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The Thunderword

The voice of the students

Volume 36, Issue 13 Highline Community College February 20, 1997

Predators stalk Highline parking lots

By Lisa Curdy and Shellie Sicilia
Staff Reporters

You've seen them. They wait at the end of the parking isles, motionless, a white-knuckled grip on their steering wheel and a lead foot ready to snag the goods. The competition is fierce. Beady, vermin-like eyes search for a host to give them what they need—a superior parking spot.

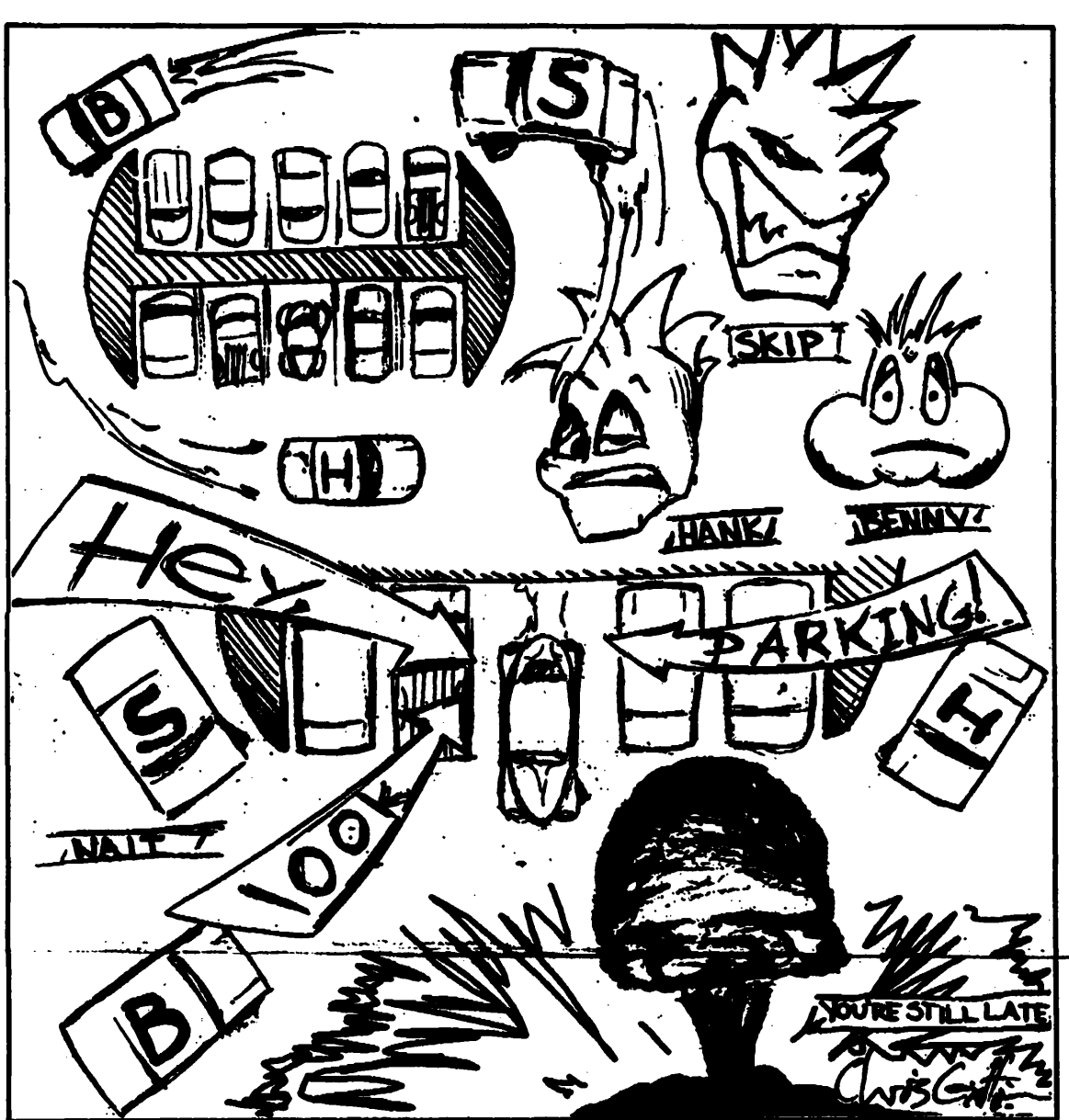
These are Parking Piranhas. They infiltrate every parking lot daily, and typically swarm between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. You'll know 'em when you see 'em.

This voracious species is best noted by its single-minded approach to taking down the kill.

The Piranhas in question usually park their prey-mobiles at the ends of the parking isles, motors purring. They don't care about you one bit; the only thing they want is your almighty parking space.

"[Last year's] congenial attitude has changed. Now people dive for parking spots," one nameless parking lot parasite said.

When observing this beast, keep a keen eye peeled for the occasional Piranha squabble, it can be a rewarding experience. One recent morning saw a lot shark chase off a garage shark in



a sharp battle for a single stall. A recent survey of 230 Highline students found that a third to one half have trouble

finding parking on campus between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. It's a case of too many fish in too small a pond; Highline has

about 2,000 parking spots on campus, and gives out about 4,100 parking permits every quarter.

Of course, there's always Midway.

It's enough to turn a person into an orca on wheels. "I have too many books and too little time, and Midway is too far away," said one occasional piranha.

"When I park in Midway, I get to class 10 minutes late with my project ruined for the rain and I'm a sopping mess," said another.

Students say that because they pay for a parking permit, they should get to park nearby. Despite assurances from Campus Security that the Midway lot is regularly patrolled, students say they also worry about the safety of their vehicles at the 1,000-car lot east of Pacific Highway South.

Most students say they don't join the piranha patrol everyday. Students say they do it mostly when they're late, or it's raining hard, or when they have to leave campus and come back later.

But some students have reported seeing the same driver parking for them on some days at 10 or 11, as they leave the campus for work. The piranhas, poised and ready, swoop in on the spot as soon as the unsuspecting victim backs out of the space.

"It's easier," said one such barracuda, than walking in from Guatemala or getting here before the slugs are awake.

Students pay for services they can't use

By Kelli Monagin
Staff Reporter

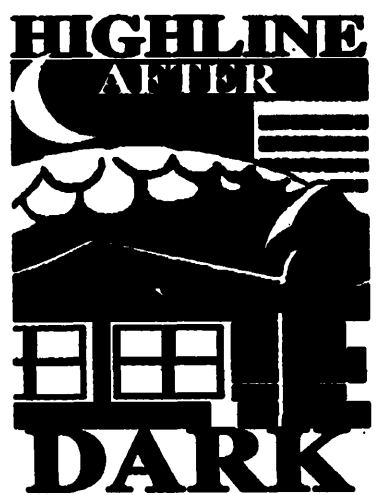
Night students are paying service and activity fees, largely for services they don't receive.

A full time student at Highline pays \$47 each quarter for service and activity fees. Students with 1-9 credits pay from 10 to 90 percent of that.

These fees fund special programs and organizations that provide students with opportunities beyond the regular classroom experience.

Organizations that receive money from the S&A budget include student clubs, athletics, child care, choir, performing arts, vocational programs, some tutoring, and the Thunderword. Most of the programs are offered only during the day.

Student Programs Director Diane Anderson said she is aware of the lack of programs offered at night. She hopes to improve this by educating students on programs that are available, and get feedback on



programs night students would like in the future.

"It is our role to provide programs for night students," Anderson said. "These programs are offered to help students become more connected with school." The more a student is involved in school, the better college experience they receive, she said.

Anderson said it is challenging to provide programs for night students because they are usually are on a tight schedule.

Most night students come to school straight after work and leave right after class.

Also, instructors teaching at night take different breaks. It becomes hard to organize something in between breaks if they are all at different times.

Programs and organizations that have been made accessible for night students in the past include Cram Night, in which the library stays open until 2 a.m. so that students may cram for finals; the quarterly Friday night Comedy Cafe; and occasional ice cream socials so that evening students, instructors and administrators can meet in an informal setting.

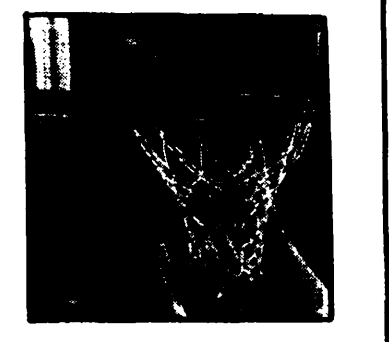
Anderson said she hopes to see more programs being offered in the near future for students at night, such as safety and security night; transfer night, featuring representatives from universities that offer night and weekend classes.

Anderson also would like to see a night student representative on the student government.

Index

Arts.....page 4
Campus Life.....page 2
News Briefs.....page 2
Sports.....page 3

"The earth's about five million years old, at least. Who can afford to live in the past."
Harold Pinter



Men's basketball tunes up for playoffs.
See page 3

Happy birthday Carol Wood, Highline instructor, turns 40

Carol Wood, Mr. Ranier graduate, regional consultant and long-term physical education faculty member turns 40 this week.

Best wishes from all your colleagues and may the force continue to be with you.



Carol Wood

Dickson speaks



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Former Black Panther leader Aaron Dickson speaks to students last week at Highline's Lecture Hall. Dickson, who now is a counselor in Seattle, came as part of the Footsteps program. Author Charlotte Watson-Sherman read from her work on Wednesday. Members of the Total Experience Gospel Choir will sing Feb. 26 at noon.

Club, kids learn together

By Candice Fenison
Staff Reporter

It's Friday afternoon at Highline and the day care children look to the door with anticipation because they know it's story time. Every Friday at noon students from the Circle K club make their way over to the day care to read to children and teach them computer software.

Many kids go over to the computers to turn them on. Neil McLean, Circle K member, has the kids put their names on a list in order to take turns. Some of the children have obviously used the computers before but others require McLean's help.

Of all the games that are played, the most popular is probably Millie's Math House, McLean says. This game uses various graphics to teach the kids numbers. All the computer games make the kids familiar with the mouse.

There's usually a line-up to work on the computers, which have interactive stories and games that teach the children how to match letters through

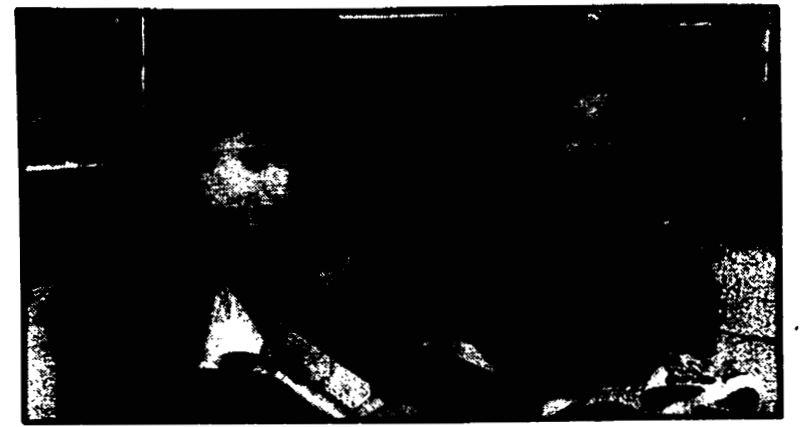


Photo by Bruce Jarrell

A Highline Circle K member reads to daycare children.

sounds. Some of the kids prefer the painting and scavenger hunt programs.

Circle K International is a worldwide organization dedicated to community service and leadership development.

"The bottom line of Circle K is service. ... It's all about doing things to enrich somebody's life," club secretary Marge Tomlinson said.

Circle K International's mission is to involve college students in campus and community service while developing quality leaders and citizens.

On campus, the Circle K club

is involved in reading and teaching computer software to day care children, and currently they're working on a fund raiser for Valentine's Day. Circle K members recently made valentines for sale to students.

"I think it's important there is a service organization on campus. ... Being involved in clubs and organizations helps students maintain friendships," club President Kristin Marquardt said.

Circle K meets every Thursday in Building 10, Room 204 at 1 p.m.

Brooks returns to law enforcement at HCC

By J.T. Coppola
Staff Reporter

After 20 years in law enforcement, Glenn Brooks this year became Highline Community College's new campus police chief.

Brooks is a graduate of the FBI National Academy for Career Training. Before coming to Seattle, he lived in Fairbanks, Alaska with his family while he ran a family entertainment center. The family spent their winters in Hawaii.

Brooks was also the campus police chief at the University of Alaska before he retired to go into the family business.

The campus chief said he

"Security does a good job of protecting the campus."

**Glenn Brooks
Campus Police Chief**

took the job at Highline because he was interested in getting back into law enforcement.

"I enjoy students and my plans are to settle in Washington state," he said.

The Woodville resident and father of three believes that campus security has two jobs.

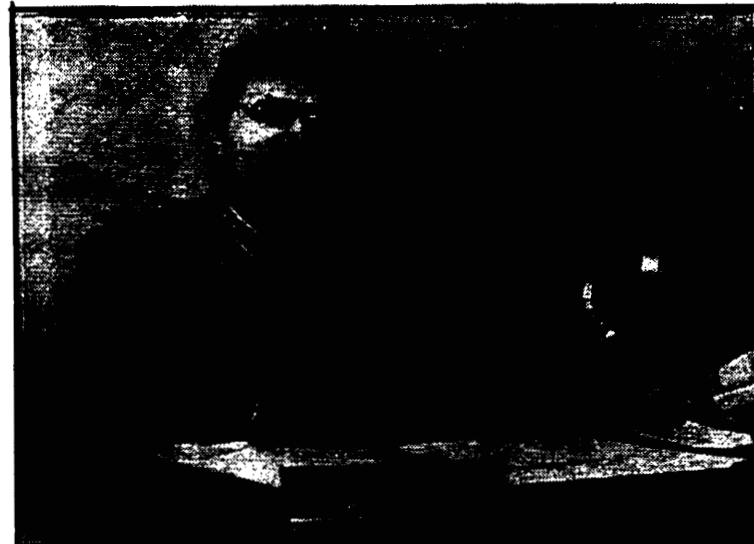


Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Glenn Brooks takes a break from his work.

"One is to protect the students and the other is to protect the fa-

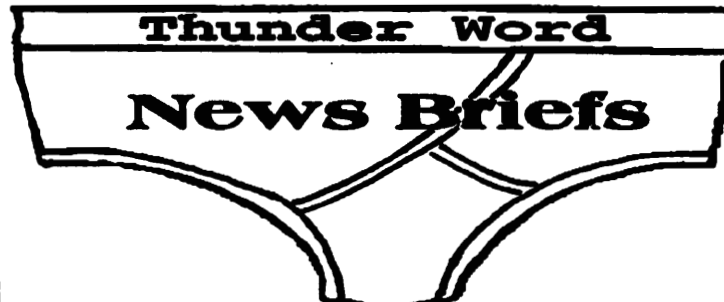
ilities," Brooks said. "It's a 24-hour per day job."

Approximately 400 criminal cases occur on campus per year. "Most of the casework happens during the day," Brooks said.

One of the problems in the evening is people loitering on campus. "People get on the bus in Seattle and Highline is the end of the line," Brooks said. "Sometimes these bus-riders hang out on campus."

Highline is clear of gangs, Brooks said. "We do have a few gang members on campus," he said, "but no gang activity."

The chief regards Highline as a good campus and interesting, too. "Security does a good job of protecting the campus," he said. "They're a good team and do a lot of things."



Diversity for sale at arts, crafts fair

Local artists and vendors of ethnic art will have an opportunity to display their wares at the Ethnic Arts and Crafts Exhibit and Sale sponsored by the Events Board.

The sale will take place Feb. 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Union Bay Room of

Building 8. Some of the items for sale will include incense, dolls, oils, hats, clothing, and baskets.

For more information, contact the Ethnic and Diversity Programs Chairperson Ivory Ellison in the Events Board office at 878-3710, ext. 3903.

Free movie

The movie, "A Time To Kill," will be showing in the

Student Center today and tomorrow.

The movie is being sponsored by the Events Board. It will be showing today at noon and 5 p.m. in the Group Study Area. Tomorrow's show time will be at 11 a.m.

Pick up litter, get pizza party

There will be a campus-wide highway clean-up on Feb. 22.

Participants will need to attend a meeting at 10 a.m. in Building 13, room 107 before donning the litter bags for the next 3-4 hours.

The event, being sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa, will then go to clean the west side of I-5

between the Kent-DesMoines and 272 St. exits.

After the clean-up, volunteers will be treated to a pizza party.

Marines visit HCC

The U.S. Marines will have a representative on campus today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 6.

Choir to finish 'Footsteps' path

A quartet from Pat Wright and the Total Experience Gospel Choir will complete the "Footsteps" series.

The music group will perform in Building 8 at noon on

Feb. 26.

"This is a must see," said Ivory Ellison, Ethnic and Diversity chairperson for the Events Board.

UW in Building 6

The University of Washington's extension branch will have a representative here on Wed. Feb. 26 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 6.

Corrections

The name of ASHCC President Neil McLean was misspelled in a recent issue.

The name of Ricky McGee was left off a letter to the editor entitled "I wouldn't stop there" in the Feb. 13 edition of the Thunderword.

Wrestling team sends seven to nationals

By Timothy Wyse

Highline's wrestling team qualified a school record seven wrestlers for nationals in Bismarck, N.D. on Feb. 28.

Leading the pack were Nelson Crisanto and Jens Pulver.

Crisanto, recently recovering from knee surgery, won the 118-pound championship with three convincing victories.

He started off a little rusty, but recovered and eventually pinned his first opponent, said assistant coach John Clemens. Crisanto won his semifinal and final matches 18-3 and 14-6 respectively.

Pulver, runner-up at the regionals for the second year in a row, beat last year's national champ, Glenn Garrison, of Clackamas in overtime, while wrestling his way to second place at regionals in the 142-pound weight class.

"My goal at this year's regional was to beat him (Garrison), and I achieved that. Right now I feel pretty good about my chances at nationals."

Even though Pulver's match against Garrison went to overtime, he was in control the whole way," said Clemens.

Others that made it to nationals were as follows: Matt Julian in the 134 pound weight class finished third, James Clark, 150 pound weight class finished third, Eric Senrud 158 pound weight class, finished fourth, Brian Donahue 177 pound weight class, finished second, and Ken Kobes, 190 pound weight class, finished third.

Overall the T-bird wrestlers wrapped up one first, two second, three third and on fourth place finishes.

Only the top three from each weight class qualify and then there were six wild card spots that the coaches decided

on after the meet was over. One of those wild card spots was given to Eric Senrud.

Those who weren't able to move on were: 126-Matt Walters; 167-Brian Loska; and 275-Jason Olson. Loska and Olson are only freshmen and will have another opportunity to perform next season.

Over all regionals went as expected as far as Clemens was concerned. Last week he had said that third place would be a good spot for us at the end of this regional tournament.

They did just that by finishing with 57 points, only 13 points behind Ricks College

who finished with 70. As expected, North Idaho finished in first with a lofty 115.

About 225 wrestlers will compete at nationals from states all over the country. The number of participants (schools) determines how many qualify from each region.

"It's hard to speculate who is going to do what at nationals simply because there are so many wrestlers, said Clemens. I do know that our region (18), which includes Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, has produced the most all-Americans in the country in the last 20 years.

T-Bird men head into playoffs

By Lisa Curdy
Staff Reporter

Highline's men's basketball team steamed on toward the playoffs with two more wins last week, raising the Thunderbirds' record to 24-1.

Highline bested the Whatcom Orcas 94-64 on Feb. 12, then ended their home season with a 101-76 pasting of Bellevue.

Against Whatcom, Highline was led by 30 points from Quincy Wilder. Center Brian Scalabrino chipped in 16, point guard Reggie Ball added nine and Neil DeMerritt scored eight.

Against Bellevue, the boys from the 'burbs were led by Scalabrino's 23, 16 from Wilder and Ball, and 12 from Justin Adam.

Head Coach Joe Callero said the teams challenge, with two games remaining, is to build up focus and intensity heading into the playoffs.

Having clinched the Northern Division title, Highline hosts a first-round playoff game next Thursday, 7 p.m. at the Pavilion.

Callero said the key to Highline's success remains defensive intensity. "We have the best defensive team in the Northwest," he said.

Rebounding is also important, since it sets up second shots for the offense.

"They're good athletes and they have good chemistry together," Callero said of his squad. "They have a common respect for each other. ... Winning is fun."

The Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges



Brian Scalabrino goes to the hole against BCC.

Photo by Bruce Jarrell

es finals will be March 6-8 in Edmonds. Highline will have to play three games in three days to win it all.

Callero said the team is stepping up its practice routine to prepare for what should be a grind. Practices will run Monday through Saturday with extra shooting on Sundays.

The regular season ends Saturday with an 8 p.m. game at Skagit Valley in Mount Vernon.

Despite woes lady T-Birds sink Orcas

By Neil DeMerritt
Staff Reporter

It has been a very long season for the Highline women's basketball team, full of distractions and problems.

One of the biggest problems that hurt the girls from the start was the injury of one of their leading scorers, Rachel Watkins, who was diagnosed with a torn anterior cruciate ligament ACL.

The same things — lack of rebounding, defense, and that extra something at crunch time — have ended up hurting the T-birds. They were even without their coach for a game due to illness.

Nonetheless, the Thunderbirds have not been getting blown out in hardly any of their games and are taking most of them down to the wire.

The girls came out with something to prove and started out really well and ended up beating the Whatcom Orcas

with a score of 61-50. Highline was led by a strong performance by Kelly Stubbert both on the boards and on defense.

The 'Birds dropped their last home game of the year, however, falling to Bellevue 79-62. Sophomores Eryn Redmon and Vicki Watson started the game and gave a good effort but Highline came up short.

The Thunderbirds, now 5-17, finish up their season this week with two away games. Results from last night's game at Shoreline were unavailable at press time. The season ends Saturday at Skagit Valley.



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National Mental Health Association

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More than \$25,000 to be awarded for the 1997-98 Academic Year

Contact the HCC Financial Aid Office, Building 6, for Scholarship packets.

The Thunderword

Sometimes when life gets really tough we go out for ice cream.

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Thornton's 'Blade' cuts clean

New drama is a mix between 'Forrest Gump' and 'Of Mice and Men'

By Kirk Elliott
Staff Reporter

"Sling Blade" is a compelling drama of a mentally retard-

Movie Review

ed man who is released back into the community after spending 25 years in a mental hospital for committing a gruesome crime.

Karl, the main character is played with peaceful demeanor by Billy Bob Thornton (One False Move). Thornton also wrote and directed this all-absorbing movie, for which he has earned Oscar nominations for best screenplay and best actor.

Co-starring with Thornton, John Ritter convincingly portrays a gay man in a small rural community. Accompanying these two fine actors are Dwight Yoakam, Lucas Black, J.T. Walsh and Robert Duval. Brandon Rosser and David L. Bushnell produced "Sling Blade."



Miramax Film Studios
John Ritter and Billy Bob Thornton discuss their friendship. Thornton raked in two Oscar nominations for his work in 'Sling Blade,' including one best actor nomination.

"Sling Blade" is a mix between "Forrest Gump," and "Of Mice and Men."

Both of these movies had really nice retarded guys, one that accidentally kills someone, then dies himself. So that means that Karl is a really nice retarded man whokills bad people.

The climax of this movie was

extraordinarily modest, with 2 hours and 10 minutes of drama and building, to about five minutes of action. Sorry no blood or guts, just a really sharp lawnmower blade and the mention of a sling blade.

If you like the movies that make you think, and want you to look for symbolism, this is

your flick. "Sling Blade" has a profound message to tell, that is, if you want to be told it for the third time. This movie is rated R and opens Feb. 21 at the Victory Theatre.

If you would like to learn more about this film and other films from Miramax at: <http://www.miramax.com>.

Hopefuls audition for Thunderfest

By Jeff Del Rosario
Staff Reporter

She waited until it was her turn. The room was not quite empty, filled with only a few whispers.

As she walked to the front of the room, she faced a few observers. Nervousness did not seem to overcome her. She knew she was going to be judged by people she didn't even know. She paused. Then, she opened her mouth and out came her beautiful, smooth singing voice.

Tiffany Wilson, 21, was one of the few who tried out at the talent search held last week in Building 7. She has been singing for 14-15 years. She has a lot of experience and is pursuing

a career in music. She auditioned without any expectations. "I just saw the flyer and thought it would be fun," she said.

Another contestant, pianist Norma Clays said, "I want to perform for exposure and to let people hear my music." She also said that she is shy and playing the piano is a way to open up and express herself.

Three auditions were scheduled last week but only two were actually held. This is because of the lack of performers trying out.

More performers were scheduled, but cancelled due to personal reasons. As a result, auditions are scheduled again this Friday, Feb. 21.

From the try-outs, three acts will be chosen to perform at Thunderfest on March 6.

Acts that are chosen may perform from 15 minutes to an hour, depending on the type of acts. They may also open the show for well-known groups. The may earn from \$75-\$175 depending on length.

"We want to show real talent here at Highline," said Denny

Stussy, coordinator of Student programs and advisor of the Events Board.

Thunderfest is not the only show that is scheduled. Future shows starring the chosen acts are also scheduled but dates are still unofficial.

Writer's block: all in your head

Dear Gabby:
I've recently been experiencing the common malady known as writer's block. Is there a cure?—Riled Writer
Dear Riled:
Well, uh.....um.....

Dear Gabby



Hmmmmmmh.....no.

Dear Gabby:
The tests in my Spanish class son muy dificiles. What's the easiest way to learn a foreign language?—The Scrambled Senor.

Dear Scrambled:
Speaking from personal experience, the most efficient and effective way to learn a second language is to immerse yourself in the culture and society of that language. In other words, a short stay in a Mexican jail should do the trick.

Dear Gabby:
When does the fun start? — Party Animal

Dear Animal:
The fun started last week. However, you weren't invited.

Dear Baggy:
I keep mixing letters up. Does this bug you? — Happy in Hoquiam

Dear Happy:
Know, I don't get berry upset win people use the rang letter-heads. In fact, I think this whit the spellchecker is four.


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