Police continue to hold a suspect in the burning of Highline’s pool.

Charges may be filed this week against the man, who was arrested as Des Moines firefighters battled the $300,000 blaze.

The pool is closed and is not expected to reopen. Highline President Dr. Priscilla Bell said the college is working on making other accommodations for the 42 students who were enrolled in the four swimming classes that were held in the pool and registration for the Winter Quarter classes in the pool have been cancelled.

Also affected were an estimated 800 people involved in a swim program with the King Aquatics Club, which leases the pool from the college. Club Director Jerry Olszewski could not be reached for comment.

The college was planning to tear the building down to make way for a new classroom building. Director of Facilities Pete Babington said the pool will be torn down in the next 18 months, and that cleanup will cost the college anywhere from $100,000 to $500,000. Like most state facilities, the college is self-insured.

The blackened ceiling of the pool shows remains of burned insulation.

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Everybody takes a different path to Highline. As for second year student Phillip Swanson, how long he has come is nothing short of a miracle.

After spending most of his youth in the Park Lake neighborhood of West Seattle, where the negativity of the street life is cruel and unforgiving, Swanson considers himself a product of his environment.

"I was in and out of jail for various reasons, everything from theft to assault, for most of my childhood," said Swanson. "I grew up around drug addiction, alcohol abuse, and violence.

This experience was the beginning of a disturbing trend for me."

Swanson was about four at the time I was playing with a lighter in the closet, and burned the whole house down. This experience was the beginning of a disturbing trend for me.

Swanson, who was working on a master's degree in social work, was recently chosen by the college as one of the 42 students who were enrolled in the four swimming classes that were held in the pool.

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Highline students' cousin named interim prime minister of Afghanistan

By BRYAN SHARICK
Staff Reporter

Ehssan and Farid Karzai, who are cousins of Highline students and are the sons of a Pashtun leader from Afghanistan, have been named as the interim prime ministers of Afghanistan.

"The Karzai brothers are the sons of a Pashtun leader from Afghanistan and have been named as the interim prime ministers of Afghanistan," said Farid Karzai.

Farid and his brother, 30-year-old Ehssan, both are close to graduating from the college and will be graduating in May. Both are studying social work and are planning to return to Afghanistan to help rebuild the country.

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What will Highline look like in another 40 years?

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Lady T-Birds and Leonard come up big in Everest Tournament. — See page 9

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See-page 10
Science examines Sept. 11 disaster

By ROBIN COLLINS
Staff Reporter

Many lessons can be learned from the collapse of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11. Lessons about kindness and hatred, the human condition, and global politics. It may even be able to teach us a little something about engineering.

At the Science Seminar on Nov. 30, Highline engineering professors Rebecca Sliger and Bob Maplestone showed their audience the mechanics behind this catastrophic disaster. The towers were discussed will be the different types of financial aid forms, how to fill out the forms, and how the selection process works.

Students art will be up Dec. 10

An exhibition titled "Women on the Edge: Contemporary Writers, Artists, and Filmmakers," will feature student art. Students will exhibit collages, drawings, alters and installations and a video in response to the course. The display will be up in Building 3, room 102 from 10:10 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 10.

Headliners

Nicole Baker was recently hired as a part of the Human Resources staff. Baker will be providing support to the full time staff recruitment process.

Kids show coming to Highline

Tickle Toon Typhoon, a children's show making its annual stop at Highline, will be here Dec. 14 in Building 7. The performance will be from 11 a.m. to noon. Tickets are available at Student Programs and the Parent Education office for $5.

Correction

Bob Maplestone's name was spelled wrong in the Nov. 29 issue. Sign up for Science Seminar

If you are available Friday afternoon and love science, Science Seminar is perfect for you. This one credit class, with no homework or tests, will meet every Friday at 2:10 p.m. in Building 3, room 102. Science Seminar will cover everything from how to build a bridge, outrageous biology, what the World Trade Center building at a downward angle, damaging several floors and destroying one corner of the building. Part of the central columns, including at least one staircase, survived intact, as people have reported escaping from above the impact site.

As the steel supports lost their strength during the blaze, the upper section of the tower collapsed towards its missing corner. The impact caused the lower floors to collapse at 10:05 a.m.

Engineers can use information gleaned from this analysis to design safer buildings. For instance, staircases could be located throughout the building, rather than clumped together.

But engineers can only do so much within the bounds of practicality. "Engineering is always a balance between cost and benefit," Sliger said. "We could build a bomb-proof building, but would you want to live there?"

Next week's Science Seminar will feature Carolyn Brooks in a presentation entitled "What Can You Do With a Sugar But Burn It?" Science Seminar meets every Monday from 10:05 a.m. in Building 3, room 102.
Students decry book prices

BY JENNIFER ESPINOSA
Staff Reporter

Students continue to complain about the high price of textbooks, but bookstore officials say there is nothing they can do about it.

Highline's bookstore is a self-supporting division of the college that provides required and recommended course materials.

Although many students get upset at the costs of books, this is something that cannot be avoided.

"I easily spend over $150 in books each quarter," says Highline student Vanessa Borden. "I'm not even sure where all that money goes."

If you look closely there are small articles posted in the bookstore that do let the buyer know where the money is going.

According to the articles they state that 76 percent of the money goes to the publishers, while 10 percent goes to bookstore salaries and only 8 percent actually goes to the school.

The bookstore brought in $2.5 million this year, and Highline received $150,000 of it.

"Unfortunately most of the money is going to the publishers," says bookstore manager Fisher, "The school really doesn't see much of the money."

In the years that Fisher has been at Highline he has only seen book prices go up, never down.

"I always tell students to buy used books," said Fisher. "At the end of the quarter when you sell your books back you still get half off of the original price whether you paid that or not."

Brandon Hicks is a current student who is now in his third quarter here at Highline. He is one of the many students who works full-time to pay for his education.

"I just don't feel like it is necessary for books to be so expensive. It is very discouraging for students who want to go to school," says Hicks.

Hicks says that paying for school on his own does push him to get good grades, however paying so much for books is going too far.

"Although the bookstore encourages students to also check for their text books online for better prices when you include shipping and handling the prices remain the same," says Shannon Greiw, the bookstore buyer.

"We do offer coupons and deals when we can."

One special that is going on now is the 12 days of shopping at the bookstore. Everything from school supplies to snacks will be on sale.

"Students should really take advantage of this," says Fisher. "I am here to help and I have a wonderful staff."

Randy's World

Books, music, and a passion for the arts

As told to Jennifer Espinosa

You might know Randy Fisher as the bookstore manager, or as Highline's newest homecoming queen.

"I was delighted to be nominated homecoming queen," says Fisher. "It was a lot of fun."

Fisher is an openly gay man who enjoys the fine arts.

He graduated from Eastern Washington University with a major in music and a minor in voice.

Fisher has been in the music scene for a long time.

"I'm the tenor soloist at St. Thomas Episcopal," says Fisher, "I also sing with the Seattle Choral Company."

Fisher performed with the Seattle Choral Company on the weekend of Dec. 1 and 2. The Bell is one of the pieces that he performed.

Fisher is very excited because on April 1 he will be going to London to sing:

"This will be my first time away from the bookstore at the beginning of a quarter," said Fisher.

Fisher has worked various bookstores for 25 years. He started as a retail clerk at Spokane Falls Community College.

He then spent 15 years at Eastern Washington University.

He has been the bookstore manager at Highline for the last four and a half years.

"Running a bookstore is a business, however you have to make it fun," says Fisher.

The bookstore, located on the lower level of Building 6, is having a sale currently that is the 12 days of shopping which is a replica of the 12 days of Christmas.

The only difference is that all the specials will spell out the name of Frank Sinatra in celebration of his birthday.

Fisher likes to share his love of music with the students.

"Being around all of these college students makes me feel young, and I really enjoy all of the energy they bring."

Photos by Joe Walker

Top: Fisher has enjoyed working at the Highline bookstore for over four and a half years and, bottom, likes sharing his love for music with students on campus.

By Jennifer Espinosa

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Photos by Joe Walker

Top: Fisher has enjoyed working at the Highline bookstore for over four and a half years and, bottom, likes sharing his love for music with students on campus.
Financial aid office needs better customer service

You can't get far on this campus without hearing a complaint about the Financial Aid office.

The biggest complaint at Highline seems to revolve around Building 6. People are very satisfied with the classroom experience at Highline. They also enjoy the activities and extra-curricular activities that we provide. But having to deal with signing up for classes and getting Financial Aid things taken care of is frequently an unpleasant experience.

A common defense for the slowness of the service is that every school is that way. True, many (certainly not all) schools might slow. That's like the kid who says he did something bad because everyone else was doing it - so which the parent gives the famous reply, "So would you jump off a cliff if everyone else was?"

The same question presents itself here: is it OK for Financial Aid to be slow if all the other schools are? No. In many ways Highline is a paragon of excellence for other community colleges in the region - that notion should be evident in all areas of the school.

Before we dig too much into financial aid, the students themselves must first be chastised. Too many people wait for too long to turn in their forms and applications. If you know that you're going to need financial aid, get it taken care of and out of the way instead of waiting for the deadline. Too many people waiting for the last minute to get things taken care of are putting a lot of unnecessary strain on the financial aid office.

The college needs to put more emphasis on making sure that the Financial Aid office runs more smoothly. It seems that this end of the semester is extraordinarily busy in that office. There are many complaints that the people in the office are rude. But of course, some concession to them must be made because the people they deal with are surely no angels.

Perhaps more people need to be on staff in the Financial Aid office. This could help very much in making things run more expeditiously and proficiently. Having one person at the desk with a line all the way out the door and around the corner is just not cutting it. The Financial Aid office is a very important component of Highline, and it should represent the excellence that is achieved throughout the rest of the campus.

The opinion page

Editorials are the opinion of the management of the newspaper which includes the editorial board members Bryan Sharick, Janica Lockhart, Jason DesLongchamp, CJ Gambrel, Joe Walker, and Jordan Whitley. Columns represent the opinions of the individual authors. Letters to the editor represent the opinions of the readers.

Letters to the editor are welcome. Letters should be no more than 300 words long, and are subject to editing for style and length. The Thunderword invites contributions of all types from the campus community. Please submit to thunderword@hcc.ctc.edu or deliver to Building 10, room 106.

Henry David Thoreau said that most men lead lives of quiet desperation. The longer I live, the more I've come to see that this is true. This scares the crap out of me.

I know that if there is one thing that holds me back, it's The Fear. I think The Fear is what leads most people to a life of quiet desperation.

This summer I went to my first improv comedy show and I loved it. I totally wanted to get into it. For the first few days after the show, I was looking into classes and practicing with my friends all the time. Once the initial excitement wore off, I got scared. In getting scared, I started to lose interest. I was thinking that I would get up on stage and I wouldn't be able to come up with anything funny. I would look like an idiot. I was able to rationalize myself out of taking a chance and trying something new.

I spend so much time thinking and planning and never doing. I sit down to write and when nothing short of Shakespeare doesn't emerge I get frustrated and beat myself and the devil that I have produced.

The truth is I'm scared that I'm not as good as I hope I am and I find it much easier to trip myself down than to build myself up. Why does this bother me? Why am I giving myself and other people so much crap? Because I don't want to hold back anymore because I'm scared. I don't want to see myself or others capitulate because we are too scared to see what happens when we do something that will get us a reaction that is not familiar or necessarily comfortable. I want to break out of the conformist mind set and live a life that is truly unique. I want to scrutinize ideas and so-called values and norms to truly discover what I want for myself. We shouldn't let The Fear hold us hostage all our lives.

I think that The Fear will always be there for everyone - it's just that some people are crazy enough to walk through the fire. Some people take risks - they are brave enough to dare The Fear, and they find that it was not nearly as fearsome as they had feared. The Fear will always be there for everyone - it's just that some people are crazy enough to walk through the fire. Some people take risks - they are brave enough to dare The Fear, and they find that it was not nearly as fearsome as they had feared. The Fear will always be there for everyone - it's just that some people are crazy enough to walk through the fire. Some people take risks - they are brave enough to dare The Fear, and they find that it was not nearly as fearsome as they had feared.

Jason still sleeps with a night light because he is afraid of The Dark.
I don't care what you do, just do something

I am a dumbass.

I am given many opportunities that not everyone gets. I am frequently given opportunities that I dream of. And what do I do? I sit back and do some sort of stuff, I dream about someone. I dream so much that tomorrow comes and goes, and I don't even notice. My life is a Rip Van Winkle metaphor.

The worst part about this is, nothing gets done. I'm sick of doing everything. It's not actually that I don't do anything, because I do, it's just that I never do it in my full potential. I always do just enough to get by.

The Bible says life is but a fleeting vapor. I believe that's true.

Just the other day I was looking in my rearview mirror, and I saw an old guy just sitting in his car, totally unaware of everything. Fifty years ago he was the same as me, and 50 years from now I'll be the same as him. Nobody plans, or even wants to become old and unaware, but inevitably it happens to everyone. So my challenge to you is this. While you're still young, just do something. It doesn't matter what. The best things in life come from the greatest risks.

Talk to that cute girl in your math class. You have nothing to lose. If she doesn't want to give you at least one chance she wasn't worth it anyway.

Write that book you've always wanted to write, or paint that picture that you've been thinking about but hadn't made the time to do it.

There's no such thing as "not enough time." Everyone has the exact same amount of time per day, it just depends on what you do with it. If you don't get things done, it's because you don't make time.

Martha Stewart has the same amount of time to prepare for Christmas as we do, but hers is going to be way more kick-ass.

When you're on your deathbed, are you going to regret not getting enough sleep, or are you going to regret not spending enough time with your family and friends because you didn't feel like it because you were tired?

Are you going to regret missing an episode of Friends, or are you going to regret not going out to dinner with your family while you were still alive?

The other day, I had the benefit of going to a friend's sister's sweet 16. Her brother and a couple of friends got together and performed a song they wrote. They put in a lot of effort, and it made her birthday a lot more special.

A couple of other friends wrote a poem for her while the other played a conga. Those people made an extra effort and actually did something that was out of the ordinary and it made for a beautiful birthday party, and a beautiful thing for me to witness.

So just go do and something. Most likely it will make somebody else's life better, and in the end what's more important? How much you pleased one person, or by not doing anything, or how much you did for other people, which will effect a number of people even after you die.

Any fool can please himself, but it takes a truly wise person to sacrifice your time for other people.

Maybe the problem is that you don't know what to do. So try this exercise used in one of my all-time favorite movies, Office Space. Ask yourself what you would do if you had a million dollars. Whatever you come up with is what you should do.

Granted, you probably don't have a million dollars, but at least you have a goal, and why spend the rest of your life doing something you hate, when you can at least say you tried to do something you love?

Don't be like me and read this and be really encouraged and then forget about it the next day and go back to your normal way of living. If you have to, pin this up somewhere, or do whatever it takes to remind you to live everyday like it's your last, or at least the first day of the rest of your life.

Don't be like me. Don't be a dumbass. Take your opportunities, make the best of them, and just do something.

A great journalism professor once said, "There are no such things as problems, just opportunities."

CJ gives a lot of himself on Wednesdays.
Bands battle for cash, food

Johnson cruises to victory, fans

By Joe Walker
Staff Reporter

Building 7 was rocking to the sounds of local rock jockeys last Friday night for The Battle of the Bands. The five local bands that played were 7th Avenue, Austin America, Go Ahead and the guitar army of Cruz Johnson.

7th Avenue was up first with a Seattle grunge sound with a hint of surfer added on for flavor. Following 7th Avenue was Austin America, who gave a tribute to George Harrison, the late Beatle lead guitarist. Their sound is heavily influenced by the 60's style rock with the smooth jazz bass riffs by Mike Steele.

Next up was Cruz Johnson, the idea of three guitarists may sound like hell but actually it sounded pretty good. They came out in different colored jumpsuits, which were shed throughout their performance.

Jared Hodges entertained the crowd with his wireless guitar allowing him free range of the stage. Cruz Johnson brought the crowd into the act by coming out from behind the mics encouraging people to clap along to their songs.

After Cruz Johnson was Pac Plant, who brought in a mixed bag of punk, pop and ska. The lead singer's voice resembled Scott Stapp from Creed. Their shortest bass player got into the music by slamming back and forth behind his mike.

Last but certainly not least was Go Ahead with the standard three player band. With their pop/punk sound was accentuated by their stand-up comedy act between songs. The bassist thought he had odor issues and proceeded to apply deodorant on stage and toss the stick into the crowd.

At the end of the night the crowd voted on who was the top band and Cruz Johnson won by a landslide. Cruz Johnson is currently hunting for a music contract.

Music recitals to show Highline's talent

By Chuck Holmes
Staff Reporter

Highline will be featuring its finest pianists and vocalists in a series of recitals beginning Dec. 9.

Recitals are in Building 7, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. The recitals are free and open to the public.

The first of five recitals will feature advanced vocalists mostly from Highline, but will also include high school students and one 17-year-old. This recital is actually "one of the preparatory recitals preceding national level competition," said Sandra Glover, head of the Music Conservatory who has also taught many of the performers.

Dec. 10 will have four recitals, and all but the 11 a.m. performance will also be the finals for those who perform. "These students perform for their grades," Glover said. "The finals will take place in Building 7, so students will get use of the Estonia piano."

The students however, have had previous experience with the Estonia. "They'll get practice on the last class day," Glover said. "They've already performed in a closed public recital in front of their peers."

When Glover decides the students' grades, she is not looking for whoever performed the most complete piece. It is not so important how difficult the piece is, but rather, "how beautifully expressed it is."

Beginning pianists play at 10 a.m. with a guest appearance by Anna Hicks, a Running Start student.

The 11 a.m. recital will feature intermediate students and "the highlight of that recital is the appearance of Dan Tacke, also a running start student."

Conservatory plans open house

The Conservatory of Music at Highline will host an Open House Saturday, Dec. 8, 2001, noon-3 p.m., in Building 4. The event is free and open to the public and refreshments will be served.

The Open House gives parents and students a chance to meet Conservatory teachers, assess students' needs and to learn about the organization, its standards, and the classes offered during Winter Quarter, kinds of private instruction and upcoming summer programs.

The Conservatory allows students who could not otherwise get a high quality music education will have the chance to be exposed to and be trained by highly specialized professional musicians. A great deal of training is critical for preprofessional musicians to be accepted for upper level conservatory and university, possibly with scholarships. However, the conservatory is not just for those pursuing a career in music. The general public can also enjoy music study as a lifelong enrichment, as well as for the joy of the art.

Sandra Glover

Glover said.

The noon and 7 p.m. recitals feature classical voice students who are also graded on tone, nuance and expression.

"The very fine accompanist assisting the voice students of the noon recital is Nancy Warner, director of work-force training on campus. She has been indispensable to the success of singers' performances. Anna Hicks and Dan Tacke accompany the evening recital. We are very lucky to have such talent available on this campus."

Once again the recitals are open to the public. "Please attend these free recitals and you will be helping students strengthen their performance skills," Glover said.
BY MONICA KOSTIEKA
AND KATIE McALPIN
Staff Reporters

The holiday season is here and many Highline students are in the spirit.

"For Christmas this year, I want a happy family gathering with everyone getting along and having a great time," said Highline student Stephanie Moe.

"For Christmas I want to be with everyone in my family," said Michael Boyak.

In addition to spending time with their families, other students are asking for more lighthearted gifts.

"I want a lot of snowboarding gear for Christmas," said Nick Fel. Another student said they want a George Foreman grill to cook for her family. Money was another popular item for many students.

"For Christmas I want anything I don't have to clean up after, like money," said Peter Lee.

"I want money for Christmas," said Jared Yamamoto.

Some Christmas requests were a little more unusual.

"I want whipps and hand cuffs," said Steve Hoyt.

"Cat 'O Nine Tails, and a set of handcuffs," said Sean McCauley.

One student said he wanted a white fluffy bunny with a bag of carrots.

These are many aspects about the holidays that people enjoy.

"I like the colorful lights and the high spirits," said Fel.

"I love the Christmas traditions like the tree decorations, parties, and songs," said Moe.

Vibrant colors drip with emotion from the paintings of Anatoliy Voznyarskiy. Voznyarskiy's art is currently being showcased in the library's Fourth Floor Gallery.

Voznyarskiy is a native of Ukraine and has studied art in Kiev, Ukraine and Riga, Latvia. He has been living in America with his family since January. Look at Voznyarskiy's paintings and your imagination will tell you stories you've never heard before. His soul is exposed in the depth of his imagery. The painting Fluidity of time, consists of three separate frames in oil. The left frame pictures two female hands crossing each other under raindrops. Backed by sand dunes, the red desert is accentuated by a red candle burning in the right hand corner.

The middle frame shows a beautiful woman growing out of the candle. Her fair face is draped by long brown hair. One half shows the tree growing out of the cracked earth. The top quarter of the frame is separated by horizontal lengths boxed off by the other, expressing the inside.

Here's the perfect gift for under $10

BY KATIE McALPIN
AND MONICA KOSTIEKA
Staff Reporters

Here is an inexpensive way to give a thoughtful gift. Here is what you will need to get started:

1 stocking
1 package of Starburst
1 stick of gum
Hershey's Hugs and Kisses
1 match
Tootsie Rolls
1 package of Smarties
1 package of Lifesavers
1 Snickies
1 Almond Joy
1 Giant
1 Payday
1 package of Nerds
1 orange
1 candle
1 notebook
Place all contents in the stocking except the notebook.

Write the following on the notecard:

New Year's Survival kit:
Starburst-To give you a burst of energy on days you don't have any.

Stick of gum-to remind you to stick with it.

Hugs & Kisses-to remind you that you are loved and appreciated.

A match-to light a fire when you feel burnt out.

Tootsie Rolls-to remind you not to bite off more than you can chew.

Smarties-to help you on days you don't feel so smart.

Lifesavers-To help you stay alert when you have a sinking feeling.

Snickers-to remind you to take time to laugh.

Almond Joy-a reminder to enjoy the simple pleasures.

100 Giant-to remind you to drink red.

Payday-to remind you to show up and you will always be paid.

Nerds-there is a little need in all of us.

Orange to remind you too are Sunkist.

Candle-to remind you to shine brightly.

Sign your name at the bottom of the card and place it in the stocking.

Now you have a meaningful gift to give to someone special.

Gallery show offers emotion

BY CHRIS NUEZ
Staff Reporter

Vibrant colors drip with emotion from the paintings of Anatoliy Voznyarskiy. Voznyarskiy is a native of Ukraine and has studied art in Kiev, Ukraine and Riga, Latvia. He has been living in America with his family since January. Look at Voznyarskiy's paintings and your imagination will tell you stories you've never heard before. His soul is exposed in the depth of his imagery. The painting Fluidity of time, consists of three separate frames in oil. The left frame pictures two female hands crossing each other under raindrops. Backed by sand dunes, the red desert is accentuated by a red candle burning in the right hand corner.

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The movie tells the story of Clooney and Pitt, who want to steal money from three Las Vegas casinos. They hire Damon and Don Cheadle to help rob the casinos and they even get Roberts involved as Clooney’s ex-wife. The movie has Steven Soderbergh as a director, who just won an Academy Award for Traffic. That’s it. That’s the film you should see this season, Ocean’s 11 which open Dec. 7 at a theater near you.

Janica will be starring next year in the summer blockbuster; How Russell Crowe Became My Boy.

Solution to last week’s puzzle

ANIMAL INSTINCT

Crossword 101

By Ed Caust

Across
1 John Wilkes Booth, e.g. 
6 Woe is me 
10 Natural enclosure 
14 Din 
15 Bad tennis score 
16 Singles 
17 Actress Sophia 
18 Hired thug 
19 Candy bar 
20 Jack Nicholson & Helen Hunt movie 
23 Alphabet clinker 
24 Undesirable plant 
25 Ms. Merman 
27 All of your assets 
30 Subject 
31 Pollster 
35 Crazy 
36 Al Pacino movie
41 Chum 
42 Footstep 
43 Dwelling 
46 Goal 
50 Written records 
51 College O.C.S perhaps 
54 Edge 
55 George Clooney movie 
59 Attack 
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61 Follows Land 
62 “A Death in The Family” author 
63 Oswald & others 
64 Cake finishing touch 
65 Oddball 
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67 Moon cycle 
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7 Free from restraint 
8 Put off 
9 Dispatched 
10 The iceman 
11 Curse 
12 Post 
13 Before tea 
14 Resigned 
22 Grasp with the mind 
26 Mr. Zeppelin 
28 Get old 
29 True skins 
32 In Hollywood a marriage is a success if it outlasts milk. 
35 Gopher’s reference point 
36 Undermine
37 Haberdasher 
38 Hitch 
39 Lyric poem

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By GPB Associates • E-Mail is@nerd.com • PO Box 411, Schenectady, NY 12301
Leonard leads T-Birds to Championship

BY BRYAN SHMUCK
Staff Reporter

Highline traveled to Everett for a tournament and came back the champions. In route to winning, Highline had to beat Yakima Valley, Chemeketa, and Spokane. Overall, for the tournament, the Thunderbirds shot 39.4 percent from the field.

"The tournament was a good thing to see where we were as a team," said Shalynn Leonard. "It was surprising to beat the Spokane Sasquatch and won 66-60."

"It was a real stepping stone because we played together as one unit," said Jones. "It was a real stepping stone because we played together as one unit," said Jones. Leonard picked up her second double-double of the tournament with 16 points and 14 rebounds in 27 minutes. Leslie Jeffries also shot four out of seven from three-point range for the game.

"The tournament was definitely a good test for the beginning of the season," said Jeffries. "It was a real stepping stone because we played together as one unit," said Jones. "It was a real stepping stone because we played together as one unit," said Jones. Leonard picked up her second double-double of the tournament with 16 points and 14 rebounds in 27 minutes. Leslie Jeffries also shot four out of seven from three-point range for the game.

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McDonald, Cardenas tag team Mt. Hood Saints

BY MATTHEW MILLER
Staff Reporter

Jason Cardenas and Jesliani McDonald helped carry Highline to a victory over Mt. Hood on Saturday as they combined to score 43 points and grab 34 rebounds.

Cardenas led Highline in scoring with 24 points, going 11 of 16 shooting from the field, and grabbing 22 rebounds while McDonald added 21 points and 12 rebounds as the Thunderbirds beat the Saints 87-78 at the Pavillion.

In a game in which Mt. Hood forced Highline to commit 30 turnovers, the Thunderbirds were able to hold off the Saints with great individual efforts in the first half by McDonald and in the second by Cardenas.

Throughout the first half Highline was clicking on all cylinders. Mt. Hood had no answers for McDonald and the Thunderbirds as they shot 65 percent from the field.

McDonald, a 6'5" freshman from Clovis Calif., set the tempo for Highline by scoring 14 of his 16 first half points in the paint. McDonald absolutely dominated the Mt. Hood big men in the first half.

Cardenas

Time after time he was able to get himself in position for his teammates to find him for the open shot. McDonald also helped his own cause by grabbing five offensive rebounds in the first half.

"I just got myself in good position around the boards and my teammates found me when we were open. We played real good in the first half," said McDonald.

Highline went into the locker room halftime with a 36-30 lead over Mt. Hood.

As the second half started Mt. Hood began to pressure the T-Birds' ball handlers and were able to force turnovers. Highline looked out of sync for most of the second half but Cardenas, who is a solidly built 6'0", was able to keep Highline in the game with 16 second half points while McDonald was on the bench with four fouls.

"Jesliani is an important key to our team, so when he was sitting out I had to step up a little bit," said Cardenas. "Head Coach Jeff Albrecht was impressed with the efforts of both big men as they stepped up their scoring for Highline while team captain and leading scorer Danny Aldrete is sidelined with a knee injury.

You take your point guard, your leading scorer, and your point guard all in one out and it is pretty devastating," said Albrecht. "Cardenas' 22 rebounds was the most that Albrecht has seen in his six years coaching at Highline.

"Jason Cardenas was monstrous. He was a little hesitant with the previous four games to score, but he stepped it up offensively tonight and showed what he can do," said Albrecht. "This was a much better game at point guard since high school," said Albrecht. "If I had to pick one point game out of the last six games, this was it."

Cardenas

Austen Nicholson who took over for Aldrete at point guard was four rebounds away from a double double as he scored 15 points and dished out 11 assists and grabbed six rebounds. It was also Nicholson's first game as point guard since high school. "I played point guard in high school but I never played it for 38 seconds so I'm learning," said Nicholson. "Those guys [Mt. Hood] had good defense. We turned the ball over a lot but we did a lot of good things too, we just played hard and stayed in the game. We didn't put our heads down when we turned the ball over and that's why we won." Highline is now 4-1 after five preseason games.

Over winter break the Thunderbirds will travel to play in the Cascade league play which begins on Jan. 3 when Clark comes to the Pavilion to take on the defending champions.

Highline will take on the Bellevue Hurricanes on Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Pavillion.

The T-Birds will also be playing in two tournaments over the break, one in Spokane on Dec. 14-16, and one in Shoreline on Dec. 27-29.
Sports

December 6, 2001

T-Birds represent well at all-star games

By Jason Walker
Staff Reporter

Highline hosted the men's and women's all-star soccer matches last Saturday at McConnaughey Field.

The women played first at 11 a.m. and the men followed at 1 p.m.

On a day that the weather was not the best to see the talent that was on display the four teams put on a good show. A rain soaked field hindered the skill level that was unable to reach it's potential.

In the first game the Northwest Division all-stars beat the Southwest all-stars 2-0. The Northeast got all of its offense from the Walla Walla connection of Brandi Johnson and Alyssa Latham.

Johnson put the Northeast in the lead. Johnson then returned the favor assisting on Latham's goal that put the Northeast up 2-0.

The Southwest team had two members from the Highline women's team representing them, Beannna Schultz and Sara Short.

In the second game of the day the men's game was played in a constant downpour.

With neither team able to play to their full potential the Southwest battled the elements and came away with a 3-0 win.

Despite the Southwest Division's poor showing in the play-offs, they got a little bit of revenge in the all-star game.

"The middle part of the game was played the best," said Highline and Southwest all-star Coach Jason Prenovost. "The last 20 minutes of the first half and the first 30 minutes of the second half were played the best." Chris Brooks of Shoreline put the Southwest up 1-0 off an assist from Scott Corwin of Southwest Oregon.

The Southwest team then went up 2-0 on a goal that was set up and scored by a trio of Highline players. Ryan Haney sent a ball to the top of the penalty area where it was flicked on beautifully by Fanah Mansaray to Bo Peterson who took the pass in stride and put the ball into the back of the net.

Kevin Crucey of Pierce College tallied the final score for the Southwest. Crucey's goal was unassisted.

Highline had a total of six players that competed for the Southwest all-stars: Gabe Andrews, Daisuke Kimpara, Kelly Lappow, Haney, Peterson, and Mansaray all represented Highline.

From back left Gabe Andrews, Bo Peterson, Kelly LeProwe, and Coach Jason Prenovost, and front row, left, Daisuke Kimpara, Fanah Mansaray, Ryan Haney, represented the Highline men's soccer team in the 2001 NWAACC All-Star game last weekend at Highline. Earlier in the day Beannna Schultz tangles with an opponent in the women's all-star game.

Wrestling takes it to Canada

Highline wrestlers do well at dual match in B.C.

By Micah Theckston
Staff Reporter

The Highline wrestling team split matches in a double dual with our neighbors to the north last Saturday.

The T-Birds beat non-league and Canadian school Douglas 34-17, before losing to Simon Fraser University, 22-21.

"We wrestled as a team, overall it was a good day," said Head Coach Todd Owens.

The dual was a chance for all of the guys on the team to participate.

"Everyone got to compete," said Owens. "There was a lot of improvement overall."

The team woke up early Saturday morning and drove five hours to Westminster, B.C. When all was said and done with the dual the Highline men packed up their gear and headed home that night.

"You don't notice, or even think about it," said 285 pound freshman Kyle Kenney. "You train the same, and don't let up just because you have to travel."

Highline's next meet is in Parkland, WA against PLU and league opponent Clarkamass. The match is set for 7 p.m. on Thursday Dec. 6.

"It'll be a good match. Normally we get to see a conference team by this point in the season," said Coach Owens. "We'll see what we're looking at for the tournament at the end of the year."

Highline has had a modest amount of trouble keeping the team healthy.

"We're a bunch dinged up and trying to fill holes," said Coach Owens. "(Chris) Babka is coming back though, we'll see what he's got."

"I'm pumped to be back. I missed three crucial weeks because of torn cartilage in my ribs," said 184 pound sophomore Babka.

After this week the T-Birds will have some time off before getting their first meet at home.

"I'm giving them finals week off," said Coach Owens. "They come back for a triple dual against Yakima, Southwest Oregon, and Clarkamass (Dec 21 at 2:30 p.m.)."

Highline will be at home in January, with duals againstlicks College Jan. 4, North Idaho Jan. 8, and a rematch with Simon Fraser on Jan. 10. All of the duals will be in the Pavilion at 7 p.m.

"Every match is tough and you have to continue to train harder," said Kinney.

HELP WANTED

The Thunderword has a number of openings for Winter Quarter, including advertising manager; photographers; and a graphics editor. Positions can be internships for credit; pay possible for the right person. The Thunderword offers a pleasant working atmosphere, flexible hours, and real-world experience on a weekly newspaper. For information, contact T.M. Sell in 10-106 or call 206-878-3710, ext. 3292, or e-mail thunderword@hcc.ctc.edu.
Aerobics and dance make popular class

BY CARRIE WOOD
Staff Reporter

Nine disappointed students were turned away from Highline’s new Hip Hop Aerobics class this fall. “More people wanted the class than we had room for,” said Melissa Kiffe, personal trainer and the energetic young teacher of the new Hip Hop Aerobics class. “Because I love this class so much it was hard to turn those students away.”

In April, Kiffe nabbed a PE class. There was a really good response, so Highline asked her to come back, said Kiffe. “I saw a need for students for different kinds of choreography, something a little more fun,” Kiffe said. Kiffe wrote a paper based on why this class would benefit students and submitted it to Highline and, as a result, the Hip Hop Aerobics class was introduced at Highline.

“I signed up for this class because I thought it would be a fun alternative to the normal aerobics classes that are offered here at Highline,” said Jewel Fitzgerald, president of the Student Government and also a student in the Hip Hop Aerobics class.

The average class size is about 30 people. The class consists of the memorization of various dance routines. A different routine is taught each week to the rhythms of both old and contemporary hip-hop artists. This class is offered to any student, from beginner to expert.

“I haven’t danced before, so I wanted to try to learn to dance,” said Kana Koyaji, a student in the class. “I love to dance and I love the instructor,” said Venika Parhar, also a student in the class.

“This is a really good class and easy to follow,” said Kiffe. “Some people had the idea that the class would consist of club moves, but it’s choreographed.”

“I had no idea,” said Felial Nouri, a student in the class.

But students can do it if they try hard enough, says Kiffe.

“I like how we learn the different routines,” said Vanessa Casanova, a student in the class.

The Hip Hop Aerobics class may become a requirement for all students who are involved in Highline’s cheer squad in the near-future, Kiffe says. But the class is only offered on Mondays and Wednesdays, from noon until 12:50.

“THERE IS A NEED TO SCHEDULE THIS CLASS AT DIFFERENT TIMES,” Kiffe said.

Scoreboard

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| Chehalis         |        |        |
| SW Oregon        |        |        |
| Mt. Hood         |        |        |
| Linn-Benton      |        |        |
| Lacey            |        |        |
| Umpqua           |        |        |
| Portland         |        |        |
| Eastern Division |        |        |
| Walla Walla      |        |        |
| Big Bend         |        |        |
| Chief Tacoma     |        |        |
| Blue Mountain    |        |        |

| **Women’s Basketball** |        |        |
| **League** | **Season** | **Scores** |
| Highline     |        |        |
| Centralia    |        |        |
| Puget Sound  |        |        |
| Linn-Benton  |        |        |
| Lacey        |        |        |
| Umpqua       |        |        |
| Portland     |        |        |
| Eastern Division |    |        |
| Walla Walla  |        |        |
| Big Bend     |        |        |
| Chief Tacoma |        |        |
| Blue Mountain|        |        |

**Scores**

| **Western Division** |        |        |
| Highline             |        |        |
| Puget Sound          |        |        |
| Clark                |        |        |
| Centralia            |        |        |
| Puget Sound          |        |        |
| Linn-Benton          |        |        |
| Lacey                |        |        |
| Umpqua               |        |        |
| Portland             |        |        |
| Eastern Division     |        |        |
| Walla Walla          |        |        |
| Big Bend             |        |        |
| Chief Tacoma         |        |        |
| Blue Mountain        |        |        |

**Track gets off to a running start**

BY JEFFREY G. PARKER
Staff Reporter

They push each other with tough competition, striving to be the fastest runners in their event. These are the 15 individuals who practice each day for spring track.

The track team has been training hard every day since the first week of October for the upcoming track season. Highline’s track team this year picked up two new coaches, distance running coach Robert Yates, and sprinting coach Les Black.

“We got a lot of guys that are just outstanding. The other junior schools don’t know what we have not been set yet,” said runner Jordan Foytyn.

“I think we will be able to really compete with the other teams,” said runner Erin Bialy. Coach Black works with the sprinters every day with their form, flexibility, endurance and strength training.

“We push each other to do our best,” said Bialy. “There is a lot of encouragement from one another, we all get along,” said runner Tessa Walker.

The team expects to improve in overall performance from last year, and to improve the track team’s image.

“We are strong in the sprinting events, but we need a little more depth in the field events,” said runner Gunner Argo.

This year the track team will be sending runners to a few indoor meets as part of their conditioning for the outdoor season.

Highline runners will be competing at the Dempsey Indoor Facility at the University of Washington. Dempsey is a state-of-the-art facility that holds a 300-meter track.

Highline will go to at least two meets there on Jan. 12, 2002, and Jan. 21, and possibly a couple of meets in February if we have not been set yet.

Some of the distance runners will travel to Vancouver, Wash. to run in the U.S. National Cross Country Championships on Feb. 9 and 10.

“Something like that is to see the best runners in America. And it breaks up the monotony, the indoor training,” said Coach Yates.

These meets are “gearing up for outdoor track and in-ward for all the hard work these kids have been putting in,” said Yates.
Class makes piece for AIDS quilt

BY SUZANNE LONG
Staff Reporter

Primary colors are the scribbled messages of hope, sadness and fears about a disease for which there is no cure, AIDS.

Deciding to share their new awareness on the subject, the class of Dr. Bob Baugher put up a banner for display in the Student Union in Building B, in recognition of World AIDS Day which was held on Dec. 1.

Inviting student messages, the banner will be contributed as part of a quilt to "The Names Project" and be part of the 50,000 quilts that travel the country promoting AIDS awareness in a moving memorial.

"Despite all the research, everyday in the U.S. there are 100 new people becoming HIV-positive," said Dr. Baugher, a psychologist who is teaching "Understanding AIDS" to a class of 21 women and one man. "It's been 20 years now and we are used to hearing about it and it has been pushed to the side," said Baugher. "But AIDS is still here and it's not going anywhere."

Dr. Bob, as his students refer to him, has been teaching this course since 1989. He had only three students show up for his first class but by word of mouth his class grew from and has continued to grow.

The class educates people on the many aspects of AIDS; its history, the myths and fears associated with it, both risk factors and prevention, the diagnosis, care-giving issues, and dealing with the grief for the person with AIDS and for those close to them.

"AIDS is different from cancer," said Baugher. "It can be given to another person and to many people."

"We can stop one person from spreading this disease," said Baugher, "then the students have saved lives, maybe their own."

The reaction of the class for many of his students before the class was fear about the topic of AIDS.

As the course continues, "their heads start spinning as it starts to hit home," said Baugher. "Sometimes it is the push they need to get tested themselves or tell someone they care about to get tested."

He plans on teaching the course until AIDS is cured or until he retires or dies. "I don't see the cure coming soon," said Baugher. "I hope I am wrong, but the scary thing is I don't believe I will be."

Give something extra for Xmas

BY KIRSTEN WALLACE
AND BRADWICK SPANGLER
Staff Reporters

The holiday season is not only about giving; it's also about giving back.

Many charities and non-profit organizations rely on this concept throughout the year, including December.

Highline students who look will find more than enough volunteer spots to go around, and no matter how many people charity groups have to help, more are always needed.

Here's a list of some local charities that are in desperate need of volunteers throughout December.

* The Salvation Army's Toy Joy program provides new toys for children 12 and under.
  * volunteers in need come to specific locations and choose their own toys for their children. Each family receives one major toy per child, such as a video, book or game. Each child also receives one stocking stuffer. Every family is also awarded a gift certificate towards food from Fred Meyer.
  * The Salvation Army needs volunteers to process paperwork, stock shelves and help families while they shop.
  * "Many of the families don't speak English or become overwhelmed with the selection of items," said Joann Reinikka from the Federal Way Salvation Army location. They are expecting to help 400 families this year. Currently, they only have five volunteers, and still have 15 spots that need to be filled.
  * Volunteers are needed anytime between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 19.
  * Mamma's Hands is also in need of year round volunteers who are skilled in coordinating events, offering guidance in job searching, counseling and fundraising.
  * To volunteer with any part of the Mamma's Hands program, or to donate food, blankets and coats or to make a financial donation, please contact Denny Hancock at 206-915-2073.
  * The Friend To Friend Program provides trained volunteers to visit a specific person twice a month for at least a year at an assisted living facility or nursing home.
  * The program has been operating for 27 years and serves more than 200 homes and facilities in King, Pierce, and Snohomish County. The volunteers choose the location and are provided training. They either visit with their friend at the home or do an activity outside it.
  * "It's amazing how much it means to them, when you bring a flower, cookie, or a Krispy Kreme," said Harriet Thomsen, Federal Way coordinator for volunteers and facilities. During the holidays many civic groups make visits, which are greatly appreciated, but their needs reach beyond the holiday season. "After the holidays they're put back on a shelf and are forgotten," said Thomsen.

AAA LIQUIDATING
Husky gloves - $5
Seahawks gloves - $10
Wireless mouse (20 only) $46 on Dec 6th
Pro Pocket Mechanic - $15
Lego pack set - $35

TWO LOCATIONS
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(206) 824-2625
**Guite succeeds in business and politics**

By Casi Corella
Staff Reporter

After years of losing, Jerry Guite has come out on top.

Guite has run for several political offices in his lifetime, in Des Moines, for many years. In the elections held Nov. 6 Guite supported city council candidates Richard Benjamin, Gary Petersen, Maggie Steenrod and Mike Footo. Petersen and Steenrod won their elections with decisive victories over incumbents Kaplan and Brazil. Benjamin defeated Sherman in a recount. Footo lost overwhelmingly to Susan White. "I’m mostly pleased with the election results," said Guite.

Guite has been involved in politics locally, especially in Des Moines. He was married a year later in 1967. "I added a little stability to my life," he said.

Returning to school in January 1968, Guite worked at Boeing while studying at Highline. "I really enjoyed my time at Highline. It gave me a foundation for my formal education.

In 1972, Guite graduated from Seattle University with a master’s in business administration. "This gave him the necessary background to open his own business."

"I didn’t want to work for a big company," said Guite. "I liked electronics, but I didn’t like dealing with unions and punching the time clock. They’d get you for working too much. Unions are an artificial thing in the marketplace."

As his business prospered, his interest in politics began to develop. When Guite was elected to the Highline Water District in 1999, he began his long-running dispute with the Airport Communities Coalition.

**Benjamin and Lasco win in recounts**

By Johnny Pak
AND CASI CORELLA
Staff Reporters

Two challenges have finally been decided in the city council races in SeaTac and Des Moines. The outcome of the races was determined in recounts held last week by King County Election officials. Dan Sherman defeated Dan Sherman for Position No. 1 on the Des Moines City Council in the official recount held on Nov. 29. Benjamin was leading Sherman at the final count last week 3,064 votes to 3,056 but widened the gap in the recount, with 3,076 votes to Sherman’s 3,059.

With the final results in from this race, Des Moines City Council finds itself with a group of fresh faces. None of the incumbents won their races for re-election.

Neither Sherman nor Benjamin could be reached for comment.

Kay Lasco defeated incumbent Marion Henry by 14 votes on a recount, 1,920 to 1,912. Before the recount, Lasco had led Henry by 18 votes. The race for SeaTac’s Council Position No. 2 was tight since the election began on Nov. 6. Henry had an early lead but Lasco closed in the gap with absentee ballots. In the end, Lasco came out on top and she thinks she might have just gotten lucky.

"When the margin is that close, I can only think the difference is that the voters think I have more experience on my side. But I really think it’s luck," Lasco said.

Lasco did her campaigning through mass mailings, making signs, attending community meetings and knocking on people’s doors. But if she had to do it again.

"Maybe I would’ve started earlier because I didn’t really start campaigning until I filed," Lasco filed for her candidacy several weeks before the election. Her opponent Marion Henry had previously accused Lasco of being backed by a political party in a non-partisan race.

"That’s absolutely true… If I used people to support me to win, I don’t find it unfair… I received much support from the Democratic Party locally," Lasco said.

She says it is not uncommon for someone to do that and if Henry thinks that is wrong, then she has misunderstood how politics work.

---

**Guite was the eldest of 11 children. "I know how to work, how to survive," he said.**

Hequit high school in his junior year to join the Air Force and served in Vietnam. In February 1966, Guite moved to Seattle where he was quickly caught up in the Boeing hype. Guite went to work as a numerical control technician, which he explained, "controls hydraulics that operate machinery."

Guite enrolled at Highline in 1966, where he attended summer school and earned his GED. He was married a year later in 1967. "I added a little stability to my life," he said.

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As his business prospered, his interest in politics began to develop. When Guite was elected to the Highline Water District in 1999, he began his long-running dispute with the Airport Communities Coalition.

**The ACC is a coalition made up of the elected officials of Des Moines, Burien, Federal Way, Normandy Park, Tukwila and the Highline School District. It was established to fight the third runway at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.**

"The ACC wanted to overturn an agreement between the ACC and the district. I decided to abstain from voting because I didn’t feel it was my place to get involved," Guite said. Guite claims that following this incident he received threatening phone calls from ACC affiliates. This began his personal crusade against the ACC, who has among its main movers Des Moines councilman Bob Sheckler.

"They’re basically a bunch of evil people who’ve managed to hold back the public," said Guite. "They’ve turned public money into private money to finance elections."

"How exactly do you turn public money into private money?" said Sheckler. "What Guite is doing is beyond me."

"I think the ACC has shown they’re weak they really are in the Nov. 6 election," said Guite. "Three of the candidates that they supported lost. I think the results show how the community feels. I’m elated to see the business community taking charge." Guite encourages students at Highline to make something of themselves.

"I would just urge everybody out there to get involved in politics and society in their communities," said Guite. "Once you start something, just finish it and be tenacious. Success builds on success."
Transit tries to get back on track

Sound Transit hopes to outlast critics and build a regional system

By JOHN MONTENEGRO
Staff Reporter

Sound Transit is on the right track to being completed, but not without a few bumps along the way, members of the Sound Transit Board say. Sound Transit is a regional transit system that operates three kinds of transportation: buses, commuter rail (Sounder), and Link light rail. A vote in 1996 approved the transit system.

U.S. Sens. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Mary Gates, Federal Way City Council member and board secretary for Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., last week helped scrape up $31.1 million for Sound Transit. The money will be split into two different areas: $20 million for Sounder Commuter Rail and $11.1 million to Regional Transportation, which includes bus service and park and rides.

Last Thursday, there was a vote to approve the construction to build a 14-mile segment of their central link light rail. The segment will provide service stops from just north of SeaTac Airport to the downtown Seattle tunnel.

The 14-2 vote means that they may be able to start construction as soon as next summer. The construction of light rail will create 4,200 new jobs in the Puget Sound area.

One of the two dissenting votes came from Jane Hague, King County Council, District 11. Hague said that the proposal was very different from what voters approved in 1996. The original plan was to go from Boeing Access road all the way to the University District. The original plan would have been 21 miles instead of the 14 miles approved last Thursday.

"I would have liked the people to vote for the new plan," said Hague.

The plans to start construction of light rail were "tied out last year because the Sound Transit board wanted a more cost effective way of construction," said Earling.

Since the 1996 vote to provide a regional transit system, Sound Transit as gone through many obstacles, including crucial funding being taken away and delay tactics. Some delay tactics included the cities of SeaTac posting questions that would cause delays in the process.

Last year’s I-905, an initiative that put a limit on car tabs, took away $40 million that was needed to build a light rail track from Tacoma to Seattle. Sound Transit has also had several lawsuits, all of which Sound Transit has won.

Tim Eyman, the author of I-905, has filed another initiative that would effectively take away any possible funding for the Sound Transit Board.

Member Mary Gates says the board is not worried about local initiatives. "We are worried about initiatives that are statewide... We don’t know that people in Spokane will want to pay for a transit system in the Puget Sound area," said Gates.

Highline students should also look forward to a lot of added benefits of riding Sound Transit trains. For those students who ride King County metro buses, the added comfort is that Sounder Trains will get you to your destination on time. Sounder trains can also run in all kinds of weather unlike their counterpart, the Metro buses.

"Rail has a predictable schedule... and rail can run in snow," said Gates.

Other comments are that seats are comfortable with several places to do homework and the seats also feature direct laptop plug-ins seats.

"Sound Transit hopes to make the commute pleasurable," said Gates.

Even though light rail won’t be completely ready until 2009, commuters can take the commuter rail that has been running for the past 18 months. The commuter rail runs from Tacoma to Seattle with plans to extend to Everett.

"Commuter rail has been enormously popular," said Earling.

The Sound Transit board estimates that it should be done by 2009 and cost an estimated $2.1 billion for Sound Transit. The Federal Way transit center on I-5 will be building an addition for Sound Transit. The Federal Way commuter center on I-505 at the exit to I-51 will be building an addition for Sound Transit. The plans are currently on Environmental Assessment if a finding of no significance is found, construction could start soon.

Happy Holidays from the Thunderword staff.
Speaker discusses being a vegetarian

By John Montenegro
Staff Reporter

Eating meat and dairy products creates a lot of suffering to animals said the speaker at Veggie Tales.

Veggie Tales was an informational meeting in Building 7 from 11 a.m.-noon Wednesday, Dec. 5 showing the benefits of vegetarianism.

It featured a presentation by Dave Bemel, a representative from Action for Animals and showed a 10-minute video, Meet your Meat.

Bemel then started talking about why he decided to become a vegetarian. He became a vegan at the end of eighth grade and decided to really get into it after 10th grade after learning about the types of animal suffering.

"I started because this girl that I liked was a vegan," said Bemel.

Bemel said that Action for Animals does three main things to spread the word.

The first is education and outreach, which includes handing out pamphlets. The second is protests and demonstrations, and the third is social things, which includes going to different colleges.

This year Action for Animals had a booth at the Warp Tour where they had a few thousand teens sign up for informational packets about vegetarianism. Bemel then went over a few of the nutritional benefits of vegetarianism. He said that the three biggest killers of people in the U.S. are heart disease, stroke, and cancer.

"Eliminating saturated fats and cholesterol which are in meat reduces the risk of these diseases," said Bemel.

Bemel said the reason that most people start being vegetarians is personal health, growth of the environment, and lastly animal suffering.

"People start becoming vegetarians because of personal health, but stay because of the animals," said Bemel.

He then played a video Meet your Meat which shows the cruelty that animals go through in slaughter farms and dairy plants.

The video was extremely explicit in showing the treatment of animals in these slaughter farms and dairy plants. Images were of a process called "bleeding out" where cows and pigs are stabbed to calm the animals before they are being slaughtered.

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"There were three things that prompted the change in policy," said Bemel.

For one, the college wanted this policy to reflect with the graduation policy of an accumulated grade point average of 2.0. Second, we wanted to have some staff involvement with students who are having a tough time with classes," said Gwen Spencer, director of advising and educational planning.

"The third issue was that other colleges and universities in Washington had a policy of evaluating a student's accumulative grade point average rather than a quarter by quarter basis," she said.

The academic policy is based on two probationary quarters and a suspension. A student attempting six or more credits will be placed on first quarter probation if their cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0.

Students will receive their grade and a letter from Highline advising them on their academic status and the necessary steps to take.

The student must also meet with their adviser within the first two weeks of the next quarter to discuss their educational plans and what the college can do to help the student.

Students may not be able to register for next quarter unless they have met with their adviser and they are limited to enrolling for no more than 15 credits, without permission from the vice president for students.

"The new policy is helpful in setting standards for students," said Derek Greenfield, sociology instructor. "(the policy) sets a mechanism in place to support and help students, which will most likely lead to success."

"I think it's a good idea because the college is trying to help students out. It shows a lot of support from faculty and administration. It's like a reality check for students - if you can't pass through these classes, then how will you do in the university level?" said Amy Grau, another student at Highline.

"Since this is a new policy, there won't be any students placed on second quarter probation or suspended this following quarter," said Spencer, director of advising and educational planning.

"The new policy won't put in effect to be punitive. We wanted to get involved with students, and build an infrastructure within the college to help students achieve their academic goals."
Fire
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Pawnee Security Officer Kevin Gunderson called Fire District 1 at 3:44 p.m. with 16 fire fighters, one aid car, one medic unit, three chiefs and one public relations officer. Fire depart

ments from Kent, Federal Way and Federal Way were also involved.

Some towns had to follow the fire under control, and one was so close, the building was a fire hydrant. The fire was started by a gas leak or a main fire hydrant.

There was a lot of fire in the building and the fire spread rapidly. The building was a total loss.

The fire was put out by 4:00 p.m.

The fire broke out in a second-floor apartment and spread to the adjacent units.

There was no one injured in the fire.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

The fire caused damage to the building and the contents.

The damage was estimated at $500,000.

The investigation is continuing.

Swanson
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"I first got my hands on a gun at the age of 13," said Swanson. "That gun made me feel like John Gotti. I started selling drugs and was involved in my first drive-by shooting by my first drive-by shooting by myself. I'm glad I did it because it changed something inside of me."

Swanson says he turned to crime because of his family's problems.

"Swanson's relationship with kids in neighborhoods like the Highline's atmosphere, especially the people who knew him, is very much a solid foundation."

Swanson was born in a military family, and his parents were both active-duty military.

"When my son was born, I knew that I had to do something, but I didn't know what."

Swanson's change was planted, but it wasn't growing yet. The seed of going to jail for 10 years led to his decision to change his life.

"I want to be a different person."

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"I want to be a different person.

The main sponsors of Hamid Karzai's safety are the international community, all the people in Afghanistan, and the United States.

"There are two things that meant something to me:

1. I want to be different, everything I do now is for the betterment of my family, everything I do now is for the betterment of my family.

2. I want to be a different person.

Karzai
Continued from page 1

Karzai's relationship with inner-city kids is very much a solid foundation.

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