

# The Thunderword

February 26, 2004  
Volume 43, Issue 18  
Highline Community College

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Got News?  
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ext. 3318

Your  
local  
weather report:

Today,  
Thunder, showers,  
chance of rain  
showers later  
Hi 52F, Lo 38F

Friday,  
Showers likely, night  
chance of rain  
Hi 52F, Lo 38F

Saturday,  
Partly cloudy, night  
chance of rain  
Hi 50F, Lo 38F

## Midway parking gone August

Owners have  
terminated  
college's lease

By Ben Johnston  
STAFF REPORTER

Students will soon lose the overflow parking at the Midway Swap and Shop to a Lowe's hardware store.

While rumors have circulated for years about the loss of Midway parking, school administration was officially notified of the lease swap Friday afternoon.

Vice President of Administration Laura Saunders said that no plans had been arranged for backup parking "because we didn't need it," Saunders said. "We were managing to accommodate."

Highline has leased the 11.42-acre lot at the corner of 240th Street and Pacific Highway South for a number of years, providing a critical pressure valve for students parking on campus during the week, but the owners have found the Lowe's company to be a more profitable lessee.

The lot currently provides approximately 1,000 extra parking spaces for the college, which is about 36 percent of all the school's parking, although only about 500 spaces are used at any given time. On campus, there are 1,812 spaces.

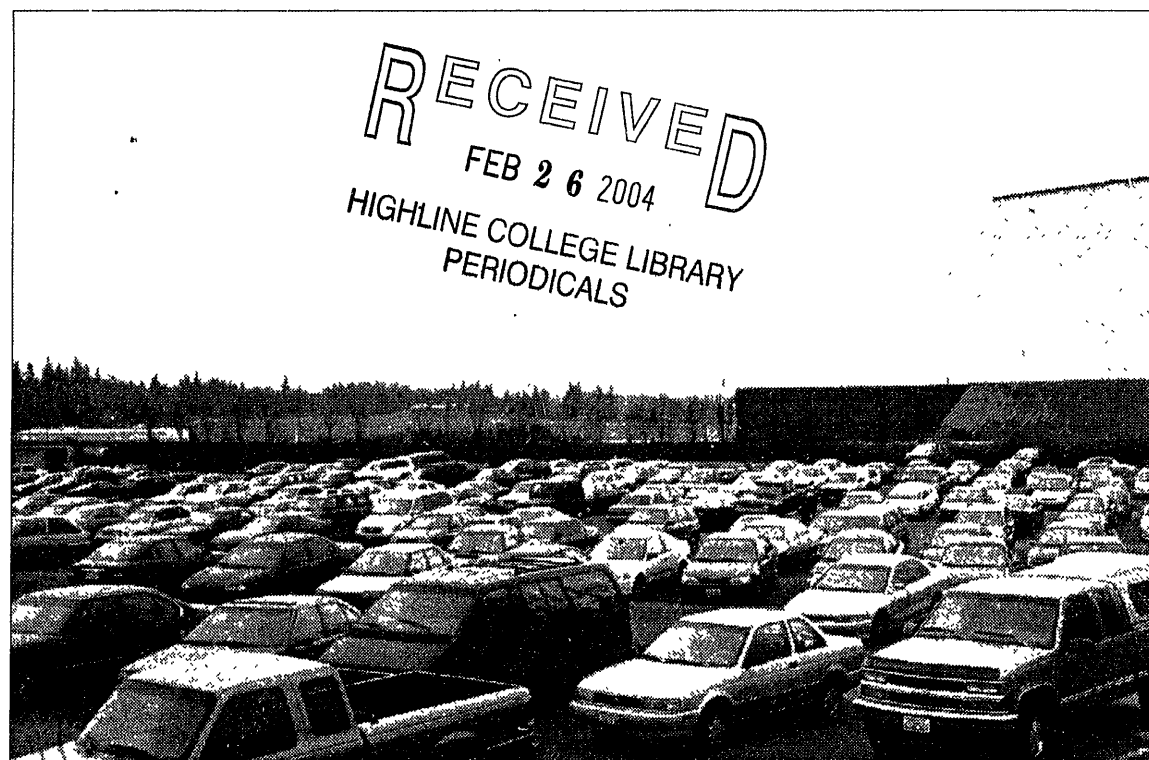


Photo by Amber Trillo

The Midway parking lot will soon be off-limits to Highline students, as construction of a Lowe's hardware store is scheduled to begin in late summer or early fall.

The school must be out of the Midway lot by August of this year.

Saunders is currently compiling "a laundry list of ideas" to solve the impending parking crunch.

"We're looking at remote parking with a shuttle to campus," Saunders said. Saunders has been engaged in talks with the Fred Meyer located on 252nd Street South for a remote parking site, but has thus far been denied. Fred Meyer has said that it is against corporate policy to lease its parking. "But we're not taking no for an answer," Saunders said.

Saunders said it is safe to assume the loss of parking will have an effect on parking fees.

Among other short-term fixes, Saunders said limiting parking pass issuance, increasing carpool stalls and charging more for highly trafficked lots are all possibilities.

Saunders pointed out that there is one dedicated Metro bus route from the Kent park and ride available, and there is currently a subsidized bus pass available to faculty and staff, though not for students. The subsidy for faculty and

staff cuts bus pass prices in half, totaling \$1,600 last year. A dedicated route from the Federal Way park and ride has also been talked about.

Admittedly, administration says these short-term goals will not substitute for a long-term solution.

Long-term goals include the construction of a 500-space, four-story parking garage in the South Lot. The cost of such a facility has been estimated at \$13 million. The facility would take up 200

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## Men's and Women's hoops head to NWAACCs

Turnaround season comes  
to a head for T-Birds in Pasco

By John Montenegro  
STAFF REPORTER

If the story of the Thunderbirds men's and women's basketball season were to be made in to a movie it would be called *T-Biscuit*.

Like the non-fiction book and recent movie about the fabled race horse



Photo by Amber Trillo

Taryn Plypick slices between Tavar Proctor and the men's manager Will Smallwood for a layup during practice for NWAACCs.

Seabiscuit, the Highline Thunderbirds men's and women's basketball teams are at a place that not a lot of people thought they would be at - a chance to vie for the NWAACC championships.

At the beginning of the season there was virtually no chance of either team to make it to the playoffs, the women were in sixth place with an overall record of 1-11 and the men were in last place with an overall record of 5-7.

Both teams had come off of less than stellar seasons last year, two new coaches and for the women only two returning players.

At present both men's and women's teams have clinched playoff berths. Both teams won this past weekend, the women beat South Puget Sound (54-48) giving them a third place seed going into NWAACCs and the men also beat South Puget Sound (72-64) putting them in fourth place in their division.

Although both teams started off bad they certainly regrouped midway through the season to get them to where they are now.

Men's Coach Che Dawson attributes the men's comeback to the team's perseverance on and off the court.

"This team became a lot more unselfish," Dawson said. "They have a willingness to be a part of something that is bigger than themselves."

Mental toughness on the court also was a factor for the men.

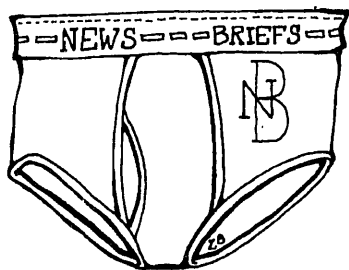
"They became smarter on the court, smarter offensively," Coach Dawson said. "We really improved our shot selection."

Dawson also believes that good leadership skills and unselfishness on the court has really been a huge factor for the men winning big games.

"Sean Gearin and Kellen Williams have shown really good leadership skills," Dawson said. "Devon Hall has been a great leader despite not a lot of game time."

For the women, it seemed to be more of a dire situation.

... See Pasco, page 16



### Bake sale for AIDS Alliance approaching

Highline students will raise money for the Global AIDS Alliance at a bake sale in Building 7 at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 3.

The Global Aids Alliance is an organization that works to stop the spread of AIDS through education, increased funding and improved policies.

The HIV/AIDS group from Tracy Brigham's Global Health Issues class is organizing the event.

### UW-Tacoma offers scholarship

The University of Washington, Tacoma is offering a one-year Phi Theta Kappa scholarship for incoming students.

The deadline to apply for this scholarship is March 1. For more information about this scholarship and requirements, contact Siew Lai Lilley in the Transfer Center at 206-878-3710, ext. 3936.

For more information about other scholarships available at UW Tacoma, go to [www.tacoma.washington.edu/finaid/](http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/finaid/).

### Atkins forum held tomorrow

Highline instructors Traci Brigham and Keith Paton will be speaking at "Atkins diet/low carb diet...myth or miracle?" tomorrow from noon to 1 p.m. in Building 3 room 102. Discussion will be held after the presentation. Everyone is welcome to attend and it is free. For more information, call P.E. instructor Lisa Rakoz at 206-878-3710, ext. 3450.

### Don't forget to register for classes

You can now register for classes for Spring Quarter '04.

Registration on the web is available daily from 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. at [www.Highline.edu](http://www.Highline.edu). Click on Admissions, Registration and Records, then click on Web Registration. The last day to register is April 9. For questions, visit Registration in the bottom of Building 6 or call 206 878-3710, ext.3242.

# Scholar cites Jesus in Islam

By Sara Loken

STAFF REPORTER

Christianity and Islam are closer than most people think.

The Muslim faith is commonly viewed as the faith that does not believe in Jesus Christ, which is not true.

"No Muslim would be a Muslim if they did not believe in Jesus Christ," said Ahmed M. Awal, speaker at the Jesus Christ in Islam presentation given last Tuesday.

Awal is a scholar of Islamic science and speaks at different colleges and universities around the U.S. and the globe.

The presentation was held in Building 7 at noon on Monday, Feb. 24. It was sponsored by the Muslim Student Association.

Speaking before a full auditorium, students, faculty and staff listened intently as Awal explained the belief in Jesus Christ from the Quran.

Through the Islamic faith we believe that he is the messiah, the he was born miraculously, that he raised the dead, healed the sick, and was a messenger of god, said Awal. Jesus Christ came to con-

firm the prophets before him.

"The spirit of God was transferred into him," said Awal.

In the Quran, Jesus is mentioned 25 times as opposed to the prophet Muhammad who is mentioned only five times.

Whole chapters in the Quran are dedicated to the family of Jesus Christ, his mother Mary, and Mary's immaculate conception.

Standing before his people, the prophet Muhammad said that Mary was the woman of all nations, it was not Muhammad's wife or his daughter, but Mary the mother of Jesus, said Awal.

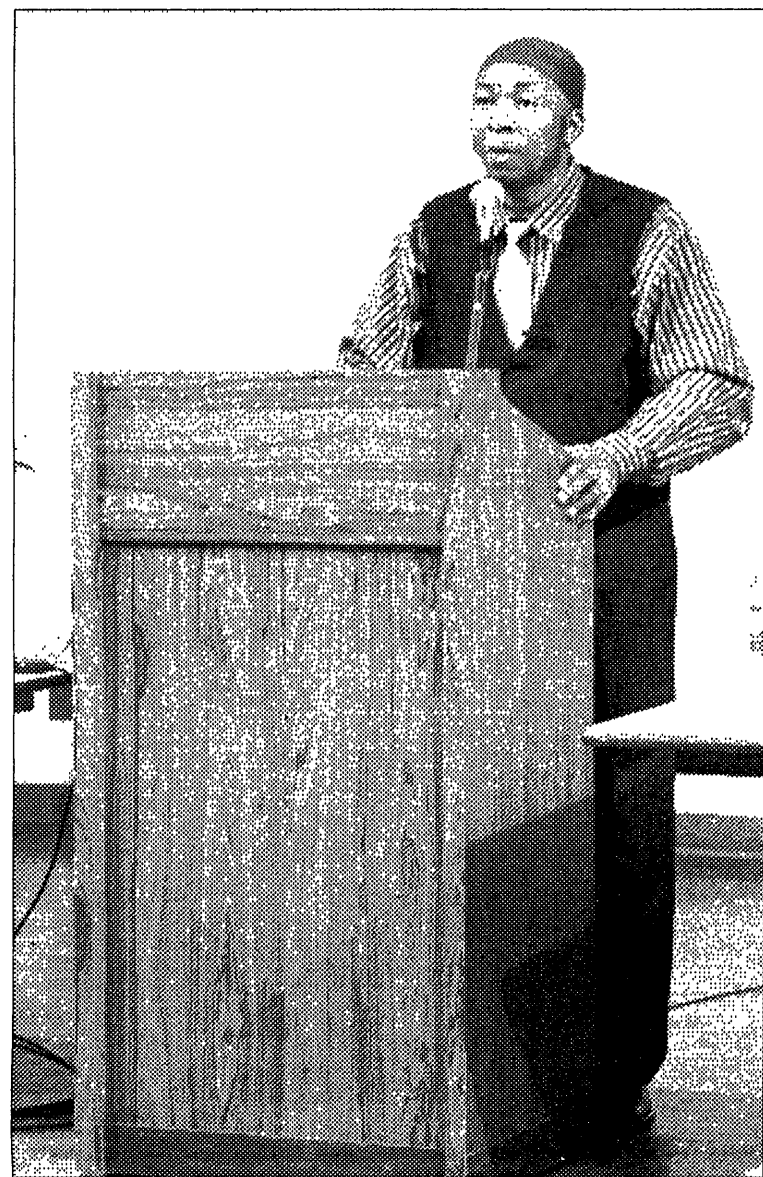
Rising and falling between passionate and quiet speech, Awal captured his audience and made them hang on every word. Speaking Arabic as he read scripture from the Quran, he then translated it into English.

Awal talked about the five main prophets in Islam, Abraham, Moses, Noah, Mohammed and Jesus, with the exception of Mohammed all prophets from the Bible.

"Moses, Jesus, Abraham, all of the prophets, we believe in them too," said Awal. "One can never be Muslim without belief in these prophets."



A packed Building 7 came to hear Ahmed Awal speak on Tuesday.



Photos by Chuck Cortes

Ahmed M. Awal explained the similarities and differences between the Islamic and Christian religions.

Once Awal finished his presentation he opened it up to questions and answers from the students and faculty who attended. One audience member stood up and asked whether or not the Islamic faith believes that Jesus died and if they believe that he'll return again, a

common belief in Christianity.

"In Islam we believe that he did not die and that he will come back again," said Awal. "God took him up to the heavens and because he was taken to the heavens by God, he did not die. He will return and share with us his messages."

## CRIME BLOTTER

Feb. 19-Feb. 26

### Thief tries to steal car but fails

A 1999 Honda was parked at Midway between 9 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. when someone attempted to steal the car. The owner returned to the car that same day of Feb. 19 to see their window pulled away from the frame and the wires cut inside.

It appeared the person entered the car through the window with intentions to steal it, but apparently could not get it started.

### You can't drive a car without wheels

A Highline student parked her 1995 Cadillac at Midway on Feb. 19 at 9:50 a.m. only to return at 1:30 p.m. to three out of the four wheels stolen. The thieves broke in to a nearby Honda to steal the jack and use it to jack the Cadillac up in order to get the wheels.

The incident was reported to the Kent Police.

### Trash can fire lights up campus

A fire broke out in the trash can in the East Lot on Feb. 19 at 9:15 p.m.

When the report was made security was on the incident as soon as possible.

The fire district was already on the scene and put out the fire with no problems.

A lit cigarette may have been the cause of the disturbance, security reported.

### Lockers are being broken into in the locker room

Within the past two days, two different occasions of break-ins in lockers occurred in Building 27 beginning on Feb. 24 at 8:10 a.m.

In one situation, a student returned to his locker to find the bottom pried open and his belongings including a cell phone, clothes, keys, and money missing. The lock was still present on his locker and in the same locked condition he left it in.

In a second situation, which occurred between 8:55 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Feb. 25, the student returned to his locker with the lock missing as well as his belongings.

## You'll be popular if you read this story

By Rob Goodman

STAFF REPORTER

A small bratty girl impatiently waves her favorite candy bar in her mother's face at the checkout line of a grocery store and wails, "Mommy, I want a candy bar!"

Here begins the science of persuasion.

It is no coincidence the candy section was at the eye level of the child, nor that the candy was right there, effortlessly in her reach. She wants the candy bar, and if her mother says no, she will most likely cry and have a fit.

The mother, who gauges her child's reaction beforehand, would rather give in than cause an embarrassing scene at the store, so that's exactly what she does, and in the process, she has allowed herself to be persuaded by the marketers of the store.

Knowing the science of persuasion is essential to making wise choices. Understanding how the science of persuasion operates, and how marketers use several techniques to manipulate your decision-making, helps to make these choices, said Sue Frantz, Highline psychology instructor and speaker at last Friday's Science Seminar.

There are two routes to persuasion: the central route, in which someone is motivated and able to make a decision, or the peripheral route where a decision is not easily made.

The peripheral route is where people must be persuaded to make a decision, Frantz said.

The reciprocity technique determines a mutual act or mutual acts of giving between one person and another.

"With reciprocity you give

something to somebody, and they give you something else in return," Frantz said.

Reciprocity leads to the receiver feeling obligated to return to the person who gave them something. This concept also applies to advertising.

If a magazine is advertising free issues of its publication, and you agree with the plan, most times they'll send you a ton of issues, sometimes even all at once. Then when it comes time for them to ask you to subscribe, you feel like you must give something back in return, so you agree. If not, more than likely they'll still pursue you relentlessly.

"Often times, a 'thank you' is just enough in reciprocity," said Frantz, "in sales, it's not."

Persuasion can also be guided by consistency and commitment. According to Frantz, organizations will sometimes give free pins to people, that sport their cause and organization.

Once it comes time for the organization to collect donations, those who have been wearing the pins give the most generous contributions.

By just wearing the pin, they feel committed to support the organization. This method is called the "foot in door" technique, commonly used by canvassers who sell and advertise door-to-door, Frantz said.

A commitment also symbolizes a promise, and advertisers know this concept from head-to-toe.

Toy marketers will heavily advertise a certain toy, and then purposefully ship a limited amount on the market. When the parent who said they would buy the advertised toy for their child, cannot find the toy because it's so in demand, they'll find something else in-



Photo by Chuck Cortes

Sue Frantz discusses the power of persuasion on last Friday's Science Seminar.

stead. A few months later the advertisement is once again in heavy rotation, and the child is reminded of their parent's promise. To finally fulfill their promise, the parent buys it for them, Frantz said.

Frequently, because you like someone, you will listen to what they have to say and heed their words. Liking is a persuasion that grows heavily between family and friends.

"That's why Tupperware became a million-dollar industry," Frantz said.

People like their family and friends, so when they, for example, throw Tupperware parties and invite you, you will almost always buy something. Commercials also commonly use physically attractive people to persuade to one's liking. It's not very often you'll find an ugly person in an

advertisement.

"The commercials where they have people who are not attractive are meant to be funny," Frantz said.

The social proof persuasion, what Frantz refers to as the bystander effect, means to follow the crowd. Movie reviews at the end of the year will commonly have advertisements saying "On over 150 Top Ten Lists!" What the advertisement wants you to think is that if people enjoy the movie that much, then maybe you should see it too.

The next time you laugh at a sitcom, remember that the laugh track in the background is only there as a means of social proof persuasion. Even if a joke is horribly bad, the added laugh track almost always guarantees a laugh from a viewer, Frantz said.

In persuasion, rarity is also a significant factor. This technique is known as scarcity. Typically, stores will have sales with an ending date, saying there's only one or two days left. People will take advantage of the sale as soon as they can, so they don't feel they're missing out on a rare deal, Frantz said.

Additionally, rarity commonly appeals to people. If somebody wants something they can't have, or it seems intangible, they'll want it even more.

"It's a way of re-establishing our freedom," Frantz said.

"Don't be fooled the next time you see a doctor on television approving a new drug or product. They're getting paid a lot of money for what they say, and for all you know the doctor may only be an actor.

Endorsements are a part of a key persuasion technique known as authority. Authority figures can be celebrities, professionals, or even renowned critics. People will listen and believe in authority figures, so when Britney Spears shows up in a Pepsi commercial, sales are bound to increase.

Frantz recalled an incident in which a man attempted to count all the ways he was persuaded during the day. By 10 a.m. he had already counted 4,000 ways. The truth is persuasion is inevitable in today's society. Yet knowing the science of it makes it easier for one to guard oneself from devious marketers.

"[People] can defend themselves against this onslaught of advertising," Frantz said.

This Friday's Science Seminar, "AIDS: An Update," will be led by Highline Psychology Instructor Dr. Bob Baugher, in Building 3, room 102.

## Poetry event celebrates Black History Month

By Dana Hammond

STAFF REPORTER

Highline students gathered to share words of love, life and gratitude through poetry last Friday.

In Building 7, Highline's Black Student Union, along with Team Highline held an open-mic night called, Spoken Word.

Spoken Word is the first event held by BSU this quarter. It was created to celebrate Black History Month and allow Highline students to share personal feelings toward various subjects.

"February is the month for Black History and we chose this particular event to honor those who have made this country great for us, and to honor the fact that if they weren't so brave then we might not be here to even share those kind of moments," said Takesha Flowers, the president of



Photo by Kyle Drosdick

Takesha Flowers spoke her first poem in public at Spoken Word.

BSU.

Krystina Williams, a member of Team Highline, hosted the evening.

There were seven speakers total.

The opening presentation was by James Tuner, a member of the BSU, sharing three poems. The

first explained the struggles that slaves endured and the second showed gratitude toward Martin Luther King, Jr. and other African Americans who helped pave the way for everyone. The last was not on the topic of Black History, but rather were personal words of love.

"This last one is off topic, but I like it and I think you will like it too," said Turner.

The next performance was by Flowers, also sharing what the work "love" means to her from her personal experiences.

"It felt good for me to read this out loud so that others knew how I felt about the subject on a much deeper level. Love is not a word that I take for granted or a word that I use out of spite, but love to me is a learning experience, if it falls in your lap take advantage of it because you will never know if it is true love," said Flowers.

Flowers was followed by

Jernissa Johnson, a high school student from Kent-Meridian. Johnson enthusiastically recited poems that displayed true characteristics of what it means to be a true woman, and another sharing her thoughts on whether it is innocent until proven guilty or guilty until proven innocent.

In today's society everyone knows how this applies to the black community, said Johnson.

"The evening went wonderfully. BSU is a small club of students who want to make a difference in the community. I would like to see more students getting involved with BSU and trying to make a difference not only on campus, but with each other," said Flowers.

The next BSU event the first annual BSU Jersey Jam on March 13.

For further information on BSU events, or joining the BSU contact Takesha Flowers at BSU20032004@yahoo.com.



2/26/2004

## Opinion

I am not a walking  
Barbie Doll... but if  
I were would you  
like me?



I have always considered myself a fairly open-minded person— very open-minded actually.

And throughout the years I have noticed that some people tend to fear what is different from their own comfortable status quo. I, on the other hand, pride myself on cherishing any breath of fresh air that may come along.

Along with thousands of other Highline students I have been taught that to judge another person, regardless of whether or not I personally know them, is simply unforgivable.

Yet while we all listen to this homespun homily that harkens back to the golden rule of "treating others as you, yourself, would want to be treated," not a day goes by that we don't disregard this lesson with hypocritical regularity.

Who among us has not selfishly taken the last piece of pizza instead of offering it to your still-hungry friend or even indulged in a bit of semi-malicious gossip?

I, myself, have had to endure baseless accusations of being the typical blond-haired, blue-eyed, intelligently bankrupt walking Barbie Doll. And to those who have made this all too common mistake: Bite me.

In a perfect world, this sort of inconsiderate behavior would not exist. Yes, in a perfect world everyone would be kind to one another and all people would be treated equally— but sadly enough this is not the case. Daily examples of such minor pettiness, as well as more serious prejudice abound.

With the passing of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the arrival of Black History Month, it is imperative for students to remember that even though the technical holiday of MLK Day is over, the judgment of another person because of their race, sex, religion or even such vain attributes as appearance, is still an ongoing problem in today's society.

Though prejudice has not disappeared, the severity of the issues has somewhat decreased over the years, as many incidents of discrimination now come wrapped in a more compact and subtle package.

Instead of segregating water fountains and refusing to serve those of another race at the lunch counter, we now make instinctive decisions based on our own fears.

Is that man wearing a turban next to you on the plane an Arab terrorist? And what about an even less extreme form of excluding the class "nerd" from joining the popular kids at the lunch table— believe it or not this still happens.

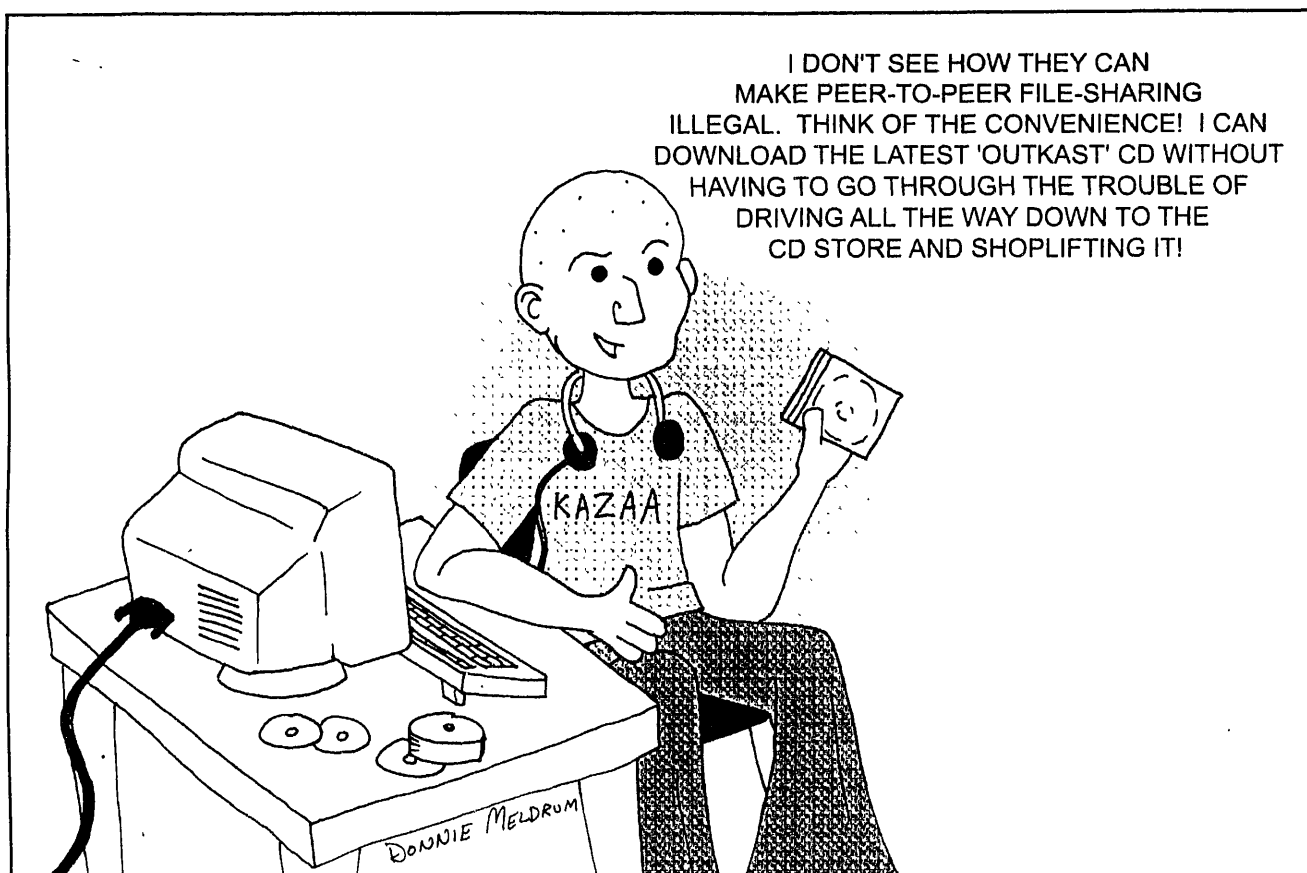
Whether we are choosing our boyfriends and/or girlfriends, or even picking out an outfit for school, every single decision a person makes is based on a snap judgment.

What is even more ironic is that these judgments are centered around concern over how other people might be judging us.

Here's a thought: As we spend our days worrying about what other people think, the people who we think that we alone worry about, are basically worried about the same thing.

How's that for a tongue twister?

If you bite Bri, get ready for a mouth full of plastic.



## EDITORIAL

## Black history is everyone's history

In the month of February, when looking back on the history of American society, some heads may be held up a bit higher as the celebration of Black History Month begins.

Used as a time when people of all races can come together in order to pay homage to the contributions and achievements of African-Americans, Black History Month serves as a reminder of society's ability to not only overcome racial strife, but accept, encourage and rejoice in people's differences.

Team Highline and the Black Student Union contributed to this with a Spoken Voices presentation last Friday, and the college's Board of Trustees recently recognized the 50th anniversary of the groundbreaking Brown vs. Board of Education decision, in which the Supreme Court declared that the so-called separate-but-equal facilities of the day were inherently unequal.

However, some Highline students may question the reasons behind devoting an entire month to honoring a single race and allowing the annual event to be celebrated on a college campus.

As Highline offers one of the more diverse campuses in the state, the underlying reason behind these festivities should be clear.

Although not everyone on campus shares the same exact beliefs or has the same color of skin, in the long run all students at Highline are basically chasing after the same goal — a bright future.

From Crispus Attucks, one of the first Americans to die in the Revolution, to George Washington Carver, the creator of peanut butter, to former Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (who argued for the plaintiffs in Brown vs. the Board of Education) African-Americans have clearly played an important part in the nation's history.

Students need to understand this.

In reality, the purpose of Black History Month is not to simply give special privileges to one specific race. It is instead designed to show the necessity of appreciating people of all backgrounds.

Not so long ago, opportunities were not available to those of different races. African-Americans were not allowed to attend certain schools, ride in the front of buses, or even drink from certain water fountains. Racism was quite literally a way of life.

Racism may never be eliminated, but some of the worst practices have been ended. And by celebrating Black History Month, this way of life can only be strengthened.

The Thunderword  
STAFF

"HOLD ON I'M  
THINKING. I'M  
TRYING TO FIGURE OUT  
THE ALPHABET..."

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# Master's touch

## Art Show winners get awarded

By Linda Sewerker

STAFF REPORTER

Deborah Davis makes art come alive on a two dimensional surface.

Davis' talent was evident by winning in the category of drawing in Team Highline's "Above and Beyond Contest," which was held Feb. 23-24.

Five categories and many Highline artists put out their paintings, sculptures/pottery, photographs, graphic designs, and drawings. Winners of the award of \$50 each were determined by popular vote in each category.

Other Highline winning artists included; Chris Montfort, who won the painting category with a volcanic image titled *Mt. St. Helens*; and Carol Bell won the pottery/sculpture class with a face-plate shaped piece titled, *Garden Guardian*. Mak Zuljevic's *Untitled* art with graphic elements such as "words like a sea of people, not necessary to understand them all," won in graphic design, and Elliott Brown won for the photo titled *Tunnel of Trees*, in photography.

Deborah Davis won for her colored pencil portrait of Winona Ryder which realistically captures the actress.

"I always wanted to be an artist," said Davis.

"I learned to draw when I was 2 years old and my dad showed me how to draw bone people."

That love-for-drawing has kept Davis working diligently in the Production Illustration Program at Highline. Davis came to Highline with some UW art credits and the intention of transferring to Central to become a teacher.

"Once I got here I a friend told me I should look into the production illustration program.

Mr. Gary Nelson liked my illustrations and I decided to complete this program.

Nelson, the coordinator for the production illustration program says that Davis is one of his top students and is earning more recognition and responsibilities as a graphic artist.

Davis' drawings convey her love and skill. The artist says she prefers pencil drawing, but her illustrative strength is evident in her pen and ink drawings. Davis' drawings of lizards and turtles are life like with their correct anatomical structure and well-designed placement on white paper.

Her portraits are also able to connect with viewers in realism. Winona Ryder a color pencil drawing was selected best in the drawing category because it looks just like the actress.

*Corn Huskers*, another type of human portrait by Davis depicts the headless cropped body of a woman dressed in country quilted clothes, husking corn. In the drawing Davis purposefully leaves the head cropped out of the drawing to focus on the task of doing the work.

Davis said she wished more students would participate in events like the Highline Art Show.

"I don't like it when people say [their] work is not good enough. No matter if its good or bad, take the extra half hour to matt the work. The only way you can improve or know if it's good is if you put it out there," Davis said.

Pictures include a detail of *Corn Husker*, and a portrait of Winona Ryde from "Above and Beyond" Art Contest

Young Chun

# An artist chooses many paths

By Jessie Elliot

STAFF REPORTER

Most people who decide to go into a master's program do not need to earn a bachelor of arts degree twice. For Major Ron Johnson, this is not the case.

Johnson, a retired Marine, decided to go back to school in 2001 for a master's degree. He discovered that the demand was so high that it would be better to apply as a transfer student.

When Johnson graduated high school, he decided to join the Marines.

After receiving a Purple Heart for his service in Vietnam, Johnson decided to go to school to pursue a degree.

Johnson first chose to study art because it interested him, but discovered it was much harder than it looked. He studied the history of art, style, and all the different types there were.

Deciding to major in graphic design, Johnson received his bachelor of arts degree in the subject in 1978 from San Diego State. Because he was starting a family, and needed to make

money, he did not go for his master's degree at that time.

Since his retirement from the Marines in 2000, Johnson decided to go back to school for his master's degree in graphic design.

Johnson first looked into going to the University of Washington, however, due to overcrowding, he found that the best course of action was to apply as a transfer student.

This led him to Highline, as he heard it has one of the best graphic design programs in the state.

When Johnson finishes up his credits here, he plans on transferring to the University of Washington as an undergraduate, and then going on to pursue his master's degree.

Art is something that people

love to share and experience.

"I really love this because you can be creative," he said.

Johnson has created many different pieces.

His most recent piece is an advertisement for the Outstanding Musicians Concert that took place Feb. 25.

That particular piece uses both photographs and computerized

text and background, making a bright and appealing presentation.

Many of Johnson's pieces convey one idea. A central photograph surrounded by bright letters and backgrounds make the central idea pop.

"I've always liked art from a very young age and doodled a lot," Johnson said.

Johnson's excitement about the work he is doing shows through in the wide grin that shines when he speaks of it.

"Each time you create something, you surprise yourself of your own ability," Johnson said.

For Johnson, one of the most exciting things about taking classes here at Highline is learning all of the new technology.

Johnson has created many things, and he is proud of that.

"After creating something, seeing the joy on someone's face is what I enjoy," he said.

Creating posters and advertisements makes Johnson laugh with joy. It sometimes amazes him when he is finished with a project, he said.

Johnson's advice to artists and for his own work is one of experience.

"Keep it simple, that's the best," he said.



Graphic artist Ron Johnson with his portfolio.

Photo by Chuck Cortes

## Choir's harmony multiplies

By Billy Naylor

STAFF REPORTER

With only two and a half weeks until its St. Patrick's Day concert, the Highline Choir has been preparing like one would imagine, in harmony.

On March 10 the Highline choir will be performing an event free to the public, in Building 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The choir will be performing a variety of pieces to show the British Isle's influence on America's musical heritage, singing songs such as Ride on King Jesus, Down by the Salley Gardens, and Every Night When the Sun Goes in.

The choir has been working on pieces from the 1600s and 1700s, along with African-American spirituals and ancient foreign tunes that have filled the choir hall for most of the quarter.

During the beginning of the quarter, the choir group had a lot of growing to do.

"They still needed to get to know each other personally as well as musically," said choir conductor Paul Mori.

But that's a far cry from beginning to now. "It's [the choir] more of an intimate group," said Dr. Mori.

After observing a recent choir practice, one would be inclined to agree.

The group had a family-like aura that would make it hard for someone not to smile along with them. The atmosphere is



Paul Mori and Highline Choir practice for St. Patrick's Day concert.

Photo by Kyle Drosdick

casual, but the music is serious.

That can be credited to the relationship and dedication Mori has with his students and their music, his students say.

"I like his style. He doesn't just follow someone else's interpretation of the music. He becomes a part of it...he's soulful and emotional," said baritone Aaron Wells.

"I have so much fun with Dr. Mori, he's so funny, he manages to give us hard music, but somehow we make it through and every now and then he does something ridiculously hilarious," said soprano Tina Higashi.

"What did [Mori] say the other day?" said

Higashi. "Oh yeah, 'beware...I'm in a good mood,'" added tenor Jamie Shay.

If you were to sit in the back of the room enjoying the harmony of the groups' voices, it would be hard to not notice the diversity of the choir members. Not only Highline students were involved, but also Highline faculty.

"I like seeing faculty in our group, it makes it feel like a community, like they care, we're on equal grounds here," said Higashi.

"What I really like about this choir is they accepts all levels of experience," said alto Patricia Carson.



### Mona Lisa paws

By Chad L. Martinez

In artist Andrea Proctor's world, Mona Lisa is a pug.

Proctor, a Des Moines resident, turns animals into great art, or maybe it's the other way around.

Either way, her evocative and colorful creations are featured in the March exhibit at Highline's fourth floor library gallery.

A reception for Proctor will be Wednesday March 3, from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the gallery.

Proctor's work is sure to bring a smile to your face, and her sense of humor spills over into her self-deprecating description of her education:

see Paws, page 7



# ARTS CALENDAR

A Master Class and Recital presented by Richard Farner, piano chairman of Pacific Lutheran University, and Dr. Svend Ronning, chairman of String Studies at PLU will be March 11, in Building 7. The Master Class is 4-6 p.m., and the recital at 7 p.m. Highline Music Dept. seeks string and piano students who may be interested in performing in the master class. For information call Dr. Sandra Glover 206-878-3710, ext. 6170. The event is free and open to the public.



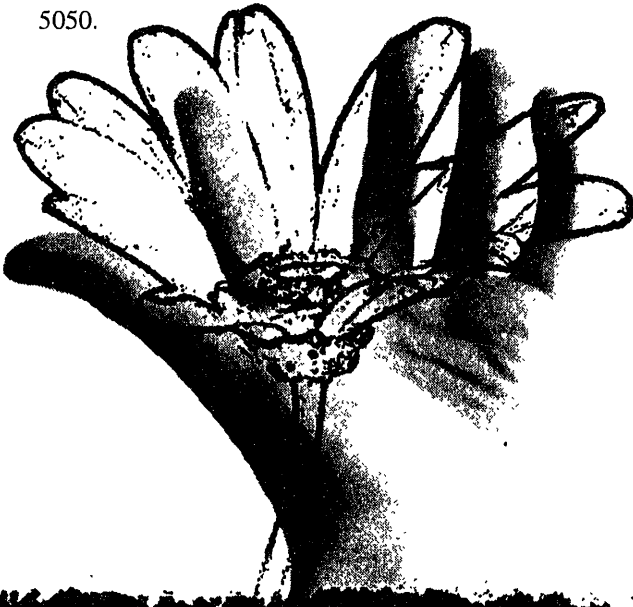
March is National Youth Arts Month, and to honor young artists, the Kent Arts Commission is presenting the Kent Student Art Exhibit March 8-19, at the Centennial Center Gallery, 400 West Gowe St. Additional artwork by students will be on exhibit in downtown businesses and art galleries. Students ages ranges from elementary to high school. For details visit [www.ci.kent.wa.us/Arts/VisualArts/studentart.htm](http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/Arts/VisualArts/studentart.htm)



Kent Sister Cities Association presents an evening of swing music, food, and dancing during Casablanca Night, Friday, March 26, 7-11 p.m. Casablanca Night will be held at the Kent Senior Center, 600 East Smith St. Kent. Tickets are \$40. For information call 253-852-0874.



Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services are presenting Rhys Thomas in JuggleMania, an interactive circus comedy, Friday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. at Kent-Meridian Performing Arts Center, 100200 SE 256th St. Kent. For more information call 253-856-5050.



## Ms. Anna Gram

### Across

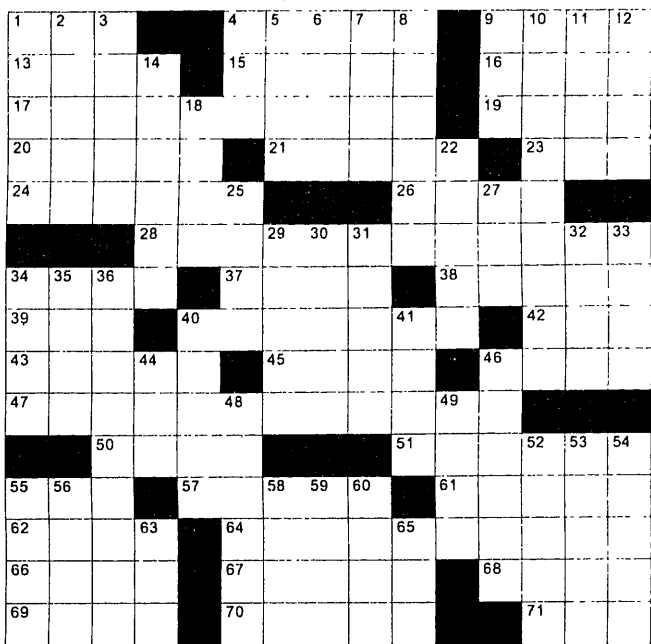
- 1 Madison Ave. output
- 4 Condiment
- 9 Graphic symbol
- 13 Move through a maze
- 15 Push
- 16 Reputation
- 17 Flat radius: Anagram
- 19 Headliner
- 20 Dense shade
- 21 Parakeet cousin
- 23 Connective word
- 24 Certain printers
- 26 Enlarge a hole
- 28 Salsa arcades: Anagram
- 34 *Gunsmoke's* Dillon
- 37 Sicilian sight
- 38 The Honeymooners, e.g.
- 39 Pitchers' stat.
- 40 People mover
- 42 Bustle
- 43 Edmonton player
- 45 Domino of *Blueberry Hill* fame
- 46 Once again
- 47 Allow for Dads: Anagram
- 50 Quantifier
- 51 List of printing errors
- 55 SAT relative
- 57 Mama Leone's specialty
- 61 Covered the floor
- 62 Yarn ingredient
- 64 Calf shades: Anagram
- 66 Area unit
- 67 Sacred writing
- 68 Pry
- 69 Ma, for one
- 70 Contrite
- 71 Unite

### Down

- 1 Abominable
- 2 Skin: Prefix
- 3 Ignores
- 4 Fool
- 5 Fake

## Crossword 101

By Ed Canty



- 6 More than one: Prefix
- 7 Wall Street's Boesky
- 8 Coniferous trees
- 9 Before "ands and buts"
- 10 Sailboat
- 11 Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Socially inept person
- 14 Orchestrate
- 18 Scarlett O'Hara's plantation
- 22 Essential part
- 25 Sucker lead in
- 27 Porter's cousin
- 29 Music teacher's graph
- 30 Christie and others
- 31 Black Muslim, e.g.
- 32 Chap: Slang
- 33 Comes before blower or thrower
- 34 Sound heard from a kitty-corner
- 35 Carmen feature
- 36 Exaggeration
- 40 Walk heavily
- 41 Man, for one

- 44 Tokyo in the 12th century
- 46 Michigan college
- 48 Responds
- 49 Garfunkel & others
- 52 Give permission
- 53 Pester
- 54 Suinmed
- 55 Not here
- 56 Chanel of designer fame
- 58 Word to scare flies
- 59 Reg.
- 60 Not close
- 63 Astrologists' lion
- 65 Timid

### Quotable Quote

*Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been.*

• • • Mark Twain

By GFR Associates • • • Visit our web site at [www.gfrpuzzles.com](http://www.gfrpuzzles.com)

## Paws

continued from page 6

"Careers in hospitality and food service in addition to being the proud mother of a 3-year-old pug, have distracted her from her first love: painting," Proctor writes. "Now after many years of neglect, and the advice of her physician, Andrea has again picked up her paint brush."

Which brings us to the pug. In place of da Vinci's classic, enigmatic beauty, we get a dog, an enigmatic canine, a visual pun designed to tease and tickle the viewer.

Proctor's work is often like this, placing animals in classic settings, conjuring both memories of the originals but

adding something fresh and challenging. The classical paintings-turned-whimsical have humanistic appeal.

This exhibit will run through to the end of March. Library Hours are, Monday - Thursday, 7-10 p.m., Friday, 7-5 p.m., Saturday, noon-4 p.m. and Sunday, 2-10 p.m.

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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C	A	K	E			S	P	A	N		A	S	A	P
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## Arts Briefs

### Jazz Band needs sales

Highline Music Department asks the Highline community to buy note cards to help pay for a spring festival performance planned in Yangzhou, China.

Cards can be purchased in Building 4 through Dr. Glover or in Building 9 in the Foundation Office.

The cards are the art work of kindergarteners from

Yangzhou, China. The cost is \$6 for one packet of notecards depicting two seasons or \$10 for two packets of four seasons.

### Lysistrata Notes

Last weeks article "A Star's Life is the Stage" about Highline's winter drama performance of *Lysistrata*, did not mention the cost or showtime. Tickets cost are \$6 for Students and \$7 for General Admission. Tickets

reservations can be made by calling 206-878-3710 ext. 3156 or bought at the box office. Performances are Thursday - Saturday Feb. 26-28, and March 4-6 at 8 p.m.

### Help Wanted

The Thunderword needs an ad manager. Contact T.M. Sell if you are interested in Building 10-106. Please bring a resume. This is a paid position. For more information email Dr.Sell, [tword@highline.edu](mailto:tword@highline.edu).

# Men take fourth seed to NWAACC tourney

By Jordan Goddard  
STAFF REPORTER

The Thunderbirds are headed to the NWAACC playoffs. The Highline men's basketball team earned the final playoff spot in their division this Saturday with a 72-64 victory over the South Puget Sound Clippers.

The T-Birds' 9-7 league record and 14-12 overall record qualifies them for the fourth seed in the West.

They open the tournament Friday, Feb. 27 against the Peninsula Pirates, No. 1 in the North.

"It all depends on this first game. If we can get past the first seed, we can go all the way," guard Zenrique Tellez said.

Much like the Thunderbirds, the Pirates have relied on quick, athletic players over big men to achieve their 14-2 league record, 20-6 overall.

"It should be fun to play against a team with the same size," Tellez said. "We match up with Peninsula as well as any team in the tournament."

The NWAACC playoffs were almost out of reach early on for the Thunderbirds. The first two months of their season left the young team with a 5-7 record.

The T-Birds' core of freshmen players finally began to gel in the new year, resulting in a 6-2 January record.

Highline showed inconsistency in February, upsetting No. 2 Centralia but earning only a 3-3 record for the month.

The final game of February and the regular season decided Highline's playoff future.

The Thunderbirds jumped out to an early lead in Saturday's game. Enthusiastic defense and rebounding opened up several fast-break opportunities for Highline.

"Overall, [rebounding] was much better. Usually that comes out of energy," Head Coach Che Dawson said.

The Thunderbirds finished the first half with an 11-point lead.

The second half brought more enthusiastic effort from both sides. Fast breaks, quick passes, and piles of players scrambling on the ground characterized play after halftime in the final regular season

game.

Forwards Tavar Proctor and Lucas Eaton showed an intensity not reflected in the box score, with both players aggressively chasing loose balls in the second half.

"We kept our intensity up the entire game. That's what won it for us," Tellez said.

The South Puget Sound Clippers refused to give up early though. With less than three minutes left, the Clippers cut the Thunderbirds' 12-point lead to five.

"We had a few breakdowns, especially late in the game, but for the most part defensive intensity was better," Coach Dawson said.

With a renewed focus on defense, the Thunderbirds managed to stop the Clippers' late comeback run.

Forward Kellen Williams led the T-Birds with 27 points and 18 rebounds. Williams' dominant rebounding effort helped the Thunderbirds take a 12-board advantage over the Clippers.

Scoring came as a team effort for the T-Birds.

The bench contributed 23 points for Highline, as opposed to only eight for South Puget Sound's backups.

Sophomore Lawrence Brooks played well in his final game as a Thunderbird.

"He did a nice job. He fit in well with the team's energy and enthusiasm," Coach Dawson said of Brooks.

"My adrenaline was pumping so hard I could hardly get my legs under me. Everything was a blur out there," Brooks said.

Brooks was honored with a brief ceremony before the game.

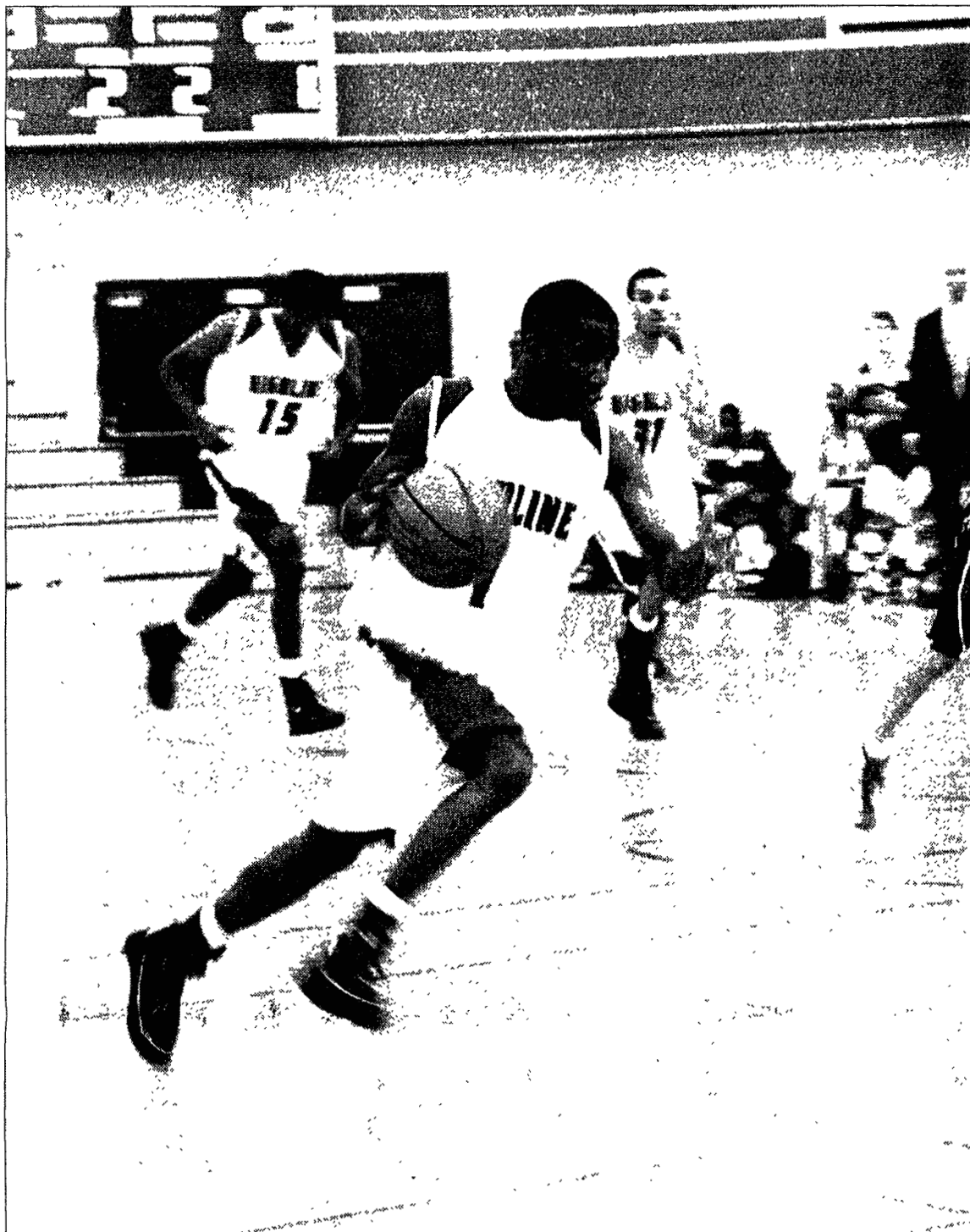
"My experience at Highline has been different from what I expected, but it's made me stronger," Brooks commented.

Despite his concern over limited playing time, Brooks expressed positive sentiments about his final season at Highline.

"It's fun playing with guys who give 100 percent every night," Brooks said.

The win against the Clippers came after a disappointing 102-78 loss on the road to the Clark Penguins last Wednesday.

Clark looked unstoppable in the first half, scoring 53 points.



Photos by Amber Trillo

Sophomore Lawrence Brooks moves the ball down the court during a game earlier this month.

The Thunderbirds threatened to come back in the second half, but the Penguins' lead proved insurmountable.

"We were out-hustled and outplayed," Coach Dawson said.

Lucas Eaton led the team with 19 points.

"We turned the ball over too much, and we didn't defend," Coach Dawson added.

The Thunderbirds face the Pen-

insula Pirates Friday, Feb. 27 in Kennewick at 4 p.m.

"If we do what we need to do in practice and take control of our destiny, things will work out in Tri-Cities," Tellez said.



Head Coach Che Dawson pumps up the team for the tournament during practice this week.

## T-BIRD TRADERS

collect 'em all!



2004





Highline  
Thunderbirds

**ZENRIQUE  
TELLEZ**

**3 Zenrique Tellez**

Height: 5'10"

Weight: 175

Year: Freshman

Natural Position: SG

Favorite Athlete(s): Ben Gordon

Role Model: my coach



## Underdog lady T-Birds head for NWAACCs

By Bobby Lemmon  
STAFF REPORTER

After a lethargic 1-11 start, the Lady Thunderbirds have turned things around and are heading to Pasco to participate in the 2004 NWAACC Tournament.

"After the way things started, we are really excited to be heading to the tournament," said Head Coach Amber Rowe. "It means a lot to this team."

"It has been a long season, and we've been through a lot, but we have really come together," said freshman guard Taryn Plypick.

With a 54-48 victory over South Puget Sound on Feb. 21, Highline clinched the third seed in the NWAACC West. Lower Columbia and Centralia were the first and second seeds, respectively. The fourth and final seed was determined in a tiebreaker game, as Green River defeated Tacoma.

"A lot of our wins were narrow victories," said Coach Rowe.

To give you an idea of just how balanced the West was, the top three teams all finished within one game of each other.

Highline's success has come from a recent hot streak where it has won 12 of its past 14 games. During this time Highline has had a winning streak of six games, and is going into the tournament with a winning streak of four games.

The Thunderbirds' last win came against South Puget Sound, in a low-scoring affair at Highline.

Michelle Aurelio led Highline, yet again, with a splendid performance, scoring 14 points and grabbing 17 rebounds. Aurelio has been consistent with her play this season, ending the season averaging 11 rebounds a game, good for third best in the NWAACC.

Tymmony Keegan also had a double-double for the T-Birds, finishing with 12 points and 10 re-



Photo by Amber Trillo

Women's B-Ball Head Coach Amber Rowe talks to Tymmony Keegan during a practice this week.

bounds. Nina Kupu contributed well with 12 points and 8 rebounds.

"It was the sophomores' last home game. We wanted to get them the win," said Coach Rowe.

Highline defeated Clark 67-65 on Feb. 18. Rebekah Proctor led the T-Birds with 18 points, 7 rebounds and 5 steals.

Perhaps the most remarkable

story this season has been Highline's attitude to not give up, when it looked as if there was no chance of qualifying for postseason play.

"We have a shot at going far in the tournament because this team matches the level of competition," said Coach Rowe. "It comes down to heart."

There are some certainties head-

ing into the postseason. Highline enters as one of the hottest teams in the entire NWAACC and they play with an attitude that reflects true champions, never giving up.

Highline plays its first game of the tournament against number two seeded Shoreline on Feb. 27 at 8 a.m. Shoreline finished 12-4 in the NWAACC North.

Shoreline's Ebonee Newson

leads the entire NWAACC in both scoring and rebounding, averaging 24.5 points and 13 rebounds a game.

If the T-Birds win the game, they play the winner of the Clackamas-Wenatchee Valley game on Feb. 28 at 8 a.m. If Highline loses against Shoreline, they will play the loser of the Clackamas-Wenatchee Valley game on Feb. 28 at 2 p.m.

## T-BIRD TRADERS

collect 'em all!



Highline  
Thunderbirds



**JEN PATNODE**



**54 Jen Patnode**

Nickname: *Patnode*

Height: *5'11"*

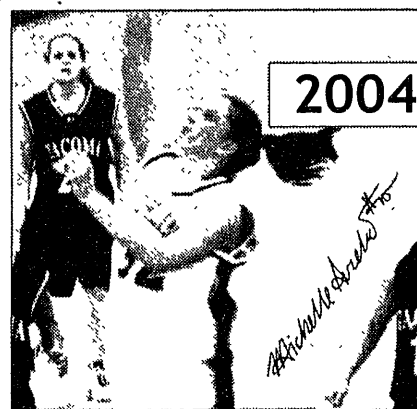
Year: *Freshman*

Natural Position: *Post*

Favorite Athlete(s):

*Sue Bird*

Role Model: *my mom*



Highline  
Thunderbirds



**MICHELLE  
AURELIO**



**32 Michelle  
Aurelio**

Nickname: *Shelley*

Height: *6'0"*

Year: *Sophomore*

Natural Position: *PG*

Favorite Athlete(s):

*Kellen Williams, Coach Rowe*

Role Model: *Derrick Zoolander*

## SPORTS

## Walla Walla favored for women's title

By Shauna Bjork  
STAFF REPORTER

Walla Walla is the favorite headed into the women's NWAACC tournament this year.

Although Walla Walla (21-4) is favored, some other teams that could take the title include Clackamas (22-4), Umpqua (22-5), and Lane (20-6).

Last year's champion is also back in the running. Chemeketa (19-7) is headed back to the tournament seeded third in the South Division.

The title will most likely be won by whatever team has the best weekend.

"I have no idea who will win the tourney this year. There are so many evenly matched teams, whoever gets hot will win it all," said Lane Head Coach Greg Sheley.

#### Chemeketa Storm

League/overall: 10-4/19-7

NWAACC seed: No. 3 in South Division.

Record last year: 28-4 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Won the NWAACC title.

Strengths: Defense.

Key players: Courtney Bothum, Julie Melcher, Annie Hartle, Sara Brooks, and Kristin Gunderson.

Coach's prediction: "I think Clackamas or Walla Walla will win this year's tournament," said Head Coach Marty Branch.

#### Everett Trojans

League/overall: 9-7/13-14

NWAACC seed: No. 4 in North Division.

Record last year: 20-7.

NWAACC finish last year: One win and two losses.

Strengths: Shooting.

Weaknesses: Depth.

Coach's prediction: Clackamas.

#### Green River Gators

League/overall: 11-5/15-12

NWAACC seed: No. 4 in the West Division.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not go.

Strengths: Share the ball and defense.

Weaknesses: Turnovers.

Coach's prediction: Clackamas.

#### Highline Thunderbirds

League/overall: 12-4/13-3

NWAACC seed: No. 3 in the West Division.

Record last year: 15-11 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not go.

Strengths: Three point shooting, inside presences, and scrappy players.

Weakness: Dribble penetration and foul trouble.

Key players: Michelle Aurelio and Rebekah Proctor.

Coach's prediction: "I'd like

#### Shoreline

#### Highline

(Saturday 2 p.m.)

#### Clackamas

#### Wenatchee Valley

#### Centralia

#### Whatcom

#### Walla Walla

#### Umpqua

(Sunday 4 p.m.)

(Saturday 4 p.m.)

(Monday 6 p.m.)

(Sunday 6 p.m.)

#### Skagit Valley

#### Green River

#### Yakima Valley

#### Chemeketa

#### Lane

#### Spokane

#### Lower Columbia

#### Everett

for it to be us, someone from the south," said Head Coach Amber Rowe.

#### Lane Titans

League/overall: 11-3/20-6

NWAACC seed: No. 2 in South Division.

Record last year: 25-8 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Went 3-1 at last year's tourney.

Strengths: Play hard and defense.

Weaknesses: Lack of size and strength.

Key players: Domonique King, Chelsey Brock, and Kailee Short.

#### Lower Columbia Red Devils

League/overall: 13-3/20-5

NWAACC seed: Western Division champions.

Record last year: 20-8.

NWAACC finish last year: Won one game and lost their final two.

Strengths: Speed, balanced scoring, and defense.

Weaknesses: Experience in tournament play and inconsistent outside shooting.

Key players: "Every player is key come tournament time," said Head Coach Jason Hosney.

Coach's prediction: "It could be anyone this year, teams are fairly well balanced throughout NWAACC," said Hosney.

#### Shoreline Dolphins

League/overall: 12-4/20-6

NWAACC seed: No. 2 in the North Division.

Record last year: 9-16 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not make it.

Strengths: Size, quickness, good inside post players, good perimeter players and solid defense.

Coach's prediction: "Being optimistic, Shoreline will win the tournament," said Head Coach Petra Jackson.

Skagit Valley Cardinals

League/overall: 13-3/19-5  
NWAACC seed: Northern Division champion.

Record last year: 20-9.

Strengths: Good defense.

Coach's prediction: "I have no idea who will win the title. There are a lot of good teams this year that all have a chance," said Head Coach Steve Epperson.

#### Spokane Sasaquatch

League/overall: 9-5/17-8

NWAACC seed: No. 3 in East Division.

Record last year: 20-10 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: 5th.

Strengths: Defense and sophomore leadership.

Weaknesses: Lack of size and tendency to foul.

Key players: Katie Rodgers, Heidi Horobiowski, Carly Syverson and Angie Clift.

Coach's prediction: "I think Clackamas is the favorite this year, but the champion could come out of the Eastern Division," said Head Coach Bruce Johnson.

#### Umpqua Timberberwomen

League/overall: 10-4/22-5

NWAACC seed: No. 4 in the South Division.

Record last year: 21-10 overall.

Strengths: Strong and physical inside, five players score double figures

Weaknesses: Injuries.

Coach's prediction: "I'm hoping Umpqua wins the championship, but right now I would have to say the Clackamas is the favorite," said Head Coach Dave Stricklin.

#### Walla Walla Warriors

League/overall: 13-1/21-4

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NWAACC seed: East Division champions.

Record last year: 19-10 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: 7th.

Strengths: Shooting.

Weaknesses: Speed.

Key players: Aundrea Morrison and Laura Sprague.

Coach's prediction for who will win the title: Clackamas or Umpqua.

#### Wenatchee Valley Knights

League/overall: 8-6/16-11

NWAACC seed: No. 4 in East Division.

Record last year: 26-6 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Placed third.

Strengths: Team heart.

Weaknesses: Lack of depth.

Key players: Nikki Haerling.

Coach's prediction: "I think Walla Walla will win the title," said Head Coach Brett Johnson.

#### Whatcom Orcas

League/overall: 11-5/16-11

NWAACC seed: No. 3 in North Division.

Record last year: 8-17 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Missed tournament by one game.

Strengths: Play as a team and five players average double digit points.

Weaknesses: Height.

Key players: "Any one person can step at any given time," said Head Coach Becky Rawlings.

Coach's prediction: Clackamas.

#### Yakima Yaks

League/overall: 10-4/21-6

NWAACC seed: No. 2 in the East Division.

Record last year: 11-16.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not make it.

Strengths: Size, speed, and depth.

Weaknesses: Inconsistency.

Key players: Ladonna Downs, Brianna Hilliard, and Christa Wilson.

Coach's prediction: "If we are able to put four solid games together, I would pick Yakima Valley," said Head Coach Cody Butler.

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FOR A  
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2/26/2004

# No clear favorite in men's tournament

By Shauna Bjork

STAFF REPORTER

The NWAACC men's basketball championship is up for grabs this weekend in the tournament in Tri-Cities.

Last year's champions, Yakima Valley Yaks, will not be returning to the tournament as they finished seventh in the East Division.

This year's favorite according to the recent coaches poll is Chemeketa (23-5).

Other favorites include Peninsula (20-6), Lower Columbia (22-5), and Big Bend (17-9).

Although most coaches agree that the title could go to anyone.

"Several teams could win as it is a very balanced league this year," said Mt. Hood Head Coach Rob Nielson.

The top scorer this year comes from Centralia, Virgil Matthews. He has scored 589 points this season and averages 22.7 per game.

Top rebounder comes out of Highline, Kellen Williams, with a total of 304, and an average of 11.7 a game.

Here are some key facts about some of this year's teams:

## Centralia Trailblazers

League/overall: 10-6/15-11  
NWAACC seed: No. 3 in West Division.

Record last year: 8-8 league.  
NWAACC finish last year: Have not been to NWAACC championships the past three years.

Strengths: Sophomore leadership, defense, and experience.

Weaknesses: Injuries to Brian Jochim and Virgil Matthews, which has taken away from the balanced attack that the team had earlier in the season.

Key players: Virgil Matthews, Sean Russel, Roman Scott and Brian Jochim.

Coach's prediction: Chemeketa, Walla Walla, Lower Columbia or Centralia.

## Clackamas Cougars

League/overall: 10-4/19-7  
NWAACC seed: No. 3 in South Division

Record last year: 18-7 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Placed 7th.

Strengths: Offensive explosiveness.

## Des Moines

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## Mt. Hood

## Columbia Basin

## Tacoma

## Seattle

## Big Bend

## Linn-Benton

## Peninsula

## Highline

## Walla Walla

## Clackamas

## Chemeketa

## Spokane

## Lower Columbia

## Skagit Valley

**Weaknesses:** Rebounding  
**Key players:** Brandon Gill, Alex Swerzbis, Ammon Bemis  
**Coach's prediction:** Lower Columbia and Chemeketa.

## Highline Thunderbirds

League/overall record: 9-7/14-12

NWAACC seed: No. 4 in North Division.

Record last year: 5-19.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not go.

Strengths: Depth, versatility, athleticism

Weaknesses: Experience and consistency.

Key players: Kellen Williams, Zenrique Tellez, and Jacob Manning.

Coach's prediction: Head Coach Che Dawson thinks the title is completely up for grabs.

## Lower Columbia Red Devils

League/overall: 13-3/22-5

NWAACC seed: West Division champions.

Record last year: 15-12 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Did not go.

**Strengths:** Point guard and size.

**Weaknesses:** Quickness.

**Key players:** Chris Bannish, Bryan Freshwater, and Steve Trotter.

## Mt Hood Saints

League/overall: 12-2/18-8

NWAACC seed: South Division Champions.

Record last year: 16-12 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Placed 8th.

Strengths: Balance, leadership, and rebounding.

Weaknesses: Lack of teamwork.

Key players: Trevor Hutton, Greg Barlow, Tyson Papendus, Jeremy Wyatt, TJ Davis, Marcus Buckley, Ryan Hiel, and Ben Perry.

## Peninsula Pirates

League/overall: 14-2/20-6

NWAACC seed: North Division champions.

Record last year: 3-21 overall.

Strengths: "Our strengths stem from the season we had

last year. Having a 3-21 record season, not quitting, working hard to prepare for this year have been our keys to getting everyone on the same page," said Head Coach Peter Stewart.

**Weaknesses:** Coaching.

**Key players:** "We have 12 players that have all accepted their roles on any given point of the season," said Stewart.

## Seattle Storm

League/overall: 10-6/16-10

NWAACC seed: No. 3 in North Division.

Record last year: 14-15 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Lost to Clackamas and Tacoma.

Strengths: Attitude, work ethic, chemistry, defense, and depth.

Weaknesses: Overall size and consistency.

**Key players:** Andres Gordon, Sam Colter, Mike Boyle, and Tony Lopez.

**Coach's prediction for who will win the title:** Lower Columbia, Peninsula, Big Bend and Chemeketa.

## Tacoma Titans

League/overall: 12-4/14-13

NWAACC seed: No. 2 in the west division.

Record last year: 26-5 overall.

NWAACC finish last year: Placed 5th.

Strengths: Depth and Teamwork.

Weaknesses: Size and experience.

Key players: Robert Crawford, Barry Jones, Patrick Names, and Marcus Whittaker.

Coach's prediction: "Wide open race, but we hope to be there in the end," said Head Coach A.C. Mosley Jr.

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# T-Birds focus on team for tournament

By Jesse Nordstrom  
STAFF REPORTER

Seven individuals from the Highline wrestling team will march on to Minnesota this weekend, but it's their effort as a team that may determine how each performs.

With all but three of the T-Bird squad competing at the NJCAA National Championships, Highline has its biggest tournament team ever. That will allow the T-Birds to experience and benefit from a team feel throughout the tournament.

Sophomore 125-pounder Kyle McCarron and freshman 197-pounder Patrick Bradley both say that having seven guys at the tournament will have positive effects for all of the Highline wrestlers.

"I think it's great that so many guys are going to be there with me. I mean, I not only get to go to this tournament and wrestle, but I also get to go and watch my teammates," McCarron said. "I'm the first guy to be wrestling so I really want to go out and win so that the other guys will see me and say, 'Hey, if he can win, I can win too.'"

Bradley also feels the same way. "At the tournament itself, it will be good to have that many guys with the same goals in one gym because it keeps the intensity up."

The other five wrestlers who will be representing Highline at the Rochester, Minn. tournament are sophomore Francisco (Chico) Gonzalez at 133, sophomore Jason Mendez at 141, freshman Brandon Hunter at 149, freshman Skyler Marler at 157, and freshman heavyweight Jacob Peterson.

It's Highline's biggest team since 2002, when they also sent seven wrestlers and finished sixth.

"That year was the first time that Highline had ever placed at a national level, so sending seven guys to nationals again is definitely a huge step in the right direction from last year," said Assistant Coach John Clemens. "We went through major coaching changes and it's a big sign for us if in only the second year of our new staff we can have such a big team advantage at nationals by having this many guys go to the tournament together."

Last year, Peter Puccio was the lone T-Bird to travel to Rochester and he did not place, losing each of his first two matches.

"It's really tough when only one or two guys go because they aren't supported very well. I just can't state enough how much of an impact this many guys going together will have on their individual performances," said Clemens.

The nationals are a different world, Clemens said.

"On the mat, the officiating will be better than we've ever seen it and they will make quicker calls for things such as stalling and for going out-of-bounds," Clemens



Photo by Amber Trillo

Jacob Peterson, Patrick Bradley, Skyler Marler, Brandon Hunter, Jason Mendez, Francisco Gonzalez, and Kyle McCarron are all headed to nationals this weekend.

said. "Also, you'll see a lot of big moves from the wrestlers and a lot of guys that can score big with one move on just about anybody."

"Off the mat, there's the two-hour time difference and then the huge temperature difference because it's zero degrees outside most of the time," said Clemens. "Also, the guys will be staying four days in an unfamiliar hotel with a different bed and a different atmosphere so there will be times when they can't sleep, can't eat, and won't be able to focus because they get too worried about matches they have to wrestle."

Clemens also added that there will be a bigger crowd than normal, but only because it's a bigger tournament.

"The tournament starts out on Saturday with 12 mats being wrestled on and that number is then down to eight mats by the end of the first day," said Clemens. "When the second day of wrestling begins on Sunday, there are just four mats used at a time until the number of mats is reduced to only one for the finals."

"The finals on the last day are pretty dramatic because it's two guys at a time on one mat in a big gym," Clemens said. "But I don't think that the additional noise will be a factor at all for the wrestlers because of the individual nature of the sport."

Clemens said he thinks the team is ready.

"Our guys are really seasoned and they've been in a lot of competitions, so no one should have any stage-fright or lose any freak matches," Clemens said. "I'm really optimistic about how the guys will do at nationals."

"I think every guy is gonna win matches, but you can't really make predictions about how they will finish with a tournament that is this big because you get there and then wild things happen. But I think we'll do fine."

But for 125-pounder Kyle McCarron, it's not that simple.

"My goal for this tournament is that I want to go and make an imprint so that next year when I go

back I can tell the other guys what it's like and that I've been here before," said McCarron. "Everyone says that they want to be an all-American, but it's harder than it sounds. You got to go there with a certain mindset and put together a good tournament if you want to do well."

Chico Gonzalez said he doesn't really think about it that much.

"I'm just gonna wrestle one match at a time," said Gonzalez. "A mat's a mat and we're still gonna be wrestling indoors, right? I don't care who it is, I'm just gonna go out there and wrestle."

"You gotta do what you gotta do."

For 141-pounder Jason Mendez, he's found that preparation — not over-preparation — is key.

"It pays to be prepared for the first match and to not let the tournament psych you out," Mendez said. "I'm practicing as much as I can, I'm working on the areas I'm lacking in, and I'm getting as much rest as I can even though it's hard with school and everything. But I think that the biggest thing for me is that I got to break that mental wall and just go out there and wrestle."

In the case of 197-pounder Patrick Bradley, a completely different lesson was learned at regionals.

"If anything, I gained confidence from the regional tournament," Bradley said. "The guys that I was wrestling against at regionals have been ranked pretty high and now I know for a fact that I can compete with the best wrestlers in the country."

Bradley also says that he's impatient and that the two-week break from competition is hard but that it's really nice not to have to cut weight.

"I started off the year at 184 pounds and now I'm at 197 so I feel like I'm a lot better wrestler than I used to be," Bradley said. "But I don't want to wait anymore. I just want to go wrestle."

Just going and wrestling is exactly what Assistant Coach John Clemens would say is required of Bradley and the rest of his teammates while they are out on the mat this weekend.

"The only expectations that the coaching staff has for the wrestlers is for each guy to wrestle what he's capable of and to come away having done the best he possibly could have done," said Clemens.

"The main thing to look at is to go back [to the national tournament], take your best shot, and then let the chips fall where they may," he said. "As long as we are able to do that we can live with the results."

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2/26/2004

# Williams earns MVP

By Fabio Hering  
STAFF REPORTER

Kellen Williams, 6'4", considers his game to be a mix of Ron Artest, Dennis Rodman, Vince Carter, and Kevin Garnett. Williams was just named co-MVP of the NWAACC West Division.

He has been a great weapon for Highline, leading the team in points per game and rebounds per game.

"I demand the ball. I want the ball 50 times a game. My teammates look for me and I can get it done in the paint," Williams said.

After being ineligible his 9th and 10th grade years, Williams played for Franklin his junior year.

Williams helped Franklin win the 4A state championship while leading the 4A state in rebounds and averaging a double-double (points and rebounds per game). He also was second team all-state first team all Kingco and was MVP for the all-state game.

After high school Williams planned on playing for Eastern Washington but a complication with a class, made him decide to come to Highline.

After a 5-7 start the Thunderbirds have rebounded well and have made the play-offs.

For Highline to win

NWAACC this year he feels it will take hard work, discipline, working together, heart, and pride.

He considers his biggest strength

to be rebounding.

He spends time working on his jump shot, and doing a lot of running and jumping.

"I need to grow some. If I was 6'9" I would be in the (NBA) league," Williams said.

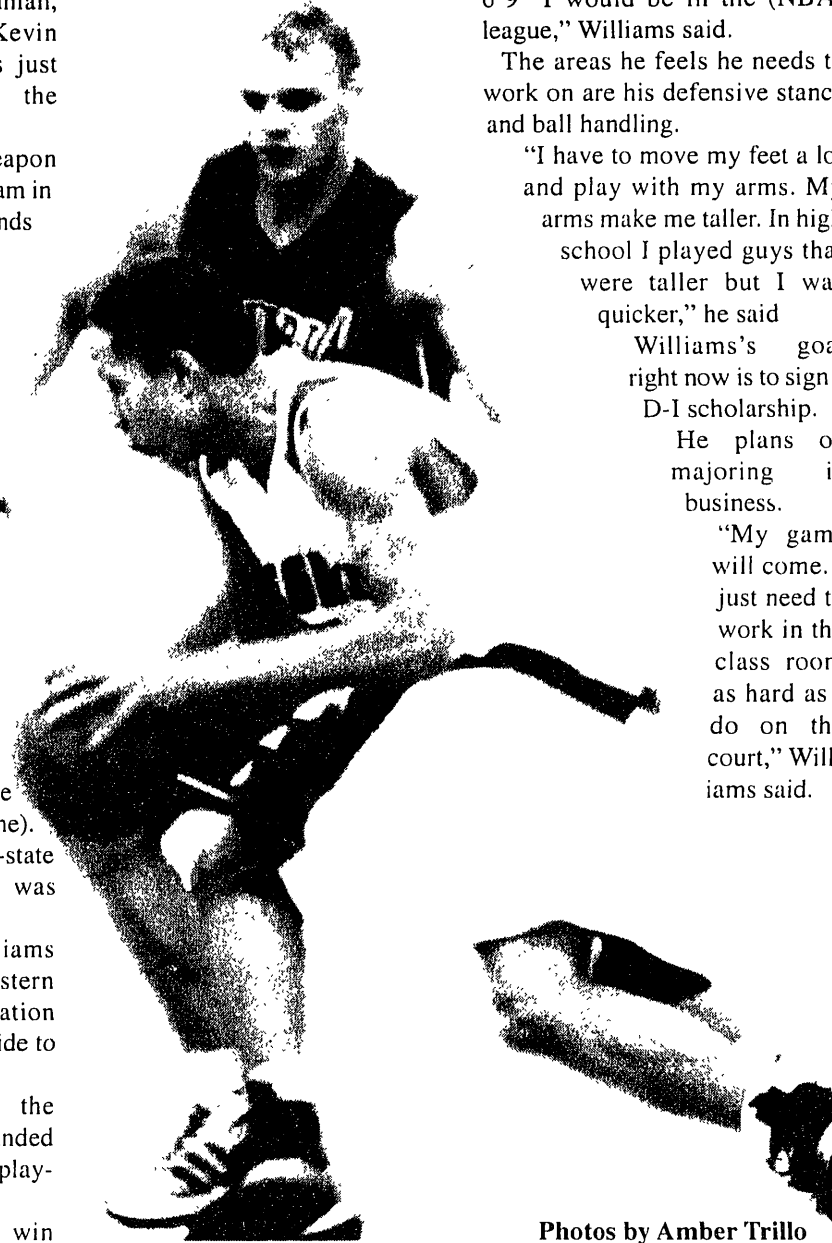
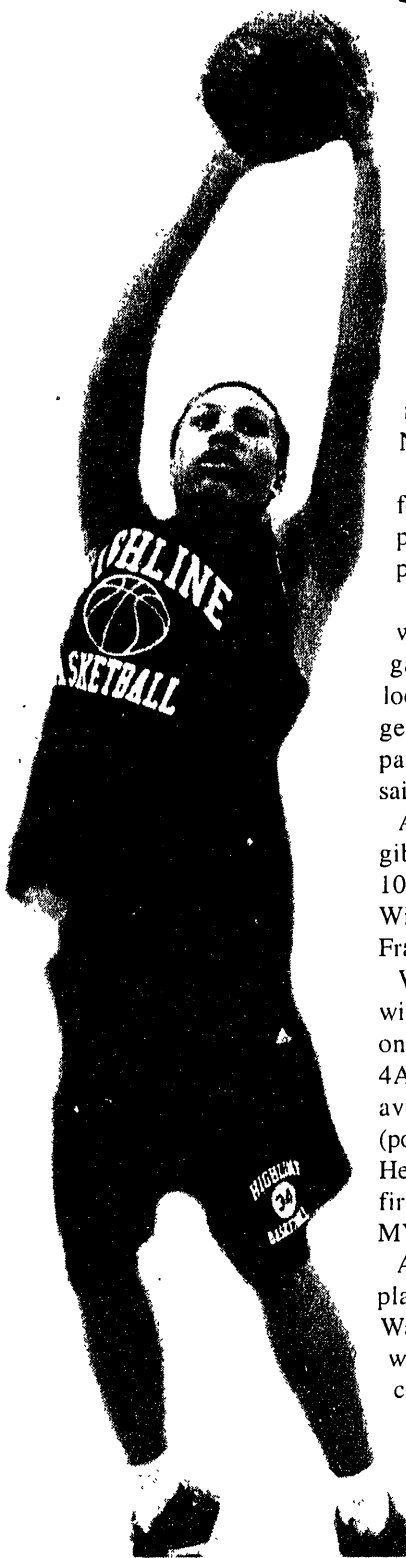
The areas he feels he needs to work on are his defensive stance and ball handling.

"I have to move my feet a lot and play with my arms. My arms make me taller. In high school I played guys that were taller but I was quicker," he said

Williams's goal right now is to sign a D-I scholarship.

He plans on majoring in business.

"My game will come. I just need to work in the class room as hard as I do on the court," Williams said.



Photos by Amber Trillo

## NWAACC Men's Basketball Standings (As of Feb 16)

### WEST

#### League Overall

L. Columbia	13-3	22-5
Tacoma	12-4	14-13
Centralia	10-6	15-11
Highline	9-7	14-12
Pierce	8-8	15-10
Clark	7-9	13-14
Green River	6-10	11-12
S. Puget	4-12	6-19
G. Harbor	3-13	7-18

### NORTH

#### League Overall

Peninsula	14-2	20-6
Edmonds	11-5	19-7
Seattle	10-6	16-10
Skagit Valley	7-9	10-16
Everett	7-9	11-15
Bellevue	7-9	9-18
Whatcom	6-10	8-16
Shoreline	5-11	8-17
Olympic	5-11	7-17

### SOUTH

#### League Overall

Mt. Hood	12-2	18-8
Chemeketa	12-2	23-5
Clackamas	10-4	19-7
Linn-Benton	6-8	11-14
Lane	5-9	8-16
SW Oregon	5-9	10-15
Portland	3-11	9-16
Umpqua	3-11	8-16

### EAST

#### League Overall

Big Bend	9-5	17-9
Walla Walla	8-6	17-8
Spokane	8-6	16-11
C. Basin	8-6	13-11
T. Valley	7-7	11-13
Yakima	7-7	16-9
Wenatchee	6-8	16-12
Blue Mtn	3-11	7-16

Bellevue	3-13	8-18
Seattle	2-14	2-21

### SOUTH

#### League Overall

Clackamas	12-2	22-4
Lane	11-3	20-6
Chemeketa	10-4	19-7
Umpqua	10-4	22-5
Linn-Benton	6-8	14-12
Mt. Hood	4-10	8-18
SW Oregon	3-11	4-20
Portland	0-14	0-23

### EAST

#### League Overall

Walla Walla	13-1	21-4
Yakima	10-4	21-6
Spokane	9-5	16-11
Wenatchee	8-6	16-11
Columbia B.	7-7	15-11
Big Bend	5-9	14-13
Wenatchee	3-11	5-16
Blue Mtn	1-13	5-19

## NWAACC Women's Basketball Standings (As of Feb 16)

### WEST

#### League Overall

L. Columbia	13-3	20-5
Centralia	12-4	21-6
Highline	12-4	13-13
Green River	11-5	15-12
Tacoma	11-5	16-11
S. Puget	5-11	9-16
Clark	3-13	8-17
Pierce	3-13	5-19
G. Harbor	2-14	2-22

### NORTH

#### League Overall

Skagit Valley	13-3	19-5
Shoreline	12-4	20-6
Whatcom	11-5	16-11
Everett	9-7	13-14
Peninsula	8-8	13-12
Edmonds	7-9	10-17
Olympic	7-9	11-13

### Corrections

In last weeks edition of the Thunderword Barry Carel's name was spelled wrong.

On page A8 of last weeks paper the wrong name was put under Kellen Williams' picture

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## Classes Begin 01•05•2004

# Tar creates headaches for students

By Sara Loken

STAFF REPORTER

The patience of students is being tested over the current construction.

With the heavy machinery right outside classrooms and the horrible smells permeating throughout the campus, students and faculty are getting frustrated.

Dr. Jennifer Jones teaches an economic geography class in Building 22 on the bottom floor. The constant hum of bulldozers and earthmovers are present as they work right outside her room at the north end of the building 22. While taking a midterm or participating in class discussions, they are constantly interrupted by the threat of a bulldozer coming through their window.

"There are machines outside my classroom that sound like the dinosaurs in Jurassic Park," said Jones. "It's necessary to have some disruption but the noise can be a pain."

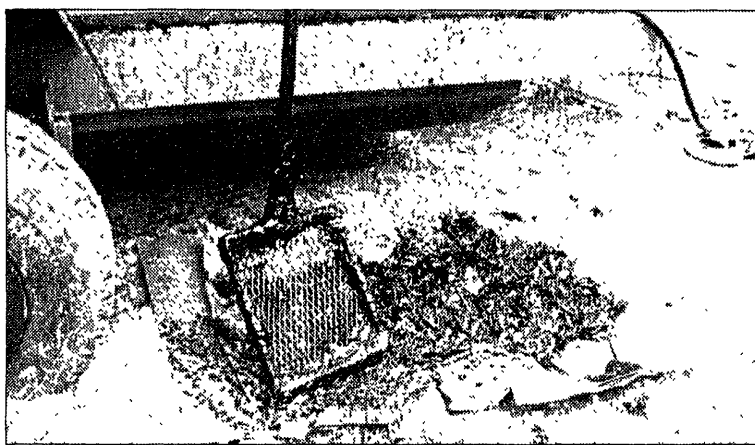


Photo by Kyle Drosdick

The pungent smell of roofing tar has been wafting through campus this last week.

Workers outside of the building were installing new hot water piping that will provide heat for buildings 23, 26, 22, 21, and 20. The installation process is done with and now workers are preparing to pour concrete for a new sidewalk.

"We're hoping to pour concrete by the 15th of March and the walkway will lead down to the Higher Education Center," said

Linda Helm, project manager for the Higher Education Center for Mortenson Contractors.

The Higher Education Center is an 80,000 square foot structure that will cost \$30 million. Its projected opening date is in the fall of 2005.

Patience is also wearing thin over the horrible smell of tar from the construction on the student union.

"If I smell it for too long I start to get a headache," said Carl Vavrek, student.

Walking from class to class, students brave the nose-burning smell of roofing tar. It creeps into classrooms nearby, and battles the clean air students are searching for.

Workers on the site of the new Student Union wear ace masks but it's merely blocks the intense smell.

"We're not using products that are harmful. If we were all running around in space suits then something would be wrong," said Mike McDonald, superintendent of the Student Union for Lumpkin general contractors.

The Student Union is a 45,000 square foot structure. It will cost between \$13-\$15 million and should be completed in the fall of 2004.

The tar is used as glue between what's called roofing felt. Different membranes are laid between the tar and they'll work to let

moisture out of the finished roof.

In its solid form, the tar comes in giant rolls. The rolls are placed in what looks like a giant kettledrum, where it is melted at 400 degrees. In its liquid form the tar is pumped up to the roof of the building where workers stand by, place it in special roller buckets and proceed to mop it across the roof.

The tar used is the same tar that is found in California's La Brea Tar Pits.

"It's not harmful, we've been using it in the construction industry since the 1900s," said McDonald. "Fumes from a nail parlor are more harmful than what students are smelling here."

Loose Bricks:

The masonry work on the north side of the Student Union will be the loading dock for the kitchen. Food service trucks will be able to unload food for the student union once the building is completed.

The masonry is durable enough in case a truck backs into it and holds a good fire rating.

## Stumpf heads to China for five-month exchange

By Derek Markland

STAFF REPORTER

You might not be able to tell by observing his cool and laid-back demeanor, but Bryan Stumpf is busy finishing up his quarter teaching at Highline and getting his visa in order for an upcoming trip to China.

"I've been waiting to do this since I came to Highline," Stumpf said about his upcoming foray.

Stumpf will be departing for China as part of an ongoing teacher exchange program with Jiao Tong University in Shanghai.

Stumpf, a four-year veteran teacher from the Highline Writing Department, will be leaving for China on March 22. Stumpf is the seventh teacher from Highline to participate in this program in so many years.

When Stumpf arrived at

Highline four years ago from Michigan he quickly befriended Ding Yaping, the teacher who had come to Highline from Jiao Tong that year.

"When I first moved here I didn't know a lot of people, and [Ding] didn't either," Stumpf said about their becoming friends.



Stumpf

Stumpf has gotten to know each of the teachers who have come from China over the last four years. He has taken language courses from them and has begun grasping the Mandarin dialect of Chinese. Stumpf has also learned much about the Chinese culture from both the Chinese

teachers, and the Highline teachers who have returned from China.

Stumpf says he has no worries about Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, even after Shannon Proctor was sent home early from her trip last year due to fears of the spreading disease. Stumpf has been assured that the SARS outbreaks since then have been small and were quickly under control. Most of the outbreaks occurred in the southern regions of China, Shanghai is located on China's east coast.

There have been a few issues with Stumpf's visa because of stepped-up security issues, but he's confident that things will be resolved.

Stumpf will be in China for five months, returning on Aug. 16. While there he will teach the finer mechanics of English to Ph.D. students.

Stumpf is no stranger to teaching English. He began teaching part-time in Michigan right after graduating from Michigan State University from a program called The Critical Studies in the Teaching of English.

Since then Stumpf has taught various classes at Highline, including his current Writing 101 classes. He also teaches Film Appreciation and is currently putting together a sci-fi film class called Future Tense: Science-Fiction Cinema Perspectives of the Future with fellow teacher Rick Lorig.

Stumpf has been preparing himself for his trip to China since he first started at Highline, learning about the Chinese culture and language from each of the four teachers who have come from Jiao Tong during his tenure.

There will be an apartment waiting for him in Shanghai.

"I've heard they're nice and spacious," Stumpf said, "but I've also heard it could be noisy."

Stumpf joked about bringing his ear plugs in a hopeful effort to get some sleep in his new home. Shanghai is a bustling metropolis of more than 20 million people.

From what he has heard, he will be done teaching class in mid-July. Stumpf is hopeful that he will be able to travel throughout China in that time.

Stumpf has stayed in contact with Ding and they are planning on visiting several famous places. The Great Wall is an obvious choice, Stumpf said smiling, but he seemed more enthused about a possible trip to Tibet, and another to Hainan, an island Ding told him is like a Chinese Hawaii.

Stumpf will be returning to Highline next fall to continue teaching.

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## Cafeteria launches new value menu

By Sara Loken

STAFF REPORTER

The Highline cafeteria changed its menu this week in response to students complaints about the price of foods.

The new value menu offers 99-cent items and value meals for breakfast, lunch and in-between class snacks.

Prices range from 99cents to \$1.69 to \$2.89; the choices differ from a 99-cent hot dog or an egg and cheese biscuit, to a chicken patty sandwich with chips and a 16 ounce soft drink for \$2.89.

Aramark Food Company, Highline's food services provider, held focus groups earlier this month to get students and staff opinions about the new menu for the student union.

Walking into the cafeteria, students are greeted by the new value menu. Situated in the middle of the concession area, it's hard to miss the pink and green sign with lower prices.

"I like the prices. It's definitely an improvement, it's not jokingly overpriced," said Paul Stratton, student. "I'm glad they're listening to students' opinions."

The decision to enact a value menu was in the works before the focus group, but with all the complaints, Aramark decided to take action now, thus making Highline

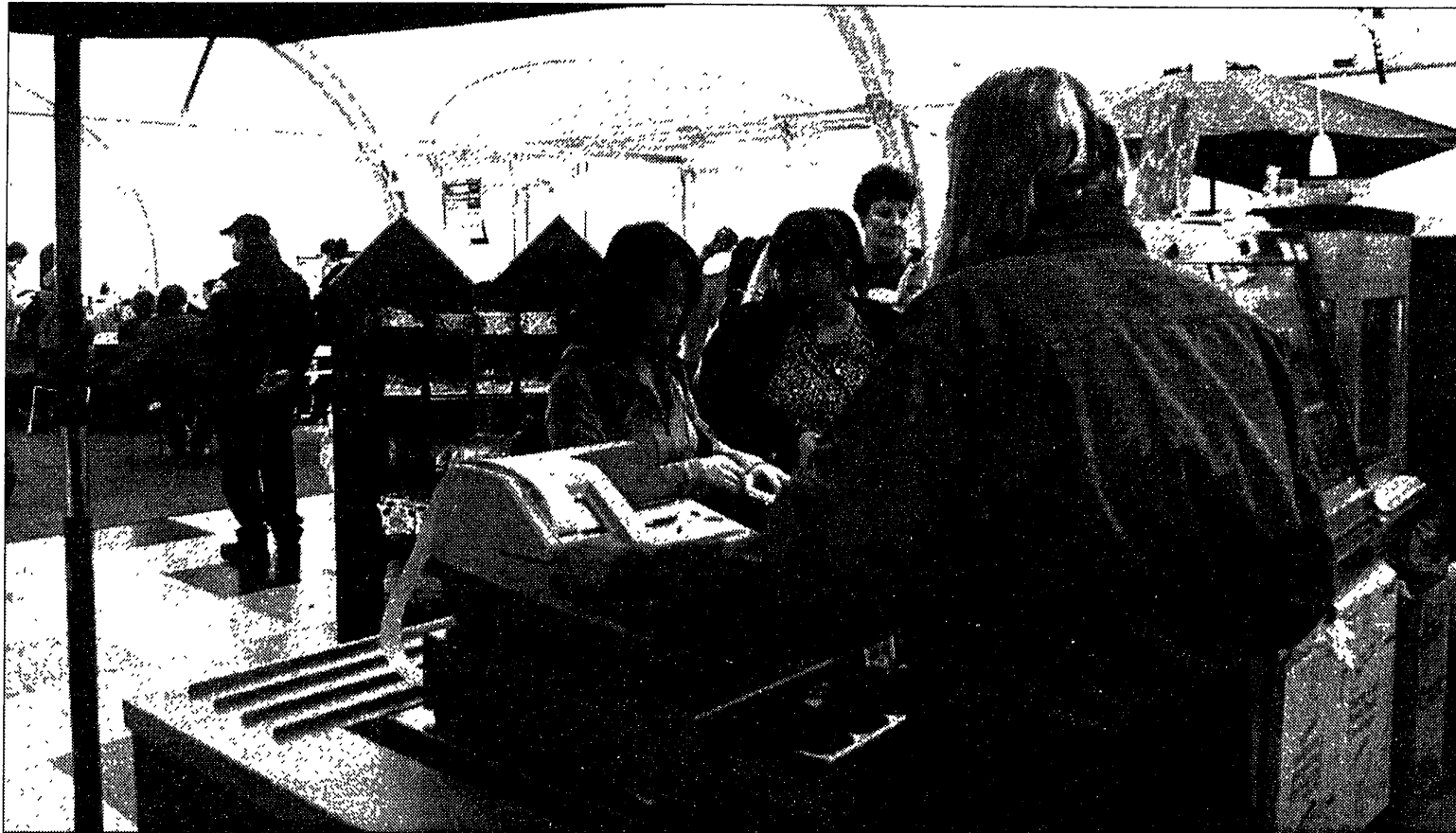


Photo by Chuck Cortes

The cafeteria unveiled its new menu this week, featuring a value menu.

one of the first campuses with Aramark to have the value menu option.

"I'll do something with the feedback I am given," said Dennis Hayes, Highline's food services coordinator. "I'm here to take care of the people, not to disappoint them."

The change in the menu has also brought on a change of business for the cafeteria.

"There has been an increase in sales, which is good when the cafeteria is selling dollar items," said Hayes.

Students seem to be responding in a positive way.

"I'll definitely use it more often. Before I only bought food here when I was desperate. It's good to have something to rely on," said student Chad Cassidy.

With the success of the value menu in the cafeteria, it's certain that the new Student Union will continue the practice, Hayes said.

Just don't expect the menu to stay the same.

The things that sell, the changes in the season and the population are all factors in determining the changing menu, said Hayes.

"I would anticipate that things need to stay fresh and exciting," Hayes said.

## Student programs likely to face S&A budget cuts

By Shayla Conrad-Simms

STAFF REPORTER

Highline's non-instructional programs will likely face budget cuts next year. Enrollment at Highline is down this year and the Services and Activities Budget Committee is expecting lower revenue for allocation. "There are going to have to be cuts made somewhere," said Jodi Robinett of Student Services.

At the last meeting, Held Feb. 12, The committee reviewed the preliminary revenue estimates.

Jonathan Brown is serving as the S & A Committee's ex-officio budget authority, historian, and adviser. He presented the drafts of the revenue estimate for the upcoming budget. The S & A Fee Review estimate was \$923,409, almost \$100,000 less than the committee originally anticipated based on last year's budget, reflecting the decrease in enrollment.

The S & A Committee is responsible for distributing Highline's services and activities budget among the non-instructional programs that need it. The funds come from a services and activities fee included in student tuition.

The committee includes students and faculty working together to fund Highline's athletics and student programs.

The committee sent out budget request forms earlier this month, these were collected and review will begin at the upcoming meeting. The committee must then carefully go through each request and then begin the development of preliminary balances for each of Highline's programs.

Open hearings will then be scheduled so budget managers or anyone interested can express concern or make comments. Following the hearing, the committee will prepare the final budget, which must be sent to executive staff members and to the ASHCC for review. Finally, the budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees for final approval. It is a long process that won't be completed until June, when the Board of Trustees makes their decision.

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2/26/2004

## NEWS

## Pasco

*Continued from page 1*

The women's season was filled with a lot of hurdles to overcome, most of which was to build a team. The Lady T-Birds had only two returners from last year's team. The roster is comprised of only eight members among them two former volleyball players and a former soccer player.

Early losses for the ladies were more of mental breakdowns than physical ones.

"Early on there was no heart. I can handle losses, but not losses without heart," Lady T-Birds Head Coach Amber Rowe said.

The Lady T-Birds ended the 2003 calendar year with an abysmal record of 1-11. If the women wanted to get back on the road for NWAACC contention it would have to be paved with blood and sweat.

"Conditioning and chemistry were two big things, but mostly chemistry," Rowe said. The ladies started 2004 with a win against Pierce (90-61). After that the ladies would win 12 of their last 14 games.

"It's been like a snowball. Once we got that first win it just started to come together," said Coach Rowe. "It just took us a while to get going."

Rebekah Proctor, guard for the

Lady T-Birds and one half of the returning roster for the team was cautiously optimistic at the beginning of the season.

"It's going to be a long season," she thought as she returned to the court the very first day.

The team's ability to come together at the middle of the season when things were darkest has been a huge motivational factor.

"We seem to pull together, we've been through so much adversity, so many trials," Proctor said this week. Although the team's chances back then were slim, their seemingly miraculous turnaround has made many, including the team, believe that they have a good chance of taking the whole darn thing.

"I think we have pretty good chance," said Rowe. "They're scrappers. This team just goes all out." The NWAACC tournament is bracketed in a way that the Lady T-Birds will be playing teams that they have never seen before. "I think we will rise and play to their level," said Rowe.

If the Lady T-Birds make it to the final round it would be an amazing event, but what is more amazing is there road from the start of season that seemed to be hell bent on disaster.

"It's like the Seabiscuit story...a small team that nobody thought would win. But here we are," Proctor said.

"I think... it is wrong that a corporation can just move in and disrupt education."

—Kenton Taylor,  
Student



"Maybe I will take the bus."

—Kristine Reitan,  
Student



## Midway

*Continued from page 1*

current spaces, thus only providing 300 new parking stalls.

"Bellevue (Community College) students assessed a student parking fee to build their own garage," Saunders said.

Any change in parking fees must be approved by the Board of Trustees, which will not happen before June.

The administration's plan in a nutshell is to increase supply and decrease demand for parking.

Saunders is planning for a couple of meetings open to faculty, staff and students aimed at finding solutions to the approaching parking predicament.

Lowe's plan in a nutshell is to erect a 160,000-square-foot home improvement warehouse and level

off 600 parking spaces, according to information obtained by Saunders. Neither the Lowe's regional office nor their main corporate headquarters public relations office would release any information on the lease, however, stating their conservative protocol concerning acquisitions. The company will neither admit nor deny any plans to build.

A representative for the City of Kent demographics office stated that a pre-application has been filed by the company. A formal meeting between Lowe's and the city is scheduled for March 9, after which there will be an environmental review, which is a 120-day process. The review will be public, allowing citizens to provide input into the construction planning.

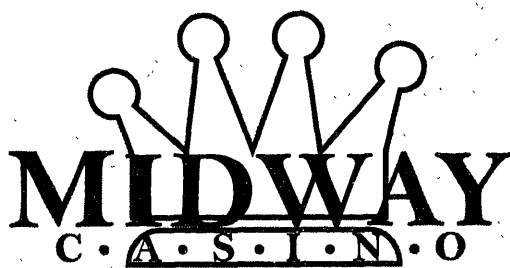
The City of Kent Economic Development Specialist Nathan Torgelson said the property owners desire to start construction in late summer or early fall 2004.

"The area is in need of some economic revitalization," Torgelson said. In addition, the stretch to the south of the Midway lot will see some phased construction, adding some fast food and other retail business in the years to come.

Student Kenton Taylor is disturbed about the move. "I think this is garbage," Taylor said. "And it is wrong that a corporation can just move in and disrupt education." Student Kristine Reitan is already thinking about Metro. "Parking is going to be (the) worst. Maybe I will take the bus," said Reitan.

Lowe's Companies, Inc. is based out of Wilkesboro, NC, which now operates 857 stores in 45 states, employing 130,000 people. It is in the midst of a campaign, in which it hopes to open a new store every three days. It is the second largest U.S. home improvement retailer.

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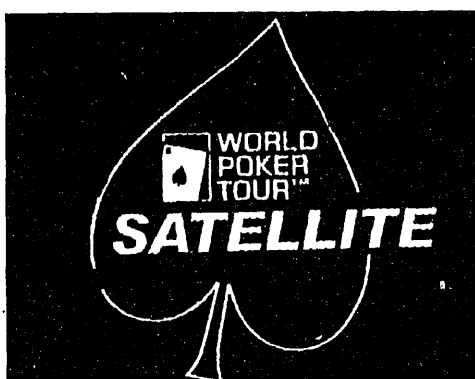
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