Parking violations leave some angry

By Stacy Montague, Staff Reporter

Parking in a handicapped zone without a proper permit, or with an expired one, is a ticket that Highline students don't take lightly.

Leigh Rettig, a Highline student, speaks with someone who has a disability related enough to require a handicapped zone. Rettig has seen offenses when she has someone in a handicapped zone without a permit, or an expired one.

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Highline theft rate rising

Young S. Noh
Staff Reporter

Stealing is the most commonly occurring criminal offense at Highline Community College by far. Within the last two years, the number of reported cases on theft has totaled 121. Damage to property comes in a distant second with 37.

Year after year, the average number of thefts reported per year seems to be consistently above 60. Theft constitutes 61 percent of all serious crimes committed at Highline within the last four years.

Every year, thieves seem to steal more and become even bolder.

"The hot spots (for theft) are mostly in public places such as the library, cafeteria, and the bookstore," said Highline Security Officer Robert Dean.

Oddly enough, the bookstore is located right next to the security office in Building 6.

Highline's pamphlet, Security, Safety, and Parking Information, states, "Keep your backpacks, handbags, or other valuables with you at all times."

However, this can be hard to do at the bookstore, which requires all students to leave their backpacks outside before entering.

Hazem Younes is a Highline student who recently had his backpack stolen.

"I went to the bookstore to buy some candy, and left my backpack outside because of the sign," Younes said. "When I came back a moment later, it was missing."

The backpack contained books, lecture notes, a calculator, and other valuables worth $250. This was especially hard on Younes since his backpack was stolen two days before midterm.

"I felt hopeless, like nothing could be done," Younes said.
Highline alumnus wins award

Jae Young Yoon
Staff Reporter

Norm Rice, the mayor of Seattle and a Highline alumnus, received the 1997 Outstanding Alumnus Award at the 77th Annual American Association of Community College Convention.

This year the award was given to eight former community college students who have contributed to their communities and their fields.

Rice, who graduated from Highline in 1970, was one of the eight recipients. After attending Highline during 1968 and 1970, he attended the University of Washington where he earned a degree in economics.

The future mayor received his master's degree in public administration at the University of Washington in 1976.

Rice was elected to the Seattle City Council in 1978 where he remained through 1988. In 1990, Rice was elected mayor of Seattle.

The nomination for the award came from Dr. Ed Con- mand, Highline's current president.

"He is an unwavering proponent who advocates accessible "life-long learning" opportunities for everyone, " Command said.

"During the 1993 Washington state legislative session, which he was serving as a Seattle councilperson, Norm was the foremost speaker for a statewide community college day celebration," Command said.

"He gave an emotional speech to state legislators in the Capitol rotunda, challenging them to make community and technical college funding as much of a priority as funding for four-year institutions. It was the beginning of a legislative and citizen attitude change for our state."

Rice, Highline's first distinguished Alumnus in 1990, and current president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, has given his time and effort to support education and specialty community college education, college officials said.

Other recipients include Nolan D. Archibald, the CEO of the Black and Decorah Corporation, Alabama's lead singer Randy Owen, White Sox pitcher Jamie Navaro, and Maryland's governor Parris Glendenning.
Editorial

Communication is key to good politics

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the '97-'98 Associated Students of Highline Community College's (ASH-CC) government.

In the hopes of a successful year, the staff of the Thunderword would like to extend a few hopeful words of advice.

It is the role of any government to identify with its constituents and successfully represent their needs and desires.

Student government is in a unique position of being one of the only voices that a student body has with which to speak clearly and directly to the administration.

In light of this, student government should endeavor to do everything in its power to connect. These connections may entail surveys or questionnaires sent home to each student, possibly a "Meet your Officers" barbecue, or simply leaving the office to talk to the masses.

The Topic of the Week offers another opportunity for ASH-CC to explore the opinions of students. Beyond that, the Topic of the Week allows student government to choose to work on the items that have the highest and strongest responses.

Beyond listening to their public, all governments must make decisions.

Many of those decisions that politicians, student politicians included, must make are monetary based. Using resources responsibly should be a priority of any government body.

Thus ASHCC should be careful when approaching spending matters and make decisions that best serve the majority of students.

Beyond serving individuals, student government must also represent the interest of clubs.

Highline currently has over 20 student organizations, thus it is essential that ASHCC keep communication links open with all of these clubs.

The fledging student government needs to open the lines of communication as soon as possible. Without communication, a representative body represents no one.

Show respect, don't use handicap parking

Everyone knows that parking here at HCC can be frustrating, and everyone has probably been faced with a situation where they might be running a bit late and don't want to park all the way at Midway, making you that much later. Or, maybe you just don't want to park at Midway, late or not.

During the peak hours of class in the morning it can be nearly impossible to find an empty spot. But alas, there's one! Oh no, it's a handicapped parking spot. Oh well, no one will notice if I park here, right? Wrong! People do notice. First of all security notices and they will promptly give you a ticket for parking in these spots. But most of all, people need to realize that these spots are designated for people who have a hard time getting around. Yeah, it can be a pain to park at Midway, but imagine how difficult it might be with a disability.

These spots are there for a reason, and that reason is to provide convenience to those who are disabled. Those who are not, need to be courteous, classy, and respectful, and avoid parking in these designated parking spots.

Opinion Policy

The Thunderword Opinion section presents a perspective on the news and the newsmakers of the Highline community. It offers analysis and background, debate and opinion, and is produced by the Thunderword staff.

Sunshine rains down in Seattle

The sun has finally decided to grace us with its presence. And I must say, it is a glorious, and much awaited presence.

The sun illuminates the days making them bright and colorful, rather than drab and grey. The sun beckons us to venture outside. Its warmth embraces us, soothes us, and invigorates us with energy and exhilaration to be alive.

It's so much easier to get up out of bed on a sunny day. When it's warm outside you don't have as much of an urge to remain in the confines of the warm sanctuary of covers.

The outside world now has a cheerful glow about it. The birds are singing, the flowers are blooming, and the girls are sporting much less (cumber-some) clothing. Isn't spring great?

As you can tell, I am ecstatic that spring is here, and it has brought the much awaited sunshine with it. It was a long gray Washington winter, one of the worst in years.

So, now that we are finally able to soak up some rays, many students may find it hard to come to class when the beach, or a lake is calling their name.

Well teachers, I propose, if at all possible to conduct class outside on the magnificent, well manicured lawns of HCC.

This idea is not totally absurd, in fact I have seen a few large groups that may have been classes assembled on the lawns the last few days.

Hey, we live in Seattle, we need to take advantage of the temperate seasons while we can. We enjoy the sun for the four or five months that it charities shines down upon us, then we are forced to endure seven or eight months of meager amounts of pleasant weather.

The withdrawals can be unbearable, forcing many into running indoors to once again enjoy the smell of recently cooked skin. Helping to recreate the sensation of the warm sunny days of spring and summer (most just like wearing the cool little goggles, but they'll never admit it).

But seriously, being outdoors makes you feel more alive, awake, and alert. Maybe more instructors ought to consider teaching in the enlightening rays of the sun (pun intended). After all, I bet that many of the instructors aren't much different from me, and read in the sun.

Please note: If the weather is crummy, when the paper comes out, don't be too bummed. In the words of Annie, the sun will come out tomorrow.

The Thunderword is a designated no whining zone.

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What's on my mind...

By Carmine Coburn

Seattle is a beautiful city to be in. The sun has finally decided to grace us with its presence. And I must say, it is a glorious, and much awaited presence.

The sun illuminates the days making them bright and colorful, rather than drab and grey. The sun beckons us to venture outside. Its warmth embraces us, soothes us, and invigorates us with energy and exhilaration to be alive.

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Juxtaposition at its best

Ironic sometimes jumps out of reality. Just a short cruise down Pacific Highway South are the reader boards for the Christian Faith Center and the V.F.P. Tavern standing directly parallel to each other.

Radio station shuts off airway

Seattle University's radio station, KSUJ is cut off the air due to multiple problems around campus. Transmitters were installed incorrectly and signals were crossed. KSUJ is not responsible for the replacement of the transmitters. The installation was done by the company who provided them.

Pierce College debates smoking

Smoking seems to be an issue that is up in the air a lot lately. Pierce College has had the question of where to allow smoking on campus replace the question of whether or not to allow smoking on campus. While Tacoma Community College has recently posted laminated signs near classrooms advising students not to smoke near entryways.

College president fed up with threats

Pierce College President, Dr. George Delaney has decided change his outlook from victim to hero. He is now employing phone traps, caller I.D., FBI and police detectives, as well as public attention to send a warning to callers that he will take no more, according to The Pioneer.

Beyond Highline

Ivy League

Angry student uses threats on final

Instructors Marlene Bosanko and Tamara Kuzmenkov of Tacoma Community College received death threats from one student in the form of statements about death, killing and teachers that covered the final exam for their class. There were times during the quarter that were unnerving to the instructors and the student refused twice to prior requests to discuss concerns.

Paper censora student government

The staff of The Spectator, Seattle University's newspaper, made the decision to remove the word "Bitch" from the Associated Students of Seattle University (ASSU) page. The Spectator is not responsible for the creation of the ASSU page but is responsible for everything published in The Spectator. The problem seemed to be with the size of the word. It was in 200-point font, covering nearly one-forth of the ASSU page. Both sides of the "Bitch" database consulted faculty. The ASSU weren't sold on but were strongly advised against using the word while the staff of The Spectator printed the word on the front page in a letter to the SU community.

Life is absurd in Heming household

It's time I got something off my mind.

The other weekend I ran a little pram around a field measuring how far boy scouts threw Frisbees. They're not what I wanted to talk about.

On the wild side

W.B. Heming

confess to the general public.

As I ran this pram around, pointing it at a machine that seemed to magically calculate these distances, I realized something about myself.

Later that weekend, while I sat around the dining room table picking at my food, it ate me. That gnawing sensation that I should tell someone finally got the better of me.

I decided to reveal my newfound self-revelation to my parents as we sat munching our Sunday night meal.

Much to my dismay, my dad just sat for a moment before taking another bite.

"My mom shot me a glance from across the table. It was one of those "what are you talking about" looks that any 2-year-old can tell you aren't the most pleasant expression in the world."

Then, as if I didn't just pour my heart out, they returned to talking about spreading maroon around in the garden.

Shocked tossed over me like a wave of vanilla pudding. In that sticky mess I came to realize that my own parents just didn't care.

Thus, I made up my mind that I should tell everyone. I decided that I would announce it from the highest mountains, proclaim it from every rooftop, singing it out in every valley. However, I doubt that very many people would have heard me because my voice doesn't carry far. Thus, I've put my deep philosophical confession into print.

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I believe that life is absurd and that every action a person takes is their choice.

It's amazing what a person can learn by expressing a pram around measuring the lengths that boy scouts throw Frisbees. I look a week to relax and I discovered a deep philosophical truth about myself.

The truly amazing thing is that I've denied being an existentialist in the past. I've had to come to terms with my own existentiality, just like Eileen.

Who knows, maybe I'll lead some kind of an existentialist charge and people will be coming out all over.

Boy, boy now I don't feel better.

Piercing is like a poke in the eye

Ana Marie Cee

Hoops, bars and studs seem to be the latest form of expression when they are pierced, stretched, threaded or stabbed into a hole in your head or even into parts more private.

I was at the Ram Bar and Grill one Sunday night having a beer when I was approached by a European mountain bike racer with more holes in his body than a pair of fish-net stockings.

He expressed his individuality with a row of silver hoops followed one by one around the outer rim of his ear. The row ended in two fat round rings in each lower lobe that stretched the holes in his ears as large as quarters.

After pointing out his fourth bar, nose, eyebrow, nipple and belly button rings, he exposed himself so he could display the ring that pierced through the head of his penis.

Just below the ring he had stabbed a bar through with little silver balls on either end.

"I do it because I can," he said.

He expressed the desire to get the web between his fingers pierced but was scared they might rip out when he raced.

I'm wondering if he can get through the metal detectors at the airports. My guess is that he probably isn't a frequent flyer.

So why can't we express ourselves with less mutilating and destructive things like with clothes or personality? Are we getting the deep expression of individuality confused with the mutilation of body piercing?

Expressing your individuality is showing how your personality is in a creative manner. Extreme body piercing is more of an expression of anger and destruction (like that's real attractive).

It's more rewarding and attractive to be original if you find your individuality from within and not try to create one.

Letters Policy

Letters should be no more than 300 words. They must include full names, addresses and telephone numbers for verification during daytime business hours. All letters are subject to editing for style and length. Mail letters, commentaries, and Dear Gabby questions to: Letters to the Editor, The Thunderbird, Highline Community College, mall stop 103-3, P.O. Box 9800, Des Moines WA 98198. Submissions can also be dropped off in the box outside the Thunderbird office in Building 10.
Robert Eley

Thirty-one programs have high demand for workers is. Lack of experienced workers is. According to Eley, 93 percent of Highline's occupational students graduate in 1,385 degrees: the one-year certificate program, 26 programs offer a one-year Certificate of Completion. Students take academic as well as occupational classes to complete the program. Although the occupational programs are not meant to be transferred to a four-year college, some courses can transfer. Seven percent of students do go on to Universities. You can find more information about which classes which are required, and how many credits are offered in a certain program by looking in a curriculum guide. On the front of the pamphlets will be the name of a Program Coordinator you can call for more details.

Freight forwarding faces high demand

Khrisadas Kusumonkul

Highline Community College will increase the number of students for the freight forwarding program in the next academic year in response to the high demand for its workers. "This program is offered in response to the request of business and industry," said Kathy Dunn, chair of the business division. "According to the Wall Street Journal, one in five jobs in Washington state is directly related to international trade."

Freight forwarding is work that involves the handling of cargo. It is interesting work, its beginning salaries are very high. "Freight forwarding is a type of company," said Dunn. "It is the travel reagent for freight."

"In beginning salaries range from $39 to $42 an hour," Kathy Dunn said. This program offers two degrees: the one-year certificate program and the two-year associate degree program. The instructors of this program come from the transportation and freight industries.

"The teachers will be changed every quarter," said Dunn.

"According to the Wall Street Journal, one in five jobs in Washington state is directly related to international trade."

Kathy Dunn

Loren Legendre

Highline's Occupational programs are placing 90 percent of their students before graduating.

Examples of these are two programs, Chiropractic Technician run by Dr. John Huber, and Manufacturing Engineer Technology, run by Bob Maplestone. Chiropractic Technicians support and assist doctors in X-ray, clinical processing, insurance and intake of patients. A Manufacturing Engineer Technician solves problems with production of a product. Information received by surveys from local businesses have helped Huber and Maplestone to modify program curriculum. Maplestone has now installed robotics in the second year of a two-year degree, as well as Plastics Technology, a new Occupational program. Huber's program has recently received recognition through phone calls from local doctors asking about graduates for hire. Maplestone said that eight out of 12 students will be hired by Boeing after graduation.

The success of Chiropractic Technicians programs stems from Huber's extensive involvement. He is teaching other doctors how to teach in hopes of getting Chiropractic Technician programs in other community colleges.

Students do not need prior experience or a particular talent to succeed in these programs. Huber points out that the Labor Department has certified his program as a "light duty" program, allowing disabled veterans and the handicapped easier access.

Critical thinking, according to Maplestone, is the most important quality to ensure success. His students solve problems with production, from local companies, by visiting the companies and observing their operations.

Average pay after graduating X-ray Technician under Chiropractic Technician is $10-$15 an hour. Manufacturing Engineering Technicians earn between $27,500 to $30,500 a year.

Nurse track still draws students

Sherry Stearns

The nursing program at Highline can offer you the way into a satisfying and rewarding career. On the average it takes a student three years to complete the program. Usually there is one year of prerequisite classes and two additional years to receive an Associate Degree of Nursing. Graduates receive a general registered nursing degree.

Currently about 90 students are enrolled in this program. The average age of nursing students at Highline is 32, but ages range from 19-52.

"There is a fair amount of diversity in our program," said Chris Henshaw, the nursing administration.

The Highline nursing program has a great success rate of between 80-85 percent. Most of these students have jobs within six months of graduation. The starting salary for graduates is about $39,000.

"We have a wide variety of clinical placements for students," Henshaw said. Applications into the program are accepted between Dec. 1 and March 31. Guidance from the faculty will begin after an applicant has attended a pre-enrollment informational session.

"The selection process includes reviewing of grades, previous college work, health related work or volunteer experience," said Henshaw.

"Highline has a great program. We have committed faculty who are current in their specializations," said Henshaw. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Chris Henshaw at 878-3710 ext. 3467.
Grads say their studies paid off

AnnMarie Coe
Staff reporter

Some students have skipped humanities, social sciences and physical education classes and still completed all requirements to graduate from Highline.

Among those who have graduated from Highline’s two-year occupational programs, Tonya Lively, Barbara Peter and Jim Whitman have obtained positions in their fields of choice.

Lively, 23, earned her certificate from the Paralegal Program in June of last year.

“I was working full-time and attending evening classes,” she said. “It was very time consuming.”

Lively said that being a graduate wasn’t enough and that time on the job was just as important.

“People think you graduate from the program and you’re automatically a paralegal, but you have to work your way up,” she said. “I know the more experience I get, I can pick and choose where I want to go.”

Lively decided she doesn’t want to work as an attorney in the future, instead, she wants to go back to school and get her bachelor’s degree.

“It (the paralegal program) was more of something I wanted to do just to have the skill,” she said.

Sculpting the skills of a paralegal seemed to be the natural choice for Lively since she had been working as a receptionist in an attorney’s office for some time prior to attending college.

She is currently working at the Bogle and Gates law firm in Seattle as a docking associate.

After gaining more experience at the firm, the plan is to move up to become a paralegal.

Lively has already moved up in her career, enabling her to earn back all the money she put into the program within a year.

After being laid off by Boeing, another occupational program graduate, Jim Whitman put all of his time into earning his degree from the Manufacturing Engineering Technology Program.

“They (Boeing management) were steering people towards vocational school,” he said. “And I was enrolled at Highline before I was laid-off.”

So instead of going for his Associate of Arts degree at Highline, Whitman decided to enroll in the occupational programs, where he learned enough to be successful.

“I learned how it (manufacturing) all fits together,” he said. “How the work flows through the organization.”

After learning the process, he was successfully hired back by Boeing as a full-time, salaried employee.

He said new students who want to succeed in the program should take advice from Director Bob Maplestone.

“He’s a tremendous resource,” Whitman said. “He’s both personable and knowledgeable.”

Barbara Peter, another graduate from the occupational programs, went back to school after she had already earned her A.A. degree.

Peter was part of the first class that graduated from the Chiropractic Technician Program in August of last year.

Through the program, Peter learned what being a chiropractic technician was all about.

“I didn’t know anything about it except that I loved the philosophy of it,” she said. “But the classes prepared me quite well.”

The program prepared her with an internship that eventually provided her with a full-time career at Budder’s Chiropractic Clinic.

She said she loves her job and feels that her career is very rewarding.

“It’s a really neat profession,” she said. “It’s a constant learning process and I like that.”

In only two years of school, Peter learned all the skills necessary to take and develop x-rays and give patients partial exams.

She strongly recommends that new students considering or currently enrolled in the program prepare a work hard, take all classes seriously, have patience and be flexible.
T-Birds sprint toward track championship

Ethan McDonald
Staff Reporter

The Highline men’s track and field team was blessed with incredible weather last Saturday for the Thunderbird Open which was a final opportunity for athletes in quality for the NWAACC championships on May 22 and 23. This was the first meet held at Highline in over 20 years.

The field consists of Lower Columbia Community College, Grays Harbor Community College, numerous untapped athletes and the host, Highline Community College.

“This meet is a last chance for some athletes that are on the bubble to make it to the conference championships,” said Coach Louis D’Andrea. Fortunately for Highline, most of the athletes on the bubble performed well.

Tsekande Brown qualified and placed second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.8 and in the 1500-meter dash Brian Smith took second with a qualifying time of 4:01.3.

The T-Birds had Charles King, Russ Kirkegaard and Jack DeCou all reach qualifying marks in the triple jump with a personal record over all with a personal record by 14” with a mighty leap of 45’1/2”.

King and DeCou posted qualifying marks in the 110-meter hurdles with times of 14.9 and 15.4 and Demonte Taylor won the event once again with a 130’1/2” and Regis Costello Leading the conference go to improve them. Ryan Youmans receives the baton from Tsekande Brown in the 4x100-meter relay in a meet last weekend.

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Some athletes have posted qualifying marks and continue to improve them. Ryan Youmans won the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.6 which makes him third in school history. Jake Dill was victorious in the 400-meter dash with a finishing time of 50.1.

Said Musse won the 800-meter dash with a time of 1:55.9 and Frank Ceniceros placed first in the 1500-meter dash with a time of 4:00.3.

In the 4x100-meter relay Taylor, Brown, Youmans and Shelby Buchanan, despite running with a leg injury, placed first overall with a time of 42.7.

In the field events Brent Twaddle continued his dominance in the shot-put with a toss of 177’2”. Ryan Yomans receives the baton from Tsekande Brown in the 4x100-meter relay in a meet last weekend.

Brian Smith took second with a time of 21.6 which makes him third in school history. Jake Dill was victorious in the 400-meter dash with a finishing time of 50.1.

For the Thunderbird Open, Taylor in the 110-meter hurdles, the 4x100-meter relay team and the 4x400 meter relay team.

The team now has a weekend off to prepare and rest for the upcoming NWAACC championship.

Ethan McDonald
Staff Reporter

One thing that all athletes fear at any level is injury. Unfortunately Highline track star David Blair has met this adversary head on and at the most deploitable time.

The fastest athlete on the Highline track team suffered a tear in his hamstring rounding a corner in the 200-meter dash at the Central Washington Invite on April 26. The injury will end Blair’s track career at Highline.

“I’m extremely upset and disappointed,” Blair said. “Just as I was turning I heard my hamstring snap. I felt a sharp stabbing pain that slowed me down immediately and I got off the track. I knew the minute it snapped my season was over since it had bothered me all year.”

“The major cause of hamstring injuries is the overpowering of the hamstring by the quadriceps muscles. So many athletes do not realize the importance of a balanced workout and stretching,” said Dr. Steve Calhoun of Auburn Sports Medicine.

Even worse than the nagging pain in his leg is the pain that lugs at his heart. “I feel that I’ve let my teammates down. They relied on me for points to win meets and to win the conference championship.”

Blair was favored to win the 100 and 200 meter dashes at the NWAACC championship but not an important piece to both the 400 and 1600 meter relay teams that are among the top of the conference. Replacing Blair on the 4x100 meter relay is Tsekande Brown and in the 1600 meter relay is Jake Dill. Blair will not let the injury get in his way as team captain. He still attends every meet lending advice and support.

“I try and let the guys know in time to step it up. Todd Girtz and Tsekande Brown have done a great job picking up the slack,” said Blair.

Fortunately for Blair he has secured his future as he will attend the University of Montana on a full ride scholarship next fall with plans to major in journalism.

Hamstring injury costs Blair promising track season

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T-Birds swing into playoffs

Softball team drops game to Walla Walla

David Blake
Staff reporter

The Highline Women's fast-pitch team faces off against No. 1 southern seed Clackamas in round one of the NWAC conference championships Friday at 11:30 in Postmaad.

The lady T-Birds enter the tournament as the No. 4 northern seed after losing a tie-breaker game against No. 3 Walla Walla 4-1 on Tuesday.

"We weren't mentally focused for this game. We knew what we needed to do, but we just didn't prepare. Mental errors cost us the game," Coach Cara Hoyt said.

The team had to play without third baseman Kristen Brown who is currently out with a strain in her left leg, and catcher Kim Hipol who acquired the same injury during Tuesday's game.

"It's all up in the air as to when they will be able to play, but hopefully they'll be ready by Friday," Hoyt said.

The team enters the tournament with a positive outlook on their ability to win.

"We have the ability to beat anyone, but it all depends on our mental concentration," Hoyt said.

The tournament is a double elimination series, so everyone enters the tournament even. It doesn't matter what our record was during the season, now is the time to come on and play." Hoyt said.

Friday's home double-header against No. 1 Spokane resulted in 5-1 and 8-0 losses.

The team had a hard time getting their rhythm going. "Errors hurt us, and our bats weren't there," Katie deCastro said.

T-Bird pitcher Katie deCastro winds up in a game last week.

"The entire game was a dogfight, going back and forth every inning."

Coach Hoyt said.

"We can beat Spokane. We got a lot of hit off of us, and we just couldn't get in our game," Coach Cara Hoyt said.

Sunday's make-up double-header at home against Edmonds resulted in a loss, making them one spot in the playoffs. The team lost the first game 4-1.

"The first game we were still trying to get back into our type of game, and not play like we did against Spokane," Hoyt said.

The T-Birds then came back in the second game to a well earned victory of 7-6 in the ninth inning.

"We hit well and played good defense. The entire game was a dog fight, going back and forth every inning," Hoyt said.

The team had four players named to play in the annual softball Sophomore All-Star Game next Thursday.

The players are Kristen Brown, outfielder Aliisa Garrels, shortstop/catcher Jen Franch, and second baseman Jill Butler.

Heart of Sonics pounds in playoffs

Never underestimate the heart of a champion! That's what Rady Tomovitch said two years ago as the Houston Rockets became NBA Champions. He witnessed this again, but this time not from his team. The Seattle Supersonics have already proved during the playoffs that they have the heart of a champion. They come back again and again, and as soon as their backs are against the wall they start playing.

The Western Conference Champions don't want to let go of their crown just yet. When everybody pronounces their doom, the Sonics show it back in everyone's face.

Down 3-1 against the Rockets, the Sonics came out with full intensity and dismantled the Rockets in Houston.

Now anything can happen. Even if they get eliminated from the playoffs this series the Sonics have proved that they have heart.

And what about Shawn Kemp? Everybody was criticizing him during the regular season, saying he should be traded and so on.

What are people saying now? Well, he's become the best thing since butter again. Come on people, stick by your players through thick and thin. Don't dis them when they are struggling. Support them! You're not a true fan if you can't support your team at all times.

This goes for the rollercoster support the Sonics have been receiving during the playoffs too. When they win everybody is happy, and when they lose everybody backs on them. Just listen to the radio and read the newspapers, and you will know what I'm talking about. Quit the bandwagon support, and decide if you're going to stick by your team at all times, or not at all.

The sort of bandwagon support that is frequently heard in this city makes me sick. I just don't understand what kind of fans you all are. Instead of bouncing back and forth between the Bulls, Jazz, Lakers, and so on, stay with one team through it all.

The fans should have a heart like the Sonics players have. OK, the Seattle fans are probably the loudest in the NBA, but when the visiting team suddenly makes a couple of shots they definitely become more quiet.

I'm not complaining about the support the Sonics receive, because we probably have the best fans in the league. All I'm saying is keep sticking with the Sonics through thick and thin.

The Sonics have proven again that they are an elite team in this league, and nobody can state that they are a soft team.

After all they are 6-1 in elimination games in the playoffs the last two seasons. This team drives on challenges, and that's when Sonics basketball is played at its best.

Jump on the bandwagon and stay them, or else just leave!

Student kicks her way to top

Tim Wyse
Sports Editor

If you have a class with Eryn Redmon, you probably don't want to pick a fight with her.

The Highline student won a national Taekwondo tournament last weekend in Oakland, Calif. and now has a shot at making the 2000 U.S. Olympic team.

The top four people in the state go to this tournament to compete. Redmon earned a second place in state and then moved on to nationals.

"When I got ready for my first national match, I was scared stiff," Redmon said.

More than 300 black-belts competed in this event. It was divided into several weight classes. Redmon had to compete with the heavyweights.

Each match consists of three rounds, each two minutes long, until the final match. The final match consists of three 5-minute rounds.

She had to compete in four fights at the national tournament. She won all four.

The first two matches she won quite convincingly, 6-1 and 7-1.

The third match was an interesting one. Redmon was in a close match until she landed a crushing kick to her opponent's kidney.

Her opponent was hurt so badly that she was not able to continue and had to be carried off on a stretcher.

The final fight was a struggle for Redmon, as she trailed going into the third round. After losing round one 2-1 and tying in round two 1-1, she had an uphill battle.

In the final 30 seconds of round three, she gave it all and won by decision.

"I think I won because I was more aggressive than she was," Redmon said. "I don't know what came over me, I just went nuts at the end of the fight and I started kicking the crap out of her.

If she performs well enough at national trials in Phoenix on June 14 and 15, you might see Redmon at the Olympics in Sydney Australia in the year 2000.

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Quilts aren't just for Grandmother

William Strasbaugh
Staff Reporter

A colorful display of handmade quilts are on exhibit in the fourth floor of the Library.

Made of small pieces of sewn cloth, the quilts make various patterns and designs. Quilting can be traced to ancient times when Chinese made quilted jackets for warmth. The Egyptians and Aztec warriors made quilted tunics as a form of protection.

During the 18th and 19th centuries, people quilted caps, jackets, undershirts, and coverlets to ward off the cold and stay warm.

Quilting became highly developed in the United States using scraps of imported Indian chintz, which was called Canton Patch Work or Applique.

The art declined with the invention of the sewing machine, but has since been revived. We now have quilting bees, quilt collectors, even quilting clubs and television programs.

Movies have been named after them, like "How to Make an American Quilt," and we can't forget the greatest quilt of them all, the national AIDS quilt.

The most popular styles are Lone Star Log Cabin and Wedding Ring.

As you start out into the display area, an eye-catching quilt called "Cosmic Vegetables" greets you. Designed by Lisa Swain, the quilt features a variety of vegetables and fruits. The colors are vibrant, and the composition is visually appealing.

This quilt is part of a larger exhibit that highlights the artistry and craftsmanship of quilting. The National Quilt Museum, located in Kentucky, is the largest museum dedicated to quilts in the United States.

The exhibit features a variety of quilts, including traditional designs, modern interpretations, and machine-made quilts. Visitors can learn about the history of quilting and the techniques used by quilters from around the world.

One-acts spring onto stage this week at HCC

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Arcturus shines at HCC

Jeff Wilkson
Staff Reporter

The student-produced Arcturus magazine will soon be appearing across the Highline campus. The free magazine should be out by the end of this week or early next week, said Arcturus adviser Alison Green. Arcturus is a yearly magazine which includes some of the finest work from Highline's student body and staff, including poetry, essays, short stories and artwork.

Submissions for the magazine are collected throughout the year. The deadline for submission is usually around the middle of February. This year, a total of 273 pieces were entered to the Arcturus staff. Fifty-two were selected for final use in the magazine.

Funding for Arcturus comes from the Student Activities Budget. This pays mostly for printing costs.

"It's such a great thing because it's student-generated," said Green. A reading will be held from noon - 1 p.m. and again at 7 - 9 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21 in Building 7. Writers featured will be reading some of their work from the magazine, and student musicians will perform. Refreshments will also be available.

Your name could be here.

Or your picture, drawing or sharp idea. You could be the next great student journalist to grace the pages of the Thunderword, soon-to-be once again Highline's award-winning student newspaper.

Here's what you do: Sign up for Journalism 101 either Summer or Fall Quarter. Or sign up for Journalism 215, Publication Production and Editing, for Fall Quarter.

Now seeking students for the following positions: Photo Editor, advertising sales rep., copy editor, distribution manager, archives manager. See T.M. Sell, adviser, in the T-word office Building 100, Room 106, 878-3710.

Arting Around

Arcturus shines at HCC

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Staff Reporter

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The Legislature ended by telling the Higher Education Coordinating Board to come up with a new plan by next year, or the eligibility for grant money will be based on the independent status of students, officials said. That idea was not well-received by school officials.

'Though I didn’t think it was a well thought out decision, and I’m glad that it’s been postponed until next year,” said Laura Saunders, vice president for administration.

A plan for grants to be based on the tuition of the school is being worked out, officials said. The workforce retraining program is de-funded, and the money will come from the General Fund.

State Rep. Karen Keise; who is also a chairwoman of Highline’s Board of Trustees, is still concerned about the future of the program. Under the current plan, the financial aid has been cut and will result in the loss of roughly 1,000 students nationwide from the program, she said.

Bruce Botka, state spokesman for technical and community colleges, said that the Legislature has basically shown its support for the program. “College performance signaled the need for workforce retraining,” Botka said.

Tuition will rise 4 percent each year for the next two years. The money will go to school programs, work-study grants and salary increases among other things.

All state employees will receive a one-time 3 percent increase effective July 1. The last raise was a one-time 4 percent.

Parking

Saunders made it clear that the penalty for illegal handicap parking will stay, she said. Nevertheless, the student coalition that community colleges have told their stories to the Legislature, and more importantly, the students have told about the benefits they have received from community colleges.

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