Volume 37, Issue 51
Highline Community College
July 16, 1998

Science building undergoes metamorphosis

By Sarah Spoor
Staff Reporter

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"This is the most challenging time I have ever experienced.

By Hien "ran"
Staff Reporter

Asian students say financial pain is real

"My parents had to borrow money from my grandparents so I could stay.

By W. Howard West Jr.
and Young Lee
Staff Reporters

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Women's Programs forced to cut four

By Blaine Treas
Staff Reporter

Women's Programs have been forced to cut four members because of cuts in funding.

The program lost a $57,000 grant, one of three Carl Perkins grants that was used to pay for five staff members. Highline's Women's Programs has established a solid framework, according to the Perkins Program Committee Chairperson, S.M. Osborn of the Port of Seattle, the state's only。(ENS) has relaxed some requirements to help the program, yet the program is still forced to cut four members.

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International enrollment has declined since 1985, however this year academic year the increase dropped from 104 percent to less than 10.

See page 2

U.S. dollar in the last year, the monetary income automatically fell by half. In addition, because of the economic situation in their home, they only receive half of what they used to. Thus, Kim has to live on a smaller income now. He rents a room for $250, where he can cook his own food for himself. His daily meal has switched from what he used to get by on. "I don't know how long I could live this way. This is the most challenging time I have ever experienced in my life," Kim said. "Even if I go back to my country, there is nothing I can do there because everybody there is higher than 10 percent and the business is more likely to increase instead of decrease for the next several years."

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**Phone made wheelchair friendly**

By Beth Carroll

Staff Reporter

For more than one year Roger Learn was left stranded, unable to make phone calls after his evening classes. From the date of its original installation until Spring Quarter '93, the phone booth just outside of Building 21 resembled one from the movie Superman. Unfortunately, if Superman was bound to a wheelchair for the rest of his life, he would find another place to change into his Superman suit.

Learn knows this firsthand. A computer information systems major, he is a 43-year-old para-plitic attending classes at Highline.

"As a manual wheelchair user Learn knows the physical campus on a very personal level," said Jim Field, Highline's director of Access Services. Learn pointed out the phone booth to Field about a year ago. He couldn't get his front wheels into the booth, making it impossible for him to reach the phone. Being restricted to a wheelchair and unable to drive, Learn relies on the phone to make all equipment ADA accessible.

"I couldn't use the phone because they are required to make all equipment ADA compatible," Lopez said.

The new phones are equipped with LCD readers, volume enhancements, and are at a lower height than the older phones allowing better access.

"This new phone will serve the next generation of Highline students in ways that the old phone could not," Field said.

By Clifford Elder

Staff Reporter

In spite of the Asian financial crisis, Highline has the highest number of international students who have ever attended during summer. However, the rate of increase for international enrollment has almost come to a complete halt.

Jake Huls, an international adviser at Highline said the enrollment of international students has almost doubled on a yearly basis since he started working here in 1995. In the 1997-98 school year, however, the growth rate dropped from 104 percent to less than 10 percent.

Although the growth curve seems to be leveling off, Huls does not expect international enrollment to decrease.

Huls has received an estimated 86 applications with more coming in on a daily basis and Highline has already admitted 39 new international students for the Fall Quarter.

LCP International Institute, an organization at Highline that helps people in other countries enter the United States as foreign exchange students, is expecting a higher number of international students as well.

"I'm not surprised to hear the rising number of international students at all. So many students in my country (Japan) want to study in the United States," said Mikage Kunikawa, a former international student who attended Highline in 1995.

Students come to the United States as exchange students for many different reasons. "I wanted to see the world," said Scott Park, a foreign exchange student from South Korea.

Like many foreign students come to America to satisfy their dreams of adventure. Others like Apsit Saajaphub, who did not prefer the Thai land's education system, came to the United States to meet his educational needs.

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As a part of the curriculum for Safety Town, an annual two week summer program for kids, children learn to be careful when crossing the street and to always look both ways for traffic.

By Marta Pelayo
Staff Reporter

Amid finger paints, safety-themed books, fake stoves and play phones, 15 children sit at small tables and decorate name tags.

The topics of conversation range from the new Disney flick, "Mulan," to recently lost baby teeth. Soon, however, their discussions will turn to family water rules and how to safely cross the street. Safety Town is back again.

The sixth annual Safety Town program, created by early childhood educator Dorothy Childs, in the Midwest, was brought to Highline when a local parent was visiting the Midwest and relatives told her about the program. The parent was so pleased with it that she brought it to Highline, which has endorsed it ever since.

The program teaches safety through lessons that educate children without overloading them with information. In order to explain why a life-jacket is important, Safety Town instructor Diane Gilbert places a plastic figurine of a policeman in a bowl of water. The figurine promptly sinks to the bottom.

Gilbert then places a Styrofoam life-jacket on the figurine. This time, the policeman floats at the top. Through this visual demonstration, the children better understand how life-jackets can save lives.

Although many of the original safety lessons are still included in the Highline program, every area puts its own stamp on the program.

"It's different by community and time," said Gilbert. The Highline program now includes gun safety and drug awareness, something unheard of when the program first began.

Although the number of children attending the program is dwindling, their level of enthusiasm is not. "She loves the projects," says parent Susan Dolland, whose 5-year-old daughter Kaia Barth is currently attending the program.

Parents also find the lessons help enforce family safety rules. "It's more validated because it's coming from another authority," Dolland says.

Although the program's main focus is on safety, the children maintain their goal of having fun their time with Safety Town. With helmets strapped onto their heads, they rip through an obstacle course, mindful of the road signs placed on every corner. The children splash around for plastic fish with life-jackets securely strapped on. A worksheet on fire safety is messily colored in.

If safety was always this fun, the world would be a safer place.
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Ask them if anyone has mentioned the fact that the campus is pretty dark if you are here to take night classes or are here after 4 p.m. during the winter quarter. I have noticed this for a long time, as I usually come here to use the computer room and it usually happens to be late afternoon in the winter quarter. I kept the matter to myself, having found myself looking over my shoulder while I was in the parking lot. When I heard that my fellow student, Yuki, had lighting as a subject, I jumped at the chance to be a part of it.

We conducted a non-scientific survey in which we posed five simple questions that we asked of various persons on campus.

1.) Have you noticed how dark our campus is, not only if you take night classes, but if you are on campus after 4 p.m. (during the winter)?

Sixty percent female think HCC campus is too dark. Twelve and a half percent female think HCC is not too dark. Twenty percent male think HCC is too dark. Seven and a half percent male think HCC is not too dark.

2.) Are there any particular places that need to be brighter? Between buildings, 82 percent of both male and female think that between the buildings should be brighter. (Walkways included)

Parking- 57.5 percent of both male and female, think the lights should be brighter in the parking area.

Library- 20 percent of both sexes feel that the library needs to be brighter. Eighty-two percent feel that the area between the buildings is most important (this was with both sexes). This was considered more important than the lighting in the parking lot or the library. (They suggested more lights, but that will be touched on in a little bit)

3.) Do you feel safe when you walk around the campus after dark? Fifty-two and a half percent (all) feel unsafe 42.5 percent (all) feel safe, 5 percent do not know.

The majority of students (male and female) feel it is unsafe to walk on the campus after dark.

4.) Do you think that brighter lights would make our campus safer, better, and more welcoming?

One hundred percent of both male and female responded that brighter lights would make the campus safer, a better place to attend.

5.) What are students' opinions or thoughts on the lighting issues? Thirty-five percent of both male and female say that HCC needs more lights on campus. Twenty-seven and a half percent of both sexes say that the problem could be solved by brighter lights. Thirty-seven and a half percent have no opinion.

When Pete Babington was interviewed, it was found that the underlying factor behind the lighting problem is not that people are unaware. It seems to be financial. For even if the maintenance people went with brighter lights, (which would be more cost effective) there is the problem with the lighting fixtures themselves — they are more than 30 years old. If this work were going to be done, it would have to be done in the summer when most of the students are not here, as it would be necessary to close the main parking area in order to get the problem resolved. The financial part of this is due to budget constraints of the state and things have to be pretty bad to make the legislature aware of our feelings. (The state goes by a system of priorities, depending how severe the problem is. If it is severe enough, then the state will act on it. But not until then.) Perhaps by 1999, the state will take another look at the problem here at HCC. But we must also think about the fact that our lighting fixtures must meet national standards in order to get help. It feels almost like a "Catch 22" problem.

Christine Maney
Yuki Ota
Phuong Bui
Highline students

Letters to the Editor

Highline is ready to shake it up

Dear Editor:

We wanted to clarify and add to the information in Liz Doolittle's article entitled "College Not Prepared for Disaster." Highline College's emergency plan resides in the security office. It designates the Security Chief as the emergency coordinator and outlines his responsibilities. It also outlines procedures to follow in case of bomb threats, finding suspicious objects, explosions, earthquakes, fire, injury and illness. As with all emergency plans, it is a work in progress that receives continual updating and revision.

Booklets briefly describing these procedures are posted in all classrooms and offices in the fall, and are checked and replaced periodically.

Regarding the lateral stability of buildings (their ability to withstand an earthquake), they can be divided into three groups:

1. Buildings likely have the most structural stability in an earthquake are Buildings 2, 7, 10, 12, 17, 22, and 30. Building 30, finished in 1991, was originally built to modern seismic building code. The rest of the group were structurally analyzed in the last five years and seismic bracing was installed as needed to bring it up to current standards.

2. Buildings 23, 26, and the library were built to mid-'70s' standards, while not as stringent as today's code are reasonably safe.

3. All other campus buildings were built to the building codes of the 1960s. Unfortunately, the forces of an earthquake were not well understood and the building codes of the time reflected that. This group of buildings will fare the worst in the event of an earthquake.

The fact is that there have been a few earthquakes since the was built with no damage to the buildings. Most emergency managers and emergency plans (such as ours) will tell you to stay put in the building during an earthquake, while this is generally true, if it is possible to get from a weaker building to a stronger building safely, it is advisable to do so. It is very clear that at Highline the covered walkway is NOT safe in the event of an earthquake. They are particularly weak at the base and will likely fall over. Get out from under them into an open area should you feel the beginnings of an earthquake.

We continue to review and study emergency procedures, and have had several meetings with faculty and staff and will be revised before the fall.

Pete Babington,
Director of Facilities

The Thunderword

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Building 10, Room 106
July 16, 1998

Art & Recreation

It's not your VCR, bucky

By Liz Doolittle

play by play of the movie to your uncle Charlie via cell phone. It's too bad that he's stuck at home due to that lawn dart accident, but he'll just have to wait until the movie comes out on video.

On the subject of families, if you insist on having personal conversations during the movie, it is best if you actually converse about the movie.

Nothing is worse than spending two hours listening to a rendition of last year's family picnic and why aunt Bernice's tater-tot casserole was a flop.

Unless you are a neurosurgeon on call, and have become immune to the good vibrations of your pager, please switch your pager from beep to the previously mentioned mechanism.

For the betterment of mankind everywhere, perhaps the most important rule is the "one seat" rule.

When choosing your seat, remember that it is most appropriate to leave a one-seat buffer between yourself and people you don't know.

This rule must be overlooked if it is a particularly crowded theatre.

Rated R means restricted, that means that though it is law-ful to bring your children to a movie, there is a reason they are not allowed to go to the movie by themselves.

You being there doesn't make the movie any more appropriate.

Smuggling store-bought goodies into the theater is a great idea, but they don't sell some foods in the snack bar for specific reasons.

Corn Nuts, whole roasted chickens, egg salad sandwiches and any bottled beverages transported in paper bags are never a good idea.

Following these simple movie viewing guidelines is not only easy, but may help to prevent post-movie parking lot violence. Liz cries during happy endings.

Liz's Lens

It seems like every time I go to a movie at least one person has managed to go through life without learning the difference between what is and isn't appropriate behavior when viewing a movie in the theatre.

It is not appropriate to give a

TAKE A BITE

The Bite of Seattle gives you a taste of the town

By Ben Olson

Something's cooking and hopefully it's not your sundae.

The Bite of Seattle begins this weekend starting Friday July 17 and ending on July 19.

The event runs until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday but ends at 8 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free, but plan on spending about $10-$15 to fill yourself up.

This year make sure to be there for the opening kick off, Friday at 11 a.m. on the International Fountain Lawn, where you can get your picture taken with the Rodeo Grand.

Parking downtown: the eternal problem. If you can tell how popular an event is due to the traffic mess it creates, consider The Bite of Seattle the Mecca of the food world.

Parking near The Seattle Center during the event is like winning the lottery, so a popular route is the monorail. It will cost only $5 to park at the Bon Marche garage at Third and Stewart. From there head over to the Westlake Mall where the Monorail will run until 12:30 p.m. Tickets are $1 one-way.

Once you arrive at The Bite, get a map of all the restaurants at one of the many hand out locations and plan a strategy.

Look around and you're bound to see some unfortunate overeater who attempted to eat a sampler from every booth. He will be the one holding his stomach and moaning something about the crab dip.

Don't let this happen to you! Each booth offers a $2 sampler and a main dish costing no more than $5.50, but make sure you get what you came for, or else you'll fill up on elephant ears on the way.

Like every year, this year's Bite will include flavors from around the world. Some of the food nationalities represented are Italian, Polish, Greek, Afghan, Japanese, Russian, Thai, and Creole. If you prefer food with more of an American flavor there will be BBQ ribs, smoked salmon, cheeseburgers, curly fries, and hot-dogs.

For the caffeine lovers, Millstone Coffee will have a Coffee Garden complete with the Bite of Seattle Blend and espresso.

Once you're done stuffing yourself, make your way down to one of four entertainment stages.

On the performing arts stage you can witness the amazing Reptile Man, travel back in time with JP Patches, or watch some fancy juggling from the many circus acts.

Live music will be played all day long by local bands and a few national recording artists including Meredith Brooks.

For those 21 and older, the Tulalip Casino will be on hand offering $30,000 in free money. Even though the money’s fake the five trips for two to Reno are not, so step on up and try your luck.

As always the Seattle Center rides and games will be open, but the roller coaster might be a little much after clam chowder.

A hungry patron shells out some clams to get some nuts.

Photograph courtesy of Festivals Inc.

An affair with flair: Time for Waterland '98

By Ryan Hinkson

Staff Reporter

Waterland Festival is here again.

The 39th annual festival will be held this upcoming Wednesday, July 22 through Sunday, July 26.

The festival celebrates the history and heritage of the city of Des Moines, and has fun and exciting events for all ages. Waterland has been an annual event since its first parade on Aug. 12, 1900.

"Our goal is to make it a fun community event for everybody," event organizer Jeanine Woodstock says.

Many activities are happening daily at the festival, including the Marina Fair; $1,000 Hole In One; Denk Tank; Pub and Eatery (open daily at Noon); Fantastical Carnival (open at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Noon on Thursday, 2 p.m. Friday and Noon Saturday and Sunday); Arts and Crafts (July 24-26; open at Noon); Waterland Marketplace (open at noon Thursday July 24-26); and live entertainment daily.

Along with daily activities, each day is filled with special events:

Wednesday July 22: Fireworks extravaganza 10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22: Family Fun Day 6 p.m.-8 p.m. including face painting, Charles the clowns, karaoke, and many games.

Also, starting this Wednesday Normaldy Arts Fest '98 kicks off with shows starting at 7 p.m., through Saturday July 26.

Thursday July 23 includes: Pie Eating Contest, Kid's Safety Fair 3-6 p.m., Soft Tip Dart Tournament, 5-7 p.m.

Friday July 24 the Masonic Annual Free Fair Market 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (25600 Marine View Drive South), and the South Covina Motorcycle Drill Team 7 p.m. on 7th Avenue between 225th and 227th streets.

Saturday July 25 starts out with the Pancake Breakfast 8 a.m.-noon at Grace Lutheran Church 22975 24th Ave. S., Junior Parade at 4 p.m. starting at State Farms parking lot. Also, the Waterland Parade Day is Saturday, July 25 at 4 p.m.

Sunday July 26 starts off with the Funny Boat Race noon-3 p.m. at the fishing pier, and host the Waterland Senior Dance 1-3 p.m. at the Field House.

There is something for everyone, so grab a friend, eat some food, enjoy a few rides, watch fireworks, and have a great weekend at the Des Moines Waterland Festival.

The Bite of Seattle Center riders and games will be open, but the roller coaster might be a lit-tle much after clam chowder.
Hold the ice cream: This is one disturbing slice of 'π'

By Alex P. Hennessy
Staff Reporter

The new movie (π) is "Good Will Hunting" on crack. At least that is the best way to describe the experience of Max, the main character in Writer/Director Darren Aronofsky's new film from Artisan Entertainment.

Max (Sean Gullette) is a one-egde mathematician if there ever was one. Max has been struggling in his hole in the wall apartment with his homemade computer for the last 10 years trying to find the mathematical pattern to the stock market. On the eve of his big discovery everything goes haywire, both literally with his computer and psychologically in Max's mind. At the same time he is pushed to the edge of sanity by painful migraines, he is bombarded by a Wall Street mega corporation and a sect of Hasidic Jews who believe Max can use math to decode the secrets of the Bible.

Powered by a hip industrial soundtrack, the movie becomes a semi-action-packed sci-fi psychological thriller.

Made with a budget of only $60,000 in borrowed money, this interesting look into the mind of a crazed genius has already won Aronofsky the dramatic directing award at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival as well as a lucrative movie deal.

Innovative, yet decidedly homegrown camera techniques and a clever use of inner monologue make this movie the example of a movie about a person, not an action-packed sci-fi psychological thriller.

At least Max (Sean Gullette) is trying to find the mathematical pattern to the stock market; Max (Scan Gullette) works on his home computer.

Escape from Des Moines

Ocean Shores offers affordable getaways

By Ami Westberg
Staff Reporter

It's summertime and that means it's time to travel to unknown and exotic destinations. Unfortunately for us poor, overworked and underpaid col-

If you are daring and trust your luck to the unpredictable weather of the Washington coast, you can also take the outer approach and stay at one of the many RV tent camping parks in the area.

If you are planning a visit to the ocean, Bonnie Reaves, General Manager of Best Western Lighthouse Inn at Ocean Shores, said to make reservations in advance, especially if you are going to come on a weekend or a holiday weekend.

"Holiday weekends are almost always a madhouse," said Reaves, whose hotel was booked solid a month in advance for Fourth of July weekend.

Ocean Shores has plenty of fun things to do at any time of year if you want to get out and have a good time.

You can go bicycling, rent a boat, fish, golf, go horseback riding, or to minimize spending you can kick back and browse the shops in town or take a leisurely walk down the beach.

The Seattle Childrens Theatre presents: "Julie of the Wolves" and "The Crucible" beginning July 30 and running through August 1. Tickets are $3.50 or $5 for a double feature and are available at 441-3322.
Highline cross country hurdles gender barrier

By Brian Lee
Staff Reporter

For the first time ever Highline is offering a women’s cross country club along with the men’s this season.

The coaches for both the women’s and men’s cross country club are Adam Leahy and Tracy Bingham, who is also the head track coach for Highline.

"There’s a good chance the women’s team will finish in the top three," Leahy said.

Along with their scholarships, athletes come to Highline as coming student/athletes.

"It’s a better team than last year's," Leahy said.

The season starts in September and the November conference WAAC meet will be held in Spokane.

If you are interested in joining the club open tryouts will be held in September for both the men’s and women’s cross country clubs. For more details contact Adam Leahy at 360-897-2752.

Athletes look to her for help with grades

By D.T. Demouchet
Staff Reporter

Every Fall Quarter a new batch of freshman student/athletes comes to Highline as a way of furthering their education and athletic abilities. Along with their scholarships, if any, these students get Margo Buchan.

Buchan is the academic advisor to all student/athletes at Highline.

During each summer Buchan meets with every incoming student/athlete with an open door policy in a little office in Building 20. In her office she keeps a file folder for every athlete on campus. Each folder includes what classes a particular student has already taken and what classes he or she will need to accomplish to graduate from Highline with his or her Associate of Arts degree.

Buchan says that by meeting with the student/athletes on a regular basis, they can come to an understanding of what the student needs to graduate.

She tries to see is that every athlete on campus is doing well in their classes and that the classes and teachers they pickled together are working out for them.

Buchan says she takes an abundance of pride in working with student/athletes. She calls them her second family here at Highline.

On a day-to-day basis she leaves home from a family of nine athletic sons and daughters to come to Highline.

While she tends to talk about the athletes being like a second family to her, one of the things that have come far away from home look at Buchan as like a second mother.

"It's such a labor of love," said Buchan.

Buchan acquired the job of academic advisor about seven years ago when Athletic Director Fred Harrison asked her to advise the wrestling team.

She took the job on a temporary basis just try to keep the wrestling team intact, not knowing the amount of success that was to come.

She did such a good job with the wrestling team that Harrison asked her to advise all of Highline's athletic teams, about 200 athletes - on a permanent basis, and Buchan gladly agreed.

This year Highline only lost only three athletes due to academic ineligibility. The whole athletic programs together maintained about a 3.0 grade average in claiming the reputation of having the best academic support system among Northwest community colleges.

Buchan said she relies on feedback from faculty to reinforce her work with students.

"It's how cooperative the faculty is about the students/athletes," she said.

"They have me when they feel the athletes are slipping or when something's wrong," she said.

"I love watching the way that all athletes stick together and support one another," Buchan said.

T-Birds win with grades

By D.T. Demouchet
Staff Reporter

Highline's athletics scored big with books this past year.

Two years ago the track team was hit hard by losses in bad grades and dropouts. This year, however, the college lost in most three athletes to grades, said athletic academic advisor Margo Buchan.

Last year the Thunderbird wrestling team grabbed its way to a national academic championship. The wrestling team didn’t repeat as champs but did end the year with the status of academic-all Americans.

Highline’s basketball team went from “slogging with grades a little” last year, said ex-Highline basketball player Garrett Miller, but followed up with academic-all American status as well.

Track and field probably saw the greatest improvement. The team lost up to four people in 1997 due to academics, but only one this year.

Athletic department officials say they didn’t do anything different this year, but said the class was more motivated.

Miller said the veteran athletes pushed the incoming freshmen to maintain good grades and stay eligible.

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Highline to stop mailing grades

By W. Howard Week Jr. Staff Reporter

Highline is getting ready to shut down the telephone touch-tone grading system.

Student complaints about security problems and increasing costs led to the decision. The system will be replaced by a new system, which is to be in use within the next two or three years.

The new system will allow students to access their grades through the computerized system. This will eliminate the current system of mailing grades to students.

Highline has been mailing grades for the past 20 years. The cost of mailing grades has increased over the years, and the college has decided to switch to a new system to save money.

The new system will be more secure and will allow students to access their grades at any time, without waiting for a mail delivery.

The college has six objectives for the new system:

1. To offer a broader education to its students.
2. To allow students to work on their own time.
3. To provide a more convenient way for students to access their grades.
4. To reduce the amount of money spent on mailing grades.
5. To increase the number of students who access their grades online.
6. To improve the quality of the grading process.

The new system will be more secure and will eliminate the need for busy signals.

The college has won a $140,000 grant to implement the new system. The grant will be used to purchase the necessary equipment and to hire additional staff.

The new system will be available to all students by the fall quarter of 1998.