Air crash claims Highline student

By Thunderword Staff

Meghann Hall was a positive person, friends, teammates and instructors said after her death this week.

The Highline sophomore, a standout on the softball team, was one of 88 people who died when an Alaska Airlines jet crashed Monday on a flight from Mexico.

The cause of the crash is under investigation. On campus, flags flew at half-staff and many wore black in memory of Hall, the softball team's 

"great pitcher," said Cara Hoyt, Fastpitch coach. Hoyt called Hall "a great ball player," adding "she was fun loving, a strong personality, and a good student." Hall was a senior at Enumclaw High School.

Hall was one of only two left-handed players on the team. Hoyt said Hall was a "very good pitcher" who "gave everything" every time she went to the mound.

"Meghann was very outgoing and lively," said Heather Buchan, assistant coach. "She was very outgoing and lively," Buchan said. "She was a positive person, and we're all going to miss her."
Economic professor sells his theories

By Joy Thrall
Staff Reporter

The U.S. economy could continue its current steady growth or slip back into recession, a University of Washington economist said here Wednesday.

Professor Charles Nelson spoke to a group of about 65 students about the history of the American economy and what it means to us today, and what it could possibly mean for us tomorrow.

The speech was part of Highline's Contemporary Voices lecture series. The series is held every Wednesday in Building 7 at 11 a.m.

Nelson thinks it is important to teach students facts about the economy and that we should pay attention to economic trends.

Accompanying his speech was a powerpoint presentation that displayed various graphs that detailed trends in our country's recessions, economic growth, inflation, and the stock market, which is witnessing the largest economic expansion in human history.

"The United States economy has delivered the most phenomenal record of economic growth in human history," Nelson said.

Nelson also stated that the United States is an amazingly affluent society and that in may be something we as a nation take for granted.

Despite our affluence, not everyone is benefiting from our growing economy.

Nelson showed a graph of the average industrial hourly wage over time. Although the wage has risen tremendously, once inflation is factored in, the wage is actually declining.

Nelson examined the various factors that could cause this downturn, including technology, globalization, and the decline of unions.

Team Highline is sponsoring the event. For more information contact their office at 206-478-3711 ext. 3903 or visit their office in the upper level of Building 7.

University of Phoenix coming to campus

An adviser from the University of Phoenix will be here on our campus to answer questions about attending the school.

The big areas of economic gain are for professionals and those who provide services.

In these areas the gains have been nothing short of phenomenal.

"We are clearly living in one of the most outstanding times in economic history," he said.

This hugely successful economic period has people asking "Is this a new era of economics?"

It has others, especially those on Wall Street, worried.

Because profits and recessions are strongly cyclical, many are worried that after 10 years of uninterrupted expansion, we are in for a major recession.

Nelson said such a recession could cause up to a 50 percent decline in the stock market.

Nelson said it could be that we have indeed reached a new economic era of prosperity and growth, or that we are headed for a recession.

Nelson said, however, that there's really no way of predicting which event will occur.

Next week's speaker will be Larry Blades from Highline's writing department.

Nelson was speaking as part of the Honors Colloquy, which continues throughout the quarter.
On-campus lighting to be improved

By Joan Taylor
Staff Reporter

Highline officials have proclaimed: Let there be light. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer on new light poles and sidewalks on campus. The process is planned to be completed just before Fall Quarter starts. Students and teachers with summer classes will have to work their way around the areas of construction in order to get to their classrooms.

New light poles being installed is necessary because the current ones are 30 years old and are not cost efficient. The lights often do not come on at night, leaving campus dark for students. This leaves many students who take night classes uncomfortable walking to and from class.

"I think they need more lights. Lights are dim in some areas and I don't like it... it kinda freaks me out, being a female," said Meghan Boomhower, an evening student.

The ominous shadows the current lights cast have scared some students staying in their dorms. Evening student Eric Kormandy area.

"Women ask me to walk with them to their car. I feel safe, but obviously some do not." Kormandy feels that Winter Quarter is usually when it feels unsafe on campus, because of how dark it gets at night.

"There is a high crime rate in Kent County," said Pat Bolingbroke, director of facilities for Highline. "Having students go to class at night without lighting on campus was not a very wise decision."

Sidewalks will also be widened. It is to accommodate emergency vehicles as they may get to building in the middle of campus.

The exact cost of both projects are currently unknown. Facilities get money from the state every two years to do various projects. Highline applied to the state two years ago for funding for both projects. It was received 18 months later.

Because state funds are funding for the construction, student tuition will not be affected. There hasn't been an official approval for these projects from the administration yet, but there is a general agreement on campus that they need to be done.

Once the official approval is completed, a consultant will be hired to design the new sidewalks and light poles. The designing process is scheduled to be completed in spring.

The consultant will determine what areas of the campus are in the most need of light, and which sidewalks will need to be widened.

Kormandy feels the area that needs more lighting is the pathways that lead to the parking lot.

"We get to our classes. This leaves the designs have been accepted, a public bid will take place to see which company does the construction. The lowest bidder will begin work on both projects soon after Spring Quarter ends.

Lock all doors, activate alarm, and beware

By Bridgette Stevens
Staff reporter

The car vandalism and theft problem at Highline has been an ongoing problem and officials are looking for solutions.

"Any given area, where there is a large parking capacity, there seems to be a greater chance for theft or vandalism," Kin said.

Car break-ins and vandalism to vehicles parked in parking lots at Highline doesn't appear to be more or less of a problem than any time before, but Highline officials warn that students should take precautions when parking their vehicles.

On Monday, Jan. 24, Vicky Kin, a Highline freshman, returned to his car after his third period class. Upon walking toward his vehicle, he noticed that a note was placed on his car with threatening scribble.

The note read: "Hey ass hole if you drive or park your car here on campus again you will find your car ——.

The note was signed "your friend."

"My car was broken into before the quarter started," Kin said. "Although nothing was taken from the car it was aggravating that someone would vandalize my vehicle just for the thrill of it," said Kin.

Another student, who declined to interview, returned to her car after morning classes, only to find that someone had apparently317 scratched the hood of her car.

"Students should report all acts of vandalism and thefts to campus security," Chief of Security Richard Fisher said.

If anything happens to your vehicle while it is parked on campus, you should report the incident to security before you leave campus.

"If you leave campus without reporting the incident there is nothing security can do," said Kevin Gunderson, campus security officer.

Security officers patrol the campus parking lots as often as possible, but with the limited personnel available, it becomes a difficult task to catch everything.

"We do not discuss how often, or what times patrol rounds are made because this would defeat the purpose," Fisher said.

Officials encourage students to promptly report incidents or suspicious activities to the proper authorities by dialing ext. 3218 or 3219 from any main campus phone.

If there is no answer, and the situation is considered an emergency, dial 9-911 from the same phone or dial 911 from any public pay phone.

Some students wonder if only select few models of cars are being targeted for vandalism, and if some parking lots are safer than others are.

Officials say that there is no favored type of vehicle or lot of preference for thieves. All makes and models are targets for vandalism. The cars that have been broken into seem to have been targeted because of valuables left inside.

"If you own a later model Honda or Toyota it would be wise to purchase a Club. These cars are prone for theft," Fisher said.

Your car parts are worth more than the vehicle to thieves. To lower risks of your car becoming a target, should remove valuables, and lock all doors.

"It was aggravating that someone would vandalize my vehicle just for the thrill of it."

-- Vicky Kin

Ex-gay man to speak on campus

By Ericka Wood
Staff Reporter

A forum entitled Homosexuality: A Christian Response will be held this Friday at noon.

Rob Taylor, a converted homosexual, and current executive director of Metanoia Ministries, a Seattle based organization, will speak at this open forum in Building 26, room 213.

Taylor has spoken nationally about his life story for many years, and has been featured in the London Times, on MTV News and in Focus on the Family, a Christian publication.

Taylor was a practicing homosexual before becoming a Christian; he is now married to a woman.

The idea to bring Taylor to speak at Highline is the result of discussions Fall Quarter between the Campus Crusade for Christ club (a Christian student organization), and a former officer of the Rainbow Pride Club.

Rainbow Pride, an organization associated with the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community at Highline, is currently not associated with this event, but leadership within the club has shifted.

Campus Crusade members say they hope the presentation will be informative.

"Students had questions or wanted insight into the relationship which Christians and homosexuals have, or are supposed to have," said Shannon Proctor, Campus Crusade advisor.

"The media gives a hateful portrayal but this will be a biblical based response, and therefore, a loving response."

Proctor has heard Taylor speak in the past and she believes that he would be a good source to answer some questions.

"This is just one more perspective to add to all of the different perpectives on this issue," said Proctor.

Some Campus Crusade members said they heard there would be opposition from Rainbow Pride members, but Rainbow Pride members said they didn't know much about the speech, and had nothing planned.

Rainbow Pride advisor Randy Fisher said he will be in attendance, and he says he tries "to go to these things with an open mind."

Everyone can hear him and make their own decision," Proctor said.

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Editorials

AA degree should have realistic requirements

The college needs to be careful not to add too many requirements for an associate of arts degree. Some recent changes have been good. The Globalism and diversity requirement was needed, and will expose succeeding classes of students to the world beyond South King County. But others haven't been as well thought out. Recently the Faculty Senate voted against adding a coordinated studies requirement. This is good news, because if this requirement would have passed every student would have had to enroll in Coordinated Studies class in order to graduate.

This requirement would have been ridiculous. Coordinated Studies has not been proven as an essential element of education. Many people vote down by the Faculty Senate as an example. This requirement was passed by the Faculty Senate as an example. This requirement was not necessary and is not a requirement to graduate. The decisions made by the Faculty Senate have been good. It is important that the requirements for graduation remain realistic.

Letters Policy

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

Letters should be no more than 300 words. They must include full names as well as signatures, addresses and telephone numbers for verification during daytime business hours. All letters are subject to editing for style and length.

Mail letters and commentaries to: Letters to the Editor, The Thunderword, Highline Community College, mall stop 110-3, P.O. Box 98000, Des Moines, WA 98188. Submissions can also be dropped off in the Thunderword office room 106, Building 10.

Marta’s Moment

By Marta D. Pelayo

Sad news makes us reflect

When I first heard that a plane headed for Seattle crashed near Los Angeles, I immediately worried about my brother, who often flies back and forth from L.A. to Seattle.

But it was only a fleeting moment of worry, because I knew he wasn’t on the plane.

So I can’t even fathom the pain that the family of Meghan Hall is going through. Not to mention Meghan’s basketball team, who lost a leader and dear friend on Monday.

Oftentimes when we hear about tragedies, they are in such distant locations, such as the recent floods in Venezuela, that we don’t touch us in a very significant way.

We feel sympathy for their loss, but we quickly go on about our lives. Flight 261, however, hit too close to home to ignore. The news washed over campus on Tuesday like a cold, dull, gray flood.

Meghann was a friend to many on campus, as was evident by the Thunderword’s interviews with many of Hall’s former instructors, all of whom described her as lively, fun, and a joy to be around.

This was a difficult story to cover in the T-Word. We didn’t want to be disrespectful to those in mourning, but others would have regarded it as disrespectful to hide from the news.

So we attempted to paint an honest portrait of Meghan Hall. It seemed the best way to honor her memory and still tell the news.

When he hear about someone’s death, we are usually reminded to appreciate the people in our lives more. Meghan’s death is proof that we don’t have a guaranteed timeline on Earth, and we had better do the things we’ve always wanted to while we still have a chance.

As young adults, students frequently lose sight of this. And although it is easy to get caught up in this fast-paced world, now is a good time to take a step back and remember what’s important.

Marta D. Pelayo is Editor in Chief of the Thunderword.
Music will always fuel many an argument

By Rachel Corrella
Staff Reporter

They spoke with eloquence, used vivid word pictures, and expressed themselves. They also happened to be Highline faculty members.

Students gathered in Building 7 on Feb. 2 to hear poetry and prose at the Team Highline-sponsored Faculty Speaks. Four different Highline professors read their original works, each with their own distinct style and flavor.

Allison Green started off the show with an excerpt from her soon-to-be-published novel, Half Moon Scar. The scene read by Green was about Amy and Gavin when they were 10 years old and focused on the idea of Halloween costumes as a metaphor for concealed sexual identity and gender roles.

Her style of writing was very clear and straightforward, making the scene come to life.

Rosemary Adkins was next up, with an article on censorship entitled "I'm Trying to Write for not anything important," said Adkins, whose piece denounces censorship without being limiting toward Chinese culture.

"To not offend anyone is to

Writing instructor Lonny Kaneko reads one of his poems at Faculty Speaks.

College faculty speaks at reading

Case in Point: Those who refuse to recognize rap as a form of music -straining to find validity in a genre that perhaps lacks a musical distinction. Rap enthusiasts, however, believe rap to be a colorful combination of harmony, rhythm, and poetry, and that the artists, are indeed, musically inclined.

Many consider Kurt Cobain to be one of the greatest musicans to ever pick up an instrument. The fact that he doesn't convince listeners of the Motown heyday, including the Temptations, Four Tops, and the Supremes - none of which, by the way, produced or wrote their own material. And yet a handful of their hits, which play perpetually on your mom's radio stations, are classics nonetheless.

Sinatra didn't scribe his own songs. Neither does Barbara Streisand, or Nat King Cole. Elvis, you say? He couldn't write worth a lick, but is considered rock and roll royalty. The prevailing standard here seems to be technical capability. Punny Girl's and Blue eyes' voices are as near flawless as Jennifer Lopez's silhouette. But if gazing on a critic's parameters, they may not be anymore talented

See Motel, page 7

'Beirut' tells story of Lebanese upbringing

By Derek Roche

West Beirut is a dynamic film, a captivating slice of reality despite some shaky transitions.

The writer/director of the film, Ziad Doueiri, based this story of teenagers growing up in Beirut, Lebanon on events, times and experiences that he had growing up there.

The director's notes in the film, Doueiri said that the film is 90 percent autobiographical.

West Beirut takes place in the year 1975, when the Lebanese civil war sliced the Lebanese city into two parts.

West Beirut, where the story mainly takes place, hosts the Lebanese Muslims battling against East Beirut and the Christian militias.

Rami and Omar find themselves mostly in their own neighborhood, but as the war rages on, they eventually find themselves the middle of the war.

The two characters create a convincing and charismatic relationship. Rounding out the trio is May (played by the director's younger brother, 16-year-old Rami Doueiri), a wild teenager, who despite the dangerous setting explores all parts of Beirut in turmoil, and makes super-8 films of what he sees. His sidekick is Omar (Mohammad Chamas), another Muslim teen.

The imagery used in this poem was extremely effective and served to bring a clear conclusion to her presentation.

Last up was Lomy Kaneko, who read four poems that evidenced the very sophisticated usage of the English language. Kaneko used unconventional comparisons to make his metaphors hit home, making for an enjoyable listening experience. He finished with a poem about Bruce Lee, whom he knew personally.

The rhythm of the poem worked well to convey the mood of the subject.

The works presented at Faculty Speaks were, as a whole, extremely effective in giving Highline students a personal view of their professors as artists.

By Lora Cundey

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Cast fails to save weak film

By Justin Pritchard
Staff Reporter

Racing to the box office is the new observational drama *Simpatico*, but once people get a load of it, even with its loaded cast, it may run out of gas.

Directed by Matthew Warchus who is best known for directing theatre plays such as *Art*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Henry the V*, *Simpatico* is a story about three friends. Played by Nic Nolte (Vinnie), Jeff Bridges (Carter) and Sharon Stone (Rosie), the characters go through life bufferred by guilty consciences stemming from a past get rich quick scheme they were involved in.

Warchus uses various flashbacks throughout the movie to demonstrate the closeness in their friendship, before it ultimately goes south.

The three friends were very much into racing when they decided to pull a daring scam that would make them rich. They eventually got caught by the racing commissioner, Ames, played humorously by Albert Finney.

To keep Finney from getting them into trouble, they blackmailed him.

The rest of *Simpatico* has Nolte running around trying to get Stone and Bridges to come clean that they blackmailed Finney, in hopes that he can get something out of it. In actuality, he is turning all their lives upside down.

Warchus says *Simpatico’s* theme is that “life doesn’t have to be a race between winners and losers. It’s about finding your own identity.”

This is Warchus’ first time directing a picture on the big screen. Warchus had his work cut out for him when he took on the challenge of directing such a complicated story. Originally a play by Sam Shepard, the transition in the adaptation becomes somewhat lost.

The obvious link between the original play and the motion picture is the number of scenes that are strictly dialog. These conversations are set in small stage settings, causing some of the potential action scenes to be lost in the original play format.

The only highlights were Stone’s, Bridges’ and Nolte’s performances — taking on difficult roles and still looking good. Their ability to grasp the characters’ true personalities was an excellent reflection on Warchus’ directing as well.

My reaction to the film could possibly be best summed up by a line delivered by Jeff Bridge’s character: “Maybe it’s the smell or just the alfalfa.” Indeed the film did stink.

Arcturus gets ready for spring edition

By An Nguyen
Staff Reporter

This year’s theme for Highline’s literary magazine, *Arcturus*, possesses a Greek element. The theme is determined yearly by the students.

The name *Arcturus* refers to a star.

According to myth, *Arcturus* is the storyteller star and describes the story to other stars.

The literary magazine is an annual publication that contains short stories, poetry and artwork by Highline faculty, students and alumni.

The first edition of *Arcturus* was published in 1977.

“The magazine is a student production,” said Sharon Hashimoto. According to Hashimoto, the students select which pieces are published in the magazine, in addition to designing the cover and performing the print job of the magazine.

Works are submitted by Dec. 31 of the current school year. The submissions are read by an editing team, who then select which pieces will be published. Every piece that is submitted is critiqued by a panel of judges. All the pieces are submitted as blind submissions, therefore, faculty submissions do not receive any priority.

“The author’s name does not appear on the paper,” says student editor Beth Outlaw. A panel of eight critics read through and look at the submissions. This year’s student editors are: Sharleen Sabales, Christina Davis, Melissa Payne, Andy Fitzgerald, Jennifer Vogtberger, Shalya Rankin, and Outlaw.

Each piece is read on a point system and the points are then added up.

A minimum number of points determines if the piece gets published or not.

A majority of the submissions are short stories and *Arcturus* is still actively seeking photos and artwork.

When evaluating submissions, the judges particularly look for original, fresh, and complex ideas.

A strong thesis and a passion for quality work are also very useful.

The student editors must complete Creative Writing 155 as a prerequisite to *Arcturus*. The faculty advisor then makes sure the student has completed the necessary courses and provides an entry code.

This year’s faculty advisors are: ...
Arcturus
continued from page 6

include Hashimoto, writing instructor; Gary Pugh, director of production illustration; and Dave Weber, print production coordinator.

The next issue of Arcturus will be released in May/June of 2000.

Motel
continued from page 5

does, in fact, pen all his work?

How about the incomparable Beatles? In truth, they were better writers than musicians. In their first year alone, the Fab Five released a mind-blowing 29 singles, all written by one or more of the band members. But ask any seasoned instrumentalist (guitar, drums, bass) and they'll attest to the truth that the Beatles played not much better than your average garage band. In fact, studio musicians were regularly called upon to dub instruments over their albums.

Let us compare child stars. Thirteen-year-old opera singer Charlotte Church, or teen pop sensation Britney Spears? Well, Church has the voice of an angel, and Spears has the body of your typical stripper named Angel. We all know who's sold more albums.

Derek's next a capella album features the hit Derek's Back (Everyfoot).
Thunderbird wrestlers head to regional competition

By Evan Keck
Staff Reporter

The season for the wrestlers of Highline really begins this Saturday at the Region 18 tournament that will take place in Coos Bay, Ore.

Six teams will participate in the national qualifying tournament. Southwestern Oregon, Clackamas College, Ricks College, North Idaho, Yakima Valley and Highline make up the Northwest Region.

All the teams in attendance will give the T-Birds tough competition.

SWOCC has two strong wrestlers: C.J. Campbell, 141, and Marc Borja, 149. Both are returning All-Americans and the coach is hoping for a place in the nationals.

"We're going to shoot for third," said SWOCC Head Coach Tony Jones. "Realistically we won't touch the Idaho teams." 

Clackamas has set a little higher goals for themselves. With a strong group of freshmen led by two experienced sophomores, the Cougars are hoping for five to six national qualifiers.

"NIC is awfully tough," said Clackamas coach Lloyd Martinoday. "I think we're even with Ricks tough.

Martinoday did not want to make any predictions of the competition partly because the competition is so tough. However he is confident that his team will perform well.

"The kids are definitely learning to pull together," he said. "With that style, we can go all the way!"

Thunderbirds win close game against Green River Gators

By Jahmal Corner
Staff Reporter

And the Oscar goes to... the Highline women's basketball team, for the role they played as a mediocre team in the first half of the season.

Directed by Head Coach Dennis Olson, they began with a 4-6 overall record and have since won nine of 10 league games, most recently including Tacoma and Green River.

It is no mistake that the T-Birds have turned on the burners since the start of their league contests.

Kristin Zompetti explains that they're now so locked in as one of her own three-pointers.

"I don't think we were all that focused in the beginning," she said. "Now we have to be, everything counts."

The home meeting against Tacoma on Jan. 26 sure did, though it didn't seem that Tacoma knew. Highline began the game with a 26-6 spurt. They lead 53-20 after two quarters.

The most exciting of the evening came at halftime, when Has the potential to go to nationals. They give it their best shot. I like the way they support each other.

Shawn Thayer will make the trip to battle for a spot in the national tournament at the 125 pound classification.

Joben Nuesse, 133, who has had a successful season this year could be looking from the podium Anthony night.

Shad Lierly, 141, is competing in what all the coaches agree is the premier weight class of the region. Most coaches believe Lierly has a good chance of placing.

At 149, Jason King will fight for national tournament opportunity.

Joe Castro had a good year at 157 and hopes to come through the weekend.

Brian White at 165 has been plagued with injuries all season and now that he is healthy he is looking for a national championship.

Jeremiah Barney will go to the tournament at 174.

James Verderico will tough out the rest of the year with a torn ligament in his shoulder at 184 pounds.

Brian Looks at 197 will also be in the spotlight on Saturday. He was ranked fifth in the nation by USA Wrestling Magazine for his stellar performance this season.

Highline's Ryan Deorge works against Anthony Hamilton in practice this week.

"We need to qualify as many as possible," said NIC Coach Pat Whitcomb. "We have to make sure there are no mistakes.

A lot of teams are worried about facing the power house.

"The team is stacked and looking for a national title. Highline is prepared to go head to head with whoever steps on the mat.

Several T-Birds will be seeded in the top three."

"Everybody has a chance," said Assistant Coach John Clemens.

"Anyone who is going to make any predictions of the tournament partly because the competition is so tough. However he is confident that his team will perform well.

"The kids are definitely learning to pull together," he said. "With that style, we can go all the way!"
T-Birds lose game to tie for first place with Tacoma

By K.M. Petersen
Staff Reporter

After leading the NWAAC’s Western Region and being ranked atop the top eight coaches’ poll, Highline fell hard in a home loss against Tacoma, before rebounding on the road against Green River. The loss drops the Thunderbirds to a tie for first place with Tacoma, and also drops them from first to third, behind Peninsula and Tacoma, in the poll.

Highline came out against the Titans in possibly the best situation possible, holding a one game lead over Tacoma, and also drops them hard in a home loss against the T-Birds to a tie for first place with Peninsula and Tacoma, in game lead over Tacoma, who the T-Birds in possibly first to third, behind Renton and Renton, in the poll.

Motivation was surely not hard to come by, as Tacoma has quickly developed into a rival for the Thunderbirds, and a victory at home would give the team a two game lead in the division which, barring a complete flop down the stretch, would virtually lock up the league crown.

The Thunderbirds appeared up to the task in the game’s opening moments, playing strong to a 6-1 lead in the game’s first three minutes.

Highline maintained the lead throughout the opening stanza, thanks to key three pointers by point guards Michael Moore and Wes Newton, until Tacoma fought their way to a slim half time lead.

In the second half, the Titans’ offensive pressure was tough, as only sophomores Bruce Williams and Tom Hubbard were able to score for the Thunderbirds in the half’s first seven minutes.

Then, as Highline would manage to fight back, Tacoma would go on short runs, until a 12-0 run over four minutes put the T-Birds away, with a final score of 74-61.

“They just outplayed us,” Williams said. “We came ready to play, physically, but we didn’t come ready to play mentally, and as soon as we got behind, we gave up on the physical aspect; we didn’t play hard at all, and it was just an embarrassing loss.”

It was a game that hopefully humbled us,” Head Coach Jeff Albrecht said. “It was a game that will actually allow us to get re-focused for the stretch run of the season.”

Williams led Highline with 16 points, Yusef Aziz scored 10 points with 14 rebounds, and Daniel Lyons scored five points with seven rebounds and five blocks.

Following the game, the Thunderbirds travelled to Auburn to take on another local rival, the Green River Gators.

Highline played reasonably well on the way to a halftime lead of 44-36. In the second half, Green River actually took the lead, thanks to some hot shooting on a 20-5 run over five minutes, with seven minutes remaining.

Highline shot it off, however, with a 16-2 run of their own to put the game away.

“One thing that made me happy is that when we got down late in the game, we still showed composure and came back,” Williams said. “That was a pretty positive win because we were penalized late in the game, we weren’t winning, and we responded in the right way, and we ended up pulling it out.”

Williams led the way for the T-Birds with 25 points, five rebounds, five assists, and three steals, Yusef Aziz had 21 points, 11 rebounds, five assists, and three steals, and Hubbard scored 16 points to go with eight rebounds.

Strong performances also came from Moore, with 11 points, six assists, and nine rebounds, Adam Aziz, with four points and 11 rebounds, and Jesse Rossmolder with six points and seven rebounds.

The team is now focusing on the stretch run toward the playoffs. “We only have six more league games, and every game counts, so we’re getting a little more serious at this time of year,” Albrecht said.

Results from Wednesday night’s game against South Puget Sound were unavailable at press time.

Next home game is Saturday, Feb. 5 against Pierce who the T-Birds beat in earlier league play.

Men’s coach Albrecht says Thunderbirds have a shot

By Patrick Alloern
Staff Reporter

Jeff Albrecht has been a part of the Highline men’s basketball coaching staff and a physical education instructor for four years.

Albrecht, originally from Insaipah, attended college at Eastern Washington University for one year and Central Washington University for his final three.

He played on both schools’ basketball teams and later became an assistant coach for CWU.

At the beginning of his college career, becoming a coach was not his plan. “When I started, I wanted to be a stockbroker but I soon changed to education,” Albrecht said.

Albrecht Albrecht has a very modest coaching style. “I believe the players win games. Coaches just put players in a position to win,” he said.

Though the Thunderbirds are 18-3, Albrecht thinks they need a lot of improvement to challenge for a championship.

“We have a shot. We need to get a lot better though. We need to improve on team defense and get better at executing on offense. We need to improve on setting and using screens as well as rebounding the ball,” he said.

Albrecht, 30, has two courses left to achieve his masters degree in curriculum and instruction.

He’s not sure if that will help him become a full-time instructor at Highline but he says, “It couldn’t hurt.”

Albrecht likes the people at Highline and it is near his Tukwila home so another job with the same financial perks wouldn’t stand a chance. But Albrecht also has a family to provide for.

“If something came along that would be better for my family, financially, I’d have to accept it,” said Albrecht, the father of two (Taylor, 5 and Elizabeth, 1).

Albrecht’s wife, Leanne, also works at Highline as program and coordination for Student Programs and Athletics.

“It would be nice to coach an individual for three or four years, but here I have an opportunity to be a part of more kids’ lives in a positive way,” he said.
League leading scorer brings jokes and tough play to team

By Pete Wilson
Staff Reporter

When a joke breaks out on the women's basketball team, Cal-Jean Lloyd is more than likely at the source. Lloyd is the humorist of this year's team off the court, but when on the court she is all business.

"I like to joke and be sarcastic," said Lloyd, "But on the court, ice might as well be running through my veins because there are no friends on the court. There are four other ladies I am playing with and everyone else is my enemy."

When you are producing an average of 21.4 points and 11 rebounds a game and are the league's leading scorer, ice in the veins is no exaggeration.

Lloyd was born and raised in Tacoma and has been playing basketball since she was 8 years old.

"I was always bigger than most girls were and many people constantly told my mom that I should play basketball," said Lloyd. "With my mom being very supportive, I kind of taught myself how to play the game."

When Lloyd graduated from Mt. Tahoma High School in June 1999, her first intention didn't consist of coming to Highline to play ball. Lloyd received a full-ride scholarship to Southern University in Louisiana. After signing a letter of intent and heading off to school she discovered that S.U. was not the school for her.

"The basketball at Southern wasn't the problem. The problem was that being the black woman that I am from Washington kept me from being treated with respect," said Lloyd. "I experienced a lot of prejudice within my own race that helped me realize that I wanted to attend school closer to home."

Because she signed a letter of intent for a Division I school, it prohibited her from playing at any other divisional school. But it did not prevent her from playing at the community college level.

"When I met Coach [Kim] Olson for it in other areas of her game. That's when she was still in high school," said Lloyd. "Playing at Highline gives me a chance to keep working hard and helps other Northwest schools know who I am and that I can play."

"I like to consider myself as a Charles Barkley kind of player," said Lloyd. "I like to bang it on the inside with the big girls to muscle my way for the rebound."

Although at 5 feet, 9 inches, she is giving up some height to many opponents, she makes up for it in other areas of her game.

"Because of my lack of height, I use my quickness to take it strong to the hole," said Lloyd. "Then I will either use my post-up move to get the score or get the rebound and put it back up."

Lloyd currently is earning a 3.5 GPA and is setting her goals for next year. Lloyd is unsure on her plans for next year.

She may decide to go back to a four-year school and has her sights set on Central Washington University.

"Right now it is not the plan to stay at Highline next year, but anything can happen," said Lloyd. "After this year I just want to be ready to move the next level if my time comes."

...
Taxes do not have to be difficult

Deductibles, Hope Scholarship and 1040EZ. What does it all mean?

By Matthew Unsery
Staff Reporter

There are many ways for college students to relieve the tax-season stress as April 15 draws near.

Because college students always want more money, tax credits can be very helpful.

The Hope Scholarship, for example, is available to most Highline students.

If you are in your first or second year of college, then you are probably eligible for a deduction of up to $1,500.

As long as you don't earn $40,000 per year ($80,000 if you're married), then you are eligible.

The Lifetime tax credit, however, gives a larger deduction than the Hope Scholarship.

As long as you aren't receiving Social Security, then you can receive up to $5,000 in deductions.

The same income ceiling applies to this tax break, as the Hope Scholarship.

In addition to these, "if someone is going to college to maintain or improve their skills, then it is fully deductible," said Marc Hutchinson, a partner in Bashey & Co., a Bellevue accounting firm.

Although some cases are complicated, it is not too difficult to file your own return.

"Generally speaking, they are very easy," said Hutchinson.

He further explained that a student's taxes get more complicated if they have an educational trust fund or are living with their parents.

Students in such circumstances should check with their parents because deductions can be made for parents and students.

It is necessary, however, to be careful because some deductions can't be made by both the student and his or her parents.

If you don't understand what you don't want to spend the time figuring out the rules, help is available online. Starting Tuesday, Feb. 8, a group of Highline students will be filing electronically the 1040A and 1040EZ tax forms for anyone who shows up.

This program, coordinated by the IRS, is free for Highline students, faculty, and the public.

The students have received training from the IRS and can help most students. If, however, a student's taxes are unusually complicated, then he or she should go to a tax specialist.

"We are not professionals, but we can help Highline students," said Highline Professor Cathy Pitts.

"I think that it's a wonderful service," said Pitts.

For more information on this service, call Pitts at 206-878-3710, ext. 3495. If you can't get all of your forms done in time then you can file an extension for a stay of execution.

Hope scholarship available for qualified students

By Alana Blayton
Staff Reporter

Accessing information for the Hope Scholarship can be a lot easier than you think. In fact, receiving a significant credit toward your 1999 tax return could be just a few clicks away.

"Students need to know how to take advantage of the $1,500 credit available to them for qualifying and related expenditures," says Ron Perez, Highline Business Controller.

The Clinton Administration made the Hope Scholarship a part of its 1997 education/tax plan promising to make the first two years of college the new standard for U.S. students.

Though it really isn't a scholarship, more like a tax credit, it can assist those paying higher education costs for their first and second years of undergraduate studies.

You have to actually have income and pay taxes to qualify.

To be eligible you must have been enrolled at least half-time in a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational program. It is only good for the classes paid for within the 1999 tax year.

So if you paid for Winter Quarter classes before Jan. 1, 1999 that quarter would not count toward your 1999 tuition costs.

The form and verification for the tax credit can be accessed through the college via the Internet, or on the computer kiosks in Buildings 6 and 8 on campus.

From your home computer, the information can be found at www.highline.cc.wa.us/registration/records.htm.

Looking in the student records and transcript, your 1999-T form can be found under the "Hope Scholarship Information" heading. This form tells your course and payment details. It helps determine whether the tuition and fees paid qualify for the Hope credit.

The only information you need to access this information is your student identification number and your personal identification number.

Not only is your tuition information available on the Internet, all of the IRS paper work can be found and printed at your convenience, located via their web page, www.irs.gov. All details needed to use the Hope credit can be located in the Tax Publication 970, Tax Benefits for Higher Education. Form 8863- Education Credit, which accompanies Tax Publication 970, can also be located and printed out at the IRS web page.

College employees legally cannot provide tax advice concerning the Hope Scholarship, however, there will be free tax assistance here at Highline this month.

"Students need to know how to take advantage of the $1,500 credit available to them."

"Starting Feb. 8, in Building 3, there will be Highline students trained and certified to assisting students and/or community members in preparing and filing their income tax," Perez said.

Contact Cathy Pitts at 206-878-3170, ext. 3495, for more details.

Advisers help students pave a path to success

By Rachelle Corella
Staff Reporter

This quarter's Advising Week will offer students a chance to make plans with their advisers for Spring Quarter classes as well as overall educational plans, college officials say.

Faculty members will be setting aside extra hours to see students who choose to seek advising Feb. 1-11.

According to Siew Lai Lilley, interim director of Educational Planning, this is an important opportunity for students to get to know their advisers.

"It's important for students to get connected to someone who can give them good advice about their future," Lilley said. Advisers can offer tips on transferring, answer questions, and give general guidance.

Students are usually assigned an adviser who specializes in the student's area of interest. This is a very important aspect of advising, Lilley said. "Instructors are very knowledgeable and familiar with their field," she said. "They can really help students."

Students who have changed educational focus may feel that advising will no longer be helpful to them. Switching advisers, however, is as easy as a change in the computer.

"I think a lot of people have never met with an adviser and are trying to get things done on their own," said Kate Chapelli, a Highline student who is going for an Associate of Arts degree. "But it's important to find a faculty member who you have rapport with."

"Student don't know what their future plans are should definitely see their adviser," said Highline student Jennifer Byrne.

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Crash
continued from page 1

early this morning in the mountains just south of Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (KSJA). The MD-83, which was manufactured in 1992, was registered in Japan and had flown more than 80,000 hours. As of this writing, the NTSB has not released any preliminary information about the crash, but they did confirm that the plane was on a scheduled domestic flight with 102 passengers and five crew members on board.

The NTSB is currently in the process of conducting an investigation to determine the cause of the accident. They have already interviewed witnesses and collected evidence from the scene. The investigation is expected to take several months to complete.

In the meantime, the families of the victims are being offered support by various organizations. Alaska Airlines has set up a hotline for families and friends of the victims to call for assistance. They are offering grief counseling and other resources to help those affected.

Alaska Airlines CEO Mark Schuller said, "We are offering our deepest condolences to the families of the victims. This is a difficult time for everyone involved."

The accident has prompted calls for improved safety measures in the aviation industry. Many experts are calling for better technology and more rigorous training for pilots. Others are calling for stricter regulations to prevent accidents from occurring in the future.

As the investigation continues, families of the victims are urged to remain patient and to allow the NTSB to complete their work. They are also encouraged to seek support from friends, family, and mental health professionals as they grieve the loss of their loved ones.

VSA celebrates new year
By An Nguyen
Staff Reporter

Happy New Year! 2000 was the first year that Vietnam-born New Year was celebrated in the United States. The Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) was one of the main organizers of the event, which took place on January 1.

The VSA planned a day-long celebration at the University of Washington, including a parade, traditional music and dance performances, and a community dinner. The event was attended by thousands of people, including students, faculty, and members of the Vietnamese community.

The VSA's goal was to bring the Vietnamese New Year to the United States and to share its culture with others. They believed that the event would help to raise awareness about Vietnam and its people.

VSA President Trinh Tran said, "This was a special year for us because it was the first time we were able to celebrate the Vietnamese New Year in Seattle. It was a great opportunity to connect with our heritage and to share our culture with others."

The VSA hopes to continue celebrating the Vietnamese New Year in the future and to make it a regular event. They believe that it is important to keep the culture alive and to pass it on to future generations.

The VSA also plans to organize other events throughout the year to celebrate Vietnamese culture. They hope to create a community that is supportive and welcoming to all.

In conclusion, the Vietnamese Student Association has worked hard to promote Vietnamese culture and to bring people together in celebration. They have shown that it is possible to make a difference and to create a positive impact on the world. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors.