

The Thunderword

The voice of the students

Volume 37, Issue 8

Highline Community College

November 13, 1997



Wrestling team rolls over WWU. See page 7



'Under Milk Wood' floats drama's boat. See page 5



Parents have place to go for help. See page 8

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Some people are so fond of ill luck that they run half-way to meet it.

Douglas Jerrold

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Photo by Bruce Jarrell
Katrina Wilkinson and Christopher Louck, two Running Start students, discuss their classes at Highline.

Program passes test

Some instructors still concerned about maturity level of Running Start students however

By Ami Westberg
Staff Reporter

Over half, 55 percent, of Highline's instructors think that the Running Start Program is a good one.

Most of the remainder of the faculty, 34 percent, expressed mixed feelings toward the program.

Approximately 1 percent said that the whole thing is

bad.

The overall feeling toward the Running Start Program is positive. Very few express negativity to it. Most teachers agree that students who are not challenged in the high schools should have access to college level classes.

What concerns nearly every instructor at Highline is that while some students are mature enough to attend com-

munity college, many are not ready for such a drastic change.

"Readiness truly depends on the person. Good grades and scholastic aptitude do not denote emotional or mental readiness for college," said Mindy Dudley of the Foreign Language Department.

"But then what do we mean by ready?" said Allison Green, a writing instructor.

In order to participate in the Running Start Program, a student must take and pass the

See Running, page 8

Hearing draws one student

By K.M. Petersen
Staff Reporter

The hearing to begin revision of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code was largely unattended on Friday, Nov. 7.

Only one student was present at the hearing, which was held for the purpose of gathering student input about proposed changes in the code.

The Student Rights and Responsibilities Code will be receiving a make-over throughout this year, its first since 1992.

The code, which is part of the Washington Administrative Code, or WAC, is a set of laws governing student conduct and college administrative authority.

The hearing was the first step in gathering input about changes proposed by Dean of Students Michael Grubiak.

Committee members were on



Photo by Bruce Jarrell
Jerry Davis was the only student to speak at the hearing.

hand to hear students' feelings about possible changes. They were allowed to ask questions of speakers for clarification, but were not to debate the amendments.

"The purpose of today is listening," said Grubiak.

Of the nine committee members, the only ones present were

Grubiak, Yenerma De Las Alas, and Mike Armstrong. Multicultural Services Director Toni Castro was also present to observe the meeting's opening minutes.

Grubiak was unconcerned about the low attendance of the

See Students, page 8

Sorenson out for rest of quarter

By K.M. Petersen
Staff Reporter

Jim Sorenson, Highline vice president of student services, suffered a ruptured appendix on Sunday, Nov. 2.

President Ed Command said Sorenson dealt with a pain in his side until 9 p.m. when he went to Northwest Hospital in Shoreline. Sorenson was operated on at 2 a.m. the next morning.

Sorenson is expected to return home from the hospital at the end of this week, but, Command said, "The doctors will decide."

Visitors have been limited. "He's still pretty tired," Command said.

Overwhelming the recovering Sorenson with kindness is a concern. "I'd encourage people to hold off on visitors and gifts until he returns," Command said.

Command doesn't expect Sorenson to return to his position until the beginning of 1998.

During Sorenson's absence, Dean of Students Michael Grubiak will serve in the vice president's role.

"The way he runs things, everything has been so organized and up to date that it hasn't been a burden at all," Grubiak said, also citing the organization of Sorenson's staff.

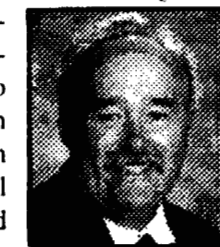
A ruptured appendix is simply the exploding of the appendix, according to medical assistant Pam Hill.

"It can happen at any time, age, or sex," she said.

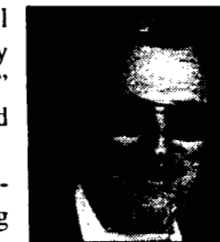
According to Dr. H. Winter Griffith, author of Instructions for Patients, symptoms include pain near the navel and abdomen, nausea, constipation, occasional diarrhea, low fever, and, in later stages, abdominal swelling. Medical attention should be immediately sought.

Sorenson looks to be making a full recovery from appendicitis, Command said.

"I visited him twice, and considering he had a ruptured appendix, he looked good," he said.



Sorenson



Grubiak

Instructor brings Latin America to HCC

By Tanya Foster
Staff Reporter

Erik Ching is one of the new staff members here at Highline this quarter. He teaches Modern Latin America and Coordinated Studies.

"I came to Highline because they offered me many opportunities," Ching said.

When most people hear his last name they assume he is Asian, but he actually got his name from a small town on the outside of London called Chingford.

Ching went to college at Pacific Lutheran University and the University of California, where he studied Modern Latin America.

He said that the role the American government played during the 1980s in El Salvador made him want to research it.

He took his desire to research to the point of moving to El Salvador. He lived there for one year during 1994-1995.

Ching said that was the most interesting place he has lived. He also has lived in California.

"Seattle is home to me, it's as nice as California, without all the weirdness," he said.

Ching enjoys playing basketball, but he said that once he reached his 30s, he had two knee injuries that forced him to tame down his sports to morn-



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Erik Ching says studying Latin America is very important.

ing swims.

Ching's one tip for college is to read, but he has his own objective for teaching.

"My main goal at Highline is to enable students have an appreciation for Latin America," Ching said.

Students may find tax break for college tuition

By Petr Borishkevich
Staff Reporter

Students who work and pay for college tuition may qualify for a tax break in the next two years.

As a part of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, passed by Congress last August, working students may qualify for a host of tax credits.

The Act offers taxpayers two tax credits for payments made for qualified tuition and fees (books are not included): the HOPE Scholarship Credit, and the Lifetime Learning Credit.

The HOPE Scholarship Credit allows taxpayers to claim a maximum credit of \$1,500. The first time you claim 100 percent of \$1,000 of tuition and fees, and next time, you claim 50 percent of \$1,000 of tuition and fees.

If you paid for school expenses after Dec. 31, 1997, you can apply for the HOPE Scholarship Credit.

The Lifetime Learning Credit allows taxpayers to claim a maximum credit equal to 20 percent up to \$5,000 for paid

tuition. It will go up to \$10,000 beginning in the year 2003. You can claim money if you will pay for school after June 30, 1998.

There are limits for qualified expenses of the taxpayer, taxpayer's spouse, or dependent of the taxpayer.

You can apply for both credits if you make between \$40,000 and \$50,000 a year or between \$80,000 and \$100,000 if the taxpayer claims with a spouse.

Each of the two qualifying students (spouse or dependent of the taxpayer) must choose to claim only one of these benefits per year.

To claim the credits, taxpayers are required to give the name and taxpayer identification number of the student on the return. Educational facilities are required to report any information that relates to education tuition and expenses, including refunds of such expenses, paid during the taxable year.

Information about tax breaks for students is limited right now. If you want to know more information, call the IRS in December at 206-442-1040 and ask about publication 553.



Men of Highline

Watch the Men of Highline strut their stuff today in the upper level of Building 8 from noon - 2 p.m. Twelve of these dashing young men will be chosen to represent Highline in a 1998 calendar. Contestants will be judged on fashion sense, opinions on current issues and public speaking ability.

Desert social today

A desert social will be held tonight in Building 8 at 7 p.m. The gathering is in honor of former Highline Board members and trustees, scholarship donors and recipients.

Staff vs. Women Thunderbirds

Come see the Highline faculty and staff battle it out with the Women T-Birds today at 12:30 in the Pavilion. Admission is \$1 or two cans of food for the Des Moines Food Bank.

Job Club meeting

The Job Club will meet today in Building 23, Room 108 from 12:05 - 1:30 p.m. This free event will focus on "Diversity! Making yourself a more valuable employee." Sebrenna Burr from Nordstrom will speak.

Calling all artists

Win \$25 for designing the best poster that conveys a message about smoking and its effects.

Submissions must be turned in to the Associated Students of Highline Community College office by Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, contact Yenerma De Las Alas at ext. 3315.

Dance tomorrow

The Club Highline Dance is tomorrow in the upper level of Building 8 from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Tickets are available from the Student Programs office and the Team Highline office both located in Building 8 for \$3.

Meet with UW rep

A representative from the University of Washington evening degree program will be on campus Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Building 6 by the bookstore.

Holiday Giving Tree

A giving tree to benefit children and teens affected by AIDS

will be in Building 8 from Nov. 24 - Dec. 12.

Toys, clothes and money are needed for donations.

Givers may choose the age, gender and type of gift to donate.

This project is being sponsored by ASHCC and Phi Theta Kappa.

For more information, contact Bettina Casad, ext. 3315.

Dinner and Karaoke for Thanksgiving

A traditional Thanksgiving dinner, along with singing songs in English, Spanish and Japanese will be Wednesday, Nov. 26 from noon-2:30 in Building 2.

Tickets are \$4 from the Student Programs office. Contact Yumi Okuwaki, ext. 3537.

Seattle University

is pleased to announce the introduction of \$3,000 Bellarmine Scholarships for transfer students entering Winter and Spring Quarters.

Please contact Admissions at
(206) 296-5800
for further information



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Preschool puts parents back in classroom



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Neena Mendiola scoots her way through Highline preschool.

By Tanya Foster
Staff Reporter

Now parents can go back to preschool with their children.

Co-op preschool is a program where the whole family can get involved in the learning of a young person in the family. It is a non-profit organization affiliated with the Highline Community College Parent Education Department.

Teacher Darcy Read has come up with a program that includes the whole family in the beginning of their child's education. The day starts at 10 a.m. and ends at noon.

Many activities are available in the classroom. There are table toys, rice tables, floor toys, science projects, art projects, easels and many other activities.

In an area called the home center, depending on the study

idea, the area will be a kitchen, post office, log cabin, tent and other things.

Also when the weather permits, the children are taken outside for activities. These activities include playing in a sandbox, running around the track and throwing airplanes off balconies.

The school also goes on a field trip once a month. This trip can vary from the zoo to the grocery store to watching an ice sculpture being formed.

A room is also provided where a parent can watch and listen to his or her child to see how they are doing without them being present.

"We have this room because many parents know their child can sometimes be better when they are not there," said Michelle Jones, a parent volunteer.

A class is offered for 3-year-olds and another for 4 to 5-year-olds. In both of these classes participation is not forced, but is encouraged. The 3-year-old class meets once a week and the 4 to 5-year-old class meets twice a week.

A maximum of 18 students is allowed per class. At this time, 10 students are in the 3-year-old class and 16 are in the 4-year-old class.

When possible, there are five parents in the classroom.

Read, the teacher, along with a person from the Highline Community Parent Education Department is available for the parents to ask questions about problems they may be having with their children.

To get involved in the program call Darcy Read at 941-7810 or visit Building 24, Room 115.

College in a College graduates to higher enrollment

By Alyssa Pfau
Staff Reporter

As the College in a College program moves into its second year of existence, staff and faculty are preparing for an increase in enrollment.

"Last fall there were only 15 students enrolled in the program, this fall there are 80 students enrolled," said Laura Westergard, program coordinator for College in a College.

If current growth rates continue, Westergard expects enrollment to be up around 150 by the end of the year.

"It's important to understand that this program started from scratch," Westergard said. It's an experimental program; no other community college has a program that even resembles College in a College, she said.

Jack Bermingham, vice president of academic affairs, came up with the idea for College in a College. Bermingham hopes the program will emulate the community environment he sees enhancing smaller residential colleges; an environment Highline is lacking.

"The main goal of the program is to prepare students to more efficiently and effectively transfer to a four-year college," said Bruce Roberts, faculty coordinator for College in a College.

According to both Roberts and Westergard, College in a College better prepares students to transfer to a four-year college by doing two things: enhancing the Associate of Arts degree and creating a cohort on campus. The program uses the word cohort to label the close-knit community it strives to achieve.

To create a cohort it is necessary for students to take some classes together in the afternoon Westergard said. They need to interact with their fellow students, their teachers and their adviser.

"Interaction is an important part of college life," Roberts said.

First-year students are required to take 10 credits between noon and 4:30 p.m. and second-year students only have to take five credits during this time frame.

The reason for this requirement is that the campus is not as crowded in the afternoon; therefore, teachers and advisers are able to give students more personal attention. In addition, the same groups of students are taking classes together in the afternoon, so inevitably they will get to know one another.

A two-credit freshmen seminar class is required during a student's first quarter in the program. In addition to learning how to succeed in college the

course also gives students a chance to meet other people involved in the program right away. This quarter 40 to 50 students are enrolled in the course, Westergard said.

The students also work together to plan and organize social activities put on by the program. Such social activities include guest speakers, workshops, and seminars. Through these activities students gain leadership and social skills as well as social camaraderie, said Westergard.

College in a College coordinators have taken the regular Associate of Arts degree and enhanced it by adding specific requirements. These requirements include the freshman seminar course, an integrated study course, an American Institutions course, a diversity course and a global perspectives course. In addition, students are required to complete a project or internship that expands their learning experience into a real world experience.

Westergard said that through these specific course requirements students gain the knowledge, critical thinking skills and group interaction skills which will allow them to succeed in a four-year college, and in the work place.

Rachel Thorne, a second year College in a College student,



Laura Westergard

says that she feels as if she is a part of a community within a community college.

"What I like best about the program is that it connects you with motivated people who have similar goals as yourself," Thorne said.

College in a College coordinators seem to be excited about an increase in the enrollment. They are continuing to market

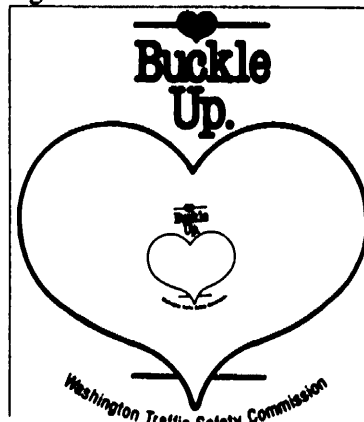
College in a College by working with the outreach program to recruit high school graduates and anyone who is serious about getting a good college education.

Promotional efforts include: going out to local high schools and local events, such as fairs; mass mailing to students registered for fall quarter; and promotional items.

"I am not worried about an increase in enrollment because more students will only strengthen the community environment," Westergard said.

Westergard adds that they will deal with future enrollment increases by offering more afternoon classes and increasing the number of staff and faculty available to afternoon students.

For more information about the program contact Laura Westergard at 878-3710, ext. 3135 or go to the College in a College office located in Building 6, Room 241.



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Editorial

Welfare reform gives students grief

The new welfare reform enacted on Nov. 1 could do more harm than good.

The Washington Work First Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Act may make students go to work 20 or more hours a week, or look for full-time work while continuing to come to Highline, in order to receive welfare benefits.

The new act requires recipients to take the first job available, no matter how little the job may pay.

WorkFirst will eliminate entitlement to cash assistance and put a lifetime limit of five years on cash assistance to needy families with children.

Students can be deferred from WorkFirst if they have a child under 1 year old, yet they must comply when the child turns 1.

This new plan makes it much more difficult for students on welfare to keep attending school. Some students may end up having to quit going to school in order to have time to work and take care of their children.

Before WorkFirst, welfare recipients could go to school on their own while receiving public assistance.

WorkFirst is anticipating to drop the overall cost to society for public assistance, yet could very well do the opposite.

Students can not be expected to get well-paying jobs without any proper job skills. If more and more students are unable to attend school due to this new reform, then the number of people on welfare cannot be expected to get any lower.

The new welfare reform laws may provide temporary reductions in welfare spending, but will not get people out from under the poverty line.

Close to 1,000 students are on welfare who attend Highline. Many of them are afraid that the new laws will force them to drop out of school in order to go to work.

If the state wants to help people get better paying jobs and eventually be free of welfare, then they should reform the welfare laws accordingly so.

Students fail to speak up for rights

Students failed to show up at an open hearing for revisions on the Student Rights and Responsibility Code last Friday.

An update of the code was deemed necessary by a group of Highline staff and students. The code was last revised in 1992, and deals with rules governing student conduct and what levels of discipline the college administration is allowed.

The open hearing was held at 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Building 23, Room 111. All students were encouraged to attend, which was fitting since these codes directly affect the rights of all Highline students.

Once again students felt no reason to come and add some input to the future of their school.

It's true, that by the time these revisions of the student rights code would be initiated, most of the students now attending Highline would be finished here. This could be part of the reason why only one student are willing to spend any of their time giving suggestions and ideas about revisions that have to do with the school.

Students should participate in open hearings like this one so as to help improve the school for future students.

Although, the lack of student participation could also be a result of not knowing the event was being held. There was very little publicity given throughout the campus about the hearing.

Students need to voice their opinions on initiatives that are based on students rights and privileges. Its your school.



High school following me to Highline

Highline's new advertising slogan should be Highline Community College: just a bigger high school where you pay.

Oh, boy do you pay. (By the way, where is that loan I'm supposed to be getting? Those financial aid people better get their stuff together.)

I thought I left high school behind when I graduated.

When I left I was glad to be rid of some of those pesky underclassmen who always have some stupid joke, witty comment, or some other thing I could definitely do without.

Now I find out that these people are Running Start students here at Highline. Their jokes

Itchin' and Scratchin'
By Michael Stampalia

have not gotten better.

By the way, how many Running Start students does it take to screw in a light bulb?

One thing that hasn't changed is attendance policies. How many people do you know who actually miss fewer than five days of class per quarter?

I don't mean to sound like a sour puss.

At least at Highline you actually miss something when you

are gone.

Highline does have its outstanding qualities.

The athletic teams are great, and people, other than parents, actually attend the games.

The cafeteria food is better, but I could pay half what they charge at 7-Eleven, where ripping customers off is their specialty.

The student government actually has power here. I still have not seen them actually do anything with it though.

At least I don't go to Green River.

Michael Stampalia is a Thunderword staff reporter. He wrote this under duress.

Soap Box

It's time for you to have your say, and this is the place: The Thunderword opinion section. Soap Box offers faculty, staff, students, heck, even administrators a chance to say what's on their minds. Write your head off -- we'll make it fit. We will edit for style and grammar, but the choice of topic is yours. All you have to do is get it down on paper (or a 3.5-inch computer disk, if you're really cool) and get it to:

David Blair
Opinion Editor
The Thunderword
Building 10,
Room 106
Mail Stop 10-3.

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Starship Troopers land at HCC

Yesterday, I was lucky enough to see that great new sci-fi flick, "Starship Troopers."

It was completely cheesy, full of fake blood, and gorier than Thanksgiving for a family of turkeys.

But it was one of those near epic-proportion films, and somehow it moved me.

Walking out of the theater, I was suddenly Johnny Rico, the main character. It was us against the bugs.

Lisa's World



By Lisa Curdy

My combat buddy, Diz, was by my side, and she covered me on the way out to the parking lot.

The bugs could attack at any time.

Getting into her intergalactic space pod (or was that a Honda?), we blasted out of the lot.

Only moments later, we were nearly frontally assaulted by an enemy intergalactic space pod (very much like a Nissan).

My pilot Diz had to all but army crawl out of its way, in order to avoid total annihilation by the thing.

Safe and good, we cruised back to the home planet ready to relax with our fellow homies.

But jaunting out of the pod, we found ourselves completely surrounded by skittery crunchy creatures (hey, it's fall, the leaves were attacking.)

Running like the half-in-shape troopers that we were, we escaped danger faster than any elementary school kid this side of the Palouse.

Ripping the doors open James Bond style, we fortified camp against all incoming skittering crunchy creatures.

Diz and I felt good about our combat, but had one last mission.

The door to our space doggy den was locked, and the lunar lights were extinguished.

Things did not look good.

Frightened we were not. For, alas, we were Starship Troopers.

Letting loose a leather-lunged "heeeee ya," Diz and I bashed the door down.

Next time you feel stupid, just think of what it's like explaining why you girlie-screamed into a room, trying to be a Starship Trooper.

Lisa Curdy is Arts Editor and didn't appreciate the movie like most good Americans did.

Drama walks 'Under Milk Wood'

By Santi Permpool
Staff Reporter

Highline College's Drama Department presents their quarterly play, "Under Milk Wood," by Dylan Thomas.

Show times will be 8 p.m. Nov. 13-15 and Nov. 20-22 in the Little Theatre next to Building 5.

"Under Milk Wood" is a poetic ensemble directed by Christiana Taylor, drama department director, about a day in the lives of Welsh townspeople.

Christiana Taylor, drama department director, had to choose between, "The Grand Hotel," and "Under Milk Wood."

She ended up choosing "Under Milk Wood," her favorite of the two.

The setting for "Under Milk Wood" is a small Welsh town where the personalities and dreams of townspeople are acted throughout the course of their daily activities.

"Under Milk Wood" was originally written as a radio play.

"The script is very poetic, rich and descriptive in language," said Rick Lorig, costume and set designer. "This production is not contemporary American drama."



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Tiffany Pfaff and Vincent James Tula pretend to sleep in "Under Milk Wood."

The students are challenged to learn about Welsh life and incorporate the accent of the language into the production.

"The language is what's tough for me," said Jessica Anderson, first-year drama student.

"Under Milk Wood" features 30 student actors.

"Twenty of the 30 actors are brand new first-year drama department students," said Taylor.

This cast will be the largest number of new students in a

production.

Students auditioned the second week of the quarter, and had to recite a prepared monologue.

Most who auditioned made the cut, and then began preparations for the play.

For the large set of "Under Milk Wood," as many as 15 students helped create the set.

Rick Lorig was in charge of designing the set, and was helped by students enrolled in theatre and stage craft class.

Countless hours were spent

working on the set to build a three-level platform, which serves as different locations in the town.

Also built was a tall lookout tower and a bridge.

"The set is definitely a sight to behold," said Megan Playle, one of the actors in the production.

General admission is \$6, and \$5 for students.

Plays are produced each quarter, and all proceeds are recycled back into the budget.

Alpine reaches peak at Comedy Cafe

By Lisa Curdy
Arts Editor

Comedy Cafe trounced into Highline last Friday, bringing with it some serious chuckles.

Local comedian Kermit Holiday opened the show, throwing out quips about alcohol abuse. Perhaps the funniest part about that segment of his spiel was the fact that he was, unknowingly, performing for a house full of Alcoholics Anonymous members.

That was followed by the safe practice of making fun of one's self, as Holiday touted

himself as the "world's skinniest comedian."

He went on to joke that he used two wallets in his rear pockets, to give the illusion of a nice set of buttocks.

The audience warmed up quickly, and Holiday had a decent 35-minute set.

After Holiday was the featured comic, Chris Alpine.

A veteran of Northwest comedy, Alpine was a rapid-fire funny man.

No one escaped his shtick. Boeing, Bellevue-ites, Canadians, and computers all received several blows.

Team Highline puts on dance

By Alyssa Pfau
Staff Reporter

Put on a snazzy outfit, grab your dancing shoes, and head out to Highline tomorrow night for a guaranteed good time.

Team Highline presents the "Club Highline" dance on Friday, Nov. 14 from 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Simulated fog and state-of-the-art laser lights have been arranged to enhance the decor of Building 8, and a DJ from KUBE 93 will be spinning the tunes.

"We're expecting a big turn out," said Menna Tesfatsion, dance coordinator.

"This is my first year at

Highline and I am going because it should be a lot of fun and I want to get to know some new people," student Fanta Diakite said.

"The dance is being held in efforts to give students an outlet to release some stress," Tesfatsion said.

You never know you might just meet the guy or girl of your dreams. That is part of the reason student Senaca Hector is going.

"I want to meet some fine girls and see how well they can dance," Hector said.

Tickets are on sale now for \$3 and can be purchased at either the Team Highline office.

Perhaps the funniest was his view on the futility of keeping the tray table in an airplane in its upright position.

Alpine set up the scenario where you were in a plane, the plane was crashing, and the pilot comes on to remind you to flip up your tray.

He went on to say that, when you're body is being thrown into the side of a mountain, you could care less about your table tray bonking you on the head.

It was some pretty funny stuff.

Even audience members weren't spared, as Kayleen Oka

of Student Programs was picked at with Alpine's sarcastic wit.

Alpine related well to the audience because he was a local, and this personalized his set.

Hoots, hollers, and tears of laughter flowed throughout the audience during Alpine's hour-long routine.

When all was over, the audience left satisfied.

Comedy Cafe is featured once a quarter in the Tazza Cafe, and is put on by Team Highline. Comedy Cafe will come to Highline again Feb. 6 and May 1, 1998.



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Search for volleyball coach begins, again

Burkett fired after end of 1-11 season

By Jennifer Francis
Staff Reporter

Highline volleyball Coach Tanya Burkett has been fired. Athletic Director Fred Harrison said Wednesday.

Burkett was canned on Tuesday, her brief Highline career spiked by her team's slide from first to worst in one year.

Harrison said the team's 1-11 record wasn't the problem.

"I didn't fire her because of the win-loss record. There are many things I have to look at, which includes if the coach and team is happy and if they are advancing in their skills and if they are learning anything. It was in my best judgment to find a new coach for next year's season," he said.

Burkett was hired last August

after the abrupt resignation of longtime coach John Littleman. Under Littleman, the T-Birds took first place in the Northern Division of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges.

The T-Birds finally won a league match last Wednesday against Olympic, before closing out the season with a Friday loss to Bellevue and a Monday loss to Skagit Valley.

But Littleman's sudden departure left Burkett with no time to recruit and only one returning player.

"She was thrown into the job about one week before the season started. If it weren't for Tanya there most likely would

"I am not sure if I will be asked back because . . . my record isn't the greatest."

-- Tanya Burkett, before her firing



"I didn't fire her because of the win-loss record...if it wasn't for Tanya, we would've had to forfeit the season."

-- Fred Harrison, Athletic Director

not have been a volleyball team this year," Harrison said. "We would have had to forfeit the season."

Recruiting wasn't the only struggle. The team became plagued with injuries. At one point girls had to play hurt just so they would have enough girls to play the match.

"Even though we have had a losing season, it has not been a wasted season," Burkett said a few weeks ago. "The team has gone through a lot this season and I have learned from that. We have a lot of individual talent but it took a long time for us

to learn to play as a team."

First year player Heather Vistaunet heard about the volleyball team through her Highline counselor, Margo Buchan, so she decided to walk on. "The team has a lot of individual talent, and Tanya really knows the game, but we need to have more disciplined practices," Vistaunet said. Observers say it was not uncommon to see Burkett eating during practices.

"Tanya really knows the game but doesn't teach it well," said the only returning player, Michaela Eischen.

"There wasn't much recruit-

ing done, whoever came out, came out," Eischen said. "Coach always asked for suggestions from us, but never went with them."

Late in the season, Burkett said she might be facing a short tenure at Highline. "I am not sure if I will be asked back because for many, many years the team has had winning seasons under Littleman, and my record isn't the greatest," she said.

Burkett was unavailable for comment after the firing.

The process of finding a new coach is already under way. "I want this done quickly so the new coach will have time to recruit and prepare for the next season," Fred Harrison said. Harrison is looking at a couple of prospects for the job but said he could not release the names until they are contacted.

"I want to emphasize that Tanya saved the volleyball team this year, I just don't think she understood the time commitment this job would entail. She is trying to juggle a full time job, a child and her coaching job. I just don't think she was prepared for what was expected of her," Harrison said.

Cross country team finishes third, best in six years

By David Blair
Staff Reporter

The Highline cross country team placed third at the annual NWAACC conference championships held at Oregon City last Saturday.

This year's third place finish is the best showing for the Highline cross country team in six years.

The team was led by top sophomore runners Brian Smith and Frank Cenicerros who took fifth and sixth place out of a field of 56 runners.

Smith finished fifth in the five mile course in a time of 25:55, which was 53 seconds faster than he had ran on the same course earlier this year.

Cenicerros powered past Spokane runner Brandon Hauver by mere inches to take a sixth place



Brian Smith, second from left, finished fifth Saturday.

finish running a time of 26:20.

"The team stepped up to what we had to do," Cenicerros said.

"He (Cenicerros) looked tired during the middle of the race, but finished real strong," Coach Frank Ahern said.

Coming in at 15th and 16th place for the T-Birds were Andy Gist and Todd Lopata. Gist improved his time on this course by 28 seconds running a time of 26:47. Lopata came in right behind Gist in a time of 27:05.

Rob Sundine of Highline finished 23rd, running 27:28, and improving his time on this course by 27 seconds.

Pat Boyd and Prahlad Friedman finished strong, placing 32nd and 48th place respectively.

"The team did a very good job. This was collectively our best race all year," Ahern said.

Taking first place in the meet was Spokane Community College, scoring 30 points.

"Spokane is one of the best community college teams in the nation. They have repeatedly beaten every small university cross country team in the state all year," Ahern said.

Lane Community College finished second, scoring 62 points. Highline missed second place by a margin of three points, scoring 65.

"We were very close for sec-

ond. It could have gone either way. I'm very pleased with how they did, practices were very good, and they competed well," Ahern said.

The team now looks ahead, after having such an excellent season this year.

"Now that cross country is over, we can start looking forward to track season later this year. Hopefully we can finish the year off by beating Spokane and Lane on the track this

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Western presents no challenge for T-Birds



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Aaron Hall uses a head-and-arm pinning combination against his opponent last Friday.

By Brian Scalabrino
Staff Reporter

The Highline T-Bird wrestling team was ready to hit the mat on Friday. Too bad the other team showed up with only four wrestlers.

Western Washington brought four guys to the match last Friday at 3:30 p.m. Highline took care of all of them, by going 4-0. The rest of the T-Birds wrestlers did what they do in every practice, wrestle each other.

Nelson Crisanto, who is wrestling at 126 pounds, made weight but chose to wrestle at the next weight class of 136 pounds. He didn't get the pin

but came away with a 10-5 win.

One of the most exciting matches of the day was the clash of Highline's heavyweights, of Jason Olson and Mark Kissler. They both battled to the end and Olson came away with a two-point victory.

Coming up for the T-Bird wrestling team is their first league match. It will be here at the Thunderdome against Yakima Valley Community College this Saturday at 1 p.m.

The Highline cheer team is looking for people to cheer the T-Bird wrestling team this year. If you are interested you should contact Jenna Burkard at (206) 439-1397 or Diana Saville (253) 927 4401.

Soccer teams close out season with losses

Injury-plagued season slows Lady T-Birds

By Michael Stampalia
Staff Reporter

"Evening Magazine" cameras were on hand as Highline played at Edmonds last Wednesday. The Lady T-birds finished their season by losing 4-1.

The cameras were there to get video footage for a story Evening Magazine will air on Jean Wilcoxon and her daughters Farah and Tracy.

The Lady T-birds began the season expecting to make the playoffs and go back to the championship game and win the NWAACC title.

Assistant Coach Tracy Brigham said that she thought the girls had given up, knowing that they had already been eliminated from the playoffs.

It was the 10th time in their last 11 games that they failed to score more than two goals, a trend that began with injuries to both Chrissy Keeley and Tracy Wilcoxon.

Jamie Johanson, Tracy Wilcoxon and Keeley were supposed to anchor a powerful offense that would compliment what would be one of the league's best defenses.

They only played together for three games all season. In each of those games the Thunderbirds scored four goals and outshot their opponents by sizable margins.

They destroyed both Wenatchee and Green River in 4-0 shutouts, the only two games where all three girls started together.

But the victory over Green River was a costly one.

Wilcoxon was injured after scoring her second goal of the

game, by a Green River player who took her out as payback.

Keeley went down in the next game against Lower Columbia, which was the T-birds' first loss of the season.

Johanson went on to lead the team with 10 goals after returning from injuries that forced her to miss the first two games of the season.

Wilcoxon did not return from torn knee ligaments and still harbored bitterness towards Green River.

"They're cheap. There are four or five players on their team who are so cheap they shouldn't be allowed to play," Wilcoxon said.

Green River's coach was ejected by referees near the end of the game.

"Their coach was yelling at his players to take us out," Wilcoxon said.

The Lady T-birds didn't make it to the championship game like they expected at the beginning of the season, or even the playoffs.

But at least on "Evening Magazine," they'll look like they won, Brigham said.

Last-game loss takes care of playoff chances

By Nathan Golden
Staff Reporter

The Highline men's soccer team won against Edmonds 3-0, but suffered losses to Wenatchee 2-1, and Spokane 3-2, placing them third in the East League, one seat shy of the playoffs.

Co-captain Ryan Hinkson said he was very frustrated with the losses because Highline defeated both Wenatchee and Spokane earlier this season.

"We outplayed both teams. We just couldn't put the ball in the back of the net," Hinkson said.

A win against Wenatchee on Nov. 8 would have sealed a playoff spot for Highline, no matter if they would have won or lost to Spokane.

After losing to Wenatchee, the Highline "Rippers" traveled to Spokane last Monday, Nov. 10, for an all-or-nothing game.

Likewise, Spokane also needed to win if they wanted a chance at regaining their championship title for the second year in a row.

Steve Mullinax, left midfielder for Highline, said the adrenaline was pumping, and the team was ready to play.

Spokane scored first and held a 1-0 lead going into half. Highline responded with a goal by Mullinax soon after halftime, tying the score 1-1.

After the goal, Mullinax said the team expended physically and verbally, knowing if they held the tie or won, they would be in the playoffs.

Spokane soon calmed the team down, leaving Highline down 3-1.

Co-captain Tony Rolewicz scored off a penalty kick, bringing them within one goal.

"Highline had three opportunities to score, but couldn't finish any of them.

Hinkson and Mullinax said the bus ride home from Spokane was very long, and quite, with no one talking for most of the five-hour drive.

Hinkson said the team played up to their potential, but they weren't able to put the game away when they had chances to.

Despite the loss, Hinkson said the team played its heart out.

Highline defeated Wenatchee earlier in the season, 2-1. Mullinax said the team was a bit calky going into the game.

Wenatchee scored first and held it's lead until Randy Rolewicz scored midway through the second half, tying the game, 1-1.

Wenatchee scored soon after, leaving Highline down by one, searching for an opportunity to score.

It was a disappointing loss. We dominated the game, but couldn't finish," Mullinax said.

The Rippers shutout Edmonds, 3-0 on Nov. 5.

Randy Rolewicz knocked a header in, giving Highline an early 1-0 lead.

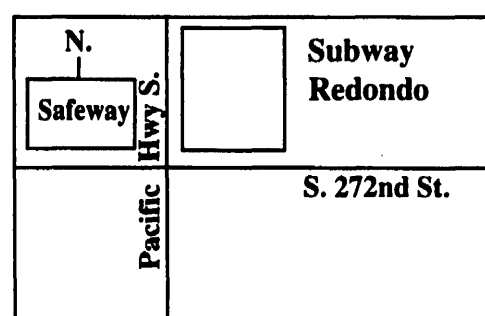
Gerry DiPietro and Chris Russell picked up the other two goals in the shutout.

Highline finished the year with an 11-7-0 record.

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Parents Place provides support

By Candice Fenison
Staff Reporter

The Parents Place is a parenting/family learning resource center located in Building 23, Room 114 across from the Library.

"Our mission is to support parents' desires to have the opportunity to learn how to develop and strengthen parenting skills and their need to access resources to assist them with having a healthy family," according to the Parents Place mission statement.

Parents Place was activated in March 1995 because, "a greater need was identified than what the existing services (e.g. Child Care Center) provided," Program Coordinator Carolyn Davis said.

Student Parent Education and Kids (SPEAK) club members and other parents helped mobilize faculty, staff, and administration to apply for resources and grants for Parents Place. SPEAK club is the advisory committee for Parents Place and addresses family and



Photo by Bruce Jarrell

Parents Place provides programs and opportunities for parents to hone their skills.

child-related needs on campus.

The program center is open daily, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and extended evening hours are available by appointment. Free coffee, tea, and refreshments are served 9-11 a.m. everyday.

The program offers workshops, lectures, support discus-

sion groups, individualized parenting and family consultation, and community resource information and referrals.

"All activities that we provide are to promote positive adult-child interaction," Davis said.

A series of sessions for parenting for families with de-

velopmental disabilities, a support group for single parents, sessions for managing family and finance, and balancing work and family are a few of the resources Parents Place offers.

For more information on what Parents Place has to offer, or to volunteer, contact Carolyn Davis at ext. 3030.

Students

continued from page 1

committee. "We just have to have somebody here to take note of what was said," he said.

The only speaker to arrive, however, was second-year C.I.S. student Jerry Davis.

Davis's main concerns were the possible discipline for students disrupting normal office flow, possible student abuse of no-contact orders, and monitoring off-campus violations.

His main concern was sanctions against students disrupting normal administrative office flow. "We aren't on the best personal relationships...to get a straight answer, sometimes it's almost as if I need a lawyer," Davis said.

Davis was in favor of the proposed no-contact orders for stalked students, but he warned the committee that some students could attempt to abuse their availability.

"Students that just don't like each other could go and tell [Grubiak]," he said.

Monitoring off-campus violations was another concern for Davis.

The code faces a long road ahead. The committee reviewing the code will meet throughout the year before making a final recommendation.

A hearing, at which any person in the state can testify, will be held later in the process.

The review committee's final recommendation will be reviewed by committees on campus, and by the college president.

"This is only the first step in a process of involving the campus community," Grubiak said.

Ultimately, it must be approved by the Board of Trustees in order to become WAC law.

Running

continued from page 1

ASSET Test. (All students who wish to attend Highline must take and pass the ASSET Test).

They must also have an Authorization Form to Register. This includes a mandatory parent/guardian signature.

To complete the process, the student has to make an appointment to see his/her high school counselor. They discuss grades, test scores, and graduation requirements to determine if Run-

ning Start would be the best choice for that particular student.

In the end it is the high school counselor who determines if the student is prepared to go to college or not.

On the other hand, Running Start is not wildly popular at the high schools. Students must actually go looking for the information about how to register.

"They don't promote it at all," said Siobhan Nelson, a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School.

This is Nelson's second year

at Highline and she feels optimistic about her education and the Running Start Program.

"I am doing much better than last year. The classrooms here are much better for learning. There isn't so much messing around," she said.

"Some Running Start students are attentive and intelligent. Many others are disruptive, giggle, talk while others are talking, pass notes, and are unprepared," said one instructor who felt differently.

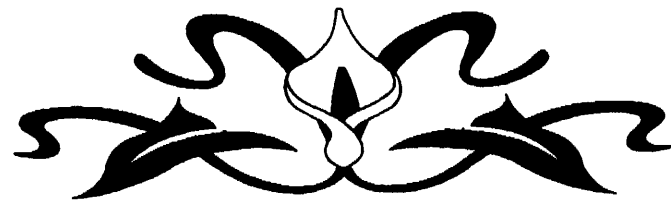
Chris Wilson, a student at Highline agrees 100 percent.

"Running Start students are rude, obnoxious, and distracting to learning," he said.

Nancy Morrow of the Art Department said that the Running Start students are probably no different than the incoming freshman.

The general consensus seems to be that while some Running Start students are prepared to take college classes, some are not.

"Some of my mid-thirties students are ready for college," said Clinton a speech instructor. "Some are not."



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