them easier to face and overcome.

Also the class will talk about how to let out the artist inside you and what you can do to make your dreams happen.

The course uses various self-

help tools. "Reflecting and voicing thoughts helps to bring issues and ideas to the surface," Finn said. Individuals are encouraged to talk openly with others in the class about themselves and what they are feeling.

This class is for anyone who is unsatisfied with where they are at in life and wants a change.

Nobody is exempt from getting what they want out of their life.

"God, the universe, cosmos, whatever, doesn't give us a desire without giving us the ability to achieve it," Finn said. This philosophy simply states that anyone can make it happen.

The class was the first of a series of four and it's not too late to join.

For information on this or other programs call the Women's Program at 878-3710, Ext. 3340, to register or for further information.



## Just chill

Well, here we are coming upon mid-terms. How's everybody doing? Getting stressed out yet? If you are at all human I'm sure everyone's felt a little touch of the stress bug already this year, I know I have. Many of us work, as well as go to school, so balancing everything can sometimes be...well, a balancing act. Further more it can cause stress.

So, how to deal with it? Everyone deals with stress in different ways, but something that I have found to be good for relieving stress is to participate in both mental and physical outlets.

Physical outlets are wonderful for many reasons. These activities not only keep you in shape, make you have more confidence, feel more alive, and sleep better, but they also get some blood pumping to your brain. Plus, these activities are constructive ways to work out aggression. Examples of good physical outlets are: Working out, playing (any) sports, hiking, biking, jogging, walking, etc. You get the picture right? Anything that gets the blood pumping, and I recommend trying to do these things outside if possible. We all spend so much time inside, in class, studying, at work. Get outside!

Mental outlets are also wonderful for many reasons. Mental outlets can calm us, relieve headaches, help us focus, and help recharge our brains. These activities also help us to slow down a bit, and not feel so overwhelmed. Some good mental outlets are: Meditation, painting, creative writing (for yourself, not for class), playing a musical instrument, reading a good book (not school text), listening to music, watching a good movie, etc. Mental out-

### What's on my mind...

By Carmine Coburn

lets, are activities that basically give you a break from the daily grind, and allow your mind to be somewhere else for awhile rather than always stressing on school.

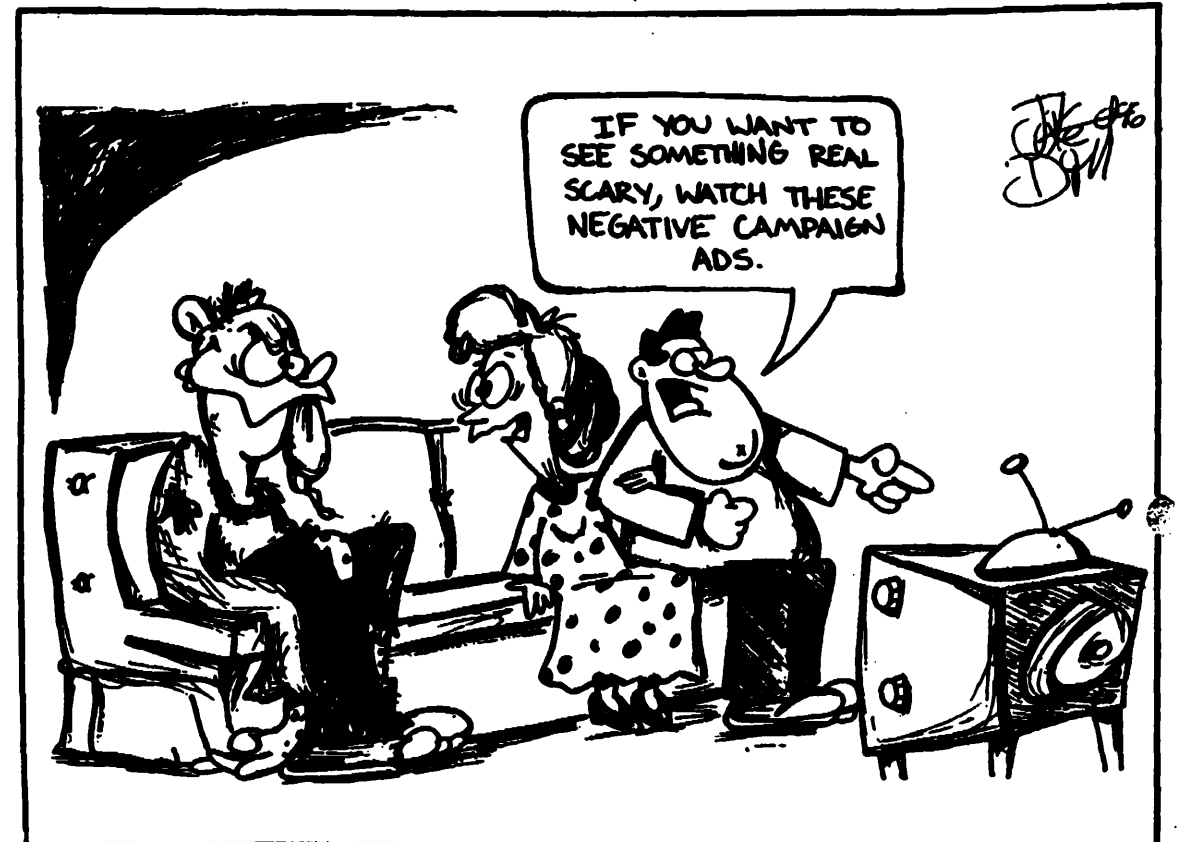
Many activities overlap into both categories. For some, doing Yoga is means of a mental and physical outlet. The same could be said with playing sports, or going hiking. If you are hiking up in the mountains, and you stop for a moment to relax and take in the scenery around you, this can be very soothing mentally and physically.

The point of all of this, is that, school can be real stressful at times, but you can't allow the stress to overcome you. It is vital that you give yourself a break once in awhile or eventually you will burn out.

Also, many people don't really know how to truly relax. Even on their days off they remain tense and stressed. For these people I would recommend meditation to learn how to relax.

People also have a tendency to say things like, "I don't have the energy to exercise." Here's a little tip, exercising will give you energy. Have you ever seen a sluggish aerobics instructor?

The big idea is that we're at school to make better for ourselves, and although this process sometimes takes most of our time, we must care about ourselves enough to give ourselves a break once in a while and blow off some steam!



## A Highline Halloween: Part 2

### Dill's Pickle

By Jake Dill

#### Second of two parts

There I was in the living room of the date from Hell, and her roommate comes home. They argued over what to have for dinner: stew or biscuits. I voted for biscuits.

Now she came back to the couch and sat very close to me again. She started to tickle me too. I made the mistake of tickling her back.

"You better watch out. I'll get the hand cuffs and tickle you all night," she said. "Oh I'm really scared," I said.

"Where are the hand cuffs?" she asked. "I don't know. You used them last," the roommate said. "No I didn't. You used them last when you had that red headed chick with that thing over here, remember?" She said.

"Oh yeah," he said. "Go look in that box in the bedroom next to the chaps," she said.

Now I'm starting to freak out. This is something that only happens in movies and poorly written newspaper articles. But it was real.

"I can't find them," he said. "What about next to the saddle?" she replied. "No, they're not there either," he said.

"Well, what about the fuzzy pink ones?" she said. "We gave those away. Why don't you just use sheets?" he said. She said, "Sheets bruise." "Yeah, only because you kicked the last guy."

Right then I was getting convinced that this was no joke.

"I gave the video camera

back to my dad yesterday, and you know what? I forgot to take the tape out," the roommate said. She said, "Oh my gosh! No wonder your dad was looking at me all weird the last time I saw him. I probably freaked him out." He said, "I think he just didn't know that you were that flexible."

"Well I can't help it if your dad is sexually deprived," she said.

This was too much for me. What kind of girl was this?

They started talking about his sister's husband and his equipment.

She said, "Now that's gross. I bet you scared our guest now. And I was about to get him to sign the contract."

I was scared way before he said that.

Then he turned to me and said, "Hey, what size feet do you have?" "Eight," I replied. "Oh man, small feet," he said.

She butted in and said, "No way. Not that again." He said, "Why not? Toes heal."

Then I interrupted and said, "Sorry man. You can't touch my feet. I'm a track runner." "Well then we'll just release the hounds on you. We have two German Shepherds which we named after the first people they killed," he said. "Hey, did you know that if you inject potassium underneath a person's tongue they'll die and it will come out to be natural causes?"

I pretended that it was useful information and said, "No, I didn't know that."

"Yeah, then you don't have to worry about disposing the body," he said.

Right about then I started slowly reaching for my keys.

Then she said, "Remember

our pact. We can't kill anyone anymore." "Why not?" he answered. "You killed someone just the other day." She said, "Yeah, but that guy was really annoying."

"You guys kill people?" I asked calmly.

"Yeah, doesn't everybody?" he said with a smile.

Who are these people? I thought, and then I started to inch my way to the door.

"Well I better take off," I said. "You sure you don't want to stay the night?" he said.

"Yeah," I said. "Well OK. We'll see you around, but you don't know what you're missing," he said.

My point exactly, I thought as I went out the door.

After I had shut the door I put my ear up by the door and listened if they started laughing, but to my amazement they didn't. They just kept on discussing their latest killing spree.

Then I opened the door poked my head in and asked, "Is this some kind of joke? Because I'm looking around for a video camera taping my face and I can't find one."

"Oh no," he replied. "We don't hide the video camera."

I calmly shut the door, walked slowly past their window and hauled butt to my car.

An old girlfriend later said she had heard of this girl before. She said that she had talked to one of the crazy girl's ex-boyfriends and that he said she went off the deep end.

I went into that local super store the next couple of days, but not of my own will. My friends wanted to see her, but she was never there, and I have never seen or heard from her since that night.

## The Thunderword

### BOO! (scared?)

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# Gootblatt has answers to love Thinner falls flat

By Eric Finden  
Art Editor

Ellen Gootblatt, a nationally syndicated advice columnist and author, is coming to highline November 7, in building 7 at the Artist-Lecture Center at 8:00pm to talk about Sex, Passion, and Intimacy. Tickets are \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

Ever wondered what to do on a first date? Ever wonder what to do when you are fighting with your partner all the time? Well wonder no more. Ellen has all of your answers to relationship and other friendship questions.

She is the author of "Men are Worth the Trouble: Translating, Appreciating and Celebrating Men," and her new book "Meeting, Dating, Relating, and Mating."

Until a couple of years ago she was the host of the No. 1 rated ABC evening talk show, "Getting together with Ellen Gootblatt," which was heard on radio in thirty-nine states. The show focused



Ellen Gootblatt

on how to build and sustain relationships. She has 15 topics that range from lifestyle of singles to marriage.

On her show she invited anyone who would tell a story that inspired her listeners. For example she interviewed three everyday people who fulfilled their childhood fantasies by going to an adult baseball camp and playing against yesterday's superstars.

However she doesn't always

talk about relationships. Her lectures include "How to Survive and Thrive: Raising Your Child," "Parenting Can Be Fun," "How to Raise a Terrific Human Being," "Values, Morals and Ethics," and many more human-interest topics.

She's not afraid to share her audience her life experiences. She is a former educator who taught in Harlem at a junior high for 11 years. She taught English, Sex Education, Nutrition, and was also a guidance counselor.

Gootblatt's warmth has brought to her show many willing-to-talk celebrities. Steve Allen, Valerie Harper, John Denver, David Brenner, David Steinberg, Kris Kristofferson, George Carlin, Patricia Neal, Phyllis Diller, and Lucille Ball all have been guests.

Somehow by being with Gootblatt they found new stories to share. When Lucille Ball came on her show they talked about motherhood and what a wife does and cares about in her life. With Steve Allen he talked about how his life was never boring. He always finds something fascinating in everything he does. According to ratings her audience is among adults over 35 but she claims her show is for everyone. It's for those people who have great relationships and want to learn to perpetuate them, and those who have never experienced a solid caring relationship and want to achieve that. Ask her anything, she knows everything.

Mike Day  
News Staff

Step aside Richard Simmons, there's a new Diet Guru in town. In this psychological thriller, called "Thinner," Tadzu Lempke conjures up a diet that really works.

Based on the novel of the same name, "Thinner" is written by the best-selling novelist, Stephen King. Originally King wrote the book under the pseudonym Richard Bachman.

Though factually close to King's novel, the characters lack the depth and color to draw you in. The characters come off flat, robot-like, just going through the motions and lacking any real personality.

The film was directed by veteran horror director Tom Holland, who previously directed King's "The Langoliers". Holland's other work includes "Fright Night" and "Child's Play".

In the story Billy Halleck, played by Robert John Burke, is a small-town attorney who runs over a Gypsy woman, killing her. With help from his friends, the judge and the sheriff, the careless attorney escapes a manslaughter charge and goes unpunished.

This is when Tadzu Lempke, the dead gypsy's father, steps in and places a curse on Halleck. Lempke, played by Michael Constantine, rubs his hand across the attorney's face as he chants the curse. Halleck who was fighting a weight problem, suddenly finds himself dropping weight at an alarming rate, losing 40 pounds in two weeks.

Halleck's schemers, the judge and sheriff, are also cursed by Lempke. In comparison the attorney got off easy. When Halleck finally accepts his predicament, he has dropped 100 pounds from his 300 pound frame. He contacts his friend and client, who happens to be in the mob, Richie Ginelli, to try and influence Lempke. Since the Gypsy placed the curse he is the only one who can remove it.

Ginelli, played by Joe Mantegna, enthusiastically enters the fray. Mantegna's character unexplainably disappears at the end of the film. In the book the mafioso is killed, but perhaps not wanting to stay the one colorful character, Holland leaves each viewer to decide his fate.

Other subplots involve a troupe of wandering Gypsies, Halleck's daughter and wife, and a possible tryst with the friendly town doctor. Karl Wührer, the sensual, slingshot-toting gypsy woman, is also involved.

Characters in King's books can be unbelievable but they are always three-dimensional. If you do not sympathize with the characters, you lose interest. It doesn't help that Burke, the most wooden of all, is in almost every scene through the first two-thirds of the movie. The movie just plods on to the conclusion, which you recognize by the credits rolling down the screen.

Stephen King makes an appearance as the town pharmacist and you may recognize Michael Constantine (Lempke) as the principal from the series Room 222.

Out of curiosity and loyalty, King's legions of fans will show up, and will be the most disappointed with this soulless portrayal of King's story.

## Common man's story in 'Michael Collins'

By W.B. Heming  
Staff Reporter

"Michael Collins" is the story of a charismatic man forced into a situation with no good solutions.

Collins, portrayed by Liam Neeson, was the Irish revolution leader responsible for establishing the Irish Free State. Collins was assassinated at age 31 while trying to negotiate a peace to end the Irish civil war.

The movie was written by Neil Jordan, whose other work includes "The Crying Game" and "Interview with a Vampire."

The movie opens with the Easter Rising, a brief Irish rebellion in 1916. The rebels surrender and Collins, a member of the rebellion, is sent to prison as are his best friend Harry Boland (Aidan Quinn) and Eamon De Valera (Alan Rickman).

Upon his release, Collins begins making speeches about getting rid of the English. He is soon befriended by a government agent Ned Bloigh (Stephen Rea). Bloigh becomes Collins' informant and allows Collins to begin his urban warfare.

Much of the film is formed around the rivalry between Col-



Liam Neeson in a scene from Michael Collins

lins and Boland for Kitty Kiernan (Julia Roberts). The rivalry eventually breaks the friendship even as Collins tries to unite Ireland into a Free State which he refers to as "the stepping stone to a Republic."

The Free State is not welcome by everyone. De Valera, the leader of the Irish Republic, breaks away from Collins, signaling the start of an Irish civil war.

Jordan leads the viewer to the evident point that violence solves nothing with gruesomely accurate assassination scenes. The story comes full circle when

Collins is assassinated by Irish guerrillas.

Irish history is wrought with tragedy and Jordan does his best to bring that horror to the screen. Jordan captures the very feeling of the time in his Bloody Sunday scene on Nov. 21, 1920 to strike back at the Irish Republican Army for killing English agents the English sent troops and tanks, called Black and Tans, to a local football game. The Black and Tans opened fire on the players and the crowd killing twelve and injuring hundreds of others.

The gunshot scenes are an-

other example of Jordan's feelings toward the Irish Problem.

Chris Menges, the chief cinematographer of the film, is fantastic especially his assassination shots. Jordan almost succeeds in making the viewer feel the bullets hit them.

The gunshot scenes are gory enough to earn the movie its R rating. The R rating is furthered by the characters' affectionate use of the f— word. The movie doesn't go more than five minutes without someone saying f— this, quickly followed by someone else telling them to f— themselves.

Neeson himself could have carried the entire movie, but didn't have to. Rea is brilliant in his role and despite her terrible Irish accent, Julia Roberts does a tremendous job in the relatively small role of Kitty.

Costumes in "Michael Collins" are truly Oscar winning material. The sets were magnificently constructed, including the ones that were blown up.

The entire film is simply the story of a man forced to do something he does not want to. Collins has been reviled in history as a terrorist, but as the opening credits state, "this is his story."

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## T-Birds, Sonics to aim for team spirit

This year's Sonics, and this year's T-Birds are faced with expectations to win, but for them to do so, every player on these teams has to contribute. Every player will be equally as important as the other. The only difference between players is who will receive most attention.

Both the Sonics and the T-Birds emphasize defense. This means team defense, and every player is just as important when playing defense. Defense wins championships, and there is no

## Seattle Sports Minute



By Glenn Flaathen

way around that statement.

Gary Payton may be the best defender in the NBA, but it's Nate McMillan who helps him. McMillan is a true team player. He doesn't care about his stats. The only thing he cares about is winning. Payton may get the nationwide recognition, but without players like McMillan a team would never be able to win a championship.

The T-Birds will try to follow this regime in trying to win the NWAACC championship this upcoming season. They have recruited a fine mix of different players, who have different areas of expertise. Starters like Quincy Wilder and Brian Scalabrine will be important for the team, but if they are to win anything all 12 players on the team have to contribute.

The Sonics have Payton and Kemp, who will get their numbers on the board, but if the Sonics are going to win the NBA championship they will need important contributions from Craig Ehlo, Eric Snow, Greg Graham, and so on.

The T-Birds are putting the mixture of players they have together as a team. If one thing fails, something else might too. This is the challenge that stands before Coach Joe Callero. He might succeed, or he might not.

The success and failure of a coach can be compared with Sonics Coach George Karl. He was sitting in the hot seat if his Sonics didn't win last season. He won, and he became a hero, and that's just because he was able to stack together a team that liked each other.

It's team chemistry and depth that is important in winning. That will probably determine if the Sonics and the T-Birds become champions this season.

## Men's hoops to look for prime time

After successful recruiting, T-Birds are looking for a championship run

By Glenn Flaathen  
Sports Editor

The Highline men's basketball team scored a slam dunk, a tip-in and a three-point swish in off-season recruiting.

The additions of local high school standouts Quincy Wilder, Brian Scalabrine, Reggie Ball and Garrett Miller have Head Coach Joe Callero looking toward what could be a championship season for the T-Birds.

Wilder was the state of Washington Most Valuable Player last year, playing for Decatur High School. He is a Division I prospect, but came to Highline because "the school is right for me."

Callero said that he talked to Wilder when he was in Kansas this summer, and Wilder wanted to be closer to home.

"It was a choice between Tacoma C.C., and Highline, and Quincy made the smart choice to attend HCC," Callero said.

Wilder hasn't decided if he wants to play one or two years for Highline, but he is going to transfer to a four-year school when he's done at HCC.

Scalabrine, a 6'8" center from Enumclaw, decided to come to Highline for "the chance to win the NWAACC championship, and because of Coach Callero." Callero said that Scalabrine was in Utah when he heard that Wilder had decided on Highline, so he made the choice to attend Highline himself. Scalabrine is planning to play basketball for Highline one year, then he wants to finish his AA degree. After that he's planning on transferring to Gonzaga University or the University of Washington, to play basketball there.

Callero has been the head coach at Highline for three years now, and his expectations for the season is that his team plays as hard as they can every game, and improve on that throughout the year. "Then, if everything turns out right it's possible for us to win the NWAACC championship," Callero said.

"I've learned through my years as coach that it's not smart to set too high expectations on your team," he said. "It's better to take one game at a time, and build on that."

"My goal is that the team plays hard every game, and then to win the Northwest championship," Wilder said.

Scalabrine added that "we have to play with high intensity every game."

Returning sophomore Justin Adam, who Callero said is the team's leader and best shooter,

said, "I'm hoping that we'll win the Northwest championship, and I think we have one of the best teams in the Northwest."

Callero's main goal for the season is that his team is "the best defensive, and rebounding team in the league."

"This is the most exciting team at Highline since I was playing here 15 years ago, and then we were undefeated. It's a fast-tempo, full-court team, and it's going to be exciting," Callero said. "I like fast breaks, so the players can show their ability."

The team has been practicing since Monday. "The players have given good effort," Callero said.

"We have a lot to learn, but we'll be all right," Wilder said.

It's still early on in practice, so the team still has time to get to know each other. "We still have a lot of work to do if we are to get to where we want to



Photo by Glenn Flaathen

Coach Joe Callero explains a finer point to the T-Birds

be," Scalabrine said.

"This is a big jump from where we were last year at the same time," Adam added.

After a 15-12 record last season, the T-Birds are hoping to improve, and maybe to win a championship. "The difference between this year's team and last year's is the depth, and the athletic ability of the players," Adam said. "The new players will bring defense and quickness

to the team."

Callero thinks that the new players will be a perfect fit in his system. "They are quick, strong, and talented, and that combo makes a perfect fit," he said. The T-Birds play pressure basketball, somewhat similar to the Sonics, and Callero thinks that his new players are just what he wanted.

The first game for the T-Birds will be Nov. 22 at Highline against Grays Harbor.



Photo by Glenn Flaathen

Point guard Reggie Ball slashes to the basket during practice in the Pavillion.

## Women's soccer to come to playing plateau

By Joe McLaughlin

Staff Reporter

Beth Ransom scored three times for a hat-trick in a 7-0 Highline victory over Southwest Oregon Community College last weekend. Unfortunately for Southwest Oregon, the Birds rolled into Coos Bay Oregon on Saturday morning fresh off of a disappointing 3-2 loss to Skagit Valley CC that they were not at all happy about.

"We were pretty upset after the Wednesday (Skagit Valley)

game so yes we did take it out on Oregon," Ransom said.

The first goal of the game came at the 10 minute mark of the first half off of the hot foot of freshman Tracy Wilcoxon for her fifth goal in the last four games. Freshman Stavon Williams came up with the assist on the play. Ransom scored her first of three goals at the 24 minute mark off an assist by Wilcoxon and the team rolled on to the win improving their record to 10 wins, 4 losses and 1 tie.

"This is (Southwest Ore-

gon's) first year in the league so they are not quite at our level," Ransom said.

Southwest was only able to come up with 3 shots on goal to HCC's 34.

"It wasn't really our defense as much as we just kept the ball down on their end of the field," Assistant Coach Tracy Brigham said of the style of play that Highline used in the game.

Despite losses to undefeated

**See Kicking, page 7**



# Volleyball hard to stop

## T-Birds unbeaten in league play

By June Quemado  
Staff Reporter

Highline finished third in the consolation round at the Mt. Hood Classic Volleyball Tournament on Oct. 25-26, but came back to kick Olympic College on Oct. 28 to remain undefeated in league competition.

Highline lost its first two matches on Oct. 25 to Clark College and Malaspina University-College of Canada, but won its next two matches on Oct. 26 against Green River and Edmonds at Mt. Hood.

"There were lots of distractions," Head Coach John Littleman said — officials dressed as clowns, surgeons and equestriennes, and players dressed in tutus, diapers and bibs. The tournament featured the top 12 NWAACC teams, two teams from Canada and two teams from Idaho.

Clark demolished Highline in three games, 15-10, 3-15, 15-8. Immediately following, Malaspina plucked the feathers off the Thunderbirds, 4-15, 13-15, on its way to the tournament championship.

"Malaspina may be the best team here," Assistant Coach John Wilson said. "They're



Photo by June Quemado  
Angie Henderson (#3) and Michelle Maloney watch as Kelly McGehee bumps the ball up as Moana Pele prepares to set it up for the spike in a game against Edmonds.

huge, a big-blocking team." Malaspina played six women who towered 5-feet 10-inches or taller. The Mariners won a bronze medal at the Canadian nationals. Malaspina's players, unlike Highline's, also have four years of eligibility.

Highline bounced back the next day to upend the Walla Walla Warriors, 15-11, 15-12.

The consolation playoffs brought new challenges for the Thunderbirds. Michela Eichorn sat out with a knee injury, and Michelle Maloney left the tour-

nament to go to work. Amanda Such, who currently leads the conference in assists and ranks fourth with 22 aces, was slowed by illness but continued to play.

Nonetheless, Highline swamped the Green River Gators 15-4, 15-7. Highline slipped to league-rival Skagit Valley, 14-16, 7-15, before bouncing Edmonds, 15-10, 15-6.

"We're a better match team," Wilson said. "We're not as good a tournament team because of the limited number of people. We're tired. Angie [Henderson]

and Kelly [McGehee] hit 80 to 90 percent of the balls."

Highline returned to league competition at home on Monday, dispensing with Olympic, 15-8, 15-4, 15-3. However, the T-birds suffered another loss when Daisha Clinton sprained her ankle during practice and may miss some action.

Highline traveled to Edmonds on Oct. 30; results were not available at press time. The T-birds face Everett on Nov. 4 and Skagit Valley on Nov. 8 at the Highline Pavilion at 7 p.m.

## Kicking

Continued from page 7

Tacoma and Skagit Valley (10-4-1 record) in the last two weeks, team members still are hopeful of defending their conference championship.

"I see no reason to doubt our chances," Ransom said. "We have yet to reach our peak and we are hoping every body else has. If everything goes as planned we will reach it around playoff time."

The team fought hard against Skagit Valley but couldn't quite get the job done.

Skagit held a 2-0 lead at half-time and scored another goal early in the second half to go up 3-0.

Freshmen Kelly O'Neil broke the seal for Highline at the 60-minute mark scoring off a pass from team co-captain Jill Anderson. Jennifer Odden added another goal for the T-Birds with 7 minutes remaining in the game.

"We were on the attack but we just ran out of time," Ransom said.

Coach Brigham credited the Skagit Valley defensive effort as the key to the game.

The keeper and their sweeper both played great. We had more shots than they did but they were able to stop them from going in," Brigham said.

Another chance for redemption is coming up 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, against Spokane CC, who is responsible for one of the T-Birds' losses.

"We will get a good idea of where we stand when we play Spokane," Ransom said. "We lost to them once this year and right now they are our main focus."

Including Spokane, Highline has four games left, including what could be a crucial last game at Tacoma on Nov. 13.

## Cross country to get prepared for state finals

By Corey Tolliver  
Staff Reporter

The Highline Community College Cross Country team got a feel of what the upcoming state meet is going to be like at the Bigfoot Invite this past weekend.

The T-Birds place second behind rival Spokane Community

College on the course that will host the regional championships next month.

The Bigfoot Invite should have been one of the largest races in the state with all teams invited, but unfortunately only four community college teams came.

Coach Frank Ahern was a lit-

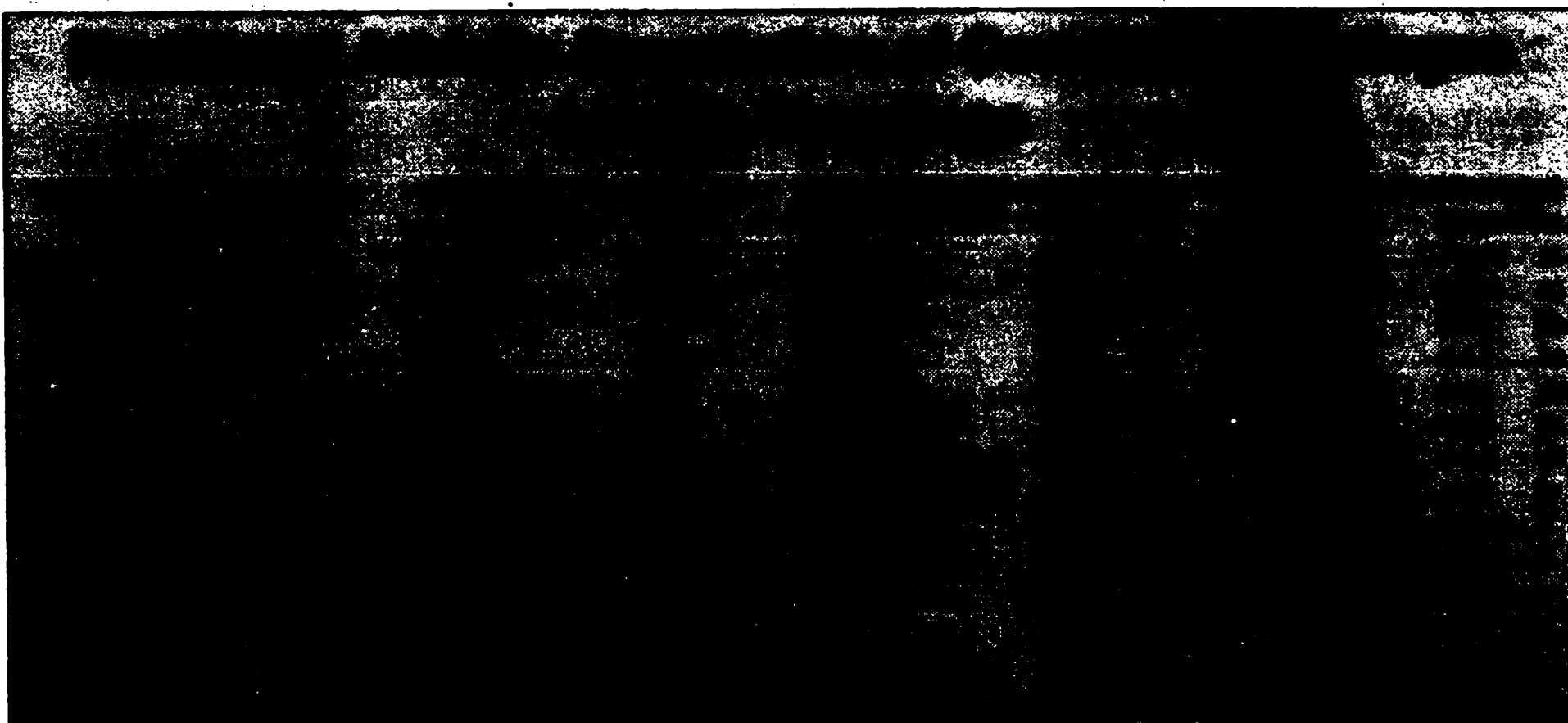
tle disappointed about the competition, yet he was still happy with the way the team ran.

Two T-birds placed in the top five, Brian Smith fourth and Frank Cenicerros fifth, and the team had many other improved times.

This race turned out to be a first for Smith, who usually fin-

ishes behind teammate Cenicerros. Running 27:02 over 8,000 meters, Smith finished one second in front of Cenicerros.

Ahern said that the most positive aspect of the race was that both of the runners improved their times considerably, and so did several other Highline runners.



## BALDERDASH BY: JAKE DILL



## Book

Continued from page 1

frustrations from his attempt at teaching, but he made some valid points in the second half of the book," said science teacher Charles Stores. "Tests have shown that reading and writing skills have been steadily declin-

ing over the last 40 years. And students really need to learn how to think critically."

"There is no question that we are seeing students in the classrooms that don't have the educational or social backgrounds to handle college," said speech instructor Barbara Clinton. "However, it seemed to me that the book said those students

should just be left out; ignored entirely. That is an arrogant attitude. Community college is a second chance for a lot of students and they should be given that chance. We need to find a way to bring them up to level where they should be."

"The general attitude toward college is different now. It used to be the most important thing

## Smoke

Continued from page 1

but they are enabling people to smoke, causing harmful health effects," said Babington. Allowing tax money to play a part in causing harmful health affects causes there to be many offended taxpayers.

Babington has tried to get kiosks built. "They're (smokers) going to exist, give them a good spot," said Babington. The idea was to have the kiosks built and paid for by the cigarette companies, with letting them advertise on the building as an incentive. Unfortunately, neither the cigarette company, nor administration at Highline supported the idea.

Soon, signs will be posted on buildings requesting smokers to move away from the buildings when lighting up.

in a student's life, but today it is more common for work to be a priority," said Mike Cambell. "A lot of changes have come about, and that is not necessarily a bad thing, but we are seeing a drop in the level of capability of students. I think the students that need it should be placed in remedial courses, according to their asset scores."

Several instances have occurred where smoke has filtered into the buildings through the ventilation systems hurting air quality in the classrooms inside the building.

Toward the end of fall quarter an Administrative Cabinet meeting will consider areas for smoking. The group of administrators can only recommend the policy, they do not have the power to pass it. The authority to pass any policy lies in the hands of the Council of Councils. The Council of Councils consists of a representative from each of the five committees for Highline College.

This is a very delicate issue, and the goal is not to "stir up more hostility than is needed," said Laura Sanders vice president of administration. The college wants to work with the students to solve the problems of smoking on campus.

Babington said the school does have the authority to restrict smoking on campus completely.

The administration is against taking such a severe action because it wants to accommodate all students interested in attending or already attending Highline College. The school does not want to discourage a whole group of students from attending Highline College.



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